



Happy 128th Grandpa page 3



Hopeful Hearts at Connexion pages 12-13





Somerville Police have been exploring measures aimed at mitigating gang violence among the city's youth, according to a report to the Public Health and Public Safety Committee by Chief David Fallon.

By Anna Schaeffer

Members of the Somerville community and Somerville City Council Public Health and Public Safety Committee gathered on Wednesday, January 29, in the City Hall Sub-Committee Room to discuss matters of public health and safety.

First to be discussed was a request for information from the Somerville Police Department regarding a new restorative justice program formed in early 2019, similar to that used in Cambridge, Arlington, and Boston.

Restorative Justice programs are a method of criminal justice that focuses on the rehabilitation of offenders and reconciliation with the community at large. In response to the request, Chief of Police David Fallon said, "About three or four months ago we reached out to communities for restorative justice and have collaborated with Cambridge. Continued on page 4

Bringing nature to the city

By Isabel Sami

The Somerville Public Library hosted an event on urban gardening held at Remnant Brewery on Wednesday, February 5. Speaking at the event was Lindsay Allen, a farmer and educator who is currently the farm manager at Boston Medical Center's rooftop farm and also operations director at Higher Ground Farm.

Allen says the people at BMC believe that food is medicine, so all the produce harvested from the rooftop farm is donated to the food pantry in the hospital. Patients with food insecurity are able to use the pantry, with the added opportunity to take free cooking classes by licensed dieticians in BMC's teaching kitchen to learn how to cook what they take home. Other functions from the rooftop farm, which is about 7000 square feet and started nearly four years ago, include an affordable in-hospital farmers market once a week, a summer camp for young patients and Boston School District students, tours and volunteer work, and bee-Continued on page 8 keeping. All activities and



Here comes 'Principal America' page 17

Boston Medical Center's rooftop farm manager Lindsay Allen spoke at an event sponsored by the Somerville Public Library where the benefits of urban rooftop gardening were discussed.

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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!

AARP is taking appointments to help with income tax preparations starting February 10 at the Holland Street Senior Center at 167 Holland Street. Please call Josephine to schedule an appointment at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

Happy birthday this week to the following: Happy birthday to Elaine Hill, formerly of Ball Square and now in Florida. We wish Elaine the very best on this, her birthday. Happy birthday to Lou Ferrara, a lifelong resident. We wish Lou the very best on his birthday. Happy birthday to Patricia Latham, formerly of Somerville. We wish Patty the best on her birthday. Happy birthday to a great lady, the very popular Cheryle Snow. We wish Cheryle the very best on her birthday. Happy Birthday to Albert Piacentini, we hope he has a great day. Happy birthday to a well-known commercial real estate agent, Bernard Gibbons of ABG Realty. We wish him the very best on his birthday. To the many others not mentioned here but in our thoughts, we wish you a very happy birthday.

Join **Mystic River Theatre Company** teens for their first fundraiser. They will present *Misfit Love* at the **Café at the Somerville Armory**, 191 Highland Ave., on **February 19**, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. *Misfit Love* will be filled with songs of not-fitting-in from Broadway and beyond. Silent auction and 50/50 raffle. Food and beverages for sale at the Armory Café. For more info, go to http://mysticrivertheater.org/ and www.gofundme.com/f/ mystic-river-theater-first-show.

Join the City of Somerville, Ward 6 Councilor Lance Davis, and Ward 7 Councilor Katjana Ballantyne for a community meeting on Monday, February 24, to discuss planned improvements to Holland St. and College Continued on page 11



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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of February 12 – February 19 as provided by the National Weather Service

	DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
Ő	Wednesday February 12	Partly Cloudy	44°/33°	0%	47%	W 11 mph
÷	Thursday February 13	Rain	43°/27°	90%	82%	N 8 mph
¥	Friday February 14	Sunny	30°/8°	0%	42%	NW 12 mph
¥	Saturday February 15	Sunny	32°/24°	0%	33%	WSW 11 mph
Ő	Sunday February 16	Partly Cloudy	45°/28°	20%	54%	SW 13 mph
¥	Monday February 17	Sunny	44°/26°	10%	59%	WNW 11 mph
÷	Tuesday February 18	Rain	48°/42°	40%	63%	S 11 mph

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: Open Letter to the City

A Moore says:

I am in total agreement. They had been talking about that for years. The city wants it's way, not what the property owner wants. This is America and one should have say on their own property. It is a gross overstep of power. And I say this regardless of what I may want for that site. I believe this will be a battle for along time.

rich V says:

so true. city out of control. need Market Basket

BroadwayJoe says:

that's what happens if you don't want to play ball with the mayor

joe says:

Complete agreement.

The right to property is fundamental. The city has shown little respect for private owners' rights, and I would encourage the author (being an attorney) to get involved in challenging clear overreaches such as Star Market eminent domain and the tree ordinance. I'd certainly support such action, and more generally would support candidates for Somerville office who are more moderate and certainly mindful of owners' rights than the current politicians who seemingly run unchallenged.

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Response to: Lessons learned? What the destruction of Boston's West End should teach us today

Jason says:

The problems are the costs of living/doing business in the city. The average person simply can no longer absorb the rising taxes and fees. This in addition to dealing with the unnecessary traffic and lack of parking caused by the policies of the city.

Villenous says:

The West End ripped down housing and replaced it with almost no housing. That should not be confused with replacing post-industrial blight with housing, which is almost the opposite. I'd like to see a broader mix of housing types in those areas, something that would house people with a broader range of incomes, but if a city didn't change from when you were a kid and now you're old, then you're living in a dying city.

My kids have gone to one of those new schools. Glad they're here. Excited to see the new high school.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte Happy 128th birthday Grandpa



I'm writing this on my Grandpa's birthday. He was born on February 10, 1892. He would have been 128 years old. I knew him until I

was 11 years old in 1964 when he passed.

My grandpa, Giuseppe (Joe) Del Ponte smoked a cigar just about 24/7 and he and his house smelled like cigars. He used to hug us with the cigar in his mouth or in his hand. That took skill. What I remember most about my grandpa was that he was always happy and smiling and he beamed when his grandkids were around. When Grandpa saw us he would gleefully say in broken English, "well-a, well-a, well-a" and give us a big hug. "Nice-a boy!" or "Nice-a girl!" He really loved us.

My grandparents landed in Somerville from Italy and bought their house in 1918. That house on Elmwood St between Davis and Teele Square is still in the family. My cousin Carol grew up in that house with her parents, our aunts and uncle, and our grandparents. My brother and sister and I always thought she was so lucky to live with Grandma and Grandpa.

She learned to speak Italian and was always our interpreter, especially after Grandpa passed and we would visit our grandma. We would look at grandma and say something, then Carol would translate it for grandma. She had to practically yell the question because grandma was pretty deaf. I loved those interactions and I do a great imitation of Carol acting like translator for our grandparents.

There are a few stories about my grandpa that I found interesting. He was a very proud man and a good provider for his wife and six kids. It was actually eight children but the two oldest sadly died when they were toddlers. That's a story for another time.

Grandpa had various occupations including custodian at the Bingham School formerly on Lowell St. He also tended to the boilers there, keeping all those school kids warm. Running steam boilers was a profession my dad followed him in. I remember dad telling me that grandpa used to be a cowboy in South America for a while. He lost a lung due to poison gas, fighting in France during World War I. I still have his helmet.

When my dad was about 19 or 20, my Grandpa went to visit his brother in Argentina. While he was away my dad sold the family piano and bought a TV. Grandpa was fit to be tied when he came home but soon became a big fan of television.

Grandpa was very set in his ways. One of my cousin Carol's jobs was to have his coffee cup ready every morning. She had to put a teaspoon of Sanka (decaffeinated





instant coffee) into his mug and leave the spoon in for him. He liked to be waited on. Whenever he had a 10 cent glass of beer at the bar on Mass Ave. after work, he would bring a container of ice cream home for his kids. That was a ritual.

And this one kills me. Every Sunday he would sit down with the TV section that came in The Sunday Record American and check every show he intended to watch that week. No one was allowed to watch anything else and no one could touch the TV. It was *Bonanza*, *Rawhide*, *Gunsmoke* and *The Rifleman* and shows like that. He was the king and keeper of the television. My cousin Carol had to beg him to let her watch *The Flintstones* when they came out. He later learned to enjoy that show too.

Grandpa was very demanding. He expected things to be run his way. Pa, as his kids called him, hated when things were out of order. If he went by a chair in the kitchen and it had anything on it like a book, a jacket or keys, he would simply tip the chair over and knock the items onto the floor without a word. All his children (my dad, aunts, and uncle), were expected to be in their seats at supper time. Once, my dad's younger brother, my uncle Joe (the former Somerville fireman and glass guy) was late for dinner. Grandpa casually threw a loaf of French bread at him. Uncle Joe ducked and it hit the glass door behind him but didn't break. Auntie Jill got "the look" from Grandpa for laughing. Grandpa did pretty good living into his mid 70's with just one lung and smoking cigars. The last thing I remembered was when they brought us up to his bedroom to say goodbye when he was sick. I recall that day in 1964 very vividly. When grandpa passed it was the first time I ever saw my dad cry.

the staff and students at The Bingham School. He was loved by his children and especially the grandkids he was alive to meet. Our memories of our grandpa are all happy. He had a very special way of singing *Jingle Bells* that all of us kids remembered being delighted by. He was the perfect grandfather. I wish we got to have him longer but we are grateful for the time we had.

Happy 128th Birthday to you Grandpa, also known as "Pa" and Giuseppe (Joe) Del Ponte. The house he bought in 1918 now has a plaque across the street declaring the area Del Ponte Square. Grandpa was in World War I, my dad was in World War II and my uncle Joe fought in Korea. Since grandpa started the name Joe, there have been five Joes in my family, so far.

Grandpa and grandma started our family in 1918 in Somerville and there are still a bunch of us living here. And as I said, the house is still in the family being very well taken care of by my cousin Carol. To us, it's more like the family museum. There are still many one-hundred-yearold tools, household items, wine making devices and even an ice box in the cellar. But most of all, priceless memories. To this day cigar smoke still reminds me of my Grandpa. I wonder what smell my grandkids will remember me by? Maybe Dunkin' coffee or Old Spice red, or the TV clicker. Hopefully, they will remember me as fondly as I remember my Grandpa. Buon compleanno, Grandpa.

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My Grandpa was very well liked by





Denied the use of a phone but not a chair

Police officers were dispatched to the Dunkin' Donuts at 220 Broadway last Friday evening on reports of a woman having hit a man with a chair.

Upon arrival, the officers were met by the victim, who told them that while he was sitting inside the Dunkin' Donuts, conversing with friends, a woman approached the group and asked to use a cell phone.

The victim had his cell phone on top of the table in front of him, and the woman attempted to reach for it. The victim then grabbed his cell phone and put it in his pocket, as he did not want the woman to use it. She then reportedly began screaming and picked up a chair and swung it forcefully at the victim.

In defense, the victim put his hands up to attempt to stop the blow from the chair, which resulted in his being struck in the arms and wrists. The woman then left the Dunkin' Donuts.

While speaking with the other patrons inside Dunkin' Donuts, multiple individuals informed the officers that the woman in question went by the name of "Emma." Somerville Police Dispatch also advised the officers that the woman in question was a female by the name of "Emma." Police reports noted that "Emma" is well known to them from past encounters and that she frequents that particular Dunkin' Donuts and the general area.

The officers then spoke with an employee at the Dunkin' Donuts who told them that when he was coming out from the back room he observed a woman swing a chair and strike a male customer. This is when the employee called the police.

The employee stated that he is very familiar with this woman, as she regularly loiters at that particular Dunkin' Donuts. The employee said the woman left and walked eastbound down Broadway.

Shortly thereafter, officers encountered the female in question, approximately four blocks away from the incident.

The woman was subsequently identified as Emma Wile. The officers asked Wile if she had just left the Dunkin' Donuts, and she reportedly stated that she had.

Police asked Wile what had transpired there, and she reportedly told them that nothing had happened there. She was asked if she had hit anyone with a chair and she denied it, saying that the patrons inside there had been calling her names but that she never hit anyone with a chair.

Wile was transported to the Somerville Police Headquarters and booked on a charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210 Leave a message on our tip hotline answering machine – All calls are confidential Help Keep Somerville Safe!

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Kelly Carrillo, of Somerville, February 3, 9:48 a.m., arrested at Tower St. on warrant charges of destruction of property over \$1200, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and willfully obstructing an emergency vehicle.

Amber Yanakopulos, of Medford, February 4, 12:33 a.m., arrested at Elm St. on charges of assault and battery on a police officer, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and disorderly conduct.

Nicholas Farrell, of Boston, February 5, 11:54 a.m., arrested at Greenville St. on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, unsafe operation of a motor vehicle, and marked lanes violation.

Paul Martins, of Cambridge, February 7, 3:53 p.m., arrested at Loring St. on charges of larceny from a building and receiving stolen property under \$1200.

Emma Wile, February 7, 5:59 p.m., arrested at Broad-

way on a charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Pablo Santiago, of Chelsea, February 8, 7:15 p.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of failure to stop or yield and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

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City addresses youth violence, restorative justice, and gang activity

response PLEASE DO NOT TEXT and instead call 9-1-1.

CONT. FROM PG 1

We worked on three cases and formed three restorative circles. I attended two of them personally."

Following the discussion on restorative justice, a request was made that the Somerville Police Department, Director of Health and Human services, the Director of Parks and Recreation and all other relevant groups discuss strategies to prevent youth violence and gun possession. Chief Fallon stated first that prevention is the primary strategy used by the police department to combat violence and weapon possession in Somerville's youth. Fallon cited the Cadet program, which seeks to engage graduating high school students with careers in public safety as a success in this regard. Also, the Somerville Police Department established a basketball program at the Mystic

Avenue Housing department and expanded the Junior Police Academy to three weeks, as part of a plan to move from enforcement to involvement as a means of curbing youth crime rates. think that having positive interactions with law enforcement officials when they're young is very important."

