



Somerville's
original
independent
newspaper

The Somerville Times

www.thesomervilletimes.com



VOL. 8 NO. 9

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



The name of the game

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Somerville officials, local leaders respond to border patrol agents



Mayor Joseph Curtatone spoke at the "Build Bridges, Not Walls" rally, organized by The Welcome Project in 2019. — Photo courtesy of The Welcome Project

By Shira Laucharoen

Somerville officials and local organizations have been responding to the Trump administration's decision to deploy 100 border patrol agents to ten major sanctuary cities, including Somerville, in February. These officers will be assisting with run of the mill immigration arrests, in cooperation with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Mayor Joseph Curtatone called the new plan, which will last until May, "a despicable election stunt that puts hard working people seeking to escape violence and poverty in the crosshairs." Leaders of Somerville groups like The Welcome Project, a social services and advocacy organization for immigrants, said that the tactic does more than menace individuals.

Ben Echevarria, Executive Director of The Welcome Project, stated

Continued on page 4

Bringing fabric from the past to the present through art

By Isabel Sami

The Somerville Media Center is now showcasing a number of contemporary textile pieces by Tori Costa, a fabric artist and former Somerville local. Costa makes collages out of recycled materials she's acquired from her travels as well as from her own home, and she says that part of the reason she began to make fabric collages was due to her lifelong love of textiles and fabrics. She is also aided by her background in quilting, a craft she began after graduating college twenty years ago.

Costa says her designs are inspired by the quilts of Gee's Bend, a group of African-American quilters in Alabama who are known for their contemporary quilts made from recycled cloth. The textiles in Costa's collages are mostly made from former clothing, such as denim from old jeans, pajamas, ties, and upholstery, and she uses these to juxtapose traditional designs with more modern ones.

Continued on page 8



Fabric artist Tori Costa will be displaying her collages fashioned from textile materials at the Somerville Media Center through March 28. — Photo by Isabel Sami

ATTN: LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS

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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.

Don't forget Somerville voters can cast their ballots ahead of the March 3 primary election during **early voting hours through Friday, February 28**. All early voting sessions will take place at **City Hall**, 93 Highland Ave. Early voting hours remaining are **Wednesday, February 26, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Thursday, February 27, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.** and **Friday, February 28, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**








The annual **Somerville Maple Syrup Project** has returned for its 17th season. It began with a local maple tree tapping on **Tufts University's Somerville/Medford campus**. The project will culminate in the **Maple Syrup Boil Down** at the **Somerville Community Growing Center**, 22 Vinal Ave., just outside Union Square, on **Saturday, March 7, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** (Rain date March 14, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.) If you are interested in learning more or volunteering for the project, email volunteer@thegrowingcenter.org

Happy birthday this week to the following: Happy birthday to **Sean Fitzgerald**, who is celebrating this week. We wish Sean a good day. Happy birthday to **Nancy Trane**, a great lady. We hope she has a great day for herself as well. Happy birthday to **Christine Resmini**. We hope she has a great day as well. Happy birthday to **Steven Buckley** of East Somerville, a great guy from a large family that goes way back. We hope Steve has a great day. Happy birthday to great guy and friend **Eamon Fee**, who celebrates this week. We hope he had a great birthday. Happy birthday to another good guy, **Rod Kreimeyer**, we hope Rod has a great day. Happy birthday to **David Mangan**. We hope David has a great day for himself as well. To all those that are also celebrating this week, we wish a happy birthday.

Join **Ward 5 Councilor Mark Niedergang** and the **Somerville Engineering Department** tonight, **Wednesday, February 26**, for a community meeting to discuss water, sewer, and roadway upgrades planned on Hall St. The meeting *Continued on page 11*

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of February 26 – March 3 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday <i>February 26</i>	Cloudy	47°/42°	20%	74%	NE 10 mph
 Thursday <i>February 27</i>	Rain	50°/27°	80%	63%	WSW 15 mph
 Friday <i>February 28</i>	Partly Cloudy	38°/27°	0%	36%	WSW 15 mph
 Saturday <i>February 29</i>	Partly Cloudy	36°/21°	0%	33%	W 12 mph
 Sunday <i>March 1</i>	Sunny	38°/24°	0%	35%	NW 9 mph
 Monday <i>March 2</i>	Sunny	40°/29°	0%	36%	W 6 mph
 Tuesday <i>March 3</i>	Rain	52°/43°	40%	54%	SSW 11 mph

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: *Community meeting to discuss remaining Somerville High School construction*

Jim says:
I presume they will announce that they will in fact build a parking garage so that half the teaching staff doesn't quit and so that people can visit the campus when there are events

haha says:
Jim, you're funny! Everything I've heard is confirmation that they are not replacing most of the parking taken away for a monstrosity that we can never hope to fill with students. Do you think the City Hall parking spots will be replaced? Right now I can't even go to the library because there is zero parking.
(Trolls, before you start I am unable to walk, bike, or take the bus there.)

Arthur Moore says:
haha, since you are one of us you need to get used to the idea you are not wanted here. I already have learned the if you can't walk, bike or take the bus you might as well just head off into the sunset.

Response to: *City urges state to pass 'Work and Family Mobility Act*

Old Taxpayer says:
The city council can't handle the problems of the city and mobility. They need to put some time and work into the problems here. People with mobility problems are being shut out due to the city cutting off access to their housing and businesses they want to go to. Stay within your territory and work on those problem first

Villinous says:
A driver's license allows you to drive, get insurance (uninsured drivers cost us all money) and conduct basic commerce.It prevents people from living in the shadows. Anyone who think a driver's license allows you to vote in a state/federal election is just frothing at the mouth over nothing.

Casimir H. Prohosky Jr. says:
A long time coming. Best thing all around for everyone concerned. Thank you, council.

na says:
Just what we need: even MORE terrible drivers on our roads. Seriously who is electing these people? We literally have lead in our water and they are advocating for garbage like this. Amazing. Get rid of the numbskull Bernie "Our Revolution" folks like Neidergang before it's too late.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times

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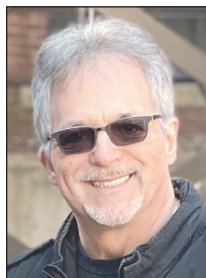
The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

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Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

The name game



"High Yo Fitzie! Hi Mrs. F can Fitzie come out to play?"

Remember when you'd stand outside your friends' house and "call" for them?

Often we'd use a nickname. This is the second story I've done on the nicknames we had for each other growing up in Somerville. I asked my Somerville friends to try to recall those shortened names we had for each other and here they are.

GIQ, MTA, Speedy, Hammer, Rabbit, Soupy, Jigga, Happy Harry, Pappy, Neurtzie, Boz, Bargs.

Brownie, Goofah, Bibbles, Bibsy, Butchie, Buddy, Bam Bam, Cookie, Chicky, Ferd, Ferd Jr., Norman The Formanizer, Turk, Jello, Murph, Sully, Fitzie, Red, Bolo, Obie, Limey, Oakie, Big Ed, Saint, Dico, Rocky, Son, Junior, Barney Fife, Straty, Sweet Lou, The Skipper, Gailsy Wailsy, Jerko, Mingo, Hendo.

Pistol Pete, Wolfman Steve, Bogus, Chico, Ozzie, Babe, Spud, Mary the Moon Lady, Crazy Mary, Spooky, Beaver, Skinhead, Critter, Peanuts, Tucker,

Loopy, Lumpy, Dico Turk, Butch the Ball Eater, Patty Pelican, Johnny O, Fat Engine, Johnny C, Tony C, Louie Spats, Son, The Ol' Boy, Duke, Mac, Del, Stef, Bone Rack, Ton, TC, Trainwreck, TJ, JC, Big Joe.

Bob Slurp Drool, Dirtbomb, Nubsie, Arnold Ziffel, JoJo, Animal, Milky, Reefa, Winkle, One Ball, Chooch, Harry The Hat, Bibbles, Bam Bam, Cookie, Jonesy, Buck, Bucky, Zucki, Cougar, Froggy, Sudsy, Big Ed.

Lefty, Frenchie, Reefs, Pistol Pete, Bogus, Koo Koo Charlie, Bobby Donuts, Bobby Polaroid, Johnny Tickets, Boom Boom Bates, Ment, Dippo, Fast Eddie (a few), Fast Phil (at least two Fast Phils), Anto, Snake, Fat Matt, Stretch, Shorty, Jim Jim, Jigsy, Tommy O, Bones, Cuz, Chuckie, Chubba, Moose, O'D, Digga, Monk, Otis, Skunk, Pie, Head Quarter, Raballic, Rat, Flea, Worm, Buzzy, Dizzy, Barry, Spooky, Val, Beaver Creek, Skinhead, Critter.

Peanuts, Slim, Tucker, Loopy, Lumpy, Rubbish D, KPU, Lil' Bit, IROC, Fishy, Ang, MB, Pinto, Enema, Johnny D, Rockin' Bob, Cappy, Knighty, Foto, Zuccie, Joey Boy, Cabbie, Legs, Judd, Buttons, Beansie, Ronaldo, Smitty, Joe the



Glassman, Buddha, Mingo, Deepa, Bear, Sunshine, Little Joe, Fuji, Tubba, Muffa, Bunny, Chick, Mr. P, Mr. D, Shipwreck, Mrs. O, Ace, and Sonny.

I'm certain there are plenty more, but I sure got a smile remembering the fun

times that some of these names brought to mind. Another walk down memory ... (name) lane.

Special thanks to Ron Bargoot for the great photo.

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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Uncooperative shoplifter relieved of the goods

Somerville Police officers were dispatched to the Home Depot store on Mystic Ave. last Sunday on reports of a shoplifter who refused to stop for the store Asset Protection Specialist.

The alleged shoplifter, later identified as Marc Jacob, was detained behind Home Depot by a police detective.

As the additional officers arrived, they observed the detective ordering Jacob to stop tensing up and drop the bags he was holding.

A pat frisk of Jacob was subsequently conducted for officer safety which turned up two sets of pliers in his pants pockets.

Jacob reportedly had a reusable TJ Maxx bag on him that contained two cutlery sets and two packaged folding knives in it.

Home Depot's Asset Protection Specialist was on the scene with the detective and confirmed that Jacob was the shoplifter in question.

Jacob was then escorted back to Home Depot's Asset Protection Office.

The Asset Protection Specialist told police that Jacob entered the store with a few reusable bags and a shopping cart. He then began walking around the store and place items in the bags, which were in the cart.

Jacob then reportedly took the bags out of the cart and proceeded to walk out of the door, passing all points of sale.

The Asset Protection Specialist attempted to stop Jacob, but he reportedly dropped two of the three reusable bags and continued out of the store.

When asked if Jacob had done this before, the Asset Protection Specialist said that he did have him on camera shoplifting one time prior but he was unable to stop him.

While retrieving the stolen Home Depot goods from the bags, it was discovered that the two cutlery sets were not from Home Depot. Police checked with TJ Maxx and the manager stated that they were Bed Bath and Beyond items.

Police checked with Bed Bath and Beyond and confirmed that two of the cutlery sets were taken from the store that day. The total of the two cutlery sets came to \$212.48

While checking Bed Bath and Beyond, the Asset Protection Specialist found a record that Jacob was trespassed from Home Depot on June 16, 2018 for three years. The trespass notice was reportedly signed by Jacob.

