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newspaper

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SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2021

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

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City Council considers unclaimed bike donations



The City of Somerville City Council Legislative Matters Committee is considering ways to make donations of impounded bicycles to worthy nonprofit organizations.

By Eileen Qiu

Last week's Legislative Matters Committee meeting revolved around jumping through legal hoops to find a practical way of donating unclaimed bicycles, as well as potential laws surrounding biotechnical jargon.

Sponsored by Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen, the policy would ensure bicycles left on the streets would go to nonprofits instead of sitting in a storage facility and going to auction.

Any useful bikes that go to auction are quickly bought up, he said. Donating the bikes to nonprofits that are community focused, that teaches people to ride bikes, or helps with mobility, would be a better way to use them.

He did not specify which nonprofits would get the bicycles, and said there are some logistic hurdles to overcome.

He suggested Cambridge

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Somerville Winter Farmers Market opens for 2021 season

By Fernando Cervantes Jr.

On Saturday, the Somerville Winter Farmers Market opened for the first time in the 2021 season. Located at the Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Avenue, the farmers market is looking to have a successful season following the struggles of the 2020 season.

The market runs every Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This is the 12th season it has been in operation. In that time, the winter market has become a staple of the surrounding Somerville community.

But in 2020, the COVID pandemic brought new challenges and circumstances that forced the market and its vendors to adapt.

According to the manager of the winter market, Emily Reckard-Mota, the market adapted to the pandemic in several different ways. "We kept it open, but it looked very different, though," Reckard-Mota said. "Last year we did a pre-order system, so we had

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The 2021 edition of the Somerville Winter Farmers Market kicked off last Saturday at the Arts at the Armory.
— Photos by Fernando Cervantes Jr.

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Join Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, Superintendent Mary Skipper, and local elected officials for a ribbon cutting to celebrate the renovated and reconstructed Somerville High School campus on Wednesday, December 8, at 6:00 p.m. This ribbon cutting will be the first opportunity for the Somerville community to come together in the new building to mark this historic milestone, celebrate this incredible state-of-the-art campus and public amenity, and recognize the work of so many who brought this transformational project to life. The ceremony will begin in the Somerville High School auditorium, 81 Highland Avenue. The auditorium entrance is between City Hall and the high school's main entrance, facing Highland Avenue. Following speaking remarks, guests will be invited to enjoy music by student performers and take a guided tour of the school. RSVP is not required. All attendees must wear a mask indoors. For more information about the new building, visit shsproject.org.








As the holiday gift shopping season intensifies, it's important to remember that our local merchants are depending on us all to do our best to shop local. With the challenges they have dealt with over the past year or so, many are struggling to stay in business. Let's help them to get back to business and be here for us in days, months and years to come.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to a great and good friend, Billy Murphy, who is celebrating this week. Happy birthday to Irene Bremis. We wish her the very best. Happy birthday to Kevin McDevitt. We wish him a great day. Happy birthday to Ann Cassesso-Ercolini. We wish her the very best of birthdays as well. Happy birthday to Cheryl Callahan, who is a lifelong resident, we wish her a great day. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as Kat Rutkin, James V Avila, Rita VanSteensburg, Nicholas Cubides, Kristen Chiaraluce, Annmarie Costante, Sandy Piccolomini Ryle, Barbara Jewers, Barbara J Pinnelle

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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of December 8 – December 14 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday December 8	Snow	36°/27°	60%	49%	N 7 mph
 Thursday December 9	Partly Cloudy	37°/29°	9%	7%	NW 7 mph
 Friday December 10	Cloudy	45°/42°	25%	12%	SSW 9 mph
 Saturday December 11	Rain	59°/47°	66%	51%	SSW 16 mph
 Sunday December 12	Rain	50°/35°	43%	29%	W 12 mph
 Monday December 13	Partly Cloudy	47°/31°	18%	14%	W 9 mph
 Tuesday December 14	Sunny	44°/31°	7%	5%	WNW 11 mph

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: Somerville Bicycle Network planning meeting

john says:

when did Somerville residents get to vote on the vision to “create a comprehensive network of streets where people of all abilities will feel comfortable and safe riding their bikes through Somerville.” I totally disagree with vision urban biking is not a safe or inclusive activity even with these changes and should not be promoted at all.

DJ says:

I don't know about “not promoted at all” but it does seem like it's being given too much weight. Unfortunately people who bike a lot tend to be louder and more involved at these meetings. People who aren't very unhappy with the current state of things probably aren't going to these meetings. Neither are people who don't live here but come to Somerville to work or spend money.

Response to: Open Letter to Members of the Traffic Board

Sean Cryts says:

I absolutely agree with Jack. Resident of Somerville, Ward 4. The City has white washed this process and doesn't listen to residents at all. Traffic study findings will come out after they have removed all parking!

Response to: Somerville High School ribbon cutting

Agnes johnson says:

Still no place to park.

Response to: Family heirlooms

BMac says:

I have a framing axe that belonged to my father's father. It is stamped Times Square Hardware on the handle. He worked construction in NYC and also as a welder during WWII in a Hoboken shipyard. I have a hatchet from my mother's mother. I remember my father using it around the yard in Somerville when I was a kid. Unfortunately, he used it to drive metal posts in the garden, so the poll is mushed a bit. My parents are still alive, but at the point of asking what of theirs I will want to keep. For years, I have been using my father's 3' level, which I remember from every home project growing up, and his Sears bench vise is bolt to my workbench.

Response to: Dilboy Stadium Field and Track ribbon cutting

Park much? says:

Does the city plan to renovate the parking area as well? There are gaps in the pavement there big enough to fall into and break a limb...

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times

699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144

news@thesomervilletimes.com

www.thesomervilletimes.com

Phone: 857-488-5138



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Editor – Jim Clark

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Arts Editor – Doug Holder

Writers: Jim Clark, Denise Keniston,
Isabel Sami, Rachel Berets, Elizabeth Long

Contributors: Jimmy Del Ponte, Dorothy Dimarzo,
Joe Creason, Bob Doherty, Ross Blouin
Photographer: Claudia Ferro

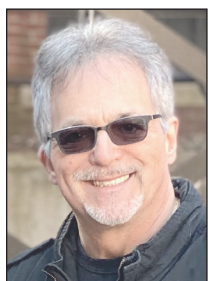
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Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

The Enchanted Village



The Enchanted Village at Jordan Marsh, which was there since the 1940's, closed in 1972. It reopened again at Jordan's furniture in Avon

in 1990. Here were some memories of the wonderful Christmas tradition. The animatronic vintage Christmas themed scenes are part of my childhood holiday memories. The following recollections are from those who remember those magical visits to The Enchanted Village.

• I remember going there with my mom. After visiting with Santa, they gave you a sturdy toy! Not a cheap coloring book like they give today! I remember getting a tea set one year and a toy cleaning set another year (carpet sweeper, broom, etc. – they actually worked). Then afterwards we would either go to Jordan's or Filene's luncheon-



ette for lunch! Also, we would look at the Christmas windows of Jordan's, Filene's, and Gilchrist's! Great times.

• Enchanted village was so awesome. Blueberry muffins were the best. I still have my sparkling Christmas stocking from Jordan Marsh. We would go every year and take our picture with the Santa Claus then walk and see the lights through the Boston common and to dinner at Marliare's.

• Jordan Marsh had an enormous toy carousel on the way to see Santa. To this day I remember it. I wanted that toy throughout my childhood. We also would stop at the bakery for blueberry muffins!

• Magic! Going into Boston with my mom to see it. Then seeing Santa after! It was amazing, I loved every minute of it.

• So vivid! I went in every year with my Yiayia. Jordan's furniture in Avon actually has the Enchanted Village. I took my son back a few years ago not expecting it to be the same. Once I saw them, I couldn't stop smiling ear to ear at the flood of memories.

