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## City proposes funding to tackle homelessness



The proposed HOME Investment Partnership American Rescue Plan Program (HOME ARP) Allocation Plan is intended to help reduce homelessness in the city.

By Fernando Cervantes Jr.

With the cost-of-living crisis and the lack of access to affordable housing in Somerville rampant, some temporary relief might be on the way. Last Thursday, the Somerville Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) hosted a public hearing on a proposed plan designed to tackle access to affordable housing in the city.

The HOME Investment Partnership American Rescue Plan Program (HOME ARP) Allocation Plan is composed of a one-time award of \$1.6 million dollars from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that is in need to be spent by April 2030.

According to city officials, the members most benefited through this initiative would *Continued on page 4*

## Bill Janovitz's tribute to the Rolling Stones unites nostalgic fans

By Mina Rose Morales

Bill Janovitz and his band member's tribute to the Rolling Stones on Saturday, February 25, at The Burren brought nostalgic fans back to a Stones concert.

Janovitz is the founding member of Buffalo Tom. His acoustic residency with friends and family at The Burren Backroom Series morphed into a tribute to the Rolling Stones. He joined musicians Mike Gent, Phil Aiken, Matt Tahaney, and Chris Anzalone to honor them.

"I've been a Stones fan since I was a kid," said Janovitz, "The Stones are like water to me ... like sustenance."

Janovitz's vocals resembled Mick Jagger's rich bass notes, screams, and squeals. Mike *Continued on page 4*



Bill Janovitz and Mike Gent paying tribute to the Rolling Stones at The Burren on Saturday, February 25. — Photos by Mina Rose Morales

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Tonight, March 1, a **Live Virtual Design Public Hearing** will be hosted at 6:30 p.m. on the **MassDOT website** below to provide an update of the design for the proposed **Signal and Intersection Improvements at McGrath Highway (Route 28) / Mystic Avenue (Route 38)** project in Somerville. Info on how to join: <http://www.mass.gov/massdot-highway-design-public-hearings>. Register and submit public comment.

\*\*\*\*\*

Join **Groundwork Somerville**, @somervillegrowingcenter and @earthwise\_aware for their upcoming workshop, **The Way of the Maple**. Guest presenter **Claire O'Neill** will discuss the life cycle of the maple tree along with the ways in which scientists depend on maples to assess climate change effects in our region. This workshop will be in-person and hands-on in which you will learn how to identify maples and document their seasonal development (phenology). This workshop is part of their **Maple Syrup Project** leading up to the **Maple Boil Down**. **Saturday, March 4, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.**, 22 Vinal Ave. \$5–15 suggested donation. Register online [www.groundworksomerville.org](http://www.groundworksomerville.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

Happy birthday this week to the following: To top the list of birthdays this week, we wish a very happy birthday to our own great guy and great Editor, **Jim Clark**. We wish him a very special day. Happy birthday to **C21 North East** real estate agent and long-time resident **John Pratti**. We hope John has a great

Continued on page 7

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of March 1 – March 7 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
<b>Wednesday</b> <i>March 1</i>	Partly Cloudy	44°/35°	9%	7%	N 9 mph
<b>Thursday</b> <i>March 2</i>	Rain	47°/31°	77%	67%	NW 11 mph
<b>Friday</b> <i>March 3</i>	Rain	39°/24°	65%	59%	N 10 mph
<b>Saturday</b> <i>March 4</i>	Partly Cloudy	36°/24°	25%	13%	NW 13 mph
<b>Sunday</b> <i>March 5</i>	Partly Cloudy	41°/27°	15%	11%	WNW 10 mph
<b>Monday</b> <i>March 6</i>	Sunny	45°/30°	3%	1%	NW 13 mph
<b>Tuesday</b> <i>March 7</i>	Snow	44°/29°	35%	23%	NW 15 mph

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com  
Comments of the Week

Response to: Burn Out poems by Stephen Honig

Susan Tepper says:

Thanks for this indepth review that has created for me an interest in the poet and the book.

Response to: TikTok trend that encourages car theft hits  
Somerville

Matt C says:

This happened to my neighbor across the street, and i got it on video. The whole thing took no more than 30 seconds. The car door had been left unlocked, the thief, got in the car and was gone all in under a minute. The 14 yo child who stole the car who was caught, outside of Somerville and the car was returned to the owner.

I'm not usually one to go out of my way to defend the SPD but, I don't think there was much the SPD could have done to stop this – they could have been sitting on my porch, and saw a young man get in a car, and 30 seconds later drive away and been none the wiser that the car was being stolen.

The issue really belongs to the manufacture who cut corners to save \$\$ and on us (the community) to make sure that we are providing the right kind of opportunities for young people.

Response to: Still number one

Roy Roberts says:

Great article,i could'nt agree more.28 yrs Somerville Fire Fighter very proud to have served my city.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

Live music



Somerville used to have a few venues to see live music. Places like Jasper’s, Johnny D’s, and the Jumbo. One of my favorite places was the Blarney Stone where they had Irish music. Jim Plunkett used to get the crowd going pretty much whenever he played.

I used to enjoy seeing the Fabulous Pharoahs at the Embassy Lounge with my own band playing there also. Places like Kevin’s Korner which later became Club 3 were good music spots.

And now, comments and memories from Somerville’s social network.

“J. Geils band played at the high school gym in the late 60’s early 70’s”

“Beatlejuice at D’s, you at the Embassy, the guy who took his teeth out and wig off at brothers/jumbo.”

“You at embassy lounge! Great Pre-tenders at Jumbo, Amazing Sensations at Johnny D’s.”

“Rockola, The Tools, etc. I just had

this conversation last week with someone. Also, The Fools, Balloon, Luna, and so many more.”

“The Phabulous Pharoahs at Studley’s.”

“Mike Repetto late 1977. I’d just turned 18 and the drinking age in Massachusetts was lowered to 18 for a period of time. Stars aligned for me to enjoy my brief but illustrious “Party phase.” I’d go to Studley’s with my paycheck from Somerville Hospital kitchen and return home with my change.”

“And we have a few now, but they are different ones: Sally O’Brien’s, The Burren, the Crystal Ballroom.”

“The only band I remember that played at Pal Joey’s was called the Dream Machine.”

(They were also the house band at Sammy’s Patio at Revere Beach)

“The K Kiely Band played at just about all the places mentioned, and also my cellar!”

“The Neighborhoods, Stompers, The Fools, John Butcher, The Boys, Human Sexual Response, K Kiley Band, Robert Ellis Oral, Extreme, Robin Lane, Scatter-



brains, Scared Kids, Zenaphon, Plunkett, Beatlejuice ... so many great bands back then! All over Somerville.”

(My former band The Echos opened for Peter Tork and The Grassroots at The Jumbo)

“The Sleddogs played at Johnny D’s and downstairs at Redbones.”

The Rockwell Theatre in Davis Square has up and coming bands like Mallcops. The Burren is also a hopping venue.

Hopefully, live music will prosper around Somerville and live music will prosper.

It’s great looking back on all the fun we had back then.