Programs like ROCA, which assist high-risk young men to build lives outside of gang activity are also being utilized to mitigate youth violence in Somerville.



Changing response to crimes committed by minors and young adults is also a priority for Somerville police. Chief Fallon said, "We want to ensure that there are consequences for actions but also make sure that it's something they can overcome in the future."

Among the numerous community programs cited, Senior Crime Analyst Meredith Willis also mentioned the importance of the police department engaging positively with members of the community early on. "A lot of our individuals who have been arrested with firearms, their first-ever interaction with police is negative," said Willis. "So I Closely related to youth violence, Chief Fallon reported to the council the state of affairs relating to ongoing gang activity in Somerville. Fallon said, "We do have gangs or cliques in the city that do at times feud with area gangs in Cambridge and Chelsea."

However, gang activity numbers are shrinking according to Willis, who went on to say, "While the gangs, or more like groups or cliques, need to be taken seriously, they're not comparable in size or organization to

A restorative justice program was discussed at the latest meeting of the city's Public Health and Public Safety Committee.

large gangs like MS13." However, the fluidity and shifting nature of gangs make measuring exact numbers and statistics of gang activity difficult. Ward 4 Councilor Jesse Clingan said, "Gangs can be folkloric, where kids will spray paint the names on sidewalks, and even though the gang itself isn't pres-

ent, maybe the allure is there. That's the frustrating part, they can be so fluid."

Also discussed at the meeting was the Licensing Commission's investigation of the serving of alcohol to inebriated customers on East Broadway in hopes of addressing littering and over-serving.

Calls for state and Encore partnership on Mystic River Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge

A February 6 article in the *Boston Globe* described Encore Boston Harbor's proposal to replace an 800-foot pedestrian bridge connecting Assembly Row across the Mystic River to the casino with an aerial gondola. The next day, the Baker-Polito Administration announced a \$13.7 million contract to complete the 11.5-mile Northern Strand Trail, which would now dead-end at the site of this long-anticipated bridge.

The Mystic River Watershed Association (MRWA) – along with more than a dozen walking/biking advocacy organizations – has been advocating for the completion of the Mystic River Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge for years.

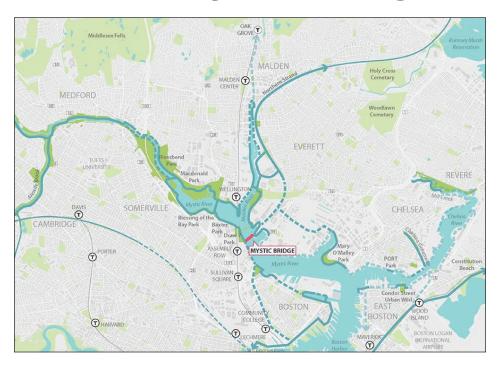
A workhorse piece of public infrastructure, the bridge will connect residents of Lynn, Saugus, Revere, Malden and Everett with Somerville, Boston and Cambridge. It will be to people-powered commuters as the Zakim and Tobin Bridges are to drivers. Such safe non-motorized routes are increasingly necessary as our region grapples with gridlock and the need to cut carbon emissions.

With Encore having committed considerable resources to getting its employees from the Orange Line to its facility, the MRWA is saying that the Commonwealth has a "can't-miss opportunity" for a public-private partnership to complete this critical infrastructure. They are calling on the MBTA, MassDCR and MassEOEEA to work with Encore on a solution that fully serves both public and private transportation needs.

According to the MRWA, the public benefits of the Mystic River Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge include:

• Unlocking high-capacity, non-motorized access to the Orange Line, thus reducing automobile trips and vehicular traffic.

+ Closing a highlighted gap in the



3,000-mile, Maine-to-Florida East Coast Greenway.

• Connecting Somerville's Baxter Park and Draw 7 Park and Everett's Gateway Park. For more information on the MRWA'a proposal, contact Amber Christoffersen, MyRWA Greenways Director at amber. christoffersen@mysticriver.org, or phone 703-472-4403.

Hall St. infrastructure upgrades community meeting

Join Ward 5 Councilor Mark Niedergang and the Somerville Engineering Department on Wednesday, February 26, for a community meeting to discuss water, sewer, and roadway upgrades planned on Hall St. The meeting will be held from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the Kennedy School cafeteria, 5 Cherry St.

The water and sewer mains on Hall St. date back to 1900. As part of the Hall St. Infrastructure Upgrades project, both the water and sewer mains will be replaced to provide better system functionality. After those underground improvements have been made, some aboveground roadway upgrades are planned, including constructing new cement concrete sidewalks, curb ramps, and raised crosswalks for ADA compliance and improved safety.

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Carbon monoxide detector saves Somerville elderly resident

The Somerville Fire Department recently responded to a Central Street address to investigate a fire alarm sounding. Upon arrival, firefighters discovered a carbon monoxide detector activated in the basement of the home. Using meters, firefighters detected elevated levels of carbon monoxide. A rotted vent pipe from the furnace to the chimney was discovered as the source



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of the hazard. Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless

gas which can build up indoors and poison occupants who breathe it.

The carbon monoxide detector which alerted the elderly occupant to the elevated levels of carbon monoxide, had been installed by Somerville firefighters in July,2014. It was done as part of a combination of a federal and state grant program run in close collaboration with the Somerville Council on Aging. Over 200 homes occupied by elderly residents were visited by firefighters, inspected for fire safety and provided with smoke and carbon monoxide alarms which were installed free of charge.

The Somerville Fire Department continues to collaborate with the Somerville Council on Aging regarding fire safety for our senior residents. The Somerville Fire Department was recently awarded \$2930.00 from the state as a Senior SAFE grant. Any Somerville senior resident in need of smoke or carbon monoxide detectors should contact Debra Higgins at the Council on Aging. She can be contacted at 617-625-6600 x2321 or by email at dhiggins@somervillema.gov

— Somerville Fire Department

Beacon Hill Roll Call

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THE HOUSE AND SENATE. Beacon Hill Roll Call records votes of local representatives from the week of February 3-7. There were no roll calls in the Senate last week.

PROTECT DISABLED PERSONS – NICKY'S BILL (H 4296)

House 154-0, Senate on a voice vote without a roll call, gave final approval to and sent to Gov. Charlie Baker a measure that would establish a registry that identifies individuals who have been found to have committed abuse against persons with disabilities. The measure was filed by Sen. Mike Moore (D-Millbury) at the request of a constituent who is the mother of Nicky, an intellectually disabled and non-verbal individual. Nicky had been inappropriately restrained and struck multiple times by her caretaker. Under current law, unless the offender is criminally convicted, no system exists to identify caretakers and prevent them from finding employment with another provider licensed by the state.

"Enacting this registry will help disrupt a cycle of abuse of individuals with disabilities and put in place common-sense protections that families in the commonwealth deserve," said Moore. "There are clear benefits to screening prospective employees who intend to work within the licensed caretaker field and I am hopeful that the bill will advance to the governor's desk to help protect our most vulnerable residents like Nicky."

(A"Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes

GIVE POWER TO CANNABIS CONTROL COMMISSION (H 4367)

House 122-33, approved and sent to the Senate legislation a bill that would give the Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) the power to review, regulate and enforce Home Community Agreements (HCAs) and stop municipalities from demanding payments beyond what the law allows. Business owners have complained that cities or towns are demanding more from businesses than state laws allow.

Current law requires a business that applies for a marijuana business licenses to enter into an HCA before the CCC will consider an application. The law stipulates that those agreements cannot run for more than five years and that the community impact fee paid to the municipality by the licensee cannot exceed 3 percent of the establishment's gross sales.

power that this legislation would provide."

"I believe that towns should be in charge of their own destiny," said Rep. Shawn Dooley (R-Norfolk) who voted against the measure. "The elected officials of a town are much better suited to understanding the individual needs and complexities of their community than by some appointed board in Boston."

"The bill empowers the Cannabis Control Commission to 'review, regulate and enforce,' all host community agreements and allows the state agency to reject certain provisions in these agreements by deeming them unenforceable even if such agreements meet the requirements of the law' said Rep. Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury) The expansion of this regulatory power granted to the Cannabis Control Commission impedes on the right of parties to freely contract and for this fundamental reason – I voted against the legislation."

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

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

ALLOW COLLEGE ATHLETES TO BE PAID (S 2454) – The Higher Education Committee held a hearing on legislation that would allow college student athletes in Massachusetts to have representation and receive compensation for the use of their name, image and likeness. The bill also requires each college to establish an injured athlete fund to help student-athletes who suffer a career-ending or long-term injury.

"As a former college athlete, I believe that if a school is using a student athlete's name to make a huge profit, that student should be entitled to receive compensation," said the bill's sponsor Sen. Barry Finegold (D-Andover). "We've heard countless stories of student athletes who are household names because their school is promoting them, but who struggle to afford food or textbooks. That's just not right. The bill would also allow students to continue to be eligible to play for their schools as they are drafted by professional teams, which allows a lot of them to graduate. At the end of the day, the majority of these student athletes don't make it in professional sports, but by that point they've also given up a degree and therefore future job prospects." an idea that you believe is worthy of a robust public debate that will reshape the bill. Although it won't pass this session and may never pass at all, I believe mandatory voting is an idea worth debate and consideration at the Statehouse and by thoughtful citizens across the state because it drives at questions fundamental to our society, which is whether civic participation in democracy is a duty or a right. I filed this bill to spark that debate."

"[This] proposed further imposition upon citizens by Rep. Fernandes, would require "all eligible voters in the commonwealth . . . To cast a ballot" under threat of legal penalty," said Chip Ford, Executive Director of Citizens for Limited Taxation. "The First Amendment protects freedom of speech, which includes freedom from participating in speech. Voting is a right of citizenship, exercised – or not – freely." This bill exemplifies Massachusetts' political penchant for encroaching overreach, where everything not prohibited by law must become mandatory."

"It's encouraging to see that a little common sense prevailed at the Statehouse," said Paul Craney, executive director of the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance. "The idea that the state government could have the power to tax you if you didn't vote is sinister. Every voter should have the freedom to vote however he or she wishes, including having the choice of not voting. Some Beacon Hill lawmakers want to control every aspect of your life, including who you vote for."

ALLOW 16- AND 17-YEAR-OLD YOUTHS TO VOTE IN LOCAL ELECTIONS (H 657) - Allows cities and towns to permit people aged 16- and 17-year to vote in their local city and town elections. Current law requires that voters be 18.

The sponsors Reps. Sean Garballey (D-Arlington) and Jack Lewis (D-Framingham) did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call to comment on their proposal.

"We filed this bill because we believe in local control," said Rep. Andy Vargas (D-Haverhill), a House co-sponsor of a similar proposal. "At least nine cities and towns have asked for the authority to lower the voting age for their municipal elections, but the state has essentially ignored these requests. If cities and towns want youth voices to be heard at the ballot box, the state shouldn't stand in the way of their local intent. In the same fashion, no city or town will be required to lower its voting age under this bill. Cities and towns that are content with their current voting age can simply carry on."

"What we heard from some of the folks where there was no clarification as to enforcement, where they could go if they felt that they were wrong and some felt that the legislation as is right now wasn't clear enough," said House Speaker Bob DeLeo (D-Winthrop)."So I think that this today was meant strictly, not so much to reopen the whole discussion or debate relative to, you know, marijuana sales but to clarify the powers that the Cannabis Control Commission has."

"This legislation is clearly necessary in order to prevent municipalities from demanding cannabis operators to make payments beyond what the law allows," said Jim Borghesani, former communications director for the 2016 marijuana legalization campaign. "I hope the Senate passes the measure and that the governor signs it. I also hope the Cannabis Control Commission uses the MANY BILLS SENT TO STUDY COMMITTEE

- Many legislative committees shipped off several bills to a study committee where bills are never actually studied and are essentially defeated. Here are some of the bills:

PAY FINE FOR NOT VOTING (H 653) – Requires eligible voters to cast a ballot in every November General Election or face a fine of \$15 that would be added to the non-voter's state tax liability for each election missed. The measure also clarifies that the voter does not have to actually vote for anyone and is allowed to leave the ballot blank.

"There are two schools of thought when filing legislation," said the bill's sponsor Rep. Dylan Fernandes (D-Falmouth) when the bill had a hearing in June. "One is filing a bill that is rigorously vetted, that has been combed line by line and that you hope only receives marginal edits through the committee process. The other is filing "Encouraging more civic engagement by allowing 16and 17-year-olds to vote in local elections may be worth investigating, but imposing a statewide mandate is probably not the best way to go about doing this," said House GOP Minority Leader Brad Jones (R-North Reading). There are a myriad of ways for young people to get involved in the electoral process and advocate in impactful ways on issues of concern and importance to them."

SMARTPHONES FOR FOSTER KIDS (H 91) -

Gives foster children over age 8 a state-funded smartphone that is limited to four pre-programmed phone numbers, including 9-1-1 and the number of the foster child's caseworker. The phone would include a limited video application that allows the child to have a faceto-face video discussion with his or her caseworker. The proposal bars the phone from having any Internet browsing capability.

No Senate session

Beacon Hill Roll Call

Massachusetts offers citizens the "right of free petition" - the power to propose their own legislation. A citizen's proposal must be filed in conjunction with a representative or senator. Sometimes a legislator will support the legislation and sponsor it along with his or her constituent. Other times, a legislator might disagree with the bill proposed by a citizen but will file it anyway as a courtesy. In those cases, the bill is listed as being filed "by request" - indicating that he or she is doing so at the request of the citizen and does not necessarily support it.

This bill is sponsored by Bill Trabucco, a constituent of Rep. David Biele (D-South Boston.) Biele did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call asking him if he supported the bill and seeking Trabucco's contact information.

REQUIRE DEFIBRILLATORS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS (H 627) - Requires all assisted living facilities to have a defibrillator in the building.

Supporters say the requirement will help the many resident of an assisted living facility. They noted many of the residents have health and heart issues and a defibrillator could save lives.

