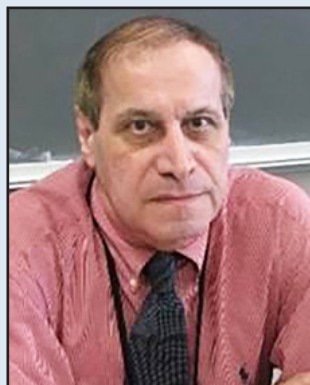




Inside:



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Remembering
'Joe' Torello
page 4



Food For Free for
the needy
page 11

Statewide election 2022 preliminary results



State representatives for Somerville held their seats in Tuesday's statewide election, and current Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey won her bid to become our next governor.

By The Times Staff

The highly anticipated General Election held on Tuesday, November 8, is now completed and on the books. High stakes political campaigns were held across the U.S., and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts was no exception when it came to pitting aspiring candidates against one another in the public arena.

The most notable victory was claimed by Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey, who defeated Republican Geoff Diehl to become the new Governor-elect.

In other races and ballot measures, the preliminary results are as follows: (winners in bold text)

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Leah Allen (R)

Continued on page 4

'Dark Tales, Familiars & Object of Divination' on display in Davis Sq.

To ring in the arrival of autumn and its many mysteries, the Somerville Arts Council's Inside Out Gallery at Davis Square presents a group exhibit, *Dark Tales, Familiars & Object of Divination*, curated by local artist Borianna Kantcheva, that brings together works to celebrate the darkness and magic of the season's perennial "thinning of the veil."

Inspired by fairy tales, ghost stories and the lore of Halloween, each piece has its own unique story and sordid past. Featuring a macabre collective of skulls, spirits, relics, masks and familiars, this exhibit is not for the faint of heart – so proceed with caution.

Participating artists include Heather Balchunas, Eric Bornstein, Audrey Diallo, Jonathan Donahue, Jen Fries, Gretchen Graham, Borianna Kantcheva, Pauline Lim, Jamie Magid, Michele O'Brien, Iman Sakkaf, Hilary Scott, Kate

Continued on page 2



The Somerville Arts Council's Inside Out Gallery at Davis Square is currently featuring the *Dark Tales, Familiars & Object of Divination* exhibit at 1 Davis Sq.

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NEWTALK

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.








Congratulations to **the winners** of Tuesday's state-wide election, and special congratulations to **governor-elect Maura Healey**. She is the first woman to be elected governor in the entire history of Massachusetts. We wish her and all the other candidates who achieved victory in this most contentious political race the best as they take up the mantle of leadership and service.

Beatriz Gómez Mouakad and former Congressman and Mayor **Mike Capuano** covering the various positions for and against the bus lanes already being discussed around town, followed by some back and forth between the speakers. They will then open up the floor for public debate from designated microphones to which the speakers will periodically respond, calling on any experts in attendance as the dialogue proceeds. **Somerville Media Center Executive Director Kat Powers** will moderate and will expect all attendees to keep their comments civil. *Speak Your Mind* will take place **Wednesday, November 9, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.** at the **Somerville Media Center main studio, 90 Union Square**, and is sponsored by **Somerville Media Center, Somerville Media Fund, and Boston Institute for Nonprofit Journalism**. The event will be recorded by SMC's SCATV. Admission is free. Masks are encouraged.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and **Ward 3 Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen** invite you to a virtual community meeting to learn about construction progress on the **Spring Hill** *Continued on page 7*

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of November 9 – November 15 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday <i>November 9</i>	Rain	65°/59°	86%	77%	NE 7 mph
 Thursday <i>November 10</i>	Sunny	67°/41°	9%	7%	NW 13 mph
 Friday <i>November 11</i>	Partly Cloudy	54°/39°	5%	3%	NNE 11 mph
 Saturday <i>November 12</i>	Sunny	60°/37°	7%	5%	NE 5 mph
 Sunday <i>November 13</i>	Sunny	66°/58°	2%	1%	ENE 8 mph
 Monday <i>November 14</i>	Rain	65°/56°	34%	26%	SE 10 mph
 Tuesday <i>November 15</i>	Rain	66°/56°	50%	43%	SE 9 mph

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

'Dark Tales, Familiars & Object of Divination' on display in Davis Sq.

CONT. FROM PG 1

Schreiber and Bekka Teerlink.

About the Inside-Out Gallery
Initiated in 2009, The Inside-Out Gallery is located in the CVS Window at 1 Davis Square, Somerville, a unique space that allows the public to view an eclectic array of works from artists and local organizations each month. The mission of the Somerville Arts Council is to cultivate and celebrate the creative expressions of the Somerville community. Through innovative collaborations and quality programming we work to make the arts an integral part of life reflective of our diverse city.

The Somerville Times

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SHA HOLIDAY DRIVE

THE SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY IS HOLDING ITS ANNUAL HOLIDAY DRIVE TO GIVE BACK TO ITS COMMUNITIES. IN HOPES TO PROVIDE SOME JOY AND RELIEF FOR FAMILIES IN OUR DEVELOPMENTS, SHA WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE \$15 GIFTCARDS (TJ MAXX/TARGET) TO ALL CHILDREN, AGES 12 & UNDER. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION, PLEASE MAIL OR DROP OFF TO SHA ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING NO LATER THAN **NOVEMBER 30, 2022.**

ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CALL EMILY ESCHMANN AT 617-625-1152 EXT 349 AND THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY



Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

Nissenbaum's



Another stellar Somerville business is going away.

If you need a water pump, alternator or generator for your



67 Dodge Dart with a 225 slant six engine, you better get down to Nissenbaums Used Auto Parts, 480 Columbia St., before December 1. The 112-year-old business is closing its doors forever.

Nissenbaum's was founded in 1910 and is now run by the 4th and 5th generation. Joe and his brother Allen, along with Joe's son Neil, now operate the huge recycled auto parts empire that has been a staple in our community for over a century. I was lucky enough to be part of Nissenbaum's 100th birthday several years ago. Also at the celebration we're "Click and Clack," Tom and Ray Magliozzi.

I was pleasantly surprised when Allen called me the other

day to remind me that they were closing their doors for good on December 10. "Nissies" is leaving The Ville.

Allen says, "Somerville was a blue-collar community and everybody had a car that they needed parts for, but today they're all on bicycles drinking lattes!"

The land will be used to build lab spaces and eventually become part of an extension or part of



Left to right: Jimmy Del Ponte, Allen Nissenbaum, Tom Magliozzi, Joe Nissenbaum, Ray Magliozzi and Neil Nissenbaum.

— Photo by Joey Del Ponte

Kendall Square reaching into catching up.

Somerville.

After a lifetime in the car parts business, Allen says he's just going to take it day by day. It was great hearing from Allen and best wishes!

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



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DAVIS SQUARE Affordable Inclusionary Unit; 1 BED \$1200/month

38 Day St Somerville: 1-Bed apartment built 2020. Located- 3 mins walk to the Red Line Davis "T" stop - in a well maintained and professionally managed 24/7 brick building. There is Coin-op/App-op laundry in the basement. Unit controlled gas heat and hot water is included in the rent. Cooking Gas and Elec not included in the rent. Available to applicants meeting the following qualifications: **The Inclusionary unit at 38 Day St. is a one (1) bedroom, designated for those applicants whose income is at or below 50% of AMI. Per the City of Somerville, the Minimum Allowable Income is \$30,456 (minimum income requirement is not applicable to households who have a Mobile Housing Choice voucher) and the Maximum Allowable Income guidelines are listed in the table below. Applications will only be accepted during the period between 10/27/2022 thru 12/26/2022.**

Incomes as of	6/15/2022	50% MFI
HOUSEHOLD SIZE	0	
1	Person	\$49,100
2	Person	\$56,100



If you are a qualified tenant that meets these requirements and would like to apply, please send an email to tedt@kssrealtypartners.com or call Ted Tobin at (617) 784-4098.