Jacob was placed under arrest on charges of trespassing and larceny under \$1200 and taken to police headquarters for booking in the usual manner.

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:			
Jamie Nucci , of Cambridge, February 18, 7:27 a.m., arrested at Highland Ave. on charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs, marked lanes violation, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and receiving a stolen motor vehicle.	gus , February 18, 2:26 p.m., arrested at Mystic Ave. on a warrant charge of shoplifting by asportation.	Leslie Wheeler , February 19, 10:27 a.m., arrested at Assembly Row on warrant charges of reckless operation of a motor vehicle, shoplifting by asportation, possession of a class B drug, operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, and marked lanes violation.	Michael Magloire , of Somerville, February 22, 4:31 a.m., arrested at Otis St. on a charge of receiving a stolen motor vehicle.
Kenneth Powers , of Swansea, February 22, 11:00 a.m., arrested at Washington St. on warrant charges of assault and battery and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.	Stephanie Hahn , of Dorchester, February 18, 2:47 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on charges of shoplifting by concealing merchandise and removal of theft prevention device.	Justin Lachance , February 22, 5:58 p.m., arrested at Highland Ave. on warrant charges of disturbing the peace and disorderly conduct.	Marc Jacob , of Randolph, February 23, 2:27 p.m., arrested at Mystic Ave. on charges of trespassing and larceny under \$1200.
		James Rozakis , of Somerville, February 23, 11:00 a.m., arrested at Washington St. on warrant charges of assault and battery and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.	

Somerville officials, local leaders respond to border patrol agents

CONT. FROM PG 1

that this action could have negative effects relating to the upcoming census and the number of congressional seats Massachusetts has.

"We have doorknockers and other people coming from the census. Now you know that there are these tactical units that are in these communities. The likelihood of somebody answering the door is going to become less. That's going to hurt us," said Echevarria. "If they need to do a physical count for people, that's going to hurt us in a lot of ways. Because we know we have high immigrant populations, and if they're not counted, that's going to impact us financially for our schools, roadways, and a host of other things, for our congressional delegations as well."

Somerville is a sanctuary city, a municipality that has policies protecting undocumented immigrants from deportation, unless they are charged with a serious crime. These cities likely have been targeted by the Trump administration for their refusal to cooperate with ICE, said Echevarria. The SWAT team-like agents include members of the elite tactical unit known as BORTAC, heavily armed officers who typically deal with violent criminals, not common cases with mild offenses.

The city will continue to uphold the rights of its immigrant communities, Curtatone explained in an email. Somerville will build trust among its constituents and work with programs, such as The Welcome Project and SomerViva Office of Immigrant Affairs, that support the immigrants who live there. The neighborhood will persevere in its efforts to preserve their safety, according to the mayor.

"We will remain a welcoming city, a sanctuary city," wrote Curtatone. "We will continue to work to be sure our residents know their rights, have the full support of our community, and have access to the immigration legal support and citizenship services needed so they can secure their legal status. Congress meanwhile needs to fix our broken immigration system and create a path for the hardworking immigrants who come here for a better life and who in turn make our nation stronger."

The Welcome Project has raised its level of activity around alerting and supporting immigrant constituents, said Echevarria. The organization launched the Somerville Response Network, a text based system that notifies the community of ICE activity, in 2018. In reaction to the deployment of border patrol agents, The Welcome Project has been spreading awareness about the network through social media and flyers to ensure individuals have the information they need. The non-profit has also been working with partners, such as the American Civil Liberties Union, to make sure that lawyers are accessible, in the event of a raid.

Curtatone wrote that there is legislation that still needs to be passed, to protect Massachusetts' immigrant populations. The Safe Communities Act is a bill that respects immigrants' rights by preventing law enforcement from asking them about their immigrant status, unless required by law. It also calls for the defense of due process and the limitation of notifications to ICE.

Currently, Boston has instated the Trust Act, which prohibits police from working with ICE for civil immigration enforcement purposes, allowing them to cooperate only in the cases of serious crimes. Policies like the Trust Act have conflicted with the Trump administration's approach to immigration. Locally, Echevarria said that he would like to see more translation and interpretation services for immigrants.

Diversity is an integral part of Somerville's identity as a city, said Echevarria. Without its immigrant communities, Somerville would not be the neighborhood that it is, he said.

"We've always been a city of immigrants," said Echevarria. "That's the value that we hold. It's part of who we are, in so many different ways. We believe that people have dignity and people add value to our community."



Legislative Matters Committee tackles stormwater, noise and surveillance technology

By Anna Schaeffer

City councilors JT Scott, Mark Neidergang, Lance Davis, Ben Ewen-Campen and the Committee on Legislative Matters met on Thursday, February 20, to discuss concerns regarding stormwater treatment, surveillance technology and noise in the Somerville community.

The Committee collaborated with Director of Engineering Jess Fossbroo, and Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management Richard Raiche to craft a DEP required stormwater ordinance. “The need for a stormwater ordinance has been on the back burner for a while, but we now have some impetus to complete it,” said Raiche.

The new ordinance allows for

more enforcement capability, particularly regarding the separation of stormwater with sanitary water. “One change being made in the ordinance will allow us to eliminate, enforce and penalize non-stormwater discharges that may be going to our separate systems.”

The goal of this change in the ordinance aims to protect separate systems such as the Alewife Brook and Mystic River from pollution by non-stormwater whereas sanitary water. Sanitary water is wastewater discharged from sinks, showers, and kitchens. For the city of Somerville, sanitary water is collected in separate pipes and goes to Deer Island for treatment. Another approved change allows the department

of engineering to control erosion on construction sites larger than one acre.

Kushbu Webber from the Mayor's Office, Ben Waldrup and Jill Lathan of the Parks and Recreation Department, Hannah Pappenheim with the Law Department, and Eric Weisman of the Department of Public Works gathered with the Legislative Committee to discuss revisions to the Somerville Noise Ordinance. The request to discuss changes to the ordinance with specific attention to gas-powered leaf-blowers was approved.

Kushbu Weber broached request to ban gas-powered leaf-blowers in the city works saying; “one of the questions posed to the administration



The Somerville City Council's Committee on Legislative Matters addressed a number of issues at its latest meeting, including revisions to the current stormwater ordinance.

was around the inventory of equipment that the administration utilizes relative to landscaping equipment and what are if any, impact would the addition of leaf blowers to the noise ordinance have on the administrations operations.”

Eric Weisman stated that a ban on gas-powered leaf blowers for public works would have a significant impact on productivity. “If a typical park using standard leaf blowers took three hours to leaf-blow a park, we can expect it to take around six to eight with the specialized, low noise, leaf blowers.” Another obstacle to banning gas-powered leaf blowers is the question of batteries which not only must be charged every thirty-to sixty minutes but also can be difficult to dispose of.

A request that the administration work with the com-

mittee of legislative matters to consider revisions to the Surveillance Technology ordinance was approved but the proposed general use policy was kept in the committee for further discussion. Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen stressed the importance of language in the ordinance that would ensure that surveillance technology is used solely for its specific purpose to prevent misuse.

“I wanted to have some kind of language that makes it clear that the surveillance technology can only be used for its specific purposes, for example, a license plate reader, a city iPad used for parking enforcement, clearly that is not to be used for any other purpose. Ewen-Campen elaborated stating that in any ordinance of surveillance moving forward, racial profiling must be strictly prohibited.”

LEGAL NOTICE

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY CITY OF SOMERVILLE



OFFICE OF BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

Ordered: The Board of Elections Commissioners is hereby directed to cause notice to be given in the manner prescribed by law that meetings of the qualified voters of this city will be held in the several polling places which have been designated by said Council for or within the voting precincts in which they respectively are qualified to vote, said polling places are located as follows, namely for;

In City Council

- WARD ONE**
Precinct 1. A room in the MICHAEL E CAPUANO SCHOOL, 150 Glen Street;
Precinct 2. A room in the EAST SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL, Glen Street Entrance directly across from 68 Glen Street;
Precinct 3. A room in the EAST SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL, Glen Street Entrance directly across from 68 Glen Street
- WARD TWO**
Precinct 1. A room in the THE POLICE STATION, 220 Washington Street;
Precinct 2. A room in the ARGENZIANO SCHOOL at Lincoln Park, 290 Washington St;
Precinct 3. A room in the LOWELL STREET FIRE STATION, 651 Somerville Avenue;
- WARD THREE**
Precinct 1. A room in PROPERZI MANOR, 13-25 Warren Avenue;
Precinct 2. A room in THE CUMMINGS SCHOOL, 42 Prescott Street;
Precinct 3. A room in the DANTE CLUB, 5 Dante Terrace;
- WARD FOUR**
Precinct 1. A room in the MYSTIC ACTIVITY CENTER, 530 Mystic Avenue;
Precinct 2. A room in the WINTER HILL COMMUNITY SCHOOL, 115 Sycamore Street;
Precinct 3. A room in the WINTER HILL COMMUNITY SCHOOL, 115 Sycamore Street;
- WARD FIVE**
Precinct 1. A room in the DEPT OF PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE, 1 Franey Road;
Precinct 2. A room in the BROWN SCHOOL, 201 Willow Ave - Kidder Ave Entrance;
Precinct 3. A room in the ENGINE 7 FIRE STATION, 265 Highland Avenue;
- WARD SIX**
Precinct 1. A room in the JOHN F KENNEDY SCHOOL, Sartwell Avenue Entrance directly across from 19 Sartwell Avenue;
Precinct 2. A room in the SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH, 31 College Avenue;
Precinct 3. A room in the HOLY BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH, 14 Chapel Street;
- WARD SEVEN**
Precinct 1. A room in the SENIOR CENTER, TAB BUILDING, 167 Holland Street;
Precinct 2. A room in the WEST SOMERVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL, Raymond Avenue Entrance directly across from 17 Raymond Avenue;
Precinct 3. A room in the VNA ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY, 405 Alewife Brook Parkway;

On Tuesday, March 3, 2020

AT SEVEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING, when the polls shall open and there and then between that time and the closing of the polls, which shall be at EIGHT O'CLOCK in the evening, the said qualified voters will give their ballots for Presidential Preference and one man and one woman for the State Committee for the Second Middlesex Senatorial District and Members of the Ward and City Committees.

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Douglas M. Bosley
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Up and Coming Shows

Boston Indie Pop Rock The Missouri Pacific and The Motivated Sequence!
Saturday February 29 9:30 p.m.

Supercharged Folk Rock / Power Pop Night - Andrew Geano, Jim Weeks, Wildcat Slim, and Audrey Rose Hughes
Friday March 6 9:30 p.m.

Jennifer Truesdale Band, Jerry Velona and the Joint Venture Band and Tom Appleman Rock Sally O's!
Saturday March 7 9:30 p.m.

An Eclectic Night of Music with This Bliss, Coo & Howl and Graneros!
Saturday March 14 9:30 p.m.

Three Local Greats - Savoir Faire, Lauren Pratt, JBJ!
Friday March 20 9:30 p.m.

Jillian Ann Celebrates the Release of Her New EP at Sally O'Brien's!
Friday April 3 9:30 p.m.

The Dents, Duck and Cover, The Shang Hi Los Three All Star Local Rock Bands in One Night!
Saturday April 4 9:30 p.m.