Somerville Veterans Commission seeks five members

After several years of inactivity during the pandemic, the City of Somerville is reestablishing its Veterans Commission. The city seeks five motivated members to relaunch the Commission, and all Somerville residents are welcome to apply. The Veterans Commission maintains the custody and care of all monuments, memorials, and dedications in Somerville to respectfully commemorate the services and sacrifices of the soldiers, marines, and airmen who have served our country in war, or persons who have served the Commonwealth in time of war. The Commission will also develop policies and procedures for the construction and review of memorials, monuments, and hero square dedications. The Commission will consist of five members appointed by the mayor. Three members must be Veterans, and two can be any qualified community member. Meetings are expected to begin in Spring 2023. The Commission will meet monthly for approximately two hours, with additional time expected at Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Members will serve one-, two-, or three-year terms with potential reappointment for a three-year term. These are volunteer positions. Applications are due Wednesday, March 22. To apply, please submit a statement of interest explaining why you would like to serve and any relevant background experience, along with an optional professional resume, to [veterans@somervillema.gov](mailto:veterans@somervillema.gov) or by mail to: Attn: Veterans Commission Member Application, Somerville Department of Veterans Services, 50 Evergreen Ave., Somerville, MA 02145. Please contact the Department of Veterans Services at 617-625-6600 ext. 4700 or [veterans@somervillema.gov](mailto:veterans@somervillema.gov) with questions.

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## Gigi Foundation lends a heart in hand to help

The Gigi Foundation was originally founded in 2009 as one woman's desire to feed, educate and nurse every child in need-one at a time. Before she immigrated to the United States, Gisselene Romulus worked as a preschool teacher, educating and supporting young children in her home country of Haiti. After immigrating to the U.S. she continued to aid those in need as a licensed practical nurse for over 15 Years. Never forgetting her roots and with a heart for children, Gisselene materialized her dream and the Gigi Foundation was born.

Since then, the Gigi Foundation has gracefully grown into a collaborative team of individuals who share the same passion and dedication. Led by the founder, the members and donors' work to provide greater opportunities for each child to advance and grow into confident contributing citizens.

Today, the mission continues to grow, and the "GIFOAT!" (Gigi Foundation-One at A Time) motto remains their rally cry. They continue to be a resource for 41 underprivileged and underserved children in the impoverished community of BoucanCarre in Mirbalais Haiti.

By providing genuine access to education, health care and nutrition for children in one neighborhood in Haiti, they begin to fulfill their core mission-one community at a time.

The Gigi Foundation is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that serves children in Haiti. Many of these children are homeless, abandoned or have lost their families during these unprecedented times in Haiti. With nowhere to go, nothing to eat and no access to education the Gigi Foundation lends a heart in hand to help as many of such.

Donations of any amount will go a long way in furthering the outreach of love and support to so many in need. Rest assure all proceeds of the Gigi Foundation go to the well being of children in Haiti. To donate or learn more about the causes of the Gigi Foundation visit <https://gifoat.org>.



## City proposes funding to tackle homelessness CONT. FROM PG 1

be people who are unhoused, at risk of becoming unhoused, and people fleeing domestic violence.

Lisa Davidson, Housing Grants Manager for the City of Somerville, talked about the public feedback process before this

meeting.

"A lot of our responses came that the high need was for affordable rental housing, rental assistance, shelters, supportive services, utility assistance, street outreach," Davidson said, "There was a clear prior-

itization, a critical priority for rental housing."

According to figures from the meeting, \$1.2 million dollars are proposed to be allocated for supportive services with the rest of the funds given to non-profit organizations de-

signed to tackle homelessness in Somerville.

Public comments will be accepted by the City of Somerville until March 17, after city officials will take these into consideration for a revised proposal with is slated to be completed and sent to

the HUD on March 31.

For more information on the proposal and to send written comments to the City of Somerville, visit: <https://www.somerville-ma.gov/events/2023/02/23/home-arp-allocation-plan-public-meeting>.

## Bill Janovitz's tribute to the Rolling Stones unites nostalgic fans CONT. FROM PG 1

Gent's voice also almost mimicked Jagger's. Bass player Tahaney's thin, high vocals also resembled Jagger's.

"I should know the lyrics to this, but I don't," said Gent to the audience. The crowd laughed and cheered at his comment. Some told their neighbors how they went to rock concerts in the 60s and 70s.

The audience cheered more when Janovitz and Gent announced they were singing You Can't Always Get What You Want next. Janovitz sung the London Bach Choir intro while asking the audience to reach the thin high notes. The crowd

following Janovitz request and Gent's encouragement.

The band finished the show with the Stone's Midnight Rumble. Janovitz took out his harmonica to play during the song. The band progressively took the audience home as their beats got faster. The crowd stomping their feet following Anzalone's drums. Tahaney sweating while playing his bass guitar. Their wedding rings occasionally showing while they played their instruments.

"Thank you for coming out," said Janovitz and Gent.

Bill Janovitz and the band will perform at the Cotuit Center for the Arts on Sunday, July 2.



Chris Anzalone and Matt Tahaney playing their instruments.

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# The Somerville Bike Kitchen in need of a new location

By Ryan DiLello

The Somerville Bike Kitchen, a volunteer co-op that teaches community members how to repair their bikes, is looking for a new location after seven years in their location on Summer Street. Founded in 2015, the co-op has served thousands of community members, averaging 200 people a month. In exchange for their resources and expertise, the co-op asks for a modest donation of \$10/hour – and will work for free if necessary. More than a repair shack, the organization also hosts weekend community building events and repair classes. Come August, their garage on Summer Street will no longer be available for use. On Thursday, Hannah Goldberg, a member of the Somerville Bike Kitchen, spoke at the City Council Meet-

ing. Goldberg says the organization is looking for at least 200 square feet of space with bathrooms and additional outdoor space for community events – ideally, somewhere in Somerville. “We don’t want to leave Somerville. With a lot of our community anchor points being lost in the pandemic, this is one space a lot of people feel comfortable coming back to,” said Goldberg, who noted that the Bike Kitchen is also a social hub and fulcrum for local cyclist organizations like *Queers on Wheels* and *Femmemechanics*. Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen who sponsored Golberg at the meeting, commended the organization. “This is exactly the kind of community organization we want to see thriving in Somerville. Especially at a time in which the council and the administra-



The Somerville Bike Kitchen is searching for a new location in which to do its “cooking.”

tion are spending so much time and effort to increase bicycle safety in our city; it’s crucial that we have these kinds of organizations to empower people.” The Bike Kitchen has started a petition to demonstrate SBK’s impact and value to the Somerville community, city officials and other potential partners, available on its website: <https://somervillebikekitchen.org>.

## Dorothy’s Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



### Brussels Sprouts Agrodolce

One of my staple vegetables is Brussels sprouts. I usually toss in olive oil, salt, pepper and roast them in the oven. Then I add a balsamic reduction to them for a hint of sweetness. Of course with this heat, why put on the oven? But since I received sprouts this week in my vegetable share I decided to switch things up a bit. I wanted to try doing them on the stove top along with changing up the flavor profile. I really like sauces that are sweet and sour, so I thought an agrodolce sauce would be great, especially with the added saltiness of the pancetta and capers. The best part, no oven needed.

2 oz. pancetta, small dice  
1 teaspoon safflower oil  
3 cups of Brussels sprouts, cleaned and halved

1/2 cup water  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
1/2 teaspoon kosher salt  
5 teaspoons red wine vinegar  
1 teaspoon honey  
2 teaspoons capers, drained and rinsed

In a large sauté pan, add the pancetta and start the heat on low. This will render the fat and crisp up the pancetta. Once the pancetta is crispy, remove it with a slotted spoon reserving it for later. If there are less than 2 teaspoons of fat in the pan, add the teaspoon of safflower oil. Also add the sprouts and 1/2 cup of water. Set the heat on medium and put a lid over the pan. At this point you want to steam the sprouts for about 8-10 minutes. Remove the cover and let the rest of the water evaporate. Add the salt, toss to make sure the sprouts are coated in the oil and turn the heat up to brown the sprouts, making sure they don’t burn and all get nicely browned. Once tender, add the garlic and let



cook for about 30 seconds. Add the vinegar and honey. Toss to coat. Remove from the heat and add the capers and pancetta. Recheck your seasoning.

