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Somerville's original independent newspaper

The Somerville Times

VOL. 9 NO. 6

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2021

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



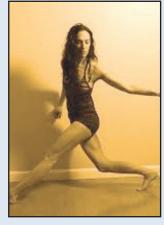
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Climate Forward Ambassadors on the future of the environment



Representatives from Somerville's Climate Forward Ambassador program recently held their kickoff webinar event to inform the public about climate change issues.

By Max Eidelman

Somerville's Climate Forward Ambassador program hosted its first of four scheduled webinars last Thursday. Hannah Payne and Oliver Sellers-Garcia of the city's Office of Sustainability and Environment led the webinar, which ended with a Q&A session.

As stated on the city's website, "The Somerville Climate Forward Ambassador program is designed to empower Somerville residents to take action on climate change in their community." This webinar provided a summary of the current state of climate change's effect on the city and studies of what can be done in response to it. The upcoming webinars will address the details of specific efforts that can be made to address the threat of climate change.

Payne and Sellers-Garcia displayed a variety of charts and metrics to quantify the effect of climate change. One of the Continued on page 4

Have a great idea on how to teach math? These teachers do!

By Erica Voolich

Many teachers have great ideas on how to make their classrooms a better place for their students to learn math. The teachers' ideas frequently outrun the budget schools have for supplies and their own ability to subsidize their classroom. The Somerville Mathematics Fund tries to fill this need through the generosity of

This year has been an unusual year. The Somerville Public School buildings have been closed since last March. Teachers who won Somerville Math Fund grants last year were just receiving or ordering their materials when everything changed because of the pandemic. We allowed the teachers to adjust their orders from classroom materials to materials for home remote learning. We still don't have an actual date for the Somerville students and teachers to be physically back in their classrooms. It was hard year for teachers to plan, as a Continued on page 9



The Somerville Math Fund has been supporting the city's mathematics teachers by awarding grants out of appreciation for their hard work and dedication.

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

Happy Valentine's Day to all our readers and fans. We hope everyone has a great day with their significant other or with close family and friends. Enjoy the day!

The City of Somerville did not join the Commonwealth in raising capacity limits on Monday, February 8 for certain businesses. Capacity limits in Somerville businesses will remain at 25% or the limit set in the business's city-approved health and safety plan until further notice. Somerville also continues to hold the limit on attendance at outdoor gatherings to stricter levels than the Commonwealth with no more than 10 persons until further notice. The limit applies to both indoor and outdoor gatherings of any kind unless otherwise specifically permitted in city activity-specific guidelines.

Registration is now open for Somerville 3000, a free online February vacation program for Somerville youth. Blast off for a futuristic week of engaging activities to explore what life might look like in the next millennium. Activities will be offered Tuesday, February 16, through Friday, February 19, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Animate aliens, write out-of-thisworld songs, and more with the Somerville Media Center, Farrington Nature Linc, Parts and Crafts, Somerville Arts for Youth, the Beautiful Stuff Project, and Parkour Generations Boston. Come to one class or all of them, and bring your friends along to join the fun. Brought to you by SomerSocial, SomerPromise, the City of Somerville, Somerville Public Schools, and the Somerville Education Foundation. Sign up now at somersocial.com.

Happy birthday this week to the following: Happy birthday to Patricia Latham. We wish Patty the best on her birthday. Happy birthday to a **Cheryle Snow**. We wish Cheryle the very best on her birthday. Happy birthday to a well-known commercial real estate agent, Bernard Gibbons. Continued on page 7

The Somerville Times

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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of February 10 – February 16 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
Wednesday February 10	Sunny	32°/13°	6%	5%	NW 11 mph
Thursday February 11	Partly Cloudy	29°/8°	5%	3%	NW 13 mph
Friday February 12	Partly Cloudy	24°/9°	3%	2%	NW 9 mph
Saturday February 13	Partly Cloudy	27°/12°	14%	11%	NNW 8 mph
Sunday February 14	Snow	31°/11°	71%	32%	N 10 mph
Monday February 15	Sunny	21°/8°	6%	5%	WNW 15 mph
Tuesday February 16	Snow	28°/20°	34%	19%	NNW 8 mph
	Wednesday February 10 Thursday February 11 Friday February 12 Saturday February 13 Sunday February 14 Monday February 15 Tuesday	Wednesday February 10 Thursday February 11 Friday February 12 Saturday February 13 Sunday February 14 Monday February 15 Tuesday Sunny Sunny	Wednesday February 10Sunny32°/13°Thursday February 11Partly Cloudy29°/8°Friday February 12Partly Cloudy24°/9°Saturday February 13Partly Cloudy27°/12°Sunday February 14Snow31°/11°Monday February 15Sunny21°/8°TuesdaySnow28°/20°	Wednesday February 10Sunny32°/13°6%Thursday February 11Partly Cloudy29°/8°5%Friday February 12Partly Cloudy24°/9°3%Saturday 	Wednesday February 10 Sunny 32°/13° 6% 5% Thursday February 11 Partly Cloudy 29°/8° 5% 3% Friday February 12 Partly Cloudy 24°/9° 3% 2% Saturday February 13 Partly Cloudy 27°/12° 14% 11% Sunday February 14 Snow 31°/11° 71% 32% Monday February 15 Sunny 21°/8° 6% 5% Tuesday Snow 28°/20° 34% 19%

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 City Council meeting update

TO'B says:

Have our astute Councilors ever taken into consideration the following things they've instituted that create rat infestations?

Raising chickens in backyards

Putting out garbage for 'compost' on the sidewalk

Not emptying barrels regularly at playgrounds and walking paths

Making developers place porta potties at sites, sometimes leaving them there for as long as 2 years Providing 'rodent proof' barrels that are not rodent proof

I'm sure there are other causes, but this is a start.

Response to: Attempted road trip goes south

Jaxson Allen says:

If the person is suffering from any mental disease then he/she can consume marijuana. But in this situation, a medical marijuana card is used in the wrong way.

Response to: John Adams doesn't trust you

Holly Samuelson says:

I strongly believe that we need better checks and balances for decisions about our schools. Somerville's decisions on school buildings has been out of line with nearly all the other school districts in the state, and their immediate disqualification of using fan-assisted natural ventilation in warm weather in certain classrooms during COVID is unwarranted according to expert guidelines, including those from the Harvard School of Public Health. This is just one example of a situation in which we need more than one voice in the decision process.

Gordon says:

I am glad Mayor Curtatone is standing strong against foolish parents who want to run a giant medical experiment on my children, the children of Somerville, and SPS staff.

That being said, the charter review is long overdue and making the Mayor less strong will be good for Somerville.

Frustrated Parent Screaming into the Void says:

We need better checks and balances in the city where one persons controls everything. Thank you Councilor McLaughlin for so clearly illustrating what immense power the Mayor has here. Curtatone has gone unchecked too long and his actions are devastating to the children in this city. It is time for this charter review to happen.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

Life in the VILLE by Jimmy Del Ponte

Memories of SHS Auditorium, Part 1



I can't explain how sad, mad and melancholy I was when I heard that they tore down the Somerville High School Auditorium (the news was circulating

on social media) No! The historic auditorium where so many of us spent time at concerts, plays, lectures, and school assemblies? The auditorium where the great big S hovered over the stage? Some say it's gone, some say it survived. At this writing I'm still unsure.

I first stepped on the SHS auditorium stage in 1968 when I was a sharecropper in Project STAR's production of *Finian's Rainbow*. Then in 1969 I played the Artful Dodger in *Oliver*. My last show there was in 2009, when Project Star presented my original musical, *Back in The Ville*. My dear friend Sophia Carafotes was assistant director and so much more (and you will hear that name again in this story).

My years in Glee Clubs and choruses during high school (Class of '71) were crazy and fun. Whether it's still there or not, and I'm pretty sure it is, maybe, here are some of the stories that former SHS students told us about the auditorium:

"When I was a junior, I used to sign up for every college speaker talking to prospective students - to get out of Algebra 2 class. I hated that class so I pretended I had an interest in any college that came to SHS to talk to juniors. Those meetings were in the auditorium - The best memories are with award nights and chorus concerts with Mrs. Mary Carafotes."

"Held the football rally there every year for the Thanksgiving Day football game."

"1969 All City string concert. I played violin. Guido Antonelli was my instructor. Constantine Limberakis (Rest in Peace) was the City Music Director."

"Great memories of chorus concerts, musicals, assemblies and performing with my band at talent shows. Those experiences convinced me to enter a career in music education. Many thanks to Andy Smith, Mary Carafotes (beloved music teachers, rest in peace) and all my friends."

"When Rex Trailer came to the auditorium to pitch the trip to California. We had something like 42 kids go. We had a really great time. That was in 1974."

"I was there when Ted Kennedy came and promised to try to make mamajuana legal, 69-70."

"Ooh, forgot about glee club concerts, including hosting Northeast District competition."

"So many glee club and chorus performances. *Paint Your Wagon* and *South Pacific*. Jazz band. So many great memories, many with you my friend."

"Smoke breaks in that little room up-



stairs from the stage."

"Kiwanis talent show for years, Project Star plays and musicals, drama club plays, I think 2 fashion show things."

"Bunch of plays, chorus concerts, senior year a bunch of us fell off the back of risers during performance, pep rally bunch of us guys dressed up like cheerleaders with water balloons under our tops, I have more."

"Lovers leap in the stairway Stage left."

"Glee club ... Christmas concert ... senior year ... singing Carol of the Bells ... still my favorite Xmas song."

"I was about 6 or maybe 7. Santa arrived, they had kids come up on stage to sing Christmas carols. I sang alone, it started out wonderful, then stage fright and I forgot the words. Silver Bells, Silver

Bells its Christmas time in the city that's all I could remember. I must have sung just that portion quite a few times before a very caring- loving woman rescued me and joined in ... that was Mrs. Carafotes. Many years later, I had her as my teacher. Silver Bells has always been one of my favorites."

"Every Christmas season, I remember the time with fond memories. Mrs. C and I got to relive the moment every year as I journeyed through high school."

"Ok, here's a memory from a Talent show in 1975. My brother was in a skit called Leader of the Pack where they rode Big Wheels on stage with that song playing in the background. Just remember the audience laughing their heads off."

