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## Pedestrian crossing flags under consideration for Somerville



It is possible that pedestrians in Somerville may be waving colorful flags while traversing crosswalks in hopes of making it to the other side without mishap.

By Jim Clark

While many crosswalks in the city of Somerville may be regulated by traffic signals, a good many others are not. And even when obeying the respective reds, yellows and greens, there can be instances when pedestrians fall victim to oncoming vehicular traffic due to poor visibility or inattentive drivers.

Several cities and townships across the U.S. have adopted the use of "pedestrian crossing flags" to help increase the visibility of those who cross streets properly and legally.

Such a program was brought up at the latest regular meeting of the Somerville Board of Aldermen as an order was put forward asking for the Director of SPCD to report to the Board on the possibility of installing containers of the small flags at key pedestrian crossings to aid in pedestrian safety.

Co-sponsor of the order,

Continued on page 4

## Chris Trapper brings his music to The Burren in Somerville

By Blake Maddux

Singer-songwriter Chris Trapper's non-musician jobs have included "selling chocolate chip cookies to tourists in Boston's Quincy Market" and "food and beverage guy" for Copley Plaza Hotel.

That was before the Buffalo native found success as the leader of The Push Stars, which formed in Cambridge, MA and released four albums and an EP between 1996 and 2004.

Songs that Trapper wrote for the band appeared in movies such as *There's Something About Mary*, *Me, Myself, & Irene*, and *The Devil Wears Prada*. The trio also toured 10-20,000-capacity venues with Matchbox Twenty in 2003. (The band recently reunited – although it never officially broke up – to record *3 Feet in the Air*, which came out on September 21 of this year.)

As a solo artist, Trapper has 10 recordings to his credit. These include his 2002 debut, one of all original Christmas songs, Continued on page 14



Chris Trapper plays The Burren in Somerville this coming Friday and Saturday.

— Photo by Topher Cox

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**Illuminations Tour 2018** takes place **Saturday, December 15**, 4:30 to 9:15 p.m. Tickets go on sale **Sunday, December 2**, at 10:00 a.m. at **Blue Cloud Gallery** in Ball Square, 713 Broadway. Celebrate the folk artistry of residents who transform their houses and yards with lights, illuminated ornaments, and shrines of devotion and fantasy. 45-minute Trolley Tours leave from (and return to) **Somerville High School Field House**, 81 Highland Ave. This is a new location this year, which is located between the Central Library and the High School. Coffee, hot chocolate and cookies will be served. In addition, craft activities for children and the **Somerville Community Chorus** will perform. Each year the tour changes, so do not expect the 2017 tour to be the 2018 tour. This is a fundraiser for the **Arts Council**. For more info visit [www.somervilleartscouncil.org](http://www.somervilleartscouncil.org).

Don't forget, if you would like to subscribe to receive a **digital edition** of our paper, go directly online to our website – [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com) – over to the right side and fill out your email address to receive a free, full PDF copy of the paper. By the way, if you scroll further down, a link to former editions of the paper are online as well, and all recent legal ads have been online for anyone who needs the legal ad they just ran.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to the one and only **Nancy Fucile**, of **Victor's Deli**. What a great smile and personality she has when you go into Victor's. Nancy is the overseer of the many delicious foods that they offer. We wish Nancy the very best of birthdays and many more. She and **Jason** are the backbone of Victor's today and have carried on the tradition of **Rosa** and **Victor**. Happy birthday to one of Somerville's newest residents and a very nice guy, **Ardi Leemput**, from Belgium. Both he and his lovely wife moved here to the city and they love it. We wish Ardi the very best of birthdays and hope he stays here with us for many years to come. Happy birthday to **Lisa Hastings**, a nice lady celebrating her birthday this week. Happy birthday to

Continued on page 11

# The Somerville Times

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## TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

### Response to: Can't get there from here

Jim says:

Murphy The Florist is gone? Guess I haven't bought flowers in a while

Maryellen Kenney says:

I'll ALWAYS be FROM Somerville; though having lived out longer than in, I sometimes have to Google Map to get where I need to be there!!  
Great article – great memories – thanks Jimmy.

Pamela McGovern says:

I still refer to "Dr. Goldenberg's" office, "Jumbo's", the place they made donuts on Morrison Ave. at the end of Highland Rd. "Lepore's Pharmacy", "Mitchell's" in Ball Sq., "Fannie Farmers" & "Brigham's" in Davis Sq. Star market on Broadway, Burger King before it became a used car dealership. Davis Sq & Porter Sq before the Red Line and SHS before they renovated it last time!!

Richard Martin says:

I grew up in the Franklin Field Projects in Dorchester. Where we used to live has been totally disfigured. No one I grew up with lives there any more, and it's like the place never existed. Fortunately, theres a Facebook Group where a lot of kids I grew up with drop in once in a while. I'm even talking to people I didnt know back then, but shared the same landmarks, events etc.

Jimmy says:

i also glance over to Dr Goldenbergs old office as Idrive by sometimes3 times a day! He was a good man! Then I pass the spot where Johnnies Foodmaster was!, and Surabian Drug, and Rays fruit, and Mitchells!

Barbara says:

Thanks, Jimmy. With the influx of the younger, affluent generation, so much of Somerville has been lost. When they talk about "displacement" after having lived here for only a few years, they insult the thousands of locals who were priced out over the last 20 years. Who do they think used to live in their expensive apartments??

Susan says:

The other day I was talking to my neighbor who is not a life long Villen and I said you know the funeral home on Medford street across from Saint Ann's Church.....she looked at me and said theres no funeral home across from Saint Ann's. I said when did that move? She thought I was crazy

Yet another poster says:

I arrived here 30 years ago from far away as a freshly minted adult. At the time I kind of yawned when local folks talked about what had disappeared (this is not a new phenomenon, after all). I now find myself playing the same game; so much of what I took for granted here is gone – for better and for worse.  
These schlocky condos they put up when they knock down old businesses / industries can be credited with adding housing stock, I suppose – but they're ugly as sin and the sky-high rent for the ground floor retail they build severely limits the types of businesses that can move in.

Jean OBrien FKA Anderson says:

Love this. Reading the comments Dr Goldenberg. He used to do house calls. Fanny farmer. Thom McCann's. Johnnie Ds. JJs in teele sq where everyone knew your name. Art and Bobs. I grew Up at a great time in Somerville. Drive through now it's seems so congested and only getting worse. Let's hope they never take lyndells.

Mike Bonanno says:

Remember Oscars and Brighams in Porter Square, the old sub shop on College Ave across from the park.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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John Connolly



Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

# Strange Ville of Fare



The holiday season means family, festivities, and lots of food. It seems like a good time to look at some of my Somerville friends' (strange to us, but delicious to others) food favorites. I did a survey of kooky eats that current and former Somerville residents enjoyed as kids. Some of us still enjoy our odd sounding but delectable treats today.

Baked Spam, and a nice mustard and black pepper sandwich? You may be saying yuck, but everyone has at least one wacky favorite tasty treat. I happen to love potato chips and a hot dog with a glass of milk.

I reached out and was amazed at all the people who shared their personal favorite snacks. Here goes:

Leftover cold baked beans sandwich.  
Peanut butter and mustard sandwiches.  
Peanut butter and butter sandwich.  
Meatball and mayonnaise sandwiches on white bread.  
Mashed bananas on toast.  
Onion sandwich.  
Peanut Butter and Potato Chips sandwich.  
Ketchup/mustard sandwich.

Mayo sandwich.  
Sliced liverwurst sandwich.  
Warm milk over toast in a bowl.  
Sugar on Wonder Bread sandwich.  
Molasses and butter on white bread.  
Peanut Butter and Cheese sandwich.  
Spaghetti sandwich.  
Cheese and peanut butter sandwich.  
Peanut Butter, Mayo and lettuce sandwich.  
Potato chip sandwich.  
Grilled cheese with grape jelly on it.  
Italian bread, ricotta cheese, and Spanish olives.  
Liverwurst and cream cheese on pumpernickel.  
Fritos and cream cheese.  
A can of tuna in olive oil and a can of corn mixed together with hot sauce on top.  
Moxie and milk.  
Pickles and potato chips on white bread with mustard.  
Kippers and peanut butter on Ritz crackers.  
Canned carrots sandwich.  
Mayo and Jelly sandwich.  
Mayo and pepper sandwich.  
Ham salad but baloney instead of ham.  
A roll with Nestle's Quik powder.  
Ground up bologna and pickles and mayo sandwich (I'm going to try that).  
Liver, onions and mushrooms. Yum!  
Potato chips dipped in chocolate ice cream.



Gourmet extraordinaire Jimmy Del Ponte with gourmet chef Julia Child.

French Fries dunked in a strawberry shake.  
Sardines or anchovies right out of the can.  
And for dessert ... Pepto Bismol, Brioschi, or Plop Plop, Fizz Fizz!  
Now, if you will excuse me, I'm going to dunk my baloney and mayo sandwich in chocolate milk.  
Bon Appétit!

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Somerville Local First's final market of the year features 40+ local makers and artists ready to help with your holiday shopping. With jewelry, pet accessories, housewares, textiles, fragrances, leather goods, gifts, and specialty food items available – there is something for everyone!

Plus, an onsite cafe and bar help make the shopping experience merry and bright! There is a \$2 suggested donation at the door to help us keep table prices low for artists and makers.

Sunday, December 9, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Center for Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave., Somerville.

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# THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

## It wasn't just tacos he was after

Police officers were dispatched to the Taqueria Tapatio restaurant on Broadway last week on reports of a dispute in progress. Upon arrival, the officers spoke with a woman who stated that a man, identified as Francisco Resate-Reyes, who had attacked her over the summer inside the restaurant had come into the restaurant that evening and began threatening her and yelling incoherently. The victim provided the officers with paperwork from the probation department at Somerville District Court, outlining conditions for Resate-Reyes, who was ordered by probation to stay away from the woman and to not abuse alcohol or drugs. The victim and witnesses pointed out Resate-Reyes, who was seated inside the nearby Coco Flow Style barber shop. The officers approached Resate-Reyes and noted that he appeared to be heavily intoxicated. The officers spoke to Resate-Reyes in English, and one of the barbers was able to translate to Spanish to ensure a clear line of communication with him. Resate-Reyes was told to stay away from the restaurant and the victim, and he reportedly stated that he understood. The victim was advised to contact 9-1-1 if Resate-Reyes returned, and that police would be contacting his probation officer. As the officers returned to their cruiser, they reportedly observed Resate-Reyes exit the barber shop and stumble around in the middle of Broadway and Franklin St., after which he walked directly toward the door of the restaurant. Resate-Reyes ignored the officers' verbal commands to stop and continued walking towards the door of the restaurant. As an officer grabbed Resate-Reyes, preventing him from entering the restaurant, he reportedly tensed up and pulled away from and attempted to taunt the victim. Other patrons inside the restaurant appeared to be afraid of Resate-Reyes. The officers informed Resate-Reyes that he was under arrest and to place his arms behind his back, at which time he reportedly turned around to face the officers and tucked his arms tight to his body preventing them from placing handcuffs on him. After numerous unsuccessful attempts to make Resate-Reyes cooperate, he was eventually taken to the ground, where he continued to resist but was in due course placed into handcuffs. Resate-Reyes was subsequently taken to the station for booking on charges of disorderly conduct, trespassing, and resisting arrest.

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### Help Keep Somerville Safe!

## SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

<b>Arrests:</b> <b>Franciso Rasate-Reyes</b> , November 29, 6:52 a.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of disorderly conduct, trespassing, and resisting arrest. <b>Michele Ficara</b> , of 889	Harrison Ave., Boston, November 30, 10:57 a.m., arrested at Artisan Way on warrant charges of larceny over \$1200 by single scheme and felony nighttime breaking and entering.	<b>John Benbow</b> , of 112 South Hampton St., Boston, November 30, 12:20 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on a charge of shoplifting by asportation. <b>Joel Sylvia</b> , of 41 O Reilly Way, Charlestown, December 1, 5:37 p.m., arrested at Assembly Row on charges of shoplifting by asportation, resisting arrest, removal of theft prevention device, and disorderly conduct. <b>Kumud Verma</b> , of 9 Kidder	Ave., December 1, 7:32 p.m., arrested at College Ave. on warrant charges of uninsured motor vehicle or trailer, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, unregistered motor vehicle, and failure to stop or yield.
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## Pedestrian crossing flags under consideration for Somerville

CONT. FROM PG 1

Ward 6 Alderman Lance Davis suggested that containers of small flags at both sides of key pedestrian crossings could help pedestrians cross the street. Pedestrians could use a flag to gain the attention of motorists. "Some folks may have seen these up in Arlington on Mass Ave., the new sort of traffic patterns they have up there. They've just got little cans attached to the poles, and the little orange flags," Davis explained. "So when you're trying to cross the street you have a better way to get driver's attention."

Davis said he didn't know if they work or not, or if the flags disappear every Friday and Saturday night, but he felt that is an intriguing idea that should be explored further.

Ward 5 Alderman Mark Niedergang asked for the order to be referred to the Traffic and Parking Committee, and told the Board that he thought the program is a great idea. "One of the most shocking statistics that I've heard as an alderman was in the ResiStat meetings last spring," said Niedergang. "One of the data points that they put up was that 48 percent of pedestrians who were hit in Somerville by automobiles are hit in the crosswalks. I couldn't believe it when I saw that. It's a very disturbing number, and I think shows that anything that makes pedestrians more visible to drivers is a good thing. Especially short people, children, etc. So I'm very interested in pursuing this."