Serves 3.

Visit Dorothy’s website at <http://ddimarzo2002.wix.com/thymethief>.



Beacon Hill Roll Call



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Beacon Hill Roll Call can also be viewed on our website at [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com)

**THE HOUSE AND SENATE.** *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records local representatives’ votes on roll calls from early February sessions. There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week.

**MORE TIME TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS (H 2023)**

House 23-130, rejected a rule that would prohibit technical or perfecting amendments from being considered until 30 minutes after a copy of the amendment has been received by representatives. The rule would allow such an amendment to be considered in less than 30 minutes if a two-thirds vote of the House agrees to the shortened time.

“Providing a half hour to review a technical or perfecting amendment would give members an opportunity to ask questions, get answers and better understand the amendment before a vote takes place,” said sponsor GOP House Minority Leader Brad Jones (R-North Reading). “I think this change is eminently reasonable and fair, and it also provides an option for the 30-minute review period to be waived or suspended if enough members agree to it.”

Opponents of the rule said technical amendments are just that—technical, and don’t need a half hour to review. They argued that the 30-minute requirement is unnecessary and noted members are currently informally given sufficient time to see the amendments before they are considered.

(A “Yes” vote is for allowing 30 minutes. A “No” vote is against allowing 30 minutes.)

Rep. Christine Barber	No
Rep. Mike Connolly	No
Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven	No

**GIVE 1-WEEK NOTICE (H 2025)**

House 24-129, rejected an amendment that would increase from three days to seven days the amount of advance notice for committees to notify the House and the public of the time, location and agenda of all public hearings and executive sessions.

“A public hearing before a committee is the only opportunity that a person has to be directly involved in the legislative process,” said Rep. Todd Smola (R-Warren). “By expanding the notification window for when hearings take place from 72 hours to one week, we are providing the public with more time to prepare and participate in the process. We welcome the viewpoints of our constituents on bills before the Legislature, bills which are often nuanced and very complex. It is not unreasonable to provide people with a few more days’

notice before a hearing commences.” Opponents of the amendment said three days is more than sufficient and noted that under House rules, members of the public no longer have to plan far in advance to come into the Statehouse to testify since they can now testify online from their home. They noted that the increase to a week unnecessarily goes too far.

(A “Yes” vote is for requiring seven days’ notice. A “No” vote is against requiring seven days’ notice.)

Rep. Christine Barber	No
Rep. Mike Connolly	No
Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven	Yes

**ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL**

**DON’T MISS THIS LIFE SCIENCES FORUM EVENT** – The Life Sciences Industry has seen incredible growth the last decade, and Massachusetts has become a worldwide leader with continued industry growth and expansion underway. While the epicenter of the industry cluster remains in Kendall Square, the state’s strategy calls for the expansion of lab and manufacturing space throughout the state, with the potential for significant growth in Central Massachusetts. Don’t miss a special forum hosted by MASterList, the State House News Service and the Worcester Business Journal on Tuesday, March 7, from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the DCU Center (50 Foster St. Worcester, MA 01608). Tickets for the program can be purchased online at: <https://www.wbjournal.com/life-scienceforum>

**BILLS, BILLS, BILLS** – House and Senate clerks continue to process the thousands of bill filed for consideration in the 2023-2024 session including:

**DONATE FOOD (SD 263)** – Would provide civil liability protections to individuals, restaurants and organizations that make direct food donations to persons in need. The donor would also receive a tax credit of up to \$5,000. A similar bill received a favorable report from the Judiciary Committee last year but died from inaction in the House.

“Massachusetts saw the greatest percentage growth in food insecurity in the nation during the pandemic,” said sponsor Sen. Jo Comerford (D-Northampton). “It could have been even more severe had it not been for common-wealth farmers who came forward again and again with donations of produce, dairy and meat—all the while acutely aware that they make 94 cents for every dollar they spend. Through a tax credit, this bill further incentivizes already committed farmers, as well as generous local restaurants, to donate food to food banks, meal sites and

pantries—allowing them an opportunity to give within an expanded liability protection framework while strengthening our food system.”

**TAX CREDIT FOR DONATION OF OYSTER SHELLS (SD 432)** – Would provide a tax credit of \$5 per full 5-gallon bucket to individuals or businesses that donate oyster shells to an oyster shell recycling organization.

“A shell recycling tax credit presents a creative and thoughtful tool to help diminish land fill waste, create habitat and mitigate pollution in our waters,” said sponsor Sen. Julian Cyr (D-Truro). “A \$5 tax credit per 5-gallon bucket of recycled shells for restaurants will help encourage this environmentally friendly practice.”

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

During the week of February 20-24, the House met for a total of nine minutes while the Senate met for a total of four minutes.

Mon. Feb. 20	No House session No Senate session
Tues. Feb. 21	House 11:05 a.m. to 11:11 a.m. Senate 11:10 a.m. to 11:12 a.m.
Wed. Feb. 22	No House session No Senate session
Thurs. Feb. 23	House 11:02 a.m. to 11:05 a.m. Senate 11:23 a.m. to 11:25 a.m.
Fri. Feb. 24	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at [bob@beaconhillrollcall.com](mailto:bob@beaconhillrollcall.com)



COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



The searches are on.

Our View Of The Times



Every now and then the City of Somerville is confronted with the task of finding replacements for key positions in its leadership structure.

Interestingly, at this particular moment two very important slots are in need of filling: Chief of Police and School Superintendent. Suitable candidates have been located and interviewed, and yet, as of this reporting, the searches continue.

Last week the Somerville School Committee voted to reopen the application process for a new Superintendent of Schools. The School Committee hopes to select a new Superintendent by July, in time for the new school year.

In January, the School Committee announced three finalist candidates who were selected from a pool of 27 applicants. After one finalist removed themselves

from consideration, and the Committee declined to offer the position to either of the two remaining candidates.

Meanwhile, the community was invited to join two public listening sessions for the Somerville Police Chief recruitment led by GovHR, the national executive staffing firm the city has selected to conduct the search.

One of the sessions already took place

on Tuesday of this week, while the next one will be held on Thursday, March 9. Details on how to participate in the session will be announced in the coming days.

It's gratifying to see how seriously the city takes its responsibility to hire the best talent available, and to take extra measures to make sure they've made the best possible choices. We'd like to think we'd do the same if we were in the same position.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

birthday. Happy birthday to another nice guy, **Eddie Nuzzo**. We hope he has a great one. Happy birthday to **Nick Kondilis**, a long-time real estate agent. We hope he has a great birthday. And to **Donald Coutoumas**, of the Somerville Coutoumas family. We hope he has a great birthday. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Bill Roy**, **Laureen Chirichiello**, **Sarah Colestock Berson**, **Matt Smith**, **Barbara Neachtain**, **Susan Mangherini Griffin**, **Betsy Bragg**, **David Rudolph**, **Bob Schofield** and **Scott Naugler** a very happy birthday. To all those that are also celebrating this week, we wish a happy birthday.

