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Somerville's original independent newspaper

The Somerville Times

VOL. 8 NO. 6

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2020

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

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City officials discuss surveillance technology guidelines



A general use policy governing the operation of surveillance technology in the City of Somerville is being studied by city official for possible implementation in the near future.

By Thalia Plata

The Somerville City Council's Legislative Matters Committee discussed a new ordinance called the Surveillance Technology General Use Policy at their latest meeting on January 28.

The policy would build off the Public Oversight of Surveillance Technology ordinance passed in October of 2019 which will go into effect on October 15, 2020.

This new ordinance would provide detailed regulation of the city's use or acquisition of surveillance technology for the collection, use, and retention of surveillance data and department heads would be required to comply with the ordinance and the policy.

This general use policy would require department heads to submit requests for the use of new technology for approval from the City Council as well as a related report at the end of the year. Continued on page 4

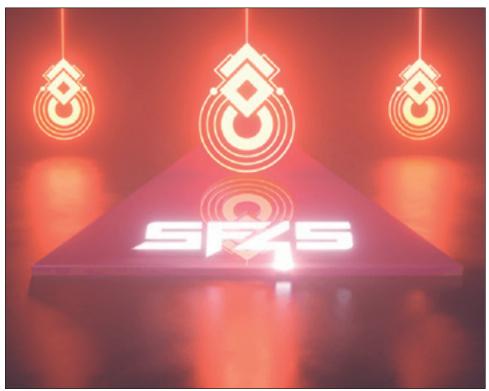
Boston Sci-Fi Film Festival coming in for a landing in Somerville

The Boston Science Fiction Film Festival (Boston SciFi) is an 11-day cinematic event held at the historic Somerville Theatre from February 7 to the 17.

The 2020 edition marks its 45th anniversary as the longest running genre fest in America. The first nine days consists of a traditional film festival. Whether they be features, shorts, webisodes, workshops, parties or a new Hollywood film, BostonSciFi emphasizes emerging directors with distinct visions from around the globe.

The Festival concludes with The Original Binge View, The Marathon, a 24-hour orgiastic motion picture endurance test. Imagine 750 close friends sitting in a vintage movie theatre straining eyeballs and tush muscles watching everything from classics, soon to be classics and the occasional schlock disaster. It starts at noon on February 16 and ends at noon on President's Day, February 17.

For more info and ticket links, go to https:// somervilletheatre.com/film-festivals/.



The Boston Science Fiction Film Festival will run from February 7 to 17 at the Somerville Theatre.

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For those who follow us on Facebook – and everyone of course should - we have set up a new account and we invite one and all to go the there and "Friend" us. The change was necessary for technical reasons, and the updates and postings will accordingly be better than ever. The old account will soon be deleted, so hurry on over to https://www.facebook.com/somerville. times.1 to get connected. We anxiously await your arrival.

AARP is taking appointments to help with income tax preparations starting February 10 at the Holland Street Senior Center at 167 Holland Street. Please call Josephine to sched-

ule an appointment, at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300

Argenziano Restaurant Night is tonight, Wednesday, February 5, 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., at El Potro Mexican Bar & Grill, 61 Union Sq. Bring the family for dinner. A portion of the proceeds from all food and drinks purchased that night will be donated to the Argenziano PTA. Your student will be excited to see their friends. You will be relieved to skip preparing a meal, and teachers and students will be grateful to receive generous financial support from our community.

Happy birthday this week to the following: Happy birthday to John Arvantis, who is celebrating this week. Also, happy birthday to a good guy, Jason Ribeiro. We hope he has a great day this week. Happy birthday to our good friend and a great

guy, Bob McWatters. We hope he has a great day. Also celebrating this week, Steve DeCarlo, who serves the city so well as its Director of City Cable Operations. Happy birthday to a young lady who grew up here and works at Endicott College, Eleanor Pye. We hope she has a great day as well. To all those celebrating this week who we may have missed, we hope you have a great day as well.

Visit Somerville High School during Open House 2020 on Thursday, February 6 and Friday, Continued on page 11

The Somerville Times

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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of February 5 – February 12 as provided by theNational Weather Service

	DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
••	Wednesday February 5	Partly Cloudy	39°/26°	10%	50%	NNW 11 mph
**	Thursday February 6	Snow/Rain	39°/38°	90%	72%	E 12 mph
**	Friday February 7	Snow/Rain	56°/30°	80%	66%	SW 15 mph
*	Saturday February 8	Sunny	44°/29°	0%	43%	W 14 mph
Š	Sunday February 9	Partly Cloudy	44°/32°	20%	50%	W 9 mph
	Monday February 10	Partly Cloudy	46°/34°	20%	51%	WSW 11 mph
•••	Tuesday February 11	Rain	46°/31°	30%	57%	WSW 10 mph

NOTE: Conitions 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: Local businesses need you in the face of GLX bridge delays

A Moore says:

You talk about "helping" small businesses, so why don't you and your administration start by putting back all the meters and parking that you took away from Broadway? You're literally choking those businesses to death. Many won't survive much longer.

no way says:

Dear mayor/betrayer, I own a small business that allowed me to buy a house in somerville: a multifamily house. You are allowing socialist bernie-bros to dictate the rules by which I make a living. Rents have tracked inflation. People upset about high rents are really having a problem because their *income* has not kept up with inflation. Why is that a problem I-a working-class guy that couldn't afford to buy a single-family house in the town I grew up in-have to solve?

Also: you know very well that the reason rents are even as high as they are is:

- 1. Single family and condo owners vote themselves MASSIVE property tax breaks. This puts the tax burden on multifamily houses, and thus on renters. How moral of them!
- 2. Single family and condo owners vote to limit development of new housing to preserve the value of their own homes. Thus making rentable units scarce and driving up rents. How moral of them!
- 3. Single family and condo owners blame high rents on "greedy" landlords when it's policies they have vote for for decades that cause the problem in the first place.

I'm a working class guy that paid for what I get every step of the way. Now upper middle class folks are telling me I'm some sort of monster for having a certain type of business they don't approve of. These Bernie-bros have a lot of nerve.

Old timer says:

The absurdity of your statement that rents have tracked inflation in somerville got me crunching numbers. Around 1990 I was sharing a crappy 4 BR outside of Davis and I think our rent was \$1400/mo (ie \$350 for me). I was getting 20K / year as a newbie at my white collar job. For reference, minimum wage was \$3.80 / hour or about 7K / year. So that was not quite 25% my pay for rent. 4 BR's now seem to go for around \$4K / month - ie 1K / room. In my profession starting salary is now about \$50K, with minimum wage at \$12 / hr or about 25k / year. So I'd still be looking at about 25% my pay for rent. Inflation since 1990 is officially about 100%, which obviously is well less than the actual increase in rent (& pay).

This all makes me wonder just how much more screwed young renters in somerville are now than they were 30 years ago. Clearly the cost to actually own a house has gone up a lot more than rents have (percentage-wise) and that would be way our of my reach now. But renting? not so much. This all of course ignores other costs that have skyrocketed, like student debt.

Old Taxpayer says:

For your numbers old timer. Back in 1967 I was paying \$80 a month heated up on Newbury Street Somerville. That's for the whole apartment for the two of us when I got married.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

Life in the Wille by Jimmy Del Ponte

Weedville



Disclaimer: This article in no way advocates the use of marijuana or any other drug. It is simply a look back at the history of pot in

Somerville as told by those who remember. It is meant for the adults who grew up with marijuana in Somerville.

Did you ever think you'd see day that pot stores are popping up everywhere including our dear old Somerville? Did you ever think you'd be able to buy pot legally in Davis Square? There's a couple of medical marijuana dispensaries in Somerville and some regular dispensaries coming.

Buying pot in Somerville used to be an adventure. You got it on the street corner, or you had your own "guy." The whole process was risky business. Maybe you had to go up the dealer's house, or meet him someplace to make the deal. There was always the chance of getting busted. Sometimes we would drive into the Projects for "bones." We were always scared of running into the cops. Some pot sellers made deliveries. Getting busted with weed used to be a serious offense. Plus, we'd get our butts kicked by our fathers.

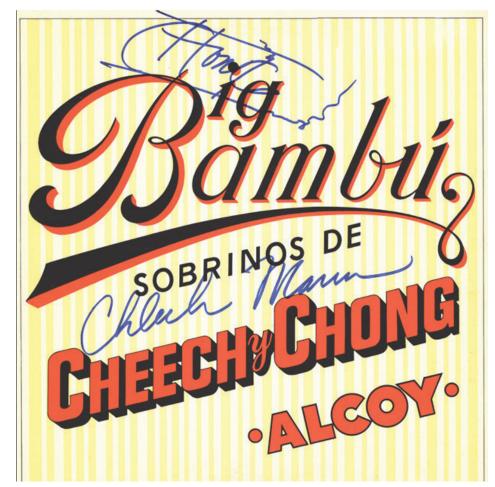
Buying weed has become almost as easy as buying milk and bread. Growing up in Somerville we all have pot stories. Some of my friends helped me remember.

Back in the day, kids sold bones or joints (marijuana cigarettes) in the halls of my junior high and when I was up the high school (smokin' in the boys' room). You would walk by a group of students and a voice would say, "Three for five!" That was a good deal as long as they weren't "pinnahs." That meant the joints were skinny like a pin, thus, pinners. That may be an original Somerville word along with "fatties," which were ... anyone, anyone? Fat joints. Smoking a fattie would give you the munchies fast. Then you'd eat everything in sight.

There was a pot dealer in every park in Somerville and on just about every street corner. He or she was very popular. They had to endure heavy risks as the cops were always hovering. As I said before, getting busted with weed was a threat hanging over anyone who was a pot user back then.

Today, I get whiffs of marijuana smoke all over the place because everyone's smoking and toking. It also has a huge medical following. I actually get a kick out of it when I get a whiff of second hand pot because it brings back memories of when I was a hippie hanging around on the Cambridge Common or behind the high school.

I quit smoking cigarettes long ago but I still don't mind the occasional smell of cigarette smoke either. It reminds of



all the bars, posts and clubs we used to frequent growing up. For what I did to my nose in the 80's, I'm surprised I can smell anything. I took my sons to an Alice Cooper concert when they were younger and they asked me what the strange smell was. I said, that's marijuana, and I better never smell it on you guys!

I remember buying a bag of bird seed from a guy up Powder House Park. Another time I bought a bag of oregano. We joked that the guy who sold it to us "took the taste you love in food and put it in marijuana!" By the way you can now get a variety of pot edibles like gummies and chocolate bars. That was the risk you took.

The pot deals had to be so quick that sometimes you just had to stick it in your pocket and take off in case the boys in blue were near. I don't know how many of those corn cob pipes we bought at Robbins Smoke Shop in Davis Square. Pipes could be improvised out of toilet paper rolls and tin foil, empty soda cans and even an apple. You

Continued on page 9

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 Website and mail it to the Election Department
- Register Online by visiting the City Website

All mail-in voter registration forms must be post-marked by $02/12/20 \boldsymbol{.}$

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By Jim Clark

Rolling pot shop comes to a stop

A Somerville Police officer on patrol at Assembly Row last Friday evening observed a vehicle parked illegally in front of the Montaje building located at 449 Canal St.

The officer parked his fully marked cruiser in the cul-de-sac opposite the vehicle which was occupied by a male driver, a male front seat passenger, and an individual in the rear seat on the passenger side.

The officer observed a man exit the Montaje building carrying a white plastic shopping bag under his right arm, then enter the the rear driver's side door of the illegally parked vehicle and sit down.

The vehicle then proceeded forward into the Montaje parking garage. The occupants were having difficulty with entering the garage, and the rear seat passenger who just entered the vehicle, exited and manipulated the parking machine numerous times before the vehicle was finally allowed entry.

The officer circled the block and observed the vehicle now parked at the rear exit facing Great River Rd. He positioned his cruiser so as to watch the exit, and observed the vehicle exit the garage and drive on Great River Rd. toward Artisan Way.

As the vehicle passed his cruiser, he saw that the male who just entered the vehicle was no longer inside. The officer suspected that a street level narcotic transaction had taken place.

The officer stopped the vehicle on Grand Union Blvd. by Starbucks. The driver provided the officer with a license confirming his identity as Tiago Pereira. The front seat passenger identified himself as Julio Silveira.

During this interaction the officer reportedly detected a very strong smell of unburnt marijuana emanating from the vehicle. In plain view of the center console he observed a small amount of marijuana in a clear plastic bag, and numerous drug paraphernalia items.

The officer ordered Tiago from the vehicle and spoke with him at the rear of the vehicle. Tiago reportedly stated that he came to Assembly Row to meet a friend and drop off clothes.

Silveira and the rear seat passenger were removed from the vehicle, and all individuals were read their Miranda rights.

The officer conducted a search of the vehicle and their persons for evidence related to the drug transaction he believed occurred. Inside the vehicle, he retrieved the clear plastic bag with marijuana inside from the center console. Also located in the same console storage area was a stack of new unused packaging for marijuana labeled "Blizz Pack - World Famous Apple Fritter" "7 Grams".