Continued on page 9

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NOTICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

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

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

By Jim Clark

Rolling wreck taken off the streets

Somerville Police officers were dispatched to the Dunkin' Donuts location on Somerville Ave. last Thursday on reports of an unwanted vehicle in their parking lot.

Upon arrival, the officers found a motor home parked sideways taking up four spots in the parking lot with the left front tire off the rim.

Inside the vehicle, the officers located two individuals, Candall Smith and Damion Kirksey, who they had spoken to earlier in the day.

On their first interaction with the pair, the store manager had called for a tow truck and both Kirksey and Smith reportedly refused to get out of the vehicle.

While on scene, the officers were able to speak with the store

manager and convinced her to give Kirksey more time to fix the tire on the motor home.

Kirksey was advised that if he was still in the parking lot and the police were called again then his vehicle would be towed.

During the second incident, both parties also refused to get out the vehicle after a tow truck was called to tow the vehicle away.

The officers repeatedly tried to speak with Kirksey and Smith in order to come up with a solution in order to not tow the vehicle. However, both parties refused to get out of the vehicle or open the door. At one point, Smith started the vehicle and revved the engine a few times before turning it off.

While continuing to come up with a solution to tow the vehicle, both parties rolled the window up and refused to speak with officers.

The officers advised Kirksey and Smith that they were trespassing and ordered both parties to step out the vehicle, and that they were under arrest. At this time Smith reportedly stated, "You are not taking my vehicle." She started the vehicle again and started revving the engine.

The, with the left front tire off the rim, Smith put the motor home in drive and started driving away, almost striking a bicyclist and vehicles that were stopped on Somerville Ave at the intersection of Somerville Ave and Prospect St.

Due to heavy traffic in the area, the condition, and size of the vehicle, officers tried stopping the vehicle with their emergency lights and sirens activated. However, Smith continued driving away before coming to a stop at a Washington St. gas station.

According to reports, before the vehicle came to a stop, Smith made a sharp left turn, cutting off two lanes of traffic.

While at the gas station, both Kirksey and Smith refused to open the doors to the motor home as officers ordered them out the vehicle in a loud and clear voice.

Officers had to break both front windows and physically remove both parties. While outside the vehicle, Smith had her dog in her hand and refused to let it go. In the process, she choked the dog with one of her hands wrapped in and around its collar. After getting the dog away from Smith, she was placed in handcuffs.

Smith was placed under arrest on charges of animal cruelty, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, trespassing and resisting arrest, and on a warrant charge of receiving a stolen motor vehicle.

Kirksey was placed under arrest on charges of trespassing and resisting arrest.

Both Kirksey and Smith were transported to the Somerville Police Department to be booked and fingerprinted.

While conducting a damage and inventory of the motor home, it was determined that it was filled with trash and dog feces, both in the front and in the back of the motor home.

Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-721

Arrests:

Damion Kirksey, February 4, 2:29 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on charges of trespassing and resisting arrest.

Candall Smith, February 4, 2:29 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on charges of animal cruelty, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, trespassing and resisting arrest, and on a warrant charge of receiving a stolen motor vehicle.

Ricardo Fields, February 4, 11:07 p.m., arrested at Medford St. on a charge of assault lin St. on charges of leaving and battery with a dangerous

Emily Martin, February 6, 1:12 a.m., arrested at Frank-

the scene of property damage and operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of

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Climate Forward Ambassadors on the future of the environment

CONT. FROM PG 1

first was a graph charting the rise in carbon dioxide levels over the past century up to the time of the meeting, at which point it was at 416 PPM. This means for every million particles of air, there were 416 particles of carbon dioxide. Payne said this rise in levels can "only be explained by human action," as opposed to natural causes.

Payne referred to a clever visual of a bucket being filled with water to describe the concept of a "carbon budget." The concept is to limit the total amount of carbon being emitted in the atmosphere, i.e., how much carbon can we "spend." The graphic

depicts water filling a bucket, which is intended to reflect the rising level of carbon emissions filling the atmosphere. If the bucket overflows, the carbon budget has been surpassed.

Perhaps it goes without saying that we do not want to see the bucket overflow, but the numbers predict that the bucket will overflow in ten years based on current patterns. Despite the pessimistic outlook, though, Payne reminded the attendees that at least "we know what the problem is, and we have the tools to fix it." It's a matter of people actually acting upon the information.

Sellers-Garcia presented a chart

that outlined specific areas of the city's infrastructure in terms of the volume of their emissions. The chart shows that about 2/3 of city's total emissions come from buildings (e.g., heating and electric utilities), 1/3 from transportation within the city, and a tiny portion from waste.

With this information as context, Sellers-Garcia presented additional charts that map the potential effects different courses of action might have on impacting climate change within the city. The model suggests that switching the means of fuel in the transportation arena could be the most effective means of attaining carbon neutrality in the city.

Among possible realities that the city may confront if efforts aren't made to curb emissions is the potential for the region to see perhaps 90 days of weather over 90 degrees per year by 2070. Being New Englanders, we may at first laugh at something like this being considered a bad thing, but it truly is a testament to just how drastic a change many of us can possibly experience in our lifetime.

While most people in our area understand the reality of global warming and its threat, the webinar offered numbers, diagrams, and all the science that

ought to incentivize folks to actively try to curb their impact on emissions.

There are three more of these webinars scheduled that are intended to address solutions and the relation between public health and the climate. They are available to the public and can be attended via Zoom. For further information about how to attend the webinar or for additional details about environmental studies being done in Somerville, you may visit the Ambassador's page on the city's website at https:// www.somervillema.gov/departments/programs/climate-forward-ambassadors.

City addresses use of surveillance technology

By Joe Creason

On Thursday, February 4, the Somerville City Council held its Legislative Matters Committee meeting.

The primary focus of the meeting was to discuss specific provisions within a surveillance technology ordinance passed by the City Council last year. The ordinance, which was drafted to create a policy around the acquisition and use of surveillance technology by various city departments, had revisions added by councilors looking to ensure more oversight of the city's security.

The Surveillance Use Policy outlines a series of approved purposes where the use of technology, such as cameras and other sophisticated data collection tools, is appropriate. City departments may use surveillance technology in a variety of situations including identifying and preventing threats to persons and property, identifying and prosecuting criminal offenders, providing information to emergency personnel, documenting



and improving performance of city employees, preventing waste, fraud, and abuse of city resources, analyzing and managing service delivery, gathering evidence on violations of the law and more.

In order for a city department to get approved for the use of surveillance technology in a way that is not already authorized in the Surveillance Use Policy, they must first be approved by the mayor and then their request for use is to be submitted to the City Council for approval.

"This language was added to clarify the bigger picture of this process and reiterate that this is in fact the procedure these documents go through," Legislative Liaison Lauren Racaniello said.

An annual service report describing all existing surveillance equipment, data, and actions will be submitted to the City Council 12 months after the effective date of the ordinance. Each city Department using surveillance technology will have a compliance officer who is responsible for the oversight of surveillance use and the completion of any documentation outlined in the Surveillance Use Policy. Impact reports will be required for each proposed acquisition or use of surveillance technology.

Somerville Alliance for Safe Streets to host Somerville Safe Streets Summit: Safety and Equitable Mobility for All

On Sunday, February 28, the Somerville Alliance for Safe Streets (SASS) will hold a virtual public summit focused on the safety issues faced by Somerville's street users. In just the past two years, four pedestrians were killed by drivers and at least 160 pedestrians and cyclists were injured in crashes with motorists. This is far too many incidents for a Vision Zero city that is committed to eliminating deaths and serious injuries from vehicle crashes.

SASS, made up of residents, parents, vulnerable street and sidewalk users, business owners, and public officials, was formed to raise awareness about street safety and push City leaders to honor the community's shared values and stated commitments to safety, accessibility, equitable investment, and to mitigate the effects of climate change.

SASS has created a Declaration and Call to Action, available for review at https://tinyurl.com/ SASSdeclarationThe Declaration was submitted to City Council with over 200 signatures, and will be discussed at the Council meeting on February 11. Somerville residents, business owners and street users are encouraged to sign on. Over two hundred residents have already committed to attending the Summit.

The Safe Streets Summit will roll out the Declaration and Call to Action, feature the experiences of multiple community members, and outline requests of the Mayor and the City Council. The Summit will demonstrate broad public support for more resources to tackle the backlog of recommendations from Somerville's many visions and action plans that, if implemented, will advance the cause of safety and equity.

All are invited to attend the virtual Summit on Safe Streets, Sunday, February 28, 4:00-5:00 p.m. Please consider signing on to the Call to Action when you register by going to https://tinyurl.com/ SASSsignon. For more information, please contact SASS at somervillesafestreets@gmail.com.



The Somerville Times **Historical Fact of the Week**

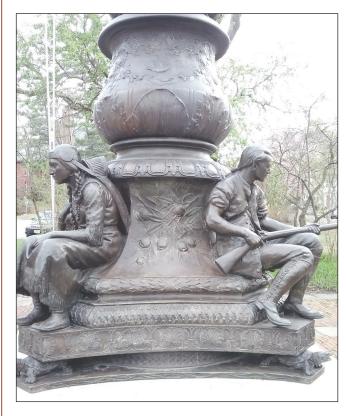


Eagle Feathers #223

Border Crossing

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

The City of Somerville has much more in common with the Town of Arlington than the bordering Alewife Brook and their ongoing athletic rivalries. In 1842, when Somerville broke away from Charlestown, a large section of her land was seeded to Arlington making them geographic blood brothers. Vaguely measured, this area ran from Broadway to the Mystic River and west to Arlington's Morningside border with Winchester.



One intriguing relationship with the two communities was between a world-renowned Arlington sculptor, Cyrus Dallin, and a Somerville family of bronze founders, the T.F. McGann & Sons Company.

The Mc Gann's also had Arlington roots. Their Vine Street company created life-sized and colossal statuaries, busts, reliefs, and war memorials in dozens of cities and towns. Their creations are found in parks, public buildings, cemeteries, bridges, and museums across the northeast. They honored soldiers, sailors and civilians and the Smithsonian's database has tracked nearly 75 of their municipal monuments. Some of their works were in Somerville's own back yard.



- + The Spanish War Monument in front of Somerville's main library.
- The former Wilson Memorial Fountain on the Central Hill Concourse.
- + The landmark Elk Statue which was at the corner of Highland Avenue at Central Street now resides at the Wakefield Elks Lodge overlooking Route 128.

