VOL. 12 NO. 13 WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2024 SOMERVILLE, MASS.

Inside:



Spring Ville page 3

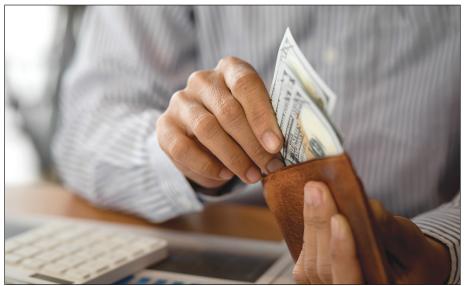


Young fun at the Garden page 5



That Old Irish Road RAce pages 12-13

Mayor Ballantyne announces guaranteed basic income pilot program



Somerville Mayor Katjana Ballantyne has aligned with Mayors for a Guaranteed Income (MGI), a coalition advocating for guaranteed income programs.

Last week, Mayor Katjana Ballantyne joined more than 100 mayors from across the country as part of Mayors for a Guaranteed Income (MGI), a coalition of mayors who establish and advocate for local and national guaranteed income programs.

Guaranteed income programs provide unrestricted cash payments directly to vulnerable residents to create greater financial stability for those most in need. Somerville's program goes beyond that general goal; it also specifically aims to support housing stability. The city's program will serve a group of the city's lowest-income households who are at risk of

Program participants have been proactively identified from the city's most vulnerable families. Two frontline social and family services, the Somerville Family Learning Collaborative Continued on page 4

Somerville inventor 'locks horns' with automobile wheel thieves

By Joei Chan

After Somerville resident and scientist David Lichter bought his first car back in 2009, little did he know that his beloved Honda Accord's wheels would be victim to near-theft mere weeks later in Davis Square.

"The car had a lot of sentimental value to me," shared Lichter. "I spent my hard-earned money on it and I was furious someone tried to rob me." Thankfully, the thief didn't get away with stealing his wheels, but it was still a jarring and scary experience to see his newly bought car on cinder blocks with two wheels already removed, mid-theft.

Lichter is not alone in this. Not only are wheel and car thefts happening all over the world, they are also rising. Thousands of cars Continued on page 4



Local inventor David Lichter and his daughter proudly show off the "Lock Horns" auto wheel theft prevention product.





Over 50 Years Experience

The safety of our customers and staff is our #1 priority! Cambridge, Brookline, Cleveland Circle, Medford, Newton-Brighton, Quincy, Somerville, Waltham, West Roxbury, Weymouth

781-890-8480 • www.BayStateSkatingSchool.org



Plumbing • Heating • Gas Fitting • Industrial Work • Water Heater Replacement • Complete Drain Service

Residential - Industrial - Commercial

Proud to be a Somerville resident



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

The 2024 street sweeping season will resume on Monday, April 1, and continue through December 31. Check signs in your neighborhood for sweeping days. Visit somervillema.gov/sweeping for a full schedule and to sign up for complimentary street sweeping reminders by text, email, or phone. For more information on street sweeping procedures, visit park-somerville.com.

Each year, Somerville residents have an opportunity to help inform how the Somerville Community Preservation Committee should allocate \$3 million in Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds, which are reserved for capital improvement projects related to open space and recreation, historic preservation, and affordable housing. Make your voice heard, join them for a virtual Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 27, at 6:30 p.m. Get more information and take their 2024 survey at: somervillema.gov/cpa.

Happy birthday this week to the following: First, a very happy belated birthday to former Somerville resident Michael Sullivan, who now resides in Worcester. We hope he had a great buirthday. Happy birthday to Pat Scrima, a great guy and another former resident. We hope he enjoys his birthday. Happy birthday to Sue Pye. We hope she has a wonderful birthday. Happy birthday to Tyler Hart, of the famous Harts. We wish him a great birthday. We wish a happy birthday to all of our Facebook friends such as Beth Redmond, D.j. Dabenigno, Judy McCollem, Continued on page 7

The Somerville Times

news@thesomervilletimes.com www.thesomervilletimes.com Phone: 857-488-5138



@somervilletimes



www.facebook.com/ thesomervilletimes

Publisher - Somerset Valley Publishing Inc. Editor – Jim Clark Assignment Editor – Bobbie Toner

Advertising Director - Bobbie Toner Arts Editor – Doug Holder

Writers: Jim Clark, Molly Rains, Fernando Cervantes Jr., Ryan DiLellio, Kyle Dante

Contributors: Jimmy Del Ponte, Dorothy Dimarzo, Joe Creason, Bob Doherty, Ross Blouin Photographer: Claudia Ferro

The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

A proud member of the following newspaper organizations:







© 2024 The Somerville Times except where noted. All rights reserved.

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of March 27 – April 2 as provided by the National Weather Service

	DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
•	Wednesday March 27	Rain	51°/47°	38%	21%	N 6 mph
••	Thursday March 28	Rain	50°/39°	95%	54%	NNW 9 mph
••	Friday March 29	Rain	43°/36°	77%	39%	NW 15 mph
	Saturday March 30	Partly Cloudy	52°/32°	8%	5%	NW 16 mph
	Sunday March 31	Partly Cloudy	49°/31°	9%	5%	N 13 mph
*	Monday April 1	Sunny	50°/36°	11%	7%	WNW 12 mph
•	Tuesday April 2	Rain	49°/34°	54%	26%	NW 13 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: Somerville Printmaker Liv Cappello: Leaving an imprint on her audience

Jane Sherrill says:

Loved reading about seeing art in everyday objects. What a wonderful objective!

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

Mayor Ballantyne invites Somerville community to Spring Civic Day celebration

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne invites community members to attend the city's spring Civic Day celebration on Saturday, April 27, from noon to 4:00 p.m. at City Hall (93 Highland Ave.) and on the City Hall concourse.

Civic Day aims to provide community members of all ages with fun, interactive opportunities to learn about city government, programs, services, and ways to get involved.

Currently planned activities include lawn games, face painting, trivia, City Hall scavenger hunts, and exploring a Somerville Fire Truck. Stay tuned to the city website and social media channels for updates on programming.

The City Hall concourse will be closed to vehicular traffic. Temporary handicap parking will be available along Highland Avenue near the concourse. In the event of inclement weather, all outdoor activities will be moved inside to Somerville High School, 81 Highland Ave.

Multilingual staff from the SomerViva: Office of Immigrant Affairs will be present to offer language support for residents who may need assistance connecting with city departments. For more information, please contact Victoria MacGregor at vmacgregor@somervillema.gov or visit somervillema.gov/civicday.

Life in the William by Jimmy Del Ponte

Spring Ville



Ah, springtime. The crocuses are croaking and the buds are budding. All of a sudden, it's the second half of March already. Soon it will be back to street cleaning and

road races.

Boston has the Marathon and Red Sox opening day and we have Honk, busy bike lanes and Porchfest, along with yard waste.

Facebook friends had these comments about what springtime in Somerville means to them.

"Tufts students will be leaving soon."

"Crab apples to throw at Barneys."

"Lots of potholes that still aren't filled in."
"Stickball at Winter Hill!"

"Lobster rolls at Briana's."

"Massive potholes and street cleaning

parking tickets!"

"More homeless camping out in Davis and Porter square. It's so sad I know all too well first hand being homeless myself twice in my life."

"Back in the 70s it used to mean softball practice and night games started in June. Somerville was so much better then."

"Hearing my neighbors call out to each other. It is the cutest thing. And officially the beginning of spring."

"More socializing outdoors! When is Pride of Somerville having an in-person meetup?"

"On a positive note, we would go to Winter Hill and get dandelions from the vegetable store next to Leone's. Made an excellent salad. Then get some warm bread from Winter Hill bakery. Yum!"

"More bus and bike lanes, less parking, small shops going out of business, catering more to people who didn't make Somerville what it once was, shall I go on?"

I'm looking forward to my two sons' band playing in my driveway for Porchfest on May 11. Springtime in Somerville is pretty cool. P.S., I hope there's a good Memorial Day parade this year. Another sign of spring is Easter Sunday. Happy Easter.



Somerville Democratic City Committee reorganization meeting

The Somerville Democratic City Committee will meet virtually on Wednesday, April 10 at 7:30 p.m. to hold its reorganization, where they will elect Somerville Democratic City Committee officers for two year terms.



Please visit this link to sign up and for more information: https://www.somdems.org/april_sdcc_reorganization_meeting

Want to write local Somerville stories?

Call 857-488-5138 and speak to the Assignment Editor



Are You Sitting On A Fortune?

Call Our Team at CRG To See What Your Home Is Worth.

617-764-4342

699 Broadway Ave, Somerville, MA 02144



Highland Masonic Temple Association
Annual Comedy Night



Annual Comedy Night Fundraiser for HMTA

When: Wednesday April 10th, 2024

Where: Rte. 1 Saugus at Giggles Comedy Club at Prince Pizzeria

Doors open at 6:30p.m, all you can eat Pizza at 7p.m. Tickets at door \$25.00 Show starts at 8p.m. private show for HMTA members & guests (public invited)

Three plus professional comedians for Your entertainment.