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Obituary: Joseph ‘Joe’ Tarello, retired chemistry teacher at Somerville High School

Joe Tarello passed away recently. He was a chemistry teacher at SHS for 58 years before his retirement in June of this year.

Joseph Tarello, a proud graduate of Somerville High School Class of 1959 and a Somerville High School educator for fifty-eight years, passed away recently after a brief illness. From 1964 to 2022, Mr. Tarello served as a science educator at SHS. During his career he was also the National Honor Society advisor, Class Day & Graduation Exercises faculty chairman, Student Council advisor, and principal of Somerville Evening School.

Joe is survived by his son Mark Tarello of Binghamton, New York. Funeral arrangements are private. Donations can be made to the Somerville Teachers’ Scholarship Fund in memory of Joseph Tarello (information below). Prior to his passing, the City of Somerville memorialization committee had accepted the school’s request to dedicate the fourth floor chemistry classroom wing to honor Joe’s legacy. This ceremony will be held at a date to be determined later this year.

Joe began his career in education at Boston State College, where he earned a Bachelor of

Science in Education in 1964. He went on to earn a master’s degree in Chemistry from Union College in 1970, and continued to pursue his love of Chemistry through graduate courses throughout his career. Mr. Tarello worked tirelessly in the field of science education, serving as a contributing author of the widely used Modern Chemistry textbook. He was the Massachusetts Region IV science fair chair and an adjunct professor at Bunker Hill Community College; he led multiple nation-wide professional development sessions for science educators through the National Science Foundation, National Science Teacher Association, and American Chemical Society. He received numerous awards throughout his career, including the Outstanding Young Educator Award from the Somerville Jaycees in 1970, the National Association of Science Teachers’ Physical Science Education Award in MA in 1982, the MA Science Teacher of the Year from The Scientific Research Society in 1989, and the North Shore Science Supervisors’ Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award in 2014. He was inducted into the Massachusetts Science

Teachers Hall of Fame in 2015.

In his time as a chemistry teacher, he made a long-lasting impact on Somerville High School, his fellow science educators, most importantly, on his students. Throughout his 58-year career, Mr. Tarello has touched the lives of thousands of students and many attribute their inspiration and success to him.

– “Mr. Tarello has affected my life deeply. He got me interested in science. He helped me develop my talents. He taught me how to work independently. He forced me to look beyond the confines of Somerville... and to strive for goals I never thought were achievable. He gave me the support and confidence to reach outside of myself. He truly was the catalyst in my life.” – Elisabeth M. Battinelli (‘87)

– “Having had the opportunity to study physical chemistry with Mr. Tarello for two consecutive years, I found myself exceptionally well prepared to accept the challenges of advanced-level science courses at Brown University. Mr. Tarello’s doctrine in science includes a creative and comprehensive approach to scientific learning that is unparalleled in high school education, and I am



proud to be one of his disciples. He served as a role model for many students, and is admired by his colleagues for his excellence in the teaching profession and for his leadership in the organization, development, and implementation of high school science competitions at the local, state, and regional levels.” – Michael J. Lucherini (‘82)

– “Mr. Joseph Tarello is certainly among the finest high school chemistry teachers in the nation and should be recognized for his extraordinary efforts. Mr. Tarello demonstrated a genuine concern for his student’s current and future goals. He provided critical guidance and encourage-

ment and served as a role model for all of us. He provided me with the fundamental skills, intellectual curiosity, and motivation needed to succeed in college, medical school, and in the practice of cardiovascular medicine.” – David S. Pladziewicz, M.D. (‘76)

– “I find it difficult to recall any other primary educator who left more of an impression on my decision to pursue a scientific career than Joe Tarello. His enthusiasm and high energy combined with high standards and expectations held for his students is a formulation for a model high school teacher.” – Robert C. Fazio, Ph.D. (‘73)

— Somerville Public Schools

Statewide election 2022 preliminary results CONT. FROM PG 1

Kim Driscoll (D)	Daniel Riek (Lib)	Mike Connolly (D)	
ATTORNEY GENERAL	GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL	REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT	QUESTION 2: Regulation of Dental Insurance
Andrea Campbell (D)	6th District	TWENTY-SEVENTH MIDDLESEX DISTRICT	YES
James McMahon (R)	Terrence Kennedy (D)	Erika Uyterhoeven (D)	NO
SECRETARY OF STATE	U.S House of Representatives	REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT	QUESTION 3: Expanded Availability of Licenses for the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages
William Galvin (I)(D)	SEVENTH DISTRICT	THIRTY-FOURTH MIDDLESEX DISTRICT	YES
Rayla Campbell (R)	Ayanna Pressley (I)(D)	Christine P. Barber (D)	NO
Juan Sanchez (Green-Rainbow)	Donnie Palmer Jr. (R)	BALLOT QUESTIONS	QUESTION 4: Eligibility for Driver's Licenses
TREASURER	SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT		YES
Deb Goldberg (I)(D)	SECOND MIDDLESEX DISTRICT		NO
Cristina Crawford (Lib)	Patricia D. Jehlen (D)		
AUDITOR	REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT	QUESTION 1: Additional Tax on Income Over One Million Dollars	
Anthony Amore (R)	TWENTY-SIXTH MIDDLESEX DISTRICT	YES	
Diana DiZoglio (D)		NO	
Gloria Caballero-Roca (Green-Rainbow)			To get the latest updated results, go online to www.the-somervilletimes.com , where we will keep you fully informed.
Dominic Giannone (Workers)			

City Government holds fall Ward 6 meeting

By Fernando Cervantes Jr.

Last Thursday, members of the Ward 6 community with members of the city government held its fall ward meeting at the Somerville Community Baptist Church. The meeting, one of two for the year, focused on issues affecting the neighborhood and future plans for Davis Square.

Various members of the city government were in attendance along with the mayor of Somerville, Katjana Ballantyne. In her opening remarks, the mayor focused on the diversity of Somerville and the importance of diverse voices for the community.

“Historically underrepresented voices need to be sought out and amplified in all our shared decision-making. Long-time residents and newcomers must have opportunities to find common ground on our shared goals and priorities,” Ballantyne said.

Another significant topic covered in the meeting focused on the rising cost of energy prices ahead of the winter. Emily Sul-

livan, Climate Change Program Manager for the Office of Sustainability and Development outlined their plans.

One of the initiatives pushed by the city is called the Community Choice Electricity Program, which is a city initiative to offer stable energy prices for residents. According to Sullivan, most energy used is “regional, local, the energy that therefore supports regional clean energy products, or projects and jobs in New England and a bit of New York.”

Moreover, current renters do not need to receive approval from their landlords to enroll in the program.

For months now, the discussion of the Davis Square redevelopment has been in full swing and this meeting was certainly full of it. Community members raised concerns regarding the displacement of longstanding local businesses in the area.