The order was subsequently approved and referred to the Traffic and Parking Committee for further review and recommendations.

Ward 5 Alderman Mark Niedergang is advocating for the city to look into taking up a program similar to Arlington's use of pedestrian crossing flags.



# Beyond the March: Visions of a more woman-led America

By JT Thompson

Rebecca Kopycinski grew up in Lowell, MA, runs a video making business, and is a multimedia and performance artist. She speaks with the calm reflectiveness of someone skilled at introspection.

"I'm very fortunate with my business, I have a lot of flexibility and freedom, and I have many clients with missions I believe in. Of course, there's also work for tech companies that offsets the non-profits, but I feel fortunate I have the talent to help promote missions I believe in."

"As a personal project, I'm currently working on *Reagan Esther Myer*, a 90-minute multimedia one-woman show. There's live music, video, and theatrical performance, all employed to tell this twisted tale of a universe featuring elements terrifyingly reminiscent of our own social zeitgeist. The show touches on themes of socio-political power dynamics, feminist resistance, and trust – while maintaining levity with off-brand campy humor."

What was your experience of the Women's March?

"I went down to the Common with a group of friends. We couldn't really see very much, but we were just so amazed to see how many people were there. It was so amazing to be in that sea of people still fighting for a world that's loving, caring, accepting, kind, a come one

come all world."

"So many people fighting for that. I really felt that we have a lot of people in our corner. I know this is a blue, progressive state, but it was like putting a salve on a wound. A feeling of, I don't feel so hopeless now. That feeling of togetherness imbued me with hope."

What's your perspective on the #metoo movement?

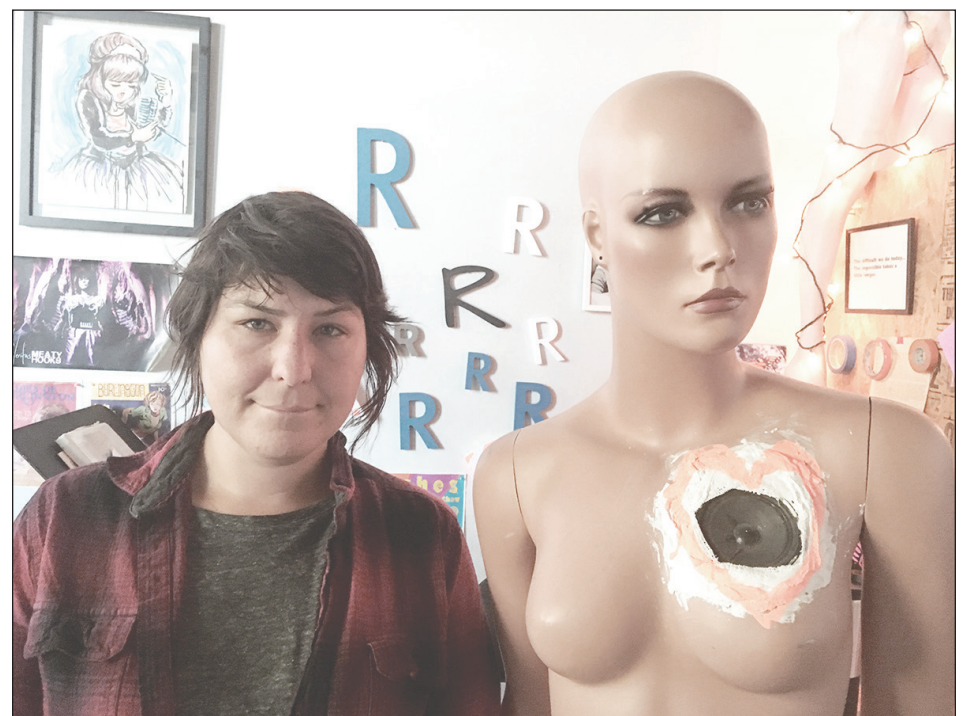
"I feel really grateful that I've never been sexually assaulted. Now that women are feeling more safe to tell their stories, there's so many stories. It's so pervasive. 'I'm so grateful no one has attacked me' shouldn't even be a sentence! It's been good to see women feel safe and supported in telling the truth."

"So many people in our culture slip so easily into anger – if you're getting mad that someone is just telling their story – maybe you've done something questionable yourself."

What do you think a more woman-led society would be like?

"So much better. I know it's a dangerous thing to think that – being a woman is not a guarantee you'll be a good leader. I was not a Hillary supporter, I was for Bernie. I mean, I did vote for her. But where has she been since? Nowhere. She's not out there fighting for women."

"Our problem now is that it's all one group. There just should be equal representation. I mean, I do think women are more



Rebecca Kopycinski is a multimedia and performance artist.

empathetic. I think women are stronger. They've been put down so much during history, they've needed their strength."

"But I think it's only a matter of time before things change. I'm very hopeful about the generation that's coming into voting now, and are pretty fed up with what the government is doing now."

What would you like to say to women in America today?

"To female artists, make it happen. You're worthy and good enough. In the arts so many areas are male dominated, music, film making, visual art. It's another

area where women need to make a stand for themselves."

"To women in general, be vigilant. Be vigilant in your relationships. With the men around us – professional relationships, friends, family – there's so many micro aggressions that happen. It's important to notice them and defuse them."

"It's not up to us to educate men not to be a misogynistic jerk. But you need to deflect the negativity that damages your self-worth. There's so many ways we're told we're lesser. Be vigilant. Just notice them and disrupt them."

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## Community meeting to discuss renovation of Foss Park

The City of Somerville's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) invites all interested community members to an information session on Wednesday, December 12, to discuss upcoming renovations to Foss Park, planned by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). The meeting will be held at the East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St., from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The DCR owns and operates Foss Park, and has announced that it will reconstruct the park's main rectangular playing field in 2019. City of Somerville staff and elected officials will host this community information session to discuss the field, the current state of the park and its relationship to our citywide open space and athletic field planning.

For more information about Somerville's Parks and Open Space planning, visit [www.somervillema.gov/departments/parks-and-open-space](http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/parks-and-open-space).

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Beacon Hill Roll Call



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**THE HOUSE AND SENATE:** There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week. This week, Beacon Hill Roll Call continues a series of reports on how local legislators in 2017-2018 voted on roll calls raising, lowering or creating new taxes.

This week: Part two of a two-part series of reports on Senate members’ votes on tax-related proposals.

REGULATION AND TAXING OF SHORT-TERM RENTALS (H 4841)

Senate 30-8, approved a bill that extends the state’s current 5.7 percent hotel and motel tax and up to a 6 percent local option room occupancy tax to short-term rentals offered by Airbnb, HomeAway and VRBO while leaving the regulation of these rentals including registration, licensing and inspections up to local cities and towns.

The measure also allows local cities and towns to impose a local impact fee of up to 3 percent on operators who rent out two or more professionally-managed short-term rental units within a municipality.

Other provisions create a central state registry of short-term rentals and require that a city or town dedicate no less than 35 percent of revenue generated from the new local option fee to either affordable housing or local infrastructure needs.

The measure was approved by both branches and sent to Gov. Charlie Baker who offered amendments to it. The Legislature never acted on the amendments and the bill remains in limbo.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

21-DAY EXEMPTION (S 2381)

Senate 11-26, rejected an amendment that would exempt from the new short-term rental tax people who rent out their unit for 21 or fewer days per year.

(A “Yes” vote is for the 21-day exception. A “No” vote is against it.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

BAN DISCRIMINATION IN SHORT-TERM RENTALS (S 2381)

Senate 37-0, approved an amendment that prohibits discrimination in short-term rentals based on race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, genetic information, ancestry or status as a veteran.

(A “Yes” vote is for the amendment.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

INCREASE DEEDS EXCISE TAX FROM \$20 to \$50 (S 4)

Senate 38-0, approved an amendment raising the state deeds excise tax from \$20 to \$50. The deeds excise tax is paid by the seller of a property and funds the state’s Community Preservation Act Trust Fund that “matches” the money raised by local cities and towns which are allowed to impose a surtax on real estate sales to fund projects like affordable housing, preservation of historical resources and open space.

(A “Yes” vote is for the hike.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

HIKE CAR RENTAL TAX BY \$2 TO FUND POLICE TRAINING (H 4516)

Senate 36-0, approved a bill imposing a \$2 tax on car rentals to fund municipal police training.

(A “Yes” vote is for the \$2 tax to fund police training.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

SALES TAX HOLIDAY (S 4)

Senate 14-24, (On May 22, 2018) rejected and then 31-6, (On July 25, 2018) approved an amendment allowing consumers to buy most products that cost under \$2,500 during a two-day weekend sales tax holiday in August without paying the state’s 6.25 percent sales tax.

(A “Yes” vote is for the amendment. A “No” vote is against it. Both roll calls are listed below. The first one is on 14-24 rejection. The second one is on 31-6 approval.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No/No

ALLOW NEIGHBORHOODS TO BAND TOGETHER AND FORM A DISTRICT(H 4546)

Senate 22-15, approved a local option bill allowing a city or town to authorize the creation of community benefit district which would permit owners of contiguous property in a city or town to form a district and require property owners to pay for additional services, improvements, events and other projects and activities within the district. The districts would be operated by a nonprofit board.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION TAXES (S 1551)

Senate 27-10, approved an amendment that would allow cities and towns, with the approval of local voters on a ballot question, to increase taxes on payroll, sales, property, fuel or vehicle excise tax. The funds could be used only for transportation-related purposes including maintaining, repairing, planning, operating, improving and constructing public transportation and transit systems, including roads, bridges, bikeways and pedestrian pathways.

The measure allows a city or town to act on its own or join other cities and towns to form a regional alliance and pool the revenue.

(A “Yes” vote is for the amendment. A “No” vote is against it.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

**CREDIT REPORTS (H 4806)** – The House approved a new version of a bill that would prohibit consumer reporting agencies, like Equifax, Experian and TransUnion from charging fees for freezing and unfreezing a person’s credit information. Under current law, companies can and have charged up to \$5 per freeze or unfreeze. A freeze makes the report inaccessible until the consumer unfreezes it. Since banks and other lenders require access to the borrower’s credit report before giving a loan, this greatly reduces identity thieves from

getting a loan or credit in another individual’s name.

The proposal gained momentum following the 2017 crisis when, from May to July, the personal information including names, social security numbers, addresses, driver’s licenses and credit card numbers of 145 million Americans was stolen from Equifax’s systems. Equifax didn’t reveal the breach until September and consumers lost valuable time to act.

Other provisions of the bill prohibit businesses from obtaining a consumer’s credit report without obtaining written, verbal or electronic consent from the consumer; and improve notices and consumer information the companies are required to give.

“I am pleased the House moved legislation forward today that will help protect Massachusetts consumers from security breaches,” said Rep. Tackey Chan (D-Quincy), House Chair of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure. “We have worked hard to ensure that consumers have access to the resources needed after a breach occurs, while also making sure that the commonwealth is in step with federal data security regulations.”

**BUSINESS TELEPHONE LISTING (H 184)** – On July 20, 2017, the House gave initial approval to a bill that would prohibit a business from listing a local telephone number in a phone directory if calls are routinely forwarded to a non-local number and the listing does not give the true physical address of the business. The measure has been stuck in the House Bills in Third Reading Committee since its approval more than a year ago.

HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION?

*Beacon Hill Roll Call* tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of the Legislature’s job and that a lot of important work is done outside of the House and Senate chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that have been filed. They note that the infrequency and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late-night sessions and a mad rush to act on dozens of bills in the days immediately preceding the end of an annual session.

During the week of November 26-30, the House met for a total of one hour and 19 minutes and the Senate met for a total of one hour and 24 minutes.

Mon. November 26 House 11:01 a.m. to 11:09 a.m.  
Senate 11:10 a.m. to 11:17 a.m.

Tues. November 27 No House session  
No Senate session

Wed. November 28 No House session  
No Senate session

Thurs. November 29 House 11:05 a.m. to 12:16 p.m.  
Senate 11:08 a.m. to 12:25 p.m.

Fri. November 30 No House session  
No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at [bob@beaconhillrollcall.com](mailto:bob@beaconhillrollcall.com).



# Riverside Community Care announces merger agreement with The Somerville Home

Nonprofit to Renovate Former Rest Home and Bring Behavioral Healthcare and Human Service Programs to Benefit the Community.

Riverside Community Care, a nonprofit provider of a broad range of behavioral healthcare and human service programs, today announced it has finalized an agreement to merge The Somerville Home into its operation and to occupy and improve the former rest home’s building for continued nonprofit community services.

The Somerville Home was a licensed residential care facility for senior citizens located since 1927 at 117 Summer St. in Somerville. The rest home previously announced its decision to close due to financial reasons. All of its residents have moved to other locations.

Riverside has provided services at multiple locations in Somerville for many years. The organization will renovate The Somerville Home property and use it as a new center for varied non-residential programs for children, adults and fam-

ilies. The renovated building may also eventually contain two apartments for people served by the agency.

Riverside will also continue to operate at its location on Broadway and Tyler Street in Somerville. The organization’s services located at South Street in Somerville will relocate to Summer Street due to redevelopment of the South Street area.

“Through this merger, Riverside is able to maintain and broaden the services we provide locally while enabling The Somerville Home to fulfill its commitment to offer continued beneficial use to the community,” said Scott M. Bock, Founder and President/CEO of Riverside Community Care. “Our organization is committed to working with neighbors and the city of Somerville to ensure a smooth transition.”