Cyrus Dallin, a famous American

Continued on page 12

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The views and opinions expressed in the commentaries and letters to the Editor of The Somerville Times do not reflect the views and opinions of The Somerville Times, its publishers or staff. Readers are invited to send letters to the editor to The Somerville Times. Please email your letters to News@TheSomervilleTimes.com or mail them to 699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144. The Somerville Times Reserves the right to edit letters for style, grammar and length. All letters must include an name and contact information. Contact information will not be shared with the public. We look forward to hearing from you.

I am writing about the Spring Hill sewer separation project, which you have previously covered. Please note that the views expressed herein represent my own views as a private citizen and Somerville resident. I write to call on Mayor Curtatone to include protected bicycle lanes (PBLs) on Highland Avenue as part of the separation project street reconstruction.

The current plan does not include PBLs on Highland Avenue, the busiest and, based upon crash data, the most dangerous street in the initial project area.

Biking is my preferred mode of transit, particularly in these times of the COVID-19 pandemic. My ability to bike to work and to destinations around town helps make Somerville an affordable place for me to live. I plan routes based upon a number of factors including the availability of PBLs or bike paths and choose the lowest stress routes I possibly can.

When I venture down Highland, usually for business at the Central Hill Campus, dropping off a ballot in these times, or prior to the pandemic, meetings at City Hall, I find biking on Highland to be a harrowing experience. There is the ever-present threat of dooring from parked cars, the poor condition of the road, particularly on the right-hand side, the presence of traffic passing too close to me and I have had many stressful close encounters attempting to turn onto adjacent streets.

At one point, I found it even more stressful to "share" Highland with cars while biking with my bicycle trailer attached, carrying a load as part of a mutual aid delivery. The additional space required to accommodate my trailer meant traffic passed even closer. I can only imagine how harrowing the experience might be for parents biking with wider bikes to accommodate children or parents accompanying their children as they bike in the street, let alone how scary the road might be for the students who need to take it as part of their route to school.

I also recognize the dangers of Highland as a pedestrian. I've actually had to help families with strollers stop traffic so they could cross the street and while running, I routinely take to running in the street because of the condition of the sidewalk.

The current plans for the reconstruction of Highland and the road's current condition are particularly disappointing and frustrating for several reasons:

+ Somerville committed to Vision Zero, but it is unclear how these goals can be reconciled with the current plan for Highland.

• In 2014, Somerville became the first municipality in Massachusetts to pass a Complete Streets Ordinance, but it is unclear how the current plan for Highland is consistent with this ordinance given that even the adjacent Community Path requires north-south infrastructure and connecting infrastructure (also not included in the plan) to make it a viable part of the solution.

- Somerville committed to climate goals, but it is unclear how these goals can be reconciled with the current plan for Highland
- · Bike facilities preclude neither pedestrian-friendly nor infrastructure improvements for buses.
- The lack of bike facilities on Highland reduces a sizable customer base for struggling local businesses since I and other cyclists tend to frequent stores where we can bike and park. To put this in perspective, a typical bike coral the size of a vehicle parking spot can accommodate 6 - 12 bikes, which can potentially translate to 6 - 12 customers. COVID-19 bicycle deliv-

ery programs demonstrate how powerful being bike friendly can be to local busi-

Somerville had four people killed by drivers in motor vehicles in the past two years. I'm thankful every time I get to my destination in one piece.

I feel that how we appropriate public space is a measure of what we value as a community. I recently found myself on a new protected bike lane in the nearby area. I was excited but my visceral reaction was, "why does it always take someone dying to make a seemingly impossible bike lane possible?" I wonder, is this how our community operates, does this reflect our values? I think not. Safety, equity, accessibility for all ages and abilities, these are what I value and what our community values. I think this wrenching time can also be our moment of pause, our moment of doing better. So, I call on Mayor Curtatone to not only rise to the occasion, but rise above the occasion and ensure that the re-design of Highland Avenue includes protected bike lanes.

Sincerely, Ted Feldman Somerville

Dear Somerville Times Editor,

I'm writing to you today in regards to the planned roadway reconstruction on Highland Ave, a story that I believe is an important topic to be covering given the many people it effects and how easily it can slide under the radar.

During the Spring Hill Sewer Separation Project Update webinar at the end of last year, the City presented their plans for the renovated streetscape they will install starting later this year. The design, as it currently stands, does not include any bicycle facilities whatsoever

on Highland Ave.

Highland Ave is a major east-west artery for the City, and a critical route for cyclists. I frequently bike on the street (to visit the Library, City services, and local businesses), and feel in constant danger when I do. And for one of me, there are many others who choose not to bike at all because they fear for their lives when on Highland Ave. There is space—there is always space. It's a matter of priorities. The City has stated again and again that one of their major focuses is to reduce carbon emissions by encouraging people to bike, walk, and take transit more. They also consistently show that in surveys, people want protected cycling infrastructure. They even complete studies that show there is ample parking. Yet, time and time again, they create streets that go against these principles in favor of the

I call on Mayor Curtatone to direct his team to create a new design for Highland Ave that included protected bike lanes, while also maintaining the needed transit and pedestrian improvements.

There are legitimate issues to be discussed around how best to make Highland ave safe for cyclists. However, with so many essential services on Highland Ave, simply pretending that cyclists can avoid this road is irresponsible and will get someone killed. The question is: does the City value sustainable transportation, human lives, and vulnerable residents? I really hope the answer is yes.

All the best, Aaron Greiner Somerville

As has been previously covered in this paper, the city is currently in the process of redesigning Highland Avenue as part of the Spring Hill sewer separation project. The new design fails to include adequate, safe bicycle infrastructure. Instead, it will feature only sharrows, requiring people on bicycles to mix in with motor traffic. This is simply insufficient to create an environment where people of all ages and abilities can bicycle. It is also inconsistent with the City of Somerville's stated goals for transportation and climate change.

As for my own experience bicycling on Highland avenue, it's simple: I don't. I

near Davis, it is a terrible street to ride on. I am often transporting my son by bicycle, but I would never consider doing this on Highland avenue. As a result, I rarely patronize any of the businesses on Highland avenue, even ones I like. The road simply offers inadequate translive nearby, but aside from a few sections portation options. Mayor Joe Curtatone

should rectify this, and take the opportunity to implement protected bicycle lanes on Highland Avenue, before an inadequate design is cemented for decades to come.

Nathan Ricci

I was disheartened to see that the Spring Hill sewer separation project plans don't include protected bicycle lanes for the rebuilt Highland Avenue. Highland is the busiest and most dangerous street in the project area, and it's also a critical route across this part of Somerville because it's the only street with a reasonable grade.

I volunteer as a math tutor [pre-

COVID] at the high school, and shop at the Armory, Highland Kitchen, LP Subs, and other Highland Ave stores. But biking on Highland never feels safe. Over 12,500 cars travel it a day, often driving more than 25 MPH. Historically, Highland Avenue has had over 100 crashes per mile. Without a protected lane, bicycle riders must travel in the car and truck

traffic, keeping right to allow passing while also avoiding the dangerous door zone of parked cars. This can't be the best infrastructure Somerville can offer on one of the main shopping and connector streets in the city. We're a Vision Zero City, meaning that we're committed to eliminating deaths and serious injuries from vehicle collisions, yet drivers have

killed four people on our streets in the last two years. Highland Ave is a chance to do better. Mayor Curtatone should stand by our city's commitments and make sure that the design for Highland Avenue includes protected bike lanes.

Arah Schuur Somerville

Dear Editor,

The upcoming reconstruction of Highland Ave. is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to improve safety on one of the busiest streets in Somerville. The City can honor commitments it has made in its ClimateForward, SomerVision, and VisionZero plans by making Highland safer for everyone.

So why is Mayor Curtatone choosing to ignore those commitments?

While the City's current redesign proposal would add some safety features for pedestrians, shockingly, it would maintain the dangerous status quo for people on bikes — that is, no protection from cars. Highland sees 12,500 cars per day, often moving faster than 25 mph, which puts it far beyond the safety threshold that calls for protected bike lanes.

Highland has so many important destinations on it - City Hall, the library, the high school, Somerville Hospital, the Armory, and beloved local businesses. We should be inviting everyone to get to these places safely, even if they don't have a car.

The mayor should scrap Somerville's

current proposal and deliver one that would make Highland safe for people of all ages and abilities. Please, let's not wait for another tragedy to say "Oops, I guess we should have addressed that when we had the chance."

Nate Kaufman Somerville

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Our View Of The Times



Valentine's Day is coming around once again, an occasion that many hold dear and cherish. For some, in fact, it is one of their favorite days of the year.

Sure, many people think it's a corny tradition. Just another gimmick to ramp up sales of candies, cards, wine and whatnot. For others, it's a special time that provides an opportunity to express their deepest affections to the one - or many - who mean so much to them.

Whatever one's personal view, it's difficult to disagree with the idea that we could all use a soft touch and a few gentle words in these times of contentious bickering and extreme divisiveness. It doesn't take a box of chocolates or a 32-stanza love poem to show a little appreciation for one's friends and family, or that one special someone.

Remember when we were kids, and part of the day was spent passing out those store-bought or handmade "Be My Valentine" cards at school? Some did so, while others didn't. Still, it was a nice ritual that brought us all a little closer and exposed us to some rudimentary social skills, so important for a developing child. What would it be like as adults to swap such tokens of sentiment with our

co-workers, colleagues, etc.? Embarrassing? Endearing? Who can say? You'll never really know unless you try it.

If nothing else, take a moment or two on this day to smile at a stranger as you pass them by. Open a door for another. Find ways to show that you have love within you. This can be far more satisfying than giving or getting a mere box of chocolates.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

We wish him the very best on his birthday. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as Laurie Herra-Bullerwell, JoAnn Bocca- Rivieccio, Rhiannon Riley, Anne Belcher, Michael Stone, Valerie Fitzpatrick, Albert Piacentini and Dave Ortega, 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.

Boston SciFi, aka The Boston Science Fiction Film Festival, is a cinematic event held every year in February. In 2021, it will be from February 10 to **15**. It will be virtual due to the Covid-19 pandemic. They will be employing at least three virtual platforms in the desire to create a unique experience. Their "skin" will be Socio Events. Ticketing and technical embedding will be hosted by FestHome. And for the Marathon, Swank Motion Pictures has given them access to their library. All films will be in high quality HD. For more info on how to join in, go to their website at https:// www.bostonscifi.com.