Inside the armrest a digital

scale, and three packages of marijuana were located. One package was labeled "Goat Exotics Wedding Cake" and the other two were both labeled "Pink Runty."

Also located in the armrest was a stack of cash amounting to \$1,790. There was an additional \$72 located in the armrest that was loose.

In the rear seat, the armrest was folded down and there was a small black access panel for the trunk. The access panel was ajar. The officer lowered the access panel and observed a white plastic shopping bag, very similar to the bag that the individual who exited Montaje and had sat in the back seat was carrying. Inside the bag was a vacuum sealed bag containing approximately one pound of marijuana labeled "Gelato". Also located in the shopping bag were numerous individual packaging for marijuana distribution labeled "Pink Runty".

After discovering additional drugs and cash on both Pereira and Silveira, the officer came to believe that Pereira and Silveria were conspiring to sell marijuana.

Due to the amount of marijuana in their possession, the overwhelming amount of packaging material, and the extreme amounts of cash, the officer informed both of them that they would be placed under arrest.

Silveria was charged with drug possession to distribute, possession of a class B drug, and conspiracy to violate drug law, while Pereira was charged with drug possession to distribute, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, and conspiracy to violate drug law.

Both men were taken to Police headquarters for booking on the above stated charges.

The back set passenger was released with no charges.

Help Keep Somerville Safe!

Arrests:

Erik Oxley, of 1200 Washington St., Boston, January 30, 4:17 p.m., arrested at Artisan Way on warrant charges of possession of a class B drug,

assault and battery, fraud in hiring a vehicle, shoplifting by asportation.

Michael Krawec, of 204 Washington St., January 31, 6:35 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on a charge of shoplifting by asportation.

Julio Silveira, of 77 Spring St., Brockton, January 31, 8:15 p.m., arrested at Grand Union Blvd. on charges of drug possession to distribute, possession of a class B drug, and conspiracy to violate drug law.

Tiago Pereira, of 48 Susan Rd., Brockton, January 31, 8:15

p.m., arrested at Grand Union Blvd. on charges of drug possession to distribute, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, and conspiracy to violate drug law.

City officials discuss surveillance technology guidelines **CONT. FROM PG 1**

The ordinance states that "the goal of this Policy is to balance the capacity of Surveillance Technology to improve the delivery of City services with the importance of maintaining individual(s)' right to privacy."

Legislative Matters Committee Chair and Ward 6 Councilor Lance Davis urged his fellow Committee members and representatives from the Mayor's Office to "consider the purpose of this document and how it's worded so that there's no misconception." He urged them to work to match language in the policy to the ordinance passed in October.

A representative from the Mayor's Office said, "This is a general use policy, but what is required of the general use policy is specific to each technology," and "It's trying to address multiple technologies that have varying purposes."

In 2019, Somerville became the first city on the east coast to ban the use of government recognition surveillance technology in partnership with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

The committee also reviewed a home rule petition authorizing the appointment of special firefighters and discussed the status of part-time employees hired as part of the proposed Police Department Cadet Program, and the role of the City Council in confirming nominees for the participation.

The Legislative Matters Committee meets again on on February 6 at 6:00 p.m. on the second floor of City Hall.



The Somerville City Council's Legislative Matters Committee discussed surveillance technology at their January 28 meeting.

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

By Sue Minichiello

Yesterday's urban renewal is today's gentrification. A bold statement? Perhaps, but there is no doubt that when neighborhoods are redeveloped in ways that exile their longtime residents and businesses, just as much – if not more – can be lost as gained.

That is the story of Boston's West End, a vibrant, diverse, tight-knit community that vanished under the so-called "urban renewal" of the 1950s. Many of its 7,500 residents relocated to Somerville where their families remain today.

West End tenement houses with momand-pop storefronts fell to the wrecking ball, ultimately to be replaced by high-rises with professed suburban amenities, all in the name of progress. The destruction of the neighborhood came to be seen as a landmark case in urban planning circles. Its simplistic, top-down approach became a textbook example of how NOT to transform a city. As Winston Churchill said, "Those who fail to learn from history are condemned to repeat it."

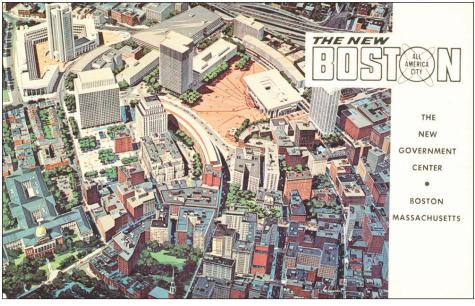
To preserve the history and honor the culture of the mourned neighborhood, and relate the vital lessons the story holds, The West End Museum is presenting the lecture series Reflections on Boston's West End: The Origins & Lessons of Urban Renewal. The series aims to provide a comprehensive examination of the forces

that led to the urban renewal programs in mid-20th century America. Structured as a series of seven lectures with discussion, each will have a distinct topic, but all use Boston's West End urban renewal project as the primary example and connecting point.

"This tragic story of how 7,500 people were forcibly removed from their homes is still has much to teach us today. The clearance of the West End was a product of government overreach caused by a lack of true community input and a too-narrow idea of what progress meant," said series presenter James Briand. "Today, we have vigorous online debate, but the control of information is getting more and more consolidated, and vocal but biased special interest groups are skewing the national conversation. This series helps us reflect on the importance of maintaining true civic discourse with room for multiple points of view."

The story of Boston's West End has implications far beyond the human suffering and loss to the City of Boston. The project prompted urban planning critics like Jane Jacobs to reconsider the prevailing expert opinion of the time that American cities needed to change to accommodate the automobile and suburban tastes. Jacobs suggested instead that each city compete on its own terms and celebrate neighborhood life and walkability.

"The aftermath of the West End ur-



1965 rendition of a "New Boston", depicting the new Government Center taking the place of Scollay Sq.

ban renewal project signaled the reconsideration of the idea of progress in this nation," said Briand. "Coming out of WWII, Americans had a high level of trust in government and experts. Beginning in the early 1960s, exposés like Silent Spring followed by events like the Vietnam War and Watergate taught us to question experts and consensus thinking. For cities, that began with the West End."

Exploring the larger historical and social forces that led to the fall of the West End offers the chance to draw lessons relevant to what is happening in and around Boston - and countless urban areas across the US - today. Briand will lead attendees to look at the idea of the slum and how it developed in history, the impact of the automobile and suburbanization, the changing role of the federal government in US cities, and the way in which the whole idea of progress changed before and after the events of the West End.

"Whether people are looking for simply a powerful human story or a deeper understanding of Boston's history and its bearing on modern cities, this series is for them," said Briand.

Briand has worked with The West End Museum since 2009, developing classroom presentations and tours on various topics including urban renewal, the work of Jane Jacobs, the 1949 Housing Act, and Title One. Briand has authored numerous articles on local history and is a lifelong resident of the Boston area.

Reflections on Boston's West End: The Origins & Lessons of Urban Renewal begins on February 19 with six subsequent sessions running through the fall. Attendees may opt to register for all seven lectures or cherry-pick the individual sessions in which they are most interested. Visit thewestendmuseum. org/events for more information, including lecture descriptions and dates. Pre-registration is required.

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Family in Sunday best walking over rubble of West End on way to St Joseph's church.

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Beacon Hill Roll Call



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THE HOUSE AND SENATE. Beacon Hill Roll Call records the votes of local senators from the week of January 27-31. There were no roll calls in the House last week.

NEXT GENERATION CLIMATE PACKAGE (S 2476, S 2477 and S 2478)

Senate 36-2, 36-2 and 36-2 on three separate roll calls, approved three bills known as the "Next Generation Climate Package." Under the bills, the Baker administration would be free to choose among various market-based forms of pricing carbon—including a revenue-neutral fee or a regional "cap and trade" system similar to the Transportation Climate Initiative. —It would have to do so by Jan. 1, 2022, for transportation; Jan. 1, 2025, for commercial, industrial and institutional buildings; and Jan. 1, 2030, for residential buildings. Any mechanism would be implemented so as to minimize the impact on low-income households, disadvantaged communities, and vulnerable manufacturing sectors.

The package includes setting a statewide greenhouse gas limit for the year 2050 of "net zero" emissions; requiring the MBTA to limit bus purchases and leases to zero-emissions vehicles beginning in 2030, and to aim for an all-zero-emissions fleet by 2040; directing state government to limit purchases and leases of vehicles to zero emissions vehicles only, beginning in 2024; and updating Massachusetts appliance standards to improve energy and water efficiency standards for common household and commercial appliances.

Other provisions establish the Massachusetts Climate Policy Commission as an independent public watchdog to oversee government's handling of the climate change crisis; jumpstart efforts to supply low-cost solar electricity to low-income communities; and require the Department of Public Utilities to balance six priorities: reliability of supply, affordability, public safety, physical and cyber security, equity, and significantly, reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

"We've written the strongest climate statute in the nation," said Sen. Mike Barrett (D-Lexington), Senate Chair of the Utilities and Energy Committee and author of the legislation. "The bills started out strong. Then they got better as debate went on. More protection for low- and moderate-income families. Special sensitivity to the climate challenges facing small towns and rural areas. Retraining for people who may need to change jobs as we green the economy. In the fight against climate change, this lifts Massachusetts to the next level."

"We applaud Senate President Spilka and the Massachusetts Senate for this significant step forward in addressing the climate crisis," said Jacob Stern, Deputy Director of the Sierra Club Massachusetts Chapter. "By setting a much-needed 2030 emissions target, rolling out zero-emission building standard and creating new opportunities for low-income residents to access solar, today's legislation will help reduce the state's carbon pollution. However, we are disappointed that despite broad support from the advocacy community, there wasn't a commitment to transition the state to 100 percent clean, renewable electricity in the final legislation. The responsibility to act now falls to the Massachusetts House of Representatives. We look forward to working with House leadership to pass critical climate policies into law before the end of the 2019-2020 legislative session in July."

"Climate change is a real problem with humans adding

to the issue through carbon emission," said Sen. Dean Tran (R-Fitchburg), one of only two opponents of the package. "We need to implement changes that would reduce human carbon footprint responsibly. Bills that do not have cost and impact analysis will have devastating financial consequences on people who are on fixed and low incomes, and the working class. These bills will create burdens on small businesses and will negatively impact the economy and stifle growth."

"I am proud of the Senate for acting quickly on this legislation which takes a historic step in our fight to reduce harmful emissions that hurt our planet and our residents," said Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland). "I commend Sen. Barrett for his diligence in crafting a thorough legislative package that takes concrete steps to combat climate change by providing a plan to create a greener, healthier and more sustainable future."

"Residents of the commonwealth can't afford this legislation. Massachusetts continually ranks as one of the most expensive states in which to live where the median price for a single-family home is almost double the national average," said Sen. Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton), the other opponent of the legislation. "This bill will only make housing prices more expensive by requiring solar panels on all new construction, which will increase development costs for new homes by \$30,000 to \$70,000. Nearly all new homes will also require electric based heating systems and appliances, placing upward pressure on utility rates across the state because wood, natural gas and oil-based appliances would be out of compliance with a net-zero stretch energy code.

Fattman continued, "Another major concern is that there is no price tag on the total costs of the mandates, taxes, and fees associated with this legislation ... We are currently facing an unprecedented affordable housing and transportation crisis and this legislation will only make it more unaffordable to live and work in Massachusetts."

(The vote below represents the vote on each of the three separate bills. A "Yes" vote is for the package. A "No" vote is against it.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

PILOT PROGRAM FOR GEOTHERMAL ENERGY (S 2477)

Senate 37-0, approved an amendment making it clear that the Department of Public Utilities should approve gas company pilot programs to deliver renewable thermal energy. The amendment also ensures evaluation by independent third parties to determine the efficacy of the new systems.

"My amendment gives gas companies an opportunity to move away from delivering a greenhouse gas containing over 90 percent methane and toward providing renewable thermal energy for heating and cooling," said Sen. Cynthia Creem (D-Newton), the sponsor of the amendment. "Natural gas is not healthy for us or the planet, while geothermal energy is a path to keeping good jobs, protecting ratepayers and giving customers a choice for heating."

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

REGIONAL EQUITY (S 2477)

Senate 37-0, approved an amendment that would re-

quire that when the Secretary of Energy and the Environment submits his 5-year plan for how the state will comply with the emissions limits established in the climate bill, the plans must "address the distinguishing characteristics and vulnerabilities of rural, suburban and urban households."

"The two words that go best together are "regional equity," said amendment sponsor Sen. Jo Comerford (D-Northampton). "What we are here saying today is yes to carbon pricing, but we cannot do that if we disproportionately burden rural communities where we drive more and where we do not have adequate access to public transportation. So yes to carbon pricing, but through a regional equity lens."

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ARE NOW AVAILABLE – Absentee ballots are now available for the presidential primary on March 3. Voters can vote in person at their city or town hall or can submit an application to have an absentee ballot mailed to them. In order to count, ballots must be completed and submitted by the time the polls close on March 3.

Voters qualify for absentee ballots if they will be away from their home on the date of the election or if they are unable to reach the polling place due to disability or religious belief. Family members can fill out applications for a loved one.