Celebrating 30 years of Flood and a lifetime of They Might Be Giants benefitting Blue Revolution
Saturday April 11 9:30 p.m.

Three At Home, Chris Walton, Savoir Faire Three Great Local Artists!
Saturday May 9 9:30 p.m.

go to www.sallyobriensbar.com for ticket info





Beacon Hill Roll Call



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Beacon Hill Roll Call can also be viewed on our website at www.thesomervilletimes.com

THE HOUSE AND SENATE. There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week.

This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records local senators' votes on amendments to the "Mental Health ABC Act," aimed at making major changes in the mental health care system in Massachusetts. Supporters say the bill removes barriers to and expands access to mental health care, boosts the industry's workforce and strengthens the quality of coverage.

PEDIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH CARE TASK FORCE (S 2519)

Senate 37-0, approved an amendment creating a pediatric mental health care task force to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the delivery of pediatric mental health services in the state and make recommendations to improve the availability, access and cost-effectiveness of these services.

Amendment supporters said there are thousands of children with treatable mental disorders who are not receiving proper mental health treatment and are falling through the cracks. They argued that the waiting period for a bed in an appropriate facility is too long and these kids are suffering.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

CONFIDENTIALITY FOR CORRECTIONS OFFICERS (S 2519)

Senate 37-0, approved an amendment adding corrections officers to a current law that ensures confidentiality for police, fire, EMTs and other first responders who seek mental health service or referrals from a peer counselor.

"Adding correctional officers ... means they will be afforded the same protections as firefighters, police officers and EMTs when seeking confidential mental health assistance," said the amendment's sponsor Sen. Michael Moore (D-Millbury). "Those that work in corrections are subject to traumatic incidents on a routine basis, making access to confidential mental health treatment critical to efforts in preventing suicide among correction officers."

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

CHILDREN UNDER 22 (S 2519)

Senate 37-0, approved an amendment to ensure that individuals under the age of 22 in the emergency room who are in need of inpatient or residential psychiatric treatment are placed in an appropriate facility within 48 hours of admission to the emergency department.

"As the former chair of the Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, I am especially sensitive to the urgency of taking care of our most vulnerable young people at a time when failing to treat them can exacerbate their issues and lead to their longer-term failure to thrive," said Sen. Joan Lovely (D-Salem). "I am pleased that my Senate colleagues unanimously voted to pass my amendment to ensure children under 22 receive appropriate emergency psychiatric treatment."

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

SUPPORTED DECISION-MAKING FOR SOME DISABLED ADULTS (H 4349) - The House gave initial approval to a bill that would empower people with disabilities to the extent possible to make their own informed life decisions with support from qualified and trusted individuals.

"[This bill makes the process] less cumbersome and more streamlined than a court appointed guardian and has been proven to allow the adults covered under the language to chart their own direction with appropriate guidance and support," said co-sponsor Rep. Paul Tucker (D-Salem).

I filed this legislation after meeting with advocates and individuals who would directly benefit and learning how this has worked well in other states," said co-sponsor Rep. Aaron Vega (D-Holyoke).

RAPE OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (H 3427) – The House gave initial approval to a bill that creates a new crime of rape of a person with a disability and imposes up to a life prison sentence on a convicted offender.

"With this legislation in place, it will fill the gap in the statutory scheme by recognizing the increased vulnerability of a disabled person to predatory conduct," said Rep. Elizabeth Poirier (R-North Attleboro), the sponsor of the measure.

EQUAL ACCESS TO ORIGINAL BIRTH CERTIFICATES (H 1892) – The House gave initial approval to legislation giving equal access to original birth certificates to all persons born in Massachusetts. Under current law, adoptees born between 1974 and 2008 are unable to obtain original birth certificates without a court order.

"This is a basic human right which many people are denied, that carries unintended consequences like making it harder to apply for a passport," said co-sponsor Rep. Sean Garballey (D-Arlington.) "This measure is supported by Concerned United Birthparents and similar legislation has just passed in New York."

REPLACE "MENTALLY RETARD" WITH "DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY" (H 4347) The House gave initial approval to a proposal that would change language in state laws including replacing "mentally retarded" with "individuals with a developmental disability" and "handicapped" with "disability."

"This eagerly awaited bill, that I filed, would modernize statutory language to better respect persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities," said Rep. Kay Khan (D-Newton). "We receive calls on the bill regularly, people asking for respectful language that is essential for the dignity and humanity of all. H 4347 sends a strong message - that the commonwealth rejects outdated words that cause harm. These simple changes will move Massachusetts forward by using currently acceptable terminology and ensuring that all individuals are treated equally and fairly."

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"To reverse this solar stagnation and truly realize the growth potential of our industry, we must move quickly to set Massachusetts on the path to a climate safe econ-

omy and ensure everyone, including low-income and other disadvantaged communities, can access clean solar power." — Sean Garren, Senior Director, Northeast for Vote Solar, a group fighting to lower solar costs and expand solar access.

"This funding provides an additional tool to help our Massachusetts tribes further their affordable housing goals." — David Tille, HUD New England Regional Administrator announcing that \$1.2 million in Indian Housing Block Grants will go to the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe of Mashpee (\$813,474) and the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (\$472,873) to carry out a range of affordable housing activities in their communities.

"Absent this funding, families are forced to make difficult and often dangerous choices to heat their homes. In many cases, they opt for an alternative approach such as a space heater, stove or fireplace, which increases the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning. Otherwise, they must make budgetary trade-offs that can jeopardize children's health, choosing heat over food or health care." — From a letter signed by more than 100 legislators urging the House and Senate to include \$15 million for fuel assistance in the fiscal 2020 supplemental budget.

"Employers have a duty to follow our child labor laws and protect their young employees. Wendy's came into compliance as a result of our investigation and took meaningful steps to ensure a safe and productive work environment for its young workers." — Attorney General Maura Healey announcing that the state reached a \$400,000 settlement with Wendy's that resolves allegations that the company violated Massachusetts child labor laws at its 46 corporate-owned locations across the state.

HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION? *Beacon Hill Roll Call* tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of the Legislature's job and that a lot of important work is done outside of the House and Senate chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that have been filed. They note that the infrequency and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late-night sessions and a mad rush to act on dozens of bills in the days immediately preceding the end of an annual session. During the week of February 17-21, the House met for a total of 20 minutes while the Senate met for a total of 40 minutes.

Mon. February 17	No House session No Senate session
Tues. February 18	House 11:03 a.m. to 11:12 a.m. Senate 11:20 a.m. to 11:52 a.m.
Wed. February 19	No House session No Senate session
Thurs. February 20	House 11:02 a.m. to 11:13 a.m. Senate 11:13 a.m. to 11:21 a.m.
Fri. February 21	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

Early voting and absentee ballots for Somerville voters



Somerville voters can cast their ballots ahead of the March 3 primary election during early voting hours from Monday, February 24 through Friday, February 28. All early voting sessions will take place at City Hall, 93 Highland Ave.

Remaining early voting hours are:
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 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Absentee ballots are now available for the Tuesday, March 3, presidential primary election. Massachusetts voters may use an absentee ballot if they will be out of the city on election day, have a disability that prevents them from voting at a polling place, religious reasons, or if they are confined in a correctional facility. Voters can request an absentee ballot by downloading and returning the absentee ballot form available on www.somervillema.gov/elections.

Voters can also request an absentee ballot by sending a signed letter to Election Commissioner, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave, Somerville, MA 02143 or elections@somervillema.gov. Absentee ballots can be requested up until noon on Monday, March 2, and must be returned to the Elections Department by 8:00 p.m. on March 3.

More information about absentee voting can be found at www.somervillema.gov/elections, or by calling the Elections Department at 617-625-6600 ext. 4200.

Free citizenship class for spring 2020



The Somerville Public Library and St. Mark Community Education Program announced this week that they will partner for spring 2020 to offer a free, twelve-part Citizenship Interview Preparation Class for residents seeking to apply for American citizenship.

Classes will be offered on Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., from March 7 through May 23, at the Central Library, 79 Highland Ave. The class is designed to prepare students for all parts of their citizenship test. It will cover the literacy test, 100 questions about U.S. history and government, and provide help to improve speaking and listening abilities in English. Prospective students must have a basic understanding of English and hold a legal permanent resident card for five years, or three years if married to an American citizen.

Students can register for the series in person on March 7 during the first class. For more information, please contact Brigid Pigott at 617-623-5000 ext. 2935 or bpigott@minilib.net. For application assistance, students will be referred to Project Citizenship, a non-profit that provides free technical and legal help in completing applications for citizenship.

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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:					
MLS#	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

Bringing fabric from the past to the present through art

CONT. FROM PG 1

Using a sewing machine, Costa stitches different fabrics together after cutting them into geometric shapes of her liking. Then she embellishes with embroidery and detail work that she stitches by hand to add dimension and extra texture to the piece.

Many of the fabrics she uses have unique patterns or textures to add a certain flair or pop of color to the work, and Costa creates a blend of patterns in each piece. She says she adds her own style to very traditional quilting blocks by making her pieces asymmetrical and combining many different fabrics rather than the usual two or three.

“Before I sit down to sew I go through my fabric collection and pull together a number of pieces I think would go together but are different materials, patterns, and colors,” Costa says. “Then I’ll sit down and try to create as many collages out of that pile as I can. I really try to challenge myself to use these materials to create something that is different and will look different to people.”

“It’s a really great show,” says local photographer Stan Eichner. “She’s come to this relative-

ly recently, and yet she makes many powerful pieces which are interesting as a group but also each one is enticing and attractive on its own.”

Costa’s collection at the Somerville Media Center features seventeen pieces ranging from eight-by-eight inches to eight-by-twelve inches. She says she focuses more on the fabric than the design, and each piece requires a few hours of work depending on the size, complexity, and process. She says, “Sometimes I’ll be really inspired and can create three or four pieces in five or six hours, but other times it can take me weeks to create three or four pieces. A lot of it really depends on the creative vibe. Sometimes it will be really quick, but often it’s just about the creative process and where I’m at.”

Costa says that each piece in her collection has a story. A few of the collages are made from old ties, and Costa likes to imagine that each tie brings its own story to the art, like when it was worn to family dinners or important events. “I think that this idea that stories and a connection to the past through an art piece is



important,” she says.

The pieces in the collection, which are also available for pur-

chase after the showcase closes, will be up at the Somerville Media Center, 90 Union Square,

from now until March 28. For more information, visit her website at teeceestitchery.com.

Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



Simple Asparagus

As a kid during the 1970's, I couldn't stand asparagus. The reason, asparagus was served out of a can, at least in my home, yuck!

One of the staples, usually on a Saturday, was an asparagus and egg frittata. Just picture mushy with some hard chewy watered down gray colored nastiness spread throughout the frittata. I would save up my allowance to treat myself on a Saturday for a delicious burger at the Stephen James House, or a luncheon special of chicken chow mein, chicken fingers, rice and crab rangoon at Yee's Village. Sorry for the digression.

Now I must say this vegetable has made it to one of my top favorites. A truly corrective emotional experience.