• My mom took me and my sisters every year and was always amazed by the whole village, but I liked meeting Santa and having our picture taken with him.

• Getting all dressed up and taking the train in. All the beautiful window displays before you even got in to the village.



• My paternal grandmother that lived with us took me into Boston to see Santa every year. After I saw Santa, she took me to the toy section to pick out any doll I wanted. I remember Vogue Dolls were the ones to get so that's what I got. We would then stop at Kresge to buy a BBQ rotisserie chicken to bring home with us. One of my best memories with the best grandmother ever!

• Dressing the three kids in their Sunday best and going into Boston to wait in a long line to see the beautiful Christmas display.

• I worked at Jordan Marsh at Downtown Crossing as a stock boy in the Chi-

na department and remember them setting up the Enchanted Village and I got a first-hand taste of the blueberry muffins when they come out of the ovens. Oh, what memories of the old days!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this story.



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State Police investigating hit-and-run crash seriously injuring Somerville pedestrian

On Monday, 7:00 p.m., Massachusetts State Troopers responded to a report of a pedestrian struck by a motor vehicle at the intersection of Mystic Avenue at Shore Drive in Somerville. The driver of the vehicle sped away on Mystic Avenue after hitting the victim. Responding Troopers and other first responders found the victim, a 33-year-old Somerville man, lying on the sidewalk with serious injuries.

The victim was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital, where he remains hospitalized.

Investigation by Troopers from the State Police-Medford Barracks, the State Police Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section, and the State Police Crime Scene Services Section developed information suggesting that the suspect vehicle was a hatchback, generally orange in color.

The vehicle has been located with assistance from Somerville Police. It is at a State Police facility where it will be processed for evidence. The investigation is ongoing to identify the operator, as well as to determine the exact path of travel of the vehicle and the pedestrian prior to the crash and to determine criminal charges.

No further information is being released at this time.

— Mass State Police



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City Council considers unclaimed bike donations

CONT. FROM PG 1

Bike Give Back, a program started in 2020 that has a similar goal of giving back refurbished bicycles to the community for free.

A policy that notifies the public, stating bicycles left unclaimed for a certain amount of time would get donated to charity, might be a way to overcome the hurdles, he said. However, currently no infrastructure that can handle large numbers of bicycles exists in Somerville.

Assistant City Solicitor Jason Piques suggested drafting a home rule petition to cover all

legislative bases. Nevertheless, Ewen-Campen said the policy would open the doors to exciting possibilities for more infrastructure and benefits to Somerville based organizations.

In other business, Councilor Lance Davis said the administration proposed amendments to modernize the city's biotechnology ordinance, during the second half of the meeting.

The original ordinance governing biotechnical research was established in 1994, however the city added definitions of biolog-

ical agents, guidelines and clarified the duties of the Biosafety Committee.

New rules for companies applying for a permit to conduct research in Somerville could potentially include risk assessment, proof of insurance contingency plans and an annual renewal process.

However, the committee did not vote on it at the time. Davis said the jargon surrounding definitions of pathogens were not clear enough. There were too many holes that needed

to be filled, and the ordinance was too complicated for someone not in the field to easily understand, he said.

Ewen-Campen said he was not sure what type of biotechnical companies were operating in Somerville. He asked if the ordinance was seeking to set meaningful regulations beyond what is required by federal law, or if it was to assure the public that rules were being followed.

The city is outwardly requiring certain documents to assure everything is regulated

and meets industry, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, Lauren Rancaniello said. She is not sure what the federal regulations are.

No laboratories involved in research regarding dangerous pathogens are based in Somerville, the ordinance stated, but definitions for how dangerous pathogens should be contained are still written in.

The city council could not vote on the matter at the time, and an ordinance will have to be reviewed again.

Somerville Winter Farmers Market opens for 2021 season

CONT. FROM PG 1

somewhere around 45 vendors who had an online to-go website pre-order."

The manager's experience was also shared by vendors in the market. Rebecca Stillman, who works for Stillman Meats, talked about last year

and how they fared. "Because they allowed a few vendors in the parking lot, we chose to be out in the parking lot, because we have a product that's very difficult to pre-order," Stillman said.

Moreover, Reckard-Mota also

expressed excitement to hold her first full market as manager.

"This is my first time seeing what it's like in its full glory, so it feels really nice to have it feel like a more normal year," she said.

Looking towards the future, Reckard-Mota hopes the mar-

ket will support local businesses involved in the operation. "A whole other aspect of the mission of this market is to support local food producers and small food businesses," she said.

Stillman spoke about how people are still becoming ac-

customed to a different market compared to the one in 2020. "I think there's a learning curve, people have to learn we're back in here, they have to be secure that they can come here and they're going to be safe," Stillman said.



Wishing a fond farewell to Mayor Curtatone



We are gathering expressions of thanks, gratitude and well wishes for outgoing Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, who is winding down his 18-year run as mayor of Somerville at the end of the year.

Send your well wishes via email at: news@thesomerville-times.com. Selected contributions will be published in *The Somerville Times*, both in print and online.

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Razors Barbershop & Shave Co. recognized

Undersecretary Edward A. Palleschi of the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation (OCABR) recently visited Razors Barbershop & Shave Co. at their original location in Somerville, MA to present owners Anthony and Joe Berriola with OCABR's Licensee Recognition Certificate of Excellence. Undersecretary Palleschi enjoyed touring the recently renovated shop meeting the talented staff of barbers. Other special guests at the presentation were Somerville city councilors Beatriz Gómez-Mouakad and Kristen Strezo, as well as Somerville Chamber of Commerce President Stephen Mackey.

Anthony Berriola opened Razors Barbershop in 2004 with

only one other employee—his brother Joe. It has since grown to eight staff barbers and earlier this year, expanded to a second location in Cambridge, MA which Joe co-owns and run. The shop has been voted Best of Boston, as well as Best of Somerville several times.

Aside from serving his regular customers inside Razors Barbershop, Anthony also represents Proraso, Italy's largest shaving product company, at events and tradeshow as their brand ambassador. He is also the personal barber for touring musicians, athletes, and corporations seeking luxury barber services.

As much as they love giving haircuts, Razors Barbershop takes special pride in their

award-winning traditional shave. They even have tutorials on their blog about how to shave better at home. They are also committed to being a pillar of the community. Prior to the pandemic, they hosted live musical acts, through their Fresh Cuts Concert Series.

The Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation (OCABR) oversees the Division of Occupational Licensure, Division of Banks, Division of Insurance, Department of Telecommunications and Cable, and Division of Standards. OCABR works to ensure a fair playing field for the Massachusetts businesses its agencies regulate and empower consumers through advocacy and education.



Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



Oven Roasted Chestnuts

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

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

Chestnuts

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

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

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

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

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

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



Beacon Hill Roll Call



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GOV. CHARLIE BAKER ANNOUNCES HE WILL NOT RUN FOR RE-ELECTION – Gov. Baker announced that he will not seek a third term as governor of Massachusetts in 2022 while Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito also said she will not seek the governorship. This leaves the race wide open.

“This was an extremely difficult decision for us,” said the pair in a joint statement. “We love the work and we especially respect and admire the people of this wonderful commonwealth. Serving as governor and lieutenant governor of Massachusetts has been the most challenging and fulfilling jobs we’ve ever had.”

“We have a great deal of work to do to put the pandemic behind us, keep our kids in school and keep our communities and economy moving forward. That work cannot and should not be about politics and the next election. If we were to run, it would be a distraction that would potentially get in the way of many of the things we should be working on for everyone in Massachusetts. We want to focus on recovery, not on the grudge matches political campaigns can devolve into.”

“Today is about the future. This next year needs to be about recovery, not about politics. We are grateful for the chance we have been given to serve the people of this great state and will give it our all between now and the end of 2022,” concluded the statement.