Reps. John Rogers (D-Norwood), Sean Garballey (D-Arlington) and Lou Kafka (D-Sharon), co-sponsors of the bill, did not respond to repeated requests

Sellers

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continued from page 6

by Beacon Hill Roll Call for a comment supporting the V measure.

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

During the week of February 3-7, the House met for a total of eight hours and 21 minutes while the Senate met for a total of one hour and 41 minutes.

House 11:07 a.m. to 11:55 a.m. Mon. Febuary 3 Senate 11:46 a.m. to 12:02 p.m.

Tues. Febuary 4

CENTURY 21 NORTON GROUP RE

NORTH FAST

No House session No Senate session

Wed. Febuary 5	House 11:02 a.m. to 6:06 p.m.
	No Senate session
Thurs. Febuary 6	House 11:02 a.m. to 11:31 a.m.
	Senate 11:23 a.m. to 12:48 p.m.
Fri. Febuary 7	No House session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

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Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:											
MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price						
72600031	17 Norwood Avenue U:2	8 room, 4 bed, 3f bath	21	\$899,900	\$872,500						
72594528	12 Glen St U:12	7 room, 2 bed, 2f bath	34	\$899,900	\$877,000						
72580729	7 Tennyson U:B	7 room, 4 bed, 3f 1h bath	52	\$899,998	\$900,000						
72402527	260 Beacon Street U:106	5 room, 2 bed, 2f bath	165	\$929,000	\$900,000						
72578129	75 Rush St U:2	7 room, 3 bed, 4f 1h bath	54	\$975,995	\$926,100						
72577338	56 Bartlett St U:2	7 room, 4 bed, 3f bath	57	\$979,000	\$955,000						
72420027	260 Beacon Street U:208	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath	411	\$989,000	\$975,000						
72513805	27 Murdock Street U:1	7 room, 4 bed, 2f 1h bath	154	\$995,000	\$990,000						
72592071	10 Wheatland St U:10	8 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath	40	\$999,900	\$999,900						
72591842	233 Willow Avenue U:1	7 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath	9	\$1,095,000	\$1,129,000						
72584541	55 Prescott St	0 room, 2 bed, 3f 0h bath	45	\$1,134,900	\$1,135,000						
72468925	88-1 Irving St U:1	7 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath	279	\$1,147,900	\$1,098,950						

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

IVILS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72552398	6-8 Endicott St	2 unit, 11 total rooms, 4 total bedrooms	115	\$930,000	\$825,000
72586548	11-11A Eliot St	2 unit, 8 total rooms, 4 total bedrooms	34	\$935,000	\$885,000
72590071	190-192 Morrison Ave	2 unit, 13 total rooms, 6 total bedrooms	21	\$1,000,000	\$900,000
72597647	122 Central St	2 unit, 9 total rooms, 5 total bedrooms	7	\$1,049,000	\$1,075,000
72594588	121 Lowell St	2 unit, 12 total rooms, 6 total bedrooms	16	\$1,059,000	\$1,111,000
72545646	23 Wisconsin Ave	2 unit, 12 total rooms, 9 total bedrooms	168	\$1,245,000	\$1,050,000
72605471	18-20 Oxford	3 unit, 16 total rooms, 7 total bedrooms	1	\$1,375,000	\$1,375,000
72594642	103 Bartlett	4 unit, 16 total rooms, 5 total bedrooms	32	\$1,471,000	\$1,277,250
72550339	21 Cutter Ave	3 unit, 12 total rooms, 6 total bedrooms	81	\$1,585,000	\$1,590,000
72560072	64 Derby St	6 unit, 24 total rooms, 12 total bedrooms	65	\$2,300,000	\$2,200,000
72574496	23 Cottage Ave	3 unit, 19 total rooms, 13 total bedrooms	49	\$2,650,000	\$2,600,000

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Bringing nature to the city CONT. FROM PG 1

programs on the farm are free for the community.

BMC aims to be carbon neutral by 2021, an initiative made possible due to the environmental benefits of the rooftop farm. The farm reduces the heating and cooling needs of the building by 20 percent, captures rainwater, and reduces the distance food travels.

Allen has worked in agriculture for over 10 years and at BMC's rooftop farm for the past three-and-a-half years. She says she's an urban gardener because she's interested in connecting communities with the factors that sustain us, such as food and water, which are hard to connect to in a city context. "Gardens and farms are a place where we can reconnect with those things and be in a deeper relationship with them," Allen said.

Allen gave tips to community

members interested in growing their own food in gardens at home. Her main tip is to get creative. If a house doesn't have space for a garden, people can plant pepper seeds in jars or buckets outside their front door. Using vertical spaces is another way to get creative, such as by making herb spirals or hanging potted plants. For renters, sack gardens are temporary and portable planters. She says planting inside anything that holds soil and allows drainage is acceptable as long as it allows enough root space.

Allen advises making gardens in front yards instead of backyards. "I feel like there's this garden shaming where everyone wants to put their gardens in the backyard and I think it's a missed opportunity for so much," she says, adding that gardens are a point





of connection between neighbors who may normally never speak or see each other, allowing people to teach each other about gardening.

Testing soil before planting directly in the earth is also important so food won't contain lead or chemicals that may be found in dirt. UMass Amherst has a soil testing lab where people can send samples of their dirt and receive results about levels of lead or nutrients. More information can be found at soiltest. umass.edu. If the soil has lead, Factors Allen says to consider when planting any crop are space and light. Some plants need more space for roots than others, so research if a plant needs 12 inches for roots compared to six inches before planting. Some plants may need light for between four to eight hours a day, and if they are planted in a space where they only get light for two hours, they will not thrive. Seasonal changes also affect light, so testing the lighting in different areas of the yard is crucial. Allen is motivated by the climate crisis and food access in low-income communities. Growing food in cities so food doesn't have to travel lowers the rate of emissions, and it becomes more accessible to people who cannot always afford costly organic produce.

"Right now, gardening is a privilege, but I think it should be a right," Allen says. "We all should have a right to grow our own food, and to have that connection to the things that sustain us."

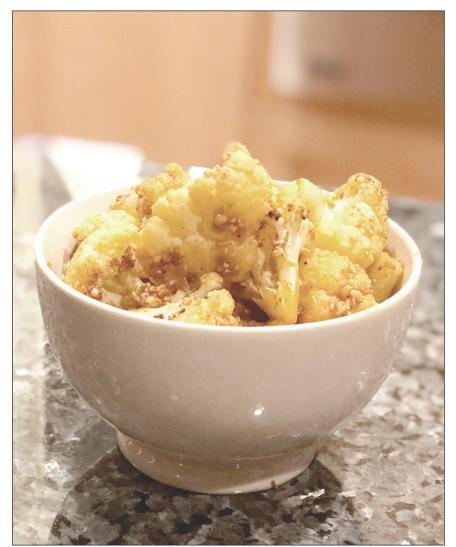
Dorothy's Corner BY DOROTHY DIMARZO

Roasted Cauliflower with Faux Parmesan

I thought I would share a recipe I came up with that's not only vegan friendly, but full of flavor and packed with many vitamins that most of us struggle to get into our everyday diet. It's called nutritional yeast. Nutritional yeast is gluten free, dairy free, Kosher, vegan, sugar free, and is low in sodium. It's high in vitamins B6, B12, thiamin, riboflavin, niacin, and folate 752mcg DFE. And it's serving size is only 1 tablespoon. Although I certainly do not claim this will in any way beat the flavor of Parmesan cheese, for those who can't eat dairy or choose not to, this is a great alternative. It's definitely worth a try. I even add this mixture to popcorn.

2 Tablespoons Nutritional Yeast 1/4 Teaspoon Garlic Powder 2 Teaspoons Smoked Paprika 1/2 Teaspoon Kosher Salt 1/2 Teaspoon Freshly Ground Black Pepper

Preheat oven to 425°. Prepare the cauliflower and place the pieces into a medium bowl. Add the olive oil and 1/2 teaspoon salt and toss until completely coated. Transfer to a sheet pan, and place in the oven for 20 minutes, or until almost fork tender but still has some crunch. In a food processor, add the raw cashews, and pulse about 8-10 times until you have small granules. Add the cashews to a small bowl and add the nutritional yeast, garlic powder, paprika, salt and pepper. Mix well. Once the cauliflower is done, add it to a bowl and add 3 tablespoons of the faux Parmesan to the cauliflower and toss until fully coated. Serves 2-3.



 Medium Head Cauliflower, Cut into bite size pieces
 Tablespoons Extra Virgin Olive Oil
 1/2 Teaspoon Kosher Salt

Faux Parmesan Mixture 1/2 Cup Raw Cashews

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



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OBITUARY

Mary Rita 'Marita' (Clark) Doherty



Rita DOHERTY, Mary "Marita" (Clark) – 90, Passed away peacefully with her children by her side on Monday, February 3, 2020. She was from Somerville, Ogunquit, Maine, Fort Lauderdale, FL and formerly of Arlington where she lived most of her life and raised her family with her beloved late husband George L. Doherty, Jr.

Cherished mother of Nancy Doherty-Neri of Andover and her husband Steven, Resa M. Doherty of Andover, Patrick M. Doherty of Woburn, George L. Doherty III of Stoneham and his wife Colleen, and J. David Doherty. Dear sister of Richard N. Clark and his wife Cindy of Sarasota, FL, Leonard "Skip" Clark of Portsmouth, RI, the late Leo V. Clark, Jr. and his wife Loretta, James E. Clark, Philip G. Clark and his surviving wife Frances B "Fran" of Ogunquit, Maine.

Marylou Clark, the late Nancy Clark, Geraldine Casey Clark and Ereyna Spreen.Loving "Nanee" of Caitlin Neri and her husband Adam Espinola, Mairen Marshall and her husband Sean, Brent Neri and his fiancée Hannah Kaltenbach, Michael, Hannah, and Errie Kelly, Kevin and Kelly Doherty, Ashley, George IV and Kelsey Doherty.

Caring great grandmother of Shelby Lillian and Brynn Eleanor Espinola, Patrick Sean, Keegan George and Brooke Caitlin Marshall. Also survived by her daughter in law Carol Doherty of Woburn as well as many loving nieces, nephews, and her dear friends Frances "Sis" Gregorio, AnnMarie Carnes and Barbara McBride. Marita was strong, loyal, loving, kind, good, caring, fun, and an amazing wife, mother and friend. She always loved a good time and we were so very lucky to have her for as long as we did.

Calling Hours at the George L. Doherty Funeral Home, (Powder 855 Broadway House Sq.) Somerville were held Saturday morning, Interment was private. If you wish donations may be made in Marita's name to Dana Farber Cancer Institute, 10 Brookline Place West, 6th floor, Brook-She was a sister in law to line, MA 02445.

Staples Connect opens in Somerville



The Grand Opening of Staples Connect in Somerville took place on Wednesday, February 5. Staples representatives were joined by Somerville City Councilors Jesse Clingan and Katjana Ballantyne to "turn on the wi-fi" and officially open the doors to the new Staples Connect.

Staples Connect is a reinvented store with coworking, podcasting and community event spaces where professionals, teachers and students alike can connect and grow together. The new store concept is built around the ever-evolving needs of the retail customer with a focus on community, hands-on learning and solutions.

The Somerville location is at 165 Middlesex Ave. More information about Staples Connect can be found at https://www.staplesconnect.com/.



MONDAY February 17

Comedy Night! The Up n Coming Open Mic 7 p.m. Marley Monday with The Duppy Conquerors 10 p.m.

> **TUESDAY February 18** Tim Gearan & The Shrikes 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY February 19





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somervillema.gov/elections

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free poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.

THURSDAY February 20 TBA

FRIDAY February 21 Larry Flint & The Road Scholars, Chuck McDermott & The Convoy Hickies 6 p.m. Tore Up - \$13.85/\$15 9 p.m.

> **SATURDAY February 22** Bama McCall CD release 6 p.m. Payton Gin 9 p.m.

SUNDAY February 23 Hayride! 5 p.m. African Night, SambaLolo and guests 10 p.m.

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COMMENTARY

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

Don't forget to vote – either early or on Election Day



By Joseph A. Curtatone

Voting is one of the most fundamental aspects of our democracy, so it makes sense that throughout history the trend has been to expand voting rights. But along with expanding voting rights, we need to keep looking at how we can make it easier for everyone to participate in elections. There are often barriers that keep people away from the polls, but when we remove them we get broader participation in our democracy.

One of those barriers is when



By Matthew McLaughlin City Council President

Davis Square ain't what it used to be.

That is good or bad depending on your perspective. When I grew up outside of Davis it was a collection of rundown buildings and dive bars. Later it became the "Paris of the 90's," the economic and social hub of Somerwe hold elections just on one day, during the week, and when many people work. To help address that, in 2016 Massachusetts voters had their first opportunity to vote early, and it turns out that when you give people more options for when they can vote, they take advantage of them.

Although early voting was put into place for state elections, 2016 coincided with a presidential election. Normally we see the highest voter turnouts during presidential elections, so it wasn't a surprise that 2016's turnout was high. But even compared to other presidential elections, 2016 stood out 30,430 ballots were cast in 2004; 33,061 in 2008; 35,450 in 2012; and 57,316 in 2016 with more than 16,000 voters taking advantage of early voting. Statewide, many communities saw bigger turnouts as well. About one million Massachusetts voters – that's more than 22% of the state's registered voters – voted early.

This year, for the first time, Massachusetts voters will be able to cast an early ballot for the presidential primary. Along with Election Day on Tuesday, March 3, Somerville voters can take advantage of early voting hours at City Hall during the last week of February:

- Monday, February 24, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, February 25, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, February 26, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Thursday, February 27, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, February 28, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

With six days of voting and the option to use an absentee ballot

if you're unable to make it to the polls, I hope everyone who can will exercise their right to vote and make 2020 a year of record turnout.