Rachel Nadkarni, Intern Economic Development Director, addressed some of the concerns



raised by the residents. “Some of my colleagues were out walking around again yesterday just to make sure we’re checking in with all of the businesses who are going to be affected. Most of the businesses do have a game plan for what they’re looking for and

what their next steps are going to be,” Nadkarni said.

According to Captain Jim Donovan, from the Somerville Police Department, there has been a citywide increase in crime of about 10% since 2021. Ward 6 saw a smaller increase of only

about 5% in the past year.

Recordings of this and previous ward meetings can be found on the City of Somerville’s YouTube and website. Ward meetings are finished for 2022 with the next set of meetings slated to start in the spring.

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50 Pioneers Nomination

Nominate a pioneer, past or present, by November 15, 2022!

We are now accepting nominations for RCC’s 50 Pioneers! The 49 individuals who have made significant contributions to the College over the past 50 years will be honored, with the one pioneer representing the collective contributions of the Greater Roxbury Community. Nominees will be evaluated based on leadership; community influence and impact; innovation and achievement; commitment to RCC’s values; academic contributions; and excellence in student support.

Submit a Nomination Now!

Complete our online nomination form at bit.ly/50pioneers

Submit a voicemail nomination by calling **857-701-1593**

Please direct any questions to development@rcc.mass.edu.



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COMMENTARY

The views and opinions expressed in the commentaries and letters to the Editor of The Somerville Times do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Somerville Times, its publishers or staff.

Historical reflections while on a sentimental journey



By William C. Shelton

This article was first published in the April 18, 2018 edition of The Somerville Times

For many of my generation the Vietnam War was the defining experience of our lives. Whether we were there, or here, what we chose to do about it, and how we came to understand it, influenced who we became. And who we became, divided us.

Fifty years ago, the 1968 Tet Offensive by the Vietcong and the North Vietnamese Army (NVA) marked a watershed in American opinion. So I determined that I would spend February in Vietnam.

Tết is the lunar new year, Vietnam's most important holiday. Bombs bursting in air above the Hue Citadel on the eve of this year's Tết were fireworks, rather than the American artillery that in 1968 destroyed much of the Imperial City. The Citadel's occupants then were Viet Cong troops, but the Vietnamese who surrounded me this pleasant February night were warm, welcoming, and generous of spirit.

The next day, a young man drove me to Khe Sanh, where the DMZ met the Laotian border. For 108 days in 1968, two U.S. Marine regiments there held off two NVA divisions, with the support of 100,000 tons of U.S. bombs and 158,000 artillery rounds. About 5,500 Vietnamese and 1,520 Americans were killed. Although both

sides ultimately claimed victory, the U.S. closed down the base that July, and the NVA took control of the region.

As I walked between a rusting C-130 and a Chinook, onto what had then been a cratered airstrip and was now a vast meadow, something felt jarringly out of place. It wasn't so much the greenery, or the clear blue sky, or the absence of people. It was, it came to me, the serene silence.

And I was wracked with convulsive sobs.

Sometime later, a bird pecking for insects caught my attention. I was sitting on the ground, and my driver had withdrawn. I suppose that weeping American men of my generation are not an unfamiliar sight in that location.

Walking back toward the visitor center, I encountered a Vietnamese man who looked old enough to have fought the French, although we may well have been my age. We did not share enough language to have a conversation, but we communed. Mostly with our eyes.

I gave him my Vietnam Veterans Against the War button, and he gave me a corroded medal bearing the words, "Giải Phóng." Google Translate tells me this means "Liberate."

On the ride back to the coast, Mark Knopfler's "Brothers in Arms" kept playing in my head. I turned to my driver and said, "I hope you appreciate how much your grandparents sacrificed to win your country's independence."

I sank into somber contemplation and reflected that I was probably really talking to my own nation's young people. Except I couldn't think of anything that we had won, or ever could have won. And Vietnam is as

distant and irrelevant to them as World War I was to me in 1968. Both were a half century in our respective pasts, with Doughboys fading away then, one by one, and Vietnam Vets, now.

I still can't fully comprehend how we could have made war on such a beautiful people who could, and should, have been our allies. Ho Chi Minh, who once worked in Boston's Parker House, greatly admired the U.S. for having won its freedom from a colonial power. He and his colleagues drew on our Declaration of Independence and Constitution when drafting the first Vietnamese Constitution.

We were told at the time that we were fighting Communist aggression. That the Soviet Union and China intended to conquer a sovereign nation called "South Vietnam." And if they succeeded, everything from the South China Sea through India would "go Communist."

In fact, South Vietnam was an historical fiction, created when the U.S. government prevented democratic elections, repudiated the Geneva Accords, and provided one set of corrupt thugs after another with backing, arms, and money.

Even a casual reading of East Asian history would reveal that the Vietnamese and Chinese had been enemies for two millennia. Indeed, they went to war again after the U.S. withdrew.

Decades later, Vietnam War architect Robert McNamara acknowledged that the U.S. could have achieved its aims without ever having to fight. "Our misjudgments of friend and foe, alike, reflected our profound ignorance of the history, culture, and politics of the people in the area, and the personalities and habits of their leaders."

While true, this isn't really an explanation. There was no excuse for such "profound ignorance," since the necessary knowledge existed, including within the State Department.

A second explanation began to emerge with early opposition to the War. It was that the U.S. had, perhaps with good intentions, stumbled into supporting one side in a civil war.

Daniel Ellsberg, who had been a Marine infantry commander before he assembled the Pentagon Papers succinctly dismissed this explanation: "It always was a war in which one side is entirely paid, equipped, armed, pressed forward by foreigners. Without the foreigners, no war. That's not a civil war."

Vietnamese who actually supported the Saigon government were scarce. And during the war years, an American in uniform could walk down Saigon's Tu Do Street on a river of spit.

Over time, the explanation that best fit the evidence was that the U.S., with its "allies," was intent on suppressing an anti-colonial struggle for national independence, as it had done successfully with elected governments in Guatemala, Iran, the Congo, and elsewhere.

But I've come to believe that the most truthful explanation is simpler and sadder. The primary motivation for the American War in Vietnam was to retain domestic political advantage.

Ken Burns' and Lynn Novick's documentary series reports a comment made by John F. Kennedy: "Those people hate us. They are going to throw our asses out of there at some point. But I can't give up that territory to the communists and get the American people to re-elect me."

In a 1964 recorded phone call,

Lyndon Johnson told National Security Advisor McGeorge Bundy, "I don't think it's worth fighting for, and I don't think we can get out." The obstacle to "getting out" was vulnerability to Republican charges of being "soft on Communism."

And once Richard Nixon was in office, he repeatedly told advisors, "I won't be the first American president to lose a war."

Whatever explanation we choose, we don't seem to learn much from historical evidence. The pretext for sending combat troops to Vietnam was a fictionalized incident in the Gulf of Tonkin. We were subsequently told that withdrawal from Vietnam would produce a "bloodbath." That bloodbath never happened, and now that we are no longer occupying their country, the Vietnamese seem to be quite fond of us.

The pretext for the Iraq invasion was fictional weapons of mass destruction. Dick Cheney told us that we would be greeted as liberators, create a "true democracy," and it would all be paid for with oil revenues. Iraq is now an Iranian client state, held together by American money, in which being an American is risky.

The ensuing struggles for domestic political dominance have only become more intense and less principled. We hunker down within our tribes, much more divided as a people than we were fifty years ago.