“We are pleased that the final chapter for The Somerville Home has culminated in a collaborative partnership with a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to serving the community,” said Jack



Connolly, a member of The Somerville Home’s Board of Directors. “Riverside is of this community and already provides needed services to Somerville residents; now they will have a well-located, soon-to-be-updated facility in which to continue that work.”

**About Riverside Community Care**  
Each year Riverside Community Care provides more than 40,000 children, adolescents and adults across Massachusetts with a broad range of behavioral healthcare and human services. The Dedham-based

nonprofit organization offers mental healthcare, developmental and brain injury services, youth and early childhood programs, addiction treatment and trauma response. Riverside’s work includes partnerships with local hospitals, physicians and schools.

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Recent Single Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:

MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72359299	67 Albion St	8 room, 4 bed, 2f 0h bath Colonial	51	\$750,000	\$700,000
72395569	14 Bonner Ave	9 room, 6 bed, 1f 0h bath Antique	17	\$819,900	\$800,000
72405148	38 Putnam Street	7 room, 4 bed, 2f 0h bath Victorian	6	\$824,900	\$905,000
72326886	47 Madison St	9 room, 4 bed, 1f 0h bath Colonial	111	\$825,000	\$750,000
72394153	88 Properzi Way	8 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath Antique	7	\$1,050,000	\$1,600,000

Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:

MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72389189	221 Beacon Street U:1	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath Townhouse	14	\$1,035,000	\$1,050,000
72383607	132 Perkins St U:1	6 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath Townhouse	19	\$1,049,900	\$1,050,000
72394810	6 Beacon St U:3	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath Townhouse	6	\$1,100,000	\$1,180,000
72387625	50 Howard St U:5	3 room, 1 bed, 1f 0h bath Loft	39	\$1,299,000	\$1,225,000
72389196	41 Claremon St U:41	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath Townhouse	6	\$1,375,000	\$1,380,000
72401521	9-11 Sherman Ct U:11	7 room, 4 bed, 3f 1h bath Townhouse	25	\$1,419,000	\$1,419,000
72343098	27 Woodbine Street U:27	8 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath Mid-Rise	4	\$1,475,000	\$1,472,705
72368634	52 Porter St U:2	8 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath 2/3 Family	48	\$1,475,000	\$1,460,000

Recent Multi-Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:

MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72398966	24-26 Chandler	2 unit, 15 total room, 10 total bedroom Duplex	7	\$1,450,000	\$1,450,000
72398088	52 Clarendon Ave	3 unit, 15 total room, 6 total bedroom 3 Family	19	\$1,475,000	\$1,475,000
72323050	36 Munroe St	4 unit, 19 total room, 8 total bedroom 4 Family	15	\$1,488,000	\$1,671,100
72391519	70 Line St	3 unit, 18 total room, 12 total bedroom 3 Family	76	\$1,775,000	\$1,862,000
72375189	111 Summer Street	4 unit, 13 total room, 4 total bedroom 4 Family	29	\$1,799,999	\$1,500,000
72295311	40 Laurel St	2 unit, 11 total room, 6 total bedroom 2 Family	189	\$2,199,999	\$2,000,000
72344245	160-166 Broadway	12 unit, 44 total room, 24 total bedroom 5-9 Family	82	\$3,650,000	\$3,200,000



OBITUARY

Julie A. (Barber) Green



Julie A. (Barber) Green of Barrington, NH passed away from breast cancer on November 29, 2018 at age 35, surrounded by her loving family and friends at home. Beloved wife of Erik D. Green. Adored sister of Christine P. Barber and her partner Ryan D. Peters of Somerville, MA. Cherished daughter of Patricia R. Barber and William G. Barber of South Kingstown, RI. Loved by her faithful dogs Onyx and Cookie. Julie is also survived by her aunt Elaine and Ken Parker, uncle Brian Rogers, and uncle Michael and Rita Rogers, by her in-laws Linda and Eric Lindwald, and by many cousins and friends.

Julie graduated from the University of New Hampshire

and studied Wildlife Biology and Horticulture. Julie was afraid of nothing, an incredible friend, and was very funny. Julie loved living things – particularly plants and animals, and wanted everyone to plant something that you could nurture and see grow. She squeezed so much out of life, especially in the last few years when it became more tenuous.

A Celebration of Life event will be held this spring in the Durham, NH area.

Julie received incredible and compassionate care at the Seacoast Cancer Center at Wentworth Douglas Hospital. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Julie’s memory to the Seacoast Cancer Center. Julie also wanted to help people younger than herself with cancer. Please consider a donation in her memory to the National Pediatric Cancer Foundation. Julie’s passion was planting and growing, and wanted to teach young people these skills. Please consider a donation to Groundwork Somerville, an organization that works with young people and agriculture, in Julie’s memory.

Vinny says goodbye – but only for now, we hope!



By Donald Norton

Lifelong resident and all around nice guy Vinny Vincente, together with his brother Tito Vincente, operated Goode Gas on Pearl Street for decades and built up a huge following that exists even today.

Finally, after working part time on various cars in the shop

these past several years, he’s decided to join his brother Tito in retirement.

We think that retirement is going to be short lived though. We bet Ed will be calling him in to help out. The Gas station has quite the reputation of doing great work and not over charging.

We here at *The Times* wish

Vinny the very best in retirement. He is one of the all-time nicest guys around. Always with a smile and some smart answer to get you to smile or a memory of the old days when he and his family moved to East Somerville, on Pearl St., way back in the early 60’s.

Good luck Vinny, we will miss you. We wish you the very best!

Dorothy’s Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



Southern Kin Cookhouse

Southern comfort food is what is served up here at the Southern Kin Cookhouse. Saturday and Sunday brunch is available from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. along with a full lunch menu.

Upon entering, off to the right is the bar area. It’s about half the length of the restaurant where you will find over 100 American whisky and Kentucky bourbon choices for any of the old fashioned and even traditional style cocktail offerings.

A must try, only available during weekend brunch is the Carolina Bloody Mary, a spicy cocktail using whiskey instead of the traditional vodka. Just as a side note, the traditional Bloody Mary is also available.

This is a great place for small group gatherings for celebrations of birthdays, etc. Always a friendly staff and

excellent service.

Starting off with the skillet cornbread is a good idea. Crispy on the outside, soft and slightly creamy on the inside, served with a honey butter and strawberry jam.

The devilish eggs are a spin on the classic deviled eggs using a creole mayo, truffle, a hint of cayenne and topped off with pickled Fresno chilies, a really nice festive presentation and a delicious compilation of flavors.

The eggs benedict is served over a southern biscuit featuring perfectly poached eggs smothered in a bright hollandaise sauce with slices of ham and a side of creamy white cheddar grits.

Frogmore stew, shrimp and grits, crawdad gumbo, chicken and waffles, collards, mac and cheese, ribs, wings, biscuits and gravy, and the list goes on. There are gluten free and vegetarian options available on selected items. They also take reservations. See the



website for a full menu list.

Southern Kin Cookhouse  
500 Assembly Row  
Somerville, MA 02145  
617-764-5966  
southernkincookhouse.com

Mon.-Wed. 11:30 - 12:00 a.m.  
Thurs.-Fri. 11:30 - 1:00 a.m.  
Sat. 10:00 - 1:00 a.m.  
Sun. 10:00 - 12:00 a.m.

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

Be sure to visit us online at [www.TheSomervilleTimes.com](http://www.TheSomervilleTimes.com)  
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## 5 ways to help older adults avoid problems with contractors

By Carolyn Nagao-Marcotte

I am a huge fan of independent contractors, because they do vital work that most of us can't or won't. But finding good contractors and managing them is not always easy – and older adults sometimes face unique challenges in this department.

I recently worked with an elderly woman who has significant memory impairment.

She lives in an older home – quite happily most of the time – but recently had a problem with bedbugs, which was a huge issue for both her and the live-in aides she relies on.

We needed the problem fixed immediately. But, as often happens, the first treatment didn't eradicate the problem, and the exterminator was not in a hurry to come back and do a second one.

We were told that it was a busy time. But it felt like we were being put on the back burner, behind customers who had yet to write a check for that first payment.

The exterminator was part of a national chain. After several unsuccessful calls to the local office, I took her problem to the regional office and things eventually got sorted out. But it required a good deal of follow-up and assertiveness.

I don't claim to know the contractor's motivation, but I do know that ageism is real, and that there is sometimes

the assumption an older person won't speak up if there is a problem, or that they can be ignored if they do.

Do you suspect that an older adult is facing similar issues? Here are five ways to help older adults avoid problems with contractors:

### Well-Being Checks

Knowing what's going on in the person's home is the first step toward being able to help, and visiting for regular well-being checks can be key. In addition to spending time with your friend or family member, it's a chance to note the condition of their home. If there seems to be an issue that's not being addressed, try tactfully approaching it in conversation. Don't be surprised if it takes more than once to get to the bottom of things, and remember to be respectful of their boundaries.

If home visits are impractical, well-being checks by phone can also be helpful. Pay special attention if they mention issues around the house, such as things breaking, and try to discuss their plan for fixing things. And remember to tactfully follow up; don't assume things worked out.

### Do Your Research

Take some time to learn about your options. Ask friends and family in the area for recommendations, or consult websites that offer customer reviews. You can also determine if potential contractors have received complaints by checking with the

Massachusetts Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation.

### Know the Scams

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) advises that people aged 45-65 are at greatest risk for home improvement scams.

A common scam is a door-to-door contractor who claims they're in the neighborhood with extra supplies and offers a bargain repair, only to raise the price midway, possibly threatening to walk. These are typically high-pressure sales pitches, where they want a quick answer.

A better approach is to get a second opinion before hiring a contractor, and the BBB advises checking references and insisting on a written contract that includes price, materials and timeline.

### Know your Rights

Hiring the right contractor is a crucial first step, because if you get a bad one the focus can easily shift to trying to contain the damage.

Some communities, such as Cambridge, have a consumer's council, to help mediate complaints without recourse to legal action. Another potentially helpful resource is the Attorney General's Consumer Hotline (617 727-8400), which can provide guidance on whether there's grounds to file a complaint.

### Hire a Professional

If friends and family are unable to provide enough help, it could make sense to hire an Aging



Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services CLO program Aging Life Care Manager Carolyn Nagao-Marcotte.

Life Care Manager. Previously known as Geriatric Care Managers, these are professionals who specialize in needs assessment and care management, and can essentially act as a personal concierge to help a person stay in their own home safely and comfortably.

Carolynn Nagao-Marcotte is a dementia certified Aging Life Care Manager for the CLO program at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services, a non-profit elder services agency dedicated to supporting the independence and well-being of older adults. For more information

about CLO, visit the Private Care Management page at [eldercare.org](http://eldercare.org) or call 617-628-2601 for a free consultation.

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## The Highlander Theatre Company presents 'RENT: School Edition'

The Highlander Theatre Company (HTC), the resident theatre company of Somerville High School, will present the hit musical *RENT: School Edition* on December 6, 7, and 8 at the Centennial Auditorium at Somerville High School (SHS).

With book, music, and lyrics by Jonathan Larson, this Tony and Pulitzer winning musical follows a year in the life of friends in New York's Lower East Side during the HIV/AIDS crisis of the 1980s and 90s. Filled with laughter, tears, and a rock-infused score, *RENT* is a story about community, survival, and measuring life in love.

"RENT presents a unique and exciting challenge for theatre students at SHS," says Charles Jabour, Director and Faculty Advisor of HTC. "This show really requires us to dig in to what it means to be a community. We've spent a lot of time exploring the topics that made *RENT* such a groundbreaking musical when it premiered, and the themes that continue to make *RENT* so relevant today."

The students of the Highlander Theatre Company are excited to be taking on such an important story. "I'm happy that Somerville High is finally doing a musical that has topics that represent what is happening in America today," says student



Continued on page 17



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.

Be Somerville



By Joseph A. Curtatone

A monthly look at ways to get involved with your city: Don't just live in Somerville, be Somerville!

Upcoming events and meetings are listed chronologically here, but make sure you read through to the end for big news about the SomerVision 2040 launch.

Information Session to Discuss Conway Park Contamination, December 5

A public information session regarding contamination at Conway Park will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 5, at the Public Safety Building (220 Washington St.) from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Weston & Sampson, the licensed site professional in charge of soil testing, and City staff will discuss testing results and next steps, as well as answer questions. Soil testing conducted earlier this year in preparation for the proposed field ren-

ovation revealed contamination in the soil, including lead and PCBs, and required closure of the field and playground. A portion of the playground has since been re-opened. For more information, visit [www.somerville-ma.gov/conwayfield](http://www.somerville-ma.gov/conwayfield).

Annual Holiday Events Planned Throughout December

Somerville's annual holiday celebrations kick off on Thursday, December 6, at 5:30 p.m. with the Christmas Tree Lighting and visit from Santa Claus, on the City Hall Concourse. Also part of the 2018 events are a ceremonial lighting of a Menorah on the City Hall Concourse on Sunday, December 9, at 5:30 p.m., and the Somerville Arts Council's Illuminations Tour on December 15. The Tree and Menorah lightings are free of charge. For more information about the Illuminations Tour and information on how to purchase tickets, visit [www.somervilleartscouncil.org](http://www.somervilleartscouncil.org).