CALLING ALL SONGWRITERS! THE LOTTERY NEEDS A JINGLE AND HAS \$5,000 FOR THE BEST ONE - The Massachusetts Lottery announced the "Sound of Winning" contest in which a lucky person can win \$5,000 if his or her original jingle is chosen to be used in a future Lottery ad. There are also two \$1,000 runner-up prizes.

Entries must be received by March 6. On March 30, the finalists will be announced and then the public will vote for the best jingle with the voting ending on April 3. The winner will be announced on April 17.

For more details and rules go to https://thesoundofwinning.com/

BAN DISCRIMINATION BASED ON NATURAL HAIRSTYLE (H 4295) – The Judiciary Committee held a hearing on a bill that would prohibit discrimination against anyone in any situation because of their natural hairstyle. The bill states that natural hairstyle is a physical trait central to individual dignity, autonomy and personhood; that targeting a person's natural hair and hairstyle associated with their race is racial discrimination; and discrimination against black students, employees and persons participating in public accommodations because of their hair texture and the way in which their hair grows and is styled is illegal discrimination.

"I filed this bill following the passage of similar legislation in New York and California," said Rep. Steven Ultrino (D-Malden), the bill's sponsor. "Discrimination against natural hairstyles is pervasive in both education

Beacon Hill Roll Call

and employment. My hope is that passing this bill will

remove vagueness from current anti-discrimination law

so that people do not get biased treatment due to the

MUST POST STATE JOBS (S 2336) – The Labor

and Workforce Development Committee's hearing in-

cluded a bill that would require every state agency and

institution to post all employment opportunities, no-

tices and postings in the statewide online employment

"Transparency about state employment vacancies will

allow state agencies to receive applications from more

diverse and qualified candidates," said Senate sponsor Sen. Jo Comerford (D-Northampton). "While it is easy

for those close to Boston and the Statehouse to hear

about state employment opportunities through word of

mouth, the members of the public living outside metro

Boston can be unaware of non-publicized job vacancies.

The commonwealth will only benefit from this influx of

PROTECT DISABLED PERSONS - NICKY'S

BILL (S 2367)- The House and Senate have agreed

hair that grows out of their heads."

computerized referral system.

new talent."

continued from page 6

struck multiple times by her caretaker. Under current law, unless the offender is criminally convicted, no system exists to identify caretakers and prevent them from finding employment with another provider licensed by

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

QUOTABLE QUOTES

the state.

"2020 is a make or break year for the commonwealth. Policy decisions at the state and federal level are either going to close economic opportunity gaps or enhance them." — Nancy Wagman, MassBudget's Kids Count Director.

"Some ways my life was impacted by unfair scheduling was that my employers would call me to ask to work an hour before the shift started when I was busy with school or family. They eventually stopped offering me a lot of hours. Not only was it difficult to schedule my other jobs around my catering job, I also had to work unexpected hours and would miss important things like a doctor's appointment." - Izabel Depina, a catering and hospitality worker, testifying in favor of The Fair Workweek Bill that aims to give workers more rights and control over their schedules, their time and their lives.

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 January 27-31, the House met for a total of 16 minutes while the Senate met for a total of ten hours and eleven minutes.

Mon. January 27 House 11:01 a.m. to 11:07 a.m. Senate 11:10 a.m. to 11:14 a.m.

Tues. January 28 No House session No Senate session

Wed. January 29 No House session No Senate session

House 10:59 a.m. to 11:09 a.m. Thurs. January 30 Senate 11:21 a.m. to 9:28 p.m.

Fri. January 31 No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

on a version of a measure that would establish a registry which identifies individuals who have been found to have committed abuse against persons with disabilities. Each branch had approved their own version but now they finally agree on a version to which they will soon give final approval and send to Gov. Charlie Baker.

The measure was filed by Sen. Mike Moore (D-Millbury) at the request of a constituent who is the mother of Nicky, an intellectually disabled and non-verbal individual. Nicky had been inappropriately restrained and

Sellers

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CENTURY 21 NORTON GROUP RE

Home Buyers

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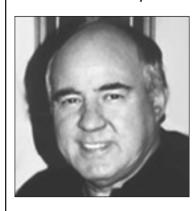
Courtesy of The Norton Group Real Estate | 699 Broadway, Somerville, MA | www.nortongroupre.com | Phone: 617-623-6600 | Email: nortongrouprealestate@gmail.com

Recent Single Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month: MLS# **Address Description DOM List Price Sale Price** 17 \$550,000 72583929 11 Ellsworth Street 7 room, 2 bed, 1f 1h bath \$530,000 8 room 5 bed, 1f 1h bath \$690,000 72589469 74 Derby Street 11 \$699,000 72574391 19 Putnam Street 7 room, 3 bed, 2f bath 26 \$850,000 \$825,000 72578855 42 Berkeley 6 room, 3 bed, 2f bath 14 \$870,000 \$905,000 24 Campbell Park 8 room, 4 bed, 1f bath \$999,900 72563072 47 \$900,000

Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month: MLS# **DOM Address** Description **List Price Sale Price** 25 Perry StU:25 6 room, 3 bed, 2f bath \$839,000 \$903,000 /2583828 72580828 24 Newbury StU:24 5 room, 2 bed, 2f bath 38 \$849,900 \$800,000 20 Lincoln Street U:1 6 room, 4 bed, 3f bath \$859,000 \$832,000 72561816 93 229 Cedar Street U:B 72514729 \$895,000 \$890,000 6 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath 111 \$900,000 72578158 75 Rush St U:3 8 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath 18 \$899,995 7 room, 4 bed, 2f bath 72570161 105 Willow Ave U:2 Square 24 \$925,000 \$910,000 15 Murdock Street U:A 6 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath \$930,000 \$930,000 72514727 20 5 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath 593 Somerville Ave U:2 17 \$940,000 \$905,000 72586332

	Recent Multi-Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:										
MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price						
72561965	56 Fairfax St	2 unit, 11 total rooms, 5 total bedrooms	56	\$749,900	\$694,000						
72601824	3 Hamilton Rd	2 unit, 11 total rooms, 5 total bedrooms	17	\$750,000	\$750,000						
72573243	40 Otis St	2 unit, 11 total rooms, 6 total bedrooms	30	\$759,900	\$760,000						
72567039	193 Boston Ave	2 unit, 11 total rooms, 5 total bedrooms	39	\$879,000	\$853,800						
72561890	75 Walnut St	2 unit, 14 total rooms, 6 total bedrooms	214	\$999,900	\$970,000						
72562453	34 Line St	2 unit, 12 total rooms, 6 total bedrooms	44	\$1,195,000	\$1,150,000						
72477061	14 Carlton Street	2 unit, 14 total rooms, 6 total bedrooms	92	\$1,250,000	\$1,130,000						

Vincent A. 'Sonny' LoPresti



Vincent A. "Sonny" LoPresti, born March 8, 1939, passed away on January 25, 2020 after a long illness. He will be remembered for his love of family, friends, politics,

and his childhood home, the West End. Vincent, a former Somerville Alderman and MA Governor's Councilor, was the son of late Senator Michael LoPresti, Sr. and Anna Katon LoPresti, brother to Anna Todesca, the late Gloria Evendoll, and the late Senator Michael LoPresti, Jr. Known by family and friends as "Sonny," Vincent is survived by his wife Patricia LoPresti, his children Michael LoPresti, Luann Carroll, Stephen LoPresti, Deborah Perkins, William Aiello, Karin Griffin,

OBITUARY

James Aiello, Michael Aiello, Patricia LoPresti Gamelin, and Sunny LoPresti. He also leaves behind 16 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren who affectionately knew him as "Papa" or "Chopper."

Visiting Hours: A Celebration of Life memorial will be held at the West End Museum at 150 Staniford St., Boston on March 8, 2020. Visiting Hours between noon and 3pm. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the West End Museum or the West End House.

Invitation to apply for Tufts Community Grants



Non-profit organizations in Boston, Grafton, Medford and Somerville are invited to apply for individual grants from the Tufts Community Grants (TCG) program until March 13, 2020. Awards will be made in amounts ranging from \$250 to \$2,000 and will be announced in April 2020.

Applications are available at https://communityrelations.tufts.edu/community-programs/ tufts-community-grants/.

TCG, formerly known as the Tufts Neighborhood Service Fund, awards eligible 501c3 non-profit organizations that serve one or more of Tufts University's host communities in some way and have had a Tufts faculty, staff, or student actively involved as a volunteer in the past year. In this way, TCG supports not only local organizations but also the work of the many Tufts volunteers.

The TCG program is fully funded by donations from Tufts University faculty and staff through the annual Tufts Community Appeal (TCA), an internal fundraising campaign. More than 135 nonprofit organizations have been directly impacted by the TCG since its founding in 1995.

Last year, 36 organizations in Tufts' host communities received TCG grants. The funds supported a wide range of programs and projects in each community, including educational resources for immigrants working towards U.S. citizenship at the Somerville Public Library, funding for the YMCA's "Pop Up" food markets for individuals dealing with food insecurity in Medford, a gift towards the purchase of new musical instruments for the Head Start Music Outreach program at Apple Tree Arts in Grafton, and funding to support the Chinese Progressive Association's Chinatown block party, which supports preservation of affordable housing.

All questions should be directed to the Community Relations office at Tufts University by emailing CommunityRelations@tufts.edu or calling (617) 627-3780.

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

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



Eagle feathers #197

Old Put

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

He was born and raised in Salem Village, today's Danvers, Massachusetts. As a young man, he moved to Connecticut when it was still considered a frontier. He was a Major with Rogers Rangers during the French and Indian War and narrowly escaped death at the stake as an Indian prisoner. He aided in the capture of Havana in 1762, the relief of Detroit during Pontiac's War in 1764 and preceding the Revolution, was a charter member of the Sons of Liberty.



Through the years, there have been towns, streets, schools, and counties in nine states named after him. In Somerville, Putnam Street, located directly across from the new high school project is named after him. Also, Putnam Road in Ten Hill's bears his name. Israel Putnam was a Patriot. On receiving news of the battle in Lexington, he left his plow in the field and rode to aid the Middlesex Minutemen.



On June 16, 1775, he led over 1,000 Americans from Cambridge through today's Somerville, to fortify Charlestown Heights. On the following day while commanding the Americans during the Battle of Bunker Hill, he applied



his ranger tactics with devastating effect. He instructed his anxious soldiers, "Don't fire till you see the whites of their eyes." After withdrawing from the battle to Prospect Hill, he commanded his troops to fortify and to raise their Connecticut flag bearing the motto, "An appeal Continued on page 20

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Precautions and preparations you can take for flu season, coronavirus concerns

With heavy media coverage of a new strain of coronavirus and its appearance in the U.S., the City of Somerville and the Department of Health and Human Services is issuing this update on the city's preparations and precautions, as well as steps you and your family can take to help ward off illness, including the flu which is currently in peak season.

The City of Somerville continues to monitor reports and information regarding the spread of the coronavirus. We receive frequent updates from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) and the Center for Disease Control (CDC), and participate in calls with local healthcare agencies. The Somerville Health and Human Services Department recommends following the standard flu protocols during this time of year to keep everyone safe and healthy. (See below for tips.)

While cold and flu symptoms are typical during this time of year, you are at risk for coronavirus if you have recently traveled to Wuhan, China, or have been around someone who has recently traveled there. As of this posting, on the morning of Thursday, January 30, there are no reported cases of coronavirus in Massachusetts.

If you are displaying any of the following symptoms, please contact your primary care provider or visit the emergency room:

Fever or lower respiratory illness Cough

Shortness of breath

Tips for staying healthy, and protecting those around you:

Wash your hands frequently, using soap and water.

If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer until soap and water is available.

Wear a mask if you have a cough.

Monitor your temperature. (A fever is 100 degrees Fahrenheit or higher.) Remain home from work or school if you have a fever or you aren't feeling well.

Clean and disinfect surfaces and objects frequently.

As of January 30, the city's Health and Human Services Department still has free flu vaccines available for residents ages three and older, with or without insurance. If you or

someone you know is still in need of a flu shot it is still strongly encouraged that you receive one as soon as possible. HHS will be offering "Walkin" clinic hours on Thursday evenings from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the City Hall Annex, located at 50 Evergreen Ave, until the supply is exhausted. If this time is not convenient

an appointment with one of our public health nurses.

For more information on the coronavirus, please see the CDC and MDPH links below. If you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to call the Somerville Health and Human Services Department at 617-625-6600 ext. 4320.

Additional resources

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavi-

rus/2019-ncov/about/index.

https://www.mass.gov/ clinical-advisory/updateand-interim-guidance-onoutbreak-of-2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-in

MOUNT VERNON

14 Broadway

Somerville MA

A tradition

of fine foods

Weedville **CONT. FROM PG 3**

could always buy rolling papers in every convenient store. Remember Cheech and Chongs' album Big Bambu that came with a giant rolling paper (see photo)? And don't forget bongs. Remember the Head Shops?

In the 70's me and three friends would pitch in and buy an ounce of grass, for 20 bucks, smoke it all night, and still take some home. But because of a mean case of the munchies, we'd hit The Venice Cafe or The Continental for some pizza before going home. Yeah, weed makes you eat.