Silent Auction with many great items being offered.

Lots of fun! meet & greet other lodge Members, Family and Friends.

Contact Chris Cipoletta (617) 967-3470 or email Versus09@comcast.net

Proceeds to benefit Insurance bill for OUR building. Non Taxable Deduction

But its FUNABLE



GREAT TIME, LOTS OF FUN AND SURPRISES





Mayor Ballantyne announces guaranteed basic income pilot program

CONT. FROM PG 1

(SFLC) of the Somerville Public Schools and the city's Office of Housing Stability (OHS), identified households they currently serve who are experiencing housing instability. Enrollment is only open via this direct outreach to existing social and housing service clients.

Identifying a pool of participants from residents with current documented need is designed to ensure the program maximizes its impact to prevent housing displacement. The Somerville Guaranteed Basic Income Program is expecting to serve approximately 200 households.

The pilot program was developed via a partnership with two research centers at UMass Boston: the Center for Social Policy and the Edward J. Collins Jr. Center for Public Management. UMass Boston brings to this partnership expertise in the policies and implementation lessons learned from prior universal and guaranteed basic income programs that have been conducted countrywide.

SFLC and OHS began contacting identified households in March 2024. Each identified family enrolled in the Somerville Guaranteed Basic Income Program will receive \$750/

month to use for expenses they identify themselves. Unrestricted use of the funding is designed to increase household financial stability, and ultimately housing stability.

Payments are slated to start in July 2024 and will continue for one year. The funding comes from President Biden's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that was established in 2021 to support economic and health recovery efforts from the impact of COVID-19. The official name of the city's program is Somerville Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot.

This pilot program will be evaluated for its impact, efficacy, and future feasibility in partnership with the UMass Center for Social Policy and the Collins Center. Outcomes will be shared with the public and will inform future advocacy and any potential initiatives.

"Sometimes you just need some solid ground under your feet to get by and move forward, and this program is looking to provide that foothold. As the Mayor of Somerville, I'm proud to join my fellow mayors nationwide to call for a guaranteed income. The data proves that this is one of the most impactful ways to empower and build sta-

bility for struggling families and households," said Mayor Ballantyne. "We are seeking to not only assist participants with affording housing as well as other necessities. Rather by helping to build a foundation of greater stability we aim to support related progress linked to stability including improved health, mental health, and the ability to seize the educational, job, and other opportunities needed for individuals and families to thrive."

"It is widely known how important the connection between housing stability and educational outcomes is for students and their families. This pilot program is a wonderful opportunity to address some very challenging hardships, provide the stability needed for families to stay here in Somerville, and allow their children to thrive in the Somerville Public Schools," said Regina Bertholdo, Director of Basic Needs and Housing Support Services in the Somerville Public Schools.

U.S. Census and other data show that financial and housing instability disproportionately impacts people of color and female-led households.

• In the United States, wealth and income inequality have reached historic highs.

• Thirty-seven percent of Americans cannot afford a single \$400 emergency, and rising income inequality is compounded by a growing racial wealth gap, according to a 2022 Federal Reserve survey.

• The median wealth of white families in the U.S. was more than six times higher (\$285,000) than the median wealth of Black families (\$45,000) in 2022, according to the Federal Reserve.

• In 2022, 51% of Greater Boston renter households were cost burdened, more than at any point in the previous 17 years, according to the Boston Foundation 2023 Greater Boston Housing Report Card. Cost-burdened renters spend more than 30% of their income on rent.

• Approximately 35% of all Somerville renter households spend more than 30% of their income on housing and 16.3% of Somerville renter households spend more than 50% on housing.

"We need to use every tool in the box – and then invent more – to continue to address housing affordability, and housing affordability is at the heart of so many other wellness factors from time with family to mental health. Fortunately, the Ballantyne administration came in fully committed to taking on the housing crisis and advancing equity and wellness," said Ellen Shachter, Director of the Office of Housing Stability. "My office sees families in difficult housing situations every day. The Somerville Guaranteed Basic Income Pilot gives us one more way to get vital support into the hands of families who need it right now and to test this model for longer-term solutions. This program is an important step forward."

Background Information on Mayors for Guaranteed Income

Founded in June of 2020 by former Stockton Mayor Michael Tubbs, MGI is a coalition of over 100 mayors committed to advancing a federal guaranteed income - direct, recurring cash payments to the poor and middle class. MGI, together with the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy & Practice, has also established the Center for Guaranteed Income Research to consolidate the key learnings from the pilots taking place in MGI member cities to address knowledge gaps and allow the organization to layer data with anecdotal evidence. To learn more about MGI visit www.mayorsforagi.org.

Somerville inventor 'locks horns' with automobile wheel thiefs CONT. FROM PG 1

parked outside on streets, in dealerships, or even car rental places can all fall victim to getting their wheels stolen. Wheels are commonly stolen as they, along with the rims, are easy to resell for a profit.

Lichter was always bothered that the currently available solution to the problem, specialized wheel "lock" lug nuts, did not actually lock, and thieves could still easily steal his wheels. He started trying to think of an improved wheel lock and wondered if and when he should take the leap of inventing something that could help better reduce wheel theft.

Even though he tentatively started the process back in 2012 with a patent lawyer in Boston, it was not until the COVID era that he really kickstarted his invention in motion and in more detail.

"As a scientist, while I started out not knowing anything about inventions and patents, I do know how to ask good questions to help me learn. I have found people to help with different aspects of creating this invention. I hired an engineer to help me design it, and now we have a fully granted utility patent."

What Lichter eventually invented is called "Wheel Locks

... That Actually Lock" (under the company name Lock Horns LLC), a double-lock technology that he has spent the last two years creating.

The product comes with four lug nuts, one per wheel, which actually lock into place with a unique, personalized, lock and key, which is needed for installation and removal. Also provided are caps to help protect the locks from dirt and debris from the road.

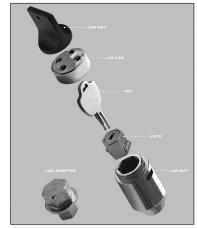
"We focused on a very simple concept: previous wheel 'locks' don't lock, but ours do!" Lichter enthuses. "This should provide

the car or truck owner with enhanced security and peace of mind that their car may be less likely to be tampered with."

The design is intended to "lock horns" with thieves and reduce wheel theft with a superior deterrent to what is currently available on the market.

"A big reason why I chose to pursue this as a side job was to help teach my daughter life lessons about hard work, and accepting and conquering new challenges."

Lichter has just launched the company this year and will begin the journey of spreading the word



The "Lock Horns" mechanism.

of his product from Somerville to the rest of the US and world.

Learn more about the product at https://lockhornsusa.com.

Young fans from Somerville enjoy special night at Celtics Game

A group of Somerville youths had a memorable experience on Wednesday, March 20, attending the exciting Boston Celtics game at TD Garden, where the Celtics held off the Milwaukee Bucks 122-119.

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Local 103 IBEW and NECA Greater Boston, the Kids Corner initiative welcomed a group of enthusiastic kids from The Center for Teen Empowerment to an action-packed evening and gave the youngsters an amazing experience by placing them at the heart of an exciting NBA game.

Local 103 and NECA recently became official partners of the Boston Celtics, teaming up to create unforgettable experiences for young people throughout Greater Boston through the Kids Corner initiative. The initiative aims to inspire and uplift young people by emphasizing the

importance of teamwork and partnership.

Part of the evening included the kids getting to see themselves featured on the TD Garden jumbotron and several goodies from the Celtics.

"IBEW Local 103 is very excited about this new partnership. Our goal is to put a smile on these kids' faces and give them an experience they won't forget," said Lou Antonellis, Business Manager of IBEW Local 103. "They had a great time and got to see the NBA's best team in action."

"We're very proud of our partnership with the Boston Celtics and proud to provide this opportunity to children throughout the greater Boston area," said Kristen Gowin, NECA Greater Boston, Executive Manager. "Together, we're creating unforgettable moments where we can show more young people teamwork right here in their community."



The Center for Teen Empowerment youths on the TD Garden jumbotron.