Nominate Properties for Historic Preservation Awards by December 10

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (SHPC) is accepting nominations for the 2019 Preservation Awards through Monday, Dec. 10. El-

igible property owners must have completed restoration and preservation work between January 2016 and December 2018. Owners may nominate their own property, or may be nominated by others in the community. Eligible projects include, but are not limited to, removal of inappropriate siding materials, repair or restoration of damaged or missing architectural details, removal of enclosed porches or inappropriate windows, repainting with historic colors, and additions that are "historically sympathetic." For more information, visit [www.somervillema.gov/PreservationAwards](http://www.somervillema.gov/PreservationAwards).

SHS, Central Hill Quarterly Parking Meeting, December 12

Join City staff on Wednesday, December 12, at 6 p.m. at the Central Library, 79 Highland Ave. for the fourth in a series of public quarterly meetings where updates about parking changes, new data collection, and strategies for impact mitigation will be discussed. All interested persons are encouraged to come including residents and local business owners, as well as City and school staff. 2019 meeting dates will be announced soon. For more information, visit [www.somervillema.gov/shsparking](http://www.somervillema.gov/shsparking).

Foss Park Community Meeting, December 12

The City of Somerville's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) invites all interested community members to an information session on Wednesday, December 12, to discuss upcoming renovations to Foss Park, planned by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). The meeting will be held at the East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St., from 6 to 8 p.m.

The DCR owns and operates Foss Park, and has announced that it will reconstruct the park's main rectangular playing field in 2019. City of Somerville staff and elected officials will host this community information session to discuss the field, the current state of the park, and its relationship to our citywide open space and athletic field planning.

Lincoln Park Design Review Community Meeting, December 17

This spring the final work at Lincoln Park will be complete. Come learn more about what will be coming up and share your thoughts on the newly renovated park at a community meeting on Monday, December 17,

from 6 to 7:30 p.m., in the Argenziano School cafeteria, 290 Washington St. For more information, contact Arn Franzen at [afranzen@somervillema.gov](mailto:afranzen@somervillema.gov) or 617-625-6600 ext. 2500.

State of the City Address, January 7

Save the date! The City's annual Mid-term Ceremonies and State of the City Address are planned for Monday evening, January 7, 2019. All members of the public are invited to hear about progress on the City's goals and initiatives, and plans for the coming year. Refreshments will be served. Speeches and reception will be held at City Hall, 93 Highland Ave.

SomerVision 2040 Launch, January 15

This week, Mayor Curtatone announced the launch of a new community process to update SomerVision: Somerville's Comprehensive Plan 2010-2030 and create SomerVision 2040. Through this new community process, the City will revisit SomerVision 2030 and build in goals for 2040. The process will start with a Kick-Off Meeting on Tuesday, January 15, 2019, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Center for Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland *Continued on page 17*

The Somerville Times  
Best of Somerville 2018  
Cast your vote!

You have until December 7 to vote for your favorite category. To cast your vote, email us at [thebestofsomerville@yahoo.com](mailto:thebestofsomerville@yahoo.com) or mail in your ballot to The Somerville Times, 699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144. The winners will be announced Wednesday, December 12, 2018. If you don't see your favorite category here, simply add it to this list.

Foods & Restaurants

- Best Breakfast
- Best Combination Breakfast & Lunch
- Best Italian Food
- Best Chinese Food
- Best Mexican Food
- Best Portuguese Food
- Best Local Deli
- Best Variety and all around Restaurant
- Best Seafood
- Best Irish Pub
- Best Local Bar
- Best Thai Food
- Best Hamburger
- Best Mac & Cheese
- Best Hot-Dog
- Best Roast Beef Sandwich
- Best Pizza
- Best Bakery
- Best Sub Shop

- Best Coffee Shop Franchise
- Best Coffee Shop local
- Best Bar Food

Best of Somerville Services

- Best Electrician
- Best Plumber
- Best Attorney
- Best Teacher
- Best Politician
- Best City Worker
- Best Receptionist
- Best Real Estate Agent/Realtor
- Best Real Estate Rental Agent
- Best Bank Teller
- Best Bank Employee
- Best Waitstaff
- Best Bartender
- Best Cook
- Best Caterer

- Best Barber
- Best Hair Salon
- Best Doctor
- Best Nurse
- Best Coach
- Best Police Officer
- Best Fire Fighter
- Best Photographer
- Best Somerville Historian
- Best Eye Doctor
- Best Orthodontist
- Best Mortgage Officer
- Best Somerville Artist
- Best Somerville Poet
- Best Somerville Writer
- Best Somerville Celebrity
- Best City Elected Politician
- Best City Employee DPW
- Best City Employee City Hall/Annex

Best of Somerville Businesses

- Best Somerville Bank
- Best Real Estate Company
- Best Insurance Agency
- Best Creative Business in 2016
- Best Florist
- Best Laundromat
- Best Liquor Store
- Best Gas Station
- Best Auto Body Shop
- Best Tow Company
- Best Law Firm
- Best Pest Exterminator
- Best Convenient/Neighborhood Store
- Best Somerville Non Profit Agency
- Best Bar For Bands
- Best Newspaper

Best Idea in 2018  
Worst Idea in 2018



COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Somerville loves to celebrate the holidays.

Our View Of The Times



It’s been an interesting year in politics and social discourse, to say the least. The City of Somerville is certainly one classic example of strong, good-hearted people having the capacity to set aside fundamental ideological differences for the sake of appreciation of the community.

Events such as the city Christmas Tree lighting, taking place this Thursday, symbolically serve as a reminder that we are indeed a cohesive community, with our common hopes, fears, ambitions and objectives.

Looking into the joyful face of a child filled with wonder as the lights are brightened fills us with a sense of resolve that we will persevere and protect our own. That the most important thing we can do as responsible citizens is to make certain that our future is safe and secure as we launch into the future.

Later in the month, we can look forward to similar seasonal traditions such as the Somerville Arts Council’s Illuminations Tour beginning on the 15th, when tour guides lead trolleys past some of the city’s most spectacular displays of holiday lights, while the ceremonial Menorah Lighting will be taking place on the 9th, in celebration of Hanukkah.

We love our holiday season anyway, but in troubling times we tend to become a little more appreciative of our traditions and the stabilizing force they provide us.

In many ways, this year’s observance is no different than others. Thankfully.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

**Peter Blaikie**, who is also celebrating this week. We hope he enjoys his birthday. Finally, to former Somerville guy from a great family, **David Bell** turns 60 this year. We hope he had a great party last week and continues to enjoy his birthday week. Happy birthday to everyone here and from the city who is celebrating this week. We wish every one of them a very happy birthday.

\*\*\*\*\*

Best wishes to **Ricky Willette**, who was recently in the hospital. Ricky is one of the good guys at **DPW** here in the city. He is home recuperating and we’re glad. Now get back to work before the first storm, between you and TB the streets will be done great.

\*\*\*\*\*

Condolences to **Representative Christine Barber** on the sad passing on her sister **Julie**, who unfortunately recently passed away from breast cancer. It’s sad that a life so young and vibrant has to leave so early. Our condolences to her and her family.

\*\*\*\*\*

Great to see that **the mayor** is doing better. What a horrible thing to experience. He suffered from a severe case of **Shingles virus** last week. We hope he gets taken care of, this is one of the worst things you can have. He has a fundraiser tonight, **Wednesday, December 5, at the Armory**.

\*\*\*\*\*

Did you know that originally **the excise tax on automobiles** and other vehicles was intended to pay for upkeep of the roads? Did you also know that a lot of the streets are shortened for bike lanes and one of the worst lanes is in East Somerville. So your car excise tax pays for upgrades so that bikers who pay nothing can shorten the streets.

\*\*\*\*\*

New winter **Learn-to Skate classes** for children, ages 4 to 18 at the local ice rink in Somerville. Classes at the **Founders Memorial Rink**, 581 Somerville Avenue in Somerville, start **December 16** at 2:00 p.m. Get 7 weeks of lessons for the price of 6. Use code: **SOM2**. Use hockey, recreational or figure skates. Beginner, intermediate and advanced classes are available. For information and to register, call Bay State Skating School at 781-890-8480 or visit online at [www.baystateskating-school.org](http://www.baystateskating-school.org). Celebrating 50 years.

\*\*\*\*\*

To **that person** (fictitious or not) who wrote a letter accusing us of being jealous of the so-called rag because we constantly write about the **Winter Hill Yacht Club for Criminals**: We have

some news coming their way in a couple of weeks they may not like. But we still stand with the residents of the city who think that the club should be converted for public use. After all, 80% of their members don’t even live in Somerville, so we hear, including some dubious individuals who are members there.

\*\*\*\*\*

The **4th Annual Union Square Holiday Stroll** takes place on **December 8** in **Union Sq**. An afternoon of Union Square discovery filled with festive happenings and holiday delight: rad retail, unique eats, music from around the world, visits with Santa, creative crafts, sparkly lights and more. Bundle up and come on down to unwrap Union Square in all its wintry wonderment. Union Square’s local businesses will have festive offerings all day long. Visit local businesses to check out their holiday decorations and cast your vote to win a Union Square prize package. Pick up a ballot from any of the participating businesses above and submit your votes at the voter drop off in the businesses. Votes must be cast on **December 8** only. For more information visit <https://www.unionsquaremain.org/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

Join city staff on **Wednesday, December 12**, at 6:00 p.m. at the Central Library, 79 Highland Ave., for the fourth in a series of public quarterly meetings where updates about **parking changes, new data collection, and strategies for impact mitigation** will be discussed. All interested persons are encouraged to come including residents and local business owners, as well as city and school staff. 2019 meeting dates will be announced soon. In addition to the meetings, an online form has been created to give community members and city and school staff an opportunity to submit questions, comments, and/or suggestions about the parking changes. A residential parking survey regarding current parking habits is also available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Haitian Creole. The feedback form and survey, along with additional information about the High School project and resulting parking impacts, can be found at [www.somervillema.gov/shsparking](http://www.somervillema.gov/shsparking). Questions? Contact **Mike Tremblay** in the **Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development**, at [mtremblay@somervillema.gov](mailto:mtremblay@somervillema.gov). Meeting interpretation into Spanish, Portuguese, or Haitian Creole available upon request. Contact [somerviva@somervillema.gov](mailto:somerviva@somervillema.gov) or 311 and ask for a SomerViva Immigrant Outreach Liaison.



# The greening of a tree lot

Plenty of volunteers showed up last week to help with the unloading of Christmas trees delivered by Wilson Farms to be sold at the Next Wave/Full Circle Tree Lot which opened on Friday and will operate through December 19.

Everyone is invited to stop by and pick up a holiday tree or wreath, and support Somerville youth. All proceeds from the Tree Lot sales go toward student programming.

The Tree Lot is located at the Full Circle Garden on Cross St., between Otis and Bonair Streets.

The Lot is operated by Next Wave/Full Circle students and staff and will be open from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Mondays–Fridays, 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Saturdays, and 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays.







Go to [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com) for more photos

Photos by Claudia Ferro



Chris Trapper brings his music to The Burren in Somerville

CONT. FROM PG 1

and a 17-track rarities collection. His compositions have been placed in films like *August Rush* and *Some Kind of Beautiful* and TV shows such as *ER* and *All My Children*.

Trapper’s final two performances of 2018 will be on consecutive nights at The Burren. He spoke by phone to *The Somerville Times* from his home in Westwood, where he lives with his wife and two children.

**The Somerville Times:** When were you enshrined in the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame and who are some of your illustrious fellow inductees?

**Chris Trapper:** Just a couple of weeks ago, actually. The Goo Goo Dolls. Natalie Merchant. Rick James is one of the most notorious. And the barbershop quartet from the film version of *The Music Man*. They were called the Buffalo Bills, and I was a barbershop nut back in high school, so I loved those guys. That was probably the coolest thing for me, to be with the most famous barber shop group of all

time. Ani DiFranco, too.

**TST:** How would you describe your music to someone who has never heard it?

**CT:** I would say it falls comfortably in the singer-songwriter vein of say, Paul Simon. He always experimented with different eras of music. I’m a big 1950s music nut, so I’ll always throw in one track on every record that’s kind of 50s-inspired. It’s lyrically driven singer-songwriter, because the lyrics dictate where the song goes and where the production goes.

**TST:** Do you usually include Push Stars songs in your set lists?

**CT:** I try and have a few of the more popular Push Stars songs. I’ll play those. The nice benefit of never having a bona fide hit song is that you can play stuff from every record and the crowd doesn’t leave.

**TST:** How long after a new release do you begin working on the next album?

**CT:** There’s no specified time. I just wait for inspiration to

strike. When I wrote my last record, what was happening was I’d written a song for a film called *August Rush*, and the producer from that was working on a new movie. And he called me one day and he was like, “I’m working on something new. Can you write some songs for it?” I was like, “Yeah, I can.” So he started sending me scenes and sending me the script. And one a scene, he’s like, “Selma Hayek gets undressed in this scene. We need a song in the background.” And I was like, “Well, yeah, you can send it to me, I guess.” So I got this advance copy of that scene, and I wrote a song for that. At the end of that process, I’d written maybe eight songs for the film. And that became *Symphonies of Dirt & Dust* (2015). And then I wrote a few additional songs.

If I get a little melody idea, no matter where I am – if I’m at a party or one of my kid’s soccer games – I’ll duck into a corner and sing into my phone. Then I’ll go back later, listen through them and see if anything sounds interesting or unique or catchy. And then that’s usually where a song starts from.