It's important to remember that early voting is just one of many ways to increase participation in democracy. In 2018 Somerville's Clean and Open Elections Task Force issued a report with a series of recommendations for how we can increase voter participation, increase the number and diversity of candidates running for public office, and increase the openness and transparency of elections.

One of those suggestions that I've recently been advocating for is to allow 16- and 17-year-olds to vote in local elections. Somerville has submitted a home rule petition to the state to allow us to do that and there are bills working their way through Beacon Hill that would give all Massachusetts cities and towns the option to do the same. It's a move to let more people have a say in the issues and decisions that affect their day-to-day lives.

To uphold our democracy, we need as many people as possible to get involved with government at all levels. One of the most basic ways to do that is with your vote, and it's on us - local, state, and federal government - to continue to look at voting and elections to make sure they're accessible, fair, and allow everyone who is able to participate.

For more information about voting early or other election-related matters, visit the Elections Department website at www. somervillema.gov/elections or by calling 311.

Davis Square: Now or Never

I'm City Council President, representing the opposite side of town. Davis Square looks nothing like it did even a short time ago, and hardly anyone I grew up with still lives there. Change came at the expense of people like me, yet some who criticized us for fearing change are now fearful of change themselves.

Somerville's planning department recently proposed changes in Davis Square to increase commercial and residential uses. These changes were met with resistance from residents and removed from the zoning overhaul. The main grievance was that increasing buildings from four stories to five or six stories would impact "neighborhood character." This is an interesting concern for the Paris of the 90's. I know a city covered with five and six story buildings that maintained its character for over a thousand years: Paris. There are legitimate concerns that Davis residents have that should be addressed. No one wants a luxury college dorm built at the expense of losing McKinnons or Sligos. No one wants ugly buildings that take away from Davis' unique character. That is why the City Council passed city-wide zoning reform to allow development on our terms. Somerville is now requiring a 20 percent affordable housing rate, linkage fees for jobs and housing, strong open space requirements, an off street parking ban for new developments and a potential transfer fee for affordable housing. We now have the groundwork to harness the inevitable changes on the horizon to our shared benefit.

People fear that rising property values will displace small businesses but that is happening regardless of development. There is little we can do to prevent a private landowner from displacing businesses. We can't stop the owner of Johnny D's from retiring or prevent Starbucks from competing against local coffee shops. But we do have an opportunity to use zoning and other tools to create an environment in Davis Square that will help current and future small businesses succeed. We can also use zoning to incentivize affordable housing near our biggest train stop, which in turn will increase customers for these businesses. In order to do that, we have to accept that some change is inevitable.

No one wants to lose Comicazi (formerly Disk Diggers) or Mr. Crepe (formerly Someday Café) or the Painted Burrow (formerly Gargoyles) or Five Horses (formerly Sagra, which replaced Yee's Village) or Snappy Kitchen (formerly Iyo, which replaced Farmer's Bounty). But what about the Middlesex Savings Bank next to the T stop? What about Rite Aid or any of the nameless one story buildings around Davis that do nothing to add to "neighborhood character?" Are these buildings so importbusinesses will come and go, and Davis Square will thrive. But what about those who are not benefiting from our urban renaissance? Resisting change now is not persevering neighborhood character; it is blocking the diversity and equity our progressive city claims to support. Neighborhood character is not defined by four versus six stories; it is defined by the people who live here. We need every neighborhood to do their part in addressing the affordable housing crisis, especially neighborhoods that reaped the benefits of transit access and commercial development.

Davis Square has changed repeatedly. It will continue to

ville. That boom was followed by rapid displacement that forced people like me out of the neighborhood we grew up in.

This inspired me to form Save Our Somerville, an advocacy group that hoped to preserve affordability. While many new residents supported us, we were met with skepticism from others who insisted change is inevitable and accused us of being ignorant and xenophobic.

Fast forward years later and

ant that we can't allow housing, even with the highest affordable housing rate in the state and all our environmental and traffic restrictions?

I understand the fear that comes with change. I was on the receiving end of that change and feared it as well. But whereas people like me were negatively impacted by changes, the opponents to change today will be just fine. Property values will continue to climb, hip change. It may become another Harvard Square, a soulless remnant of its past glory. But if we do nothing we will have a square of banks and bars with no diversity of businesses or people. We have an opportunity to increase investment in Davis Square, build affordable housing and commercial office space and make Davis Square better than ever. If we want Davis Square to be a diverse, inclusive community, it's now or never.

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COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Our View Of The Times



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.

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 –

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Ave. The meeting will be held in the Atrium Room of the Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. City staff will introduce the purpose and scope of this project, provide existing conditions data, and present concepts for potential roadway improvements to support sustainable, multi-modal transportation and improve traffic safety. Community members are invited to provide input about the conceptual designs and priority locations for different types of improvements. Plans for the project include resurfacing the roadways and sidewalks on Holland St. (from Davis Square to Teele Square) and College Ave. (from Davis Square to Powder House Circle). For more information or if you have any questions, visit https://somervoice.somervillema.gov/ hollandandcollege or email transportation@somervillema.gov

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

Cee Stitchery is a newly launched fiber walks for ADA compliance and imarts practice by Tori Costa. Inspired by proved safety. Construction is tentatively the quilters of Gee's Bend, Tori creates expected to start this summer and finish contemporary textile art using traditionby the end of the year, with final paval techniques of quilting, embroidery ing planned for the spring of 2021.For and more. Drawn to color, texture and more information, contact Haleemah pattern, Tori uses abandoned fabric -Qureshi at hqureshi@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 5411. old clothes, neglected ties, torn denim and upholstery samples - as her medi-*****

> The Somerville Arts Council is looking for musicians to perform at their annual jazz and blues festival. Get involved so you don't miss out. The application deadline March 9. Joe's Jazz and Blues Festi**val** is back this year with an all-day free concert at Powderhouse Park on June 20 (rain date June 21) and is looking for talent to perform. This is an exciting opportunity to showcase your unique jazz and blues sounds. Past performances have included everything from swampy Cajun to Ethiopian Jazz. Preference will be given to bands with a Somerville connection. Please note, they are only considering applicants who haven't played at this event in the last two years. Bring a friend, blanket, and a picnic for a great afternoon under the trees in one of the nicest parks in Somerville. If you are interested in performing, please fill out the call to musicians here: https://forms.

gle/oXwjsvfKp7YU4P7m7.

Somerville middle schoolers (grades 6-8) are invited again this year to participate in workshops to help them become powerful public speakers and debaters. Hosted by Debate Spaces, an award-winning, Harvard-affiliated non-profit, workshops will take place on February 29, March 14, and April 11, 10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Suffolk University. Past workshops have included students from the Argenziano and East Somerville Community School. Students will participate in skill-building games, a debate round, and community activism projects. Most students attend all three sessions though it is possible to attend only one or two. Scholarships available. No prior public speaking or debate experience is necessary. For more information, visit www.debatespaces. org, or email info@debatespaces.org. **** The Somerville Community Growing Center is polling its supporters and friends regarding what the Center's theme for 2020 should be. Every year, the Growing Center selects a theme around which to develop and orient programming, and Continued on page 16

Our sincerest condolences go out to the family and friends of Mary Rita "Marita" (Clark) Doherty, who passed away on Monday, February 3. She will be missed by all he knew and loved her.

Join Somerville Media Center at their first Art Wall reception of 2020. Tee-

February 18 through March 28.

um. On view at Somerville Media Cen-

ter, 90 Union Square, Somerville, from

Join Ward 5 Councilor Mark Niedergang and the Somerville Engineering Department on Wednesday, February 26, for a community meeting to discuss water, sewer, and roadway upgrades planned on Hall St. The meeting will be held from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the Kennedy School cafeteria, 5 Cherry St. The water and sewer mains on Hall St. date back to 1900. As part of the Hall St. Infrastructure Upgrades project, both the water and sewer mains will be replaced to provide better system functionality. After those underground improvements have been made, some aboveground roadway upgrades are planned, including constructing new cement concrete sidewalks, curb ramps, and raised cross-

The Somerville Times .

Hopeful Hearts & Local Arts

Hosted by Connexion, Hopeful Hearts & Local Arts, a market featuring a curated collection of makers, artists, designers, and small business owners took place Saturday, February 8, at Connexion, 149 Broadway.

In addition, there was food, music and a raffle. Raffle ticket funds and all donations were pledged to help Connexion continue to be a staple in the Somerville community through its many works.

For more information about Connexion, go to https:// connexionumc.org/







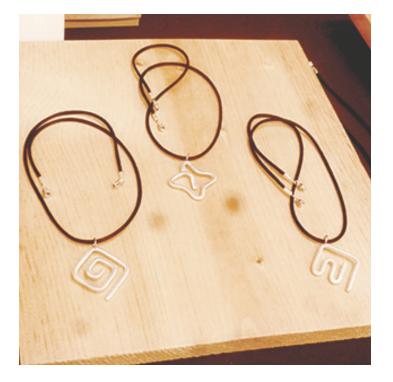












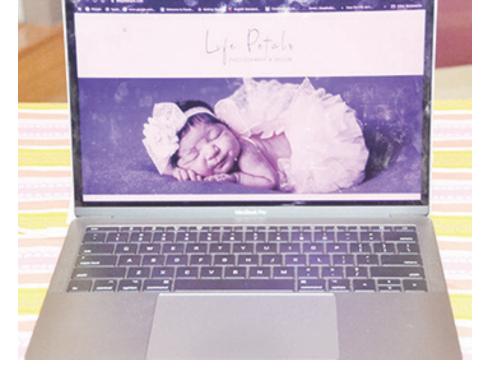












Photos by Claudia Ferro and Makayla Lancaster



FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

1. Who are the only car awarded?

two recipients of a posthumous Academy Award for acting?

2. Where did the first Academy Awards presentation take place?

3. For what film did Julie Andrews pick up the Oscar for Best Actress after her first film performance?

4. What actor won an Oscar for the Best Actor award consecutively for 1993 and 1994?

5. Who was the first actor to receive the Juvenile Oscar?

6. In what year was the last Juvenile Os-

7. In what year did

#717

Grubhub begin offering delivery for restaurants?

8. Who was the first president to name a woman to his cabinet?

9. What U.S. President had the most children?

10. Which singer was in the movie *Mad Max*: Beyond The Thunderdome?

11. What do the British call zucchini?

12. What profitable business did George Washington own? Answers on page 23



The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. In the 17th century, the value of pi was known to 35 decimal places. Today, to 1.2411 trillion.

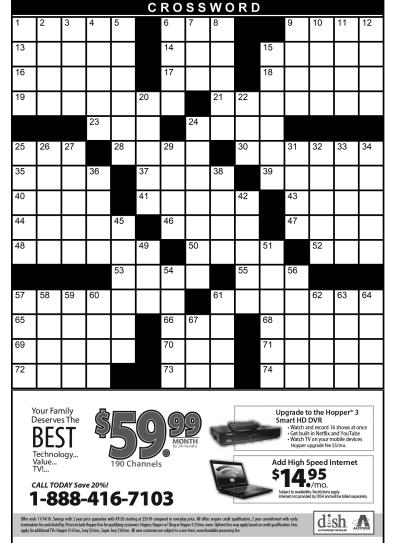
2. In the average lifetime, a person will walk the equivalent of 5 times around the equator.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: BLACK HISTORY MONTH

ACROSS

- 1. Sell illegally
- 6. Crime scene evidence
- 9. "From California to the New York
- Island," e.g.
- 13. Berth deck in relation to poop deck
- 14. Poetic over
- 15. Chocolate cake ingredient
- 16. Like Solitaire player
- 17. Go a-courting
- 18. Packing
- 19. "Go Tell It on the Mountain" author
- 21. *South Africa's first black president
- 23. Bag, ‡ Paris
- 24. Schooner pole
- 25. #1 on Billboards Chart, e.g.
- 28. One way to memorize
- 30. Civil rights activist and Ferguson
- opponent
- 35. Single pip cards
- 37. Give a shot of novocaine
- 39. Call forth
- 40. Long John Silver's walk
- 41. Sauna product
- 43. Dashing style
- 44. Pariah, for medical reasons
- 46. Back arrow key
- 47. As opposed to gross
- 48. Kane and Goldberg, TV characters
- 50. Georgia _____ university
- 52. Poseidon's domain
- 53. MXN, as in currency
- 55. Snowman Olaf's favorite thing
- 57. 2019 eponymous movie character
- 61. Errand runner, at court
- 65. Matter of debate
- 66. Harry Potter's Hedwig68. Ineffectual vomiting
- 69. Giblets part
- 70. Famous movie director, Spike
- 71. Ruhr's industrial center
- 72. Played at military funerals
- 73. Flow alternative
- 74. Nostradamus and such



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3. Absent without leave 4. Gives a helping hand 5. Antebellum 6. Pillow filler 7. ____colonial or __ _classical 8. Oven emanation? 9. Lady's man 10. Ne plus ultra 11. Famous Coward 12. Man Ray's genre 15. Back of a saddle 20. Popular Byzantine artwork 22. Nile viper 24. Reminder of times past 25. First African American to win Best Actress Oscar

26. More slippery

33. *On Debi Thomas' foot when she won Olympic medal 34. Busybody, in Yiddish 36. Work detail 38. Bid, past tense 42. Coffee shop order 45. D'Artagnan's weapon of choice 49. Get the picture 51. *Harlem Renaissance poet 54. Fur shawl 56. Canada flyers 57. Handle of #45 Down 58. Most populous continent 59. Invitation request 60. Regrets 61. Commoner 62. Diamond's corner 63. Walkie-talkie word

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

DOWN

1. Hunk of something

2. Flavored with kola nuts

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

27. Allegro and lento, in music29. Nobel Peace Prize laureate, 198431. Like fair share

32. Arch and ball location, pl. Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

64. Japanese money, pl.

67. Du Bois

	6	1	А	М	0	Κ			G	А	Ρ			F	А	С	Т
	<u> </u>	•	G	Α	L	Α		Τ	R	-	S		G	Ι	S	М	0
	9	8	Α	κ	Ι	Ν		Ν	Е	S	S		Е	L	Ι	0	Т
	5	2	R	0	0	S	Е	V	Е	L	Н		Е	L	Α	Ν	
	5	3				Α	Ν	0	D	Е		В	υ	Μ			
	1	9	G	D	Α	Ν	S	Κ			Т	Ι	Ρ	0	F	F	S
	•	<u> </u>	R	Ι	D		κ	Е	Υ	Ρ	Α	D		R	Е	Α	L
	2	7	Α	Ν	0	М	Υ		0	А	F		Μ	Е	Т	R	0
	2	4	N	Α	R	С		Н	U	S	Т	L	Е		Α	М	Ρ
	3	4	Т	R	Е	Κ	Κ	Е	D			0	R	Е	L	S	Е
	7	6				Ι	0	Ν		۷		0	L	А			
_	-	<u> </u>		U	L	Ν	Α		J	Е	F	F	Е	R	S	0	Ν
	4	2	S	Ρ	Е	L	L		А	Ν	Ν	А	-	L	Ι	R	А
	0	E	Α	Т	S	Ε	Α		D	U	0	S		А	L	Α	R
	8	5	Ρ	0	S	Υ			Е	S	Т			Ρ	0	L	Κ

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

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

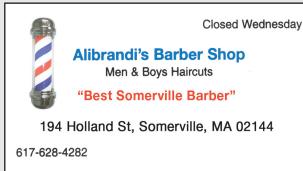




on Verdieu Cell:617-230-7013 Office: 617-623-6600 699 Broadway Somerville, MA 02144 verideu@c21ne.com :21ne.com



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mdropkin@dropkinmatza.com

LEGAL NOTICES

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



Bid Advertisement

The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids for SHA Project number 1904, Mystic Activity Center (MAC Center) Roof Replacement at 530 Mystic Avenue in Somerville, Massachusetts, in accordance with the Plans and Specifications prepared by EHA Design, Inc. 284 North Avenue, Weston, Massachusetts 02493.