Four candidates had already entered the race before Baker’s announcement. Democratic candidates include Incumbent State Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz (D-Boston), former State Sen. Ben Downing and Harvard professor Danielle Allen. The only GOP candidate currently in the race is former State Rep. Geoff Diehl.

The two biggest names being tossed around as possibilities in political circles on the Democratic side include Attorney General Maura Healey and U.S. Secretary of Labor and former Boston Mayor Marty Walsh.

THE HOUSE AND SENATE: There were no roll call votes in the House or Senate last week. This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* reports local senators’ roll call attendance records for the 2021 session. No more roll calls are planned in the Senate until January 2022.

The Senate held 115 roll calls in the 2021 session. *Beacon Hill Roll Call* tabulates the number of roll calls on which each senator votes and then calculates that number as a percentage of the total roll call votes held. That percentage is the number referred to as the roll call attendance record.

More senators have 100 percent roll call attendance records this year than at anytime in recent memory. Thirty-seven of the 39 members did not miss any roll calls and have 100 percent roll call attendance records. This can be attributed to the fact that under emergency rules adopted because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the vast majority of the 39 senators are not in the Senate chamber during a session. Most are watching and listening to the session from their home or business and voting remotely. Senators’ votes are communicated to Senate officials during the session or prior to the session if senators are informed in advance that there will be a roll call vote. If a member wants to speak on an issue under consideration, they do so on a separate “debate phone line” and their voice is then heard in the Senate chamber and by anyone watching the broadcast online.

The number of senators who had 100 percent roll call attendance records in the prior four years was 33 in 2020; 28 in 2019; 20 in 2018; 24 in 2017; and 17 in 2016.

Sen. Mike Barrett (D-Lexington) and Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland) were the only two senators who missed any roll calls this year.

Barrett missed 13 roll calls (11.4 percent) out of 115 for a roll call attendance record of 88.6 percent. “In my capacity as State Senate chair of the Utilities and Energy Committee of the Legislature, I attended the U.N. Climate Change Conference in Glasgow for its climactic second week,” Barrett told *Beacon Hill Roll Call*. “In doing so, I missed several roll calls back in the Senate, all taken on a single day. I regret this, but feel my responsibilities to my constituents were best satisfied during that particular time by my working at the U.N. event. Achieving emissions reductions relies heavily on ‘sub-national’ governments like state legislatures, where so many of the actual programs are designed and funded.”

“Over 400 private jets crammed Scotland’s airports and Massachusetts sent several of our state’s leading green elites to virtue signal and share their moral authority with other self-absorbed bureaucrats and politicians,” said Paul Craney, spokesman for the Mass Fiscal Alliance. “While his legislative colleagues were trying to determine how to best help their constituents with COVID relief money, the Lexington state senator was boasting about serving on a climate panel in which he spoke to ‘legislators’ from other countries including from China and Russia. Can Massachusetts’ most narcissistic green elite be this tone deaf or is he there for the self-celebration and pageantry?”

It’s a Senate tradition that the Senate president only votes occasionally. Current Senate President Karen Spilka follows that tradition and only voted on 45 (39.1 percent) of the 115 roll calls while not voting on 70 (60.9 percent) of them.

Sen. Spilka’s office did not respond to repeated requests by *Beacon Hill Roll Call* to comment on her voting record.

We specifically asked if Spilka was in the Statehouse building for all the formal and informal sessions; how the tradition developed that the president rarely votes; has she ever thought of breaking that tradition and being recorded on all roll calls; and how does she choose on which roll calls she will vote?

“Sen. Spilka follows the tradition that many before her followed,” said Paul Craney. “In this particular case, it’s not necessarily a bad tradition but unfortunately a much worse trend in the state senate is quickly emerging, and that is its opaqueness. The Statehouse has been closed for over 600 days, and now major budget decisions are being done behind closed doors and when lawmakers are on recess. The Massachusetts Legislature, including the State Senate, is the most opaque legislative body in the United States. There is no other state legislature this secretive.”

SENATORS’ 2021 ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE RECORDS

The percentage listed next to the senator’s name is the percentage of roll call votes on which the senator voted. The number in parentheses represents the number of roll calls that he or she missed.

Sen. Patricia Jehlen 100 percent (0)

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

REGULATE AUTOCYCLES (H 3445, S 2278) - The Transportation Committee held a virtual hearing on a bill that would regulate autocycles—3-wheeled motor vehicles which are a mix between a car and motorcycle. These vehicles, unlike motorcycles which are controlled with the handlebars, typically have a steering wheel, foot pedals for brakes, a seat for the driver, occasionally seats for a passengers and an enclosed roof or open air like traditional motorcycles. Current Massachusetts law classifies autocycles as motorcycles and requires a Class M Driver’s License to operate while the proposal would require a Class D license. The bill also will create a separate category of regulations for autocycles including requiring the wearing of helmets, the use of seat belts and a ban on children under eight years old from being a passenger.

“I filed [the bill] to responsibly regulate autocycle vehicles in a way that is good for the economy, public safety and consumers,” said House sponsor Rep. Bill Driscoll (D-Milton). “Legally defining these vehicles as an autocycle will allow for operation with a Class D license, facilitating interstate travel with our neighboring states, four out of five of which have autocycle definitions. This regulatory framework will reduce barriers to consumers and retailers, spurring more consumer choice and economic opportunity.”

“This bill responsibly regulates these innovative vehicles in a way that is good for consumers, the economy and public safety,” said Senate sponsor Sen. Nick Collins (D-Boston). “With regards to safety, the seating arrangement, steering wheel, rollover protection, lighting systems and seatbelts combine to ensure a much safer vehicle than a traditional two-wheeled motorcycle.”

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 29-December 3, the House met for a total of one hour and 30 minutes while the Senate met for a total of one hour and 22 minutes.

Mon. Nov. 29	House 11:00 a.m. to 11:12 a.m. Senate 11:14 a.m. to 11:18 a.m.
Tues. Nov. 30	No House session No Senate session
Wed. Dec. 1	No House session No Senate session
Thurs. Dec. 2	House 11:11 a.m. to 11:21 a.m. Senate 11:07 a.m. to 11:14 a.m.
Fri. Dec 3	House 11:03 a.m. to 12:11 p.m. Senate 11:03 a.m. to 12:14 p.m.

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

COMMENTARY

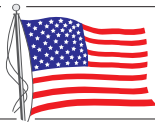
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Somerville remembers those we have lost to COVID-19.

Our View Of The Times



On Saturday, December 11, The City of Somerville will host a ceremony to remember those that have been lost to COVID-19 and to recognize the many other losses our community has faced throughout the pandemic.

The public is invited to gather for a simple ceremony, a participatory remembrance project, with musical accompaniment. The event will take place from

1:00 to 2:00 p.m., at Symphony Park, 46 Pearl Street.

There will be a short speaking agenda, and attendees are invited to make a flag of remembrance by drawing a simple image and writing words, thoughts, or poems. The flags will be hung at the park to create a temporary memorial.

Blank flags will be available at City Hall reception desks and at the ceremony.

Attendees are also invited to bring objects or messages meaningful to them to be hung alongside the flags or placed on the ground.

After the event, a recorded, button-operated music installation and the memorial will both remain at the site, weather permitting, for a few weeks.

The past couple of years have been a tough time for everyone, and our con-

ditions go out to all who have lost someone during this time.

We are all hoping that things can get turned around in the future and that we can put this terrible time behind us.

In the meantime, let us pause to reflect on our losses and the awful toll that this pandemic has wrought. We owe it to ourselves and to the memories of the too many that we have lost.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Vivian, Heather Balchunas and Kimberly Pedersen a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

Join **Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone** and **Ward 2 Councilor J.T. Scott** for a **ribbon cutting** to celebrate the completion of the **Conway Park athletic field** on **Thursday, December 9**, at 1:00 p.m. The field will be available for use in the spring, when playground construction is also expected to be completed. Another celebration will be held then to mark the grand opening of the full site. For more information about the project, visit somervillema.gov/conway-park. Event attendees should enter the field at the far gate near the back of the rink, since the Somerville Avenue site is still in construction.