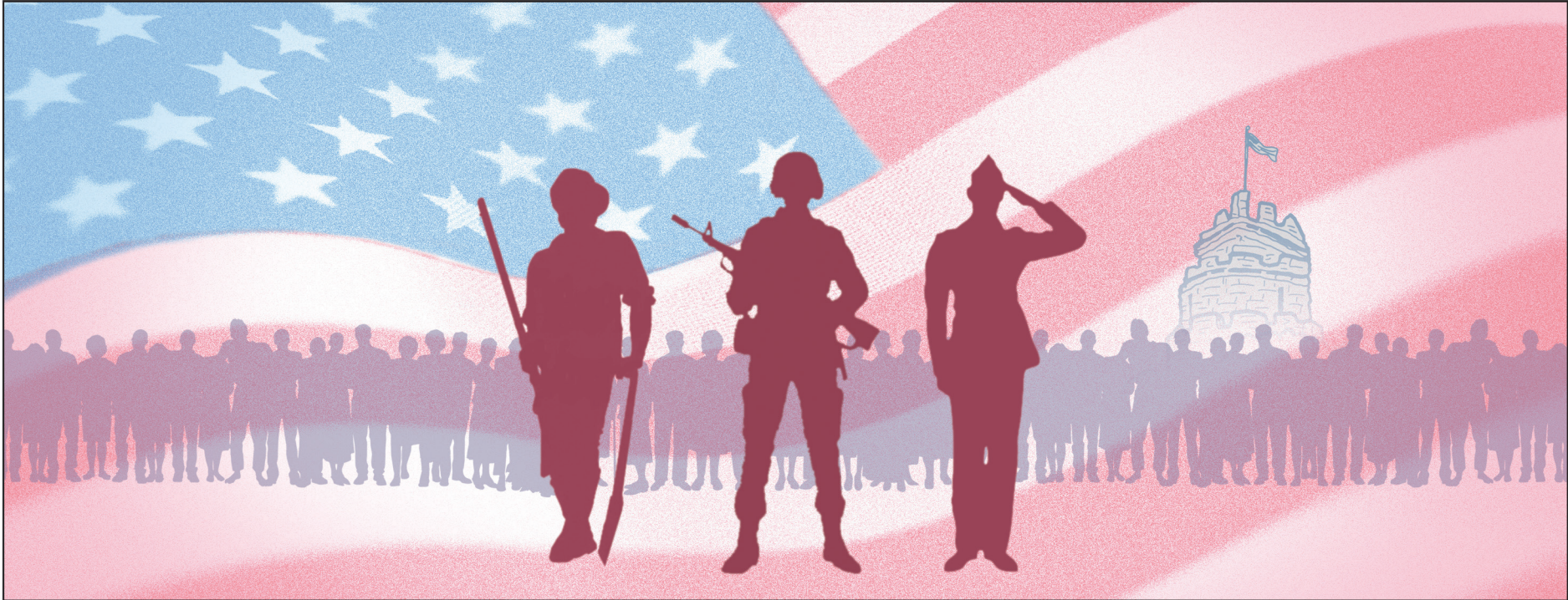
And so it goes.

The Moving Wall Vietnam Veterans Memorial will be on display in Somerville over the next five days, November 10-14, at the Mass General Brigham Great Lawn at Assembly Row, 399 Revolution Dr.

COMMENTARY

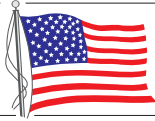
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Let us all honor our veterans on their special day.

Our View Of The Times



We honor them every year and we regard them with awe and deepest admiration. Proud, but humble in countenance, they seem to simply play their part in our annual celebration of appreciation for their courageous contributions to the wellbeing of our nation. The well-being of ourselves as a society.

The flesh and blood reality is even more awe-inspiring as we realize how fragile life

truly is, and yet these brave men and women each took a stand and declared that no harm should come to their fellow countrymen. Not on their watch.

Veterans Day is a time when each of us has a rare opportunity to reflect a small fraction of that magnificent commitment to humanity back upon the heroes who helped to make us all so much safer in a sometimes savage world.

Those of us who never served in the military cannot know the hardship, privation, and sacrifice that these people have made on behalf of all of us. Some have made the supreme sacrifice. It is for them most of all that we bow our heads and utter prayers of solace and of gratitude for the precious gifts that they have laid before us. Those of liberty and a future free from fear of enemies seen and unseen.

We must endeavor to express our thanks at every possible opportunity. Veterans Day is one opportunity, but there can be many more if we choose to make them. It is up to us to do just that.

We can take a stand and commit ourselves to celebrating the contributions of our beloved champions, one and all, each and every day to come. We ask that everyone here and elsewhere do just that.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Sewer Separation project. At this meeting, city staff will review progress made to date and present an overview of the work planned for the early 2023 construction season. Residents will then have the opportunity to ask questions about the project and construction process. The meeting will take place **Wednesday, November 9**, at 6:00 p.m. Visit somerville-ma.gov/springhill to register to attend.

Happy birthday's this week: Happy birthday to our friend and local TV celebrity **Joe Lynch**, who is celebrating this week. We wish him a great birthday. Happy birthday to **Joe Nardella**. We

wish him a very happy birthday. Happy birthday to a former Alderman At-Large, amongst her many other accomplishments, **Helen Corrigan**. We wish her the very best of birthdays. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Peggy Foley Arbeene, Mary Bean Fitzgerald, Victoria Macrokanis, Donald Gallarelli, Elena Clamen, Jerry DiGiovanni, Cheryl Bertocchi, John Kane, Antonette Almeida, Dottie Bowman, Antonette Biondo, Tanya Kalousdian and Jim Powers** 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.

The **Vietnam Moving Wall** will be in Somerville over **Veterans Day weekend, November 10-14**, and open 24 hours a day for public viewing at the **Mass General Brigham Great Lawn at Assembly Row** (399 Revolution Dr.). Join in **Friday, November 11**, at 10:30 a.m. for a **Veterans Day Ceremony**. To learn more, visit somervillema.gov/movingwall

Love books and helping the **Brown School**? Put **November 13** on your calendar. From 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., make a purchase from **Porter Square Books**, 25 White St. For all purchased items in

store or online during those hours using the code: **BROWNFBF22**, Brown School will receive 20% of the proceeds.

New **art showcase alert!** To ring in the arrival of autumn and its many mysteries, the **Somerville Arts Council's Inside Out Gallery** at **Davis Square** presents **Dark Tales, Familiars & Object of Divination Exhibit** by guest curator, **Boriana Kantcheva**. A group exhibit that brings together works to celebrate the darkness and magic of the season's perennial "thinning of the veil." <https://somervilleartsCouncil.org/insideout/darktales>

Continued on page 14

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's
Olio
#850

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

1. In what year was Armistice Day changed to Veterans Day?

2. What flower is a symbol of Veterans Day?

3. Who wrote the poem *In Flanders Fields*?

4. Where did the Department of Veterans Affairs motto "To care for him who shall have borne the battle" come from?

5. How many of the U.S. presidents have been veterans?

6. What famous actor attained the highest U.S. military rank in history for an entertainer?
7. Who is the second person in charge after the Commander in Chief of the armed forces?

8. Whose words are these, "It is fatal to enter a war without the will to win it"?

9. WAC is an abbreviation for?

10. Who wrote the song God Bless America?

11. Cob nutz are the fruit of what type of tree?

12. What number did Phil Esposito wear during his years with the Boston Bruins?

Answers on page 13

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. Massachusetts is home to Busta Rhymes Island.
2. An earthquake might have shrunk Mount Everest.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
THANKSGIVING

- ACROSS
1. Poet Angelou

5. "Eureka!"