The scope of work includes: Removal and legal disposal of the existing ballasted membrane roof, all associated membrane flashings, sealants, metal flashing and sheet metal, as required for the installation of a new .090" EPDM, 25 year warranty roofing system that includes, but is not limited to, the installation of all membrane flashings, metal flashings and all other associated work required for a complete and thorough installation.

The work on site is to start on March 30, 2020.

The work is estimated to cost \$225,000.00, and take 60 calendar days to complete. Bids are subject to HUD Procurement Regulation #7460.8 Rev.2 and 24 CFR Part 85, and to the minimum wage rates required by U.S. Department of Labor's minimum Federal Wage Rates.

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 <u>www.biddocsonline.com</u>. Tutorials and instruction on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online (click on the "Tutorial" tab at the bottom footer).

General Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m. Thursday, February 27, 2020 and publicly opened online forthwith. All Bids will be submitted online at <u>www.biddocsonline.com</u> and received no later than the date and time specified above.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for pick-up at <u>www.biddocsonline.com</u> (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.

The deposit will be refunded for up to two sets for general bidders and for one set for sub-bidders upon the return of the sets in good condition within thirty (30) days of receipt of general 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 per set for UPS overnight), payable to BidDocs ONLINE, Inc., to cover mail handling costs.

General bidders shall be certified by the Massachusetts Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) for the category of Roofing. General bids shall be accompanied by a DCAMM Certificate of Eligibility for the appropriate category, and an Update Statement. Failure to provide a DCAMM Certificate of Eligibility and Update Statement will result in the bid being rejected.

General bidders shall be required to fill out the following forms as part of the electronic bidding of this project:

- 1. HUD 5369-A Representations, Certifications and
- Other Statements
- 2. Non-Collusive Affidavit
- Resident Employment Provisions (REP) Forms 1 through 7
 DCAMM Update Statement Supplement Form
- -. DUAIVIIVI U 5. HUD 2530
- 6. Unit Prices

General Bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than 5% of the greatest possible bid amount. Bid deposits shall be in the form of a bid bond, cash, certified check, or a treasurer's or cashier's check issued by a responsible bank or trust company, payable to the **Somerville Housing Authority**.

A pre-submission site visit will be held at the <u>MAC Center</u>, 530 Mystic Ave., Somerville, MA 02145 on <u>Thursday, February 20, 2020</u> at <u>10:00</u> <u>AM</u>, at which time access to the roof will be made available to prospective bidders. It is strongly recommended that prospective bidders attend.

For additional information regarding this project contact the Somerville Modernization Department, at 617-625-1152.

2/12/20 The Somerville Times



SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

30 Memorial Road

Somerville, MA 02145 PROJECT# 2004

Invitation for Quotes for the Weston Manor Parking Lot Improvement Project at 15 Weston Avenue, Somerville, MA 02144.

The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites quotes from General Contractors for SHA Job No. 2004 in accordance with the documents prepared by the Somerville Housing Authority's Modernization Department.

The project consists of labor, materials, equipment and supervision necessary to complete grind existing pavement and install new as-phalt paving with striping.

The estimated project cost is \$46,000.00

Quotes are subject to the Federal Davis-Bacon Act (DBA) Wage Determinations. 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.

Quotes will be received until February 27th, 2020 @ **2:00 PM** and should be emailed or hand delivered to the Somerville Housing Authority's Modernization Department, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145. Quotes shall be emailed to Manny St. Louis at <u>mannys@</u> **sha-web.org**

There will be a **pre-bid walkthrough on February 20th, 2020 at precisely 11:00 AM**. Contractors should meet at the project site at 15 Weston Avenue, Somerville, MA.

Project documents can be obtained by emailing or calling Manny St. Louis. Any questions or concerns shall be emailed five days before the quote deadline to <u>mannys@sha-web.org</u> or call at <u>617-625-1152</u> <u>ext. 330</u>.

The Somerville Housing Authority reserves the right to waive minor informalities and/or to reject any and all bids, if it is to be determined to be in the best interest of the Somerville Housing Authority.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after approval of the award by the Somerville Housing Authority without written consent of the Somerville Housing Authority.

2/12/20 The Somerville Times

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Suffolk Probate and Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114

SUFFOLK Division

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

Kevin David Mejia Ulloa vs. Juan Ramon Mejia Rivas

To the above Defendant:

2/12/20 The Somerville Times

A Complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff, Kevin David Mejia Ulloa seeking a Complaint for Dependency filed on 01/15/2020.

The Plaintiff is also seeking an Order of Special Findings declaring that the Defendant neglected and abandoned the Plaintiff.

You are required to serve your answer upon Plaintiff whose Address is: 104 Washington Street Apt#3 Somerville, MA 02143

If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy your answer in the office of the Register of this Court at Boston: (24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114)

Witness, **Brian J. Dunn**, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 17th day of January of the year 2020.



SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY

30 Memorial Road

Somerville, MA 02145

PROJECT# 2005

Invitation for Quotes for the Brady Towers Parking Lot Improvement Project at 252 Medford Street, Somerville, MA 02144.

The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites quotes from General Contractors for SHA Job No. 2005 in accordance with the documents prepared by the Somerville Housing Authority's Modernization Department.

The project consists of labor, materials, equipment and supervision necessary to complete grind existing pavement and install new asphalt paving with striping.

The estimated project cost is \$74,000.00

Quotes are subject to the Federal Davis-Bacon Act (DBA) Wage Determinations. 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.

Quotes will be received until February 27th, 2020 @ 2:00 PM and should be emailed or hand delivered to the Somerville Housing Authority's Modernization Department, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145. Quotes shall be emailed to Manny St. Louis at <u>mannys@</u> sha-web.org

There will be a **pre-bid walkthrough on February 20th, 2020 at precisely 10:00AM**. Contractors should meet at the project site at 252 Medford Street., Somerville, MA.

Project documents can be obtained by emailing or calling Manny St. Louis. Any questions or concerns shall be emailed five days before the quote deadline to <u>mannys@sha-web.org</u> or call at <u>617-625-1152</u> <u>ext. 330</u>.

The Somerville Housing Authority reserves the right to waive minor informalities and/or to reject any and all bids, if it is to be determined to be in the best interest of the Somerville Housing Authority.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after approval of the award by the Somerville Housing Authority without written consent of the Somerville Housing Authority.

2/12/20 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT IFB#20-56

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

Sidewalk Repairs

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at http://www.somerville-ma.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/bids or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after doi:10.000

The City will offer pre-bid conference on <u>03/04/2020, 9:00PM EST</u> at Somerville City Hall. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: <u>03/10/2020 2:00PM</u>. 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.

Prevailing wage rates apply. 5% bid deposit required.

Please contact Prajkta Waditwar at <u>pwaditwar@somervillema.gov</u> / <u>purchasing@somervillema.gov</u> for more information or any questions related to this bid.

Felix D. Arrovo

Docket No. 20A0012 SU18E0268QC

2/12/20 The Somerville Times

TO PLACE LEGAL ADVERTISMENTS IN THE SOMERVILLE TIMES, CONTACT US BY **12 PM MONDAY** PH: 617.666.4010 FAX: 617.628.0422

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

is seeking input from Somerville families about this year's theme. Visit https://docs.google.com/ forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdkSb8mk-KT8_ueTJNeLLEp5cd14Z6ELtwCO8eZdWg_dhfhJ3g/viewform to vote.

Check out the Somerville Parks and Recreation Department website (www.somervillerec.com) for information about their February Vacation Floor Hockey program, and other programs and events available this winter. A full list of classes, clinics, events, youth and adult league sports, and activities, as well as cost for each is available at http://www. somervillerec.com/info/activities/ default.aspx?type=activities.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

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



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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, February 27, 2020** at **6:00pm** at the Visiting Nurse Association, 3rd Floor Community Room, 259 Lowell Street, Somerville, MA to consider the following pursuant to M.G.L. 40A and the Somerville Zoning Ordinance:

74 Middlesex Ave &

845 McGrath Hwy - (PB2017-27-EXT1) Applicant and Owner, 845 Riverview LLC., c/o McDermott, Quilty & Miller, LLP, seeks a time extension to a Planned Unit Development – Preliminary Master Plan (PUD-PMP) approved on April 5, 2018, to develop a transit-oriented mixed-use development in two buildings, with relief granted for an increase in building height to 147' to allow for 180 hotel rooms, an increase in building height to 235' to allow for 215 residential units, 9,472 square feet of ground floor restaurant/retail space, and parking relief to provide 293 structured parking spaces. Assembly Square Mixed Use District (ASMD). Ward 1.

74 Middlesex Ave &

845 McGrath Hwy – (PB2018-09-EXT1) Applicant and Owner, 845 Riverview LLC., c/o McDermott, Quilty & Miller, LLP, seeks a time extension to a Special Permit with Site Plan Review-A, approved on May 15, 2018, to develop a transit-oriented mixed-use development on 0.85 acres under an approved PUD-PMP to create 368,030 square feet in two buildings, one of 147' high, containing up to 180 hotel rooms, and the other 235' high containing up to 215 residential units, supported by 9,472 square feet of ground floor restaurant/retail space, and 293 structured parking spaces. Assembly Square Mixed Use District (ASMD). Ward 1.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at <u>https://www.somervillema.gov/</u> <u>departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions</u> or in-person in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, 3rd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

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 <u>planning@somervillema.gov</u>.

2/12/20 The Somerville Times

Want to write local Somerville stories? Call 617-666-4010 and speak to the Assignment Editor



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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on <u>Wednesday, February 26, 2020</u> at <u>6:00pm</u> at the Visiting Nurse Association, 3rd Floor Community Room, 259 Lowell Street, Somerville, MA to consider the following pursuant to M.G.L. 40A and the Somerville Zoning Ordinance:

515 Somerville Ave. - Applicant, Claudia Murrow, seeks an appeal of the building inspector's decision of December 12, 2019. The applicant is appealing from the building inspector's refusal to take action on her enforcement request relative to property located at 515 Somerville Avenue and a building permit issued with respect to that property.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at <u>https://www.somervillema.gov/</u> <u>departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions</u> or in-person in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, 3rd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

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 <u>planning@somervillema.gov</u>.

2/12/20 The Somerville Times

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT RFP 20-57

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

Regional Climate Assessment

A request for proposals (RFP) may be obtained online <u>https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing</u> on or after <u>2/10/2020</u>. Separately sealed price and technical proposals will be received at the above office until: <u>3/6/2020 at 2:00 p.m. ET</u>. 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 City of Somerville, with partners Boston, Chelsea, Everett, Revere, Winthrop, and the Mystic River Watershed Association, have received a grant to conduct two related assessments over the course of an 18-month period: an Infrastructure Assessment and a Social Vulnerability Assessment. These assessments will help municipalities and infrastructure managers prioritize capital and operational improvements needed to protect people and assets during and after coastal storms.

Please contact <u>amallen@somervillema.gov</u> for more information.

Angela M. Allen Purchasing Director 617-625-6600 x. 3400

2/12/20 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT REBID IFB#20-09

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

Replacement of Filters at Kennedy Pool

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at <u>http://www.somerville-ma.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/bids</u> or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after <u>02/12/2020</u>. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: <u>02/26/2020 2:00PM</u>. 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.

Prevailing wage rates apply. 5% bid deposit required.

Please contact Prajkta Waditwar at <u>pwaditwar@somervillema.gov</u> / <u>purchasing@somervillema.gov</u> for more information or any questions related to this bid.

<u>Prajkta Waditwar</u> Construction Procurement Manager 617-625-6600 x. 3407

2/12/20 The Somerville Times

'Principal America'



In May of 2019, the Somerville City Council passed an ordinance banning the use of plastic straws and/or stirrers in all food and retail establishments within the City of Somerville. This ordinance went into effect on February 9, 2020; however, during the first six months, only warnings will be issued to give businesses a chance to substitute alternative products.