- 1-2 Bunches of Asparagus, Medium Thickness
- 2-4 Tablespoons Olive oil
- 3/4-1-1/2 Teaspoon Kosher Salt
- 1/2-1 Teaspoon Pepper
- Lemon Zest and Juice
- Maldon Flaked Sea Salt, optional

Preheat oven to 400°. Prepare the asparagus by cutting off the woody ends, about 2 inches from the bottom. For extra tender asparagus, using a vegetable peeler, peel the lower third around the whole stalk of all the asparagus. Place on a sheet pan. Add the olive oil and coat the asparagus. Add the salt and pepper and toss until evenly coated. Place the sheet pan in the preheated oven and set timer for 7 minutes.

Once the asparagus is done, it should be bright green and still have some texture to it. Add some lemon zest and a squeeze of lemon juice. Orange zest and juice may be substituted.

Feel free to add shaved Parmesan cheese when serving. Or add some flaked Maldon sea salt for finishing.

If you really want to make it decadent, add poached eggs and add hollandaise sauce over the top for a special breakfast. I even use leftover asparagus for a salad topping. Your options are endless.

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



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Somerville paraprofessionals rally for fair contract

By Shira Laucharoen

Chanting vociferously and carrying signs, throngs of rallying individuals flooded the meeting room for the Somerville School Committee at 8 Bonair Street, on February 24. The community members were standing up for the rights of paraprofessionals who work in Somerville schools, asking for a new contract that would grant them fair pay and job security.

"While we are talking about respect for paraprofessionals, you are describing them as part time employees. The gap between us has never felt wider," said Rami Bridge, president of the Somerville Teachers Association, speaking before the School Committee during public comment period. "Right here is an opportunity to prioritize investment in fair wages and to strategically invest in our schools."

The rally in support of paraprofessionals began at the basketball court of the East Somerville Community School. Speakers testified to the importance of paraprofessionals in schools, stating that programs would not be able to run without them. The gathering of teachers, paraprofessionals, and union organizers marched through the streets of East Somerville before arriving at the School Committee meeting, where they lined up to speak in protest of unfair work conditions.

The Somerville Teachers Association (STA) and the School Committee have been in the process of negotiating for a new contract, as the last paraprofessional contract ended in August 2019.

The STA is proposing a contract that will call for three main provisions, an increase in salary, permanent status after four years of work, and a two-year length for the contract. Currently, the starting salary of a paraprofessional is \$20,680, which is not a living wage, said Bridge. Many paraprofessionals have to work a second or third job to supplement this income. The STA is asking to raise the minimum salary to \$25,000. Paraprofessionals have little job security, as they must wait for a new letter hiring them back at the end of each school year. The new contract would guarantee their position, after working at the same job for four consecutive years. The STA is also asking for a two-year contract so that paraprofessionals will be able to negotiate at the same time as teachers.

"The gap between us has never felt wider"

The School Committee has responded to these demands by saying that the plan "costs too much," said Bridge. When the School Committee did not receive a response to its counter proposal, as there was not enough time during the negotiating session "to meaningfully discuss it," the School Committee filed for mediation, according to Bridge. The two parties do not engage in a face-to-face way, said STA vice president Megan Brady, a situation that is not ideal.



The rally in support of paraprofessionals gathered outside the Somerville Public Schools Central Office, while president of the STA Rami Bridge spoke, on February 24. More Photos from the rally on page 13. — Photos by Shira Laucharoen

"When I look at this whole process, the School Committee routinely professes, both in writing and in public meetings, that they value the work of paraprofessionals, but that they just don't have it in their budget to pay them a starting salary of \$25,000. To me, your budget is your values," said Brady. "To say there's not the money, that it costs too much to pay the paraprofessionals, is also a reflection of who or what they value."

During the rally, speakers attested to the impact paraprofessionals have in their communities. Erika Uytterhoeven, who is running for state representative serving Somerville, stated that teachers "are on the frontline for saving public education." Councilor at large Will Mbah called the situation an issue of equity, noting that most individuals present at the rally were women and people of color. City council president Matt McLaughlin, who also sits on the School Committee, said that city money has been funneled into many projects that are not as important as the rights of paraprofessionals.

The role of paraprofessionals has changed throughout the years, said chair of the Contract Action Team Margaret Whittier-Ferguson. In the classroom, paraprofessionals are responsible for everything from serving

as translators for students who do not speak English as a first language to helping students with special needs. They work in tandem with teachers but are more than teaching assistants, said Bridge. While the teaching format may have been more "top down" in former years, today, the learning environment has changed. Children are more likely to be interacting with each other and engaging in small groups, said Bridge.

The process of pushing for a fair contract for paraprofessionals will continue, as the mediation schedule moves forward. The STA and the School Committee have one meeting planned for March and a pair of dates in May. Going forward, Bridge said that it is clear that the needs of paraprofessionals are not going to disappear.

"When we went to the School Committee last time, 100 people who were not in the union were there, speaking in support of the paraprofessionals, speaking to the value they bring to the schools, speaking to the important role they played in their children's lives. I think that that is going to continue. I don't think that that is going to go away," said Bridge. "Our position is that educator working conditions are student learning conditions. Incentivizing paraprofessionals

to go back to school and become more educated benefits students. Providing job security and a higher pay will keep more paraprofessionals in the district who are working with our students, as opposed to leaving."



Rallying community members filled the School Committee meeting room, where speakers gave public comment.

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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.

Now is the time for a Somerville-Everett footbridge



By Joseph A. Curtatone

While the Encore Casino has been open and operating for several months now, the discussion about a transportation link between Somerville and Everett has recently reignited after Encore leadership floated the idea of gondola over the Mystic River. Somerville has been clear about our vision for accessibility and connectivity around the Lower Mystic basin, but we’ve had serious concerns about a footbridge connecting our community to the then-proposed casino. With the new proposal, now is a good time to think holistically about our region’s transportation needs.

My vision for the Lower Mystic basin is simple: a complete, continuous network of safe walking and bicycling routes along and

across our river. For 20 years I’ve worked in partnership with activists and advocates, state agencies and municipalities, nonprofit and for-profit entities to achieve this vision. And as a region, we’ve made great progress in the last few years.

Thanks to Governor Baker and his administration, our region received nearly \$14 million to complete the Northern Strand/Bike to the Sea Trail, which currently runs from just beyond the casino in Everett, through Malden, Revere, Saugus, and to the Lynn line. The planned extension will extend the trail through Lynn to Nahant Beach. Last year MassDOT completed high quality biking and walking trails on the Woods Memorial Bridge (Route 16) over the Malden River.

In 2018 the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) rehabilitated the paths at MacDonald Park in Medford. And in 2020 we should see the completion of the MBTA/DCR pathway connecting the Alford Street Bridge (Route 99) to Draw 7 State Park in Somerville. And I continue to advocate for protected bike

facilities on the Wellington Bridge (Route 28) that connects Somerville to our partner communities and open spaces along the Mystic River.

Given how much work has been done to improve regional bike and pedestrian infrastructure, now is the time to revisit the need for a footbridge between Draw 7 State Park in Somerville and the Northern Strand trail in Everett. Many years ago, advocates suggested the need for a pedestrian/bicycle river crossing in this area to support a future path network. At that time, there was no development happening on the Everett side of the river in this area, and limited funding available for the project.

Then the casino came. I’ll admit that I was skeptical and even opposed when Encore suggested building a footbridge connecting the Assembly Square Orange Line stop with the casino. At the time, it would have mainly served as an amenity for the casino – an easy way to get people from the MBTA to the gambling floor. But with more connections built out, the footbridge wouldn’t just funnel transit riders to Encore; it

would be an important link in a regional transit network.

So how do we make it happen?

There’s a lot to be said for private investment in public infrastructure. In Assembly Square, Somerville’s private sector partners not only helped build the MBTA Orange Line station, they helped construct the magnificent boardwalk connection under the Route 28/Wellington Bridge, the Baxter State Park pathways, and the path from Sullivan Square to Great River Road. I’m not about to pretend that the folks at Assembly made this investment purely altruistically, but we were able to work with them to get improvements that were good for them and good for Somerville.

Encore could be a partner too. I’m no fan of the gaming economy, but the voters of Massachusetts spoke at the ballot box and my side was forced to focus on mitigating the impacts of the new casino. Among many mitigation measures required of the developer, they were required initiate a design process for a walking and bicycling bridge that connects Everett to Somerville.

Encore has gone much further than was required of them, which I applaud. They paid to complete the design of an elegant, useful bridge structure that would serve the entire region. They performed complex permitting tasks and have secured more than a dozen federal, state and local permits for the bridge construction. They shared these designs at public meetings, and received rounds of applause from our residents and stakeholders.

Hopefully, we can work together to make that plan a reality. If Encore again wants to go above and beyond and also build an aerial gondola in addition to the footbridge, that wouldn’t be a bad thing. But my priority will always remain transportation solutions that benefit the entire region, not just the casino.

Our region needs the bridge to be constructed, and we need it now. We can figure this out. I’m calling for our public and private stakeholders to focus on the bridge in 2020, to articulate a funding strategy, and to continue the generational progress we’ve made in the Lower Mystic communities.

Community meeting to discuss remaining Somerville High School construction

Join representatives of the City Council, School Committee, Somerville High School Building Committee, and Infrastructure and Asset Management Department on Monday, March 16, for a community meeting to discuss construction progress and remaining work to be done on the Somerville High School Building project. The meeting will be held from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Somerville High School cafeteria, 81 Highland Ave. Light refreshments will be served.

This meeting is primarily intended for neighbors who live and work near the high school construction site. The presentation will focus on logistics plans and anticipated impacts of construction over the next several months.

For more information, visit SHSproject.org or email construction@somervillema.gov.

Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication, written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Somerville or to attend meetings, should contact the city’s Director of Human Services, Nancy Bacci, at 617-625-6600 x2250 or NBacci@somervillema.gov.



Spring Into Action: A gala event for the Somerville Homeless Coalition

Please join the Somerville Homeless Coalition on March 26 for the Annual Gala, Spring into Action at the Row Hotel in Assembly Square. The evening will feature a keynote address by Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone. Proceeds from the event will benefit the guests and clients of the Somerville Homeless Coalition (SHC).

“As Somerville Homeless Coalition celebrates its 35th year providing critical services to those who are homeless, hungry and at risk throughout Somerville and neighboring communities, we want to honor the many businesses, organizations and neighbors that have supported our work over the years,” says Michael Libby, SHC’s executive director.

The gala will include a seated dinner, wine pull, silent auction and Fund-A-Need drive. This year’s auction features an autographed Celtics basketball, Celtics tickets, Red Sox tickets and framed picture, NE Patriots autographed pictures, sailing trip, hotel experiences, cooking experiences, a weekend away in Vermont, plus more. Tickets may be purchased at www.shcinc.org/events.



COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



The Presidential Primary is right around the corner – so vote!

Our View Of The Times



As voters ponder who they might want running on the national ticket in November, they are now tasked with searching their souls for the right answers to questions posed at the ballot box next week. There is also the matter of choosing candidates for the State Committee for the Second Middlesex Senatorial District and Members of the Ward and City Committees.

For some of us the choices are blessedly clear, while others may have difficulty culling the wheat from the chaff amidst all of the conflicting messages put forward on each side of almost every issue. Politics as usual, really. From the upcoming national race for the leadership of our country later this year right on down to the local leaders that touch our everyday lives right here at

home, every single election day is an important election day. Every eligible voter should consider it his or her duty to get out to the polls and do the thing that makes life in this land such a precious gift: help to decide the course that we are to follow in the immediate future, and play their parts in writing the historical record for what is to follow.