The late 60's and throughout the 70's was when us Baby Boomers were introduced to

pot. We never thought we'd live to see the legalization of marijuana. There was always talk of it but it seemed like a pipe dream, literally.

There are high taxes involved when you buy marijuana at a recreational dispensary like the ones coming to Somerville soon. Go figure. There's no tax if you have a medical marijuana card that costs \$200. Basically any adult can get one. It's quite a racket. Most tokers have cheaper, easier ways to get their weed. The people who swear by the medical benefits of marijuana and CBD products can get it easily at the dispensaries. It's become quite the interesting little plant.

Many members of my generation are still smoking weed today. I got a kick out of remembering words like pinners, fatties, bongs and don't forget, the munchies.

for you, please call and make

Our city government had to okay the weed stores to come to Somerville so it must be okay! They are very smart up there at 93 Highland Ave. They should actually gather a bunch of willing hippies, give them some good pot, and let them scrape and repaint City Hall. Of course they'd have to also throw in lunch which could get very expensive for a crew with the munchies. I'll pass though. I get dizzy on ladders.



We have everything in Somerville. A new high school, new bridges, the green line extension and now the green grass stores. Somerville rocks ... and rolls ... joints. Lol!

appropriately titled One Toke Over the Line Sweet Jesus, One Toke Over the Line.



And now I will end with a song

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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.

Data Download with Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone



By Joseph A. Curtatone

Taking a closer look at notable city data—and interesting numbers.

We recently released the proposed SomerVision 2040 plan, which updates and extends the community-developed Somer-Vision comprehensive plan. Thanks to months of work by the SomerVision 2040 Committee, community members, and City staff, SomerVision 2040 contains some new and updated goals around important issues like housing, development, the environment, and job creation. Below are a few numbers from the plan, and you can see the full document at www. somervision2040.com. Planning Board is also accepting comments on SomerVision

2040, which you can send to planning@somervillema.gov. 80% decrease: The original SomerVision plan identified sustainability as a community goal, and SomerVision 2040 builds on that with a section specifically looking at climate and sustainability. Somer Vision 2040 sets a goal of an 80% decrease in carbon emissions from 2014 levels by 2040 and outlines many steps the City and community can take to get there. Many SomerVision goals and priorities are interrelated. For example, 65% of the city's greenhouse gas emissions come from buildings and 32% come from transportation, so it will be important to think about climate change when we're making housing, development, and transportation decisions.

75% of commutes: SomerVision 2040 sets the goal that 75% of work commutes will not involve a car by 2040. We know that getting there depends on having safe, reliable transportation options that meet people's needs. That's why we released

our VisionZero plan and recommitted to making the roadways safer for all users. We'll also need to continue improving public transit, bike, and pedestrian infrastructure with a focus on accessibility. Achieving this goal will also take some advocacy work and working with the MBTA to expand bus service through Somerville. There are a lot of changes to be made to make a system designed for cars work for other modes of transportation, but it's important work that we can't push off any longer.

20% permanently affordable: SomerVision originally set two housing goals – 6,000 new housing units, with 1,200 of them permanently affordable, by 2030. That goal was expanded to ensuring that 20% of all Somerville housing be affordable housing by 2040. Between adopting the original SomerVision and the SomerVision 2040 update, we've taken a lot of action on housing that will help us reach this new goal including raising the minimum inclusionary zoning to 20% for more new developments,

purchasing housing through the 100 Homes Program that will be permanently affordable, and helping establish the Somerville Community Land Trust.

1:1 ratio: SomerVision 2040 updates the original SomerVision goal of adding 30,000 new jobs to the city to ensuring there are enough jobs in the city for every worker. We know not every worker who lives in Somerville will ultimately end up working in Somerville, but having jobs that match our workforce numbers have several benefits. Getting these jobs into the city will require commercial development, which in turn helps boost the local economy and shift to a less residential-dependent tax base. Having more of a daytime population is also good for other Somerville businesses because workers will often pick a nearby restaurant or business to patronize during the day. And, more jobs in Somerville means more Somerville residents will have the option to work close to home. Their decreased commutes would contribute to their

quality of life and help cut down on the carbon emissions linked to commuting.

77 pages: The proposed Somer Vision Plan is 77 pages of ambitious, equity-minded, and thoughtful goals for making sure Somerville is a great place for all to live, play, work, raise a family, and age in place into the future. I hope you'll take the time to read it, share your thoughts with the Planning Board, and join us in working to take a stand for hope and progress as we set out to achieve our community's shared goals.

Data-based decision making is at the core of how the City of Somerville develops policy and sets priorities. Every day we check the latest 311 stats, and throughout the week we meet for in-depth review of departmental data and city trends. The Data Download column shares some of the data we've been reviewing recently, as well as interesting updates. To see more Somerville Data, visit the online Somerville Data Farm at www. somervillema.gov/datafarm.

Open Letter to the City

Star Market Site/299 Broadway

I have not been able to attend any meetings regarding the Star Market site on Broadway because of my work schedule.

I therefore need to express my opinion, as a Winter Hill resident and as a real estate attorney in Boston, via email that the City's proposal to take this private property by eminent domain is a gross overstep of power. As a Winter Hill resident, I would obviously also like to see the property occupied, but the answer is not to forcibly take the property from a private owner and hand it over to another private owner whose vision for the

property aligns with City Hall's. Recent initiatives by City Hall, such as the tree ordinance, have shown that Somerville does not respect private property rights. The freedom and right to private property has been a fundamental right since our country was founded. Just because the City wants to see a large housing development on private property does not give it the right to take said property and hand it over to a new owner who will build what the City wants there. A person's right to own their property should not be contingent on whether the City thinks

that property can be put to better use. Taking the Star Market site is an example of government overreach and intrusion into the lives of American citizens. I would not be surprised if the City comes for my single-family home soon, since a developer could probably cram at least 4 units on the site if they tore the home down.

I am further frustrated and dismayed that I only found out about the most recent meeting on 2/3 at 9:30pm on 2/2. Today, I saw a flyer on the "somervoice" website which was never disseminated to me (further, there was

no link to this flyer on the City's main website - how many different websites do we have?). The 2/3 meeting was from 4-6pm, so it was impossible for me to get there in time from Boston on the T due to rush hour congestion. I was also unable to attend the December meeting due to work commitments. The failure to advertise meetings and inaccessibility for people who work is another issue that adds to my and others' feeling that the City is only looking for feedback from those it knows already agree with its proposals and agenda. You really should have meet-

ings that last until at least 7pm and have meetings on weekends when those of us who work can actually attend and participate. I would like to remind the administration that you work for everyone in the City, not just those who agree with you.

I am copying the Somerville Times as I want to be sure the press knows the eminent domain proposal is not a slam dunk proposal by the City.

Thank you,

Christina Ricotta Cryts Somerville

Winter Walk & Roll to School Day

On Wednesday, February 5, Somerville students will be joining students across the Commonwealth in promoting wellness by walking or rolling to school in celebration of the 5th annual Massachusetts Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Winter Walk & Roll to School Day. Sponsored by the MA Department of Transportation, this annual event not only promotes healthy and active lifestyles, but also helps reduce the environmental impact in communities.

Schools across the district will be supporting the Winter Walk & Roll to School Day in a number of ways with some distributing stickers or other items promoting this annual SRTS event, cheering students on as they cross the "finish line" upon arriving to school, and inviting community partners and staff to attend and participate. In the past, several schools have also invited students who take the bus to take a few laps around the playground before heading to class.

SRTS offers helpful winter walking tips to help ensure a safe and enjoyable experience (https://www.mass.gov/doc/winter-walk-to-school-day-flyer-2020/download). Thanks to school wellness champions, Shape Up Somerville, school PTAs, school family and community liaisons, and other community partners who help coordinate and promote this event, Somerville students are "walking the walk" in support of healthy and active lifestyles.

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Our View Of The Times

Remember to support businesses affected by all the construction going on.



The news that all the bridge reopenings will be delayed by several months was something of a blow to those in the area most affected by the closure.

While nearly all of us have been put through the mill over the past year dealing with the traffic snarls, noise and general hubbub that the GLX project has wrought, none have felt it more keenly than the business owners who have been

all but cutoff entirely from conducting business as usual.

Some are crying foul and demanding compensation for the losses they have suffered. While this is unlikely to happen, we can certainly sympathize with the sentiment.

Area residents, too, feel especially put out by the whole affair, and who can blame them? Maybe free Charlie Cards for

the duration of the construction period would be appropriate. Again, an unlikely scenario, but we can dream, can't we?

But the real heroes emerging from this morass seem to be those stalwart business owners who are hanging on as best they can, even though many area merchants feel that they have been too cut off and inaccessible to their usual and hoped for new customers.

As difficult as it may be for all of us, let's try to keep in mind that making a special effort to support these businesses would be a highly civic minded thing to do.

Put yourself in their place and imagine what it must feel like to be dealing with such a challenging situation and see what you can do to offer them some of your patronage.

After all, we're all in this together.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

February 7. Drop in to the 8:15 a.m. or 12:15 p.m. sessions both days. Meet staff, visit classrooms and get an early peak at construction changes happening right now.

·*********

Families of middle and high school age students with disabilities are invited to come and learn about agencies and services that may be helpful to your college or workforce bound child; educational, employment, and independent living options and opportunities; and networking and family support possibilities. The Road to the Future Transition Fair will take place on Thursday, February 6 in the main cafeteria of Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, Broadway, Cambridge. This event is hosted by Cambridge Public Schools OSS Transition Services in collaboration with Somerville Public Schools. RSVP to Brittaney Courier, bcourier@k12.somerville.ma.us (617-625-6600 x6201) or Sandra Copman, scopman@k12.somerville.ma.us (617-625-6600 x6855).

Can't wait to vote in the Presidential Primary? You can vote early in Somerville City Hall. Learn more about where and how to vote at somervillema.gov/ elections. And of course, you can still vote at your usual polling place on Election Day this March 3.

The Luv Buzz Sip & Shop Market takes place **February 9**, 10:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at ONCE Somerville, 156 Highland Ave., Somerville. High Energy Vintage and The Green Witch are back with the Buzz. This sip and shop event features more than 30 local vendors with vintage, records, handmade, and art. This time around they are adding in some exciting extras. Enjoy the taco bar, tarot readers, photo booth, caricatures, and more. So grab your Valentine, your buds, or just your hat and pop in to grab a tasty featured cocktail or mocktail, shop for something special, and see what you can get into at the Luv Buzz Market.

Hopeful Hearts & Local Arts, hosted by Connexion, takes place Saturday, February 8, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m., at Connexion, 149 Broadway. A market featuring a curated collection of makers, artists, designers, and small business owners. All are welcome to attend. There will also be food, music and a raffle. Raffle tickets funds and any donations will

be to help Connexion continue to be a staple in the Somerville community through its many works. Support our community and shop local. For more info, visit https://connexionumc.org/

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 our call to musicians here: https://forms. gle/oXwjsvfKp7YU4P7m7.

The next Somerville Garden Club meet-

ing takes place February 12. The topic will be, Shade Gardens Beyond Spring: Extending The Season. Woodland and other shade heavy gardens are at their peak in spring when ephemerals are covering the ground, shrubs and small trees are blooming, and wildflowers are showing off yellows, blues, pinks, and whites. What can we glean from these gardens throughout the rest of the growing season? Anna Fialkoff will provide insights into the successional staging of plants for colors, textures, nectar sources, and oomph into summer and fall. As senior horticulturist for Native Plant Trust, Anna works with a small horticulture staff to manage the 45-acre Garden in the Woods in Framingham. She earned her MA in Ecological Design from The Conway School, and applies her skills in landscape literacy and site specific design to her work designing, installing, and stewarding vibrant New England native plant gardens. All Somerville Garden Club meetings are free and open to the public. 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Meetings are held the at the Tufts Administration Building, (TAB), 167 Holland Street, second floor, wheelchair accessible. Parking is available, and the building is a ten-minute walk Continued on page 16

STA members walk for paraprofessionals

Before school started Thursday, January 30 at the West Somerville Neighborhood School, Somerville Teachers Association (STA) members gathered in the frigid weather in their parking lot with signs to walk in solidarity for

They walked down Raymond Ave., through the playgrounds, and towards the front entrance of the school. As they stood out front, support was shown by parents and vehicles passing by. The STA members followed this by entering their building together through the front door to start their school day with students. This was in conjunction with all the schools of Somerville.

The paraprofessionals have been in talks with the School Committee with little progress made on a new contract agreement.

More information on this issue can be found on the STA's Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100001419759704.





































FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's lio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

- 1. Where would you find a statue of Colombian singer Shakira?
- 6. A "yawl" is a type of what?
- 2. How many points was a touchdown worth in football in 1883?
- 7. Who coined the term kindergarten?

8. What does the

WD stand for in

- 3. What NFL team has the most consecutive appearances in a Super Bowl?
- WD-40? 9. What color is an

airplane's black box?

4. How many World Series Championships did Babe Ruth

win?

Raider?