This ordinance is the latest step that the City of Somerville has taken to protect the

marine environment, advance solid waste reduction, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and protect waterways. To date, the City of Somerville has also enacted plastic bag bans and Styrofoam bans toward the same goals.

Under this ordinance, retail establishments will no longer be permitted to offer customers plastic, single-use plastic straws or stirrers at the point-of-purchase or at self-serve food or beverage stations, unless a specific request is made by a customer.

If retailers or restaurants do plan to provide plastic straws or stirrers, upon request only, they must also post a printed sign in any area where other single-use items, such as utensils, are provided. If a retail establishment is found to be non-compliant with this ordinance, the first violation will result in a warning. Subsequent violations will carry a fine.

More information on the ordinance is available on the city's website at https://www.somervillema.gov/plasticstraws. If you have questions regarding enforcement of this ordinance or other regulations, please contact the Inspectional Services Department, Health Division at (617) 625-6600 x4331. The students of West Somerville Neighborhood School held their fundraiser to raise money for field trips, including an overnight one to Washington, D.C. School Principal Kathleen Seward challenged them to get pledges from all 50 states and whichever class got the most would be able to tell her which super hero she would have to dress up as. Kate Anaya's kindergarten class won and they chose Captain America for her. — Photo by Claudia Ferro

•••• VILLENS ON THE TOWN ••••

CHILDREN AND YOUTH Wednesday/February 12

Central Library Homeschool Reading Group 10:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Somerville High School Anime Club 2:45 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library

Preschool Storytime 11 a.m.-11:30 a.m. GOOD CRAFTernoon with the Button Maker! 12:30 p.m.- 4 p.m.|115 Broadway

Thursday|February 13

Central Library Preschool Storytime for 3 to 5-yearolds 10:30 a.m.- 11:15 a.m.

Comic Book Drawing Workshop 3 p.m.- 5 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Friday|February 14

Central Library Preschool Storytime for 2-year-olds 10:30 a.m.-11 a.m. Teen Empowerment Library Leaders meeting 3:30 p.m.-6 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Saturday|February 15 Central Library Books of Hope 2 p.m.-4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Monday | February 17 Libraries closed

Tuesday|February 18

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

Wednesday|February 19

East Branch Library Rosalita's Puppets : The Sea Story 11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

MUSIC|ARTS Wednesday|February 12

Sally O'Brien's Bar free poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Pub Session with: Grain Thief|9 p.m. Back Room: Waypoint, Sweet Petunia |7 p.m. Comedy Night with Janet Mc-Namara|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

Bull McCabe's Pub The A-Beez 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045 Sally O'Brien's 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589 The Burren

WFOC Album Release Show, w/ Housecat and Matty Sun|7 p.m. Scattershot|10 p.m. 247 Elm St

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

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

Thunder Road The Koopa Kids with special guests Set The Nation, and I Was Awake 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville Galentine's Day at ONCE 7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Jungle Community Music Club Sober Curious Night with Henry McIntyre + Band, Font Club|6 p.m. Heavy Necker, At the Hands of Man, Square Ape|8 p.m.| 6 Sanborn Ct

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Paper Waiter 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory Pub Sing 6 p.m|Café|191 Highland Ave

The Rockwell Supper Club Shit-faced Shakespeare®: A Midsummer Night's Dream 7 p.m.|255 Elm St

Friday|February 14

Sally O'Brien's Sneaky Pint|6 p.m. Hear Now Live presents The Othership, Buck Lonesome, Table For One|9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room: Irish Session|9:30 p.m. Backroom| Wild Maple, The Lied To's|7 p.m. Spike the Punch|10 p.m.

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896 Once Somerville Slow Hollows 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

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

Bull McCabe's Kevin Connolly Mules| 7-9 Jen Kearney 2nd Fridays |10 p.m. 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

Casey's Entertainment every Friday Good Luck Comedy | Where's the love?|9:30 p.m. 255 Elm St

Saturday|February 15

Sally O'Brien's David Johnston Band|6 p.m. HolyStone|9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room:Bluegrass Session|2 p.m. Hunter Americana|5 p.m.|Irish Session|2 p.m. Back Room: Kinds of Love: with the Alex Fam Collective, Sadie Gustafson-Zook, and Lindsay Foote|7

p.m. Scattershots|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar Karaoke 65 Holland St

Bull McCabe's GramJam 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

Thunder Road Binge Magick with special guests TBA! 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville Playin Dead at ONCE Ballroom 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. The Gallerist 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Jungle Community Music Club Toddler Dance Party |5 p.m. We Are Space Horses / Motel Black / Verdegree / MyGoodFriendTom| 7 p.m. 6 Sanborn Ct

The Rockwell Shit-faced Shakespeare®: A Midsummer Night's Dream|7 p.m. Boston Comedy Festival: Valentine's Comedy Show|9:30 p.m. 255 Elm St

Sunday|February 16

Sally O'Brien's Bar Natural Wonders|4:30 p.m. African Night, SambaLolo and guests|10 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room: John Gannon & Friends|2 p.m., Alan Kaufman & Friends|6 p.m., Los Goutos|9 p.m. Backroom: Dietrich Strause with J.E. Sunde|7 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub Sundown Session 6-8 Dub Apocalypse 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045 2 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Monday|February 17

Sally O'Brien's Bar Comedy Night! The Up n Coming Open Mic|7 p.m. Marley Monday with The Duppy Conquerors reggae|10 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room: Bur-Run|6:45 p.m., Run, Helena Delaney & Friends|9:30 p.m. Back Room: Matt Heaton|3:30 p.m. Stump Trivia|8:30 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub Jimmy James Trivia|8:30 p.m. Catch A Dinosaur|10 p.m. 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road 379 Somerville Ave.

Once Somerville 156 Highland Ave

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

The Jungle Community Music Club ThisBodyls / UnnamedColors / Jean-PaulJeanPaul / Ben Shaw 7 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

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

Tuesday|February 18

Sally O'Brien's Bar Tim Gearan & The Shrikes 8 p.m|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room: Jason Anick & The Swingers|8:30 p.m. Backroom| Common Sound, Elevate|7p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

Highland Kitchen

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

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

Thunder Road Neighbor Lite – A Unique Evening with Neighbor Minus 1 Player! 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville ArtHouse Havins, Lina Cooper Pub Session with: Grain Thief|9 p.m. Back Room: Comedy Night with Janet McNamara|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

Bull McCabe's Pub The A-Beez 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-

440-6045 **Thunder Road** Bearly Dead – A Tribute To The Grateful Dead 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville Papooz 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Jungle Community Music Club Open Mic at The Jungle 7 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

Highland Kitchen 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Jack Byrne

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street Somerville Theatre Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour

7:30 p.m.|55 Davis Sq

CLASSES AND GROUPS Wednesday February 12

Central Library Drop in Knitting and Needlecraft 12 p.m.-2 p.m. P2P Technologies: A Series 6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday|February 13

Ciampa Manor Learn English with the Library! 6 p.m.- 8 p.m.|27 College Avenue

West at TAB Books to Movies Club 6:30 p.m.-7:30p.m.|167 Holland St

East Branch Library East Eats / Fasika 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

First Church Somerville

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

Saturday|February 15

Arts at the Armory Somerville Winter Farmers Market 9:30 p.m.- 2 p.m./Performance Hall/191 Highland Ave

Somerville Writers and Poets meet

9 a.m.-12 p.m Au Bon Pain| 18-48

Bagel Bards

Holland St

Thunder Road

Bearly Dead – A Tribute To The Grateful Dead 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville

Juliana Hatfield

Will Dailey

7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Jungle Community Music Club Open Mic at The Jungle 7 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

Highland Kitchen 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Alper Tuzcu 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory

Been Out Here: Teen Open Mic 6 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Thursday|February 13

173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road

Cris Jacobs Band with special guests Jay Psaros Band and TBA! 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Brian Friedland Trio 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Jungle Community Music Club Fire In The Field, Myth Is King, The Medicinal Purpose 8 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

Arts at the Armory Tongue in Cheek Valentine's Day 7:30 p.m.|Performance Hall Dandelion Surfers Valentine's Day Show 8 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

The Rockwell

Shit-faced Shakespeare®: A Midsummer Night's Dream|7 p.m.

Highland Kitchen Sunday Brunch Live Country & Bluegrass Sunday Night Live Music

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

Thunder Road 379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville BLOWW: Nether Regionals 2020 7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Jungle Community Music Club Plant Nite: Lily Bowl|6 p.m. Purple Moon (Pink Floyd Tribute) at The Jungle| 8 p.m. 6 Sanborn Ct

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Americana Picnic: Possum 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave **The Jungle Community Music Club** Black History Artist Showcase 7:30 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

Aeronaut Brewing Co Indie Trivia 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory First and Last Word Poetry 7 p.m.|café|191 Highland Ave

Somerville Theatre Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour

7:30 p.m.|55 Davis Sq

Wednesday February 19

Sally O'Brien's Bar free poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Sunday|February 16

weekly to discuss their work

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

Monday|February 17

Libraries Closed

Tuesday|February 18

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

Aeronaut Brewing Company Books & Brews Book Club 6:15 p.m.-7:15 p.m.|14 Tyler St

Wednesday February 19

Central Library Drop in Knitting and Needlecraft 12 p.m.-2 p.m.]79 Highland Ave

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

CENTER LOCATIONS, TIMES & SCHEDULES

 Main Office: 167 Holland Street

 (Between Davis Square and Teele Square.)

 Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

 Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

 Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

 617-625-6600, ext. 2300

 Fax: 617-625-0688
 TTY: 866-808-4851

Holland Street Senior Center: 167 Holland Street (Between Davis Square and Teele Square) Monday through Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Fridays: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 617-625-6600, ext. 2300

Cross Street Center: 165 Broadway (*East Somerville*) Mondays & Tuesdays – 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Thursdays – 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Fridays – 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 Fax: 617-625-1414

Ralph and Jenny Center: 9 New Washington Street, (Behind the Holiday Inn) Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. 617- 666-5223

UPCOMING EVENTS/TRIPS

Volunteers needed for the Engage for Brain Health Study - Are you starting to have problems with your memory or have trouble climbing stairs? Engage B might be right for you! 24 week study for people 60 to 89 years of age. Call Chris at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email him at ckowaleski@Somervillema.gov for questions and additional information.

Fit-4-Life Nutrition Class – Thursday afternoons from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. with our Nutritionist Caitlin McAfee. Learn about our new and upcoming nutrition programs including, Cooking with Caitlin, Fit-4-Life Nutrition Class, Meal in a Mug and more. Next Class December 5 For more information call Caitlin at 617-625-6600, ext. 2316.

Healthy Steps – Thursdays, Holland Street from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Healthy Steps is a therapeutic, gentle, movement class for anyone who needs to get moving, particularly anyone recovering from surgery, frail elders or those living with chronic fatigue or arthritis. Upcoming date: December 5. Class is \$3. For additional information or questions call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Line Dancing – The first and third Thursday of each month- Holland Street Center . Class is free. No experience needed. For additional info or questions call at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Bowling – Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Sacco's Bowl Haven at Flatbread Pizza located in Davis Square. There is a \$3 weekly fee which covers shoe rental, three strings candlepin bowling and dues for a bowling banquet. For more information and to sign up please contact Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

Music & Movement with Steve Gintz – at our Holland

Monday Madness – Gaelic Celebration – Monday, March 2 – 9:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Starting off with a catered breakfast from Renee's Café followed by Leprechaun Magic and activities. \$3 to be paid at time of reservation. Seating is limited. RSVP a must. Call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 for more info.

Watercolors with Frames – Monday, March 9 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. Class taught by Linda Cohen. Class size is limited. All supplies will be provided. Please call Josie at617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to register for this class.

Living YOUR Best Life – starting Tuesday, March 10 at 9:00 a.m. This course runs until April 14. Enroll in the Living YOUR Best Life course and learn how to become stronger and more resilient. Contact Ashley at 617-625-6600, ext. 2318 to enroll. Lunch will be served.

Boston Flower & Garden Show – Wednesday, March 11 at the Seaport World Trade Center.\$16 per person due at time of reservation.Limited tickets available. Pick up time at Holland Street at 10:00 a.m. with an approximate return time of 1:30 p.m. For more information please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration – Monday, March 16 at Dilboy Post located at 351 Summer Street from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. \$12 Limited seating and transportation. For more information please call Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Foxwoods Casino – Monday, March 30 - \$25 includes transportation and a yet to be determined package. Check in time 7:00 a.m. at Ralph and Jenny with an approximate return time of 7:00 p.m. For more information please contact Connie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Mohegan Sun – Tuesday, April 21 - \$25 includes transportation, \$10 food coupon and \$10 free bet. Check in time at Ralph & Jenny at 8:00 a.m. with an approximate return time of 7:00 p.m. For more information please contact Connie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

LGBTQ EVENTS

LBT Women Fit-4-Life – at Holland Street Center 167 Holland Street - Fitness class is Thursday evenings starting at 6:00 P.M. \$10 a month fee - scholarships available & it just might be covered under your insurance. We have available slots and would love to have you. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2315.

WEEKLY EXERCISE AND NUTRITION CLASS SCHED-ULE

(PLEASE CUT OUT AND SAVE)

Monday:

Keep Moving Walking Club - 9:00 a.m. (H) – On Hiatus until Spring

Tai Chi – 11:30 a.m. (H) – On Hiatus

Fit-4-Life – 11:00 a.m. (C) Fit-4-Life Group C - 1:00 p.m. (H)

Tuesday:

Strengthening - 9:00 a.m. - \$3 per class (H) Fit-4-Life - 11:00 a.m. (C) ested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

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

Gardening Club – Meets the second Monday of each month starting at 9:00 a.m. Vilma Sullivan facilitates this group. There is a different topic each month ranging from gardening tips and secrets to inexpensive greenhouses. Group runs for approximately an hour. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300. Low Vision Support Group - Meets the second Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Do you know someone who has trouble seeing? Do you have low vision? Join our Low Vision Support Group for educational and informative information and peer support in a confidential environment. Lunch and transportation may be available on request. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 ext. 2318.