You can sign up to receive occasional phone calls updating you on the latest COVID-19 vaccine information, including where and how to get a vaccine. To subscribe, please visit somervillema. gov/covidvaccine or call 311. If you are already signed up to receive email and text notifications through the city's alert system you will also get this information. Again, this for people who would prefer to get vaccine updates via phone call. COVID vaccine information is also posted on the city website at somervillema.gov/CovidVaccine. You can also visit the State's vaccine website, mass.gov/ vaccine, for additional information.

It's always good to keep in mind how important it is for us to keep supporting the city's economy by shopping local, even during these difficult times. Although reopening is gradually unfolding at a measured pace, Somerville still has a lot to offer. So, let's give back to those merchants who have stuck it out through all this by giving them our business whenever we can.

Home is Where the Art is is an online exhibition of student drawings from Jessica Howard's Somerville High School's portfolio class. Artist David Campbell invited students to draw what was visually exciting and meaningful to

them in their immediate environment as part of the Art of Observation exhibit, currently installed at the Museum. To view student artworks, visit the Museum website at http://somervillemuseum.org/home-is-where-the-art-is/?fbclid=IwAR3SOX6mkieCjX7rGK-PYRPtZUIQqwp4cV_4KYzKgh7Ocwi_-Fhqh29GuUbs.

********** The Union Square Video Projection Series, curated by Andrew Ringler, features local artists whose works represent: storytelling, abstraction and dance from thirteen individual artists and artist collaboratives. Since November 2020, SAC have shown works from each group looping during the evenings, from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. The projection art is shown on a building facade in Union Square. Through February and March, they will be featuring dance-themed videos by artists: Stephanie Sherman, Michal Hall, Melissa Castro, Mike Brun, Margaret Wiss, and Carven Boursiquot. On March 3 at 6:00 p.m., join Facebook Live for a panel discussion highlighting some of the participating artists and the project curator. More details will be added to the website soon: https://somervilleartscouncil.org/projectionseries.

With support from Somerville Health Foundation, Mystic Learning Center, Somerville Education Fund and Somerville Media Center, Youth-Stream will host a youth-led, peer-organized Among Us Tournament from February 16 to 19. This tournament is free to enter for young people ages 13-19 in the Greater Somerville area, and will offer cash prizes in several categories, including several that do not require skill or prior game experience in order to win. Participant Registration Form - Among Us Tournament Winter 2021: https:// forms.gle/YNavmTFpCLwKm9sZ7. YouthStream is also recruiting youth Moderators who want to earn paid stipends for completing projects such as organizing virtual events and producing live streams. YouthStream Moderator Application Form - Peer Leader Program 2021: https://forms.gle/BcXjuE9QEjj2aTve8. Finally, if you have not already joined YouthStream's Discord Server, click this link to check out what's going on at the Villeside Digital Cultural Center and get connected for all future events: https://discord.gg/Ax-UnJdU3Nt. Continued on page 9

CROSSWORD

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's Tams 110

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

- 1. Which is the first sequel to the film Night Of The Living Dead?
- 2. Who released the song No Tears Left to *Cry* in 2018?
- 3. In season four of Parks and Recreation, what government position does Leslie Knope run for?
- 4. Which Australian Prime Minister mysteriously disappeared while swimming?
- 5. What popular diet cola first appeared in 1962?
- 6. Jambon is the French word for what

- food?
- 7. Who released the country song Female?
- 8. Where is the deepest gorge in the world?
- 9. Which war was concluded by the Treaty of Utrecht?
- 10. Whose famous tomb was opened in Egypt in 1922?
- 11. Which two countries were involved in the Louisiana Purchase?
- 12. At the end of Smells Like Teen Spirit, how many times does Kurt Cobain yell "A denial"?

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Answers on page 12

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

- 1. The San Francisco cable cars are the only mobile national monuments.
 - 2. Sugar was first added to chewing gum in 1869 by a dentist.

13

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION

ACROSS

- 1. Quiz show whistleblower, Stempel
- 5. Time std.
- 8. "____ Like it Hot" movie
- 12. Walkie-talkie word
- 13. Wild hog
- 14. Blender setting
- 15. Coniferous tree
- 16. Of long ago
- 17. Gastric problem
- 18. A show that had a Ball
- 20. Surveyor's map
- 21. Changes to a manuscript
- 22. Mai follower
- 23. Get a move on
- 26. Superman portrayer
- 29. Knot-tying words
- 30. Like unskilled work
- 33. Play with a bow
- 35. New Mexico's state flower
- 37. Will Ferrell's Christmas classic
- 38. On the radio
- 39. Nobel Peace Prize capital
- 40. Beat around the bush
- 42. Toddler
- 43. SAT administrator
- 45. Software plug-ins
- 47. Facebook photo option
- 48. Indulgence of impulses
- 50. Brees or Barrymore
- 52. "Dragnet" sergeant
- 56. Old Brazilian coins
- 57. Pakistan's official language
- 58. "Your Show of Shows" comedian

Reiner

- 59. Novelist Zola
- 60. Not made up
 - 61. "The _ __ of Night"
- 62. Extinct bird
- 63. Call minus c
- 64. Gloom's companion

DOWN

- 1. Arizona tribe
- 2. Bad to the bone
- 3. Nevada city near Lake Tahoe

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- 5. As opposed to stay in
- 6. Chagall and Anthony
- 7. 3-pointer in basketball
- 8. "Toast of the Town" host
- 9. Willy of "Free Willy"
- 10. Track event
- 11. Always, to a poet
- 13. Reference to the writer
- 14. Between larvae and adults
- 19. Allergic reaction to bee sting
- 22. ____ Aviv
- 23. Ranger's call to Silver
- 24. Sunbaked, archaically speaking
- 25. Wall or pedestal support
- 26. Kon-Tiki, e.g. 27. One of the Muses
- 28. Offspring
- 31. Getting warm

- 32. Not in good health
- 34. Tiny leftovers
- 36. Abbott's comedic partner
- 38. Online purchase
- 40. Marjorie Reynolds in "The Life of

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- Riley"
- 41. Scolding 44. Schoolmarm's whip
- 46. Defrosted
- 48. Popular winter boot brand
- 49. Put it to the metal
- 50. Audition tape
- 51. SWAT attack
- tain range
- 53. Carpenter's groove

52. France/Switzerland border moun-

- 54. Ben Affleck's 2013 Oscar winner
- 55. Original matter 56. Buttons or Skelton
- Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:



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

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

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8

OBITUARY

Rosa (Masciave) Moccia



(Masciave) Moccia passed away peacefully at home in the company of her loving family. She was 74. Born and raised in Corato, Bari, Apulia, Italy, she was the daughter of the late Nunzio and Teodora Norina (Fiore) Masciave. She came to the United Sates in 1965, met Vittorio and the two were married. They lived in Somerville before settling in Medford. A loving wife, mother, grandmother and sister, Rosa was devoted to her family and friends. She and her husband operated Victor's Deli in Ball Square for 37 years. Rosa along with her husband worked hard

to build what became one of Somerville's landmark establishments. Rosa cooked and served delicious home cooked meals to their large customer base. Whether they came for Italian specialties or simple American fare, every customer left satisfied and well fed. At home she delighted her family with her cooking and always looked forward to time at the ocean and being with her beloved grandchildren.

In addition to leaving her beloved husband Victor, Rosa leaves her devoted children: Katherine Auciello and her husband Louis of Danvers, Michael Moccia of Medford, Nancy Fucile and her husband Jason of Peabody. She was a loving grandmother to Lauren, Sabrina and Gianni. Rosa was a dear sister to Franca Di Modugno, Elisa Tortora, Joseph Masciave, Nina Falco, and the late Aldo Masciave and is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Rosa's name to the Ronald McDonald House.

Carmela Febbo



Carmela Imaculata (Sabatino) Febbo passed away at home in the company of her loving family on Saturday, January 31st. She was 66. The daughter of the late Armando and Emanuela (Martignetti) Sabatino, she was born and spent her earliest years in Montefalcione, Avellino, Italy. Her family immigrated to England before coming to the United States. She lived in Boston's North End before eventually settling in Somerville. Carmela worked as a waitress in the North End for many years and was a devoted and loving mother, grandmother, sister and friend.

Although she worked as a waitress, she was primarily concerned with her family. She was an outstanding cook and everyone was welcome at her table. Possessed of a heart of gold, she was tremendously generous toward others.

The beloved mother of Joseph Febbo and his fiancée Shannon Megan of Somerville, Carmela was a loving grandmother to Giana Marie Febbo. She was the devoted sister of Annette Serrao and her husband Eddie, Silvana Sabatino and her fiancé John Moore, Felix Sabatino and his wife Kerry, Billy Sabatino, and Vinnie Sabatino and his wife Judy. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in Carmela's name to the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, Division of Development/Jimmy Fund, PO Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284-9168.

Follow us on **Twitter** @somervilletimes

Memories of SHS Auditorium, Part 1

CONT. FROM PG 3

A trusting DPW friend told me that the auditorium was gonzo. The mother of one of my former piano students assured me it's still there because her son saw it. What the heck! Either way I was bombarded with so many former students' memories that I'll have to do another story soon.

As for me, what were my best memories of the old high school auditorium? Behind a closed curtain, standing on risers with a full house, at a huge concert, being introduced by Andy Smith, the Boys Glee Club broke out into a rousing chorus of "Schaefer is the ... one beer to have ... when you're having more than one!" Mr. Smith went berserk on us! Some say to this day that I was the one who

started it. No comment. Thank you to those who contributed to this story. I hope the old auditorium was saved. After all, didn't they just do a 2-million-dollar repair and renovation? I hate progress.

More memories of the auditorium will be published in the near future with some on-stage photos. Also, upcoming,

We will get a closer look at the legacy of a woman who put a lot of students on that grand old Somerville High School auditorium stage and inspired many music careers. The most mentioned memory in this story, dedicated music teacher, Mrs. Mary Carafotes. Maybe by then we will know the true fate of the old auditorium.

Have a great idea on how to teach math? These teachers do!

CONT. FROM PG 1

result we had a large drop off of applications.