Every individual vote does count, be assured of that. With so many names on the ballot, your favorite candidate will be counting on you to get yourself to the polls and make your choice official. So, if you can't get there on your own, then seek out help to get you there. But just get there. Somebody out there needs your vote, so make sure you give it.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

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. Construction is tentatively expected to start this summer and finish by the end of the year, with final paving planned for the spring of 2021. For more information, contact Haleemah Qureshi at hqureshi@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 5411.

Feed your mind, body, and soul. Join the Mental Wellness Ambassadors for an evening of boxing, dancing, and yoga with Teen Empowerment-Somerville. Free food and refreshments will be provided. Fun for all ages. Mental Fitness, hosted by The Center for Teen Empowerment, Inc. takes place February 27, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., 165 Broadway, Somerville.

Join Mayor Joe Curtatone, Superintendent Mary Skipper, FRC Team 6201 - The Highlanders - Somerville High School Robotics, movers and shakers from the local robotics community, Somervilians, Somernovians and more for the launch of SOMERBOT. Somerbot Launch Party, Saturday, February 29, 12:30 – 2:30 p.m., 29 Properzi Way, Somerville.

Absentee ballots are now available for the Tuesday, March 3, presidential primary election. Massachusetts voters may use an absentee ballot if they will be out of the city on election day, have a disability that prevents them from voting at a polling place, religious reasons, or if they are confined in a correctional facility. Voters can request an absentee ballot by downloading and returning the absentee ballot form available at www.somervillema.gov/AbsenteeBallots. Voters can also request an absentee ballot by sending a signed letter to Election Commissioner, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave, Somerville, MA 02143 or elections@somervillema.gov. Absentee ballots can be requested up until noon on Monday,

March 2, and must be returned to the Elections Department by 8:00 p.m. on March 3. More information about absentee voting can be found at www.somervillema.gov/AbsenteeBallots, or by calling the Elections Department at 617-625-6600 ext. 4200.

The Annual Meeting of the Somerville High School Scholarship Foundation will be held at the East Somerville Community School in Room 165, at the Glen Street side of the building at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, March 9. Discussions will be held regarding the new four year renewable Eugene C. Brune Scholarship, the upcoming \$10,000 elimination raffle celebration on May 15 at the Somerville Lions Club, and the Scholarship Awards Night at Somerville High School in May. The meeting is for current officers, directors, and members. New members are welcome. For information, contact Susan Tkaczuk, Correspondence/Recording Secretary (781) 568-9609; Suetkaczuk@gmail.com. Find them on Facebook by searching Somerville High School Scholarship Foundation. Your interest and participation is most appreciated.

Auditions for the 2020 SPS All-City Musical, The Lion King Jr., will be held from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26 and Friday, February 28, at the Somerville High School Auditorium, 81 Highland Ave. All students in grades 6-8 are invited to audition. Students interested in being part of the non-performance technical crew can learn more at a meeting during rehearsals. Rehearsals will begin on March 4 and run on Wednesdays and Fridays from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Rehearsals will run every day on "tech week" which will begin on June 1. Performances will be on Friday, June 5, at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, June 6, at 2:00 p.m. in the SHS Auditorium. Please email Miss Bee (Lauren Barkhouse) with any questions at lbarkhouse@k12.somerville.ma.us. Disney's The Lion King Jr. is presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIshows.com.

AARP is taking appointments to help with income tax preparations at the Holland Street Senior Center at 167 Holland Street. Please call Josephine to schedule an

Continued on page 16

Mozart for Munchkins music event encourages interaction and fun

By Rachel Sharples

Families from Somerville and the surrounding neighborhoods crowded into the Play Union late Sunday afternoon for a kid-friendly jazz concert hosted by the organization Mozart for Munchkins. Mozart for Munchkins is an organization founded in New York just over two years ago by two mothers with musical backgrounds who wanted to facilitate fun musical performances geared for kids that adults could still enjoy. Still in its first season in the Boston area, Mozart

for Munchkins has continued to run with great success since its beginning in September according to TQ Zorn, the director for the program in Boston. "It's always a full house," Zorn said of the monthly concerts before the start of Sunday's event. Of the attendees, regulars of both Mozart for Munchkins events and the Play Union itself compose a large portion, including Zorn's family. She mentioned that one of the reasons she continues to coordinate the organization's event with the Play Union is because of the pleasant, mellow environ-

ment in which children can enjoy music. The event is split into two parts, the musical performance, during which kids are encouraged to dance, clap, and sing along, followed by an "instrument petting zoo," when kids can touch and try out instruments for themselves with the help of the musicians. The Andromeda Quartet performed at the event on Sunday, playing popular jazz pieces like "That's A Plenty" as well as traditional children's songs, such as the "Itsy-Bitsy Spider," in a jazz style. After their performance, the quartet spread out in the Play Union as kids swarmed around

to try out French horn, trombone, and trumpets. Parents cheered as their children blew on the horns, and some adults even tried the instruments themselves. "The atmosphere is really relaxed and casual," Zorn noted, "Not only for the kids, but the adults too." The next Mozart for Munchkins event in Boston is on March 8 at the Play Union, 378 Somerville Ave, Somerville, at 4:00 p.m. Find more information about Mozart for Munchkins at <https://www.mozartformunchkins.com>.

— Photos by Rachel Sharples



Somerville paraprofessionals rally for fair contract

CONT. FROM PG 9



FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#719

1. When was the first Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans?

2. What is the meaning of the Mardi Gras colors?

3. In what year did Kobe Bryant win the NBA Slam Dunk Contest?

4. What was the first Hall & Oates #1 single?

5. Who is the oldest person to host Saturday Night Live?

6. What color was Elvis Presley's first 1955 Cadillac Fleet-

wood?

7. What Beatle recorded Fame with David Bowie?

8. When is National Napping Day in 2020?

9. When is National Pi Day?

10. When is National K9 Veterans Da?

11. When is Everything You Do Is Right Day?

12. When is National Vietnam War Veterans Day?

Answers on page 23

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. The banana plant can grow as high as 20 feet tall.

2. A Boeing 747's wingspan is longer than the Wright brother's first flight.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
THEME: CANDY

- ACROSS
1. Unfathomably deep chasm

6. Lawyer group

9. Factoid

13. Non-flat area

14. Loquacious person's gift

15. Member of clergy

16. Kitty sounds

17. Mesozoic one

18. All thumbs

19. Who's Pieces?

21. Life ____

23. Comic book cry

24. Evening in Roma

25. Boar's mate

28. Bank deposit

30. Actress Ali or singer Tim

35. Flying saucers

37. Yeahs' opposers

39. One of the Muses

40. Ancient region of western Europe

41. Sweet bear

43. In a little while, old-fashioned

44. Like a neon sign

46. Fashion's "New Look" inventor

47. Weasel's cousin

48. Cash in credit card points, e.g.

50. "Good grief!"

52. The Old Man's turf

53. Tucked in

55. Sine ____ non

57. "Gimme a break" bar

60. Egg with a surprise

63. Southwestern hut

64. Step on it

66. Small Asian ungulate

68. What radiology and biology have in common

69. Chihuahua's cry

70. a.k.a. Ernest?

71. Japanese money, pl.

72. Blitzed

73. Industrious
- DOWN

1. Similar to an adder

2. View from a moving train

3. Yesteryear

4. Shopping ____

5. Creates disorder

6. Forever and a day

7. Hershey made the first American milk chocolate one

8. Belittle

9. Have supper

10. Tennis serving whiz

11. Memorial Day solo

12. "The ____ of Racing in the Rain"

15. Fast and lively

20. Increasing

22. Location of ulna

24. Hindered

25. Principal candy ingredient

26. Allowed into a bar, e.g.

27. Past tense of will

29. Glorify

31. SI unit of mass

32. Raja's wife, pl.

33. Do penance

34. Famous fictional bar

36. ____ gin

38. Smoke plus fog

42. Baghdad resident

45. Not strongly

49. CEO's deg.

51. Fertilized

54. C2H5

56. "J" ____" by #46 Across

57. Green superfood

58. Desktop picture

59. Facebook photo links

60. Not disregarded, as in a promise

61. Marine eagle

62. Surprise at a speakeasy

63. Almond-induced state

65. Cardinal 3


67. Bovine hangout


CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14				15			
16						17				18			
	19				20			21	22				
			23				24						
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33
35			36		37			38		39			
40					41				42		43		
44				45		46					47		
48					49		50			51		52	
				53		54			55		56		
	57	58	59					60				61	62
63						64	65			66			67
68						69				70			
71						72				73			

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

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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.

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

L	A	B	O	R		R	I	M			B	A	L	I
A	N	I	M	E		E	R	A			R	E	L	I
T	O	R	A	H		S	A	C			E	N	E	M
E	A	R	H	A	R	T		A	U	S	T	E	N	
			A	N	A		R	U	S	E				
C	U	T		G	I	R	O		A	N	E	M	I	A
U	T	A	H		T	A	S	K		T	R	A	M	P
R	I	C	O		A	N	T	R	A		S	C	A	G
I	C	I	N	G		D	R	I	B		T	O	G	A
E	A	T	E	R	S		U	S	A	F		N	O	R
				A	H	E	M		C	I	A			
	C	H	A	N	E	L		F	I	G	U	R	E	S
J	O	U	S	T		B	R	A		U	R	I	A	H
O	K	R	A	S		O	U	T		R	U	S	S	O
Y	E	L	P			W	E	E		E	M	C	E	E


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Section 00.11.00
ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

The **Somerville Housing Authority**, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the **667-5 Upgrades of Two (2) Hydraulic Passenger Elevators, #274129** in, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by **Syska Hennessy Group, Inc.**

The Project consists of: Elevator Upgrades of Two (2) Hydraulic Passenger Elevators located at Bryant Manor (667-05), 75 Myrtle Street, Somerville, MA, DHCD Project #274129, in accordance with the Project Documents and Specifications prepared by Syska Hennessy Group, Inc. Vertical Transportation, 10 Post Office Square, Boston, MA. Electrical and HVAC Specifications and Drawings prepared by Garcia. Galuska. DeSousa, Consulting Engineers, Inc.

The work is estimated to cost **\$509,000.**

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §526 to 27H inclusive.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. The bids are to be prepared and submitted at www.biddocsonline.com. Tutorials and instructions on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online (click on the "Tutorial" tab at the bottom footer).

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

General Bids will be received until **12:00 PM on Friday, 27 March 2020** and publicly opened online, forthwith.

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

SUBTRADES

NONE

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

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

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

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

Plan deposits may be electronically paid or by check. This deposit will be refunded for up to two sets for general bidders and for one set for sub-bidders upon 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 \$65.00 per set for UPS overnight), non- refundable, payable to the BidDocs ONLINE Inc., to cover mail handling costs.