**TST:** Has your career been negatively affected by piracy, file sharing, or streaming services?

**CT:** For me, longevity is such a gift that I embrace whatever’s new because I’m just glad to still be around. So yeah, people expect free music, but honestly with Spotify for the past couple years, I’ve gotten songs of mine on a couple playlists that have had huge followings. So I have



a lot of plays and then you get a check in the mail that’s, like, pretty nice. And you didn’t have to ship anything, you didn’t have to pack anything, you didn’t need postage. It’s just like money from thin air. And that’s a beautiful thing. I think with technology there’s always something gained and something lost.

**TST:** What has been one of your most memorable Spinal Tap moments?

**CT:** That’s a great question! I was just telling somebody recently that one time our band was booked in Virginia Beach. We had just toured with Matchbox Twenty, opening for them. Some towns didn’t have small rock clubs, so we got booked

in this metal club on a Tuesday night. And we pull up and our name is written in the marquee as “The Punishers,” as opposed to The Push Stars, which told you what kind of thought went into promoting the show as well. Usually, if the club doesn’t know the band name, that’s not a good sign. So we went from arenas to being The Punishers the next tour. There’ve been a billion moments like that. It’s actually fun to think about those. And they still happen on a regular basis!

*Chris Trapper with Mary Scholz. Friday, December 7 and Saturday, December 8 at 7 p.m. The Burren, 247 Elm St., Davis Sq.*

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#656

1. Where was former U.S. President George H. W. Bush born?

2. From what college did George H. W. Bush graduate?

3. What is the largest two digit prime number?

4. What do you call a group of gorillas?

5. When was Alexander Hamilton born?

6. What is the 4th Zodiac sign?

7. What is the Winter Solstice?

8. In 2018, when will the Winter Solstice take place in the Northern Hemisphere?

9. Peter Benjamin Parker is which superhero's alter ego?

10. What color blood does an octopus have?

11. What name was London's Clock Tower (Big Ben) changed to in 2012?

12. What TV show did Bradley Cooper have a guest role in that started his career in 1999?

Answers on page 17

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Somerville's small press publications over the years

Somerville has been a hotbed for small press publications for decades. From indie comics, to poetry chapbooks, to zines, to left-wing political publications – our 4 square miles have produced far more than what you'd expect.

The Somerville Public Library is proud to partner with the Somerville Media Center to create a display of some of these works. Come to the Media Center, and you'll see some of what SPL has in its Local History and Local Small Press and Zine collections.

The display will be up from Friday, December 7 until the end of January, at Somerville Media Center, 90 Union Square in Somerville. There will be an opening reception on Friday, December 7, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Work in the show will include:

• Zines by Gilmore Tamny, Marissa Falco, Andrea Mildred, Jason Lin, and many others

• Political publications like Radical America, American Labor History: Women in the Working Class, and Dollars and Sense

• Poetry chapbooks by Doug Holder, David Miller, Andrine Pierresaint, and others

• Artzines by Cara Kuball, Greer Muldowney

• Comics by Dave Ortega, Jordan Stabile and others

• And much more!

The event is organized by the Somerville Public Library and hosted by the Somerville Media Center. FB event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2119778001377050/>



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE  
OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the **Zoning Board of Appeals** on **Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.** in the **Aldermanic Chambers, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.**

\*\*\* Cases are sometimes postponed to later dates. To sign up for emails to inform you of a [change of hearing date](#) for a project near you, please use the URL associated with your address of interest that appears at the end of this legal notification.\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

**654 Mystic Avenue (ZBA 2018-167):** Applicant, Linda Pingiaro and James DeMichelle, individually and as Trustee of 48-50 Ash Avenue Condominium, seek an Administrative Appeal per SZO §3.1.9, §3.2, and §3.2.3 of building permit No. B18-000680 issued by the Inspectional Services Department (ISD). The property for which the building permit was issued is owned by 654 Mystic, LLC. BB zone. Ward 4.

**118-124 College Avenue (ZBA 2018-166):** Applicant, Havurat Shalom Community Seminary, Inc., through their representative, Meredith Porter, seeks an Administrative Appeal per SZO §3.1.9, §3.2, and §3.2.3 of building permit No. B18-001184 issued by the Inspectional Services Department (ISD). The property for which the building permit was issued is owned by LaCourt Realty, LLC. RB zone. Ward 6.

**7 Montgomery Avenue (ZBA2015-98-1(10/18):** Applicant/Owner, Charles Zammuto & James Langley, seek a Revision to a Special Permit under SZO §5.3.8 to approve dimensional changes during construction that vary from the original approval of a new 2-story 3-bedroom single-family home. RB zone. Ward 1.

**74 Moreland Street (ZBA 2018-128):** Applicant, 74 Moreland Street, LLC, and Owners, Vittorio Gensale and Marco Gensale, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by constructing dormers on both sides of the roof and finishing a portion of the basement. RA Zone. Ward 4.

**57 Prescott Street (ZBA 2018-150):** Applicants / Owners, Alexander Asen and Yael Asen, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by constructing an addition that is greater than 25% of the existing gross floor area (GFA) to add a second dwelling unit and a Special Permit under SZO §9.13 for parking relief. RA Zone. Ward 3.

**109-111 Prospect Street (ZBA 2018-139):** Applicants & Owners, 109-111 Prospect Street Somerville, LLC, seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a non-conforming property including, but not limited to right and left side yard setbacks; Special Permit under Article 9 for parking relief. Variances under §5.5 and §8.5 of the SZO for height, number of stories and lot area per dwelling unit; Special Permit with Site Plan Review (SPSR) to construct a 15-unit residential structure with inclusionary housing included under Article 13 of the SZO. RC zone. Ward 2.

b Applicant, Derek Snare, and Owner, Jose Moreira, seek a special permit to alter a non-conforming structure under §4.4.1 of the SZO by constructing a roof deck within the rear yard setback and right side yard setbacks. Variance under §5.5 and §8.5 of the SZO to increase create a non-conforming FAR. RB zone. Ward 1.

**527-529 Mystic Valley Parkway (ZBA 2018-163):** Applicant, He Zheng, and Owner, Jim Lin, seek a Variance under §5.5 of the SZO to create a new non-conformity by increasing the FAR from .69 to .94 by finishing the basement and adding a dormer. Parking relief under Article 9 of the SZO. RA zone. Ward 7.

**15 Lake Street (ZBA 2018-152):** Applicant, Elan Sassoon, and Owners, Carlos & Virginia Bettencourt, seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a non-conforming structure by increasing the Gross Floor Area (GFA) by more than 25%, construct dormers within the right side yard setback. Variance under §5.5 and §8.5 of the SZO to create a new non-conformity with respect to the rear yard setback. Parking relief under Article 9 of the SZO. RC zone. Ward 2.

**124 Heath Street (ZBA 2018-148):** Applicant and Owner, Emerald 75, LLC seeks a Special Permit with Site Plan Review (SPSR) under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a non-conforming property by removing an existing 4-bay garage and constructing a two-unit residential building within the left, right, and rear yard setbacks. Increase the number of dwelling units from one to three. Parking relief under Article 9 of the SZO. RB zone. Ward 4.

**28 Otis Street (ZBA 2018-145):** Applicants and Owners, Gina D. Tauro & Jonathan M. Nascimento, seek to alter a non-conforming property under §4.4.1 of the SZO. Parking relief under Article 9 of the SZO. RB zone. Ward 1.

**9 Taylor Street (ZBA 2018-144):** Applicant and Owner, Walter Tauro, seeks Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a non-conforming property by created an upward extension of the non-conforming right side yard setback. Parking relief under Article 9 of the SZO.

**15 Mossland Street (ZBA 2018-124):** Applicant, Mike Tokatlyan, Manager of 15 Mossland Street, LLC, and Owners, Umberto A. and Charity A. Rossetti, seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a non-conforming property by creating an upward extension of the non-conforming left side yard setback. Parking relief under Article 9 of the SZO. RB zone. Ward 5.

**43-45 Oak Street (ZBA 2016-89-R1-11/14):** Applicants and Owners, we Close the Deal, LLC, seek a special permit under §5.3.1 of the SZO to revise a condition of the original special permit that required utilities to be buried underground. The Applicant requests to install the utilities above ground. RB zone. Ward 4.

**47 Sewall Street (ZBA 2018-154):** Applicants 7 Owners, Justina & Emelindo Ubaldo, seek special permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to construct a dormer within the side yard setback. RB zone. Ward 4.

\*\*\*


654 Mystic Ave: <http://eepurl.com/dPcMXL>  
118-124 College Ave: <http://eepurl.com/dPcM91>  
109-111 Prospect St: <http://eepurl.com/dPcNQj>  
527-529 Mystic Valley Pkwy: <http://eepurl.com/dPcN6X>  
15 Lake St: <http://eepurl.com/dPcOiP>  
124 Heath St: <http://eepurl.com/dPcOwX>  
28 Otis St: <http://eepurl.com/dPcOJr>  
9 Taylor St: <http://eepurl.com/dPcOVT>  
15 Mossland St: <http://eepurl.com/dPcO-P>  
43-45 Oak St: <http://eepurl.com/dPcPk1>  
47 Sewall St: <http://eepurl.com/dPcPwT>  
7 Montgomery Ave: <http://eepurl.com/dPaFSb>  
74 Moreland St: <http://eepurl.com/dPaF8T>  
57 Prescott St: <http://eepurl.com/dPaGqf>

Submittals may be viewed in-person in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30pm [www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning](http://www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning).

As cases may be continued to later dates, please check the agenda on the City's website or call before attending a meeting. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to OSPCD, Planning Division, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; by fax to 617-625-0722; or by email to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov).

Attest: Sarah Lewis, Planning Director  
As published in The Somerville Times on 11/28/18 & 12/05/18

11/28/18, 12/5/18 The Somerville Times



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE  
OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the **Planning Board** on **Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.** in the **Community Room of the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA), 259 Lowell Street, Somerville, MA.**

\*\*\* Cases are sometimes postponed to later dates. To sign up for emails to inform you of a change of hearing date for a project near you, please use the url associated with your address of interest that appears at the end of this legal notification.\*\*\*

**70 Broadway (PB 2018-18):** Applicant/Owner, Juan Vasquez and Maria Monge Sibrian, seek a major amendment to a previously approved design and site plan review (DSPR) permit under SZO §5.4 of the Somerville Zoning Ordinance (SZO) and a Special Permit under SZO §6.1.22 to construct a small addition to the existing structure to expand the previously approved retail storefront. CCD-45 zone. Ward 1.

\*\*\*\*\*


70 Broadway: <http://eepurl.com/dPaR75>

Submittals may be viewed in-person in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30 pm; and Fri, 8:30 am-12:30 pm. Staff reports, plans and Board decisions, when completed, are posted online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning>.

As cases may be continued to later dates, please check the agenda on the City's website or call before attending. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide comments to the Planning Board at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to OSPCD, Planning Division, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; by fax to 617-625-0722; or by email to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov).

Attest: Michael Capuano, Chairman  
As published in The Somerville Times on 11/28/18 and 12/5/18

11/28/18, 12/5/18 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT  
RFQ 19-30

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

**Owner's Project Management (OPM) Services for Poplar Street Pump Station**


Bid packages for may be obtained online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing> or may be picked up at the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, First Floor, Somerville, MA 02143 beginning on **Wednesday December 5th, 2018**

Sealed proposals will be received until **Thursday January 3rd at 4pm**. Late proposals will not be considered. 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.

**Please contact Michael Richards at 617-625-6600 x 3403, or email [mrichards@somervillema.gov](mailto:mrichards@somervillema.gov) for information and the bid package.**

**Michael Richards**  
Assistant Purchasing Director

12/5/18 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN

There will be a Public Hearing before the Board of Aldermen's Committee on Licenses and Permits on **Wednesday, December 12, 2018, at 6:30 PM**, in the Committee Room on the 2nd Floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, on the petition of Lucky Strike Somerville LLC, dba Lucky Strike, for an Extended Operating Hours License at 325 Revolution Drive, to remain open until 2 AM daily, for in-store service only. This license, if granted, will NOT enable them to serve alcohol past the currently-allowed time.

**THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.**

**JOHN J. LONG**  
CITY CLERK

12/5/18 The Somerville Times


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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS**  
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**DOUGLAS KRESS**  
**HEALTH & HUMAN**  
**SERVICES DIRECTOR**

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**OF PUBLIC HEARING**


A **public hearing** for all interested parties will be held by the Board of Health on **Thursday, December 13, 2018** at 6 p.m. at the East Somerville Community Center, 165 Broadway, Somerville, MA to review and hear comments relative to the proposed Regulations on Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products.

A copy of the proposed regulations will be available at the City Clerk's Office (93 Highland Avenue) and Health & Human Services Department (50 Evergreen Avenue) and online at [www.somervillema.gov](http://www.somervillema.gov).

Interested persons may provide comments to the Board of Health at the hearing or by contacting the Somerville Health and Human Services Department at 617-625-6600 ext. 4300 or email [dkress@somervillema.gov](mailto:dkress@somervillema.gov)

Attest: Kathy Henkle, Administrative Assistant  
As published in The Somerville Times on 11/28/18 & 12/05/18

11/28/18, 12/5/18 The Somerville Times




**NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING**  
**Removal of Public Shade Trees**  
**City of Somerville**

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 87, the City of Somerville will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.** at the Somerville High School Library, 81 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA. to consider the removal of the following public shade tree(s):

1. Canal Street – Removal of 3 Princeton elm trees (6.7 inch, 6.4 inch, and 6.3 inch diameter) across from 300 Canal Street at the corner of Grand Union Boulevard for Assembly Square Block 5B development. This location will be replanted with 4 (four) 5-inch diameter Hornbeam trees.
2. 30 Ivaloo Street – Removal of 1 (one) Norway maple tree (18.6 inches in diameter) that is severely restricting sidewalk accessibility.