This year we have five teacher winners, four have hopes of returning to the actual classroom sometime in the near future. Each teacher's grant has a generous sponsor who is making their teacher's work easier. Our congratulations to each of the winners and our thanks to each of the sponsors for their generous support:

- + Kelly Dickson, Winter Hill Community Innovation School (6th - 8th, Autism Teacher), Math Games & Manipulatives, sponsored by Winter Hill Bank
- Meredith Rothstein, Winter Hill Community Innovation School (5th - 8th, Autism Teacher), Manipulatives to develop Basic Skills sponsored by Lali and Jay Haines.
- + Roxane Scrima, John F Kennedy School, (K), Math Manipulatives for home packets for each family, sponsored by East Cambridge Savings Bank.
- + Amanda Singleton, Winter Hill Community Innovation School (4th-5th, Autism Teacher), Individualized learning math manipulatives, sponsored by Tufts University.
- · Meaghan Tubridy, Albert Argenziano School,

(3rd - 4th, Special Education), Individualized packets math materials for home and school sponsored by William Kuhlman.

The Somerville Mathematics Fund was chartered in 2000 to celebrate and encourage achievement in mathematics in the city of Somerville, Massachusetts. Over twenty-one years, the Somerville Math Fund has awarded \$133,418 in teacher grants supporting three hundred forty teachers' projects in the city of Somerville along with emergency grants to East Somerville teachers after the devastating school fire.

In early April, the fund will be seeking applications from students who reside in Somerville for college mathematics scholarships. Over twenty-one years, the Somerville Math Fund has awarded a total of \$445,000 in four-year mathematics scholarships to ninety-nine students. Links to the scholarship application form is available at www.somervillemathematicsfund.org For more information, to volunteer or to make a tax-deductible contribution, please contact Erica Voolich (617-666-0666 or mathfund@gmail.com).

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

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 February 14, at 2:00pm for 5 weeks. Use figure, recreational or hockey skates. Beginner, intermation and to register, call Bay State Skating School at 781-890-8480 or visit online at www. BayStateSkatingSchool.org. Bay State Skating School is compliant with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Covid-19 guidelines. The number of students allowed on the ice will be limited.

Somerville's Winter Farmer's Market takes place Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., through April 10, at 191 Highland Ave. Offering the best locally grown and produced agricultural items and more. Online pre-order market with a small outdoor "live" shopping market. They offer a diverse range of local and New England produce, as well as cheese, eggs, meats, fish, breads, pastries, chocolate, and wine. They feature rotating guest vendors each

week, as well as live entertainment and activities. They accept SNAP/EBT, CREDIT and DEBIT cards. \$10 SNAP match for EBT customers. For market information visit: http:// www.somwintermarket.org.

mediate and advanced classes taught. For infor- Apply for small business relief funds. The City of Somerville has made \$5 million available to small businesses in its third round of the Small Business COVID-19 Relief Fund. Eligible businesses can apply for grants of up to \$25,000. Applications are now available and will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Learn more about the funding, including eligibility requirements, or apply for funds online.

The Pandemic - Electronic Transfer (P-EBT) Program was created spring 2020 to provide eligible families funds to purchase food while schools were closed during the COVID-19 pandemic has been extended through the end of the 2020-21 school year. Visit https://www.map-ebt.org/home/#ihdtab for additional information.

LEGAL NOTICES

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



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS JOSEPH A. CURTATONE MAYOR

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville City Council's Land Use Committee and the Somerville Planning Board will hold a joint public hearing on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 6:30pm. Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

REGISTER ONLINE

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6948076072564655117

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

Clarifications and corrections to Section 2.1 Glossary.

Clarifications to Section 2.3 Building Types Overview.

Clarifications to and reorganization of Section 2.4 Standards & Measurements and corresponding building type table corrections.

Clarification to the "Development Review" section of every zoning

Clarifications and corrections to Sections 3.1 Neighborhood Residence and 3.2 Urban Residence.

Affirmation of the intended applicability of certain façade design standards in the MR3, MR4, MR5, and MR6 zoning districts to newly constructed facades and buildings.

Clarification of the Block Building and Commercial Block Building descriptions.

Clarifications to and reorganization of Section 8.3 Master Planned Development.

Correction of the Public Service use definition in Section 9.2 Use **Definitions & Standards.**

A clarification to Section 10.2 Accessory Structures concerning development review.

A correction to Section 10.3 Landscaping concerning a reference to national standards.

Affirmation of the actual eligibility for the entitlements of Section

12.3 Buyouts & Payments.

Clarifications to and reorganization of Sections 10.1 Land Platting and 13.2 Thoroughfares.

An Amendment repealing the two-story building base design guideline in the MR5 and MR6 districts due to a conflict with other standards.

An Amendment to Section 7.4 Assembly Square Mixed Use (ASMD) district creating a payment in-lieu of civic space located within close proximity to Interstate 93.

An Amendment to Section 9.2 Use Definitions & Standards to create the Recharging Station principal use category.

An Amendment to Section 10.2 Accessory Structures to create an **Electric Vehicle Charging Station accessory structure.**

An Amendment to prohibit vehicular entrances to parking along pedestrian streets.

An Amendment to Section 15.4 Certificates to align the timeframe for review and issuance of a Certificate of Zoning Compliance with other established processes and to correct the validity of Certificates of **Zoning Compliance.**

The proposed ordinance amendments identified above are posted online at

http://somervillecityma.igm2.com/Citizens/Detail Meeting.aspx?ID=3073 under SZO Corrections Amendments. Final language of the above amendments may be modified by the City Council during the legislative process. Persons unable to attend the hearing may provide comments by email to planning@somervillema.gov.

2/10/21 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT RFP 21-45

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

Curbside Collection of Soft Textile Recyclable Materials

Beginning on Monday, February 8, 2021, the Request for Proposals (RFP) will be available online at

https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing

Sealed proposals will be received until Tuesday February 23, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. 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

Please contact the Purchasing Department 617-625-6600 x 3400, or email amallen@somervillema.gov for information about this project.

2/10/21 The Somerville Times



ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the Balcony Dividers at Properzi Manor, SHA project #2021, for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by Reverse Architecture dated February 10, 2021.

The Project consists of: Fabricating and installing a total of 60 new balcony dividers on 10 floors, 6 per floor. Removing existing metal bar dividers and patching. New dividers to be galvanized steel backup frame anchored to concrete balconies with phenolic core solid color panels on both sides.

The work is estimated to cost \$ 200,000.

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

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. The bids are to be prepared and submitted at www.biddocsonline.com. Tutorials and instructions on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online (click on the "Tutorial" tab at the bottom footer). Filed sub-bidders must be DCAMM certified for the trades listed below and bidders must include a current DCAMM Sub-Bidder Certificate of Eligibility and a signed DCAMM Sub-Bidder's Update Statement.

Filed Sub-bids for the trades listed below will be received until _ and publicly opened online forthwith.

SUBTRADES

05 50 00 Miscellaneous and Ornamental Iron

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

General bids will be received until 2:00 pm on Thursday, 11 March 2021 and publicly opened online forthwith.

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

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

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

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

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

Additional Sets may be purchased for \$50.00.

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

SUB-BID: PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT:

Date and Time: Wednesday, February 17 2021 at 10:30AM

Address: Properzi Manor, Entry Lobby 13-25 Warren Ave, Somerville, MA.

Bidders must call to make an appointment to attend the Sub-Bid: Pre-Bid site visit. No more than one person from each bidder will be allowed to attend. All attendees must wear face coverings and practice

It is strongly suggested all prospective sub-bidders attend the site

GENERAL BID: PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT: Date and Time: Thursday, February 18 2021 at 10:30AM

Address: Properzi Manor, Entry Lobby

13-25 Warren Ave, Somerville, MA.

Bidders must call to make an appointment to attend the General Bid: Pre-Bid site visit. No more than one person from each bidder will be allowed to attend. All attendees must wear face coverings and practice social distancing.

It is strongly suggested all prospective general bidders attend the site

Questions or requests for an appointment to see the work site should be directed to Travis Panzini at TravisP@sha-web.org or 781-570-6535 or 617-625-1152 x330

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

Somerville Housing Authority 30 Memorial Road Somerville, MA 02145 617-625-1152

Nashoba Blue Inc. 433 Main Street Hudson, MA 01749 978-568-1167

2/10/21 The Somerville Times

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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 public hearing on Thursday, February 18, 2021 at 6:00pm. Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

The meeting will be held using GoToWebinar.

TO USE A COMPUTER

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1932307436165055503 Link: 545-752-003 Webinar ID:

TO CALL IN Phone number: 1 (562) 247-8422 446-504-756 Access code:

The Planning Board will consider the following pursuant to M.G.L. 40A

and the Somerville Zoning Ordinance:

Hawkins St Union Square LLC proposes to

construct a 5-story net zero ready apartment building and establish a Household Living principal use for fifty-nine (59) dwelling units in the MR5 zoning district. The proposal requires Site Plan Approval and a Special Permit.

152-158 Broadway

Broadway Investments Realty, LLC proposes to construct a 5-story net zero ready general building and establish a Household Living principle use for forty-five (45) dwelling units in the MR5 zoning district with no parking provided on site. This proposal requires Site Plan Approval and two Special Permits.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at

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.

2/3/21. 2/10/21 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE **PURCHASING DEPARTMENT** IFB # 21-43

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

2020 Street Resurfacing Project

An invitation for bids (IFB) and specifications may be obtained at the Purchasing Department, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. 02143 on or after: Wednesday, February 10th, 2021. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: Wednesday, March 3rd, at 12:00 P.M. at which time sealed bids will be open. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The bid package may be obtained by download here https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing

Prevailing wage rates apply to this contract. A 5% Bid Deposit will be required.

Mass. Highway Pre-Qualification is required.

Please contact Prajkta Waditwar, ext: 3407, or email $\underline{pwaditwar@somervillema.gov}\ for\ information\ and\ bid\ packages.$

2/10/21 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 6:00PM, to be held by remote participation, on the Application of a Transfer of an All Forms Package Store License from E Broadway Inc. d/b/a Sullivan Square Liquors, for 88 Broadway to 88 Broadway, Inc., d/b/a Sullivan Square Liquors for 88 Broadway., Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk's Office.