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

Men's Group – Meets the first Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This group is facilitated by our volunteer, Norbert DeAmato. Are you recently retired? Looking to connect with other men in the community? Join our men's group where you can connect with old friends and make new ones. All men 55 and over are welcome. Come chat about what is on your mind! If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

Veterans Group – Meets the third Monday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Our volunteer, Norbert DeAmato, facilitates this group. Are you a veteran? The Veterans Group is the perfect opportunity to socialize, have solidarity, to reminisce and to meet other veterans. For info please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

CROSS STREET GROUP INFORMATION

Cross Street Center is Closed the Week of November 22. Lunch is served every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 for sign up.

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

Street Center from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Come create magical movements through music. Please call Ashley at 617-625-6600, ext. 2318 for more information. Upcoming dates: January 27 and February 24.

Caregivers Series For Those Who Live Independent-Iy – each Thursday in February from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Please call Ashley at 617-625-6600, ext. 2318 for additional information.

Senior Tax Preparation – AARP is taking appointments to help with income tax preparations at our Holland Street Center. Appointments are 1 hour starting at 9:00 a.m. with the last one being at 1:00 p.m. No tax preparations on Monday the 17 due to the holiday. Please call Josephine to schedule an appointment at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Movie & Pizza Day – Tuesday, February 18 starting at 10:00 a.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street. This month's movie is Driving Miss Daisy. Pizza to follow movie. \$3 per person due at time of reservation. For more information or to reserve your spot please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300. Wednesdays:

Fit-4-Life Group A – 8:45 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life Group B - 10:00 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life Group C - 1:00 p.m. (H)

Thursdays:

Yoga - 9:00 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life - 11:00 a.m. (C) Nutrition Class – 3:00 p.m. (H) LBT Fit-4-Life–6:00 p.m. (H)

Fridays:

Fit-4-Life Group A – 8:45 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life Group B - 10:00 a.m. (H)

*All Fit-4-Life classes are \$10 per month and require pre-registration

HOLLAND STREET GROUP INFORMATION

Book Club – Meets the third Friday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This group self-facilitates. Group members choose both fiction and non-fiction titles on a quarterly basis. Books are available on reserve at the Central Branch of the Somerville Library. If you are inter-

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

Computer Time – Meets every Tuesday starting on January 7 from 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Need to learn how to use a computer? Want to set up social media accounts? Learn Microsoft Word? Or just have free computer time. Call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 for additional information.

Data reveals how nutrition programs support Aging in Place

By Meghan Ostrander and Nathan Lamb

Elder services is about providing supports that help people maintain health and independence. The assistance Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) provides is often life changing, and we had a vivid reminder of that through a recent survey that illustrates how nutrition programs support Aging in Place.

Perhaps the most compelling statistic: fully 90 percent of respondents said that Meals on Wheels helps them live independently. That's quite a number, when you consider we delivered more than 235,000 meals last year. In many cases, we are serving isolated older adults who cannot prepare their own meals, and those who might otherwise go hungry for financial reasons. The common thread is improving nutrition, while reducing hunger and isolation.

Patrons of congregate meals program also participated in the survey and reported similar impacts from more than 60,000 meals we served at 10 local congregate meal sites over the past year.

All told, we provided meals for more than 1,000 local older adults and people under 60 with disabilities. I want to thank the more than 200 participants who responded to the survey, to help us assess the quality and impact of our services. The responses shed some light on several meaningful topics:

Supporting Health 84% of Meals on Wheels recipients felt the program improved their health, with more than three-quarters of participants saying it also helps them maintain a health condition, feel better, meet weight goals, and eat healthier foods. Among congregate meals patrons, 74% said it improved their health.

Reducing isolation Half of the Meals on Wheels recipients live alone, with no one to check on them but their drivers. Some 73% of home delivered meals recipients said they feel less lonely because of their driver—and 97% of home delivered meal recipient rated their interaction with nutrition program staff as excellent or good. Some 97% of congregate meals patrons said they feel less lonely from visiting our meal site.

Research published by the National Institute on Aging in 2019 linked loneliness and isolation to a variety of negative health impacts, including high blood pressure, heart disease, depression, and cognitive decline. The socialization piece is



L to R: Director of Nutrition at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) Meghan Ostrander and Director of Outreach and Community relations at SCES Nathan Lamb.

very important, and it is gratifying to hear that we are making an impact there.

Avoiding malnutrition Some 48% of home delivered meals recipients reported they would have a shortage of food without the program. And 77% of homebound recipients said the home delivered meal was their main meal of the day, with more than half of congregate meals sites reporting the same.

We also received positive feedback on the food, with nearly 80% saying the meals are excellent or good and 86% saying they would recommend the meals to a friend.

The Meals on Wheels and Congregate Dining Site programs are open to residents of Cambridge and Somerville who are age 60 or over. Meals on Wheels is also available for client spouses or dependents with disabilities who may be under 60. There is no charge, but we do request a voluntary donation to help support the program.

Malnutrition is a common problem for older adults. To help reverse that trend, we also offer nutrition counseling, low cost nutrition supplements and a monthly grocery supplement for eligible households.

There are many ways SCES nutrition programs support healthy Aging in Place. Please feel free to get in touch if you think we can help.

Meghan Ostrander is Director of Nutrition at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES). Nathan Lamb is Director of Outreach and Community relations at SCES. For more information about SCES nutrition programs, contact our Aging Information Center by calling 617-628-2601. Or visit our website, eldercare.org.

Serve and Inspire Volunteer Orientation

Attend an orientation to learn about district schools and how Somerville Public Schools volunteers serve, inspire, and support student learning on Thursday, February 13, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the SFLC Cummings School Building, 42 Prescott St., Rm. 12. Please contact SPS Volunteer Coordinator Jen Capuano at jcapuano@k12.somerville.ma.us or call (617) 629-5475 for more info.

Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner (

By Bobbygeorge Potaris

Enhance your professional skills with SMC

SMC offers plenty of fun and educational opportunities to learn how to create locally made media and to enhance your professional skills. They welcome the everyone in the community to become a member with SMC and take advantage of their youth and adult education workshops. Here are just a couple of the educational opportunities they are currently offering:

Two guys walk into a bar – the third guy ducked! Courtesy of Margaret

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BASIC GRANTWRITING A workshop for grantseekers

Grant Seeking and Grant Writing Workshops When: Tuesday, February 25, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. (Grant Writing) Location: Somerville Media Center (90 Union Square) Cost: \$75 for each workshop session

Somerville Media Center is offering workshops with experienced grant writer and educator Ellen Gugel. The workshops are geared to non-profit professionals, artists and community members who are interested in learning how to research applicable grants and create successful proposals. The February 25 workshop will cover grant writing.

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n and sign up	1 5 1		
7:00am	Effort Pour Christ	Monday,	February 17
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	12:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
9:00am	SMC Youth Media	5:00am	Free Speech TV
9:30am	Science 360	6:00am	NASA TV
10:00am	Dead Air Live	7:00am	Somerville Storytellers
11:00am	TeleGalaxie	7:30am	Going Postal
12:00pm	Somerville Storytellers	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
1:00pm	Tele Magazine	9:00am	Science 360
2:00pm	Reeling Review	10:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News
3:00pm MA	A House of Representatives Formal Session	11:00am	Our View
4:00pm	Tele Kreyol	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show
5:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	1:00pm	SOM ARTS
5:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	1:30pm	Somerville Storytellers
6:00pm	Somerville Pundits	2:00pm	NASA TV
6:30pm	The Somerville Labor Show	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
7:00pm	BLOWW Show a Go Go	4:00pm	African Television Network
7:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	5:00pm	Community Lens: SHC 5K Race
8:00pm	#AFAD		LIVE from VOX POP
9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:00pm 6:30pm	
10:00pm	Heavy Leather Music Video Show	7:00pm	Fur, Fins and Feathers Tele Galaxie
11:00pm	SCATV Secret Stash		
11:30pm	Queer Cats	8:00pm	LIVE -Somerville Overcoming Addiction Dedilhando au Saudade
Sunday, Fe	hunami 16	9:00pm	Colores Latinos
12:00am	Flotilla	10:00pm 11:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
		11:00pm	neavy Leather Topless Dance Party
1:00am	NASA TV		February 18
1:30am	NASA TV	12:00am	Public Safety/Homeland Security Hearing
1:30am 2:00am	NASA TV NASA TV	12:00am 6:00am	Public Safety/Homeland Security Hearing NASA TV
1:30am 2:00am 3:00am	NASA TV NASA TV Free Speech TV	12:00am 6:00am 7:00am	Public Safety/Homeland Security Hearing NASA TV NASA TV
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Radio Pr	oduction, lea	rn skills like editing and field production
	1:30pm	The Somerville Line
ch TV	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
ch TV	4:00pm	VOX POP: Somerville Connects
SA TV	4:30pm	The Struggle
Board	5:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
Shape	6:00pm	#AFAD
ch TV) 3000	6:30pm	#AFAD
	7:00pm	Community Lens: SHC 5K Race
e Bars	8:00pm	LIVE - Our View
Writer	9:00pm	PABFONE Closing Day Ceremony
News	10:00pm	Community Bulletin Board
pdate	10:30pm	The World Fusion Show
Yours Show	11:00pm	VOX POP Comedy Night
News	Friday, Feb	
News	12:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
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th TV)	1:30am	SCATV Secret Stash
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ibrary	6:00am	NASA TV
ghbor	7:00am	The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)
Yours	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
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undits	11:30am	Cambridge Calendar
maxx	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show
X POP	1:00pm	Community Benefits Agreement
Party	2:00pm	Somerville Pundits
lotilla		umn Reads with Somerville Public Library
io una	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
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Stash	5:00pm	DW Global 3000
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ch TV	6:00pm	Grandstanders
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Zone	9:00pm	Fur, Fins and Feathers
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	11:00pm	Heavy Leather Music Video Show
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Series	12:00am	VOX POP Comedy Night
Series	1:00am	Free Speech TV
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Show	5:00am	Free Speech TV
e Line	6:00am	DW Focus on Europe
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Wednesd	ay, February 12	
12:00am	Free Speech TV	
6:00am	NASA TV	
7:00am	Community Bulletin Board	
7:30am	DW In Good Shape	
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
9:00am	DW Global 3000	
9:30am	Both Sides of the Bars	
10:00am	Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer	1
10:30am	Somerville Neighborhood News	9
11:00am	SNN Neighborhood Update	
11:30am	From My Heart to Yours	
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	
1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	
1:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News Colores Latinos	
2:00pm		
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
4:00pm	DW Conflict Zone	
4:30pm Ai	utumn Reads with Somerville Public Library	
5:00pm	Hello Neighbor	
5:30pm	From My Heart to Yours	-
6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	
6:30pm	VOX POP: Somerville Connects	
7:00pm	"The Cask of Amontillado" at VOX POP	
7:30pm	Sidewalks Entertainment	
8:00pm	LIVE - Somerville Pundits	
8:30pm	DW Euromaxx	
9:00pm	Revolution Awakening at VOX POP	
10:00pm	LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	
11:00pm	Flotilla	
	, February 13	
12:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	
12:30am	SCATV Secret Stash	
1:00am	Free Speech TV	
1:30am	Free Speech TV	
2:00am	Free Speech TV	:
3:00am	Free Speech TV	÷
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7:30am	DW Euromaxx	
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
9:00am	DW Tomorrow Today	
9:30am	Hello Neighbór	:
10:00am	The Chef's Table Series	
10:30am	The Chef's Table Series	
11:00am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals	
11:30am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals	
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	
1:00pm	The Somerville Line	

Schedule TV 22 (Comcast) CITY 3

Wednesday, February 127:30amStudent Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion8:15amSPD Ride Along8:30amMiddlesex Update w/Marian Ryan9:00amSomerViva an Kreyôl Ayisyen9:15amSchool Committee Meeting - 2.3.2011:30amCity Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti12:00pmHaitian Cultural Celebration 202012:48pmFlood & Stormwater PSA an Kreyôl Ayisyen1:00pmFaith In a City2:00pmSpring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting	3:00pmCity Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti4:00pmUpcoming Meeting Agenda7:00pmCity Council Meeting - LIVEFriday, February 1412:00amStudent Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion12:45amTransgender Day of Remembrance1:00amThree Kings Festival at St. Benedict's1:56amFlood & Stormwater PSA en Espanol2:00amSchool Committee Meeting - 2.3.207:30amRaising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"8:00amStudent Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion	5:30pmRaising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking" Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion6:45pmTransgender Day of Remembrance7:00pmFaith In a City8:00pmCentral Hill Campus Phase I Meeting10:00pmSomerville Heroes' Salute 201911:21pmFlood & Stormwater PSA11:24pmFlood & Stormwater PSA11:30pmCity Council Spotlight - Mary Jo RossettiSunday, February 1612:00am
3:30pm SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020	8:45am Transgender Day of Remembrance	12:45am Faith in a City: Faith & Community
5:30pm Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking" 5:56pm Flood & Stormwater PSA 6:00pm The Firstamerican Flag	9:00am Spring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting 10:00am Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020 11:30am City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti	1:00am School Committee Meeting - 2.3.20 3:00am SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen 3:15am SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen - Miral Atis
7:30pmSomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen7:45pmSomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen - Miral Atis	12:00pmSenior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville"12:30pmFaith In a City	7:30am Fit-4-Life #2 8:00am Faith In a City
8:00pm Licensing Commission Meeting - 2.10.20 11:30pm Talking Business	1:30pmSomerVision 2040: Values & Equity 20192:00pm2020 Inaugural Ceremonies	9:00amThree Kings Festival at St. Benedict's9:56amFlood & Stormwater PSA en Espanol
Thursday, February 13	6:00pm School Committee Meeting - 2.3.20	11:00am Spring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting
12:00amSpring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting1:00amSomerViva em Português - Censo 20201:30amSomerViva an Kreyôl Ayisyen1:45amSomerViva an Kreyôl Ayisyen - Miral Atis2:00amHaitian Cultural Celebration 20203:00amSPD Ride Along	8:00pm Talking Business 8:30pm 2020 Inaugural Ceremonies 10:30pm SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020 11:00pm Faith In a City: Faith & Community 11:45pm Transgender Day of Remembrance Saturday, February 15	12:00pm Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville" 12:30pm City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti 1:00pm Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion 1:45pm Transgender Day of Remembrance 2:00pm SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020 2:30pm Spring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting
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12:25pmFlood & Stormwater PSA12:30pmRaising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"1:00pm2020 Inaugural Ceremonies	11:45am SPD Ride Along 12:00pm Licensing Commission Meeting - 2.10.20 3:30pm SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020	12:00am Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville" 12:30am SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020