This year's **Assembly Square Ice Sculpture Stroll** takes place on **Thursday, December 9**, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Assembly Row. Nine ice sculptures of various sizes, shapes and characters will be located throughout The Row for you to find. Start at any location and follow

a map to visit each special location and enjoy perks and surprises along the way. Plus, collect a holiday memento when the map is complete. Holiday music brought to you by **Kiss 108**. Free and open to the public.

Somerville's month-long **Illuminations celebration** kicks off on **December 9**. Plug in your lights, don your bike helmet, and hit your high notes for Somerville's interactive Illuminations extravaganza. This year, the annual Illuminations celebration will include self-guided neighborhood tours, porch caroling around town, a community lantern project, and a bike tour. The event kicks off when the official Illuminations 2021 map goes live on the Arts Council website, somervilleartscouncil.org. Illuminations Timeline: December 9 through early January 2022 – self-guided tours using the SAC's official online Illuminations Map. December 9, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.: Illuminations kick off with city-wide caroling! December 11: Community Lantern project. December 18: Illuminations Bike Tour, starting at City Hall at 5:45 – departure at 6:00 p.m. (rain date December 19).

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone invites all interested to come together to **remember those we have lost to COVID-19** and to recognize the many other losses our community has faced throughout the pandemic. We invite attendees to gather for a simple ceremony, a participatory remembrance project, and musical accompaniment on **Saturday, December 11**, from 1 to 2 p.m., at **Symphony Park**, 46 Pearl Street. (Rain date December 18.)

COVID cases in Massachusetts just reached a **nine-month high**. In order to not repeat the tragic fall and winter surge of last year, COVID precautions are urged for this holiday season. The CDC has a holiday safety guide. The main thing to keep in mind is responsible behavior leading up to the holidays will lead to safer celebrations. Making sure everyone at the gathering is vaccinated, getting a booster if you are eligible, and masking up in indoor public spaces will lessen the chances of people contracting the virus and spreading it to others during what should be a happy occasion. Having smaller holiday get-togethers and keeping it among people who regularly associate with each other also can lessen the spread. Outdoor cel-

ebrations (sunny weather is currently forecast for Thanksgiving) are safer than indoor gatherings. Finally, get tested in the days leading up to the holiday if you think you might pose a risk. Go to somervillema.gov/covid19testing to find a testing location.

Join **East Somerville Main Streets** for another **Pop-Up Holiday Market at Connexion** in Somerville. They'll have some new vendors, more food and more music. Support small, local businesses while you do your holiday shopping. **Saturday, December 11**, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at Connexion, 149 Broadway.

The **Somerville Public Library** is hosting, **Character and World Building – Archaeology without Digging Writing Workshop**, **Saturday, December 11**, 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. This innovative writing workshop, led by multi-award-winning novelist and leading writing instructor **Michael Marano** (www.GetOffMyLawn.biz), will explore the relationship between character development and the creation of a setting, be it for a novel, short story, screenplay or stage play. Participants will be shown clips

Continued on page 10

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#806

1. What is the main acholcol in a typical margarita cocktail?

2. Who designed the first Christmas card?

3. How many pairs of ribs are in a typical human body?

4. Which American singer died as a result of anorexia in 1983?

5. Which composer's only opera was *Fidelio*?

6. In *The Sopranos*, what is the nickname of Tony's uncle Carra-do?

7. Who played Brad Pitt's wife Tracy Mills

in the 1995 crime thriller *Seven*?

8. Who is the NFL's all-time leading rusher?

9. Which NBA player starred as the co-pilot Roger Murdock in the 1980 movie *Airplane!*?

10. In the TV show *Bones*, Angela Montenegro's father is played by a guitarist from which group?

11. Which U.S. president had a home called The Hermitage?

12. What is Matthew Webb famous for?

Answers on page 10

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. A poem written to celebrate a wedding is called a epithalamium.

2. Dr. Seuss pronounced his name "soyce."

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

Year in Review

ACROSS

1. Coalition of countries

5. King trump-er, sometimes

8. Cuckoo bird

11. ____ weevil

12. Smelting waste

13. Kitchen-wear

15. Coke or Pepsi

16. Check-in via text, email, etc.

17. Settler transport

18. 2021 Super Bowl winner, two words

20. Before long, to Shakespeare

21. Jeopardy

22. Auction action

23. Puts down

26. Coroner's performance

30. Band booking

31. Snicket of "A Series of Unfortunate Events"

34. Stravinsky's "The ____ of Spring"

35. Mine passages

37. Build Back Better ____

38. Eucharist plate

39. Table hill

40. Good review

42. "Tit for ____"

43. Buck feature, pl.

45. First female VP

47. Evergreen creeper

48. It goes with gin, according to Snoop Dogg

50. Mongolian desert

52. COVID-19, e.g.

55. Poison ivy or Poison oak

56. International Civil Aviation Org.

57. Distinctive smell

59. House coat

60. Asian cuisine food thickener

61. Pelvic parts

62. Gallery display

63. Self-proclaimed greatest boxer

64. Count on

4. Fasteners or holders

5. Cover story

6. Suez ____, too tight for Ever Given

7. Like custard

8. Mythological ship

9. "High" time

10. Wayside stop

12. Thinly spread

13. Look forward to

14. ____ Papers, leaked offshore account information

19. Banana refuse, pl.

22. Exchange for money

23. Old World lizard

24. January 20th honoree

25. Anti-elderly one

26. Those not in favor

27. Pita, alt. sp.

28. Take without asking

29. Gossiper, Yiddish

32. Perseverance landing spot

33. Edible tuber

36. Kabul's organization in power

38. The Nobel ____ Prize was awarded to Ressa and Muratov

40. Snoop around

41. Snowmobile brand

44. Give the boot

46. "Stronger" by Cindy McCain, e.g.

48. Southwestern hut

49. Sushi restaurant staple

50. ____ gum, food additive

51. Leave out

52. Home to the Leaning Tower

53. Not in use

54. One in mattress

55. Spot for a facial

58. *Actor Liotta, star in "The Many Saints of Newark"

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

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	5				3	8		
5		8			7			
	3		2				8	
	9	7						5

© StatePoint Media

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

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

Somerville Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and special guests hosted two of Somerville’s annual holiday celebrations. The festivities began with the annual Christmas tree lighting on Thursday, December 2, on the City Hall concourse. After the tree lighting, Santa Claus joined in for a meet and greet next door at Somerville High School. Santa was escorted by the Somerville Fire and Police departments, with a gift and cookies for each child in tow. Live entertainment featured the Somerville High School Chorus, Somerville High School Orchestra, El Sistema Somerville, and the Somerville High School Jazz Band. Later in the week, the ceremonial menorah lighting took place on Sunday, December 5, on the City Hall concourse with Rabbi Eliana Jacobowitz from Temple B’nai Brith.

— Photos by Bobbie Toner



2021 is another big year for Thanksgiving Meals on Wheels

More than 80 volunteers converged at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) on Thanksgiving morning to help deliver 535 holiday meals. SCES delivers a Thanksgiving meal – with turkey, mashed potatoes, vegetables, and pumpkin pie – to local older adults who want one each year. The program typically gets around 320 requests, but had 550 requests last year, said SCES Nutrition Director Meghan Ostrander. “The need has increased significantly the past couple of years and I think a lot of that has to do with people choosing to stay home, instead of visiting with friends or family,” said Ostrander.