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

Attest: Lori Batzek Administrative Assistant

2/10/21 The Somerville Times

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LEGAL NOTICES

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

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by 595 Broadway, LLC to CSLF Alamosa, LLC, dated January 18, 2019 and recorded with the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 72147, Page 243, as affected by loan modification dated January 22, 2020 and recorded with the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Book 74019 and Page 202, as assigned to SGIA Residential Bridge Loan Venture V LP, dated January 12, 2020 and recorded with Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Book 76676, Book 48, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at public auction at 12:00 PM, on March 3, 2021 on the mortgaged premises being known as 595 Broadway, Somerville, Massachusetts, being all and singular the premises described in said mortgage to wit:

The land situated in Somerville and Medford in Middlesex County, Massachusetts, and bounded.

Beginning at the Southeasterly corner thereof, on Broadway, by lot 56 on plan number 21 drawn by Alfred Tufts, dated June, 1854 copies of which are recorded with the Middlesex (So.District) Deeds, thence running Westerly by Broadway, seventy (70) feet; thence turning and running Northerly by land now or formerly of Griffin, on a line parallel with the East side or boundary line of the lot hereby conveyed, and seventy feet distant therefrom, one hundred (100) feet thence turning and running Easterly by land of said Griffin, on a line parallel with Broadway and 100 feet distant therefrom, seventy (70) feet to lot 56, one hundred (100) feet to the point of beginning.

The above-described premises are conveyed subject to and with the benefit of, as the case may be, all rights, easements, covenants, restrictions, agreements, conditions, encumbrances and other matters of record appertaining thereto, if any, insofar as the same may be now be in force and applicable.

For Grantor's title see deed recorded herewith.

Being the same premises as conveyed to the mortgagor by deed of 595 Broadway 02145, LLC, dated January 24, 2019, recorded with Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds, Book 72174, Page

The premises will be sold subject to and/or with the benefit of any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, municipal or zoning regulations or requirements, outstanding tax titles, condominium charges, fees, or assessments, municipal or other public or governmental taxes, assessments, outstanding orders of condition or any municipal requirements, and any liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record created prior to the mortgage, if any there be, and the rights of tenants and occupants of the premises, if any there be. No representation is made as to the status of any improvements on the mortgaged premises and the Buyer purchases subject to all requirements related thereto.

The premises are being sold with the express acknowledgment that the Mortgagee makes no representation or warranty as to the presence or absence to any wetlands or environmental issue at all,

or related to the septic or well systems, if any, or as to any contaminants or other substances, as noted under M.G.L. C21E or any other Massachusetts Statute, Code or Regulation does exist, the correction thereof will be at the Buyer's sole cost and expense, and shall be separate from the purchase price. The Buyer shall indemnify and hold harmless the Mortgagee from any and all costs, expenses or liability related to any of the aforesaid.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of \$25,000.00 DOLLARS shall be paid by the successful bidder to the Mortgagee in cash, by certified or by cashier's check at the time and place of the sale as a deposit. The successful bidder will be required to execute an Auction Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, by certified check, by cashier's check, or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney within thirty (30) days thereafter at the offices of BARSH AND COHEN, P.C., Attorneys for the Mortgagee, 189 Wells Avenue, Newton, Massachusetts. in exchange for which and at such time and place, the deed shall be delivered to the purchaser for recording.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to amend the foregoing terms of sale by written or oral announcement made before the auction sale, during the sale thereof or at the commencement of or during any postponed sale, the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, and to postpone the sale up until the time the property is declared sold by the auctioneer.

description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall cor trol in the event of an error in the Notice of Mortgagee's Sale or its

OTHER TERMS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME AND PLACE OF THE SALE.

Dated: February 2, 2021

Signed: SGIA Residential Bridge Loan Venture V LP Present Holder of said Mortgage

By its Attorneys, Barsh and Cohen, P.C.

Neil S. Cohen, Esquire Attorney for the Mortgagee 189 Wells Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459 (617) 332-4700

2/10/21 The Somerville Times

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by 10 Oak Street, LLC to CSLF Alamosa, LLC, dated October 19, 2018 and recorded with the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 71770, Page 207, as assigned to SGIA Residential Bridge Loan Venture V LP from CSLF Alamosa, LLC dated July 22, 2020 and recorded with the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Book 75181, Page 372, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at public auction at 10:00 AM, on March 3, 2021on the mortgaged premises being known as 10 Oak Street, Somerville, Massachusetts, being all and singular the premises described in said mortgage to wit:

The land with the buildings thereon situated in said Somerville being in the lot lettered C on a plan of land belonging to Mrs. R.H. Bent made by Charles D. Elliot, recorded in the Registry of Deeds for the Southern District of Middlesex County, at the end of Recorded Book 1998, bounded and described as follows:

NORTHERLY: by Oak Street, forty-six and 46/100 (46.46)feet;

SOUTHEASTERLY: by the lot letterd B on said plan forty-four and 54/100 (44.54) feet; NORTHEASTERLY: by said lot B six inches; SOUTHEASTERLY: by the lot lettered A on said plan, fifty-four and 4/100 (54.04) feet;

SOUTHWESTERLY: by lot 33 on a plan recorded in said Registry of Plans 8, Plan 51, thirty-nine and 54/100 (39.54) feet;

NORTHWESTERLY: by Lot 31 on the plan last mentioned, seventy-two (72) feet. Containing according to said plan, 3302 square feet of land. For Grantor's title see deed recorded herewith.

Being the same premises as conveyed to the mortgagor by deed of 10 Oak Street, LLC, dated October 19, 2018, recorded with Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds, Book 71770, Page 204.

The premises will be sold subject to and/or with the benefit of any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, municipal or zoning regulations or requirements, outstanding tax titles, condominium charges, fees, or assessments, municipal orother public or governmental taxes, assessments, outstanding orders of condition or any municipal requirements, and any liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record created prior to the mortgage, if any there be, and the rights of tenants and occupants of the premises, if any there be. No representation is made as to the status of any improvements on the mortgaged premises and the Buyer purchases subject to all requirements related thereto.

The premises are being sold with the express acknowledgment that the Mortgagee makes no representation or warranty as to the presence or absence to any wetlands or environmental issue at all, or related to the septic or well systems, if any, or as to any contaminants or other substances, as noted under M.G.L. C21E or any other Massachusetts Statute, Code or Regulation does exist, the correction thereof will be at the Buyer's sole cost and expense, and shall be separate from the purchase price. The Buyer shall indemnify and hold harmless the Mortgagee from any and all costs, expenses or liability related to any of the aforesaid.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of \$7,500.00 DOLLARS shall be paid by the successful bidder to the Mortgagee in cash, by certified or by cashier's check at the time and place of the sale as a deposit. The successful bidder will be required to execute an Auction Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, by certified check, by cashier's check, or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney within thirty (30) days thereafter at the offices of BARSH AND COHEN, P.C., Attorneys for the Mortgagee, 189 Wells Avenue, Newton, Massachusetts, in exchange for which and at such time and place, the deed shall be delivered to the purchaser for recording.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to amend the foregoing terms of sale by written or oral announcement made before the auction sale, during the sale thereof or at the commencement of or during any postponed sale, the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, and to postpone the sale up until the time the property is declared sold by the auctioneer.

The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in the Notice of Mortgagee's Sale or its

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Dated: February 2, 2021

Signed: SGIA Residential Bridge Loan Venture V LP Present Holder of said Mortgage

By its Attorneys, Barsh and Cohen, P.C.

Neil S. Cohen, Esquire Attorney for the Mortgagee 189 Wells Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459 (617) 332-4700

2/10/21 The Somerville Times

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by 18 Irving Street, LLC to CSLF Alamosa, LLC, dated February 15, 2019 and recorded with the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 72248, Page 363, as assigned to SGIA Residential Bridge Loan Venture V LP dated July 22, 2020 and recorded with the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Book 75181, Page 413, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at public auction at 11:00 AM, on March 3, 2021 on the mortgaged premises being known as 18 Irving Street, Somerville, Massachusetts, being all and singular the premises described in said mortgage to wit:

The land with the buildings thereon situated in Somerville, Middlesex, Massachusetts being numbered 18 on the present numbering of Irving Street and being Lot 74 on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Sommerville, Massachusetts belonging to Jesse Simpson, March 6, 1872, Wm. S. Barbour and A. Hodges C.E." Recorded in Middlesex South District Deeds, Books of Plans 21, Plan 44, and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

SOUTHEASTERLY: on said Street, fifty (50) feet; SOUTHWESTERLY: on Lot 75 on said plan, ninety (90) feet; NORTHWESTERLY: on Lot 90 on said plan, fifty (50) feet; and NORTHEASTERLY; on Lot 73 on said plan, ninety (90) feet.

Containing four thousand five hundred (4,500) square feet.

For Grantor's title see deed recorded with said Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 71268, Page 124.

Being the same premises as conveyed to the mortgagor by deed of 18 Irving Street, LLC, dated June 25, 2018, recorded with Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds, Book 71288, Page 124.

The premises will be sold subject to and/or with the benefit of any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, municipal or zoning regulations or requirements, outstanding tax titles, condominium charges, fees, or assessments, municipal or other public or governmental taxes, assessments, outstanding orders of condition or any municipal requirements, and any liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record created prior to the mortgage, if any there be, and the rights of tenants and occupants of the premises, if any there be. No representation is made as to the status of any improvements on the mortgaged premises and the Buyer purchases subject to all requirements related thereto.

The premises are being sold with the express acknowledgment that the Mortgagee makes no representation or warranty as to the presence or absence to any wetlands or environmental issue at all, or related to the septic or well systems, if any, or as to any contaminants or other substances, as noted under M.G.I. C21E or any other Massachusetts Statute, Code or Regulation does exist, the correction

thereof will be at the Buyer's sole cost and expense, and shall be separate from the purchase price. The Buyer shall indemnify and hold harmless the Mortgagee from any and all costs, expenses or liability related to any of the aforesaid.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of \$25,000.00 DOLLARS shall be paid by the successful bidder to the Mortgagee in cash, by certified or by cashier's check at the time and place of the sale as a deposit. The successful bidder will be required to execute an Auction Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, by certified check, by cashier's check, or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney within thirty (30) days thereafter at the offices of BARSH AND COHEN, P.C., Attorneys for the Mortgagee, 189 Wells Avenue, Newton, Massachusetts,in exchange for which and at such time and place, the deed shall be delivered to the purchaser for recording.