- 10. What coin will you find Eunice Kennedy Shriver on?
- 5. What is the name of Angelina Jolie's character in Tomb

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cooking device is a bain-marie?

11. What kind of

12. What kind of egg is the largest of any living bird?

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Answers on page 17

aPlace for Mom.

6

4

6

8

5

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3

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

- 1. In England, the Speaker of the House is not allowed to speak.
- 2. Judge Judy' has a \$25,000,000 salary, while Supreme Court Justice Ginsberg earns \$190,100.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: U.S. PRESIDENTS

ACROSS

- 1. Frenzied
- 5. Between fathers and sons?
- 8. Not fake news
- 12. Black-tie occasion
- 13. Pupil's place
- 14. Whatchamacallit
- 15. Similar
- 16. Nessie's lake
- 17. Poet T.S.
- 18. He called his residence the White
- 20. Dashing style
- 21. Opposite of cathode
- 22. No-goodnik
- 23. Same as Danzig
- 26. Inside information, pl.
- 30. Antonym of keep
- 31. Data input device
- __ Madrid Club de F`tbol
- 35. Anomie, alt. sp.
- 37. Stupid person
- 38. First M in MGM
- 39. Narcotics agent, for short
- 40. Jennifer Lopez' 2019 movie swindle
- 42. Band aid
- 43. Hiked the Inca Trail, e.g.
- 45. Threat, two words
- 47. H+, e.g.
- 48. "Fences" actress Davis
- 50. Long forearm bone
- 52. His epitaph doesn't mention his presidency
- 56. Abracadabra, e.g.
- 57. First Lady of the US for only one
- 58. Milano moolah
- 59. Where JFK's "Honey Fitz" spent
- 60. Two of a kind, pl.
- 61. Winglike
- 62. Ring-around-the-rosy flower
- 63. "C'____ la vie!"
- 64. President during Mexican-American War

DOWN

- 1. Petri dish filler
- 2. Kind of shark

10	-	┼	+		13		₩	+		14	-	+	₩	₩
12					13					14				
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62						63	\vdash				64			

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- 4. Dorothy Gale, e.g.
- 5. Gordon Gekko: "____ is good"
- 6. Bridal path

3. Assortment

- 7. "Hey, over here!"
- 8. *He installed library at the White

- 9. Marco Polo's destination
- 10. "Oh ____!"
- 11. Little squirt
- 13. Conjure up
- 14. "Faster!" to a horse
- 19. Glorify
- 22. Announce presidential _
- 23. He established Yellowstone as first national park
- 24. 1/100 of a rial
- 25. "I love you" or "J'_
- 26. Only one to hold position in Execu-
- tive and Judicial branches
- 27. Prenatal

- 28. Orwell's animals' turf, pl.
- 29. North face, e.g.
- 32. "You had" or "you would"
- 33. Baryshnikov's step
- 36. First president to campaign by tele-
- phone
- 38. Dixon of "The Walking Dead"
- 40. Farm layer
- 41. Body scrubbers
- 44. Bear Down Under
- 46. Hearing organ cover 48. Second planet from the Sun
- _ me, then who?"
- 50. Machinating
- 51. Not more 52. Green gem
- 53. Storage cylinder
- 55. Police informer
- 56. Tree juice

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

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P A R E S

SCOTT

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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.

5

9

8

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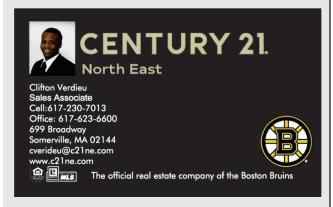
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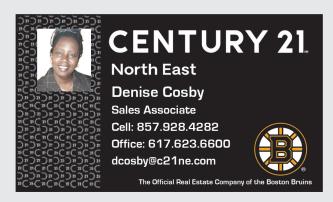
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MAYOR

GEORGE J. PROAKIS, AICP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a public meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 6:40 p.m. at the Visiting Nurses Association, 259 Lowell Street, in the 3rd Floor Community Room to hold public hearings on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

DETERMINATIONS OF APPROPRIATENESS (PUBLIC HEARING)

HPC.ALT 2020.01 - 45 Vinal Avenue

Applicant: Nick Portnoy

Owner: Spencer & Serena Taylor

Replace 3 windows on right elevation; resize window openings to match original height; replicate original window trim details

DETERMINATIONS OF SIGNIFICANCE (STEP 1 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS)

HPC.DMO 2020-01 – 19 Woodbine Street

Applicant: Edwin J. Smith (personal representative of the estate of Agnes M. Cameron)

HPC.DMO.02 - 118-120 Prospect Street

Applicant: Eaglebrook Capital Owner: Stuart Financial Corporation

DETERMINATIONS OF PREFERABLY PRESERVED (STEP 2 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS) (PUBLIC HEARING)

HPC 2019.094 – 26-28 South Street Applicant: Michael Frawley

HPC 2019.097 – 171 Cedar Street

Applicant: 171 Cedar Street, LLC

All applications summarized above are available to the public on the third floor of City Hall at 93 Highland Avenue (Monday - Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.; and Friday 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.). A cases may be continued to a later date, please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or call (617) 625-6600 x2500 to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide comments to the Historic Preservation Commission at the public hearing, via e-mail to historic@somervillema.gov, or by mail addressed to the Historic Preservation Commission, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143. All comments must be received by NOON, one week prior to the date of the HPC meeting.

1/29/20, 2/5/20 The Somerville Times

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT IFB 20-55

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

Various Trips for Council on Aging in 2020

Invitations for Bid (IFB) may be obtained online at https://www.somer-villema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after Wednesday, February 5th, 2020. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: Wednesday, February 19th, 2020 by 2:00 p.m. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The City of Somerville, Council on Aging (COA), seeks qualified contractors to provide various excursion packages and overnight trips inclusive of complete chartered bus services.

Please contact Thupten Chukhatsang at <u>tchukhatsang@somerville-ma.qov</u> for more information.

2/5/20 The Somerville Times

Thupten Chukhatsang Procurement Analyst 617-625-6600 x. 3412



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT RFP # 20-50

Acquisition of Commercial Office Space by Lease For Municipal Departments

The City of Somerville, acting through the Purchasing Department, invites sealed proposals for suitable, commercially zoned office space for use by one or more municipal departments, to improve operations and the constituent experience. The proposal may offer an entire facility or a portion of a facility. The City is seeking to lease office space of approximately 3,000 ft² in order to accommodate one or multiple City departments but will consider all suitable spaces between 2,000 and 4,000 ft2. The term will be for five years, with options to renew for up to five additional years. Preferred lease start date is April 1, 2020.

A request for proposals (RFP) and specifications may be obtained online: https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing. Sealed proposals will be received at the above office until <a href="https://www.somervillewedeath.org/wed-at-the-above-office-untilwedeath.org/wed-at-the-above-office-untilwedeath.org/wed-at-the-above-office-untilwedeath.org/wed-at-the-above-office-untilwed-at-the-above-

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

2/5/20 The Somerville Times

The Growing Center's Annual Organic Seed Sale & Swap

It's time to think spring and consider what seeds you want to plant in the 2020 growing season

If you're considering ordering seeds through us, we thank you for for your support. We are happy to again be partnering with High Mowing Seeds from Vermont, who offer us a percentage of seed sales to help support the Growing Center's activities.

Check out the seed and seed kit information on their website: http://www.thegrowingcenter.org/seed-sale and complete the form to place your order online by March 1. You can also order in-person from our Seed Sale & Swap on Saturday, February 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Somerville Winter Farmers Market at Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave.

Come say hello and bring some (labeled) seeds to share with your neighbors, if you're in the swapping mood. It's always a fun way to share seeds and garden stories with others, while dreaming of the 2020 growing season.



Then, mark your calendar to come back to the Somerville Winter Farmers Market on March 21, 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., for another Seed Swap and to pick up your seed orders. if this won't work for you to pick up your order, contact us to make other arrangements.

Please help spread the word. Thank you for thinking spring and summer and a bountiful harvest for all.

— Friends of the Community Growing Center

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

from the Davis Square MBTA stop.

Project Bread's Walk for Hunger is seeking participants to help shine a spotlight on hunger and raise funds to help neighbors. Set for Sunday, May 3, the one-day community event offers three routes: the 20-mile route with eight shuttle bus checkpoints; the 5K run through Boston's Back Bay neighborhood; and the 3-mile loop, all of which are kid and stroller friendly. All routes start and end on the Boston Common. In its 52nd year, thousands of caring community members will participate in the oldest pledge walk in the country, which is expected to raise \$2 million to

support anti-hunger solutions and advocacy work to increase food access for people of all ages statewide. Likeminded organizations that participate as teams in **The Commonwealth** program can walk and run to raise money to support their own work, while also furthering Project Bread's mission. The suggested fundraising minimum is \$250. To register for Project Bread's Walk for Hunger or to make a donation, visit projectbread.org/walk-for-hunger or call (617) 723-5000.

Join staff from the City of Somerville's Mobility Division, City Councilors Jesse Clingan, Ben Ewen-Campen, and Matt McLaughlin, city staff and Gilman Square Neighborhood Association (GSNA) for a community meeting about the future of Gilman Square. Staff will present conceptual designs for intersection and road improvements that will support multi-modal transportation and future development in Gilman Square, and receive feedback from community members about the design. The meeting will be held at the Winter Hill Community School, 115 Sycamore St., on Wednesday, February 12 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Interpretation in Portuguese, Haitian Creole, and Spanish will be available upon request by contacting Nancy Bacci at NBacci@somervillema.

gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2250.

The Boston Sci-Fi Film Festival is looking for a few good volunteers to help operations at the Somerville Theatre and our new venue, The Rockwell, on Feb. 7-17. Venue volunteers help the Director of Operations and Venue Managers ensure smooth operations of our various venues. Duties may include venue set up, venue breakdown, line management, will call, box office duties, and/or merchandise sales. Perks include comp tickets, access to parties, events, and so much more. Email the festival's Director of Operations, Sam Baltrusis at sjbaltrusis@yahoo.com.

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

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

Jay and Jasper and the Apple Tree Fund each sponsored multiple grants. Lali and Jay Haines, William Kuhlman, Tufts University, Winter Hill Bank and Rebecca Wood-Spagnoli each sponsored a teacher's grant. The rest of the grants were funded thanks to the combined generosity of everyone who contributed to the Math Fund's annual fundraiser. The following teachers won grants to encourage and support mathematics achievement in the classrooms of Somerville.

These Teacher Grants were funded by the many generous donors who together contributed enough in our annual fundraiser to support all of them. There is power in donations of many sizes coming together to support the larger whole.

Reid Cargan, East Somerville Community School (3rd SEI), Math Dictionaries,

Katherine Ceron, Healey School (1st, SEI), Math Manipulatives

Johanna Cooney, Brown School (1st), MakerSpace Bins Stephanie Rizzo, Argenziano School (4th), Math Ma-

nipulatives

Angela Rodriguez, Argenziano School (3rd SEI), Math Materials

Meredith Rothstein, Winter Hill Community Innovation School (4th - 6th, Autism Teacher), Manipulatives to develop Basic Skills

Kelsey Schroder, Healey School (2nd), Math Storybooks and Materials

Helen Schroeder, East Somerville Community School (K, SEI), Wooden Blocks & Math Materials

Katie Starbuck, Healey School & East Somerville Community School (Math Coach), Math Materials for Professional Development and Classrooms

Lauren Woldemariam, Healey School (1st), Math Manipulatives

The Math Fund wants to thank Jay and Jasper for generously underwriting the following teacher grants:

Kelly Dickson, Winter Hill Community Innovation School (6th - 8th Autism Special Education), ChooseItMaker & TouchMath

Susanne Douglas, Healey School (1st), Math Manipu-

Garity, Argenziano School (2nd SEI Newcomers), iknowit.com and Montessori Materials

Talia Greenberg, Winter Hill

Community Innovation School (5th & 6th SEI Math teacher), Volume and Fractions Manipu-

April Luna, Winter Hill Community Innovation School (6th, Math & Science), Calculators & Base 10 Materials

Andrea Palmer, Winter Hill Community Innovation School (K-8, Math Coach), Math Materials

The Math Fund wants to thank the Apple Tree Fund for generously underwriting the following teacher grants:

Sally Brith, Next Wave/ Full Circle Math Team (teacher, counselor), Project Based Learning

Lori Brown, Healey School (1st & 2nd, Special Ed), Math Materials

Matthew Burch, Argenziano School, (Math Instructional Coach), Math Manipulatives and Games (k-2, 3-4)

The Math Fund wants to thank each of the following for generously underwriting a teacher grant:

Lali and Jay Haines:

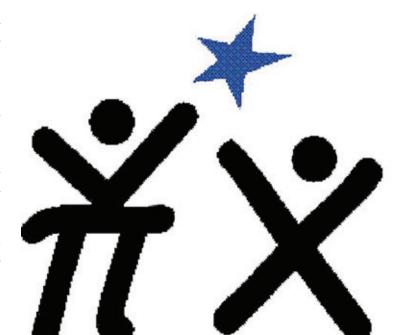
Lauren McGlashing and Julie Jones, Capuano Early Childhood Center (K), Movement and Math in the classroom and at family event

William Kuhlman:

Aileene Martinez, East Somerville Community School (for the 1st grade team), Math Morning/Afternoon Event

Tufts University:

Emma Mrozicki, East Somer-



ville Community School (4th Unidos), Math Manipulatives

The Winter Hill Bank:

Caroline Martha Burkard, East Somerville Community School (6th Math teacher), Microphone & Math Games

Rebecca Wood-Spagnoli:

Jason Behrens (District Innovation Specialist) and Leary (Geometry Teacher & Calculus Project School Year Coordinator) & Students (Nathalya Castillo Salmeron, Edrick Pacheo, Diana Posada) Calculus Student Run Math Fun Night for 3rd - 5th Students

The Somerville Mathematics Fund was chartered in 2000 to celebrate and encourage achievement in mathematics in the city of Somerville, Massachusetts. Over twenty years, the Somerville Math Fund has awarded

\$131,215 in teacher grants supporting three hundred thirty-five teachers' projects in the city of Somerville along with emergency grants to East Somerville teachers after the devastating school fire.