The trees identified above have been posted for public inspection. In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 87, any objections to the removal of any of these trees must be submitted in writing to the City Urban Forester prior to or at the public hearing. The mailing address for the Urban Forester is City of Somerville, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. 02143; email: [trees@somervillema.gov](mailto:trees@somervillema.gov); phone 617-625-6600.

12/5/18 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

The **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (SHPC)** shall hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 6:40 p.m. in the Third Floor Community Room, at the Visiting Nurses Association (259 Lowell Street) regarding proposals by Tony Barros & Mark Killoren to demolish the circa 1931 brick **American Legion Post 19 at 124 Highland Avenue.**

The subject of the hearings will be a review of the initial determination by the HPC that under the City of Somerville Zoning Ordinance Section 7-28b(2), the structure is considered "Significant." Public testimony followed by discussion and a vote by the Commission will be taken regarding if the building should be "Preferably Preserved." For further information, please contact (617) 625-6600 x 2500 or [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov).

11/28/18, 12/5/18 The Somerville Times

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The Highlander Theatre Company presents 'RENT: School Edition'

CONT. FROM PG 9

Youdson Felix. Felix portrays the role of Benny, a landlord who threatens to evict the characters in *RENT* so that he can tear down their building and replace it with high-priced condos.

Students also embrace the opportunity to be a part of a supportive and diverse ensemble. "Everyone here is so nice!" says Ammie Siebler. "It's really exciting to be a part of this amazingly talented and kind

community, and I'm so glad that we're performing a show such as *RENT* that reflects the diversity of this cast," says Leah Ackland. "This cast is so talented and we have such a creative crew. I'm so excited to see how everything pulls together and the magic of theater come into play while performing *RENT*," says Sandra Mood.

*RENT* contains strong language and subject matter that is not appropriate for all ages.

A parent guide has been made available on the Highlander Theatre website ([www.highlandertheatre.org](http://www.highlandertheatre.org)), and an age-appropriate workshop is being offered during the December 8, 2:00 p.m., performance for children in grades 3-6 who have families attending the performance.

*RENT* runs on Thursday, December 6, at 8:00 p.m. (after the Somerville Tree Lighting), Friday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, December

8, at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. All performances will take place in the Centennial Auditorium at Somerville High School. Visit [www.highlandertheatre.org](http://www.highlandertheatre.org) for ticket information, including multi-performance packages.

*RENT* is co-presented with the SHS Gender and Sexuality Alliance and with support from Somerville Arts for Youth. *RENT: School Edition* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre Interna-

tional (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.MTI-Shows.com](http://www.MTI-Shows.com)

The Highlander Theatre Company offers many ways to support theatre education at Somerville High School. For a complete list of sponsorship opportunities, season supporter levels, and advertisement opportunities for local businesses, visit [www.highlandertheatre.org/support](http://www.highlandertheatre.org/support).

Be Somerville

CONT. FROM PG 10

Ave. All community members are invited to take part in anything from serving on the steering committee or attending meetings to taking a survey or hosting a SomerSupper with your neighbors. For more information and to stay informed throughout the process, visit [www.SomerVision2040.com](http://www.SomerVision2040.com).

**Shop Local This Holiday Season**

As you're doing your holiday shopping this season, remember to shop local and support small businesses in Somerville! Some local business associations sponsor holiday shopping events, so be sure to check local media and business sites to find out more information on events like the Union Square Holiday Stroll or the SLF (Somerville Local First) December Holiday Market at the Arts at the Armory. And don't forget to use our recently launched social media campaign by using the hashtag #Loyal2Local when posting to any social media platform!

**City Alerts**

Get important City notifications for snow emergencies, construction, detours, and other public

safety matters delivered to your phone (voice and text) and/or your email. Sign up for alerts at [www.somervillema.gov/alerts](http://www.somervillema.gov/alerts).

**City Newsletter**

For weekly updates on city cultural and civic events, City services, job openings, and more, sign up for the City e-newsletter at [www.somervillema.gov/newsletter](http://www.somervillema.gov/newsletter).

**City Calendar**

Look up city events and meetings (as well as agendas and minutes) 24/7 on the City calendar at [www.somervillema.gov](http://www.somervillema.gov).

Somerville Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting

A public meeting of the Somerville Bicycle Committee will take place on Thursday, December 6, - 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. at the Somerville Police Department Academy Room, 220 Washington St.

Ms. Cam's

Olíio

Answers

From on page 14

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Milton, Massachusetts  | 7. The shortest period of daylight and the longest night of the year |
| 2. Yale University, 1948  |  |
| 3. 97   | 8. Friday, December 21   |
| 4. A band   | 9. Spiderman   |
| 5. January 11, 1755 or 1757 – it is not certain in which year he was born | 10. Blue   |
| 6. Cancer   | 11. Elizabeth Tower  |
|   | 12. <i>Sex and the City</i>  |

Somerville Schools Open Houses

It's Somerville Public Schools Open House time. Come and learn about PK-8 schools. Open Houses take place Wednesday-Friday, December 5-7, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at all SPS elementary schools. You'll have an opportunity to tour a school or program, meet the principal, talk with an SFLC Family and Community Liaison and to other parents.

Online registration for incoming Pre-K and Kindergarten students for the 2019-2020 school year begins Saturday, January 12. Open Houses are a great way to learn about each school and find the best fit for your child.



• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Wednesday|December 5

**East Branch Library**  
Preschool Storytime  
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

**Central Library**  
Teen Game Day  
2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday|December 6

**Central Library**  
Preschool Storytime for 3 to 5-year-olds  
10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m.  
TELL (Teen Library Leaders) Meeting  
3:45 p.m.-5:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Friday|December 7

**Central Library**  
Preschool Storytime for 2-year-olds  
10:30 a.m.-11 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

**East Branch Library**  
Rockabye Beats!  
11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.|115 Broadway

Monday|December 10

**Central Library**  
Sing Along  
10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

Tuesday|December 11

**Someville Community Baptist Church**  
Preschool Storytime  
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|31 College Ave

**Central Library**  
West Somerville Neighborhood  
School Student Lead Community Meeting on Bus Timing  
3 p.m.-5 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Wednesday|December 12

**East Branch Library**  
Preschool Storytime  
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

**Central Library**  
Somerville Positive Forces  
1 p.m.-3 p.m.  
Bus Timings Community Event  
3:30 p.m.-5 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

MUSIC/ARTS

Wednesday|December 5

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Free Poker, lots of prizes!  
8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Backroom Series with Brian O’Donovan (of "A Celtic Sojourn" on WGBH)|7:30 p.m.  
Comedy Night with Arty P.|10 p.m.  
Annual Benefit For Somerville Homeless Coalition|7:30 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar**  
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

**Bull McCabe’s Pub**  
The Nephrok Allstars  
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Thunder Road**  
Bearly Dead – Wednesday Night  
Grateful Dead Residency  
7 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

**Once Somerville**  
156 Highland Ave

**Highland Kitchen**  
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

**Aeronaut Brewing Co.**  
Open Mic with Mike Morrissey  
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

**Arts at the Armory**  
Wiretap Wednesday Open Stage  
7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Thursday|December 6

**Sally O’Brien’s**  
BYO Bluegrass with Dave Rizzuti

grassy Thursdays  
7:30 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Savoir Faire, Unnamed Colors |7 p.m.  
Scattershots|10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar**  
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

**Bull McCabe’s**  
Krush Faktory(Dub Down)  
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Thunder Road**  
The Reverend Peyton’s Big Damn Band, The Daybreakers, Muddy Ruckus  
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

**Once Somerville**  
156 Highland Ave

**Aeronaut Brewing Co.**  
Soprano Stephanie Lamprea and Violinist Kyra Davies Present A Concert of Contemporary Classical Chamber Music  
7 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

**Arts at the Armory**  
Ruckus Dance  
8 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Friday|December 7

**Sally O’Brien’s**  
Busted Jug |6 p.m.  
The Dazies, The Modifier\$, Brother JT \$10 cover |9 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Backroom Series with Tom Bianchi  
Chris Trapper w/ Special Guest Mary Scholz|7 p.m.  
Fightin Fridays|10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Once Somerville**  
Brendan Kelly  
Sincere Engineer, Jeff Rowe, Depressors  
8:30 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar**  
DJ starting at 10 p.m.  
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

**Bull McCabe’s**  
Alii McGuirk First Fridays  
9:30 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Joshua Tree**  
DJ McRiddleton  
256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

**Casey’s**  
Entertainment every Friday  
173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

**Thunder Road**  
379 Somerville Ave

**Aeronaut Brewing Co.**  
Open Mic Night Fundraiser |7 p.m.  
Urbanity Dance Student Showcase|8 p.m.  
14 Tyler Street

**The Rockwell**  
Sh!t-faced Shakespeare: The Taming of the Shrew  
7 p.m.|255 Elm St

**Arts at the Armory**  
Friday Afternoon American Roots jam  
1 p.m.|Cafe  
Ruckus Dance  
3 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Saturday|December 8

**Sally O’Brien’s**  
Tom Hagerty Band|6 p.m.  
The Dents, Diablogato, Tom Baker & The Snakes \$10 cover |9 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Real School of Music Showcase|12 p.m.

Chris Trapper w/ Special Guest Mary Scholz|7 p.m.  
Spittin Vinnies |10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar**  
Karaoke  
65 Holland St

**Bull McCabe’s**  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Casey’s**  
Entertainment every Saturday  
173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

**Thunder Road**  
379 Somerville Ave

**Once Somerville**  
ONCE Winter Warmer & Holiday Market|11 a.m.  
Save Face|6 p.m.  
A Will Away  
Future Teens, Sam Nazz  
156 Highland Ave

**Aeronaut Brewing Co.**  
Cahill with Seth Gooby|7 p.m.  
The Lights Out Album/Beer Release Show!|10 p.m.  
14 Tyler Street

**The Rockwell**  
Sh!t-Faced Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet  
6 p.m.|255 Elm St

**Arts at the Armory**  
Irish Session  
2 p.m.|Cafe  
Cambridge Symphony Orchestra  
Holiday Pops Concert  
7 p.m.|Performance Hall  
Laughing Liberally  
8 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Sunday|December 9

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
The Natural Wonders  
4:30 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Beatles Brunch 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.  
Backroom series with Tom Bianchi|7 p.m.  
Lunasa with Ashley Davis - Two Shows!  
4 p.m. – 7 p.m.!247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Bull McCabe’s Pub**  
Dub Apocalypse  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Highland Kitchen**  
Sunday Brunch Live Country & Bluegrass  
Sunday Night Live Music  
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar**  
Game Night  
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

**Thunder Road**  
379 Somerville Ave

**Once Somerville**  
Live Recording of We Watch Wrestling Podcast|2 p.m.  
DeVotchKa|8:45 p.m.  
156 Highland Ave

**Aeronaut Brewing Co.**  
BYOP: Los Goutos with Sado-Domestics  
2 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

**Arts at the Armory**  
SLF Holiday Market  
10 a.m.-4 p.m|Performance Hall  
LARP Lunch and Costume Swap  
11 a.m.|Cafe  
Celia Slattery Voice Studio: 2018 December Showcase  
4 p.m.|Café  
After Hours December: The Devil's Canoe with Lynn Noel  
7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Monday|December 10

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Shawn Carter’s Cheapshots Come-

dy|7 p.m.  
Marley Monday with The Duppy Conquerors reggae|10 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Back Room:  
Stump Trivia|8:30 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Bull McCabe’s Pub**  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Thunder Road**  
379 Somerville Ave

**Once Somerville**  
156 Highland Ave

**Aeronaut Brewing Co.**  
Board Game Bonanza  
6:30 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

**Arts at the Armory**  
Queer Tango  
6:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday|December 11

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Dead & Friends  
8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Jason Anick and the Swingers Swing/Jazz|8:30 p.m.  
Open Mic Night with Aaron Yang|10 p.m.  
Fayeweather School Student Showcase|5 p.m.  
Open mic night|10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Bull McCabe’s Pub**  
Ghetto People Band  
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Highland Kitchen**  
First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling Bee Night  
hosted by Victor and Nicole of Egoart.  
The fun starts at 10:00p.m.  
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

**PJ Ryan’s**  
Pub Quiz  
10 p.m.|239 Holland St.|617-625-8200

**Thunder Road**  
379 Somerville Ave

**Once Somerville**  
ElectroMechanicon: a Festival of Electronic and Mechanical Musical Instruments  
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

**Aeronaut Brewing Co**  
Indie Trivia  
'Harry Potter' themed  
14 Tyler Street

**Arts at the Armory**  
First and Last Word Poetry  
6 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Wednesday|December 12

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Free Poker, lots of prizes!  
8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Backroom Series with Brian O’Donovan (of "A Celtic Sojourn" on WGBH)|7:30 p.m.  
Comedy Night with Arty P.|10 p.m.  
NEIHO - New England Irish Harp Orchestra|7:30 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar**  
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

**Bull McCabe’s Pub**  
The Nephrok Allstars  
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Thunder Road**  
379 Somerville Ave