General bidders must agree to contract with minority and women business enterprises as certified by the Supplier Diversity Office (SDO), formerly known as SOMWBA. The combined participation benchmark reserved for such enterprises shall not be less than 10.4% of the final contract price including accepted alternates. **Request for waivers must be sent to DHCD (David.McClave@mass.gov) 5 calendar days prior to the General Bid date if the work is estimated to cost less than \$500,000 OR 10 calendar days prior to the General Bid date if the work is estimated to cost \$500,000 or more – NO WAIVERS WILL BE GRANTED AFTER THE BID DATE. See Contract Documents - Article 3 of the Instructions to Bidders.**

PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT:
Date and Time: Friday, 6 March 2020 at 10:00 AM Address: Bryant Manor, 75 Myrtle Street, Somerville
Instructions: Elevator bidders shall meet at the entrance to Bryant Manor. Do not commence with site review until authorized. Do not block entrance.

SITE VISIT BY APPOINTMENT: NONE

The Contract Documents may be seen, but not removed at:
Somerville Housing Authority Nashoba Blue Inc.
30 Memorial Road 433 Main Street
Somerville, MA 02145 Hudson, MA 01749
617-625-1152 978-568-1167

2/19/20, 2/26/20 The Somerville Times



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 **Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 6:00pm** in the City Council Chambers, City Hall 2nd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA to consider the following pursuant to M.G.L. 40A and the Somerville Zoning Ordinance:

- 420 Broadway -** 420 Broadway 2019 Trust proposes to re-classify the principal building as a multi-plex, modify the building to add one (1) dwelling unit for a total of 4 dwelling units, and provide a total of 3 parking spaces rather than the minimum of 4 which requires a Special Permit.
- 3 Hawkins Street -** Hawkins St Union Square LLC proposes to construct a 6-story general building with a nonconforming upper story step back within the Mid-Rise 5 district which requires three (3) Hardship Variances.
- 10 Oak -** Applicants and Owners, 10 Oak Street, LLC, under §5.3.8 of the SZO, seek revisions to a previously-granted special permit. RC zone. Ward 2.
- 453 Somerville Ave -** Applicant and Owner, Jack Saade, seeks a special permit under SZO §7.11.1.c and parking relief under Article 9 to construct a four story mixed use building with five residential units and ground floor retail space. A Variance under SZO §5.5 and §8.6.12 for relief from the required rear yard setback. BA and RB Zone. Ward 2. Advertising conditional upon court decision/order.

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

2/26/20 The Somerville Times

Public Announcement Concerning the Jeanne Jukan Residence,
186 Highland Avenue, Somerville, Massachusetts

To all interested parties: Notice is hereby given that the Jeanne Jukan Residence located at 186 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143, is proposed to be sold and transferred by the Little Sisters of the Poor of Greater Boston, Inc., of 186 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143, to the Visiting Nurse Foundation, Inc., of 259 Lowell Street, Somerville, MA 02144, or its solely controlled subsidiary nonprofit corporation, Visiting Nurse at Highland, Inc., 259 Lowell St., Somerville, MA 02144, ("Applicant") for consideration of \$4,300,000.00, on or before June 1, 2020. No material changes in the operation of the nursing facility are expected or planned. The bed capacity is expected to remain the same as the current capacity at 84 licensed beds, comprised of 26 skilled nursing beds and 58 Level IV beds.

A public hearing may be requested upon petition by any group of ten adults. Such petition shall include the name, address and signature of each adult and designate one member as the representative of the group. Written comments concerning the applicant's ability to provide quality long-term care services and petitions for a public hearing may be addressed to the offices of the Department of Public Health, Division of Health Care Facility Licensure and Certification.

A request for hearing may be made for a period of 14 days following publication hereof in the newspaper.

The mailing address of the Department for the submission of comments is:

Licensure Coordinator DPH, Division of Health Care Facility Licensure and Certification
67 Forest Street
Marlborough, MA 01752

The email address of the Department for the submission of comments is: HFLicensure@state.ma.us

2/26/20 The Somerville Times

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

appointment at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300

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 Festival** 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>.

The **Somerville Public Library** is seeking to fill **two vacancies on its Board of Trustees**, and all Somerville residents are invited to apply. The Board of Library Trustees is the governing body of the Somerville Public Library, working with the **Library Director** to oversee the operating and administrative policies for the library. The Trustees also support the libraries through long-range strategic planning, advocacy, public relations, outreach, and fundraising efforts. The Board of Trustees consists of nine members appointed by **the mayor**. They meet monthly as a full board, and serve on subcommittees. The mission of the Somerville Public Library is to enhance the Somerville experience by acting as a trusted community connector, providing cultural and learning opportunities to all. Interested residents should submit a letter of interest and resume by **Friday, March 13**, to CPI-antigini@somervillema.gov.

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 is seeking input from Somerville families about this year's theme. Visit https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLS-dkSb8mkKT8_ueTJNeLLEp5cd14Z6ELt-wCO8eZdWg_dhfhJ3g/viewform to vote.

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.

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Prime Storage - Somerville located at 39R Medford St., Somerville, MA 02143 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenant at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagetreasures.com on 3/9/2020 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Francis Orlowski unit #260MZ. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.


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BID
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The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from General Contractors for the **SHA Job No. 1917**, Multi Year Service Contract for Shower Surround Installations at **Weston Manor** for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by The Somerville Housing Authority's Modernization Department.

The Project consists of: Complete installation of new one-piece heavy duty acrylic shower wall systems with free standing shower bases, plumbing and all associated work upon unit turnovers or upon a Reasonable Accommodation Request.

The service contract is estimated to cost: **\$75,000.00**

Bids are subject to M.G.L c.149, § 44A-J & minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L c.149, § 26 to 27H inclusive, and the Davis/Bacon Wage Rate, whichever hourly rate pays more. 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.

General Bids will be received until **2:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 11th, 2020** at the Somerville Housing Authority's Modernization Department, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145 and publicly opened forthwith.


General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the bid amount and made payable to the SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

There will be a pre-bid walkthrough on **Wednesday, March 4th, 2020 at precisely 10:00 a.m.** at Weston Manor 15 Weston Ave., 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 mannys@sha-web.org or call at **617-625-1152 ext. 330**.

The Somerville Housing Authority reserves the right to waive any informalities in or to reject any and all bids, or to waive any informalities in the bidding. 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.

2/26/20 The Somerville Times



BID
ADVERTISEMENT

The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from General Contractors for the **SHA Job No. 1915**, Multi Year Service Contract for Shower Surround Installations at Various Developments for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by The Somerville Housing Authority's Modernization Department.

The Project consists of: Complete installation of new one-piece heavy duty acrylic shower wall systems with free standing shower bases, plumbing and all associated work upon unit turnovers or upon a Reasonable Accommodation Request.

The service contract is estimated to cost: **\$99,000.00**

Bids are subject to M.G.L c.149, § 44A-J & minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L c.149, § 26 to 27H inclusive, and the Davis/Bacon Wage Rate, whichever hourly rate pays more. 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.

General Bids will be received until **2:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 11th, 2020** at the Somerville Housing Authority's Modernization Department, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145 and publicly opened forthwith.


General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the bid amount and made payable to the SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

There will be a pre-bid walkthrough on **Wednesday, March 4th, 2020 at precisely 10:45 a.m.** at Ciampa Manor 27 College Ave, proceeding to Highland Garden 114 Highland Ave, Brady Towers 252 Medford St., and Properzi Manor 75 Myrtle St., 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 mannys@sha-web.org or call at **617-625-1152 ext. 330**.

The Somerville Housing Authority reserves the right to waive any informalities in or to reject any and all bids, or to waive any informalities in the bidding. 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.

2/26/20 The Somerville Times



BID
ADVERTISEMENT

The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from General Contractors for the **SHA Job No. 1916**, Multi Year Service Contract for Shower Surround Installations at **Bryant Manor** for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by The Somerville Housing Authority's Modernization Department.

The Project consists of: Complete installation of new one-piece heavy duty acrylic shower wall systems with free standing shower bases, plumbing and all associated work upon unit turnovers or upon a Reasonable Accommodation Request.

The service contract is estimated to cost: **\$95,000.00**

Bids are subject to M.G.L c.149, § 44A-J & minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L c.149, § 26 to 27H inclusive, and the Davis/Bacon Wage Rate, whichever hourly rate pays more. 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.

General Bids will be received until **2:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 11th, 2020** at the Somerville Housing Authority's Modernization Department, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145 and publicly opened forthwith.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the bid amount and made payable to the SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY.

There will be a pre-bid walkthrough on **Wednesday, March 4th, 2020 at precisely 1:15 p.m.** at Bryant Manor 75 Myrtle St., 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 mannys@sha-web.org or call at **617-625-1152 ext. 330**.

The Somerville Housing Authority reserves the right to waive any informalities in or to reject any and all bids, or to waive any informalities in the bidding. 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.

2/26/20 The Somerville Times

Neville Place renews Cambridge Memory Café sponsorship

For the second year in a row, Neville Place Assisted Living is grand sponsor for a free monthly social gathering geared toward people with dementia or memory loss.

Neville Place is sponsoring the Cambridge Connections Memory Café, which is a joint effort of Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) and the Cambridge Council on Aging. Open to people with memory loss and their care partners, the café is a welcoming space that features activities everyone can enjoy, explained SCES Director of Outreach and Community Relations Nathan Lamb.

“Providing inclusive social activities is an important piece of making our community more dementia-friendly,” said Lamb. “Stress and isolation are challenges that caregivers often face, so we really appreciate Neville Place joining with us to provide a few hours each month where families facing memory challenges can get out and have some fun together.”

Proceeds from the sponsorship will be used to offset event expenses, such as refreshments

and monthly entertainment.

Located at 650 Concord Ave in Cambridge, Neville Place offers personalized assisted living and a residential Compass Memory Support Neighborhood®, which caters to individuals with Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias. Neville Place Executive Director Alan Lappas described the sponsorship as a natural fit.

“The Cambridge Connections Memory Café is a much-needed resource for local families and one that aligns directly with our values at Neville Place,” said Lappas. “It’s so important to provide safe, inclusive spaces for our elders living with Alzheimer’s diseases or related dementias.”

Cambridge Council on Aging Director Susan Pacheco thanked Neville for supporting the café.

“This sponsorship reflects the commitment that Neville Place and their parent organization, Senior Living Residences, have to advancing awareness of dementia and creating Dementia Friendly Communities,” said Pacheco. “Their support offers a community resource for individuals with cognitive impairment.”



Resources that make communities more dementia friendly were the topic of a recent discussion between (from right) Alan Lappas and Emily Lane of Neville Place Assisted Living and Maryellen McEleney and Nancy Quigg-Gonsalves from the Cambridge Connections Memory Café. Neville Place recently renewed its grand sponsorship of the memory café.

Cambridge Connections is hosted at the Cambridge City-wide Senior Center on the third Friday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

For more information about Cambridge Connections or to register, call 617-628-2614, ext. 3607 or email the SCES Aging Information Center at info@eldercare.org.

Registration is requested, but not required. Anyone who requires personal care assistance must be accompanied by a care partner.

Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) is a non-profit agency that supports the independence and well-being of older people in Somerville and Cambridge. For more information, visit eldercare.org, follow us on Facebook and Twitter, or contact the SCES Aging Information Center at 617-628-2601 for free advice and guidance.