In early April, the fund will be seeking applications from students who reside in Somerville for college mathematics scholarships. Over twenty years, the Somerville Math Fund has awarded a total of \$397,000 in four-year mathematics scholarships to ninety-one students. Links to the scholarship application form is available at www.somervillemathematicsfund.org. For more information, to volunteer or to make a tax-deductible contribution, please contact Erica Voolich (617-666-0666 or mathfund@ gmail.com).

Healey School accepting donations for book fair

Book Fair news from the Healey! They decided to do something a little off the beaten path this year for their annual book fair. This year, they will accept gently used books from bookshelves all over Somerville to sell for the book fair.

Why? Their mission is to make sure every child in the school has access to age-appropriate books and can go home with a book, expanding their home library. This also helps parents clean out books their kids may have outgrown, which makes room for new books while lessening our carbon footprint. They also thought this was a great way to invite the larger Somerville Community to participate in the process. All the money raised will go back to Healey Families to help fund offsite learning opportunities and activities throughout the year.

Goal? Their goal is to collect a diverse selection of new or gently used books from the community (and publishers if anyone has connections) and sell the books for \$1 - \$5 a book. The goal is to make sure every child goes home with at least one book, regardless of their ability to pay. The hope is to collect 1,000 age-appropriate books for the Healey School's 438 students by February 14.

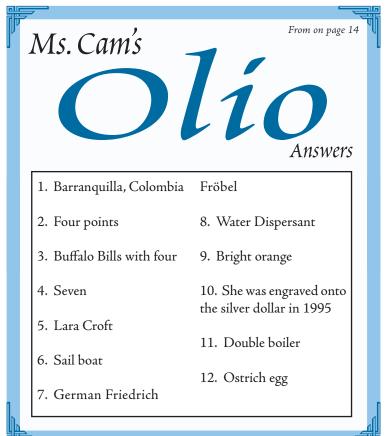
What they need: New or gently used children's books from all over Somerville; books for children in Pre-K through eighth grade; bilingual or dual language books; diverse characters in books, volunteers to help sort books and prepare the space for the book fair in late February.

Your old books can have a positive impact on kids and our community, so please consider donating your books at the Healey School's front desk, or see if your school has a donation box for Healey volunteers to pick up on February 14. (Only new or gently used Pre-K-8 children's books can be accepted.)

Questions? Please email Melissa McCue-McGrath (m.mccue@gmail.com), and thank you for your donation.

— Somerville Public Schools

To advertise in **The Somerville Times** call **Bobbie Toner: 617-666-4010**



• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH Wednesday February 5

Central Library

Homeschool Reading Group 10:15 a.m.-11:45 a.m.Teen Game

2:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.|79 Highland

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

Thursday|February 6

Central Library

Preschool Storytime for 3 to 5-year-

10:30 a.m.- 11:15 a.m. Comic Book Drawing Workshop 3 p.m.- 5 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Friday | February 7

Central Library

Preschool Storytime for 2-year-olds 10:30 a.m.-11 a.m. Teen Empowerment Library Leaders

3:30 p.m.-6 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Saturday February 8

Central Library

Ants on a Log Family Concert 3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Monday February 10

Central Library

Sing Along with EchoKids! 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|79 Highland

Tuesday|February 11

Somerville Community Baptist

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 February 12

Central Library

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

East Branch Library Preschool Storytime

11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

East Branch Library

GOOD CRAFTernoon with the Button

12:30 p.m.- 4 p.m.|115 Broadway

MUSIC ARTS Wednesday February 5

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: Ye Vagabonds |7:30 p.m. Comedy Night with Janet Mc-Namara|10 p.m.

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

Bull McCabe's Pub The A-Beez

10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road

Bearly Dead - A Tribute To The Grateful Dead

8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave **Once Somerville**

MC Lars Schäffer The Darklord, Triheart

7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave **Highland Kitchen**

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

The Jungle Community Music Club Open Mic Hosted By bbygege

7:30 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct Aeronaut Brewing Co.

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

Arts at the Armory

Wiretap Wednesday 7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Thursday|February 6

Sally O'Brien's

David Rizzuti hosts BYOBluegrass Jam 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Lerner and Moguilevsky from Argentina|7 p.m. Scattershot|10 p.m. 247 Flm 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

Taller Than Trees' "Hold On To Love" tour with special guests Tristan Simone, and Inklinks

8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville

Lady Grayskull hosts Karaoke 7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Jungle Community Music Club The Skirts, Serena Z, Why Try?, Mackenzie Clement 8 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

The Oracle

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory Dav Blues, Banded Starling, and Jack

7 p.m|Café|191 Highland Ave

Friday February 7

Sally O'Brien's

Walker/Sadler Band feel-good Friday|6 p.m. Dennis Brennan Quartet 9 p.m.

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

Front Room: Irish Session|9:30 p.m. Backroom | Jamie Hart | 7 p.m. American Midnite|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

Once Somerville

Worshipper, Glacier, Seed 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

C McNeill & T Gearan 7-9 p.m. Ali McGuirk|10 p.m. 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Joshua Tree

DI McRiddleton 256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Entertainment every Friday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road Root Shock with special guests

Dewpoint 7 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Air Congo 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Jungle Community Music Club Haelphon, Cory Goldsmith, Click-Track, Killer Kowalski 8 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

Arts at the Armory

Constant Strangers Concert 8 p.m.|Café NACHMO Boston Friday Performance

8 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Saturday | February 8

Sally O'Brien's Tom Hagerty Band|6 p.m.

Power Punk|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: Sick Sad & Lonesome

EP Release With Special Guests The Empty Bottle Ramblers 8 p.m. Spittin Vinnies 10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar Karaoke

65 Holland St

Bull McCabe's

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Entertainment every Saturday 173 Broadway 617- 625-5195

Thunder Road

Closed For A Private Party 379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville

The Bang Bang Bar: Twin Peaks Party 6:30 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Le Prestige

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street The Jungle Community Music Club Rick Berlin / Mosaic Mirrors / Sage &

Syrup / Half Shell 7 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

Arts at the Armory Irish Session

2 p.m.|Café Laughing Liberally Boston 6:30 p.m.| Café

NACHMO 2020 Saturday Perfor-

8 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

The Rockwell Boston Sci-Fi Shorts Program: L'En-

Boston Sci-Fi Shorts Program: Accinni 8 p.m.|255 Elm St

Sunday February 9

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Natural Wonders 4:30 p.m. African Night, SambaLolo and guests 10 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room: John Gannon & Friends|2 p.m., Alan Kaufman & Friends|6 p.m., Los Goutos|9 p.m. Backroom: Josie Toney Presents: Honky Tonk Heaven 7 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub

Sundown Session 6-8 **Dub Apocalypse**

Sunday Night Live Music

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045 **Highland Kitchen** Sunday Brunch Live Country &

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131 **Orleans Restaurant and Bar**

Game Night 65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Thunder Road

Bluegrass

379 Somerville Ave **Once Somerville**

The Luv Buzz Market|10:30 a.m. Replacire, Monotheist

8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave The Junale Community Music Club

Burlesque Roulette 5 p.m. 6 Sanborn Ct

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Americana Picnic: The Stacking Stones Band|1 p.m. pindrop sessions 21: nevertheless... / phoenix curated by marti epstein with author jen deaderick

7 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory NACHMO 2020 Sunday Performance 3 p.m.|Performance Hall New England Poetry Club Readings & Open Mic 3 p.m.|Café

7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave The Rockwell

8 p.m.|255 Elm St

Two Truths and a Lie

Boston Sci-Fi Shorts Program: Shelley|6 p.m. Boston Sci-Fi Shorts Program: Lessing

Monday February 10

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

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. Catch A Dinosaur 10 p.m. 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road Toddlerbilly Takeover

5 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave.

Once Somerville

The Paranoyds Surfbort, Leopard Print Taser 7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

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

The Jungle Community Music Club Eel People / Soviet Jesus Choir / Leisure / Brian Walker

7 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct Arts at the Armory Queer Tango Boston

6:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave The Rockwell Boston Sci-Fi Shorts Program: Le Guin

8 p.m.|255 Elm St Tuesday | February 11

Sally O'Brien's Bar Tim Gearan & The Shrikes

8 p.m|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

Front Room: Jason Anick & The Swingers|8:30 p.m.

Backroom|Silver Arrow Band|8 p.m.

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

The Burren

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

Highland Kitchen

440-6045

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 Ouiz 10 p.m.|239 Holland St.|617-625-Thunder Road

Neighbor Lite – A Unique Evening

with Neighbor Minus 1 Player!

8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave **Once Somerville**

156 Highland Ave The Jungle Community Music Club Black In Love W. Sassy!

7 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct **Aeronaut Brewing Co** Indie Trivia

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell Boston Sci-Fi Shorts Program: Atwood

8 p.m.|255 Elm St Wednesday | February 12

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

|7 p.m.

3589 The Burren Pub Session with: Grain Thiefl9 p.m.

Back Room: Waypoint, Sweet Petunia

Comedy Night with Janet Mc-Namara|10 p.m.

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896 Orleans Restaurant and Bar 65 Holland St|617-591-2100

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

Thunder Road

440-6045

Bearly Dead - A Tribute To The Grate-

ful Dead

8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville

Juliana Hatfield Will Dailey

7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Jungle Community Music Club

QNC 2 Year Anniversary 7 p.m.|6 Sanborn Ct

Highland Kitchen 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Alper Tuzcu

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory Been Out Here: Teen Open Mic

6 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave **CLASSES AND GROUPS**

Wednesday|February 5 **Central Library**

Drop in Knitting and Needlecraft 12 p.m.-2 p.m. Vision Zero Action Plan Open House

5:30 p.m.- 8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave **Remnant Brewing**

Urban Agriculture Talk with Lindsay 7 p.m.- 9 p.m.|2 Bow Market Way

Thursday February 6

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

East Branch Library Death Café

7 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

First Church Somerville Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30

p.m.|89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor).

For more info call: 781-762-6629 Saturday | February 8

Central Library

MTA Book Discussion Group 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.|79 Highland

East Branch Library Let's talk about a Poem with Lloyd

Schwartz 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

Arts at the Armory Somerville Winter Farmers Market

Hall|191 Highland Ave **Bagel Bards** Somerville Writers and Poets meet

9:30 p.m.- 2 p.m.|Performance

weekly to discuss their work 9 a.m.-12 p.m Au Bon Pain | 18-48 Holland St

Sunday | February 9 Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon

7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street Unity Church of God Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement

Monday February 10

Family Groups

4 p.m.-5 p.m.

Central Library Creative Drama Workshop with Laurie!

Yoga at the Library 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Science Fiction and Fantasy Book

7 p.m.- 8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave **East Branch Library**

Learn English at the Library! 6 p.m.- 8: p.m.|115 Broadway Tuesday|February 11

Central Library

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

Wednesday February 12 **Central Library**

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

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

CENTER SENIOR 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.

Arts & Crafts with Judy – Wednesday, February 5 at our Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. \$3 per person due at time of reservation for craft. Seating for crafts is limited. Bingo and lunch to follow. Please reserve your spot by calling Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Valentine's Day Super Bingo – Thursday, February 6 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at our Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway. \$14 includes lunch, coffee, dessert, cards and prizes. Come and have a fun filled day. Limited seating and transportation. For more information please Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Senior Tax Preparation – AARP is taking appointments

to help with income tax preparations starting on Monday, February 10 at our Holland Street Center. Appointments are 1 hour starting at 9:00 a.m. with the last one being at 1:00 p.m. No tax preparations on Monday the 17 due to the holiday. Please call Josephine to schedule an appointment at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

St. Valentine's Day Celebration – Monday, February 10 at Dilboy Post from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Limited seating and transportation. This event is made possible through the Somerville Police and Somerville Fire Departments. For more info call Josie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Powers Music School – Tuesday, February 11 starting at 10:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Featuring the Andromedia Quintet. Lunch and bingo to follow. To RSVP call Josie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Ristorante Fiore – Wednesday, February 12 departing at 10:45 a.m. at the Ralph & Jenny Center with an approximate return time of 2:00 p.m. Choice of salmon, lasagna or chicken parmiginana. Will sell out fast. For more information please contact Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

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

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.