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**Liam Mannion**, proprietor of **Sally O'Brien's**, and former City Councilor **Bob McWatters** invite the public to celebrate **Irish Heritage** and hoist a pint of Guinness on **St. Patrick's Day, March 17** at Sally O'Brien's, 335 Somerville Ave. Sally's will be featuring an Irish fare of corned beef and cabbage, spirits, Irish music, and appearances of local and state elected officials. All are welcome to join the festivities.

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**SomerViva: Office of Immigrant Affairs**, **AILA**, **IFSI** and **Rian Immigrant Center** is hosting a clinic on **Temporary**

**Protected Status** for eligible Haitians. The clinic will provide updates on requirements and eligibility. Attorneys and volunteers will be available to help with filling out the TPS application. Morning appointments start at 9:00 a.m., afternoon appointments start at 12:00 p.m. Interpretation will be available in English and Haitian Creole. **Saturday, March 4. Holy Bible Baptist Church**, 64 College Avenue, Somerville.

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A new exhibition, **Ukraine: Connected Histories & Vibrant Cultures**, will open at **Tisch Library, Tufts University** on **March 6** at 5:00 p.m. The territory of

modern Ukraine was once part of the largest kingdom of medieval Europe, known as Kyivan Rus. The heart of that early medieval kingdom – the city of Kyiv – is today the capital of Ukraine. It features impressive monuments, as well as remarkable collections and archives that are endangered by Russia's ongoing war in Ukraine. This exhibition highlights aspects of the early history and cultural heritage of Kyivan Rus, demonstrating how expansive, well-connected, and diverse this region of Eastern Europe was during the medieval and early modern periods. Moreover, the exhibition addresses later transformations and

*Continued on page 15*



FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#865

1. What day is celebrated internationally on March 8?

2. Which sport has a tournament called March Madness?

3. What was the name of the hand featured in TV's *The Adams Family*?

4. What vitamin does the sun give us?

5. Who is the author of the book titled *The Audacity of Hope*?

6. What is the other name for the Sandwich Islands?
7. What is the capital of Indonesia?

8. Who sang the song *Heal The World*?

9. Who is the author of *Wuthering Heights*?

10. Which chess piece can only move in straight horizontal or diagonal lines?

11. Where is the Brandenburg gate located?

12. Who played the DJ in the movie *Good morning Vietnam*?

Answers on page 11

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. It's impossible to tickle yourself.
2. Queen Elizabeth II was a trained mechanic.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THE OSCARS

- ACROSS
1. Adam and Eve's son

5. Blink of an eye, for short

8. Tricep location

11. Laughing on the inside, in text

12. \_\_\_\_ bowl, frozen dish

13. Bid on a house, e.g.

15. Show off

16. Actor's role

17. Nostrils

18. "Everything Everywhere All At Once" or "The Fablemans" nominee

20. Trampled

21. Humpty without t

22. Cate Blanchett's 6-time nominated movie

23. Store in a silo

26. Tiny crustacean

30. Chop off

31. Not digital

34. Cut with a beam

35. Empty spaces

37. Not good

38. Relating to pond scum

39. Capri or Catalina

40. Lament

42. \_\_\_\_ Khan

43. Full event

45. He's won the most academy awards

47. Jump key

48. Not yes, nor no

50. Male sibs

52. "The Fablemans" composer John \_\_\_\_, 53-time nominee

55. Resin-producing tree

56. Call to Mary

57. Get-out-of-jail money

59. Bye, in Castile

60. Ages and ages

61. Competitive advantage

62. Appetite

63. Farm female

64. Fender-bender damage

- DOWN
1. Key often used with ctrl

2. Gold rush, e.g.

3. Purse with notions

4. Leeches, alt. sp.

5. Dandruff locale

6. This bird gets the worm?

7. Give a traffic ticket

8. Big do

9. Cattail, e.g.

10. "\_\_\_\_ Harris Goes to Paris," Best Costume Design nominee

12. Tarzan and such

13. Like beer at a kegger (2 words)

14. "The Banshees of Inisherin" nominee

19. Polynesian dance, pl.

22. Dress like Ancient Greeks

23. Austin Butler's gyrating character

24. Gallows loop

25. Oil crisis

26. Last year's Best Picture winner

27. Like a Druid, e.g.

28. Missouri River tributary

29. Flying nuisance

CROSSWORD

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Soultion to last week's crossword puzzle:

G	R	A	M			T	S	P				B	A	N
S	O	D	A			L	I	N	E			S	L	A
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A	N	K	L	E				L	U	T	E		E	R
P	A	Y						E	R	E			R	E

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.



# Christopher Reeve and Spinal Cord Injury



By Ian Halim

The late actor Christopher Reeve first won fame for his 1978 role as Superman. Later, he achieved a kind of second, unwished-for fame when he was paralyzed by a spinal cord injury.

In an iconic scene from the film, Lois Lane – played by the young Canadian-American actress Margot Kidder – nearly tumbles to her death after a helicopter mishap. She’s on her way to an after-hours reporting assignment for the Daily Planet newspaper when the pilot attempts a routine lift-off from a rooftop perch. The landing gear’s skids catch on an errant wire and the helicopter spins out, coming to rest precariously on the cliff-like edge of the skyscraper.

Just minutes before, Lois Lane had turned down a dinner invitation from Superman’s mild-mannered alter ego, Clark Kent. Now, her life hangs in the balance. Kent looks up from the street, spots the helicopter, and searches for the nearest telephone booth where he can transform into Superman – in privacy. Running, he yanks open his shirt sleeves to reveal a red “S” across his chest. Far above, Lois Lane dangles in thin air, gripping her seatbelt. Her hand slips. She falls. Superman streams upwards.

“I’ve got you.”

“Who’s got you?” Lois Lane asks, breathless.

Reeve went on to star in three more Superman movies. For his role in the 1985 TV film, *Anna Karenina*, he learned to ride horses. And he kept at it, going on to compete.

A decade later, Reeve’s horse stopped short in front of a fence during an equestrian competition in Culpepper, Virginia. He

tumbled head-first, and was paralyzed. Later, he became a tireless advocate for spinal cord research, often winning praise for finding a fresh sense of purpose after his accident. Here, in this essay, Reeve’s story will help introduce the biology of the spinal cord and spinal cord injury. At the end of the essay, I’ll also briefly describe the controversy that Reeve stirred with his focus on finding a cure.

To understand the spine, you can start by picturing the bony vertebrae of the spinal column as if they were stacked powdered-sugar donuts, with the stacked holes forming a tube-like interior space. This space is known as the spinal canal and the spinal cord travels vertically within it, running between the tailbone and the base of the brain, known as the brain stem. Disks – known as intervertebral disks – are sandwiched between the stacked donut-layers of hard bone, cushioning them. To keep the metaphor going, you can imagine the discs as jelly between the layers of stacked donuts (though in real life our disks are a bit tougher, more solid stuff than that).

Spinal nerves emerge between each pair of bony vertebrae, radiating out to the various structures of the body. The signals for the arms and hands exit the cord fairly high up, so injuries lower on the cord – where there is no signal for the arms – typically affect the legs but not the arms, resulting in paraplegia. High up in the cord, the signals for the arms haven’t left yet, but are still being transmitted within the cord. So, injuries here – like Reeve’s – typically affect both the arms and the legs, and can result in quadriplegia.

In general, the severity of a spinal cord injury is determined both by how complete it is – meaning how far across the diameter of the spinal cord it extends – and also by how high up it is within the spine. In general, the more complete, and the higher the injury, the greater the losses it inflicts. Reeve’s injury was very high up, shattering his

top two vertebrae, in the part of the spine that forms our neck – he cervical spine, named for the Latin word *cervix*, meaning neck. Because Reeve’s uppermost cervical vertebrae were so badly damaged, his surgeons had to reattach his skull to his spine using bone from his hip and a titanium pin. (Depending on how you define it, Reeve’s spinal cord injury could be described as complete or incomplete, but regardless, it was a very severe injury.)