8. Thanksgiving season

12. Bug-eyed

13. "Tiger Beat" centerfold

14. New York's _____ Island

15. Simmering feeling

16. Combustible rock

17. Short for Charlotte

18. Thanksgiving sauce source

20. Singer Redding

21. Old hat

22. Bar in Ireland

23. Macy's tradition

26. Gets ready for publication

30. Dr. Cornelius of film, e.g.

31. What's good for the goose is good for the _____

34. Paul Bunyan stories and such

35. Parallelogram or heptagon

37. Charged particle

38. More cunning

39. Ant construction

40. Fluffy sweater material

42. Cribbage piece

43. Ancient Mesopotamian civilization

45. Maltreat

47. Sea, in Spain

48. Fraternity K

50. Hoodlum

52. Massasoit's people

56. Do like QA

57. Opposite of written

58. Like watching paint dry

59. Togetherness

60. Move like sludge

61. S squared, e.g.

62. Eliza follower

63. Placeholder surname

64. Like hand-me-downs

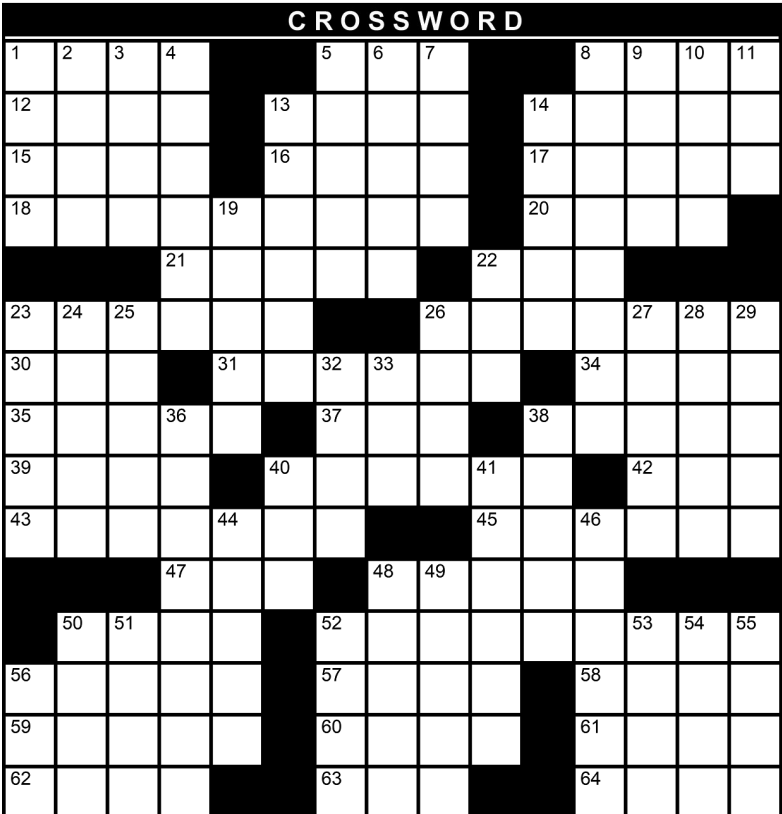
- DOWN
1. Painter Chagall

2. Lab gel

3. Hatha or bikram, e.g.

4. "To do" list

5. Be gaga over





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Soultion to last week's crossword puzzle:



6. Squirrel away

7. Comrade in arms

8. Popular Thanksgiving TV entertainment

9. Naysayer

10. "_____ Fall in Love" song

11. Caustic substance

13. Cold brew (2 words)

14. Intangible storage

19. "The Red _____ of Courage"

22. A pop

23. Turkish bigwig

24. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

25. Brazilian coins

26. Former U.S. Attorney General Janet

27. a.k.a. nutria

28. Elms

29. Military uniform fabric
32. Columbus' vessel

33. TV's National _____ Show on Thanksgiving

36. 1621 celebration location

38. Planktonic tunicate

40. Lungful

41. Small wave

44. Gangly

46. Popular carriage in royal procession

48. Semi-desert region in South Africa

49. Astonish

50. DNA segment

51. Final notice

52. *"Miracle on 34th Street" star

53. Yours and mine

54. Sheltered, nautically speaking

55. Hefty competitor

56. Give a nickname

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

SCES second chances drive



Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services is thanking everyone who supported our recent clothing drive to benefit Second Chances. Organized by SCES HR Director Ellyn Torres (right) and Administrative Assistant Deandra Ramirez, the drive collected 1,489 pounds of clothing and accessories that will be recycled and reused in our community. Established in 2003, Second Chances delivers free, empowering clothing to homeless and low-income people in Cambridge and Somerville, working in partnership with local homelessness and social service agencies.

Apple picking adventure for life skills and SKIP students



Kennedy students in the Life Skills and SKIP classrooms spent a beautiful October day picking apples with their educators. The Life Skills program serves students across the city in grades K-8, providing them with support in communication, social pragmatics, academic behavior, and navigating relationships with a focus on functional learning that can be applied in the community. SKIP is another citywide program housed at the Kennedy School. It is designed for students in preschool through grade 8 and supports the development of self-help skills, task initiation and completion, safety awareness, and social interaction. Learn more about our Special Education Department.

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #267

Flanders Fields

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

For the last one hundred years, much of the world has paid homage to November 11, 1918. On this day, commencing in 1919, the annual celebration of the end of World War I or The War To End All Wars began. It was called Armistice Day in the United States and France, and Remembrance Day in England and Canada.



Armistice Day and Somerville were deeply entrenched from the outset in the American history of the Great War, as it was also called. In 1915, three prominent Somerville citizens perished on the torpedoed British ocean liner, the RMS Lusitania. This incident helped launch America into the conflict. World War I memorials are scattered across the city in the form of street names, parks, statues, and squares.



Army Corporal Richard Trum was killed just ten days before the Armistice was signed. Somerville's centrally located Trum Field honors him, while its abutting Charles E. Ryan Road honors another Somerville soldier killed three months earlier.

This holiday honors 29 other World War I servicemen from Magoun Square and 107 more throughout the city who lost their lives in the Great War. After World War II, 34 more names were added to the Trum Field list. In addition, 415 Somerville residents

Continued on page 11

LEGAL NOTICES

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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Monday, November 21, 2022**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s):

Application of a Common Victualler and an Entertainment by Devises – Indoors License, for Picante Somerville LLC. d/b/a Picante Taqueria, 253 Washington St.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, 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:

1. To attend and be heard, enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3908809341692944912>

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

2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may send written comments by US mail to the Executive Secretary at 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143, or by email to licensing@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 Commission.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

**LORI JEAN BATZEK, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV**

11/9/22 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Monday, November 21, 2022**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s):

Application of a Change of Category to an All Forms 7 Day Alcohol License – City Quota and a Change of Hours, for Navjot Kaur Corporation d/b/a Masala Square, 23 Union Sq.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the GoToWebinar platform.

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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Monday, November 21, 2022**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s):

Application of an All Forms 7 Day Alcohol License – City Quota, a Common Victualler and a Sunday Hours License, for Haisol LLC d/b/a Buk Kyung, 9a Union Sq.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the GoToWebinar platform.