1:00am	Licensing Commission Meeting - 2.10.20			
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9:00am	Licensing Commission Meeting - 2.10.20			
11:30am	City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti			
12:00pm	City Council Meeting 2.13.20			
4:00pm	Talking Business			
6:00pm	Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion			
6:45pm	SPD Ride Along			
7:00pm	School Committee Meeting - 2.3.20			
8:55pm	Flood & Stormwater PSA			
9:00pm	Three Kings Festival at St. Benedict's			
9:56pm	Flood & Stormwater PSA en Espanol			
10:00pm	Central Hill Campus Phase I Meeting			
Tuesday, February 18				
12:00am	Licensing Commission Meeting - 2.10.20			
3:00am	2020 First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill			
7:30am	The Firstamerican Flag			
9:00am	2020 Inaugural Ceremonies			
11:30am	SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen			
11:45am	SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen - Miral Atis			
12:00pm	Senator Ed Markey's Town Hall at SHS			
2:30pm	Spring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting			
5:30pm	SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020			
6:00pm	Spring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting			
7:00pm	Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville"			
7:30pm	Senator Ed Markey's Town Hall at SHS			
10:00pm	Faith In a City: Fire & Roses			
11:17pm	Flood & Stormwater PSA			
11:30pm	SPD Ride Along			
Wednesday, February 1				

Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville' 12:00am 12:30am Senator Ed Markey's Town Hall at SHS 3:00am Letters of World War II at Council on Aging

15 Schedule Equcational

Wednesday, February 12

9:31am

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9:00am Our Schools, Our City -Educational Redesign Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS SHS Hockey vs St. Joe's Prep 9:31am 10:00am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden 12:00pm 2:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everett Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School 3:30pm SHS Hockey vs Swampscott Student of the Qtr. - WSNS 4:00pm 5:30pm 6:00pm Our Schools, Our City -Educational Redesign 6:31pm Student of the Otr. Awards - WHCS SHS Hockey vs St. Joe's Prep 7:00pm SHS Girls' Baskethall vs Malden 8:30pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everett 10:00pm Thursday, February 13 12:00am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everett SHS Hockey vs Swampscott 1:30am 8:00am Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS 8:30am Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School 9:00am Our Schools, Our City -Educational Redesign Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS

SHS Hockey vs Mal.-Rev. Co-op

SHS Hockey vs St. Joe's Pren

SHS Hockey vs Swampscott

12:30pm

SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everett

Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS Student of the Qtr. - Healey School

Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School Student of the Qtr. - WHCS

Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School

7:00pm Our Schools, Our City -Educational Redesign 7:31pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS Student of the Otr. - WSNS 8:00pm Student of the Otr. Awards - Healey School 8:30pm SHS Hockey vs Mal.-Rev. Co-op 9:00pm SHS Hockey vs St. Joe's Prep 10:30pm Friday, February 14 12:00am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everett 1:30am 8:00am Our Schools, Our City -Educational Redesign 9:00am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden 10:30am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everett SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere 12:00pm 1:30pm SHS Hockey vs Medford SHS Girls' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts 3:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts 4:30pm 6:00pm Our Schools, Our City -Educational Redesign 6:31pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School 7:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everett SHS Hockey vs Medford Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS 9:00pm 10:30pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden 11:00pm 10:0⁰pm Saturday, February 15 11:30pm 12:30am SHS Hockey vs Medford SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everett Public Domain Theater 2:00am 1:00am 4:00am 2:30am 8:00am SHS Hockey vs Medford 8:00am 9:30am SHS Hockey vs St. Joe's Prep 8:30am SHS Hockey vs Swampscott 11:00am 9:00am

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SHS Hockey vs Medford SHS Hockey vs St. Joe's Prep SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everett Student of the Qtr. - WHCS SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere SHS Girls' Basketball vs Watertown Monday, February 17

SHS Hockey vs Medford SHS Hockey vs St. Joe's Prep Student of the Qtr. - Healey School Student of the Qtr. - WHCS Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School WSNS Winter Concert

30am	Argenziano School's MLK Celebratior
30am	SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everet
Dpm	SHS Hockey vs Medford
8pm	Our Schools, Our City -Educational Redesign
)pm	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classica
)pm	Student of the Qtr Healey Schoo
)pm	Student of the Qtr WHCS
)pm	Student of the Qtr Kennedy Schoo
) pm	WSNS Winter Concer
)pm	Argenziano School's MLK Celebratior
)pm	SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everet
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30 pm	SHS Hockey vs Medford

Tuesday, February 18

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1:00am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical 8:00am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everett 9:30am Our Schools, Our City -Educational Redesign 8:00am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical SHS Hockey vs Medford 10:00am 11:30am 1:00pm WSNS Winter Concert Argenziano School's MLK Celebration 2:00 pm SHS Hockey vs Latin Academy SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical 3:00pm 4:30pm 6:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Everett 7:30pm Our Schools, Our City -Educational Redesign 8:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical SHS Hockey vs Medford 9:30pm 11:00pm WSNS Winter Concert Argenziano School's MLK Celebration SHS Hockey vs Latin Academy SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical 12:00am 1:00am 2:30am

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9:30am



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Susan Tepper is a twenty-year writer and the author of eight published books of fiction and poetry. *What Drives Men* is a quirky road novel and her most recent book that came out from Wilderness House Press in June, and was shortlisted at American Book Fest. Tepper has worked a variety of jobs that include actress, singer, flight attendant, marketing



manager, cable TV producer, interior decorator, rescue worker and more. A new poetry book will be coming out in April. Tepper is a native New Yorker. www.susantepper.com

Slice

Take this heart and slice from north to south— Assuming the heart contains specific territorial positions Can be measured and fixed despite severity of wounds Is not the wolf cry or bat hanging in the attic the fish flapping on docks in all weather. Eyes, unnoticed, turned inward.

— Susan Tepper

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 SHELF by Doug Holder

'Ibbetson Street (#46)'

Ibbetson Street (#46) Out of Somerville, MA, 2019. Doug Holder, Editor. Edited by Harris Gardner, and Julia Cirgnano Design: Steve Glines Front/Back Cover Photos: Bonnie Matthews Brock Arts/Editor Jennifer Matthews

Review by Marcia D. Ross

If there were a contest of best first lines in *Ibbetson Street* (#46), the winner would have to be a toss-up between several contenders. Mary Buchinger's brief *Song* begins with "The river didn't say" – an effortless glide into the exquisite (but never fancy) river of the language of imagery and sound that comprises the entire poem. In a distinctly different way, Denise Provost's first line, "You might have crept up, grabbed us by surprise–" is, like the rest of the poem, in fetching Petrarchan sonnet-form, trying to fend off a brutal hurricane's dreaded arrival. These two have many rivals, but first lines are important.

As for last best lines, another tie. Michael Ansara's closing for his tender poem, *As a Child I Felt the Wind*, echoes and resolves the entire drama of learning how to listen in the last lines "...that passed quickly / As a sigh, skimming the surface of this, my one, life." By contrast and equally exceptional, Dennis Daly's final line in *The Harrowing of Hell* produces a gaze of sudden desire: "Eve, bedazzled, eyes transfigured Adam" (eyes is a verb here). This line ends the packed and powerful poem that never lets up for a second, and finally crashes into the lustful ruin and guilt of the world's first couple. And, as for pure and brilliant finale, there is Harris Gardner's "This masquerade unmasked in empyrean au bade" at the end of four full dancing stanzas, in *Acolytes of Terpsichore*.

Not counting Doug Holder's gold nugget interview with the esteemed Ifeanyi Menkiti, there are 62 entries in the fall 2019 publication of Ibbetson Street. Of these, if I may say so, at least half are worthy of the ink for printing the issue, and half again of those are worth reading at least twice (or sometimes twelve times); a handful can make your head spin and cause you to shift in your seat, and a final few that are right up there with Milton's "fittest though few."

My growing feeling is that to read a poem once is to have looked at only the gift wrap on a package, which, as we all know can be a poor representation of the quality of the gift itself, or even a garish overstatement. Even with such limitations there are many more poems here than can be given their due. The poets themselves range in age from grownups to grandparents and write with everything from urgency and anger to humorous winks or grateful or subtle praise for life itself.

They also vary in world view, sexual definition, and political positions, if any. All of the usual subjects are here, with mothers perhaps outnumbering fathers, then, in no order, children, friends, lovers, siblings, uncles, neighbors, ghosts or cats and dogs, crows, bicycles, smells, desire, Zen, death, Shakespeare's high-ranking *Sonnet 94*, which itself smells to high heaven, and presents a presumably farcical but accurate footnote to his own un-poem.

Speaking of fun, Diana Cole's My Father's Annual Stint in the National Guard presents the problem of whiskers in a marriage. Managing to induce



even pathos, Cole's verse trips through the awkwardness and hilarity of a couple's difference of opinion about the value of a moustache. The effect upon the observant and loving daughter (poet) is both priceless and cautionary.

Another impressive yet slightly off-kilter poem is the beautifully written Acolytes of Terpsichore, by Harris Gardner. Not rude or ugly or vain or guilty or clumsily losing control, it is an accomplished and attractive poem, with fine, dazzling imagery and luscious sound. It may have been written as a specimen of artifice or even sleight of hand, with glittering twirling ballerinas vacantly but perfectly dancing around in circles - in which case it has achieved his deliberation; it's damned good, but its elegant and artificial beauties may be marred by an overindulgence in uncommon words. For a perfect poem, its stanzas split jarringly in new directions or purposes. To be fair, this poem is unquestionably meant to be artificial and pristine, and to be read with a dictionary handy. It reminds me of one of those perfect dresses that cannot express the real woman wearing it. I'm not sure how a masquerade is unmasked, either, though I admire the sound of it. Altogether impressive.

A very different kind of poem in this edition captures one's entire attention while never for a moment explaining itself. It's so slender, it doesn't even have the time! Isabelle Kenyon's *Breakfast Is an Important Part Of the Afternoon* puts sensual pleasure and indulgence hand in hand with the discomfort and anxieties of the body in a hot Italian town. Along with these are indefinable hints of timelessness, desire, discomfort, bliss, unavailability, and physical pain. It even has pretty polka dot spider bites and sweet hands that touch the sores. However, the sores seem to be spreading.

In contrast, a plain but exquisite poem by Zvi Sesling, *Ghostly Memories*, produces an old sock from a drawer that becomes a portal or arena for the return of long-held but heretofore distant memories. In another drawer, an instruction manual for a short-wave radio signals anguish for all the fine things that time has kicked aside, discarded and useless. Towards the end of the poem, long-deceased parents are about reappear, and the speaker casts an eye on bones sunk in a La Brea tar pit, embodying the worst of all possible endings in a life: separation.

There are many more poems that should be included in this discussion. The delightful and perfect *Full Service*, Ted Kooser's amused and poignant meditation on a windshield washing at an ordinary gas station, observed from inside the car. There's a sad but surprised smile in this poem, with its hint of troubled vision.

1. Peter Finch and Heath Ledger	7. 2014
2. Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, 1929	8. Franklin D. Roosevelt
3. Mary Poppins	9. President John Tyler had 15 children
4. Tom Hanks	10. Tina Turner
5. Shirley Temple	11. Courgette
6. Hayley Mills received the last one in 1961	12. Whiskey distillery

rivers, weather, clothing, food, crops, ageing, grief, rage, revenge and Fine! I'll not go on. (You're welcome).

By virtue of basic arithmetic, each of these fewer-than-62 subjects has its very own own poet. Some of these poets are well known, some are unknown or ingénue or gifted, and some could benefit from examining what makes a poem a poem or simply practicing their craft with more diligence. (And of course the writer of this review has been known to be dead wrong.)

Having said that, I want to present several poets' work, and have a go at saying something meaningful about them. For starters, there are poets included in *Ibbetson St.* (#46) who, although famous, are continuing to experiment with the genre, in this case to great comic effect. Dewitt Henry's *On Rank* is breathlessly clever and essentially an essay in poetic form, a riff on Shakespeare, and a rollicking tease. It also has the funniest line in the entire collection. Rounding up plethora of nasty smells, the speaker spews out: "Pee-yew!" Then again, that may be a Court Jester speaking, a very low "rank"ing Fool right out of *Lear* or *Hamlet*, although Hamlet himself fooled around with the varieties of rotting flesh; his noted mention of "thinks," rhymes of course with "stinks." Henry's poem fools with We also have Gary Metras's very physical yet mystical poem of line-casting for a fish at the ocean, in *As If a Dream*. In the midst of repetitive casting motions and physical sensations, suddenly the speaker's dead mother's voice cries out, "Let me go." And the speaker complies: "I cut the line." Linda Fischer's poem, *As a Season Ends*, is succinct, wise, and witty. "How much is finite!" she writes: Even the universe threatens to self-destruct as everything we know flies off into space defying gravity, eroding

the pillars of faith.

Finally, in case (like me) you are forgetful, Steven Ostrowski's Old Woman presents a brief encounter between an old wizened woman in her "sunbox garden" and our speaker, perhaps a young poet who happens by, not for the first time, not realizing he is learning to listen. In her mirthful voice she responds to his question about how she knows about next year's weather: "Remember. Remember I told you."

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