Nerve signals that tell our limbs to move, called motor signals, descend, sometimes from our brain (though sometimes, as with reflexes, from within the cord itself). These descending motor signals travel down and out to our limbs, where they trigger muscle activation and movement. Signals that carry sensation go the opposite way, ascending from the skin and other parts of the body, then rising up the spinal cord. Separate nerve tracts within the cord – like parallel train tracks, but vertical – carry different signals. One tract, for instance, transmits pain and temperature sensations. But traumatic spinal cord injuries usually don’t discriminate neatly, and often affect at least some motor and sensory functions. Reeve’s injury, for instance, affected not only his arms and legs, but interrupted both ascending signals for sensation and also descending signals for movement.

It’s pretty widely known that spinal cord injuries can affect the function of the arms and legs, since this loss has immediate social implications, often meaning that someone begins using a wheelchair. But the spinal cord also transmits signals to and from internal organs. These functions may be less socially obvious, but they too are vital.

The phrenic nerve, which arises from the spinal cord, transmits signals for the pancake-like muscle below our lungs – the thoracic diaphragm – that helps us breathe. In his memoir, Reeve says his doctor told him his phrenic nerve was intact. At first, he needed a ventilator in order

to breathe. But over time, he was able to breathe on his own, for up to 90 minutes at a time.

The spinal cord also transmits signals to our urinary bladder, bowels, and sexual organs. So, when the spinal cord is compressed or injured, it can compromise not just limb movements, skin sensation, and breathing, but also our ability to control our bladder and bowels.

Trauma to the back with loss of fecal and urinary control is extremely serious, suggesting an injury to the cord – or to the nerve tissue that extends below the cord. This nerve tissue beyond and below the cord is no longer tightly organized into a cord. Instead, the strands of nerve tissue here splay out, resembling a kind of ribbon of coarse hair, from which we get the name “*cauda equina*,” meaning horse’s tail in Latin. Some of the critical functions of the spinal cord continue in these nerve fibers of the *cauda equina*, so an injury here is still extremely serious, and can still compromise bladder and bowel function.

After his accident, Reeve’s spinal cord injury became a defining part of his life. Once he had recovered from his surgery and months of rehabilitation, he began working in film and television again, but he also spent time advocating for research to cure spinal cord injury. It was this advocacy and speaking that stirred controversy among some within the disability world.

What was controversial was Reeve’s single-minded focus on a cure. Some interpreted Reeve as using his platform to broadcast the message that life could not be good for those who lived with spinal cord injuries or other disabilities, and that the only path to a good life was a cure. The more vigorously Reeve advocated for a cure, the less some thought he seemed to respect life lived with a disability. He was particularly criticized for a Superbowl commercial in the year 2000 that made it look as if he could walk again – a trick of video editing. Some, like the late writer Charles

Krauthammer who had also survived a spinal cord injury, thought the ad sent the wrong message, amounting to a denial of medical reality, and discouraging vulnerable people from focusing on things that were within their control that could make their lives better right now.

Shortly after this commercial ran, in an interview on *Good Morning America*, Reeve went so far as to call those who accepted their own injuries an obstacle to progress: “The biggest problem, actually, is people who’ve been in a chair for a very long time, because in order to survive psychologically they’ve had to accept ‘O.K., I’m going to spend my life in a chair.’” Reeve made it sound like coming to terms with disability and trying to focus on living a good life with that disability was a mistake – even though spinal cord injury remains largely an incurable condition, even now.

Reeve’s dreams for a cure – and the millions of dollars that the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation raised to pursue those dreams – have not been entirely in vain, however. In at least one case, an experimental therapy started in 2012 – for a Polish firefighter named Dariusz “Darek” Fidyka – resulted in restoration of function after a spinal cord injury. This kind of therapy may one day become more widely available, but for now, the overwhelming majority of spinal cord injuries have remained lifelong.


In contrast to Reeve’s perspective, according to the social model of disability, a medical cure isn’t the only path for a person with a disability to live a good life. According to this view, much of the problem with disabilities – like those caused by spinal cord injuries – rests not in an impaired function, or a medical problem, but rather in the social response to that disability. Some have even suggested that it is really society that is disabled, if it fails to create a welcoming and accessible physical and social environment for those with disabilities. The problem, on this view, is social, not with the

*Continued on page 13*



LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notices can also be viewed on our website at [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com)



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING**  
**& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
**KATJANA BALLANTYNE**  
**MAYOR**

**THOMAS F. GALLIGANI, JR.**  
*INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

**LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)**

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, March 21, 2023** at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov).

**TO USE A COMPUTER**

Registration URL:  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3966442447155727262>

Webinar ID: 602-485-235

**TO CALL IN**

Phone Number: 1 (562) 247-8321

Access Code: 771-592-235

**ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT**

**Alterations to Local Historic District (LHD) Properties**

**HPC.ALT 2022.66 – 97 Orchard Street**  
Applicant: Richard Roy  
Owner: Tommy McCarthy  
*The Applicant seeks a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a driveway.*

**Determinations of Historic Significance (STEP 1 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS)**

**HPC.DMO 2023.04 – 36 Hancock Street**  
Applicant: Zachary John Jackowski, Trustee of Zachary John Jackowski 2022 Trust  
Owner: Same as Applicant  
*The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.*

*Case documents reviewed by the HPC are available on the City website at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases>. 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 email [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. **Note:** Written comments due to [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) **NO LATER THAN NOON** one week prior to the meeting date. Email [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) with inquiries.*


3/1/23 The Somerville Times

Notice is hereby given that a Community Outreach Meeting for a proposed Marijuana Retail Dispensary Establishment is scheduled for March 15th at 7pm via Zoom.

The link is: <https://tinyurl.com/HazeOfSomerville>

The proposed Marijuana Retail Dispensary establishment will be located at 368 Mystic av, Somerville, MA. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions at the end of the Zoom meeting. For any questions email: [ColonelBoothe@gmail.com](mailto:ColonelBoothe@gmail.com)

3/1/23 The Somerville Times



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

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The Somerville Planning Board (PB) will hold a virtual public hearing on **Thursday, March 16, 2023, at 6:00pm** through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the Planning Board will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available by using the registration link once the meeting has concluded.

**TO USE A COMPUTER**

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1056713567107032662>  
Webinar ID: 338-221-515

**TO CALL IN**

Phone number: 1 (213) 929-4212  
Access code: 355-177-557

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

**620 Broadway** 620 Broadway, LLC proposes to develop a one (1) story Commercial Building and establish a Cannabis Retail Sales use in the Commercial Core 5 (CC-5) district, which requires Site Plan Approval and a Special Permit.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions>. Interested persons may provide comments to the Planning Board at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to Planning & Zoning Division, 3rd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; or by email to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov).

3/1/23 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE**  
**PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT**  
**INVITATION FOR BIDS**  
**IFB# 23-48**

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement & Contract Services Department invites proposals for:

**Fertilization, Weed, and Insect Control of Parks, Islands and Athletic Fields**

The RFP package may be obtained online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement> or from the City of Somerville's BidExpress page at <http://www.somervillema.gov/BidExpress> on or after: **Wednesday, February 27, 2023**. Sealed responses will be received at the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via Bid Express until: **2:00 pm, March 15th, 2023**.