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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Monday, November 21, 2022**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s):

Application of a Farmers Pouring License, Common Victualler, Entertainment by Devices, Performers & Patrons – Indoors and Outdoors, Outdoor Seating on Private Property and a Sunday Hours License, for Portico South Street LLC d/b/a Portico Somerville, 101 South St.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, 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:

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11/9/22 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Monday, November 21, 2022**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s):

Application of a Transfer for an All Forms 7 Day Alcohol License – Private, a Pledge of License, a Common Victualler, an Entertainment by Devises and Performers – Indoors and a Sunday Hours License, for Bindaas Concepts Inc. d/b/a Rosebud, 381 Summer St.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, 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:

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11/9/22 The Somerville Times



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

IMPORTANT PUBLIC NOTICE

The Somerville Housing Authority (SHA) announces a **PUBLIC HEARING** regarding the FY2023 Federal Annual Plan and the FY2024 State-Aided Annual Plan on **Thursday, December 22, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.** This hearing will be held remotely. The public is invited to listen to the meeting via phone, computer, laptop, or tablet.

December Board Meeting & Public Hearing
Thu, Dec 22, 2022 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (EST)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
<https://meet.goto.com/303349133>

You can also dial in using your phone.
United States (Toll Free): 1 877 309 2073
United States: +1 (571) 317-3129

Access Code: 303-349-133

The Plan(s) and related documents are available on the Somerville Housing Authority's website at <http://www.sha-web.org>. You may also view the Plan(s) at 30 Memorial Road in Somerville, MA by appointment only. Substantive comments will be summarized and included in the Annual Plan when it is submitted to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). A forty-five (45) day review and comment period will commence on Friday, November 4, 2022. Any questions may be directed to Robert Muollo, Deputy Director, at 617-625-1152.

11/2/22, 11/9/22 The Somerville Times

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Food rescue organization is providing Massachusetts students with nutrition to succeed

By Ryan DiLello

Every Tuesday and Thursday, my office provides a catered lunch. As I wrap up morning assignments, I watch the caterers march disposable tin trays of food up the stairs to our cafeteria where they warm it up for an hour over tiny portable burners.

One day, I was caught up in a conversation with a colleague that went beyond the lunch hour. In my periphery, I noticed the caterers wrapping up the food and placing it back on their transportation carts. Where did the leftover food go? I thought, noting that we never had leftovers in the cafeteria fridges.

Last week, I learned my company partners with a nonprofit food rescue organization. There are a number of these organizations around the greater Boston area, but Food for Free is one of the oldest. Founded in 1981, Food for Free coordinates with local retail, caterers, grocers, and food banks to rescue and transport food to food-insecure Massachusetts residents. Today, the organization serves more than 40,000 residents and rescues more than eight million pounds of nutritious fresh and prepared foods every year.

The need for food security is critical today, especially amidst the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. As

of this year, one in 10 Massachusetts households struggle with food security. Inflation is having a two-fold impact on the food insecurity issue, increasing the barrier to nutritious foods for hunger relief organizations and residents alike. Food For Free’s mission is to provide safely-sourced, diverse and nutritious foods to Massachusetts residents in need.

Food For Free runs multiple food rescue programs, but the Heat-N-Eats program serves the Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC), only minutes outside of Somerville. I spoke to Food For Free’s Sam McDermott, Program Manager of Heat-N-Eats, as well as Molly Hansen, Senior Special Programs Coordinator at BHCC.

The Heat-N-Eats program has been a significant asset to the BHCC community, and is likely to grow, according to Hansen. The program recovers food from over 20 commercial food service operators on a biweekly basis, making the food into new frozen meals, and delivering it to BHCC students on a daily basis. This year, Heat-N-Eats rescued over 13,000 pounds of food and delivered 550 meals per week. McDermott says he plans to rescue closer to 40,000 pounds of food next year. Hansen noted that her team is working on grants to expand the frozen food program.



Nonprofit food rescue organization Food For Free is helping to feed the food insecure.

McDermott and Hansen share extensive backgrounds in food rescue and distribution. McDermott began working as a Program Manager for Food For Free after the pandemic revealed the fragility of the U.S. food system. A food science major in undergraduate school, and a five-year employee at Kraft Heinz, Food for Free offered McDermott a way to strengthen the food system on a local level - through the education system.

With 10 years of experience in higher education, Hansen joined BHCC in January of 2019.

Hansen’s thesis focused on systems of support for addressing students’ basic needs. “I’ve always been passionate about the link between student need and success,” she said.

McDermott sounded a similar note. “If everyone were given access to the same education opportunities there would be a more just society. But there are basic needs that need to be met for students to perform,” he said.

Food insecurity is an especially pressing issue within the public education realm. In 2021, 37 percent of public university students

in Massachusetts reported facing food insecurity – that number is likely only higher today.

“In partnering with community college pantries, our frozen meals are able to remove the stress of food prices and time associated with meal prep for food insecure students who already may be balancing school with other life priorities, such as jobs and family,” McDermott said.

Those interested in supporting Food for Free are encouraged to visit the organization’s website where they can sign up to volunteer and/or make a donation.

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 9

were added to the sacred World War II Memorial Honor Roll located on Central Hill. Since 1952, Armistice Day has been called Veterans Day.

Today, the number of Somerville residents who died in service since the Armistice is as follows:

- World War I – 148
- World War II – 417
- Korean War – 30
- Vietnam War – 33
- Beirut, Lebanon – 1

Total service deaths – 629

All of our heroes this coming Veteran’s Day can best be acknowledged by the words written by one of their own, Canadian Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, a World War

I soldier, on December 8, 1915:

In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:

To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields.



COMMENTARY

The views and opinions expressed in the commentaries and letters to the Editor of The Somerville Times do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Somerville Times, its publishers or staff.

Ward 6 Community Meeting follow up



By Jack Connolly
Jackconnolly422@gmail.com

Nearly 100 concerned residents survived a two-hour City of Somerville multi-department infomercial last Thursday night at the Community Baptist Church.

Mayor Ballantyne was joined by nearly a dozen city officials and staffers, including Chief of the Fire Dept., a captain and a detective from the Police Department, the City Elections Commissioner, the Transportation and Infrastructure Director, and other city department members. A good guess would conclude there had to be close to a quarter of \$1 million in Somerville city salaries in the meeting. Ward 6 City Councilor Lance Davis was on hand, and City Councilor At-Large Jake Wilson also joined after a City Hall committee meeting.

In her nearly 20 minutes of remarks, Mayor Ballantyne inquired how many attending have lived in Somerville for two years, five or less, 10 to 15 years, more, 15 to 20 years, and finally how many lifers? A handful of us raised our hands to polite applause.

The mayor also asked how many people used a bicycle, how many people had an electric car, and how many people used public transportation, all to a show of various hands after each request. What the mayor did not ask was how many Davis Square area residents and small businesses were happy with the deteriorating condition of Davis Square? Mayor Ballantyne also did not ask what people think of all the parking spaces that had been removed from College Avenue and Holland Street in the last few months for the installation of bus and/or bike lanes.

The mayor also didn't ask how the small businesses on those streets were doing without nearby parking, many spaces that had existed for over seventy years. The mayor did not ask what the Ward 6 residents thought about the lack of community policing in the greater Davis Square area.

Captain Jim Donovan from the Somerville Police Department offered later in the meeting that the lack of community policing was "due to budget cuts." Captain Donovan also offered that city-wide crime (homicide, rape, aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, motor vehicle theft, larceny, and arson) has increased 10% over one year, and 11% over two years.