Thanksgiving is a day off for SCES Meals on Wheels drivers, who have been active as essential workers throughout the pandemic. SCES Direc-

tor of Volunteers and Special Projects Colleen Morrissey thanked the volunteers for stepping up to help. “This event always brings such joy, and this year was no exception,” said Morrissey. “This is always our most popular volunteer event and there’s something special about working with a large group that shares such a great common purpose. Thank you to everyone who helped make it such a success.” To learn more about volunteer opportunities at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services, call 617-628-2601, x3214 or e-mail to vol@eldercare.org

About Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services
Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) is a non-profit agency that supports the in-




More than 80 volunteers helped Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services deliver thanksgiving dinners on November 25. Among those helping out were (front row, L to R): Cora Smilack, Katryna Hadley, Susan Goldin, Eda Kosma, Julie Constantine, Viet Van, and Lindsey Smilack; (back row L to R): Bob LaPointe, Lyn Hardy, and Daniel Morrissey; (on stairs) SCES Nutrition Director is Meghan Ostrander.

dependence and well-being of older adults in Somerville and Cambridge. For free advice and guidance on questions of aging, caregiving or disability, contact our Aging Information Center at 617-628-2601, email info@eldercare.org, or visit our website eldercare.org.

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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The **Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Wednesday, December 15, 2021**, at 6:00pm through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to planning@somervillema.gov.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1492868929061362701>
Webinar ID: 904-536-011

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (562) 247-8422
Access code: 114-986-231

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

620 Broadway 620 Broadway, LLC seeks a variance from the minimum number of stories in the Commercial Core 5 district.

483 Broadway Tavis Babbitt seeks variances for story height and from the minimum number of stories in the Mid-Rise 4 (MR4) district.


21 Eastman Road SGL Development seeks a steep slope special permit and variances that include: primary front setback, more than one building on a lot, building type, parking in frontage area, driveway in frontage area, habitable space depth, number of stories, ground story elevation, building width, side setback, upper story fenestration, story height. Neighborhood Residence (NR) zone.

27 Houghton St Cecilia Viggiano proposes modifications to a Row House in the Neighborhood Residence district, which requires a Special Permit.

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

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

12/1/21. 12/8/21 The Somerville Times



City of Somerville
PLANNING BOARD
City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The **Somerville Planning Board (PB)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Thursday, December 16, 2021**, at 6:00pm through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Planning Board will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to planning@somervillema.gov.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1651595527158756107>
Webinar ID: 553-776-859

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (562) 247-8422
Access code: 514-546-106

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

28 - 44 Broadway Ben Rogan proposes a 6-story LEED Platinum General Building with a Household Living principal use in the Mid Rise 6 district, which requires Site Plan Approval and a Special Permit.

153 South Street Boynton Yards LandCo LLC seeks approval of a major amendment to a previously approved Master Plan Special Permit (MPSP2020-002).

494 Medford Street James Rissling seeks to establish a General Building in the Mid-Rise 4 (MR4) district which requires Site Plan Approval.

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

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

12/1/21, 12/8/21 The Somerville Times

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801

MIDDLESEX Division **Docket No. MI21D3374DR**

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

Sarah Grieve aka Sarah Hmaldi Grieve vs. Samuel D Grieve

To Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:

Sarah Grieve
10 Wendell St, Apt 2
Cambridge, MA 02138

your answer, if any on or before **12/28/2021**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, Hon. Maureen H Monks, First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 16, 2021

Tara E. De Christofaro
Register of Probate

12/8/21 The Somerville Times

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA. 02141
(617) 768- 5800

MIDDLESEX Division **Docket No. MI21C1138CA**

CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

In the matter of: Sabrina Chase Destiny Z Reynolds

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by

Sabrina Chase Destiny Z Reynolds of Somerville, MA

requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Sabi Chase Williams**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting by filing an appearance at:
Middlesex Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/20/2021.
This is NOT a hearing date, but deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Maureen H Monks, First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 22, 2021

Tara E. De Cristofaro
Register of Probate

12/8/21 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT
IFB #22-23

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

Lead Service Line Replacement Program – Phase 2

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at www.bidexpress.com, <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **12/09/2021**. Sealed bids will be received at above office until: **1/16/2022 1:00PM EST**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please contact Andrea Caruth at acaruth@somervillema.gov for more information.

5% Bid Deposit required.

Andrea Caruth
Deputy Chief Procurement Officer
617-625-6600 x. 3400

12/8/21 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT
IFB #22-22

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

Consultant for Somerville PD Staffing & Operations Analysis

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at www.bidexpress.com, <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **12/08/2021**. Sealed bids will be received at above office until: **12/22/2022 2:00PM EST**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please contact Andrea Caruth at acaruth@somervillema.gov for more information.

5% Bid Deposit required.

Andrea Caruth
Deputy Chief Procurement Officer
617-625-6600 x. 3400

12/8/21 The Somerville Times

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Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

from films ranging from Pixar's *Wall-E* to the hard-boiled Paul Newman detective movie *Harper* and given a selection of readings that will help them develop a writer's toolkit for creating an interplay of character development and world-building. As writers, you will be doing archeology without digging, using words instead of shovels. This event will be taking place over Zoom, register at: <https://www.somervillepubliclibrary.org/>

Looking for a good read? The **Tufts community** – faculty, staff, and alumni – share more than 40 of **their favorites** with you. Visit https://now.tufts.edu/articles/winter-book-recommendations-2021?utm_source=Tufts+Now.

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

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

From on page 8

1. Tequila

2. J.C. Horsely

3. 12

4. Karen Carpenter

5. Ludwig von Beethoven

6. Junior

7. Gwyneth Paltrow

8. Emmitt Smith, with 18,355 yards

9. Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

10. ZZ Top (Billy Gibbons)

11. Andrew Jackson

12. He was the first man to swim the English Channel

The Somerville Times
Best of Somerville 2021
Cast your vote!

You have until December 28 to vote for your favorite category. To cast your vote, email us at thebestofsomerville@yahoo.com. The winners will be announced Wednesday, January 5, 2021. 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 2021
- 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 2021

Worst Idea in 2021

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Somerville Kiwanis Club induct two new members



L-R Recording Secretary and Inducting Officer James Lynch, Paula Vancini, Eugene Brune, James Bowdring, Jill Bowdring and Club President Mernaysa Rivera-Bujosa.

On December 2, the Kiwanis Club of Somerville inducted two new members. Jill Bowdring, an Account Executive for Superior Promotions and Paula Vancini, the Principal at Vancini Accounting joined the ranks of local business leaders and active retired members to become Somerville Kiwanis members. Jill's sponsor was her father, James Bowdring, who has been a member for 27 years. Paula's sponsor was former Mayor Eugene C. Brune. The Somerville club was founded in 1925 and is part of Kiwanis International.

The Kiwanis' motto is "Serving the Children of the World." With that motto in mind, Somerville Kiwanis members will be hosting the United States Marine Corps next week where members will be

joined by our friends from the Somerville Lions Club and Somerville Rotary Club and hundreds of toys, donated by members of the three clubs will be given to the USMC Toys For Tots program. Following that program, the club will be donating and delivering toys to 150 of the most needy children in Somerville and Cambridge. Last week, Kiwanis members served 134 Thanksgiving lunches to Somerville Senior residents. "I am so proud of our club and grateful for our two new members", said President Mernaysa Rivera-Bujosa.

To learn more about the Kiwanis Club of Somerville, become a member, or provide support for our programs, please visit our website, www.somervillekiwanis.org and select "contact us."

Somerville Bicycle Network planning meeting

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and the City of Somerville Mobility Division invite you to a virtual community meeting to discuss Somerville's first citywide bicycle network plan. The city's goal is to create a comprehensive network of streets where people of all abilities will feel comfortable and safe riding their bikes through Somerville. To achieve that vision, the city is collaborating with Street Plans, an urban planning, design, research-advocacy firm, to develop a citywide bicycle network plan.

The meeting will take place virtually on Wednesday, December 15, at 6:00 p.m. To learn more and register to attend, visit somervillema.gov/bikennetwork.

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris

What did the icy road say to the car?