The City of Somerville reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive any minor informality in the IFB process, and accept the bid deemed to be in the best interests of the City of Somerville.

Please email [jremy@somervillema.gov](mailto:jremy@somervillema.gov) for more information.

**Jordan Remy**  
Senior Procurement Manager  
617-625-6600 x3400

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**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate and Family Court**

**MIDDLESEX Division** **Docket No. MI23P0831EA**

**INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

Estate of: **Irene Pais Carvalho**  
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Also Known As: **Irene C.P. Carvalho**

Date of Death: **January 19, 2023**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Maria C. Carvalho of Belmont MA**  
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)


[x] a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

[x] **Maria C. Carvalho of Belmont MA**  
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve [ ] with [x] **without surety** on the bond.

**The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.**

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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**SCHOOL COMMITTEE**  
**8 BONAIR STREET**  
**SOMERVILLE, MA 02145**  
**BID #S2023-10**

The School Committee of the City of Somerville invites sealed bids for:

**A 2023 Refrigerated Box Truck (Diesel or Gas) for the Somerville School Department.**

The IFB package may be obtained by emailing Leah Arredondo in the Finance Office, [larredondo@k12.somerville.ma.us](mailto:larredondo@k12.somerville.ma.us) or can be picked up at the Somerville School Department, Finance Office, 8 Bonair Street, Somerville, MA 02145 on or after **February 28, 2023**.

Sealed bid responses will be received no later than **2 p.m., Tuesday, March 21, 2023** at the Finance Office Somerville School Department, 8 Bonair Street, Somerville, MA 02145 at which time and place they shall be publicly opened and read aloud.

**The School Committee of the City of Somerville reserves the right to reject any or all bids or any part or parts thereof, waive any minor informality in the Bid process and to award the Contract that is deemed to be in the best interest of the City of Somerville School Department.**

Francis Gorski  
Chief Financial Officer  
Somerville Public Schools

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LEGAL NOTICES



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
IFB #23-44

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement and Contracting Services Department, invites sealed bids for:

Morrison Ave Linear Storage

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at [www.bidexpress.com](http://www.bidexpress.com), <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **02/24/2023**. Sealed bids will be received at above office until: **03/24/2023 11:30AM EST**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please contact Andrea Caruth at [acaruth@somervillema.gov](mailto:acaruth@somervillema.gov) for more information.

Andrea Caruth  
Deputy Chief Procurement Officer  
617-625-6600 x3400

3/1/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
IFB #23-43

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement and Contracting Services Department, invites sealed bids for:

New Mystic River Outfall

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at [www.bidexpress.com](http://www.bidexpress.com), <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **02/23/2023**. Sealed bids will be received at above office until: **03/23/2023 3:00PM EST**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please contact Andrea Caruth at [acaruth@somervillema.gov](mailto:acaruth@somervillema.gov) for more information.

Andrea Caruth  
Deputy Chief Procurement Officer  
617-625-6600 x3400

3/1/23 The Somerville Times

Somerville Small Business Recovery Fund to reopen and expand eligibility to independent contractors

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne announces that Somerville’s Small Business Recovery Fund will reopen on March 1, 2023, with more inclusive eligibility criteria to better serve Somerville business owners. This round of funding will distribute approximately \$500,000 to help local businesses as they recover from the continued impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The fund provides forgivable loans for eligible applicants worth up to \$15,000 for brick-and-mortar businesses and \$5,000 for home-based businesses. To qualify, businesses must be located within the City of Somerville, have 20 or fewer full-time employees, and be able to demonstrate a decline in revenue over the past several years, among other criteria. Applications will be accepted from March 1 through March 21, 2023.

“Every day, whether I’m getting a morning coffee, buying my family’s groceries, or picking up my dog’s favorite treats, I am constantly inspired by the passion and ingenuity of Somerville’s small business community, but the pandemic has created difficult challenges,” said Mayor Ballantyne. “By reopening the Small Business Recovery Fund we aim to strategically target assistance to local business owners that will help them on the road to recovery.”

Somerville’s Small Business Recovery Fund distributed more than \$1.4 million to community businesses during its first funding round, which ran from late November 2022 through January 2023. The funding was particularly successful in reaching businesses that are especially vulnerable to economic hardships. More than 75% of applications were received from businesses with a majority women or minority ownership, and 95% of applications were from businesses with fewer than ten employees.

“COVID used most of our savings. It is a big deal for us to receive this funding—It is like oxygen for us,” said Iliassou Fassassi, owner of Fadil African Hair Braiding, which has received a small business recovery loan from the City. “We are relieved knowing the City is supporting us, and the funding will help us improve many different areas of our business.”

The first funding round also provided important takeaways that informed updated eligibility criteria to improve the Small Business Recovery Fund. To make the funding more accessible, the City has expanded the category of “Home-Based Businesses” to “Home-based Businesses/Independent Contractors.”

Independent contractors are eligible for up to \$5,000 through the program so long as they have a valid business license and can show that they have been operating in Somerville since at least April 1, 2021. Examples of independent contractors can range from private consulting practices to freelance writers to barbers who rent chairs at a barbershop that they themselves do not own. Additional documentation may be requested based on the business type.

The city’s community partners, and the SomerViva Office of Immigrant Affairs, are ready to help business owners successfully complete their funding application. Free application assistance is available via the below organizations:

- Somerville Main Streets (149 Broadway)  
Languages Available: English
- Union Square Main Streets (366 Somerville Avenue)  
Languages Available: Spanish, English
- iParametrics  
Languages Available: Spanish, Portuguese, English

Applicants can also receive assistance in other languages, including Portuguese, Spanish, Haitian Creole, Chinese, and Nepali by contacting the SomerViva Office of Immigrant Affairs (SOIA) via [somervillema.gov/ContactSomerViva](http://somervillema.gov/ContactSomerViva) or calling 311 at 617-666-3311.

“Somerville’s Recovery Fund has proven incredibly beneficial to East Somerville businesses,” said Lindsay Allen, Executive Director of East Somerville Main Streets. “The small business community continues to experience the aftereffects of the COVID-19 pandemic and this funding will help to stabilize businesses as they look towards growth.”

If the City receives more applications than the program can fund, applicants will receive priority based on a score determined by several characteristics in their application (such as whether they have received previous rounds of COVID-related funding, or whether its women or minority-owned), until program funds are depleted.

Potential applicants can learn more about eligibility requirements and complete their application at [somervillema.gov/bizrelief](http://somervillema.gov/bizrelief) or by calling iParametrics at 617-863-2160.

Ms. Cam’s  
Olio

From on page 8  
Answers

- |                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. International Women’s Day | 7. Jakarta          |
| 2. Basketball                | 8. Michael Jackson  |
| 3. Thing                     | 9. Emily Brontë     |
| 4. Vitamin D                 | 10. Rooks           |
| 5. Barack Obama              | 11. Berlin, Germany |
| 6. The Hawaiian Islands      | 12. Robin Williams  |



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By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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## On This Day in History March 1

0045 – The first Leap Day is recognized by proclamation of Julius Caesar. Under the old Roman calendar, the last day of February was the last day of the year.

1642 – York, Maine becomes the first incorporated American city.

1692 – Sarah Goode, Sarah Osborne and Tituba are arrested for the supposed practice of witchcraft in Salem, Mass.

1780 – Pennsylvania becomes the first U.S. state to abolish slavery.