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Signed: SGIA Residential Bridge Loan Venture V Li Present Holder of said Mortgage

By its Attorneys, Barsh and Cohen, P.C.

Neil S. Cohen, Esquire Attorney for the Mortgagee 189 Wells Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459 (617) 332-4700

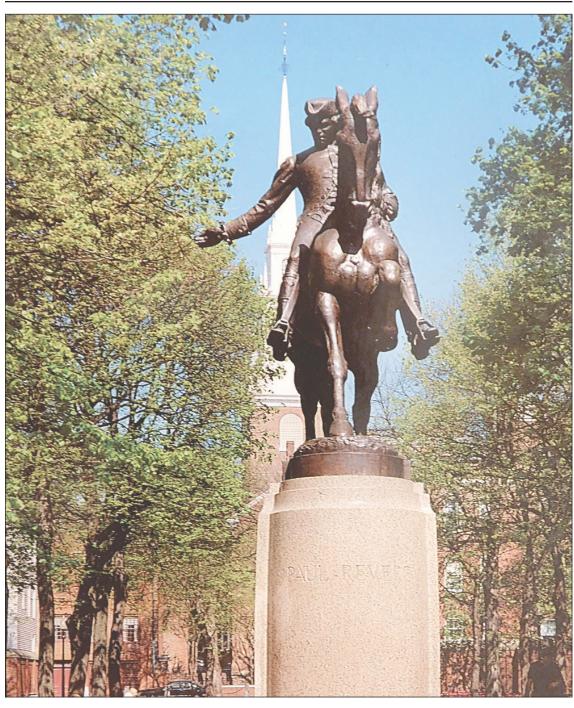
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Historical Fact

CONT. FROM PG 5



sculptor who grew up in the hills of Utah, made Arlington Heights his home. He created more than 260 works, many of them Native American commemorations. A sculpture created by Dallin and founded by T.F. McGann & Sons lies near the entrance of Arlington's Town Hall.

It is a handsome flag pole with a seven-foot-high sculptured base made with four interlocking statues. Squaw Sachem, the Pawtucket Native American woman who at one time owned what is now Arlington and Somerville, is one of them. Another Dallin statue, Appeal to the Great Spirit, greets visitors to Boston's Museum of Fine Arts.

Dallin's passion, which eluded him for almost 50 years, was to create a public effigy of Paul Revere. Early on, a suggested location was at the top of Broadway on Winter Hill where Revere rode by at full gallop. For the same reason, another proposal was at the front of Arlington High School on Massachusetts Avenue but lack of funding denied both those locations until Boston agreed to fund it.

Its current location near the Old North Church and Paul Revere's house was spot-on. After waiting almost a half century, Cyrus Dallin got his sculpture and the T.F. McGann & Sons Company got its most famous foundry job.

Register now for Somerville's free online February vacation youth programming

Registration is now open for Somerville 3000, a free online February vacation program for Somerville youth. Blast off for a futuristic week of engaging activities to explore what life might look like in the next millennium.

Activities will be offered Tuesday, February 16, through Friday, February 19, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Animate aliens, write out-of-this-world songs, and more with the Somerville Media Center, Farrington Nature Linc, Parts and Crafts, Somerville Arts for Youth, the Beautiful Stuff Project, and Parkour Generations Boston.

Come to one class or all of them, and bring your friends along to join the fun. Brought to you by SomerSocial, SomerPromise, the City of Somerville, Somerville Public Schools, and the Somerville Education Foundation. Sign up now at somersocial.com.

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1. Dawn Of The Dead

2. Ariana Grande

8. Kali Gandaki, in the Himalayas in Nepal

3. City Council

9. War of Spanish Succession

4. Harold Holt, 1967

10. King Tut's

5. Tab

11. U.S. And France

6. Ham

12. Nine

7. Keith Urban

Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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On This Day in Kistery February 10

1258 – Hulagu, a Mongol leader, seizes Baghdad, bringing an end to the Abbasid caliphate.

1763 – The Treaty of Paris ends the French-Indian War, with France giving up all territories in the New World except New Orleans and a few islands.

1840 – Queen Victoria marries Prince Albert.

1846 – Led by religious leader Brigham Young, the first Mormons begin a long westward exodus from Nauvoo, Il., to Utah.

1863 – P.T. Barnum's star midgets, Tom Thumb and Lavinia Warren, marry.

1942 – WWII halts civilian car production at Ford.

1966 - Protester David Miller is convicted of burning his draft card.

1986 – The largest Mafia trial in history, with 474 defendants, opens in Palermo, Italy.

The Somerville Times

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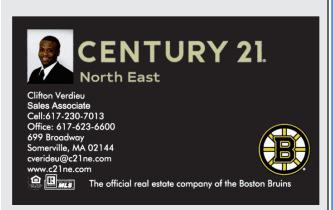
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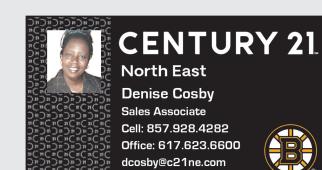
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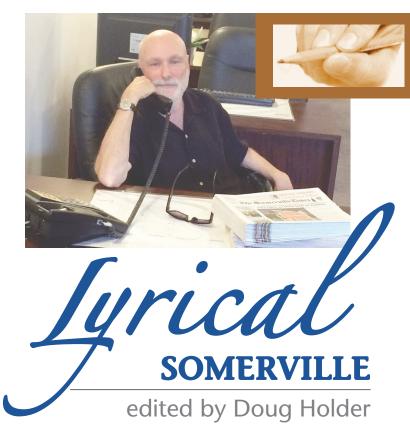
Estate Planning and Probate

Real Estate

Elder Law

Civil Litigation

mdropkin@dropkinmatza.com



Ed Meek is a Somerville poet residing in Davis Square. His latest book of poetry is titled High Tide.

Malevolent Design

They remain hungry

Slinky caterpillars, fuzzy brown and red-dotted-fingers with half a dozen legs, drop from above onto your neck and crawl down your shirt in search of food.

> even after denuding every deciduous tree in sight until the trunks stand naked like skinny kids in the middle of summer. Now they're stressed like the rest of us, susceptible to fungus and disease.

Intelligent design profiles butterflies with their sun-splashed yellow and orange polka-dotted wings. They could well be queens or kings of their domain. But what kind of god would fashion gypsy moths? Each stage of growth worse: from egg to larva to pupa to moth. Fecund females lay 1000 eggs beneath the unsuspecting bark of trees. You'd think their saving grace might be that by summer's end they die—thwacking into window screens desperately searching like the rest of us for the light. But no. They'll be back again to feast on our canopy.

— Ed Meek

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

OFF THE

by Doug Holder

Somerville's Callie Chapman:

A chat with a multi-faceted dancer, media artist and choreographer

I was pleased to catch up with the versatile Callie Chapman. She is a woman of many hats--as you will discover. She is an artist with a strong mission statement and one who can't be labeled into any particular genre.

Doug Holder: You have lived in Somerville for the past 15 years. How has this been for you as a creative?

Callie Chapman: Somerville has been a 'safe haven' if you will for my creative practice. Although I have worked on my practice mostly in Cambridge, purely due to space availability, Somerville is where I can dream and where there is an acceptance that whatever is dreamed can be possible. I've received project grants and was a recipient of multiple fellowship grants from the Somerville Arts Council (including this past year). During the pandemic, the SAC provided encouragement (and funding) for creating in our homes, and that, for me, was a glimmer of light during some very isolating times.

DH: Because of the pandemic, many art organizations have been forced to close. How are you and the Zoe Dance Company surviving? I heard Zoe's Studio 550 was forced out from their Cambridge home and now you are looking for a new space in Somerville.

CC: As a professional artist, I wear many hats. One of which is directing Zoe Dance Company. Another is the director of Studio at 550. ZDC was housed in Studio at 550, which had a space at 550 Mass Ave., Cambridge. And yes, we were displaced. Not particularly due to the pandemic (although that expedited our departure), but due to the landlord intending on creating micro-unit apartments in a mostly residential area. Truthfully, we knew it was coming at one time or another, the pandemic just made it happen quicker, with less time to plan our relocation strategy (and less money in the bank to do so). Somerville has always needed more spaces for dance and performing arts. We would love to find our home in Somerville, and I think both artists who live here and want to create, perform, and present here would love it too. Somerville would also benefit from the performing artists who do live here, yet have to go elsewhere for their work. If we identify a suitable location in Somerville, we would love to fill that void and help provide that stability and outlet to showcase our working performing artists in Somerville (particularly the dance community).

DH: Can you tell us a bit about the genesis of the Zoe Dance company? What would be its mission statement? What genre of dance does it fit under? CC: Zoe Dance Company was founded in 2002 with a mission statement that read, "Zoé Dance nurtures the art of dance, dance theatre and performance through accessible performance venues, educates the public and creates social awareness through themes explored in repertory." The company has performed locally, regionally, and internationally in self-produced concerts, festivals, and commissioned works. Since its inception, we have integrated digital media in many forms into the performances, and also creation. Utilizing cameras, projectors, generative art, and media servers ZDC's integrations brings the "dream world" to its audiences through various theatrical techniques



to create worlds which stretch beyond the tangible and embodied. As far as a genre of dance goes, we could get into the inefficiencies of genre labeling and the strange evolution of terms that comes with it. It's as vanilla as "contemporary dance" or as niche as "multi-media dance". I like to just settle on the word "performance" as I've always been compelled to not define before I do as to open the options up a bit. Perhaps my next piece has spoken word and theatre. Perhaps it contains original music, or an art installation. Trying to contain that in a genre or even discipline is just too limiting. For the audience as well as for myself as the creator.

DH: You are also a marketer and graphic designer, and have worked with many arts organizations. How do you meet the challenge to get the word out.? What is your process for developing a "brand"?

CC: Getting the word out requires a fine tuning and a consistency of the message (whatever that may be). I worked for Boston Dance Alliance for 11 years and the building of that 'brand' when I came into the organization required many strategies and constant engagement with our base. We grew the membership form 180 individuals and dance arts organizations to nearly 400 by the time I left in 2015. It took constant programming, communication strategies, and one to one engagement. And over time I helped take a grassroots organization with no logo or branding consistency and helped craft an organization where I created the logo, colors, fonts, and consistency it needed to be clear in its message. We also had a lot of fun doing that. In shorter time frames, for shows let's say, you are working with the established "brand" of the presenting artist/organization, so again, consistency is key. Tapping into multiple networks through various methods is fundamental to being successful in the project. Having a strong and energetic team is also helpful as expanding networks and getting the word out always starts with the people who you already know.