Center for Teen Empowerment with swag bags from the Boston Celtics and Local 103 IBEW members

Open Waiting List Opportunity for Income-Restricted Certified Artist Rental Units

1060 Broadway Somerville, MA 02144 www.TheCALAArtists.com

Open Waiting List Opportunity for Artist Inclusionary Rentals

# of Units	Unit Size	Maximum Income Limit (%AMI)
1	1-Bedroom	50%
1	1-Bedroom	80%
1	2-Bedroom	80%

stTenants are responsible for all utilities including gas (heating & hot water), electricity (cooking & laundry), water/sewer, & cable/internet (optional)

Maximum Income Limits

(set by the HUD + based on Household Size + AMI)

Household Size	50% AMI	51%-80% AMI
1	\$51,950	\$51,951 - \$82,950
2	\$59,400	\$59,401 - \$94,800
3	\$66,800	\$66,801 - \$106,650
4	\$74,200	\$74,201 - \$118,450
5	\$80,150	\$80,151 - \$127,950
6	\$86,100	\$86,101 - \$137,450

* 2023 Area Median Incomes for the Boston, Cambridge, Quincy, MA-NH MSA

Liquid Asset Limit: \$75,000 (excluding restricted assets)

Applications may be requested starting on Thursday, March 14th, 2024. Applications will be available and distributed starting on Thursday, March 21st, 2024 through Tuesday, May 21st, 2024

Applicants that live or work in Somerville take priority for local preference for the first 30 days of the application period. The next 30 days the application period is open to all applicants (including non-Somerville residents)

To complete an online application, visit: www.TheCALAArtists.com

To have a hard copy of the application mailed to you, please email TheCALA@MaloneyProperties.com or call (617) 639-3064 Ext 703 | US Relay 711

Fully completed + signed applications must be submitted online or received (not postmarked) by Tuesday, May 21st, 2024

Mailed to: Maloney Properties, Inc. Attn: The CALA Artist Units 27 Mica Lane, Wellesley, MA 02481 Or emailed to:

The CALA@Maloney Properties.com We will be holding two (2) informational sessions over Zoom:

Tuesday, March 19th, 2024 & Tuesday, March 26th, 2024 at 12pm

https://maloneyproperties.zoom.us/j/83390253878?pwd=iXaTgdZ7qwELT6VL0rWjW7bXXI2gUc.1

Meeting ID: 833 9025 3878 Passcode: 774421 One tap mobile +16468769923,,83390253878#,,,,*774421# US (New York) +16469313860,,83390253878#,,,,*774421# US

Use & Occupancy Restrictions Apply.

- Applicants must already have or be able to obtain the Artist Certification from the City of Somerville
- Property management will conduct their own credit and background screening.

For more information, free language assistance, or to make a request for reasonable accommodations, please call (617) 639-3064 Ext 703 | US Relay 711 or email TheCALA@MaloneyProperties.com



Equal Housing Opportunity



Beacon Hill Roll Call



Volume 49 – Report No. 12 • March 18-22, 2024 • Copyright © 2024 Beacon Hill Roll Call. All Rights Reserved. By Bob Katzen

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

THE HOUSE AND SENATE: Beacon Hill Roll Call records local senators' votes on roll calls from the week of March 18-22. There were no roll calls in the House last week.

REVENGE PORN AND TEEN SEXTING (S 2703)

Senate 40-0, approved a proposal that would prohibit the posting of sexually explicit images of another person online without their permission— commonly referred to as "revenge porn." The practice is often used by ex-spouses or ex-partners.

Massachusetts is one of only two states that does not have a law about this crime. The measure makes it illegal to break this new law and establishes a sentence of up to 2.5 years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$10,000; increases the upper limit of the fine for criminal harassment from \$1,000 to \$5,000; and allows a victim to petition the court for a harassment prevention order against a person who has violated this statute.

Another provision changes current law under which minors, under 18 years of age, who share explicit images of themselves or other minors, can be charged with violating Massachusetts child pornography laws and are required to register with the Sex Offender Registry. The bill allows minors to be diverted to an educational program that would provide them with information about the consequences of posting or transmitting indecent visual depictions of minors.

"With passage of this bill today we take another step towards closing a loophole in our laws that has caused pain, anguish, embarrassment and a sense of helplessness to those survivors who for so long suffered in silence, without justice," said chief sponsor Sen. John Keenan (D-Quincy). "I am deeply grateful to those who shared their stories and advocated for change to ensure others would not have to suffer as they have. For every case we know of, countless others remain hidden, so I hope passage of this legislation by the Senate will soon lead to the bill being signed into law by the governor. Most importantly, I hope it will provide some closure for survivors and their loved ones and send a clear message that there will be consequences for such conduct."

"I am proud that the Senate has passed comprehensive legislation to prevent abuse and exploitation," said Sen. Jamie Eldridge (D-Marlborough), Senate Chair of the Judiciary Committee. "The rise of new technology has created a reality in our society where it is easy to cause great harm and significant trauma to people, and Massachusetts needs to take action to better protect victims and prevent such disturbing actions from happening. We also need to provide more tools to protect people in a relation-

ship from being psychologically abused through coercive control, with a growing recognition of the many ways that a partner or family member can cause emotional harm."

The House has already approved a different version of the bill and a House-Senate conference committee will likely work out a compromise version.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET INCLUDING \$250 MILLION FUNDING FOR SHELTERS (S 2708)

Senate 32-8, approved a supplemental budget that includes an additional \$250 million in funding for the Emergency Assistance Program that funds the emergency family shelter system which houses migrants.

The bill requires each family in shelter to receive an individualized rehousing plan. It makes eligibility for shelter after nine months contingent upon compliance with the rehousing plan, with certain categorical exemptions. It would also allow officials to award one or more 90-day extensions to shelter residents who meet certain criteria, such as veterans, the disabled, a single parents of children with disabilities or those who need an extension to avoid losing a job.

Other provisions keep in place some pandemic-era programs, set to expire, including allowing restaurants to sell beer, wine and cocktails for take-out and expanding outdoor dining.

"The plan passed by the Senate today addresses the state's fiscal reality while also treating individuals who have migrated to our state with dignity and respect," said Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland). "As we continue to navigate through a challenge that has landed on our doorstep because of Congressional inaction, today we are addressing the immediate need to house families, bolstering our existing efforts to support those who have immigrated here in becoming part of our workforce, and providing a roadmap to manage this effort over time."

"The Senate recognized the necessity of continuing to proactively respond swiftly and decisively to meet this unprecedented humanitarian emergency shelter crisis head-on, by not only providing the requisite funds to address this crisis, but also provide a long-term framework to transition these families out of temporary shelters and into permanent housing," said Sen. Mike Rodrigues (D-Westport), Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. "With \$250 million in emergency funding for fiscal year 2024, we can weather this challenge as we de-

velop solutions for rehousing families, provide workforce opportunities and integrate these children into our public school system.

"I voted No on the supplemental budget because the "Right to Shelter" law is costing the commonwealth \$3 million a day to house, feed, protect and educate or provide childcare services to individuals and families who are not our residents," said Sen. Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton).

"Our emergency shelter program was never meant to handle the number of individuals it is housing today and the federal government, who has the sole authority to handle this immigration crisis and provide financial relief to states, is nowhere to be found," said Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield) who also voted against the measure. "As the demand for the program continues at this unsustainable rate, we simply cannot continue to fund this ourselves without jeopardizing countless critical programs that we hold dear."

Sen. Bruce Tarr, the chief opponent of the bill, did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call asking him to explain why he voted against it.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

RESETTLEMENT AGENCIES MUST CONSULT WITH STATE (S 2708)

Senate 8-31, rejected an amendment that would require resettlement agencies to consult on a monthly basis with the Governor's Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities to ascertain the projected availability of space in the state's shelter system. It also prohibits resettlement agencies from undertaking resettlement activity when it is foreseeable that the shelter system will exceed capacity.

"By directing resettlement agencies to work more closely with the Healey Administration, [the amendment] would have helped the commonwealth better forecast its shelter capacity and ensure that we always have space for those who need it most," said Sen. Mike Moore (D-Millbury) who voted in favor of the amendment. "I believe this would've been key to ensuring that our emergency shelter system is not overrun and that we can keep costs from spiraling out of control."

Amendment opponents said the amendment is unnecessary and argued the resettlement agencies do a great job and should not be handcuffed and tied up with the bureaucracy.

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Happy spring holidays, Somerville.

Our View Of The Times



If there's one universal certainty among most – if not all – people, we surely enjoy the transition from the cold, gloomy atmosphere of winter to the explosion of life and natural beauty as the months of spring unfold.

Hallmarks of this special time include the religious holidays that many of us celebrate, such as Easter, for those of the Christian faith, and the rites of Passover practiced by those of the Jewish faith. Likewise, the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Fitr begins later this month.

Whatever one's faith — or lack of religious belief — we can all pretty much agree that the old-fashioned traditions we have known our lives can bring us closer together, as long as we embrace them in the spirit of goodwill and community involvement.

One doesn't have to necessarily have re-

ligious convictions to enjoy watching the young ones having a ball at a neighborhood Easter egg hunt.

History tells us that the custom of the Easter egg hunt has its origins dating back to the late 16th century, when the Protestant reformer Martin Luther organized egg hunts for his congregation. Easter eggs and the egg hunt became more popular in mainstream England in the late 19th

and early 20th centuries as society began to change. The tradition continued on through the present day, and it looks as though it will go on into the future.

This has become a tradition that the religious and secular alike can enjoy either participating in or simply observing.