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Wednesday|February 26

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.|115 Broadway

Thursday|February 27

Central Library
Preschool Storytime for 3 to 5-year-olds
10:30 a.m.- 11:15 a.m.
Comic Book Drawing Workshop
3 p.m.- 5 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Friday|February 28

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

Monday|March 2

Central Library
Sing Along with Fred!
10:30 a.m – 11:30 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

Tuesday|March 3

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

Central Library
Girls Who Code
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Wednesday|March 4

Central Library
Homeschool Reading Group
10:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
Teen Game Day
2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

West at TAB
Read to a Dog with Josie
5 p.m.- 6 p.m.| 167 Holland St, 2nd floor

MUSIC|ARTS

Wednesday|February 26

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: JigJam|7:30 p.m.
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
Knuckle Puck
Heart Attack Man
6:30 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Jungle Community Music Club
Open Mic Hosted By Karim
7:30 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

Highland Kitchen
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Last Wednesday Residency: Sarah Grella feat. Sadie Gustafson-Zook + Tim Hall (of HipStory)
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Thursday|February 27

Sally O'Brien's
BT/ALC Big Band
8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Jess Baggia, Kirsten Manville, Miele|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
PEAK with special guest Space Kadet
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
Hania
Autumn Jones
Dovy
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Jungle Community Music Club
Ghost Town Brass Band & Emperor Norton's Stationary Marching Band
8:30 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Adam Janjigian Quartet
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory
Strummerville Ukulele Club
The Loop
7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

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

Friday|February 28

Sally O'Brien's
Tom Hagerty Acoustic Band|6 p.m.
Hear Now Live presents Simon White & Rhythm Inc with Greg Roy |9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room: Irish Session|9:30 p.m.
Backroom| The American WHO Sensation|7 p.m.
Pop Disaster|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Once Somerville
Stormstress
Lusus, Firstbourne, X'ella
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
As The Sparrow|10 p.m.
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

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

Thunder Road
The Mudhens with special guests Comanchero!
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

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

The Jungle Community Music Club
Torpedo, Alec Morrissey & Band, CHACO, World Wise
8 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

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

Somerville Theatre
Altan
8 p.m.|55 Davis Sq

Saturday|February 29

Sally O'Brien's
Patsy Hamel Band|6 p.m.

Kilroe|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: The Kennedys|7 p.m.
Closing Time|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Karaoke
65 Holland St

Bull McCabe's
Kong - Thunderfunk| 10 p.m.
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

Thunder Road
Fundraiser Event for the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge – Tickets Available at Door!
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
PowerSlut “Fun With Junk” Release Party/WhistleStop Rock Fest 10 Bands
3 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Leap Day 2020 Celebration!|4 p.m.
Luke DeRoy Trio
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Jungle Community Music Club
The Waitlist // The Addition // Oliver-PriceProject|5:30 p.m.
Boston8Bit: Bleep Year| 9 p.m.
6 Sanborn Ct

The Rockwell
Shit-faced Shakespeare®: A Midsummer Night's Dream|7 p.m.
Dreamland Silent Disco|10 p.m.
255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory
The Spring Hill Quintet
4 p.m.|Café
Tap Improv Jam
7:30 p.m.|Café| 191 Highland Ave

Somerville Theatre
An Evening with Emily King
8 p.m.|55 Davis Sq

Sunday|March 1

Sally O'Brien's Bar
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: Dervish|4 p.m./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

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
Holychild
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Jungle Community Music Club
SoakedInStrange*AKingsDescendant*Machin
8:30 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Americana Picnic: The Vinegar Flies
1 p.m.
pindrop sessions 22: who we are: american heartstrings / james dargan, reginald mobley, handel & haydn society, hipstory
7 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory

Show + Tell: A [sort of] Open Mic
12:30 p.m.|café|191 Highland Ave

Monday|March 2

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: Stump Trivia|8:30 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub
Jimmy James Trivia|8:30 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
New Hand / Rags and Riches / Lvl3rd / Natalie Staples
7 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

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

Tuesday|March 3

Sally O'Brien's Bar
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room: Jason Anick & The Swingers|8:30 p.m.
Backroom|Dan Cloutier's, "Acoustic Open Mic Night" at The Burren Backroom Series|7 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

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

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

Thunder Road
Neighbor Tuesdays in Union Square, Somerville!
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
PINTO LOCO
Big Giant, Shotgun Waltz
7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Jungle Community Music Club
Trapped In The Jungle: 2
7 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

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

Arts at the Armory
Smut Slam
7 p.m.|café|191 Highland Ave

Wednesday|March 4

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: Josephine County, with the new trio of Christine Hedden, Rebecca McGowan and Lindsay Straw|7:30 p.m.
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
Sanguisugabogg
Undeath, GOG
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Jungle Community Music Club
6 Sanborn Ct

Highland Kitchen
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

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

CLASSES AND GROUPS

Wednesday|February 26

Central Library
Drop in Knitting and Needlecraft
12 p.m.-2 p.m.
Mystery Book Group
7 p.m.-8:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday|February 27

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

Central Library
City of Somerville Fair Housing Commission
3:45 p.m.- 5:15 p.m.
Peruvian United Asociacion-APU
5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library
Family Game Night
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

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

Friday|February 28

East Branch Library
East Branch Book Group
11 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

Saturday|February 29

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

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

Sunday|March 1

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|March 2

Central Library
Creative Drama Workshop with Laurie!
4 p.m.-5 p.m.
Chess Night
7 p.m.-8:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

Tuesday|March 3

Central Library
Drop In Knitting and Needlecraft
11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Learn English at the Library!
6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Dark Horse Public House
Between the Covers Book Club
7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.| 499 Broadway

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 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 Independently – 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. Please call Josephine to schedule an appointment at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

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 at 617-625-6600, 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.

Movie & Lunch – Tuesday, March 24 – Join us for a showing of Bohemian Rhapsody at the Somerville Theatre for only \$1 payable to the theatre. Theatre open at 11:30 a.m. movie showing is at 12:00 p.m. Then we will be having lunch at The Foundry with you choice of chicken, fish, or pasta meal for \$15 per person payable at time of reservation. RSVP a must. For more information please call 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 info 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 SCHEDULE

(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)

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-

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.

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.

Somerville Community Maple Syrup Boil Down



The Friends of the Community Growing Center’s volunteers have been busy tapping local sugar maple trees and collecting their sap across the Tufts University campus. Join them on Saturday, March 7, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. for the Boil Down – a free event for all – and experience the process of boiling sap into maple syrup. Taste fresh local syrup, learn how to make your own, and connect with other folks in the community.

The Boil Down will take place at the Somerville Community Growing Center, 22 Vinal Ave., just outside Union Square. Rain date is March 14, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Learn more about The Growing Center at www.thegrowingcenter.org.

The 2020 Somerville Maple Syrup Project is coordinated by the Somerville Community Growing Center with the help of the Friends of the Community Growing Center, Tufts University, Remnant Brewery, Neighborhood Restaurant, and many volunteers.

And, if you’d like to help with preparations and day-of activities, they have lots of opportunities for volunteers. Contact them at volunteer@thegrowingcenter.org.



BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



What does a sprinter eat before a race?
Nothing, they fast!

SMC's 2nd Annual Honors Awards and Fundraiser



Thursday, April 16 from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m.
at the Arts at the Armory

Celebrate and honor the diverse voices and local media showcased on Somerville Media Center TV, Internet Radio, Podcast and Streaming Networks.

They need your help to ensure community media is here to stay in Somerville and all proceeds from this event go into an “SMC Future Home” campaign. Your support will help them achieve their goal of raising money to help with their impending future move to a new facility. They are excited to host an evening full of honor and entertainment for you.

Cocktail Reception and Silent Auction: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

The evening begins with a cocktail reception from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. with free craft ale donated by AERONAUT Brewing Company, heavy hors d'oeuvre, a silent auction and a live DJ.

Guests will be treated to an array of culinary delights and will also be entertained on the mezzanine with a retro arcade sponsored by BitBar and a fun photo booth pop-up.

Awards Presentation and Program: 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. hosted by Chloé Cunha, Boston-area comedian.

Following the cocktail reception, guests will enjoy a 90-minute program featuring award presentations that celebrate and honor the diverse voices showcased on Somerville Media Center TV, Internet Radio, Podcast & Streaming Networks.

Hosting the event is Boston-area comedian and former Comic-in-Residence at the Comedy Studio, Chloé Cunha, who will make sure all are LOL-ing throughout the entire awards ceremony.

For tickets and info go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/280834202878454/>



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El Sistema Somerville's Celebration

On Tuesday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the ESCS auditorium, elementary and middle school students will be performing in fiddle ensembles, jazz ensembles, string quartets, recorder ensembles, and symphonic orchestra. Everyone at El Sistema is proud of the hard work and enthusiastic attitude every student has shown during their preparations for this performance. The students are getting very excited about the performance too!



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SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

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

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

Wednesday, February 26

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

Thursday, February 27

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

1:30pm The Somerville Line
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects
4:30pm The Struggle
5:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News
6:00pm #AFAD
6:30pm #AFAD
7:00pm Community Lens: SHC 5K Race
8:00pm LIVE - Our View
9:00pm PABFONE Closing Day Ceremony
10:00pm Community Bulletin Board
10:30pm The World Fusion Show
11:00pm VOX POP Comedy Night

Friday, February 28

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

Saturday, February 29

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

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

Sunday, March 1

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

Monday, March 2

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

Tuesday, March 3

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

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

Wednesday, February 26

7:00am Middlesex Update w/Marian Ryan
7:30am Derechos de Inquilinos
8:42am Flood & Stormwater PSA en Espanol
8:45am SPD Ride Along
9:00am Senator Ed Markey's Town Hall at SHS
11:30am City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti
12:00pm School Committee Meeting 2.24.20
3:00pm SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020
3:30pm Three Kings Festival at St. Benedict's
6:00pm Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"
6:30pm Derechos de Inquilinos
8:00pm Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion
8:45pm Transgender Day of Remembrance
9:00pm The Spiritual Music of Henry Hadley
10:00pm Senator Ed Markey's Town Hall at SHS

Thursday, February 27

12:00am Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville"
12:30am Licensing Commission Meeting - 2.10.20
7:30am Fit-4-Life #4
8:00am The Spiritual Music of Henry Hadley
9:00am Derechos de Inquilinos
11:00am Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion
11:45am SPD Ride Along
12:00pm Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville"
12:30pm City Council Meeting - 2.25.20
5:00pm Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion
6:00pm Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"
6:30pm City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti
7:00pm Return to Italy
7:49pm Flood & Stormwater PSA
8:00pm City Council Spotlight - Mark Niedergang

8:30pm Licensing Commission Meeting - 2.10.20
11:45pm Transgender Day of Remembrance

Friday, February 28

12:00am Senator Ed Markey's Town Hall at SHS
2:00am Talking Business
2:30am Derechos de Inquilinos
7:30am The First American Flag
9:00am City Council Spotlight - Mark Niedergang
9:30am Senator Ed Markey's Town Hall at SHS
11:30am Talking Business
12:00pm Derechos de Inquilinos
1:15pm Transgender Day of Remembrance
1:30pm School Committee Meeting 2.24.20
4:30pm Three Kings Festival at St. Benedict's
6:00pm SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen
6:15pm SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen - Miral Atis
6:30pm Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020
7:30pm Faith In a City: Fire & Roses
9:00pm Hall St. Infrastructure Community Meeting
11:00pm SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020
11:30pm City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti

Saturday, February 29

12:00am Derechos de Inquilinos
1:30am City Council Spotlight - Mark Niedergang
2:00am SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen
2:15am Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020
7:30am Faith In a City: Fire & Roses
9:00am Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion
10:00am City Council Spotlight - Mark Niedergang
11:00am The Spiritual Music of Henry Hadley
12:00pm School Committee Meeting 2.24.20
3:00pm SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020

3:30pm Spring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting
5:30pm Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"
6:00pm Senator Ed Markey's Town Hall at SHS
7:36pm Talking Business
8:00pm Derechos de Inquilinos
9:15pm SPD Ride Along
9:30pm City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti
10:00pm The Spiritual Music of Henry Hadley
11:00pm SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020
11:30pm Talking Business

Sunday, March 1

12:00am Somerville Heroes' Salute 2019
1:30am Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner 2019
2:45am SPD Ride Along
7:00am School Committee Meeting 2.24.20
9:00am 2020 Inaugural Ceremonies
11:30am City Council Spotlight - Mark Niedergang
12:00pm School Committee Meeting 2.24.20
2:30pm Faith In a City: Fire & Roses
5:00pm Senator Ed Markey's Town Hall at SHS
6:36pm SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen
7:00pm Senior Circuit
7:30pm City Council Spotlight - Mark Niedergang
8:00pm City Council Meeting - 2.25.20

Monday, March 2

12:00am Senior Circuit
12:30am Licensing Commission Meeting - 2.10.20
7:00am Derechos de Inquilinos
8:15am Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion
9:00am City Council Spotlight - Mark Niedergang
9:30am Spring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting

11:00am Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020
12:00pm City Council Meeting - 2.25.20
4:30pm Senator Ed Markey's Town Hall at SHS
7:00pm School Committee Meeting - 3.2.20
11:00pm SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020

Tuesday, March 3

12:00am Derechos de Inquilinos
1:30am Faith In a City: Fire & Roses
3:00am SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen
3:15am Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020
7:30am Middlesex Update w/Marian Ryan
8:00am Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"
8:30am SomerVision 2040: Values & Equity 2019
9:00am Hall St. Infrastructure Community Meeting
11:30am City Council Spotlight - Mark Niedergang
12:00pm Senior Circuit
12:30pm Licensing Commission Meeting - 2.10.20
5:30pm The Spiritual Music of Henry Hadley
6:30pm City Council Spotlight - Mark Niedergang
7:00pm Senior Circuit
7:30pm Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion
8:30pm Hall St. Infrastructure Community Meeting
10:30pm SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020
11:00pm Faith In a City: Faith & Community

Wednesday, March 4

12:00am Senior Circuit
12:30am Central Hill Campus Phase I Meeting #3
2:09am Talking Business
2:26am Flood & Stormwater PSA
2:30am Licensing Commission Meeting - 2.10.20

Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, February 26

8:00am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical
9:35am Cam/Som Girls' Hockey vs CC
11:00am SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica
1:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden
2:30pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere
4:00pmSHS Girls' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts
5:30pm Our Schools, Our City
6:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical
7:35pm Cam/Som Girls' Hockey vs CC
9:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica
10:30pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading

Thursday, February 27

12:00am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere
1:15am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical
3:30am Our Schools, Our City
8:00am Cam/Som Girls' Hockey vs CC
9:30am SHS Hockey vs Latin Academy
11:00am SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica
12:30pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading
2:00pm SHS Hockey vs Latin Academy
4:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington
6:00pm SHS Hockey vs Latin Academy
7:15pm SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica

9:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington

Friday, February 28

12:00am SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington
1:30am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading
8:00am SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica
9:30am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading
11:00am SCAP Student Survey
12:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington
2:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical
4:00pm SHS Hockey vs Lowell
6:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica
7:30pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading
9:00pm SCAP Student Survey
10:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington

Saturday, February 29

12:00am SHS Hockey vs Lowell
1:30am SHS Hockey vs Latin Academy
3:00am Public Domain Theater
8:00am SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington
10:00am SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica
12:00pm SHS Hockey vs Lowell
1:30pm Cam/Som Girls' Hockey vs CC
3:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading
4:05pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical

6:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington
8:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica
10:00pm SHS Hockey vs Lowell
11:30pm Cam/Som Girls' Hockey vs CC

Sunday, March 1

1:00am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading
2:05am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical
6:00am Public Domain Theater
8:00am SHS Hockey vs Latin Academy
10:00am SHS Hockey vs Lowell
11:30am SHS Hockey vs St. Joe's Prep
1:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington
3:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica
4:30pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading
6:00pm SHS Hockey vs Latin Academy
8:00pm SHS Hockey vs Lowell
9:30pm SHS Hockey vs St. Joe's Prep
11:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington

Monday, March 2

1:00am SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica
2:30am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading
8:00am SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington
9:30am Cam/Som Girls' Hockey vs CC
11:00am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical

1:00pm SCAP Student Survey
2:00pm Our Schools, Our City
2:30pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden
4:00pm SHS Hockey vs Lowell
6:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington
7:30pm Cam/Som Girls' Hockey vs CC
9:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical
11:00pm SCAP Student Survey

Tuesday, March 3

12:00am Our Schools, Our City
12:30am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden
2:00am SHS Hockey vs Lowell
8:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin
9:35am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading
11:00am SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica
1:00pm SHS Hockey vs Lowell
3:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington
4:30pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading
6:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin
7:35pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading
9:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica
11:00pm SHS Hockey vs Lowell
1:00am SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington
2:30am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

'XXX Poems'

By Raquel Balboni



XXX Poems
By Raquel Balboni
Arts & Letters
artandlettersmagazine.squarespace.com
Cambridge, MA
47 Pages
\$15.00

Review by Off the Shelf correspondent Dennis Daly

Raquel Balboni butters her readers with luscious phrases and salted cream stanzas in her first book entitled *XXX Poems*. She churns her verses with naked abandon in an avant-garde display of unabashed kisses ingrained with unabashed cravings.

In her poem *Girl in the Picture*, Balboni meditates on the smallness or largeness of things. A blue landscape forwards into a sweetness of bright and sunny days. But, inside, weather refugees fog up windows and mark a certain heart sickness as the world's evolution inexorably continues, offering ancient songs to those avoiding the snow. The movement through the piece turns upbeat and centers on the power of the pictured girl. With a spreadable touch Balboni leads her readers into the largeness of her tableau this way,

A guideline in the blue landscape
feels like a small room that feels giant because everything is
blue.
There is no distinguisher of the shapes or walls of the room. The
blue dominates.
Leopards move outside in the dust hills
away from the means to be certain direction of translation when
the stars the moon and the sun are certain
of other things.

Funny Place, Balboni's poem of winking admonishments, leads its reader into a definable destination before assailing him or her with the sharp edges of extraneous, even alien images. Once set into the piece, the sharp edges become part of an overriding two-dimensional poetic cubism with its own logic. A stone altar, borrowed from nature, centers other religious implications in this strange, angularly sensual, funhouse. Consider these lines,

Over a table of stone from the edge of the forest where the
vines made you bleed
A stone from there cast upon a four legged standing statue
So sturdy as the mirror made to look us 100 years older and
suddenly with a lot of miracles to be held
Never try again to photograph the four unlit candles on the
mantle in the funhouse mirror
Did I mention this strange bed in a room of blue almost furry
Blue...

Beware the unsatisfied praying mantis. Or pity her in her sleeplessness and attempts to connect, not by preying, but by praying. Balboni's poem *Praying Angel* kisses and tells. Initial sexual innuendos take flight as mystical and transcendent flame, a white light of longing. Her persona flees the indifferent world. She craves connections from ritual magic, the angelic type (I think). Here the poet's persona contemplates abandonment,

Angel in a field oh my darlin
a black and white ghostly film grain
oh my darling, coffee cup

full of ice and dark like sleeplessness
on a bus for far too long
walking in the city with long hair
the sky is predicted to come out tomorrow
to sing a weeping lullaby
my skin feels like it is moving
as i crawl out from my own throat
i can see the otherside of trust
when i stand on the tip of my big tooth

Accept, a poem of self-recognition and indulgence, drizzles onto the page in distinct moments. In this geometric world that Balboni creates alertness is everything. The poet's protagonist flourishes by mingling with timelessness and the tolerance of night. She ignores limits. In the end the intimate details coalesce,

The night is pleasant and inside a blend of time limits
A grey braid and a purple coat, trying hard not to notice the
differences
Because the pot of honey is translucent anyway, the sun shows
behind the slow drip
Staying here with her much longer and coming home to long
fingers
staying here until everything matches

Obsession sneaks into the lover like an unwritten poem. It expands, takes odd turns and seeks to control a universe of desire. Balboni's piece entitled *She* details such a compulsion. Mystery and secrecy conspire against the determined lover, creating delusions along the way. The narrator consumes bits of knowledge about the object of her affection hungrily: where she goes, what she wears, the books she reads. In the end sagacity prevails. The poet's persona finds a certain serenity but bemoans the inescapable,

all I wanted was to see her up close
to see the way her arms blended with her neck
the sweet creamy skin, the smooth organ so there and soft
although it seemed my eyes played tricks on me when i looked
at all

never will i be allowed to follow her into the secret woods
like a magic trick you ask how but never want to know the mess in realizing nothing is as special as it may seem in the blissful dank smell of moving soil
peace is left to be

How can you quibble with midnight coffee? Balboni clearly delights in coffee (in this as well as other poems), among other bedside pleasures. Her poem *City and Awake* mesmerizes with a slow delineation of image and passion beginning with her black coffee, through her meditations on cutlery and monkeys, and finally love. The poem opens thusly,

with midnight coffee by my bedside
i got invited to a poetry party that i did not go to
poetry in my fade parade
operating this body this tool this wave
on the morning bedside:
green juice, black coffee
in a monkey mug & in the constellations mug
prove it worthy a restless time to consider the cleanest cup

Don't underestimate restlessness in a poet. And especially don't underestimate Raquel Balboni and her "wakey wakey," caffeine-powered, poetic kisses. They are top drawer.

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Thomas DeFreitas was born in 1969 in Boston. He graduated from the Boston Latin School, and attended the University of Massachusetts. His poems have appeared in *Dappled Things*, *Ibbetson Street*, *Muddy River Poetry Review*, *Plain-songs*, and in other publications. Tom is a member of the New England Poetry Club and lives in Arlington.



Mandarin

Take the bright globe of the mandarin
from its red-mesh satchel in the fridge.
Slice the rind with a serrated knife,
three cuts making six acute angles.

Peel the skin to ravish its pulpy flesh.
Bite into a small curved wedge of the fruit,
cold as November, firm and yielding
as any gelatin. Let the juice, vital

with vitamins, burst against your palate:
each drop a festival of Miami revelry!
Take another wedge, and then another.
Offer mute exclamations of gratitude.

— Thomas DeFreitas

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

Ms. Cam's

From page 14

Olio

Answers

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. February 24, 1857 | 7. John Lennon |
| 2. Purple stands for justice, green for faith, and gold for power | 8. March 9 |
| 3. 1997 | 9. March 14 |
| 4. Rich Girl | 10. March 13 |
| 5. Betty White | 11. March 16 |
| 6. Pink and white | 12. March 29 |

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