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857-488-5138

Keep Small Strong by Getting Elfie with Local Businesses in Union Square

Union Square Main Streets (USMS) and nearly 40 local businesses crank up the jolly for the 7th Annual Holiday Stroll featuring rad retail, unique eats, a mile long inflatable trail, the Keep Small Strong Challenge, and much more. This free and family friendly celebration begins on Thursday, December 9, for a festive weekend throughout the square.



Nearly 40 local businesses are participating in this year's Stroll. Don't miss personalized holiday greetings at Somerville Media Center; Peruvian hot chocolate and Paneton at Machu Picchu; Holiday Nova, a Somerville good time and holiday celebration, at Somernova; and Winter Fest, featuring vendors, live music, and ice sculpting at Boynton Yards, among many other holiday happenings.

Three people who bundle up and come on down or snuggle up and shop from home will win cash prizes of \$250, \$500 or \$1000. Winners will be announced on December 15.

"Shops, award-winning eateries, and Stroll sponsors have come together again to present an exciting series of uniquely-Union festive offerings when supporting local continues to matter most," said Jessica Eshleman, Executive Director of Union Square Main Streets who produces the Holiday Stroll. "Shopping local is a personal investment in our community, one that brings pride along with the very best gifts for loved ones this holiday season."

People who Stroll will score multiple chances to win up to \$1000 when participating in these activities:

Keep Small Strong Challenge: Get merry with a mask and stay loyal to local Union Square businesses by shopping, dining, or visiting them online. Save three of your receipts from purchases at Union Square businesses then email a photo to Stroll@unionsquaremain.org.

Shopping in person or online allowed. Multiple entries encouraged for repeat visits and purchases.

Storefront Decorating Contest: Votes enter you to win a cash prize and also help your favorite businesses get closer to winning the \$500 cash prize! Voting will open Friday, December 10 on USMS' Facebook page.

A mile long FESTIVUS Inflatable Trail: Snap an Elfie-Selfie along the trail, post and tag @unionsquarems and @somernova on social media for a chance to win one of three prizes up to \$1000. For every tagged post, SOMERNOVA will donate \$25 to the Union Square SNAP match, supplementing the food budget of needy families. Thanks to SOMERNOVA, the chance to win and the chance to give to fight food insecurity is just a selfie away.

The 7th Annual Holiday Stroll is presented by Union Square Main Streets, Inc. and made possible by generous support from SOMERNOVA, Boynton-Yards, a DLJ + Leggat McCall Project, Liberty Cannabis, USQ, Kristin Chalmers Photography, Naveo Credit Union, and Thalia Tringo & Associates Real Estate

On This Day in History

December 8

1660 – The first Shakespearian actress to appear on an English stage (she is believed to be a Ms. Norris) makes her debut as Desdemona.

1920 – President Woodrow Wilson declines to send a representative to the League of Nations in Geneva.

1948 – The United Nations approves the recognition of South Korea.

1980 – John Lennon is shot to death outside his Manhattan apartment building.

1982 – The Washington, D.C., police shoot and kill a man threatening to blow up the Washington Monument.

1991 – The leaders of Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine sign an agreement that dissolves the Soviet Union and establishes the Commonwealth of Independent States.

2004 – The Cuzco Declaration signed in Cuzco, Peru, establishing the South American Community of Nations.

2010 – SpaceX becomes the first privately held company to successfully launch, orbit and recover a spacecraft.

CLASSIFIEDS

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AUTOS WANTED

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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

Wednesday, December 8

12:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am NASA TV
7:00am Community Bulletin Board
7:30am DW In Good Shape
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am DW Global 3000
9:30am Both Sides of the Bars
10:00am Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer
10:30am Somerville Neighborhood News
11:00am SNN Neighborhood Update
11:30am From My Heart to Yours
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show
1:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News
1:30pm Somerville Neighborhood News
2:00pm Colores Latinos
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm DW Conflict Zone
4:30pm Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library
5:00pm Hello Neighbor
5:30pm From My Heart to Yours
6:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News
6:30pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects
7:00pm "The Cask of Amontillado" at VOX POP
7:30pm Sidewalks Entertainment
8:00pm LIVE - Somerville Pundits
8:30pm DW Euromaxx
9:00pm Revolution Awakening at VOX POP
10:00pm LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
11:00pm Flotilla

Thursday, December 9

12:30am SCATV Secret Stash
1:00am Free Speech TV
1:30am Free Speech TV
2:00am Free Speech TV
3:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am Bate Papo com Shirley
7:00am DW Conflict Zone
7:30am DW Euromaxx
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am DW Tomorrow Today
9:30am Hello Neighbor
10:00am The Chef's Table Series
10:30am The Chef's Table Series
11:00am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals
11:30am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show
1:00pm The Somerville Line
1:30pm The Somerville Line

Friday, December 10

12:00am Dilboy Field Ribbon Cutting 11-19-21
12:45am Mental Health Resources
1:00am HONK! 2021
2:00am COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA

3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects
4:30pm The Struggle
5:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News
6:00pm #AFAD
6:30pm #AFAD
7:00pm Community Lens: SHC 5K Race
8:00pm LIVE - Our View
9:00pm PABFONE Closing Day Ceremony
10:00pm Community Bulletin Board
10:30pm The World Fusion Show
11:00pm VOX POP Comedy Night

Friday, December 10

12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
1:00am SCATV Secret Stash
1:30am SCATV Secret Stash
2:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am NASA TV
7:00am The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am DW Euromaxx
9:30am Strata
10:00am NASA TV
11:00am SOM ARTS
11:30am Cambridge Calendar
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show
1:00pm Community Benefits Agreement
2:00pm Somerville Pundits
2:30pm Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm Gay USA
5:00pm DW Global 3000
5:30pm What's New Massachusetts?
6:00pm Grandstanders
7:00pm Emergency Preparedness
7:30pm The Somerville Labor Show
8:00pm LIVE - Greater Somerville
8:30pm Greater Somerville
9:00pm Fur, Fins and Feathers
10:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
11:00pm Heavy Leather Music Video Show

Saturday, December 11

12:00am VOX POP Comedy Night
1:00am Free Speech TV
2:00am Free Speech TV
3:00am Free Speech TV
5:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am DW Focus on Europe
7:00am Effort Pour Christ

8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am SMC Youth Media
9:30am Science 360
10:00am Dead Air Live
11:00am TeleGalaxie
12:00pm Somerville Storytellers
1:00pm Tele Magazine
2:00pm Reeling Review
3:00pm MA House of Representatives Formal Session
4:00pm Tele Kreyol
5:00pm Henry Parker Presents
5:30pm Henry Parker Presents
6:00pm Somerville Pundits
6:30pm The Somerville Labor Show
7:00pm BLOWW Show a Go Go
7:30pm Somerville Neighborhood News
8:00pm #AFAD
9:00pm Nossa Gente e Costumes
10:00pm Heavy Leather Music Video Show
11:00pm SCATV Secret Stash
11:30pm Queer Cats

Sunday, December 12

12:00am Flotilla
1:00am NASA TV
1:30am NASA TV
2:00pm NASA TV
3:00pm Free Speech TV
6:00am Bate Papo com Shirley
7:00am Nossa Gentes e Costumes
8:00am Effort Pour Christ
9:00am NASA TV
10:00am Tele Kreyol
11:00am House of Representatives Formal Session
12:00pm Sidewalks Entertainment
1:00pm SOM ARTS
1:30pm SNN Neighborhood Update
2:00pm Chico and B-Man
3:00pm African Television Network
4:00pm Dedilhando a Saudade
5:00pm Gay USA
6:00pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects
6:30pm DW Tomorrow Today
7:00pm Emergency Preparedness
8:00pm Dead Air Live
9:00pm Tele Magazine
10:00pm Community Lens: Somerville 5K Detour
11:00pm TUTV
11:30pm SCATV Secret Stash