And hey, if nothing else there are those great after-Easter candy blowout sales at your local pharmacy. Just don't overdo it.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Maureen D Kelley, Brittany Roberts, Christine Andrade McSheehy, Jim Halloran, Megan Donovan, Kathleen Kennedy, Christopher John, Daniel M Rivera and Charles Ryan, who are all celebrating this week. To all the others we may have missed and yes, we must admit there are a few more out there. We sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, the Somerville Commission for Women, Somernova, and the Somerville Department of Racial and Social Justice are hosting the city's third annual Women's History

Month celebration. Somerville community are invited to join and share in honoring the many contributions of women throughout our history. The event will take place on Wednesday, March 27, at 6:30 p.m. at Somernova, 29 Properzi Way. Attendance is open to all. Learn more at: https://www.somervillema.gov/.

Also on Wednesday, March 27, each month, The Dojo hosts Gaming is Not a Crime by Youth-Stream. Join in and build community through playing your favorite games. The event features cash prizes and pizza and starts at 6:00 p.m.

Hosted at The Dojo at 15 Properzi Way, Somerville. For more information visit Somernova at https://somernova.com/

Connexion and East Somerville Main Streets are bringing back the Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday March 30, at 12:00 p.m. on the Foss Park Football Field. Go early and enjoy the hunt. Invite kids of every age!

The Somerville Democratic City Committee will meet virtually on Wednesday, April 10, at 7:30 p.m. to hold its reorganization, where they will elect Somerville Democratic City Committee offi-

cers for two year terms. Please visit this link to sign up and for more information: https://www.somdems.org/april_sdcc_reorganization_meeting.

Lyndell's Sean Collier Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser will be held April 12 – 15. Raffle tickets are available at \$5.00 each. First Prize – 2 Red Sox Tickets Game TBA, Second Prize – \$200.00 Lyndell's Gift Card, Third Prize – \$100.00 Lyndell's Gift Card, Fourth Prize - \$50.00 Lyndell's Gift Card. Lyndell's, 720 Broadway.

Continued on page 19

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's lio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

- 1. What is the term for the decorative wax resist technique used on Easter Eggs?
- 2. What happens when you microwave a Marshmallow Peep?
- 3. Which country is known for the tradition of decorating Easter Trees?
- 4. What is the traditional game played on Easter where players try to find hidden eggs?
- 5. Which cake is known as the oldest cake in existence?
- 6. Which cocktail is known to be served in a copper mug?

LE

|H|E|A|T

S 0

1 | T

|E|T|T|E

L

М

R

S

RON

S

Α

Ρ

T O

R B

DA

IDE

Α G

Κ

Ν

U

R

0

R

- 7. When is Take a Walk In The Park Day?
- 8. In what year did Kevin Durant win his first NBA MVP award?
- 9. When is National Virtual Vacation Day?
- 10. Sonny the Cuckoo Bird is the mascot for what chocolaty cereal?
- 11. For what film did Paul Newman win the Academy Award for Best Actor?
- 12. The code in The Matrix comes from what food recipes?

0

Α

С 0

Ε V

0 UΙ

S U

0

Α Ρ S

Ε Р Ε Ε

0 R Ε

S

Η 0

Ε

D

C|H|I

AAN

R

W A

АН

G Ε H|O

R D

ER

R

Answers on page 14

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

0

GHE

N

0

S Ε

Ε ТΙ

Ν

DS

D

I

Ε

H|U|D

R

В

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

- 1. The largest scrambled eggs ever made weighed nearly 3.5 tons.
 - 2. Flamingos can only eat with their heads upside down.

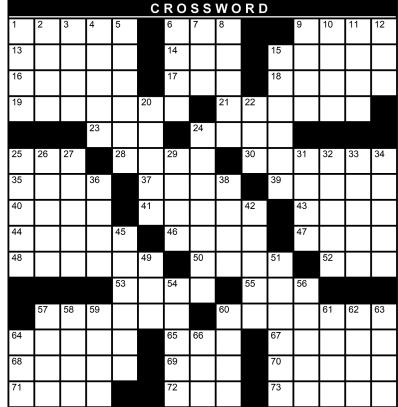
STATEPOINT CROSSWORD SHAKESPEARE

ACROSS

- 1. Type of help center
- 6. Fake tooth
- 9. What geysers do
- 13. Lagoon wall
- 14. Acronym, in brief
- 15. Syrup producer
- 16. Papal court
- 17. It often comes with Aloha!
- 18. External
- 19. Richard III: "A horse! A horse! My _
- for a horse!"
- 21. Romeo and Juliet: "Parting is such sweet
- 23. Animal's nose
- 24. Fail to mention
- 25. Capone's family
- 28. Hamlet: "O, this is the poison of _ grief"
- 30. Soap froth
- 35. Iris holder
- 37. "He ____, She Said"
- 39. ____ Apso
- 40. Cheap form of payment?
- 41. Bert's roommate
- 43. Not in favor
- 44. Hipbone-related
- 46. The Destroyer, in Hinduism
- 47. Thomas the Engine's warning
- 48. "Heart of Darkness" author
- 50. Brewer's kiln
- 52. Beer choice
- 53. Not a verb
- 55. Comic cry
- 57. The Tempest: "We are such stuff as __
- 60. As You Like It: "All the world's a stage and 9. Wild ox of India
- all the men and women merely ____
- 64. Primatologist's concern, for short
- 65. "This land is your land"?
- 67. Macbeth: "Our ____ master's murder'd!"
- 68. Scoundrel
- 69. Hi ___ monitor
- 70. Wombs
- 71. "A Visit from St. Nicholas" beginning
- 72. Teacher's favorite
- 73. Got ready for a close up

DOWN

- 1. Nordstrom's outlet
- 2. Purse for the red carpet
- 3. Cape on Tierra del Fuego
- 4. Set straight





© StatePoint Media

- 5. Like a knife
- 6. Comes before a storm?
- 7. The "place with the helpful hardware folks"
- 8. Spectrum maker
- 10. Plotting (2 words)
- 11. Multitude
- 12. Having Everything Revealed, singer
- 15. Hamlet: "When we have shuffled off this
- _ coil"
- 20. Corpulent
- 22. Tin Woodman's "medicine"
- 24. "Two cents"?
- 25. Twelfth Night: "If ____ be the food of

- love, play on"
- 26. Convex molding
- 27. Nigeria's western neighbor
- 29. Listening devices
- 31. Hamlet: "To be, or not to be: ____ is the
- question"
- 32. Capital of Vietnam

- 33. Bar by estoppel
- 34. Indian restaurant condiment
- 36. Petri dish filler
- 38. Prima donna
- 42. Artist's tripod
- 45. High tea sandwich
- 49. P rignon's honorific
- 51. Destroy a document (2 words)
- 54. Seize a throne
- 56. City in Japan
- 57. Type of sailing vessel
- 58. Capital of Latvia
- 59. Outback birds
- 60. "Blast from the
- 61. "The ____ of Tammy Faye," movie 62. Uncommon
- 63. Went down slippery slope
- 64. Cathode-ray tube
- 66. *Merchant of Venice: "But love is blind.
- and lovers cannot
- Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

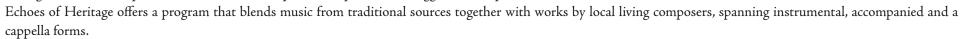
Tutti Music Collective Presents 'Echoes of Heritage' folk music concert

Tutti Music Collective (TMC) presents its annual spring concert, this season performing Echoes of Heritage: A Medley of Folk Tunes, New and Traditional, on Saturday, April 13, 2:00 p.m., at Boynton Yards performance hall, 101 South Street, Somerville.

The concert is led by TMC Conductor and Co-Founder Elijah Langille. Post-performance, attendees are invited to a Portico Brewers reception on site, in celebration of the brewery and tap room's first anniversary at its Boynton Yards location.

In its fourth concert performance, Tutti Music Collective's composers and choir explore the works of contemporary local composers, including TMC Co-Founder Rachel Burckardt, Mary Casiello, Kelvin Koning, Rachel Marie, Javier Marquez, and Jay Verchin.

Historically, folk music originated in beloved tunes handed down through fellow musicians orally, spanning many cultures. Today, the folk music landscape still widely embraces traditional music, in addition to new contemporary music, emerging through the kaleidoscope lens of life - music that speaks of experiences, struggles, and hopes.



Aspiring to become a nonprofit organization to champion its mission, The Tutti Music Collective is committed to showcasing the music of local minority, the LGBTQIA+ community, and living composers, in the belief that concert music should reflect the diversity of the world we live in.

The Board-led Collective strives to create a space where these voices can be heard and celebrated. Wood Harbor Orchestra is dedicated to the performance of works by local composers, focused on underrepresented groups in classical music, including women, people of color, and those in the LGBTQIA+ community.

Tickets to the Echoes of Heritage concert are \$17 each, or \$22 for two tickets, for early bird ticket purchasers through March 22. After March 22, tickets are \$50 for preferred seating, \$22 general admission \$15 for students and seniors, available on eventbrite.com and at the door. Parking is available in Boynton Yards' garage for \$10. For public transportation travelers, the venue is a short walk from Union Square station on the Green Line (D Branch).