**Once Somerville**

The Moth: Roads  
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

**Highland Kitchen**  
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

**Aeronaut Brewing Co.**  
The Ways and Means Committee  
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

**Arts at the Armory**  
Been Out Here Teen Open Mic  
6 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

**The Rockwell**  
Screening of 'A Very Murray Christmas'  
8 p.m.|255 Elm St

CLASSES AND GROUPS

Wednesday|December 5

**Central Library**  
Drop-in Knitting/Needlecraft  
12 p.m.-2 p.m.  
1934 - The Year of the Strike  
5:30 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday|December 6

**Central Library**  
Learn about the City's ADA Policy  
10 a.m.-12 p.m.  
Yoga at the Library  
6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

**East Branch Library**  
Drop In Craft Night  
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

**First Church Somerville**  
Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor).  
For more info call: 781-762-6629

Friday|December 7

**Somerville Media Center**  
Reception: Somerville’s Small Press Publications Over the Years  
6 p.m.-8 p.m.| 90 Union Square

Saturday|December 8

**Winters Farmers Market**  
9 a.m.-1 p.m.|Arts at the Armory|191 Highland Ave

**Bagel Bards**  
Somerville Writers and Poets meet weekly to discuss their work  
9 a.m.-12 p.m Au Bon Pain| 18-48 Holland St

Sunday|December 9

**Central Library**  
Built This City Art Reception  
2 p.m.-4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

**Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon Family Groups**  
7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street  
Unity Church of God  
Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement

Monday|December 10

**Central Library**  
Creative Drama Workshop with Laurie!  
4 p.m.-5 p.m.  
Somerville Special Education PAC  
SSEPAC - Autism Parent training  
6 p.m.-8 p.m.  
Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club  
7 p.m.- 8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

**East Branch Library**  
Learn English at the Library!  
6 p.m.-8 p.m.|115 Broadway

Tuesday|December 11

**Central Library**  
Learn English at the Library  
6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Wednesday|December 12

**Central Library**  
Drop-in Knitting/Needlecraft  
12 p.m.-2 p.m.  
Central Hill Parking Public Meeting  
6 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave



SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

CENTER LOCATIONS, TIMES & SCHEDULES

**Holland Street Senior Center:** located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square) Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Fridays: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300

**Cross Street Center:** located at 165 Broadway (East Somerville) Mondays & Tuesdays - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Thursdays - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 617-625-6600, Ext. 2335 Fax: 617-625-1414

**Ralph and Jenny Center:** located at 9 New Washington Street (behind the Holiday Inn) Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. 617- 666-5223

**Main Office:** located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square.) Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300 Fax: 617-625-0688 TTY: 866-808-4851

ONGOING PROGRAMS

**Free Smoke Alarm/Carbon Monoxide Detectors:** Very limited amount available This program is a first come first serve basis. This is funded through the Senior Safe Program and services will be provided until the grant is exhausted. - If you have any questions or need an application please call Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

**Join the SCOA's email group:** The email group is for Somerville Council on Aging Seniors and / or Care-givers who are interested in the latest information on resources, events, programming, etc...in and around the Somerville area. Use the link <https://groups.google.com/group/somerville-council-on-aging> - If you have any questions or need help joining please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email [dhiggins@somervillema.gov](mailto:dhiggins@somervillema.gov)

**Silver Alert Program:** The Somerville Council on Aging with the Somerville Police Department have implemented a program to take a proactive approach towards protecting some of Somerville’s most vulnerable citizens who suffer with serious cognitive impairments that put them at risk for wandering and getting lost. The Silver Alert Program is designed to collect specific information about a potential missing person, along with photo identification. This confidential information will be kept on file for immediate use in the event a loved one is reported missing. Please contact the SCOA at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 for additional information or to register.

**Free Groceries Every Month?:** You may be eligible for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program! CSFP is a once a month food distribution for individuals 60 years of age or older. You may be eligible to receive two free bags of food once a month containing healthy shelf stable products. Proof of identity and age are all that is required to apply. Must apply beforehand. Pick up at the Ralph & Jenny Center, 9 New Washington Street on the 4th Thursday of every month unless otherwise specified. For more information or to apply please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 – applications are available at the front desk of our Holland Street Center.

**Friendly Caller Program:** Do you know someone who could benefit from a friendly call? Maybe you are feeling isolated and want someone to talk to – or you just want someone to listen. Please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 to sign up for our “Friendly Caller” Program.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Country Western Line Dancing** – The 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at our Holland Street Center. \$3 per class – no experience needed. For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot call Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

**Miracle on 34th Street Brunch** – Tuesday, December 11 starting at 10:30 a.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street. Movie followed by brunch. \$5 per person. For more information or to join the fun call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

**Illumination of Lights Tour** – Saturday, December 15 - \$8 – Hop on the trolley and be amazed at the Holiday Lights in Somerville. Limited seating – check in is 4:15 p.m. at the High School Concourse. For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot please contact

Connie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

**White Christmas Brunch** – Tuesday, December 18 starting at 10:30 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Movie followed by brunch. \$5 per person. For more information or to join the fun call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

**Christmas Crafts** – Wednesday, December 19 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street. Lunch and Bingo to follow. For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

**Blood Pressure Screening** – Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway. Scheduled for the 2nd Thursday of each month: December 13. If you require additional information please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email [dhiggins@somervillema.gov](mailto:dhiggins@somervillema.gov).

**Blood Pressure Screening** – Holland Street Center located at 167 Holland Street. Scheduled for the 1st Thursday of each month: December 6. If you require additional info please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email [dhiggins@somervillema.gov](mailto:dhiggins@somervillema.gov).

**Blood Pressure Screening** – Ralph & Jenny Center located at 1 New Washington Street. Scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of each month: December 20. If you require additional information please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email [dhiggins@somervillema.gov](mailto:dhiggins@somervillema.gov).

LGBTQ EVENTS

**LBT Women Fit-4-Life** - Fitness Class is Thursday evenings starting at 6:00 P.M. \$10 a month fee - scholarships available & it just might be covered under your insurance. We have available slots and would love to have you. If you have any questions or require additional info, please contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2315.

**LGBTQ Lunch** – Come, relax, enjoy lunch and talk with your peers. Last lunch date for 2018 is December 12.

WEEKLY EXERCISE AND NUTRITION CLASS SCHEDULE (Please cut out and save)

**Monday:**  
Keep Moving Walking Club\*\* - 9:00 a.m. (H)  
Tai Chi – 11:30 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group C - 1:00 p.m. (H)

**Tuesday:**  
Strengthening - 9:00 a.m. (H)  
\$3 per class (H)  
Fit-4-Life - 11:00 a.m. (C)  
Bike Club – 12:15 p.m. (H)

**Wednesdays:**  
Fit-4-Life Group A (exercise) - 9:00 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group B (nutrition) - 9 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group B (exercise) - 10:00 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group C (nutrition) - noon (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group C (exercise) - 1:00 p.m. (H)  
Zumba 4 All - 5:15 p.m. - \$3/class (H)

**Thursdays:**  
Yoga - 9:00 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life - 11:15 a.m. (C)  
LBT Fit-4-Life, 6:00 p.m. (H)

**Fridays:**  
Fit-4-Life Group A - 9:00 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group B - 10:00 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group A (nutrition) 10:00 a.m. (H)

**Adventure Group** – Please call for details  
*\*All Fit-4-Life classes are \$10 per month and require pre-registration*

HOLLAND STREET GROUP INFORMATION

**Book Club** – Meets the third Friday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This group self-facilitates. Group members choose both fiction and non-fiction titles on a quarterly basis. Books are available on reserve at the Central Branch of the Somerville Library. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

**Caregiver Support Group** – Meets the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Are you caring for a parent, relative, spouse or close friend? Feeling isolated or overwhelmed? You are not alone! Come share your experience and practical support. Open to all and new members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or

require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

**Conversations of the Heart** – Meets bi-monthly on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:00 P.M. at our Holland Street Center. Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

**Current Events Group** – Meets every Thursday at 9:30 a.m. Our Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Join a group of your peers to discuss current events. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

**De-cluttering support group** - If you have concerns around your clutter, this group may be for you. This closed group meets both in spring and fall for 6-8 weeks. This group is co-facilitated by Natasha Naim and Marina Colonas. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

**Low Vision Support Group** – Meets the second Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Do you know someone who has trouble seeing? Do you have low vision? Join our Low Vision Support Group for educational and informative information and peer support in a confidential environment. Lunch and transportation may be available on request. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

**Memory Café** – Meets the 2nd Thursday of every month from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Mt. Vernon. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. A welcoming place for people with forgetfulness and their family and friends to share a meal and create new memories. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

CROSS STREET GROUP INFORMATION

**Coffee & Conversation** – Meets every Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator and Sandy Francis, Cross Street Center Volunteer, work together to facilitate this group. Come meet people from all over the world and join in the discussion of a different topic every day. Conversation is followed by the Fit-4-Life exercise program and then lunch. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

**Arts & Crafts** – Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month starting January 11th - from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Join us in a relaxing atmosphere as we learn about a wide range of arts & crafts from weaving to watercolor pencils. Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator facilitates this group. Must call a week in advance if you plan on attending. This is necessary to ensure we have enough material for everyone. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

**Social Service Drop In** – The 3rd Thursday of every month Social Workers, Ashley Speliotis and Natasha Naim will be taking turns and having a Drop-in Social Service hour from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Cross Street Center. They will be available to address any of your Social Service needs. If you need additional info please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

**Game Hour** – Every Tuesday from noon to 1:00 p.m. at our Cross Street Center. Join us for lunch and activities. Immediately following lunch we will have a “Game Hour.” Yahtzee, Sorry, Jenga, Cards, Scrabble, Checkers, Clue, Qwirkle, Dominoes, Uno & Connect 4 are available to play. Community Cooks provides us with a family style lunch on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays and Food Services provides us with lunch on the off days. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

RALPH & JENNY GROUP INFORMATION

**Knitting Blankets** – Every Tuesday & Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Join us as we knit blankets for babies. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Judy at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300



The issues with bus timing

By Giovanna DaSilva, Sam Buckley, Julian Delmonico, and Veid Patel



Imagine you are an eighth-grade student. You and your friend are on the cross country team, and you need to take a bus to get to a meet. You get dismissed early and are ready to run. You head on over towards the bus stop. You grab a seat on the bench and wait for the bus. And wait. And wait. And wait some more. About 30 minutes have passed when the bus finally pulls up at the stop, and you're too late for the meet.

Our group from the West Somerville Neighborhood School, in collaboration with Generation Citizen, is working on tackling this issue in order to benefit the community. Students in need of transportation are not the only ones that face this problem. Most bus routes in Somerville are also facing issues such as inconsistencies in timing, useless routes, or schedules that do not fit the needs of the public. The statistic shows that as of November 28, only 68% of people believe the bus services provided by the MBTA are reliable. This may not seem that bad until you see that the MBTA has an average of 355,000 riders every weekday. This means 113,600 people out of those 355,000 riders are unsatisfied by the reliability of the buses.

There are many complaints online about the MBTA, specifically on Yelp. Most complaints are focused on routes 87, 88, and 89. The 89 bus only runs about every hour to hour and a half depending on the day. This is a significant struggle for students living on the west side of the city. This is unusually harsh during the cold and nasty winters here in New England. The 87 and 88 run more frequently than the 89 but don't run at the times when they are needed. The overall rating on Yelp is two stars, which is not good considering the sheer amount of people using this service.

Many people are not happy with bus routes and schedules. However, the MBTA could be dramatically improved as a whole with just a few steps. For one, the MBTA could put out surveys to optimize bus routes and schedules to see what the community needs. The MBTA is currently working on a new system that will allow people to pay on both ends of the bus, which should speed up buses by not having to wait for people to pay and reload their card. This would dramatically improve buses as well as improve overall public satisfaction with the MBTA.

West Somerville Neighborhood School students will lead a community meeting on issues dealing with MBTA bus timing and scheduling on Tuesday December 11, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Central Library Auditorium.

Seeking guests for 'Let's Talk about Race'



Charlottesville, Ferguson, the White House. Talking about race has never been so fraught, painful, and critical.

In November 2017, Somerville resident Diane Wong began producing a live radio broadcast at Somerville Media Center called *Let's Talk about Race*, inviting folks from a variety of demographics to engage in challenging conversations about race and ethnicity in the age of Trump. Through the art of intentional dialogue, LTAR has facilitated discussion on colorism, interracial relations, police brutality, and more – providing new perspectives in a time where talking about race is more important than ever.

In preparation for an upcoming symposium and podcast series focused on race right here in Somerville, we'd like to invite Somerville residents who are willing to step up and engage in this topic – whether you are a student, a teacher, a recent transplant, a long time Villen, or anyone else – to come in and have courageous conversations about race on our weekly show, which airs live on Boston Free Radio on Thursdays from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. There are no right or wrong answers, just a willingness to think deeply and talk about race from your own perspective – and we want to hear from you!

We are currently booking Thursday nights for December and January. In the meantime, check out *Let's Talk About Race* at <https://www.mixcloud.com/diane-wong> or by listening live on [bostonfreeradio.com](http://bostonfreeradio.com).

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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Free Youth Sketch  
Comedy classes

Two of Somerville Media Center's interns this semester, Augie and Sean, are both comedy writers at Emerson College and are excited to share their passion for sketch comedy writing with SMC youth before their internship ends.

They will be offering free sketch comedy writing workshops (for youth 10+) on the following dates:

Friday, December 7, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. (with Sean)  
Friday, December 14, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. (with Augie)

There is no cost to participate, but spots are limited. Sign up now at: <http://www.tinyurl.com/scatvsketch>.