LGBTQ EVENTS

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

WEEKLY EXERCISE AND NUTRITION CLASS SCHED-

(PLEASE CUT OUT AND SAVE)

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 interested 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.

Historical Fact

CONT. FROM PG 8



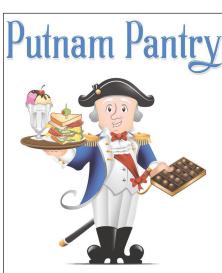
to heaven." This was six months before General Washington raised the Grand Union Flag there.

He then fortified Cobble Hill to guard the Charles River's entrance and its shore. During the siege of Boston, this stronghold became known as "Putnam's Impregnable Fortress." He next successfully engaged two British naval ships on the Mystic River. This was known as the Battle of Chelsea Creek. After capturing the ship Diana and stripping its deck, his men removed its main mast. They took it to Prospect Hill where General Washington used it to raise the Grand Union Flag.

Putnam was as strong as an ox and his men admired him. Other than his enemies in battle, he is said to have had none. Four years into the war and many campaigns later, he suffered paralysis and retired from service.

Today, his family keeps his memory alive with their famous candy store, Putnam Pantry. This nationally recognized sweet shop is on US Route One in Danvers, Massachusetts. It is located on the old Putnam Homestead, birthplace of Major General Israel Putnam.





Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



What did the drummer name his twin daughters? Anna one, Anna Two!

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Enhance your professional skills with SMC

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



Grant Seeking and Grant Writing Workshops

When: Tuesdays, February 11, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. (Grant Seeking) February 25, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. (Grant Writing) Location: Somerville Media Center (90 Union Square) Cost: \$75 for each workshop session

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

The first workshop will cover grant-seeking, and the second grant writing. You can attend one or both sessions.



2020 Digital Literacy Workshop Series

When: Various Dates; January 2020 - June 2020 Location: Somerville Media Center (90 Union Square) Cost: FREE with registration

Somerville Media Center offers a set of free DIGITAL LITERACY WORK-SHOPS for anyone wanting to improve their ability to navigate and participate in the digital media sphere. These sessions aim to expand digital inclusion with expert guidance on savvy smartphone use, better internet research, media production skills, graphic design, building a user friendly website, becoming a community journalist, deepening media literacy and critical consumption. These workshops will run from January – June.

Some of these workshops are in partnership with Somerville Public Library and other special educational instructors. This education series is funded by Skill Up Somerville, a grant program administered by the City of Somerville Economic Development office. Visit https://www.somervillemedia.org/ for more details and registration info.

SHS Ultimate Frisbee Fundraising Event

The Somerville High School Ultimate Frisbee Teams invite you to stop in at Chipotle in Davis Square (274 Elm Street) this Saturday, February 1, between 5:00 and 9:00 p.m.

Mention that you are supporting "SHS Villen Ultimate" and 33% of the proceeds from your purchase will be donated to the team.



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SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

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Wednesd	ay, February 5	1:30pm	The Somerville Line	7:00am	Effort Pour Christ	Monday, I	ebruary 10
12:00am	Free Speech TV	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	12:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
6:00am	NASA TV	4:00pm	VOX POP: Somerville Connects	9:00am	SMC Youth Media	5:00am	Free Speech TV
7:00am	Community Bulletin Board	4:30pm	The Struggle	9:30am	Science 360	6:00am	NASA TV
7:30am	DW In Good Shape	5:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	10:00am	Dead Air Live	7:00am	Somerville Storytellers
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:00pm	#AFAD	11:00am	TeleGalaxie	7:30am	Going Postal
9:00am	DW Global 3000	6:30pm	#AFAD	12:00pm	Somerville Storytellers	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:30am	Both Sides of the Bars	7:00pm	Community Lens: SHC 5K Race	1:00pm	Tele Magazine	9:00am	Science 360
10:00am	Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer	8:00pm	LIVE - Our View	2:00pm	Reeling Review	10:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News
10:30am	Somerville Neighborhood News	9:00pm	PABFONE Closing Day Ceremony	3:00pm N	A House of Representatives Formal Session	11:00am	Our View
11:00am	SNN Neighborhood Update	10:00pm	Community Bulletin Board	4:00pm	Tele Kreyol	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show
11:30am	From My Heart to Yours	10:30pm	The World Fusion Show	5:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	1:00pm	SOM ARTS
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	11:00pm	VOX POP Comedy Night	5:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	1:30pm	Somerville Storytellers
1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	Friday, Feb	ruary 7	6:00pm	Somerville Pundits	2:00pm	NASA TV
1:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	6:30pm	The Somerville Labor Show	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
2:00pm	Colores Latinos	1:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	7:00pm	BLOWW Show a Go Go	4:00pm	African Television Network
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	1:30am	SCATV Secret Stash	7:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	5:00pm	Community Lens: SHC 5K Race
4:00pm	DW Conflict Zone	2:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	#AFAD	6:00pm	LIVE from VOX POP
	stumn Reads with Somerville Public Library	6:00am	NASA TV	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:30pm	Fur, Fins and Feathers
5:00pm	Hello Neighbor	7:00am	The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	Heavy Leather Music Video Show	7:00pm	Tele Galaxie
5:30pm	From My Heart to Yours	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	SCATV Secret Stash	8:00pm	LIVE -Somerville Overcoming Addiction
6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	9:00am	DW Euromaxx	11:30pm	Queer Cats	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
6:30pm	VOX POP: Somerville Connects	9:30am	Strata	Sunday F	ebruary 9	10:00pm	Colores Latinos
7:00pm	"The Cask of Amontillado" at VOX POP	10:00am	NASA TV	12:00am	Flotilla	11:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
7:30pm	Sidewalks Entertainment	11:00am	SOM ARTS	1:00am	NASA TV		, , ,
8:00pm	LIVE - Somerville Pundits	11:30am	Cambridge Calendar	1:30am	NASA TV		ebruary 11
8:30pm	DW Euromaxx	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	2:00am	NASA TV	12:00am	Public Safety/Homeland Security Hearing
9:00pm	Revolution Awakening at VOX POP	1:00pm	Community Benefits Agreement	3:00am	Free Speech TV	6:00am	NASA TV
10:00pm	LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	2:00pm	Somerville Pundits	6:00am	Bate Papo com Shirley	7:00am	NASA TV
11:00pm	Flotilla		umn Reads with Somerville Public Library	7:00am	Nossa Gentes e Costumes	8:00am	Democracy Now!
		3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ	9:00am	The Chef's Table Series
	February 6	4:00pm	Gay USA	9:00am	NASA TV	10:00am	Strata
12:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	5:00pm	DW Global 3000	10:00am	Tele Kreyol	11:00am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals
12:30am	SCATV Secret Stash	5:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?		IA House of Representatives Formal Session	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show
1:00am	Free Speech TV	6:00pm	Grandstanders	12:00pm	Sidewalks Entertainment	1:00pm	Revolution Awakening at VOX POP
1:30am	Free Speech TV	7:00pm	Emergency Preparedness	1:00pm	SOM ARTS	2:00pm	Somerville Overcoming Addiction
2:00am	Free Speech TV	7:30pm	The Somerville Labor Show	1:30pm	SNN Neighborhood Update	3:00pm	Democracy Now!
3:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	LIVE - Greater Somerville	2:00pm	Chico and B-Man	4:00pm	SMC Youth Media
6:00am	Bate Papo com Shirley	8:30pm	Greater Somerville	3:00pm	African Television Network	4:30pm	Going Postal
7:00am	DW Conflict Zone	9:00pm	Fur, Fins and Feathers	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	5:00pm	LIVE - Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer
7:30am	DW Euromaxx	10:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	5:00pm	Gay USA	5:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	Heavy Leather Music Video Show	6:00pm	VOX POP: Somerville Connects	6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
9:00am	DW Tomorrow Today	•	,	6:30pm	DW Tomorrow Today	6:30pm	From My Heart to Yours
9:30am	Hello Neighbor	Saturday, F		7:00pm	Emergency Preparedness	7:00pm	The Somerville Labor Show
10:00am	The Chef's Table Series	12:00am	VOX POP Comedy Night	8:00pm	Dead Air Live	7:30pm	LIVE - Greater Somerville
10:30am	The Chef's Table Series	1:00am	Free Speech TV	9:00pm	Tele Magazine	8:00pm	LIVE - Dead Air Live
11:00am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals	2:00am	Free Speech TV	10:00pm	Community Lens: Somerville 5K Detour	9:00pm	The World Fusion Show
11:30am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals	3:00am	Free Speech TV	11:00pm	TUTV	10:00pm	Totally Working Out
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	5:00am	Free Speech TV	11:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash	11:00pm	Box House Productions Presents
1:00pm	The Somerville Line	6:00am	DW Focus on Europe	11.500111	JCAI & JECIEL JUSII	11:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash

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

Wednesday, February 5

7:00am Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020 SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020 City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti 8:00am 8:30am Faith In a City: Fire & Roses SPD Ride Along 9:00am 10:30am 11:00am 12:00pm Faith In a City School Committee Meeting - 2.3.20 3:00pm 6:00pm Faith In a City: Fire & Roses City Council Meeting - 1.23.20 9:01pm 10:00pm Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020 SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020 Faith In a City 10:30pm Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville" 11:30pm

Thursday, February 6

City Council Meeting - 1.23.20 12:00am 7:30am Somerville Heroes' Salute 2019 9:00am SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen 9:15am SPD Ride Along 9:30am Talking Business 10:00am 11:30am Faith In a City: Fire & Roses City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti 12:00pm 12:30pm Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville" Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020 SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen SPD Ride Along 1:30pm 1:45pm 2:00pm School Committee Meeting - 2.3.20 6:00pm 6:30pm 6:45pm 7:00pm Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking" SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen SPD Ride Along Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville" SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen SPD Ride Along 7:30pm 7:45pm 8:00pm 8:45pm Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion Transgender Day of Remembrance School Committee Meeting - 2.3.20 SomerViva an Kreyol Ayisyen 9:00pm

12:00am 1:30am 2:45am 3:00am 7:30am 8:30am 9:00am 9:45am 10:30am 11:47am 1:00pm 5:30pm 6:00pm 6:30pm 7:30pm 8:26pm 8:30pm 9:00pm

Faith In a City: Fire & Roses Letters of World War II at Council on Aging SPD Ride Along Faith In a City Faith In a City SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020 Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen Faith In a City: Fire & Roses Flood & Stormwater PSA 12:00pm Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020 12:48pm Flood & Stormwater PSA an Kreyòl Ayisyen City Council Meeting - 1.23.20
City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti
Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"
Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020 Three Kings Festival at St. Benedict's Flood & Stormwater PSA en Espanol SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020 The Firstamerican Flag Faith In a City: Fire & Roses 10:30pm Saturday, February 8

12:00am 12:15am 12:30am 1:15am 2:15am 7:30am 8:15am 8:30am 9:00am 10:00am 11:30am

SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen SPD Ride Along Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion Faith In a City Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020
Faith In a City: Faith & Community SPD Ride Along SPD Ride Along SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020 Three Kings Festival at St. Benedict's Spring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti School Committee Meeting - 2.3.20 12:00pm 2020 First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill Three Kings Festival at St. Benedict's 2:30pm 5:30pm Flood & Stormwater PSA en Espano Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking" 6:30pm

Spring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020 8:30pm Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion SPD Ride Along 9:00pm 9:45pm Central Hill Campus Phase I Meeting 10:00pm Talking Business 11:39pm

Sunday, February 9

12:00am 2020 Inaugural Ceremonies Faith In a City: Fire & Roses Fit-4-Life #3 2:00am 7:30am Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020 8:00am City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti 9:00am Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020 9:30am 11:00am 2020 Organizational Meeting 1.6.20 Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville" 11:30am 12:02pm Spring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti 12:30pm 2:00pm School Committee Meeting - 2.3.20 Faith In a City: Fire & Roses 2:30pm 3:00pm Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion SPD Ride Along 5:30pm 6:15pm 6:30pm 7:00pm City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville" 7:25pm 7:30pm Flood & Stormwater PSA City Council Meeting - 1.23.20

11:30pm Monday, February 10

10:31pm 11:20pm

School Committee Meeting - 2.3.20 City Council Meeting - 1.23.20 Faith In a City: Fire & Roses 12:00am 2:30am 7:00am 8:17am Flood & Stormwater PSA City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion 8:30am 9:00am SPD Ride Along 11:30am Talking Business

Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020 Flood & Stormwater PSA an Kreyòl Ayisyen

SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen

SHS Hockey vs Swampscott

12:00pm 2:00pm 6:00pm 6:30pm 6:45pm 7:00pm 8:15pm

8:30pm 8:47pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:30pm

12:00am 1:01am 1:31am 2:30am 7:00am 7:30am 8:30am 9:00am

11:30am 11:45am 12:00pm 12:30pm 4:00pm 6:00pm 6:45pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 9:30pm