For more information about Wood Harbor Music, and Composer Rachel Burckardt, visit woodharbormusic.net.



Dorothy's Corner By Dorothy DIMARZO



Mascarpone Stuffed French Toast **Bananas Foster**

My regular breakfast consists of yogurt, granola, and fresh berries. I wanted to switch things up over the weekend and splurge a bit. So, this is a mascarpone stuffed French toast, topped with a bananas foster sauce. This was so rich and decadent it truly hit the spot. Serves 4.

8 slices of 1-1/2" challah, or bread of vour choice

8 oz. mascarpone, room temperature 6 tablespoons confectioners' sugar

1/2 teaspoon lemon zest

2 eggs

1/4 cup milk

Pinch of Salt

1 teaspoon cinnamon, divided

1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract

4 tablespoons butter, divided

2 bananas

1/4 cup brown sugar

1/2 cup slivered almonds, walnuts, or pecans, optional

This recipe is well worth the little

extra work. Let the mascarpone sit out at room temperature for about 1/2 an hour. In the meantime, slice the challah into 1-1/2 inch slices for 8 slices total. Prepare the egg mixture by beating the 2 eggs, add the milk, pinch of salt, and 1/2 teaspoon of cinnamon, and vanilla extract, blend well.

In a medium bowl, add the mascarpone, confectioners' sugar, and lemon zest, then mix together until fully incorporated. Add 2 oz. of mascarpone to each of the four slices of challah. Cover with the remaining slices. In a 12-inch skillet, add 2 tablespoons of butter over low heat.

Now, dip each one of the stuffed breads into the egg mixture and fully coat both sides and the edges. Place each one into the skillet, and turn the heat up to medium.

Once the toasts are golden brown, about 4 minutes, flip over and brown the second side. Once they are browned on both sides, with a pair of tongs, turn onto the sides, rotating to ensure the egg mixture is completely

Remove each of the stuffed toasts and place onto each serving plate or a platter and cover with a tented piece



of foil. Slice the bananas, lower the skillet heat to low, add the remaining butter, sliced bananas, brown sugar,

Turn up heat to medium and toss the bananas until fully coated and the mixture has fully incorporated. Cook for about two minutes. Now spoon the

sauce over the toasts and add the nuts for additional texture.

*Note, if you want to add rum, add it right after the brown sugar is in the pan. I would use a 1/4 cup.

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

The Somerville Times

LEGAL NOTICES

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



NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI) NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS (NOI/RROF)

City of Somerville **Responsible Entities**

Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development 93 Highland Avenue, 3rd floor, Somerville, MA 02143 Tel: 617-625-6600, x. 2565

This combined notice is intended to satisfy two separate, but related, procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of . Somerville (The City), acting by and through the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD).

On or about April 10, 2024 The City will submit a request to the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Boston Regional Office, for the release of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, to undertake a project known as the acquisition of 508-512 Columbia St, Somerville, MA, for the purpose of removing a blighted vacant structure and creating new green space in the neighborhood. Total acquisition costs, including soft costs, is estimated at \$6,000,000. The City's share is estimated at \$1,400,000 of federal funding.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City, via HUD sanctioned Environmental Review, determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 is not required. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) documenting the environmental determinations for this project is on file at OSPCD, 3rd floor, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at 3rd Floor, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave. and may be examined and/or copied Monday-Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Thursday from 8:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.; and Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to The City at the address given above. All comments received by the end of the business day on April 10, 2024 will be considered by The City prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City certifies to HUD/Boston that Alan Inacio, in his canacity as Director of Finance and Community Development and Certifying Officer of the City of Somerville, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD/Boston's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows The City to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

(The City and DHCD are referred to generically in this paragraph as "RE", which stands for "Responsible Entity".)

HUD/Boston will accept objections to its release of funds and The City's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officers of The City; (b) the The City has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, or incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD/Boston; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to: HUD/Office of Community Planning & Development, Thomas P. O'Neil Jr. Federal Building, 10 Causeway Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02222-1092. Potential objectors should contact HUD/Boston (617-994-8200) to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Alan Inacio, Director of Finance and Community Development, OSPCD

3/27/24 The Somerville Times



ADVERTISEMENT TO BID MGL c.30 §39M Over \$50K

The SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the Domestic Water and Fire Service - 114 Highland Avenue at 114 Highland Avenue in Somerville, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by GCG ASSOCIATES, INC.

The Project consists of but not limited to:

Installation of a new 6" CLDI Domestic Water Service, new 6" CLDI Fire Service, two Tapping Sleeve Gate Valves, Cut and Cap existing 6" Service, site restoration.

The work is estimated to cost \$226,000.00.

All bidding Requests for Information (RFIs) shall be submitted online by 03/29/2024 at 11:00AM EDT for general bids.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.30§39M and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. All Bids shall be submitted online at www.biddocs.com and received no later than the date and time specified.

General Bids will be received until 04 April 2024 on 11:00AM EDT and publicly opened online, forthwith.

General bids and sub-bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (including all alternates), and made payable to the SOMERVILLE HOUSING AU-THORITY. Note: A bid deposit is not required for Projects advertised under \$50,000.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for review at www.biddocs.com (may be viewed and downloaded electronically at no cost).

PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT: None

The hard copy Contract Documents may be seen at:

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

3/20/24, 3/27/24 The Somerville Times



City of Somerville **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) will hold a virtual public hearing on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 6:00pm through Zoom.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to planning@somervillema.gov.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_V-H0YPJvTn6IKdMU8_D7cQ Webinar ID: 833 1055 0859

TO CALL IN

An attendee must register for the meeting online in order for a call-in number to be emailed to them by Zoom.

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

10 Perry Street Artisan Builders seeks to further extend the existing

nonconformity for the required rear setback in the Neighborhood Residence (NR) district, which requires a Special Permit Finding.

Bill Proia seeks an administrative appeal of the 2 Union Square Building Official's failure to act in response to a

request for written interpretation

1 McGrath Hwy Somerbridge Hotel, LLC seeks to extend the validity of the Hardship Variance (P&Z 23-032) for six (6) months.

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

Interested persons may provide comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing or by submitting written comments by email to planning@somervillema.gov

3/20/24, 3/27/24 The Somerville Times



SOMERVILLE CITY COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE **PUBLIC HEARING**

There will be a Public Hearing before the City Council's Committee on Finance on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

· Requesting approval of the discontinuance of Palmer Avenue.

This meeting will be held by remote participation, using the Zoom Webinar platform.

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. To attend and be heard, enter the link exactly as it appears below into your internet browser. You will then be asked to register for the meeting.

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4q09KEPLT16UqEiE_Rwo_w

2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may email your comments to publiccomments@somervillema.gov, or send them by US mail to the City Clerk, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143. Your comments must arrive no later than 12 Noon on the day of the Hearing, in order to be sure they are conveyed to the Council.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

KIMBERLY M. WELLS, CITY CLERK CITYCLERK@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV

3/27/24 The Somerville Times

LEGAL NOTICE OF A COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETING REGARDING A MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT PROPOSED BY CORE **EMPOWERMENT, LLC**

Notice is hereby given that a virtual community outreach meeting for Core Empowerment, LLC is scheduled for April 10th, 2024, at 6 p.m. online at: https://princelobel.zoom.us/j/86546056716, Meeting ID: 865 4605 6716 or by telephone by calling +1 301 715 8592. The proposed Marijuana Retailer is anticipated to be located at **500 Medford Street**, Somerville, MA 02145 (the "Property"). Closed captioning will be provided. Community members and members of the public are encouraged to ask questions and receive answers from representatives of Core Empowerment, LLC.

Questions may be submitted in advance to mroberts@princelobel.com. All materials for the meeting will be available more than 24 hours before the virtual community outreach meeting on Prince Lobel's website, https://princelobel.com/.

This Virtual Community Outreach Meeting will be held in accordance with the Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission's Administrative Order Allowing Virtual Web-Based Community Outreach Meetings and the applicable requirements set forth in M.G.L. ch. 94G and 935 CMR 500.000 et seq.

A copy of this notice is on file with the City of Somerville Clerk's Office. A copy of this notice was published in a newspaper of general circulation at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the virtual community outreach meeting and mailed at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the virtual community outreach meeting to abutters of the Property, owners of land directly opposite the Property on any public or private street or way, and abutters to the abutters within three-hundred (300) feet of the property line of the Property as they appear on the most recent applicable tax list, notwithstanding that the land of any such owner is in another city or town.