Monday, December 13

12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
5:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am NASA TV
7:00am Somerville Storytellers
7:30am Going Postal
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am Science 360
10:00am Somerville Neighborhood News
11:00am Our View
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show
1:00pm SOM ARTS
1:30pm Somerville Storytellers
2:00pm NASA TV
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm African Television Network
5:00pm Community Lens: SHC 5K Race
6:00pm LIVE from VOX POP
6:30pm Fur, Fins and Feathers
7:00pm Tele Galaxie
8:00pm LIVE -Somerville Overcoming Addiction
9:00pm Dedilhando ao Saudade
9:00pm Colores Latinos
11:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

Tuesday, December 14

12:00am Public Safety/Homeland Security Hearing
6:00am NASA TV
7:00am NASA TV
8:00am Democracy Now!
9:00am The Chef's Table Series
10:00am Strata
11:00am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show
1:00pm Revolution Awakening at VOX POP
2:00pm Somerville Overcoming Addiction
3:00pm Democracy Now!
4:00pm SMC Youth Media
4:30pm Going Postal
5:00pm LIVE - Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer
5:30pm What's New Massachusetts?
6:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News
6:30pm From My Heart to Yours
7:00pm The Somerville Labor Show
7:30pm LIVE - Greater Somerville
8:00pm LIVE - Dead Air Live
9:00pm The World Fusion Show
10:00pm Totally Working Out
11:00pm Box House Productions Presents
11:30pm SCATV Secret Stash

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

Wednesday, December 8

6:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II
7:00am Traffic Board Public Hearing 12-1-21
9:01am Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
10:00am Chair Yoga w Chris
10:30am SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #1
11:30am School Committee Meeting 12-6-21
2:30pm City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan
3:00pm Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
4:00pm Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7
4:30pm Somerville Chamber of Commerce Awards
6:10pm SPD Ride Along
6:30pm Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021
7:00pm School Committee Meeting 12-6-21
10:00pm Winter Hill Walking Tour
11:15pm COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA

Thursday, December 9

12:00am Finance Committee Meeting 11-30-21
1:12am Climate Forward Presentations
6:00am Veterans Day Remembrance at Milk Row
6:13am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II
7:02am Somerville Chamber of Commerce Awards
9:00am Connecting Communities
9:30am The Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope
10:30am City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan
11:00am Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7
11:30am Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021
12:00pm Senior Circuit
12:30pm Finance Committee Meeting 11-30-21
2:00pm Somerville Chamber of Commerce Awards
4:00pm Fit-4-Life Video #4
7:00pm City Council Meeting - LIVE

Friday, December 10

12:30am Dilboy Field Ribbon Cutting 11-19-21
12:45am Mental Health Resources
1:00am HONK! 2021
2:00am COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA

6:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
6:42am Mental Health Resources
7:00am The Bilingual Brain Benefits of Bilingualism
8:16am Transgender Day of Remembrance 2021
8:30am City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan
9:00am Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
10:00am Chair Yoga w Chris
10:30am Senior Circuit
11:00am Fit-4-Life Video #4
11:30am School Committee Meeting 12-6-21
2:30pm Somerville Chamber of Commerce Awards
4:10pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #2
5:00pm Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021
5:30pm Veterans Day Remembrance at Milk Row
5:50pm Mental Health Resources
6:00pm The Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope
7:00pm Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone
8:04pm Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
8:40pm City Hall Menorah Lighting 2021
9:00pm Traffic Board Public Hearing 12-1-21
11:01pm COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
11:45pm SPD Ride Along

Saturday, December 11

12:00am Somerville Chamber of Commerce Awards
2:00am City Hall Menorah Lighting 2021
2:30am Winter Hill Walking Tour
6:30am Somerville Chamber of Commerce Awards
8:10am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II
9:00am City Hall Menorah Lighting 2021
9:30am City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan
10:00am Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
11:00am Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7
11:30am SPL Gardening - Summer's Bounty pt. 1
12:00pm Finance Committee Meeting 11-30-21
1:15pm SPD Ride Along
1:30pm The Bilingual Brain Benefits of Bilingualism
3:00pm Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone
4:04pm Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #6
4:31pm Traffic Board Public Hearing 12-1-21

6:33pm Transgender Day of Remembrance 2021
7:00pm School Committee Meeting 12-6-21
10:00pmThe Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope
11:00pm Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021
11:30pm City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan

Sunday, December 12

12:00am Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
12:34am Climate Forward Presentations
2:30am Raising Families- Vaping 3-7-19
6:30am Winter Hill Walking Tour
7:45am Mental Health Resources
7:55am Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone
9:00am SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
10:30am Connecting Communities
11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #2
11:30am City Hall Menorah Lighting 2021
12:00pmSenior Circuit: Benefits of Music & Movement
12:30pm Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
1:04pm Climate Forward Presentations
3:00pm HONK! 2021
4:00pm Chair Yoga w Chris
4:30pm Somerville Chamber of Commerce Awards
6:30pm Connecting Communities
7:00pm Senior Circuit
7:30pm City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan
8:00pm City Council Meeting 12-9-21

Monday, December 13

12:30am Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021
1:00am Finance Committee Meeting 11-30-21
2:12am PorchFest 2021
6:00am The Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope
7:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
8:00am City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan
8:30am Raising Families- Vaping 3-7-19
9:00am SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
10:30amSenior Circuit: Benefits of Music & Movement
11:00am Fit 4 Life Home Workout #7
11:30am City Council Meeting 12-9-21
4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #2

4:30pm Winter Hill Walking Tour
6:00pm Somerville Chamber of Commerce Awards
7:40pm SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake
8:00pm City Hall Menorah Lighting 2021
8:30pm Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
9:04pm SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
10:30pm City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan
11:00pm COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
11:45pm SPD Ride Along

Tuesday, December 14

12:00am Traffic Board Public Hearing 12-1-21
2:01am Dilboy Field Ribbon Cutting 11-19-21
2:15am The Bilingual Brain Benefits of Bilingualism
6:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice III
7:00am Somerville Chamber of Commerce Awards
8:40am SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake
9:00am Connecting Communities
9:30am Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone
11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #3
11:30am Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021
12:00pm Senior Circuit
12:25pm Mabel And Jerry - Senior Story
1:00pm Somerville Chamber of Commerce Awards
3:00pm COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
3:45pm Mental Health Resources
4:00pm Fit-4-Life Video #4
4:30pm Climate Webinar Climate Resilience & Health
5:30pm City Council Spotlight - Jesse Clingan
6:01pm Veterans' Day Ceremony 2021
6:30pm SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
8:00pm Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone
9:05pm Veterans Day Remembrance at Milk Row
9:30pm Traffic Board Public Hearing 12-1-21
11:31pm Dilboy Field Ribbon Cutting 11-19-21
11:45pm SPD Ride Along

Wednesday, December 15

12:00am Transgender Day of Remembrance 2021
12:30amThe Roundhouse and the Architecture of Hope
1:30am Somerville Chamber of Commerce Awards

Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, December 8

7:00am SHS Football vs Cambridge 11-25-21
9:00am SHS Fall Sports Rally 11-24-21
9:30am Dilboy Field Ribbon Cutting 11-19-21
10:00am Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
11:00am SHS Girls Basketball Alumni Scrimmage
12:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden 1-21-20
2:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs MC 12-14-10
4:00pm SHS Boys Basketball JV Blue vs White 4-6-21
6:00pm SHS Football vs Cambridge 11-25-21
8:00pm SHS Fall Sports Rally 11-24-21
8:30pm Dilboy Field Ribbon Cutting 11-19-21
9:00pm Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
10:00pm SHS Girls Basketball Alumni Scrimmage
11:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden 1-21-20