In Ward 6, those same crime incidents increased by 5%. Mayor Ballantyne and her city team stuck to the same script as has been used in previous ward community meetings, including handing out printed images of slides shown during the meeting (difficult to read due to the small type).

City Engineer Postlewaite advised the crowd that the city passed on a previous plan to improve and repair Davis Square "because of the high contract

bid prices received." Does anyone think it is going to be any cheaper now?

Senior Planner Victor Nascimento promised that in January 2023 the previous Davis Square Neighborhood Plan focus has been narrowed to include only the core area of Davis Sq., now known as the Davis Square Commercial Area Plan. Not a lot of info detailing the two major Davis Square commercial projects (Asana and Scape), already approved by the city, for additional stories of office/lab space on Day and Elm Streets was revealed at the meeting. The one sure thing revealed was that all merchants but the Burren (247 Elm St.) would be displaced during the construction: How likely is it that we will see other Elm St. shops like McKinnon's, Sligo Pub, Dragon Pizza, and others, will return to the renovated building?

We may not know about that, but one thing should be certain: A lot more meetings should be occurring in the weeks and months ahead with the future of

Davis Sq. at stake.

Mayor Ballantyne's predecessor mayor had an annual city budget of approximately \$100 million dollars. Mayor Ballantyne has a current annual budget of approximately \$300 million dollars, and more staff than any previous administration.

Isn't it time Davis Square becomes a major economic redevelopment priority for this mayor and City Council? According to Acting Office of Special Planning and Community Development Acting Director Tom Galligani at a recent Chamber of Commerce meeting, "There are over 60 staffers in that OSPCD Dept."

Might be a good time for the city to dedicate more than a few of those staffers to renovate and improve the current sad shape of Davis Square. Davis Square deserves at least that much.

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

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



What did one plate say to another plate?
Tonight, dinner's on me.

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On This Day in History

November 9

- 1799 – Napoleon Bonaparte participates in a coup and declares himself dictator of France.
- 1848 – The first U.S. Post Office in California opens in San Francisco at Clay and Pike streets.
- 1918 – Germany is proclaimed a republic as the kaiser abdicates and flees to the Netherlands.
- 1935 – Japanese troops invade Shanghai, China.
- 1965 – Nine Northeastern states and parts of Canada go dark in the worst power failure in history, when a switch at a station near Niagara Falls fails.
- 1972 – Bones discovered by the Leakeys push human origins back 1 million years.
- 1989 – The Berlin Wall is opened after dividing the city for 28 years.
- 1998 – Largest civil settlement in US history: 37 brokerage houses are ordered to pay \$1.3 billion to NASDAQ investors to compensate for price fixing.

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Ms. Cam's

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Answers

1. 1954	7. The Secretary of Defense
2. Poppy	8. General Douglas MacArthur
3. John McCrae in 1915	9. Women's Army Corps
4. A line from Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural address	10. Irving Berlin
5. 31	11. Hazel
6. James Stewart	12. 7

MAPS Welcomes two new members to Board of Directors

The Massachusetts Alliance of Portuguese Speakers (MAPS) welcomed two new community leaders in October to its Board of Directors – Edna Monteiro Leith of Cambridge, and Maria da Silva Dickinson of Lowell.

Edna Leith is originally from Cabo Verde. She holds a bachelor's degree in Tourism Management from the Universidade Federal do Para, in Brazil, as well as two master's degrees from the UMass Boston: Human Services Management and Applied Linguistics. Edna is currently pursuing her Ed.D. in Educational

Leadership and Policy Studies at Boston University. Her involvement with MAPS started in 2002 as a volunteer. Years later she became the Senior Manager of the Dorchester office and the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program Director. Edna now works for the Boston Public Schools as a District Multilingual and Multicultural Instructional Coach, supporting Cabo Verdean Creole-speaking children with language barriers.

"It's an honor to return to MAPS, an organization that gave me an opportunity when I first

arrived in the United States," said Edna Leith. "I'm looking forward to being back in the community, working hard, and giving back to them."

Maria Dickinson is from Porto, Portugal, where she attended the University of Porto and received a bachelor's degree in Geography and Geographic Information Systems. She moved to the Boston area in the late 90s and has been working for the past 20 years at the City of Lowell in the Department of Planning & Development, Economic Development Office. She currently works

with local business communities to help them succeed, in particular with Portuguese-speaking immigrants.

"By joining MAPS, I can stay connected with my language and my culture and at the same time give back to the Portuguese-speaking community," said Maria Dickinson. "I see immigrants coming to Lowell every day with hopes and dreams for a better life and brighter future and I want to be able to help them."

"It's a pleasure to welcome Edna and Maria to our board of directors," said MAPS CEO Pau-

lo Pinto, MPA. "Their unique and diverse experiences will provide us with important perspectives as we hold important conversations and make critical decisions about serving our communities in the years to come."

MAPS has served the Portuguese-speaking communities of Massachusetts and others since 1970. The organization offers a wide range of free health and social services through its six offices in Cambridge, Somerville, Brighton, Dorchester, Framingham, and Lowell. To learn more about MAPS, visit maps-inc.org.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

The City of Somerville is forming a 12-member **Civic Advisory Committee** to represent the public in the redevelopment of **90 Washington St.**, and all residents are encouraged to apply. The Committee will meet regularly starting in **January 2023** to advise city staff and consultants in selecting one or more development partners for 90 Washington St. Committee members will include eight residents, two local business or non-profit representatives, and two City Councilors. Applications are due **Monday, November 14**. To learn more and apply, go to somer ville.ma.gov/90washington.

The City of Somerville will offer limited **household hazardous waste (HHW)** drop-off service to residents starting **Thursday, November 3**, through the end of the year. Residents may dispose of eligible items **each Thursday in November and December**, excluding Thanksgiving, between 4:00 and 7:30 p.m. at the **Department of Public Works yard** (1 Franey Rd.). Drop-off will be canceled in the event of heavy snow. HHW will not be accepted outside of the designated hours. For general information about trash, recycling, and waste disposal services, go to somer ville.ma.gov/sanitation.

November is **Hunger and Homeless Awareness month** and to support our most vulnerable clients, the **Somerville Homeless Coalition** will be holding its

first month-long **Hunger and Homeless Awareness** event. Throughout the month, local groups and supporters will take part in a variety of fundraising activities to raise awareness for their clients currently experiencing homelessness and food insecurity. In alignment with this event, we are bringing back our **Sleep Out** event on **November 18** where SHC staff will stand in solidarity with our clients by spending the night outdoors. To learn more about our Hunger and Homelessness event, and to get involved, see the link below. Get Involved: <https://fundraise.givesmart.com/e/n1P6DA?vid=uzvws>

The **Somerville School Committee** is seeking three individuals: a **parent/guardian**, an **educator**, and a **school administrator**, all from the **Somerville Public School district**, to serve on the **Superintendent Screening Committee**. Additional information is available, and will be updated regularly, at www.somer ville.k12.ma.us/superintendent-search. To apply, fill out the form at the form link. The deadline is **November 16** at 5:00 p.m.