10:00pm 12:00am

2020 Inaugural Ceremonies Spring Hill Sewer Separation Meeting City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen - Miral Atis Letters of World War II at Council on Aging SPD Ride Along Talking Business Flood & Stormwater PSA em Portugues Haitian Cultural Celebration 2020 Somerville Heroes' Salute 2019

City Council Spotlight - Mary Jo Rossetti Tuesday, February 11

SomerVision 2040 SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020 Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion Faith In a City Middlesex Update w/Marian Ryan Faith In a SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020 Spring Hill Sewer Separation y Meeting SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen SomerViva an Kreyòl Ayisyen - Miral Atis Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville" City Council Meeting - 1.23.20 SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020 Faith In a City: Faith & Community SPD Ride Along Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville" 2020 Inaugural Ceremonies SomerViva em Português - Censo 2020

School Committee Meeting - 2.3.20 Wednesday, February 12 Senior Circuit - "Shape Up Somerville" Student Health Survey, Trivia, & Discussion 12:30am 1:15am

SPD Ride Along SHS Topping Off Ceremony 12.19.19

Argenziano School's MLK Celebration

Brown School Winter Concert

15 Schedule Educational

1:30am

8:00am

9:00am

10:30am

12:00pm

1:15pm

1:30pm

3:05pm

4:30pm 5:00pm

6:30pm 8:00pm

9:15pm 9:30pm

11:05pm

2:00am

9:00am

10:00am

11:00am

11:30am

12:00pm 12:30pm

1:00pm

1:30pm

3:05pm 3:30pm

4:00pm

Wednesday, February 5

Friday, February 7

9:00am SHS Hockey vs Swampscott 10:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School 11:00am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere 12:30pm Student of the Qtr. - WSNS Argenziano School's MLK Celebration 1:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin WSNS Winter Concert 2:00pm 4:00pm SHS Hockey vs Swampscott Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School 5:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere Student of the Qtr. - WSNS 8:30pm Argenziano School's MLK Celebration 9:00pm 10:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin Thursday, February 6

12:00am 1:00am

9:00am

10:00am

11:30am

1:00pm

2:30pm

3:30pm

4:00pm

6:00pm

7:00pm

8:30pm

9:00pm

10:30pm

11:00pm

WSNS Winter Concert SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden Argenziano School's MLK Celebration SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett SHS Girls' Basketball vs Watertown SHS Girls' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere Argenziano School's MLK Celebration SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School SHS Girls' Basketball vs Watertown Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School SHS Girls' Basketball vs Watertown Friday, February 7

12:10am 9:00am 9:30am 10:00am 11:30am 1:00pm 2:30pm 4:00pm 5:30pm 7:00pm 8:30pm 9:00pm

9:30pm 10:00pm Saturday, February 8 12:00am 1:30am 9:00am 10:00am 10:30am 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00pm 3:00pm 4:30pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 8:00pm

10:00pm

SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin Our Schools, Our City [2.6.20] Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School SHS Hockey vs Swampscott SHS Boys Basketball vs Brighton SHS Boys Basketball vs Lynn Classical SHS Boys Basketball vs Revere SHS Boys' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere Our Schools, Our City [2.6.20] Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School Student of the Qtr. - WSNS SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden

SHS Girls' Baskethall vs Revere Argenziano School's MLK Celebration Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School Our Schools, Our City [2.6.20] WSNS Winter Concer Brown School Winter Concert SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin SHS Hockey vs Swampscott SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden Argenziano School's MLK Celebration Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School Our Schools, Our City [2.6.20] WSNS Winter Concer Brown School Winter Concert SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin

Sunday, February 9 12:00am

SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden Our Schools, Our City [2.6.20] SHS Hockey vs Swampscott SHS Hockey vs Everett SHS Hockey vs Lynn Class. Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere SHS Hockey vs Swampscott SHS Hockey vs Everett SHS Hockey vs Lynn Class. Student of the Qtr. - Brown School SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden

Monday, February 10 12:30am

SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere Argenziano School's MLK Celebration Argenziano School's MLK Celebration Brown School Winter Concert Our Schools, Our City [2.6.20] Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School Student of the Qtr. - WSNS Student of the Qtr. - Brown School Student of the Otr. Awards - ESCS SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden

6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 8:30pm 9:00pm 9:30pm 10:00pm

1:00am

8:00am

8:30am

9:00am

9:30am

10:00am

11:30am

1:00pm

3:00pm

4:30pm

6:00pm

6:30pm

7:00pm

7:30pm

8:00pm

9:30pm

11:00pm

1:00am

1:30am

Our Schools, Our City [2.6.20] Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School Student of the Qtr. - WSNS Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin 10:30pm Tuesday, February 11 Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School 12:05am 12:30am

Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS Argenziano School's MLK Celebration Our Schools, Our City [2.6.20] Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School SHS Boys' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts SHS Girls' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin SHS Hockey vs Swampscott SHS Hockey vs Mal.-Rev. Co-op Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS Argenziano School's MLK Celebration Our Schools, Our City [2.6.20] Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School SHS Boys' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts SHS Girls' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin SHS Hockey vs Swampscott SHS Hockey vs Mal.-Rev. Co-op

lyrical **SOMERVILLE** edited by Doug Holder

Carolynn Kingyens was born and raised in Northeast Philadelphia. She grew up in a row home, the youngest of seven children. Her poems have been featured in Boxcar Poetry Journal, The Potomac, Glass: Journal of Poetry, The Orange Room Review, Red Eft Review, Across the Margin, Eunoia Review, Tuck Magazine, Schuylkill Valley Journal, Haggard & Halloo, and Word Riot. She was nominated for Best New Poets by Silenced Press. Carolynn often draws inspiration from the Earnest Hemmingway quote: All you have to do



is write one true sentence. Write the truest sentence that you know. Her latest collection is Before the Big Bang Makes a Sound.

The Abyss

Once on the A Train an old woman with milky eyes stared at me for too long; and I remembered Nietzsche's warning:

And when you gaze long into an abyss, the abyss gazes also into you.

So I said an inward prayer, and did not look back when I got off at West 4th St.

In New York, we have salves, oils, candles and trinkets a cure-all for bad vibes, the evil eye, generational curses.

In the Bronx -La Santa Muerte.

Today, I will meditate on Muhammad the kind bodega owner who calls Lucy, his sweet tabby, up from the dark cellar, where she's been sleeping or killing, so my daughters can pet her; so my daughters can smile.

Tomorrow, I will open my eyes in anticipation of a new morning.

I will turn and marvel at your eclipsed soul-body still sleeping

— Carolynn Kingyens

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

OFF THE SHEL

by Doug Holder

'Spreading Like Wild Flowers' by Timothy Gager

Spreading Like Wild Flowers By Timothy Gager Big Table Publishing Boston, MA & San Francisco, CA www.bigtablepublishing.com ISBN: 978-1-945917-58-5 52 Pages

Review by Off the Shelf Correspondent Dennis Daly

Well-titled and well-introduced, Timothy Gager's new poetry collection, Spreading Wild Flowers, both celebrates and broods on everyday life and the persistence of a medieval-generated, but contemporary version, of a morally centered Everyman. Gager's wiry verses come at you from all directions, each bloom well-rooted and well protected against predatory aesthetes and lackadaisical flower pickers. Lushness seems beside the point to this poet. Themes of hardscrabble continuity and day-to-day endurance drive these poems.

Good first poems are often set to convey a tone or emotion that engages the reader's psyche with a key to the miscellany that follows. Gager's initial piece, Concerto, does just that, while serving as a guidepost to the immediate. Listening to the plaintive and insistent music of a saxophone does not preclude the intrusion of an unwanted serpent. Spreading out reality's old comforter with (presumably) his lover, Gager, not only seeks the raw enjoyment of an outdoor concert, but, concomitantly, confronts insidious threats to his best intentions,

I became lost in the bell curve, which a saxophone's note made

me contemplate: please stay present because I found this watching out

for snakes is something celebrated. Will you ponder a geometrical illusion?

Area and circumference? The formulas? Always the formulas.

Bromley's Funeral Home, Gager's memento mori poem, staggers its reader like a sucker punch. The piece's simplicity belies our poised acceptance or quiet response to the dearly departed. Our myths and well-meaning suppositions melt in the face of mortality's starkness. Gager here contemplates a tatty funeral card and it's not going well,

...your face creased On a piece of wrinkled cardstock—you were so young, but the memory so ancient, Bromley inserted a few lines

from an ancient Catholic Prayer printed over a cliched picture: Heaven's light beaming down. Or is it shining up? I can't question this,

or understand a damned thing

In his poem The Last Time I Saw You, Gager reconciles or attempts to reconcile remembrances with his once "present" life. The poet's persona recalls the horror of drug dependence in words seemingly dictated by the "loser bird' in his head. All the while Gager punctuates this poetic anti-world of his with unpleasant smells (dead mice and acrid gas) and sounds (snorting and sniffing) heightening the piece's earthiness. The poet mourns the loss of a lover, who has found a new kind of happiness in sobriety, with mixed emotions. Gager ends his narrative wonderfully underfoot with first rate imagery,

Six months later, I heard you lived in N'Orleans, married an unveiled version of me, with all my "yets"

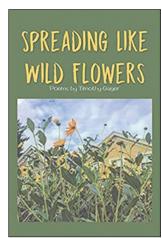
still to come, worse than all those wretched "nows." I feel I can't stop

from mourning you, or the sidewalks from cracking, my stumble toes catching

that uneven place where elm roots

raise the concrete higher.

Revivals of the body and the spirit from near endings may well be the only miracles most flesh and blood humans will ever experience or witness. In his poem The Miracles of Recovery, Gager dwells sparsely on the phenomena underlying these marvels. When survival happens the mind bends in unpretty



ways. Blooms filled with life retreat to the basic, the necessary for sustenance. The organism shrinks to consolidate strength. The poet puts it this way,

Who would have thought salvation is no longer found in the piss jars in old isolated bedrooms?

the mind snaps

the body

quakes its resistance. I am one step away from

being pushed

in a wheelchair

when my body fails

the mind

perhaps just wilts as a petal, the rose might-

we are all stem, we salvage ourselves from this withering.

Throughout this collection the poet exhibits a mix of raw images and damaged contemplations. It can get exhausting. In his poem Faith, Gager reaches an oratorio of exhaustion, a creed of despair, or perhaps, more pointedly, an enlightenment. The poet contemplates,

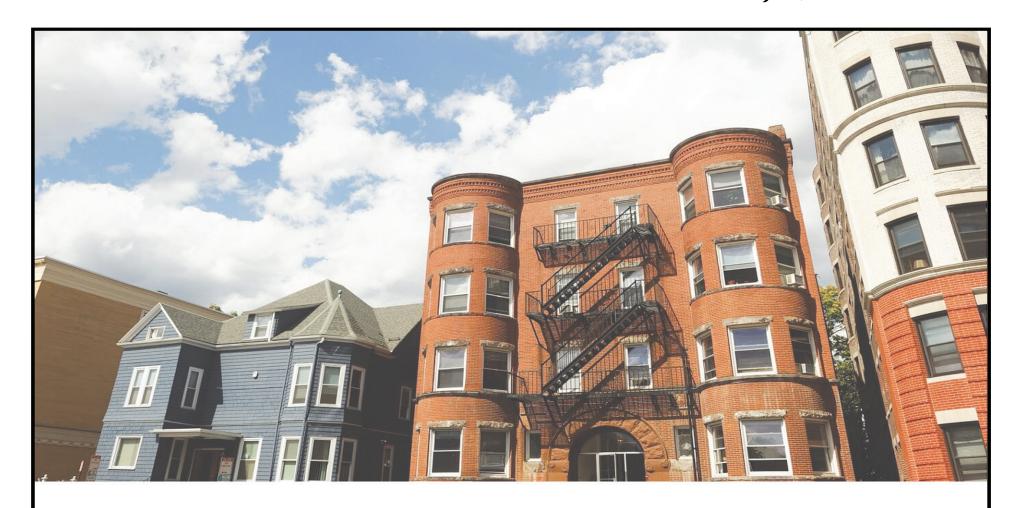
I wonder why everything has to be. And I'll never wonder, if we will go on forever.

And I believe, one day, I will close my eyes, to pray—for nothing horrific to happen, again and again until the very last breath.

Connections of a Bridge, Gager's poem about new beginnings, moves in metaphoric wonderment from fear to hope. I especially like his stanzas on the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway, where illusion merges into realty until police intervention becomes necessary, and the Beverly-Salem Bridge, where the soft curve of the connector inspires remembrances of new love and upbeat anticipation. The poem opens as an anthem to all such thoroughfares,

I cannot look down from above, driving eyes locked forward to where I'm headed, water underneath.. The banks are afflicted with ugly six-pack rings, oily vermin, and shopping carts. But there's also marshland with wild flowers, a shadow spreading from her structure shading ex-lover's torn blankets. I miss the beauty within these passages.

Ripped and torn in the world's thorny bracken Timothy Gager has bridged his way out and across to the promised, but not perfect, land. In the process he has delivered his readers a book of searing poetry and redemptive hope. Bravo!



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