DH: You studied at the Boston Conservatory. Were there any folks who mentored you there that you can mention? What did they bring to

CC: As an 18-year-old from Lynn, MA, I went into the Boston Conservatory with very wide eyes, basically eating anything up I could get my hands on. I also worked afternoons and evenings for my spending money and somehow Continued on page 15

CENTER HAPPENINGS: SENIOR

EVENTS

Music & Munch – Wednesday, February 10 and February 24 at noontime. Why not pair your lunch with a celebration of music? This 45-minute session via Zoom will treat you to a playlist of diverse musical offerings: a little jazz, some "oldies but goodies," a smidgen of classical, a dip into barbershop, a trip to Broadway. The music is taped but the experience is live. Your guide is Somerville Resident, Laura Zoll, trained as a medieval musicologist and with a life-long love of all things musical. Your preferences will help shape the session. Learn a little, sing-along, relax and enjoy some Music while you Munch. Please RSVP to Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at dhiggins@somervillema. gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2321. You will then receive your email invitation to join the program via ZOOM.

Senior Lunch Box Pick Up – Friday, February 12 beginning at 10:30 a.m. At the Ralph & Jenny Senior Center, 9 New Washington Street. While we aren't able to share lunch together we hope you can stop by for this fun treat! RSVP is a must. Masks required. To enjoy a box lunch, please call Connie at 617-625-6600 ext. 2319.

Virtual Bingo Day – Tuesday, February 16, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Join us online or via phone to play BINGO. If you would like to participate please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321 or email dhiggins@somervillema.gov. We will supply you with the bingo cards and instructions. Space is limited, RSVP a must.

Mask Pick Up - Wednesday, February 17, 10:30 a.m. to Noon. At the Holland Street Center, 167 Holland Street. The COA has masks available for Somerville residents who are 60 and over. If you are in need of a mask or may know of a friend or neighbor who may need a new mask, you can pick one up at our drive-thru location. If you have any questions, please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

Music & Movement – Thursday, February 18 at 10:30 a.m. Join Steve as he plays guitar, sings and leads gentle movements. Just tapping your toe or singing along can help move your body in new ways. Being physically active is not just good for our bodies, but it is also one of Mental Health America's 10 tools to building resiliency; or the ability to overcome obstacles and manage through tough times. Physical activity can improve sleep, increase energy, decrease some kinds of pain, boast our immune systems and lower the risk for stroke and some cancers. It also helps to reduce

our anxiety, depression, stress and tension. Join Steve as he shows us that exercise can come in all different forms and movements. Please RSVP to Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at dhiggins@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2321. You will then receive your email invitation to join the program via ZOOM. Zoom.

Jeopardy Game Night – Thursday, February 18, 5:00 p.m. Our Health and Wellness Coordinator Chris will be hosting an hour long Jeopardy game over Zoom with questions that will cover such topics as: Health and Wellness, TV Shows, History, Sports, Music and Movies. For more information or to RSVP please contact Chris at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email at CKowaleski@Somervillama. gov. Other dates include March 18 and April 15.

Caregiver Check-In – Tuesday, February 23, 11:30 a.m. Are you a caregiver for a loved one and want to connect with other caregivers? Would you like to discuss the joys and challenges of caregiving? The Somerville Council on Aging is hosting a monthly check-in via Zoom for caregivers. Please contact Natasha by either called 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 or e-mail Natasha at NNaim@Somervillema.gov.

Zoom Book Club – Friday, February 29, 10:00 a.m. Do you love books and want to discuss your love of reading with others? Consider joining book club. Book club's next meeting is on Friday, February 19 from 10:00 to 11a.m. The book that will be discussed is In Praise of Difficult Woman by Karen Karbo. Please contact Natasha at either 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 or e-mail her at NNaim@ Somervillema.gov for the Zoom link or to ask any questions.

ONGOING EVENTS

Taxi Rides - Do you need a ride? The COA has a program just for you. Taxi Rides for Somerville Residents 60 and Over Rides can be used for Grocery Shopping in Somerville, Pharmacy Prescription pick up in Somerville, and Routine Medical Appointments in the follow areas: Somerville, Cambridge, Medford, Boston or the V.A. in Jamaica Plain or West Roxbury. Two Days Advanced Notice Required. For more information, please call Connie Lorenti at 617-625-6600, ext. 2319.

Friendly Caller Program - Looking for a way to practice social distancing but still remain connected to other people? Look no further than the Somerville Council on Aging's Friendly Phone Caller program. We have many wonderful volunteers who are waiting to give you a call. Whether

you are looking to make a new friend or would just like a friendly chat to look forward to every week, this program has you covered. Call Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 to learn more about the program and to sign up.

EXERCISE

Exercise Schedule

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

Somerville City Cable

RCN = 13/Comcast = 22

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

Fit-4-Life YouTube

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video # 1: https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=4hd26HjpwBI&t=68s

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #2: https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=QwHfyoEZaws&t=247s

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #3: https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=FcI2eBSS024&t=158s

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #4: https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=7EDtaldYSz0

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #5: https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=AAnwfwGybTI

Yoga YouTube

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

Yoga with Janine video #3: https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=6Zezcj9XXBU

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

SOCIAL MEDIA

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

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

If you would like to receive a virtual copy of our monthly newsletter and daily tips please contact Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 or email Maureen at MBastardi@Somervillema.gov If you would like to become part of our Google Group please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at DHiggins@ Somervillema.gov.

Somerville's Callie Chapman CONT. FROM PG 14

on top of the already rigorous program when I could (winter and spring break). they have the notion it could be like stand many people may not enjoy it. And ciative of my time there (even getting into a studio by myself to choreograph, or improvise until 11:00 p.m. some nights, having to go home (to Lynn) and get back at 8:00 a.m. the next morning for Dance History class. All my teachers were so wonderful there. They taught me things I now pass on to the students I teach (with credit of course).

In 1999 one of my modern dance teachers, Diane Arvanites asked me to perform with her company Prometheus Dance over the summer as part of Somerville Arts Council's ArtBeat Festival. Of course, I accepted and danced "the first one out" in the piece The Game, which was based off of the game of musical chairs. Previously, outside of Conservatory training I was taking open class with the company at the Dance Complex

I carried the momentum and felt appre- It was Diane who "signed up" to be my their 5-year-old niece's dance recital and that is totally where I want to be. Instead mentor at the Conservatory as the faculty was asked to pair off with the incoming freshmen. And I guess those roles kind of stuck. I danced with Prometheus Dance until its folding in 2019 having toured with the company to many wonderful places and theatres. Many of very good lifelong friendships were built in that company, and still remain to this day.

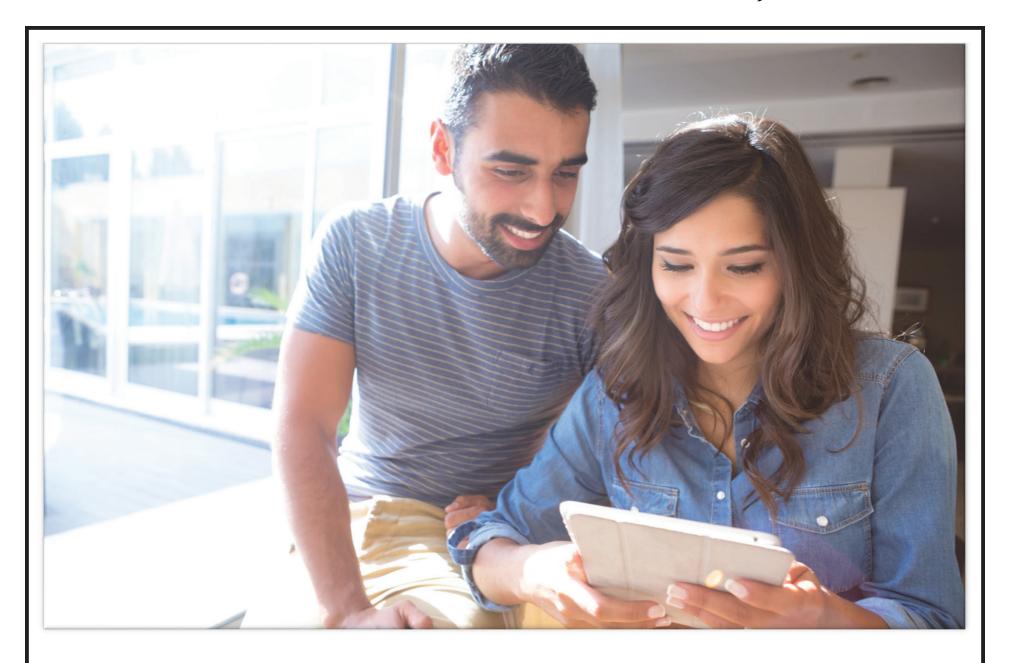
DH: How would you convince someone who has no experience with dance to attend a performance? Why should they view your work?

CC: Again, circling back to the presentation of "dance" in the marketing of it to be more about the experience and the performance. This helps disassociate potential stereotypical associations with the word "dance" coming from that prospective audience member. Perhaps

there's no way they want to sit through 'professional dancers' doing the same thing! Tailoring the marketing and the 'brand' to match what the audience should expect from going to the performance with the way they talk about it, the visuals they use for publicity materials, and fine tuning any media that's out there can really help get people to not associate the dance recital to professional dance performance. Truth is, it CAN be all over the board, so just saying it's "dance" doesn't say much at all and walking into a theatre (or even thinking about walking into a theatre) with such little information is absolutely terrifying.

While I design and create experiences for as many people as I can. To touch them in some way through many senses and sensory preferences, I also under-

of chasing down and force-feeding people who have other preferences in taste, I create what is important to me and design to share that experience with others. Mostly I love the theme of transformation and I believe it's a thread that shows up throughout my work over the last 19 years. I mean, that's part of the experience which we all share and can get on common ground together with. Tapping into what makes us human and sharing different relatable experiences through various lenses is what makes me want to create. The cycle is nearly completed when I've fleshed it out enough times to share it with others. It's an open-ended cycle as those who experience "it" go out and have that experience linger with them for a while into their own lived experience after the show is done.



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