3/27/24 The Somerville Times

LEGAL NOTICES

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



LEGAL NOTICE

City of Somerville
Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development
(OSPCD)

RFP# 24-PS1 CD RFP # 24-ESG CD

The City of Somerville, Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD)

invites sealed proposals for the 2024-2025 HUD Action Plan for the:

Community Development Block Grant Program

Emergency Solutions Grant Program

Community Development Block Grant Program. Proposals must be for programs that provide Public Services to low- and moderate-income residents of the City of Somerville. Bid Number RFP # 24-PS1 CD Emergency Solutions Grant Program. Proposals must address the needs of homeless individuals and families in the City of Somerville. Funds for the Emergency Solutions Grant are provided by the federal Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act. Bid Number RFP # 24-ESG CD

Request for Proposal packages for both programs will be posted and available for download on the City of Somerville website beginning at 8:30 A.M. Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at

www.somervillema.gov/CDBGRFP and www.somervillema.gov/ESGRFP
Print copies are available upon request to Julie Melgar at
OSPCD@somervillema.gov.

An electronic PDF file should be emailed to OSPCD@somervillema.gov and Public Services proposal packages must be submitted no later than 12:00 P.M. Friday, May 10, 2024, for Emergency Solutions Grant 12:30 P.M. Friday, May 10, 2024, for Community Development Block Grant

Please contact Julie Melgar, Program Compliance Officer, by email Jmelgar@somervillema.gov, for information and proposal packages.

Thomas Galligani, Executive Director 617- 625-6600, x 2531

3/27/24 The Somerville Times



LEGAL NOTICE

City of Somerville
Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning
and Community Development (OSPCD)
Office of Housing Stability (OHS)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - RFP #24-EHM OHS

The City of Somerville, Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) invites sealed proposals to administer the Emergency Displacement Hotel/Motel Program.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) package for contract(s) to administer the Emergency Displacement Hotel/Motel Program Rental will be posted and available for download on the City of Somerville website beginning at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 27, 2024

at http://www.somervillema.gov/OHS/EHM-RFP/
Print copies are available upon request to Vartika Govil
vgovil@somervillema.gov

Interested parties should email Vartika Govil <u>vgovil@somervillema.gov</u> and Pennie Taylor <u>ptaylor@somervillema.gov</u> stating their **proposal** and indicating any questions they might have regarding this RFP using **the subject line, "Emergency Displacement Hotel/Motel Program."**Responses to such questions will be shared with all organizations.

The deadline for posing questions is <u>Wednesday, April 10, 2024</u>.

To be considered for funding, proposers must submit an electronic PDF file containing the proposal package by email to vgovil@somervillema.gov and ptaylor@somervillema.gov no later than 4:30pm on Wednesday, April 17, 2024. Please use the subject line "Proposal in Response to RFP to Administer Emergency Displacement Hotel/Motel Program"

Thomas Galligani, Executive Director,
Somerville Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development
617- 625-6600 x2531, tgalligani@somervillema.gov

3/27/24 The Somerville Times



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

THOMAS F. GALLIGANI, JR. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a public meeting and public hearings on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>April 16</u>, <u>2024</u> 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.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL:

 $https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_gdXeQ095Qy6QgmdINOLadQ$

Webinar ID:815 3358 9239

O CALL IN

An attendee must register for the meeting online in order for a call-in number to be emailed to them by Zoom.

ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT

DETERMINATIONS OF PREFERABLY PRESERVED (STEP 2 IN THE DEM-OLITION REVIEW PROCESS)

HP23-022084 - 9 Olive Ave

Applicant: Robert DiPierro

Owner: Same as applicant

The Applicant seeks to demolish a building that is at least 75 years of age.

HP24-000011 - 11 Chester Place

Applicant: Adam Dash & Associates

Owner: Hong Ying Li

The Applicant seeks to demolish a building that is at least 75 years of age.

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 to inquire if specific cases will be heard.
Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Note: Written comments due to historic@somervillema.gov NO LATER THAN NOON one week prior to the meeting date. Email historic@somervillema.gov with inquiries.

3/27/24 The Somerville Times

STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PARTY

CITY OF SOMERVILLE PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT INVITATION FOR BIDS IFB 24-57

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement & Contract Services

Department invites bids for:

Portable Restrooms for DPW

The IFB 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: Monday, March 25, <a href="mailto:2024. Sealed bids will be received at the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via Bid Express until: 2:00 pm, Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

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

Please email <u>iremy@somervillema.gov</u> for more information.

Thupten Chukhatsang Senior Procurement Manager 617-625-6600 x3400

3/27/24 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES (PCS) DEPARTMENT RFQ #24-61

Owner's Representative for Pedestrian Bridge Construction between Inner Belt and Brickbottom

The City of Somerville is seeking an owner's representative to oversee the design, construction and related tasks associated with the Pedestrian Bridge between Inner Belt and Brickbottom Project. Qualified Owner's Representative firms will meet the requirements outlined in the RFQ available on the City's website as of March 28, 2024 at:

 $\frac{https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/procurement-and-contracting-services}{\text{and at } \underline{https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/33100/home}.}$

The deadline for submission of Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) is $\underline{\text{April 11th, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.}}$

Thupten Chukhatsang Senior Procurement Manager 617-625-6600 x3400

3/27/24 The Somerville Times

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Prime Storage - Somerville located at 39R Medford St., Somerville, MA 02143 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagetreasures.com on 4/9/2024 at 12:00PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Jules Paulynice unit #1282. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

3/20/24, 3/27/24 The Somerville Times

TO PLACE LEGAL ADVERTISMENTS IN THE SOMERVILLE TIMES, CONTACT US BY **12 PM MONDAY** PHONE: 857-488-5138

Annual Ras na hEireann 5K road race

The annual Ras na hEireann 5K road race, the most genuine Irish race this side of the Atlantic, took place in Somerville last Sunday, March 24. This race was born in Ireland and named in honor of its famous sister race, the Ras na hEireann International Cross Country held in Termonfechin, County Louth, Republic of Ireland. The Ras na hEireann U.S.A.

5Km was open to all, from beginners to international stars, with many of them in very creative outfits.

— Photos by Bobbie Toner



























Top ten finishers:

No.	Place Name	Time	Sex	City
71	1 Jeff Candell	16:363	M	Somerville
564	2 Tyler Sheedy	16:460	M	Dover
251	3 Joseph Lacorte	17:08	M	Medford
356	4 Jeffrey Okerman	17:11	M	Needham
171	5 Brianne Gallagher	17:256	F	Boston
612	6 Scott Grandfield	17:34	M	Rehoboth
528	7 Doug Johnson	17:434	M	Concord
90	8 Devon Colmer	17:492	M	Cambridge
522	9 Craig Hammond	18:299	M	Woburn
200	10 Mark Hagopian	18:45	M	Watertown

For a listing of all finishers, go to: http://www.iresultslive. com/?op=overall&eid=5948

CLASSIFIEDS

Place your classified ad today - only \$1 per word! E-mail: ads@thesomervilletimes.com

AUTOS WANTED

CASH FOR CARS! We buy all cars! Junk, high-end, totaled-it doesn't matter! Get free towing and same day cash! NEWER MODELS too! Call 1-866-258-6720

FINANCIAL

WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free Consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 855-428-7954

FOR RENT

Warm Weather Is Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.

FOR SALE

YOU'LL WANTTO USETHIS TIMESHARE. Orange Lake, Florida. Near Disney. Weeks 8 & 9 (February) One floor living with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, full kitchen, laundry. Purchase both for \$19,000. Call 978.371.2442 or email carol@actionunlimited.com

HEALTH & FITNESS

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 50 Generic Pills SPECIAL \$99.00. 100% guaranteed. 24/7 CALL NOW! 888-445-5928 Hablamos Español

Dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400+ procedures. Real dental insurance - not just a discount plan. Get your free Information Kit with details! 1-855-526-1060 www. dental50plus.com/ads #6258

Attention oxygen therapy users! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. Free info kit. Call 877-929-9587

HOME SERVICES

Aging Roof? New Homeowner? Got Storm Damage? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-888-878-9091

Water damage cleanup & restoration: A small amount of water can lead to major damage and mold growth in your home.

Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your fami-ly and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-888-872-2809

MISCELLANEOUS

4G LTE HOME INTERNET Now Available! Get GotW3 with lightning fast speeds plus take your service with you when you travel! As low as \$109.99/mo! 1-877-452-1183

CARING FOR AN AGING LOVED ONE? Wondering about options like senior-living communities and in-home care? Caring.com's Family Advisors are here to help take the guesswork out of senior care for you and your family. Call for your FREE, no-obligation consultation:1-844-556-4158

DISH NETWORK \$59.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100. Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-833-800-0411

DISHTV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some Restrictions Apply. Promo Expires 01/31/2024. 1-877-494-7039

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-723-0883

FREE HIGH SPEED INTERNET for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping and handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-877-559-8698

HUGHESNET SATELLITE IN-TERNET Finally, no hard data limits! Call Today for speeds up to 25mbps as low as \$59.99/mo! \$75 gift card, terms apply. 1-877-459-1615

SAFE STEP North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe-Step 1-844-

610-9711

SWITCH AND SAVE UPTO \$250/ YEAR on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time offer: get 50% off on any new account. Use code GIFT50. For more information, call 1-866-926-5071

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to re-ceive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase* Call 1-855-948-6176 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protec-tion. Schedule free LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-610-1936

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 855-761-1725

Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398

HughesNet - Finally, super-fast internet no matter where you live. 25 Mbps just \$59.99/mo! Unlimited Data is Here. Stream Video. BundleTV & Internet. Free Installation. Call 866-499-0141

Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 1-877-729-4998 or visit dorranceinfo. com/ads

DISHTV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 12/31/24. 1-866-479-1516

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-in tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our free shower package & \$1600 off - limited time! Fi-nancing available. 1-855-417-1306

MobileHelp, America's premier mobile medical alert system. Whether you're home or away. For safety & peace of mind. No long term contracts! Free brochure! 1-888-489-3936

Free high speed internet if qualified. Govt. pgm for recipients of select pgms incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet. Android tablet free w/one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping. Call Maxsip Telecom! 1-833-758-3892

Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation ExpertsOver \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get free info package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. 833-308-1971

DIRECTV Stream - Carries the most local MLB Games! Choice Package \$89.99/mo for 12 mos Stream on 20 devices at once. HBO Max included for 3 mos (w/ Choice Package or higher.) No contract or hidden fees! Some restrictions apply. Call IVS 1-866-859-0405

Diagnosed with lung cancer & 65+? You may qualify for a substantial cash award. No obliga-tion! We've recovered millions. Let us help! Call 24/7 1-877-707-5707

Replace your roof w/the best looking & longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal

Roofs! 3 styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off install + Additional 10% off install (military, health & 1st responders.) 1-833-370-1234

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're cutting installation costs in half and offering a FREE safety upgrade! Addi-tional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 3/31/24 Call 1-844-501-3208

Reader Advisory: The National Trade Association we belong to has purchased the above classifieds. Determining the value of their service or product is advised by this publication. In order to avoid misunderstandings, some advertisers do not offer employment but rather sup-ply the readers with manuals, directories and other materials designed to help their clients es-tablish mail order selling and other businesses at home. Under NO circumstance should you send any money in advance or give the client your checking, license ID, or credit card num-bers. Also beware of ads that claim to guarantee loans regardless of credit and note that if a credit repair company does business only over the phone it is illegal to request any money before delivering its service. All funds are based in US dollars. Toll free numbers may or may not reach Canada.

Ms. Cam's I O Answers 1. Pysanky 7. March 30 2. They expand in size 8. 2014 3. Germany 9. March 30 4. Egg hunt 10. Cocoa Puffs 5. Linzer Torte 11. The Color of Money 6. Moscow Mule 12. Japanese sushi recipes

Math Meet, Pi, Pizza, and finally Pies - A Great Renewed way to Celebrate a Transcendental Number

By Erica Voolich

Thursday, March 14 was Pi Day (3.14). What better excuse is there to have a celebration of math with middle schoolers than π ? On Monday before Pi Day, about 100 students, teachers, and high school Math Club members celebrated π at Somerville High School by eating pizza while spending an afternoon taking a math contest and then estimating, creating, answering questions, and ending with Table Talk pies for everyone.

The Somerville High School Math Club led by Michael Morgan organized the event. Instead of the usual math contest between Somerville's middle schools' math teams for the month of March, they invited the schools to come and have students take a math contest related to pi and circles written by the high schoolers and do some of the pi night activities the Somerville Math Fund has organized in the pre-pandemic past. While the eighth graders took the contest the seventh did the Pi activities and then the groups switched.

While enjoying pizza donated by the Bickoff family of the Commercial Cleaning Service, the students from the students from the Healey School, the East Somerville Community School, and the West Somerville Neighborhood school went around to a variety of pi math activities set up in the Lower Cafeteria at the of Pi and circles. High School.

These activities included: predicting bicycle wheel roll distance after one and a half revolutions, a guessing contest, π button design, π facts quiz, finding your birthday in π , drawing a cardioid or nephroid (curves from lines), and predicting circumferences in mm by feel of objects in mystery

Even though the Somerville Math Fund sponsored math night event was canceled by the pan-demic for three years, last year there were Somerville High School Math Club members who commented about remembering doing some of these events when they went over to either the Healey (2019) or the East Somerville (2018) for the Pi Family math night. So last year the Math Club organized the Pi Day celebration and repeated the event this year at the high school for the middle school students.

Scott Weaver (East), Wil Jacques (Healey) brought students and helped Erica Voolich (Somer-ville Mathematics Fund) organize the activities for the event. Also bringing students were Alyssa Mackey from West.

In addition, Scott Weaver at the East Somerville Community School organized a day of math/ pi activities in all of his classes on Pi Day. All the East middle school students enjoyed Table Talk Pies to fuel their exploration

Table Talk Pies of Worcester generously supplied small pies for all who came that afternoon. Table Talk has generously supported this Somerville Math Fund event for twenty years (2 years off for Covid). When planning the first SMF π Night in 2003; the Math Fund called the Table Talk Pi Company and explained what π day was and Table Talk generously donated large pies for prizes and small pies for everyone. Twenty-one years later, Table Talk Pies is not only still donating to the Somerville Pi night celebration, but also to many more celebrations. This year Table Talk donated about 73,000 pies to schools and organizations celebrating Pi Day.

A big thank you to all the Math Club volunteers and donors who made this fun, educational event possible. It takes a community to celebrate π day!

The Somerville Mathematics Fund, was founded in 2000 with the mission to celebrate and encourage mathematics achievement in Somerville, MA. They will award renewable college mathematics scholarships in May and in January they awarded K-12 Teacher Grants. For more in-formation, to make a donation, or to volunteer, visit www. somervillemathematicsfund.org or math-fund@gmail.com or call 617-666-0666.



Feeling inside the mystery box to estimate the circumference of the jar lids in millimeters.



Estimating the amount of candy in jars.



Making Pi Buttons at the Pi Night at the High School - how many digits are on



Drawing a cardioid with straight lines while wearing a Pi Shirt.

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.





By State Senator Pat Jehlen

On March 14, the Massachusetts Senate unanimously passed the EARLY ED [1] bill, to increase support for early education and care (EEC). We recognized the importance of quality EEC for children, for families, and for businesses and the economy.

WHAT THE BILL DOES

The bill will:

- make the Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) grants program permanent

These monthly payments, initially from federal pandemic funds, but now state-funded, have helped keep programs open. reduce tuition costs, improve educator pay, and increase the number of childcare slots. Channel 10 [2] explained the importance of continuing those grants.

- expand eligibility for subsidies

Families up to 85% of the state median income (\$124,000 for a family of 4) will be able to receive assistance on a sliding scale.

- cap subsidy recipients' childcare costs at 7% of family income

- create a career ladder for early educators, and provide scholarships and loan forgiveness.

This all depends on allocations in the state budget, and details depend on regulations, but it's a statement of the Senate's intention and values.

Sen. Jason Lewis, Senate chair of the Education Committee, led development of the bill, based on the Special Legislative Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission [3], which he also co-chaired.

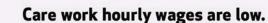
EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE IS EXPENSIVE!

As I wrote last year [4], Massachusetts is among the most expensive states in the country for early education and care. The average cost for an infant is \$21,000; for a toddler it's \$19,000; and for a pre-schooler it's \$15,000. Many families pay 20-40% of their income for care.

YET EDUCATORS ARE UNDERPAID

Early educators' average salary in Massachusetts in 2022 was \$39,000. Those with a BA earn 43% less than comparable public school teachers, according to the Special Legislative Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission [5].

The EEC workforce is 92% women and 41% women of color. Even compared to other care workers, also mostly



Median hourly wage estimates using pooled data from 2016-2020. Massachusetts. This is the best available data for comparisons across the economy, but due to the multi-year lag, all estimates are lower than prevailing wages in each sector as of August 2022. See report text for examples of current wages in a couple of sectors.



Hourly wage calculated by using annual earnings, usual hours worked per week, and number of hours worked over the past year. ACS reports the number of weeks worked as an interval (range) so the midpoint was used.

SOURCE: 2016-2020 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata

women and people of color, early educators are underpaid, the Boston Foundation reported in 2022 [6]. This graph from their report shows years before the minimum wage rose to \$15/hour, but the comparison is still instructive.

A report this year [7] calculated how much it takes to pay for food, housing, health care, transportation, taxes, etc. in Middlesex County.

MANY CENTERS HAVE CLOSED OR REDUCED SLOTS

During the pandemic, close to 20% of the child care programs in Massachusetts closed [8]. Many still remain closed or are unable to hire enough staff to re-open rooms.

The Boston Foundation [9] reported that "As of 2021, Massachusetts had almost 5,000 fewer early educators, on average, than before the pandemic. Fewer early educators means that programs have to close classrooms. Statewide, the proportion of center-based providers unable to serve their full capacity has increased from 28 to 35 percent since the spring of 2022 and family child care (FCC) capacity remains below pre-pandemic levels."

WHO PAYS FOR EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE?

The following chart, from the Special Legislative Commission, includes children age 12 and under, because the EEC Department serves not only preschool children, but those in out of school time programs (as well as other programs).