Contact Heather for more information: [hmack@scatvsomerville.org](mailto:hmack@scatvsomerville.org).

And feel free to spread the word!





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SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

SCATV is part of Somerville Media Center, home to Boston Free Radio, Somerville Neighborhood News and SMC Youth Media!

Join SMC today to make your own TV or Radio Production, learn skills like editing and field production and sign up for special media making workshops and classes for youth and adults! somervillemedia.org

<b>Wednesday, December 5</b>	7:00pm	LIVE - The Boston Medium	1:00pm	Tele Magazine	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
12:00am	8:00pm	Startup TV Boston	2:00pm	The Beantown Beatdown	9:00am	The Stephanie Miller Show
6:00am	9:00pm	The Beantown Beatdown	3:00pm	Democracy Now!	10:00am	Both Sides of the Bars
7:00am	10:00pm	The Chatman Booth	4:00pm	New England Pride TV	10:30am	SOM Arts
7:30am	10:30pm	TUTV	4:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?	11:00am	Art Seen at SMC
8:00am	11:00pm	DIWHY The show	5:00pm	Reeling Review	11:30am	DW Conflict Zone
9:00am			5:30pm	Both Sides of the Bars	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)
9:30am			6:00pm	The World Fusion Show	1:00pm	The Kamla Show
10:00am			6:30pm	The Literati Scene	1:30pm	DW Global 3000
10:30am			7:00pm	Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer	2:00pm	NASA TV Silicon Valley Live
11:00am			7:30pm	SOM ARTS	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
12:00pm			8:00pm	Special SCATV Programming	4:00pm	DW Euromaxx
1:00pm			8:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	4:30pm	Legacies
1:30pm			9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	5:00pm	TeleGalaxie
2:00pm			10:00pm	DIWHY The Show	6:00pm	Going Postal
3:00pm			11:00pm	SCATV Secret Stash	6:30pm	The Last Sip
4:00pm			11:30pm	TUTV	7:00pm	LIVE - The Yellow Jacket Lady
4:30pm					7:30pm	Henry Parker Presents
5:00pm					8:00pm	LIVE - Somerville Overcoming Addiction
5:30pm					9:00pm	Dedillhando au Saudade
6:00pm					10:00pm	Duck Village Stage Sessions
6:30pm					11:00pm	Boston Come Through
7:00pm						
7:30am					<b>Tuesday, December 11</b>	
8:00am					12:00am	Free Speech TV
8:30pm					6:00am	Community Bulletin Board
9:00pm					7:00am	DW Euromaxx
10:00pm					7:30am	Esoteric Science
11:00pm					8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
					9:00am	The Chef's Table Series
<b>Thursday, December 6</b>					10:00am	Road to Recovery
12:00am					11:00am	Graphic Content
12:30am					11:30am	DW In Good Shape
1:00am					12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show
6:00am					1:00pm	Words on Film with Dan Burke
7:00am					2:00pm	Somerville Overcoming Addiction
7:30am					3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
8:00am					4:00pm	SMC Youth Media
9:00am					4:30pm	Henry Parker Presents
9:30am					5:00pm	LIVE - Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer
10:00am					5:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?
10:30am					6:00pm	Community Lens
11:00am					6:30pm	Art & Ideas
11:30am					7:00pm	Art Seen at SMC
12:00pm					7:30pm	LIVE - Greater Somerville
1:00pm					8:00pm	LIVE - Dead Air Live
3:00pm					9:00pm	The Somerville Line
4:00pm					10:00pm	TUTV
4:30pm					10:30pm	Public Access Boyz
5:00pm					11:00pm	Box House Productions Presents
6:00pm					11:30pm	Ojo Rojo
6:30pm						

CITY TV 22 (Comcast) | 13 (RCN) Schedule

<b>Wednesday, December 5</b>	8:30am	Middlesex Update w/Marian Ryan	6:30pm	Immigration Health Fair	12:30pm	Annual Chamber of Commerce Awards
9:00am	9:00am	Somerville Climate Forward	6:47pm	Transgender Day of Remembrance	2:00pm	Immigration Health Fair
12:00pm	12:00pm	School Committee Meeting - 12.3.18	7:00pm	SomerViva em Português - November 2018	2:17pm	The Yankee Division in the Meuse-Argonne
3:30pm	3:30pm	SomerViva em Português - November 2018	7:31pm	Accountability Across the Commonwealth		Offensive at The Somerville Museum
6:30pm	6:30pm	Transgender Day of Remembrance	8:30pm	2018 Annual Chamber of Commerce Awards	6:30pm	Ash Borer Info Session - 10.25.18
6:43pm	6:43pm	Paul Revere Statue Unveiling	9:58pm	Even Side Season PSA - 2018	7:30pm	BOA Land Use Committee
7:00pm	7:00pm	Somerville Climate Forward	10:00pm	Veterans' Day Remembrance Ceremony	9:44pm	Push Ups for Veterans
8:30pm	8:30pm	SomerViva em Português - November 2018	10:44pm	Somerville Veterans' Memorial Parade	9:50pm	Even Side Season PSA - 2018
9:00pm	9:00pm	Somerville Veterans' Memorial Parade 2018			10:00pm	BOA-Finance Committee - 11.14.18
10:00pm	10:00pm	Veterans' Day Remembrance Ceremony			<b>Tuesday, December 11</b>	
10:45pm	10:45pm	Milk Row Cemetery Veterans Day Ceremony			1:16am	Transgender Day of Remembrance
11:02pm	11:02pm	Union Gulf: 1947-2017 Photo Exhibit			1:30am	Board of Aldermen Meeting - 11.20.18
					8:30am	Sit & Be Fit Diabetes Workout
<b>Thursday, December 6</b>					9:00am	SomerViva em Português - November 2018
12:00am	12:00am	Ward 3 ResiStat Meeting - 11.7.18			9:30am	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa
1:32am	1:32am	Immigration Health Fair			12:00pm	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa
2:00am	2:00am	Talking Business "Sweet & Nutty"			1:30pm	SomerViva em Português - November 2018
8:30am	8:30am	Central Hill Campus Plan Meeting - 11.1.18			2:00pm	BOA Land Use Committee
11:30am	11:30am	The Yankee Division in the Meuse-Argonne			6:00pm	BOA - Special Meeting - 11.29.18
		Offensive at The Somerville Museum			7:45pm	Paul Revere Statue Unveiling
12:24pm	12:24pm	Even Side Season PSA - 2018			7:53pm	Push Ups for Veterans
12:30pm	12:30pm	Ash Borer Info Session - 10.25.18			8:00pm	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa
1:22pm	1:22pm	Push Ups for Veterans			9:30pm	Conway Park Info Session - 12.5.18
1:30pm	1:30pm	Accountability Across the Commonwealth			10:30pm	Accountability Across the Commonwealth
2:30pm	2:30pm	School Committee Meeting - 12.3.18			<b>Wednesday, December 12</b>	
6:00pm	6:00pm	BOA - Legislative Matters Committee			12:00am	The Yankee Division in the Meuse-Argonne
						Offensive at The Somerville Museum
<b>Friday, December 7</b>					1:00am	SomerViva em Português - November 2018
12:00am	12:00am	Somerville Climate Forward			1:30am	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa
1:30am	1:30am	Transgender Day of Remembrance				
2:00am	2:00am	BOA-Finance Committee - 11.14.18				

Educational TV 15 Schedule

<b>Wednesday, December 5</b>	1:00am	SHS Football vs Beverly	4:30pm	Student of the Qtr. - WSNS	10:00am	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School
9:00am	3:05am	SHS Girls Basketball vs Beverly	5:00pm	MIAA Playoff: SHS Boys Soccer v Revere	10:30am	Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS
9:30am	9:00am	Student of the Qtr. - WSNS	7:00pm	Our Schools, Our City - [12.6.18]	11:00am	Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS
10:00am	9:30am	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School	7:30pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School	12:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Beverly
10:30am	10:00am	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School	8:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Arlington	1:30pm	SHS Football vs CRLS
11:00am	10:30am	Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS	10:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Gloucester	4:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Salem
12:00pm	11:00am	Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS			6:00pm	Student of the Qtr. - WSNS
1:30pm	11:30am	Our Schools, Our City - [12.6.18]			6:30pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School
4:00pm	12:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Beverly			7:00pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School
4:00pm	1:30pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Salem			7:30pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS
6:00pm	3:15pm	Student of the Qtr. - WSNS			8:00pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS
6:30pm	5:00pm	MIAA Qtrfinal -SHS Boys Soccer vs E. Boston			9:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Beverly
7:00pm	5:30pm	Student of the Qtr. - WSNS			10:30pm	SHS Football vs CRLS
7:30pm	6:00pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School				
8:00pm	6:30pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School			<b>Tuesday, December 11</b>	
9:00pm	7:00pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS			1:00am	SHS Boys Basketball vs Salem
9:30pm	7:30pm	Our Schools, Our City - [12.6.18]			9:00am	SHS Girls Soccer vs Matignon
10:30pm	8:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Beverly			10:30am	Our Schools, Our City - Learning 2030
	8:30pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Salem			11:00am	SHS Boys Basketball vs Arlington
	11:15pm	MIAA Qtrfinal -SHS Boys Soccer v E. Boston			1:00pm	Student of the Qtr. - WSNS
					1:30pm	Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School
<b>Thursday, December 6</b>					2:00pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School
1:00am					2:30pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS
9:00am					3:00pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS
10:00am					3:30pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School
12:30pm					4:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Beverly
3:00pm					7:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Methuen
5:05pm					12:00am	SHS Football vs CRLS
6:30pm						
7:00pm						
8:00pm						
10:30pm						
<b>Friday, December 7</b>						





OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Somerville writer

Shariann Lewitt:

A Darkly Clad Scribe of Science Fiction

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Our poet this week writes: "My name is Kadrianna Letts I am a sophomore at Endicott College. My major is Communication Sciences and Disorders. I play soccer here at Endicott. I was born and raised in Beverly Massachusetts and I am a current resident. I like to write about the simple things in life; it interests me to see how much detail I can go into about the little things that we miss in life."



A Bottle of Disappointment

Sun  
peering  
through  
my curtains  
Saying  
hello to me  
before  
I'd like to meet it  
Vision  
blurry

Reaching  
for the Poland Springs  
with  
its forest so rich  
so dense  
And  
waterfall, aquarium blue  
threaded  
with silver satin

The  
skin on my lips  
the  
ground following a 7.0 earthquake  
Sahara  
Desert  
Drought  
Intense  
thirst  
dominating  
all my senses  
A young  
girl anxiously awaits  
her  
new toy  
Suddenly  
swallowed  
by disappointment

The  
bottle looked me  
straight  
in the eye  
It chuckled  
Abandoned  
Empty  
Recycled  
No longer  
my slave  
Now  
free  
to travel  
the world

— Kadrianna Letts

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



Somerville writer Shariann Lewitt at Remnant Brewing.

A darkly clad figure with long black braids loomed outside the Remnant Brewery at the new Bow St. Market in Union Square. I approached her, she smiled and joined me at my well-appointed table that had a handsome view of the market's courtyard. My guest this afternoon was Shariann Lewitt, a prolific creative writer who works in a number of genres. Her writing includes, but is not limited to: literary science fiction, young adult fiction, and military science fiction. For years Lewitt has taught writing at MIT. Lewitt lives with her husband in the Highland Ave. area of Somerville, that is in walking distance to Union Square.

Lewitt told me she came to the "Paris of New England" from Washington, DC in July of 2000. She is enthusiastic about the city stating, "I love it in Somerville. We own our own home, the Board of Alderman is fabulous. I like the mayor. Somerville has great energy." But not everything is a bed of roses for this writer. She reflected, "I am also concerned about the lack of affordable housing, and how the diversity and uniqueness of the city is likely to suffer."

Hewitt has not been stingy with her writing. Under the pseudonym Nina Harper, she wrote two books: *Succubus in the City* and *Succubus Takes Manhattan*. Both deal with a fashionable, urbane and seductive woman who is an agent, not for an upscale real estate agency, but for the devil. This woman lures often boorish men into sexual liaisons, and after the deed is done she leads them to an even hotter destiny – Hades itself.

Lewitt describes her work as speculative fiction,

meaning science fiction or generally fiction that does not deal with the here and now. She has written in the genres of military science fiction that specifically deal with intergalactic wars. She also has written space operas. According to the *Encyclopedia of Science Fiction* this genre consists of "colorful and dramatic stories (sometimes melodramatic, like ... well ... a TV soap opera) that deals with interplanetary or intergalactic conflict." Lewitt has taken a hiatus from publishing, but has expressed an interest in more historical writing rather than speculative.

Lewitt, who graduated from Yale Drama, was first published at the tender age of 23. She had a number of early influences, like the iconic science fiction writer Philip K. Dick, whose work inspired the movie *Blade Runner*. She also considers folks like Samuel R. Delaney as influences as well.

Lewitt told me, "Although these guys were sexist in their writing I still admire their work. I mean they were coming up in the 50s and 60s and this was the status quo back then. Of course, I don't endorse that sensibility."

The writer told me she loves teaching at MIT. She is the recipient of the university's Levitan Award for excellence in teaching. It is presented by the School of Humanity Arts and Social Sciences. And to her credit she was nominated by students.

After our chat, I separated from this dark figure and headed away from the wilds of Union Square. I looked behind me and saw her black hat bob up and down in the wind like a brimmed omen of yet more fiction yet to come.

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