1875 – Congress passes the Civil Rights Act, which is invalidated by the Supreme Court in 1883.

1932 – The Lindbergh baby is kidnapped from the Lindbergh home near Princeton, New Jersey.

1960 – 1,000 Black students pray and sing the national anthem on the steps of the old Confederate Capitol in Montgomery, Ala.

1974 – A grand jury indicts seven of President Nixon's aides for the conspiracy on Watergate.



# Inquest process underway in fatal officer-involved shooting in Cambridge

Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan has confirmed, that after a request from her Office on January 11, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 38, §8, the inquest process into the death of Sayed Faisal has begun. Per order of the Court, no further details will be provided until the completion of the process.

Sayed Faisal worked with the Somerville Arts Council on the Mystic River Mural in 2017. A GoFundMe has been set up to support the family : <https://gofund.me/77ff124c>

## Previous press release:

Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan and Cambridge Police Commissioner Christine Elow have confirmed that today (Jan. 4) at approximately 1:15 p.m., Cambridge Emergency Communications received a 911 call from a Cambridgesport resident, who had witnessed a man jump out of the window of a neighboring apartment and further reported that the man was in possession of a machete. The caller said that he appeared to be cutting himself with both the weapon, later identified as a kukri knife and broken window glass.

Multiple paramedics and officers were initially dispatched to the scene and located the male, identified as Sayed Faisal, 20 of Cambridge, bleeding in an alley behind a Sidney Street building.

The preliminary investigation suggests that Faisal reportedly ran with the knife after observing police, traveling through several blocks in the Cambridgesport neighborhood before officers attempted to verbally engage with him on Chestnut Street, requesting that he put the knife down. The man reportedly moved towards the officers while still in possession of the weapon.



— Photo courtesy of Somerville Arts Council



An officer discharged a less-than-lethal sponge round in an attempt to de-escalate the situation. That round was unsuccessful in stopping Faisal. He continued to advance towards officers in possession of the weapon. One officer discharged this department-issued firearm and struck Faisal. He was immediately rendered medical aid on the scene by officers until EMS arrived. Faisal was transported to Massachusetts General Hospital where he later died.

Investigators are in the very early stages of this investigation, which is being conducted by the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, Massachusetts State Police Detectives assigned to the District Attorney's Office and the Cambridge Police. The prosecutors assigned to this case are Carrie Spiros and Caroline Evans.

Any member of the public with any information or video of this incident should contact the Cambridge Police.

View the press conference here: [https://youtu.be/au4kH-dTQ\\_hM](https://youtu.be/au4kH-dTQ_hM)

# Christopher Reeve and Spinal Cord Injury CONT. FROM PG 9

individual – and we don't have to wait for a cure to make progress.

Some of the solutions emphasized by the social model are tangible – like the sidewalk ramps at intersections known as curb cuts, allowing wheelchairs to go more easily between street and sidewalk. Elevators in subway stations are another important issue. Even in New York—the richest city in the world – many stations lack working elevators. Some progress also depends upon attitudes rather than physical barriers, and on recognizing the potential of those who live with disabilities – to go to school, to work, to have sexual relationships and friendships, to marry – to do all the things that many find make for a full life.

We don't necessarily have to accept this binary division between medical research and working to make life better for those with disabilities now. But research shouldn't serve as an excuse not to do the things within our power now.

A bridal shop in the United Kingdom made the news in 2019 when its front window display

featured a mannequin in a bridal dress with a twist – she was seated in a wheelchair. Some responded on Twitter by noting they'd never seen this before. Someone tweeted a rare, similar display in Japan.

Children came to take photographs of the window – and to imagine their future.

Somerville Bagel Bards member and physician-humanist, Ian Halim, writes about how medicine relates to everything from ethics to botany – aiming to make science accessible to the widest possible audience. Ian earned his PhD in Greek & Latin literature and his MD at Columbia University in New York City and is now training at a hospital in Boston.

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OFF THE SHELF  
by Doug Holder

Ellen Cassedy and the 9 to 5  
Feminist Labor Movement

Lyrical  
SOMERVILLE  
edited by Doug Holder

Ellen Cassedy, the author of *Working 9 to 5: A Woman's Movement, A Labor Union, and the Iconic Movie*, and one of the founders of the 9 to 5 feminist labor movement told me she lived in Davis Square, Somerville, Massachusetts from 1973 to 1979. When, according to her to her, "You could get a good part for your washing machine, but that's about it." Now when she visits Somerville, she is surprised about how it changed. The gentrified Somerville impresses her – the new gleaming environs and all the trendy eateries. She reflected, "Imagine you can have a kale bowl in Somerville, now!"



Cassedy was an office worker at Harvard University in 1972, living in an old Victorian with other young women. She recalls, "One day we sat in a circle, and talked about what women needed in the workplace. We pooled our pennies, and they sent me to the Midwest Academy of Organizers, and I learned all kinds of things about organizing people." It wasn't until 1998 that the clerical workers at Harvard University won a contract, and then they tried to set standards for female employees.

Cassedy has an abundance of anecdotes about the conditions women faced during this era. She told me one acquaintance of hers went into her boss's office and requested a raise in salary. He told her, "You should see a psychiatrist." Women commonly trained men to be in management positions that they would be just as competent in. Another comment that male superiors passed around was, "We gave the position to Joe. He bought a new house and has a family to support." This in spite of the fact that many of these female clerical workers needed to support a family through the better income that a better job could provide. Many of these clerical workers had college degrees and did not think they would spend years in the typing pool.

The Boston Clerical workforce in the 1970s was predominately white. Boston was a white city. This band of organizers insisted that people of color should be treated fairly. When they expanded their

outreach to more diverse cities like Baltimore and Atlanta, they were able to reach out to minority workers.

Later in 1980 or so, Jane Fonda and her staff approached Cassedy and other organizers and told these women they wanted to produce a film about their experience. The movie *9 to 5* was a hit and had a great title song by Dolly Parton. Before they produced the movie Fonda's people asked if any of the women fantasized about killing their bosses. According to Cassedy, seventy percent did.

The movement was ambitious and created a "Bill of Rights for Women." They came up with 13 rights. They included the right for a job description, the right to say "no" to anything outside the description, as well as others. Cassedy said they printed a large number of these documents on old looking parchment-like paper, and sent it around far and wide.

Cassedy told me she was part of the 'second' wave of feminism. This wave, unlike the first wave, which was strongly connected to the suffrage movement, sprang from the Civil Rights Movement of the 60s. During the early days, according to Cassedy, women did not want to be identified as

Continued on page 15

Elizabeth McCarthy is a freshman at Endicott College pursuing an undergraduate degree in education. In her free time, she enjoys dancing, spending time with friends, consuming any kind of dessert, and of course, writing. While not at school, she lives with her family on the North Shore.



Read Before Use

There should be a warning  
Neatly printed on the side of the plastic canister  
Or robotically announced on the QVC infomercial  
Caution: the side effects of a grudge.

1. Remembrance  
You'll think about it all the time  
The picture of revenge staring back at you in the mirror  
Greed mixed with treason and pride  
Anecdotal depression when you think of why you feel so crazed.

2. One-sided Fixation  
They won't think of you as much as you'll think of them  
An obscure regret that helped them be better  
Meet someone new  
They consume your mind like a bad dream while you quietly deteriorate from theirs.

3. Discarded Redemption  
It takes effort to hold on to the hatred  
Their redeeming qualities poking through a memory  
Or a memento or gift  
You work hard to abominate the things you once loved.