Athletics registration starts today for **high school and middle grades students** interested in playing a winter sport. The high school medical clearance event is **November 15 and 16**. The middle grades medical clearance event is **November 30** from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Visit the **Athlet-**

ics Department website to learn more and register. Somerville has waivers for three SHS winter sports teams (**Boys Ice Hockey, Girls Basketball, Coed Swim**), meaning middle grades students may try out for these teams. Learn more by visiting the **Middle Grades Athletics** webpage. Athletics: <https://somer ville.k12.ma.us/athletics>. Middle Grades Athletics: <https://somer ville.k12.ma.us/MGathletics>.

The **13th Annual Somerville Winter Farmers Market (SWFM)** is held **every Saturday through April 8, 2023**. The **Center for Arts at the Armory** is located at 191 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143. To learn more and for a complete listing of vendors, weekly specials, and live entertainment, please visit www.somwintermarket.org. You can find the market on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SomervilleWinterFarmersMarket, and on Instagram @SomWinterMarket.

Donate to the **MAMAS free store**. **MAMAS – Mutual Aid Medford and Somerville** is seeking gently used winter clothes of all sizes and ages, especially coats and boots. The free store is on **November 12** (rain date November 13). Call or text 339-545-1315 for drop off locations and times. They are also accepting monetary donations: opencollective.com/mamas (Select Winter Free Clothing Store).

Registration for **Somerville Youth Hockey Learn to Skate/Learn to Play Hockey** is open. All sessions take place at either **Veterans** or **Founders rinks** in Somerville. Beginner classes are geared towards kids 3-9 who have never skated nor played hockey before. There's also a new Advanced option for kids aged 9 and older who are ready for a more fast-paced introduction to the fundamentals of hockey and skating. To learn more and register, visit <https://www.somer villeyouthhockey.org/lts-ltp>. Financial aid (and some equipment) is available.

Make **your perceptions of local policing and public safety** known by taking the **Somerville Department of Racial and Social Justice's survey**. Feedback will set the course of future work for the RSJ department. All residents are encouraged to participate. To learn more about the RSJ department, visit somer ville.ma.gov/rsj.

Every Wednesday through November 23, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. visit the **Davis Square Farmers Market**, across from American Flatbread at **44 Day St.** Visit: <https://www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis>.

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.



OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

'The Tree Stand'

by Jay Atkinson

The Tree Stand
By Jay Atkinson
Livingston Press, Alabama,
2022, 318 pages. \$19.95.

Review by Ed Meek

Jay Atkinson is the author of two novels, a short story collection and five nonfiction books. He received Massachusetts Book Award Honors for *Massacre on the Merrimack*, a compelling tale of a vicious Abenaki attack in 1697 that killed twenty-seven men, women and children. But when captives are taken, they plot and carry out revenge on their captors. It's an illuminative well-researched book about a murky period in our local history.

The Tree Stand is a collection of seven short stories set in the present. On the surface, the two books don't have much in common but there are some carryovers and both are well-worth reading.

The stories in *The Tree Stand* are all set in an area in northern Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire. All of the stories are long and well-developed. Some are novella length. So, instead of a slice of life "seen glancingly from the side" as Emma Donohue said of the short story, Atkinson's stories have a continuing sense of time as novels usually do.

Nonetheless, they do have "a single mood," as Poe put it. Like Rick Bass, Thomas McGuane, and Ray Carver, Atkinson writes from the point of view of hard-scrabble characters from the working class: firefighters, builders, rugby players, small farmers, and local musicians. Quite a bit of time is spent in bars.

As in *Massacre on the Merrimack*, bad things sometimes happen to unsuspecting characters. Nearly everyone in these stories works really hard. They are sometimes sustained by friends and strangers who do them a good turn, and other times by nature, or the skills they have developed. When life is going well for these folks, they are part of a community that lifts them up, but in Atkinson's world you just never know when something terrible might happen: a car accident, a fall out of a burning house, a cancer diagnosis.

In the title story, a down and out carpenter who can't find work is dumped by his wife who is probably sleeping with her boss. He needs to sell his half-finished house at a loss in order to move on. He takes his bow and sets out to hunt deer out of necessity. When he strikes his prey "satisfaction lay in the fact that, despite his troubles of late, Goody now had enough venison to last out the winter ... at least that was something." In this and other stories, Atkinson immerses us in the actions of his character so it feels as if we are there in the woods.

Bergeron Framing and Remodeling, is an over-the-top story about a hard-working and partying crew of brothers (with help from their old man) who build for twelve hours a day during the week and then

buzz through half a dozen grams of coke, get drunk and have sex until Monday morning when it starts all over again. They're forced to work double time when the youngest brother discovers he's not impervious to illness.

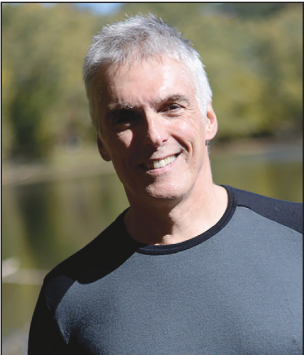
A similar situation occurs in *Lowell Boulevard*, a story of firefighters who are EMTs dealing with horrific accidents, when an unexpected tragedy derails a team of best friends. Yet when a widow can't afford to pay an ambulance bill, the fire department administrator writes it off. The main character, Glenn, realizes how lucky he is to marry the woman he loves and face a bright future of "healthy, athletic children ... a house he would build with his own hands." Reading these stories, those of us who survive and thrive today realize how lucky we are.

Hi-Pine Acres is written from the point of view of an older woman who lives with her son on a small farm in southern New Hampshire. She's the one who does all the work but she isn't getting any younger. When a realtor makes an offer to split up the farm, she's faced with a dilemma. In this and other stories, Atkinson knows the language of his subject. Here he describes Katherine's container truck:

"The interior of the truck smelled of moldy hay and livestock; she swept out the tick that littered the floor, walked back to the cowshed, and rolled out a pair of sloshing, ten-gallon milk cans. Manhandling them onto a dolly, she ran them up the ramp, secured them with bungee cords, and then went back to the shed where earlier that morning, after the milking when it was still dark, she had tied up a week-old calf."

In two other upbeat stories, Atkinson gives us a humorous insider's view of a rugby team and a seat in the audience of a local bar with talented live acts and friendships formed over years that reward the main character when she needs a place to stay and a band to play with.

The long story format takes a little getting used to in our current era of immediate gratification but the effort is well worth it. *The Tree Stand* is a setting that allows the character in the title story, Goody, to sit still from a blind, observe and wait to strike with his bow. Like Goody, Jay Atkinson hits his mark.



Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Ruth Chad is a psychologist who lives and works in the Boston area. Her poems have appeared in *The Aureorean*, *Bagels with the Bards*, *Connection*, *Psychoanalytic Couple and Family Institute of New England*, *Constellations*, *Ibbetson Street*, *Montreal Poems*, *Muddy River Poetry Review*, *Lily Poetry Review*, *Amethyst Poetry Review* and *Writing in a Woman's Voice*, pending on October 23/22. Ruth's chapbook, *The Sound of Angels*, was published by Cervená Barva Press in 2017. Ruth was nominated for a Pushcart prize in 2021.



A Mother's Journey

You were nub of heart
essence of the word—

I carried you deep within me
your slender lungs
reaching for air

each glimmering line
linking bone to tendon
action to response

And I, always on my journey.

In the way of silkworms
I wove silken thread
the warp and weft

morning and night
substance from inchoate being
and carried you

a slim new reed
raw and tender
to wave and bend in wind

but never wilt
I gave what I found
nurtured what needed me

You were nub of heart
essence of the word

— Ruth Chad

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