Thursday, December 9

12:15am SHS Boys Basketball vs MC 12-14-10
2:10am SHS Boys Basketball JV Blue vs White 4-6-21
7:00am School Committee Meeting 12-6-21
10:00am Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
11:00am SHS Girls Basketball Alumni Scrimmage
12:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett 3-26-21
1:30pmHealey Community Play Area Ribbon-Cutting
2:00pm SHS Girls Basketball @ Everett 3-31-21
3:30pm SHS Fall Sports Rally 11-24-21
4:00pm SHS Football vs Cambridge 11-25-21
6:00pm School Committee Meeting 12-6-21

9:00pm Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
10:00pm SHS Girls Basketball Alumni Scrimmage
11:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett 3-26-21

Friday, December 10

12:30am SHS Girls Highlander Basketball 2013-14
1:06am SHS Girls Basketball @ Everett 3-31-21
2:30am SHS Fall Sports Rally 11-24-21
7:00am Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
8:00am SHS Fall Sports Rally 11-24-21
9:00am SHS Girls Basketball Alumni Scrimmage
10:00am SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
11:30am SHS Boys Basketball vs Medford 1-19-20
1:00pm School Committee Meeting 12-6-21
4:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden 1-21-20
5:30pm Dilboy Field Ribbon Cutting 11-19-21

Saturday, December 11

12:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Greater Lowell Tech
2:00am Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
3:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Greater Lowell Tech
8:00am SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
9:00am Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
10:00am SHS Girls Basketball Alumni Scrimmage
11:00am Dilboy Field Ribbon Cutting 11-19-21
12:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Greater Lowell Tech
2:00pm School Committee Meeting 12-6-21
6:00pm SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
7:00pm Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa

8:00pm SHS Girls Basketball Alumni Scrimmage
9:00pm Dilboy Field Ribbon Cutting 11-19-21
10:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Greater Lowell Tech

Sunday, December 12

12:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Greater Lowell Tech
1:30am SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
2:30am SHS Boys' Basketball at Billerica 3-1-19
8:00am All-City Middle School Concert 12-9-21
10:00am SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
11:00am Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
12:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Greater Lowell Tech
2:00pm SHS Girls Basketball Alumni Scrimmage
3:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Billerica 3-1-19
5:00pm Highlander Girls Basketball 2018-19
5:30pm Highlander Boys Basketball 2018-19
6:00pm All-City Middle School Concert 12-9-21
8:00pm SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
9:00pm Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
10:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Greater Lowell Tech

Monday, December 13

12:00am SHS Girls Basketball Alumni Scrimmage
1:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Billerica 3-1-19
7:00am School Committee Meeting 12-6-21
9:30am All-City Middle School Concert 12-9-21
11:00am SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
12:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Greater Lowell Tech
2:00pm Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa

3:00pm SHS Football vs Cambridge 11-25-21
5:00pm SHS Girls Basketball Alumni Scrimmage
6:00pm School Committee Meeting 12-6-21
8:30pm All-City Middle School Concert 12-9-21
10:00pm SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
11:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Greater Lowell Tech

Tuesday, December 14

1:00am Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
2:00am SHS Football vs Cambridge 11-25-21
4:00am SHS Girls Basketball Alumni Scrimmage
7:00am All-City Middle School Concert 12-9-21
9:00am School Committee Meeting 12-6-21
11:00am SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
12:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Greater Lowell Tech
2:00pm Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
3:00pm SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
5:00pm SHS Girls Basketball Alumni Scrimmage
6:00pm All-City Middle School Concert 12-9-21
8:00pm School Committee Meeting 12-6-21
10:00pm SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21
11:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Greater Lowell Tech

Wednesday, December 15

1:00am Christmas Tree Lighting & Visit from Santa
2:00am SHS Ribbon Cutting 12-8-21

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Somerville artist

Yildiz Grodowski:

An abstract, narrative painter tells her story

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Carolynn Kingyens is the author of two poetry collections, *Before the Big Bang Makes a Sound* and the newly released *Coupling* (November 2021), both by Kelsay Books. In addition to poetry, Kingyens writes published essays, book and film reviews, micro fiction and short stories. She lives in New York and Canada with her husband and their two beautiful, kind, and very creative daughters. Here's a link to *Coupling* on Amazon: https://www.amazon.com/Coupling-Carolynn-Kingyens/dp/1639800549/ref=sr_1_6?keywords=coupling&qid=1637736908&s=books&sr=1-6



Vacation Bible School

We sang songs
in Vacation Bible School
about how Jesus
loved the little children
of the world:
*Red and yellow,
black and white
they are precious
in His sight,
the song goes.*

And we sang songs
about Father Abraham,
and his many sons,
marching around the room
in perfect unison:
all of us, soldiers for Christ.

We drank Jim Jones-colored
punch and ate *no-frills*
butter cookies;

finger painted Noah
and his rescued animals:
elephants, giraffes,
their heads, two at a time,
sticking out round holes —
windows we created
on paper
in the brown-colored ark.

We painted a bluish-green
flood with bloated bodies

"As a visual artist and a dancer, I find many connections between abstract painting and improvisational dance. Just as I let the music move me from within, I allow my artistic intuition to bring my brush to life.
"I make art because I don't know how to live without creating. The foundation of my art is connections. I aim to communicate the essence of a relationship or place with my visual language. In my art, ideas and expressions are more important than the materials. My goal is to transport the viewer to a place, person or moment in their life."
— Yildiz Grodowski

I met Yildiz Grodowski on a cool morning at my usual hangout, the Neighborhood Restaurant in Union Square, Somerville. Grodowski is originally from Turkey, but now resides in Somerville, and has a shared space at the Vernon Street Studios, a well-known artists venue in our burg.
Grodowski used to live in Cambridge. She views Somerville as "Cambridge without an attitude." She told me she used to be a sculptor but switched to painting. She said she had to downsize. The space required for sculpture was daunting. She reflected, "I don't miss it, once I made the decision I didn't look back." The artist told me she took a workshop, and gradually began to see the freedom she could experience with painting.
Grodowski, who has an MFA from the Istanbul State Academy of the Arts, as well as Boston University, told me that she is also a dancer. She was into competitive dance. Her special interests are in ballroom dancing and other styles. She told me she especially liked to dance the Tango. She reflected, "There is movement in dance, and intuitively I think that sense of music is in my paintbrush."
I asked Grodowski about her artistic process. I told her I often give up on a poem if it is not working. But not her. She told me, "I work with water-



color and acrylics. I play with ideas, there may be a struggle, but eventually I meet the roadblock head on, and eventually come up with something good."
Grodowski describes her paintings as narratives of her life, from her childhood in Turkey, to her many years in the United States.
I asked the artist if she feels art is more appreciated in Turkey than the United States. She opined, "I feel art is appreciated more in Europe in general. Perhaps art is viewed more as a commodity in the states."
The artist has a shared space at the Vernon Street Studios (once a foam rubber plant). She told me, "I am very pleased to be there. I love the community there."
Grodowski talked about the disparity between men and women in the arts. It seems to her that even today the gap between genders is still prevalent. Male artists' work commands higher prices, and in general they are more respected in the art world than women. I asked her if she was a feminist. She smiled, "Yes, I hope you are, aren't you?"
Grodowski will have an exhibit of her work through November and December 2021: JUMP IN!, Galerie d'Orsay, 33 Newbury Street, Boston, MA. <https://www.yildizgrodowski.com/>

sprinkled into swirls
of aquamarine.

For added drama,
Paul Simmons drew a hand

reaching out
from under water
like Peter did to Jesus
when he started sinking
due to lack of faith.

Years later, Timmy Ainsley
would shoot himself

in the mouth
after he came out
to his parents
about his love

for Paul Simmons.

There was a rumor
some blood

and brain tissue
landed on Timmy's
Top Gun
poster,
the one where Tom Cruise
mugs beside a motorcycle.

And I heard little Regina
Hopely, Bethel's Christmas
Pageant Mary,
became a meth addict;
covered in sores
and begging, like Lazarus,
on the cold streets
of Fishtown.

— Carolynn Kingyens



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