4. Anxiety 5. Fear 6. Bitterness  
7. Communication Flaws  
Nancy Drawing every word you hear for true intentions  
8. Physical Illness

Your body's immune system failing as the poisonous dislike moves through your blood  
9. Resentment  
You'd be so pure, so clean if only the villain had stayed away.

10. The inability to move on  
Countless perfectly good matches pass you by  
They hold the door for other people and buy red

roses on Valentine's day  
Intimacy that should have been given to you.

But forgiveness is no sister to heartbreak  
Not when you're still in the thick of it  
The absence of absolution  
The drug of a grudge.

— Elizabeth McCarthy



Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

manipulations of the historical and material record to advance certain narratives, especially during the Soviet era, and current efforts to document, study, and preserve the history and heritage of Ukraine. To view full details and to RSVP for the opening reception, visit: <https://tufts.libcal.com/event/10319576>.

After several years of inactivity during the pandemic, the **City of Somerville** is reestablishing its **Veterans Commission**. The city seeks **five motivated members** to relaunch the Commission, and all Somerville residents are welcome to apply. Applications are due **Wednesday, March 22**. To apply, please submit a statement of interest explaining why you would like to serve and any relevant background experience, along with an optional professional resume, to [veterans@somervillema.gov](mailto:veterans@somervillema.gov) or by mail to: Attn: Veterans Commission Member Application, Somerville Department of Veterans Services, 50 Evergreen Ave., Somerville, MA 02145. Please contact the Department of Veterans Services at 617-625-6600 ext. 4700 or [veterans@somervillema.gov](mailto:veterans@somervillema.gov) with questions.

**SHS Spring sport registration** started this week. Visit SHS sports: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/teams>. Middle grades sports: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/mgathletics>. Students who participate in a sport must attend a medical clearance event at the high school. SHS medical clearance dates: **March 14 and 15**. Middle grades medical clearance date: **March 29, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.** Middle grades athletes are invited to try out for high school Boys Volleyball, Boys Tennis or Softball. Please visit the website to learn more.

On **February 13**, more than 50 people, including 16 children, were displaced by an apartment block **fire on Highland Avenue**. Fortunately, everyone got out safely, but significant challenges remain for our neighbors and students who cannot return to their homes. More than 13 city departments and a half-dozen part-

ner agencies mobilized to set up temporary shelter, food, and other supports, but your help is needed for what comes next. If you are willing and able, please donate to the **Somerville Homeless Coalition's Emergency Fund**. Donations of any size will help rebuild our community, one family at a time. The fund is designed to provide immediate relief to the affected residents and will help other neighbors in need as they face future emergencies. You can donate at [bit.ly/SHCEmergencyFund](https://bit.ly/SHCEmergencyFund) and select "Emergency Fund" to support these families, students, and residents.

All Somerville residents should be on the lookout for the **2023 annual City of Somerville census** in their mailbox. Upon receipt, please complete the brief form and return it to the city via mail, email, fax, or in person. High census participation provides an accurate population count, which helps the city plan municipal services and adapt as the population changes. **The Elections Department** also uses the census to help keep voting rolls up to date. Completed census forms can be returned via the postage-paid return envelope included in the mailing, by scanning the form and emailing it to [census@somervillema.gov](mailto:census@somervillema.gov), by dropping it off in a census box at **City Hall** (93 Highland Ave.), or by faxing it to 617-625-5643. Contact 311 at 617-666-3311 with any questions.

The **Somerville Arts Council ArtBeat 2023** planning has begun. 2023 theme: **Pulse**. At this year's festival, they will explore everything that vibrates, pulses and suggests life. They invite artists of all kinds as well as community members to interpret the theme in myriad ways. Let's delve into all that pulses – things like hearts, cities, lights and drumbeats. Online applications for craft vendors are now available. To apply, go to: <https://somervilleartscouncil.org/artbeat/2023>

The **Somerville Public Library** in partnership with the **St. Mark Community**

**Education Program** is offering a free, 10-week **U.S. Citizenship Preparation class**. The class will prepare students for the citizenship interview including the 100 civics questions, the reading and writing sections, and interview questions based on the N-400 application. The class will be held in-person at the **Central Library** (79 Highland Avenue) on **10 Saturdays** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. **from March 4 to May 6**. Requirements: Basic level of English and 5 years as a U.S. permanent resident (green card holder) or 3 years, if married to a U.S. citizen. Visit <https://www.somervillepubliclibrary.org/ell-citizenship> to register.

Get your **flu shot and updated COVID-19 booster** at a **City of Somerville clinic** this winter. Visit [www.somervillema.gov/vaccineclinics](http://www.somervillema.gov/vaccineclinics). The flu vaccine and the updated COVID-19 booster dose are provided at no cost, regardless of health insurance or immigration status. Advance registration is required.

The **Fuel Assistance Program**, also known as the **Home Energy Assistance Program**, helps low-income households pay their winter heating bills **between November 1 and April 30**. Renters and homeowners in Somerville are eligible to apply if they meet federal income guidelines. Learn more and apply online at [somervillema.gov/fuelassistance](http://somervillema.gov/fuelassistance).

The **13th Annual Somerville Winter Farmers Market (SWFM)** is held **every Saturday through April 8**. The **Center for Arts at the Armory** is located at 191 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143. To learn more and for a complete listing of vendors, weekly specials, and live entertainment, please visit [www.som-wintermarket.org](http://www.som-wintermarket.org). You can find the market on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/SomervilleWinterFarmersMarket](https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleWinterFarmersMarket), and on Instagram @SomWinterMarket.

The **City of Somerville Department of Public Works** has distributed **sand**

citywide for residential use. Sand increases traction on icy surfaces and, since it is less corrosive than salt-based ice melt, helps maintain the conditions of our sidewalks and other infrastructure. For our full Winter guide, visit [somervillema.gov/snow](http://somervillema.gov/snow).

**East Somerville Main Streets** is hosting a **meet and greet session** for the community to get to know our small business owners and shop their specialties. **Saturday, March 4**, at 11:00 a.m. at **Connexion**, 149 Broadway.

The **Somerville Homeless Coalition's Spring Into Action Event** will be returning to **The Somerville Theatre's Crystal Ballroom** on **Thursday, March 23**. #Feel-GoodFriday. For more information and to purchase tickets go to: <https://fundraise.givesmart.com/e/01Y6qw?vid=wre5o>

The **Arts at the Armory's Performance Hall** is available to rent for weddings, parties, and private work functions. With a new stage, aesthetic improvements to the space, and a capacity of 395, the Performance Hall is a versatile, conveniently located venue in the heart of Somerville's Spring Hill neighborhood. Did we mention there is ample off-street parking? Learn more at [artsatthearmory.org](http://artsatthearmory.org), and fill out the Event Contact Form to book the Performance Hall.

Because this winter begins in an **even-numbered year**, snow emergency parking will be on the **even side of the street all winter**, unless posted signage says differently. Check street signs in your neighborhood so you know where you can park ahead of winter weather. You can also learn more about the city's snow policies at [somervillema.gov/snow](http://somervillema.gov/snow).

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

Off The Shelf CONT. FROM PG 14

feminist, but they certainly were for equal pay for equal work. Cassidy and her band of organizers had to couch their language, as not to alienate these women. Cassidy told me how pleased she is with the reaction of younger women to her book and the movement. After I had left, Cassidy told me a young high school student approached her. She overheard our conversations and told Cassidy that were putting a 9 to 5 play at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. I could imagine a wide smile on Cassidy's face, as the torch passes on to younger generations.



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