EEC is mostly paid for by families, with the state sup-

porting about 1/6 of the total cost.

The Special Legislative Early Education and Care Economic Review Commission [10], the source of the last two charts, estimated that fully funding its recommendations would cost an additional \$1.5 billion/year over time, and expressed hope that the federal government would be a major source.

The EARLY ED bill did not have a fiscal note or cost estimate. For information on budgets, including trends in early education funding [11] and Gov. Healey's proposal [12], always look at Mass Budget. However, the trends page doesn't include the federal funding that increased spending during the pandemic and has now ended.

General revenues this year are essentially flat, which means a very constrained budget. We should be grateful to everyone who worked and voted for the Fair Share Amendment [13] in 2022! Thanks to the 4% surtax on incomes over \$1 million, we will be able to spend \$1.3 billion above general revenues on education and transportation [14]. That's an increase of \$300 million over the FY24 budget.

WE CAN DO BETTER!

Many countries give much more support to families. Here's a chart [15] showing what child care costs as a share of a woman's full-time income.

Florida, Georgia, Oklahoma, and the District of Columbia [16] currently make free pre-K available to all four-year-olds, and Vermont makes it available to 3-year-olds.

The Globe reports [17] this week that free child care was funded during World War II as part of national defense, since it allowed women to go to work.

AZERBAIJAN DID BETTER

The most dramatic comparison I've seen was offered by my neighbor Illona Yukhayev in

Continued on page 17

						2 A	DULTS			2 A	DULTS	
	1 ADULT			(1 WORKING)			(BOTH WORKING)					
	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	0 Children	1 Child	2 Children	3 Childrei
Living Wage	\$31.19	\$59.80	\$77.35	\$97.00	\$40.22	\$48.26	\$53.37	\$57.70	\$20.11	\$31.82	\$41.13	\$48.05
Poverty Wage	\$7.24	\$9.83	\$12.41	\$15.00	\$9.83	\$12.41	\$15.00	\$17.59	\$4.91	\$6.21	\$7.50	\$8.79
Minimum Wage	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00

Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 6

Sen. Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester), the sponsor of the amendment and Sen. Cindy Friedman (D-Arlington) who opposed the amendment did not respond to repeated requests by *Beacon Hill Roll Call* asking them to explain why they voted the way they did.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

TAKE INTO ACCOUNT LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN BAY STATE (S 2708)

Senate 12-27, rejected an amendment that would require the state take into account an individual's length of residency in Massachusetts when determining priority in securing emergency shelter.

"While this amendment is not a residency requirement, it would've made sure those who have demonstrated a longer commitment to the commonwealth are prioritized for extended stays in the commonwealth's emergency shelter system," said Sen. Mike Moore (D-Millbury) who voted for the amendment. "To be clear, there are important exceptions to this rule – those who are at imminent risk of harm due to domestic violence and those who are making progress toward work authorization will not be skipped over. This strikes me as a reasonable compromise to ensure our emergency shelter system is available to Bay Staters who need it first, while preserving the spirit of the law that maintains Massachusetts as a place that is welcoming to all."

Amendment opponents said this would essentially create an unfair residency requirement that would have Bay State residents competing with each other for slots. They noted there are already reasonable provisions in the bill which prioritize pregnant women, victims of domestic abuse, work status and veterans' status.

Sen. Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester), the sponsor of the amendment and Sen. Mike Rodrigues (D-Westport) who proposed the amendment did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call asking them to explain why they voted the way they did.

(A "Yes" vote is for the amendment giving preference to length of residency. A "No" vote is against the amendment.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Things are different than they were the last time I was here. Last time I was here, we had money. I could be a hero." — House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy) at the beginning of his speech to members of the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce.

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 March 18-22, the House met for a total of one hour and 15 minutes and the Senate met for a total of ten hours and 27 minutes.

Mon. March 18 House 11:02 a.m. to 11:56 a.m. Senate 11:27 a.m. to 12:04 p.m.

Tues. March 19 No House session No Senate session

Wed. March 20 No House session

No Senate session

Thurs. March 21 House 11:10 a.m. to 11:31 a.m.

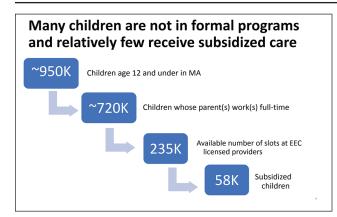
Senate 11:20 a.m. to 9:10 p.m.

Fri. March 22 No House session

No Senate session

 $Bob\ Katzen\ welcomes\ feedback\ at\ bob@beaconhillrollcall.com$

Early Education CONT. FROM PG 16

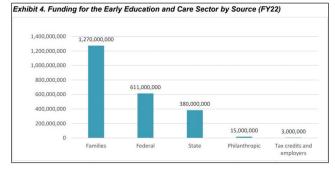


testimony to the Education Committee. She compared her experience as a child in Azerbaijan when it was part of the Soviet Union, to her children's experience in the US. It's 3 minutes at minute 52 in this hearing [18]. It's worth watching.

GRATITUDE!

One example of quality early education is the Open Center for Children, where our son Nick was one of the first students. (Here he is listening to a teacher.) More recently, our granddaughters Anika and Kayala also thrived there. Our children and grandchildren were also lucky to attend wonderful family child care and public school programs. I'm so grateful for all the amazing educators that give young people a great start!

Happy spring!



Links:

- [1] https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/S2707
- [2] https://www.nbcboston.com/news/local/child-care-centers-in-mass-are-near-a-breaking-point-advocates-warn/3203723/
- [3] https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/SD3102/Bills
- [4] https://commonwealthbeacon.org/opinion/somethoughts-on-where-we-need-to-be-competitive/
- [5] https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/SD3102/Bills
- [6] chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcglclefind-mkaj/https://www.bostonindicators.org/-/media/indicators/boston-indicators-reports/report-files/care_report_083122.pdf
- [7] https://livingwage.mit.edu/counties/25017
- [8] https://www.tbf.org/news-and-insights/reports/2021/dec/when-the-bough-breaks-20211213

- [9] chrome-extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgl-clefindmkaj/https://www.tbf.org/-/media/tbf/re-ports-and-covers/2023/boa_early-ed-and-care-re-port-20230503.pdf
- [10] https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/SD3102/Bills
- [11] https://massbudget.org/budget-browser/category/?id=Education&inflation=cpi
- [12] https://massbudget.org/2024/01/24/fy25-gov-budget-first-look/
- [13] https://massbudget.org/fairshare/
- [14] https://massbudget.org/2024/01/24/fy25-gov-budget-first-look/
- [15] https://www.euronews.com/next/2023/03/06/childcare-puzzle-which-countries-in-europe-have-the-highest-and-lowest-childcare-costs#:~:text=In%20 most%20European%20countries%2C%20parents,all%-20working%20parents%20by%202025
- [16] https://trustedcare.com/costs/how-to-find-a-free-preschool#:~:text=What%20age%20is%20pre-school%20free,for%20low%2Dincome%20families%20only.&text=Visit%20Childcare.gov%20to%20see,programs%20available%20in%20your%20state
- [17] https://www.bostonglobe.com/2024/03/20/opinion/government-subsidies-family-support/?p1=BG-Search_Overlay_Results
- [18] https://malegislature.gov/Events/Hearings/Detail/4737

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

Upcoming events:

Medical Equipment Program – Through the generosity of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and from the direction of Mayor Ballantyne, the Council on Aging is now able to provide Durable Medical Equipment at no cost to Somerville residents. Residents with a documented need for medical equipment must be over the age of 60, or have a permanent disability, and must be otherwise unable to afford or access needed medical equipment. We currently have available: Commodes, Bath Chairs, Bath Benches, Rollator Walkers, Incontinence Supplies and Transport Wheelchairs (wheelchairs are intended for transport and are not self-propelling or self-breaking.) For additional information, or for an application, please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

Cultural Musical Event – Wednesday, March 27th starting at 1:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. Part lecture, part concert. Come explore the world through music, as vocalist and educator Tamara Jokic discusses the music of the Mediterranean, and performs songs in multiple languages, from Spanish and Hebrew to Serbian and Portuguese – while bringing their historical and cultural contexts to life via stories, images, and video. Tamara Jokic, an international educator, Sony Recording Artist, and winner of Berklee's Outstanding Vocalist Award, has performed across the world, from European operas to NYC's Carnegie Hall. Lunch will be provided by SCES at 12:00 p.m. RSVP to Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Nutrition Myths: Fact or Fiction – Thursday, March 28th starting at 11:30 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Join Somerville Cambridge Elder Services and the Somerville Council on Aging for a nutritious hot lunch and a discussion on Nutrition Myths. Celebrate March Nutrition Month and our dedication to nutrition and wellness for local adults. Meet the dedicated Nutrition Staff from SCES and learn about their meal options and other available nutrition services. To RSVP call 617-625-6600, ext. 2323 (the COA Reservation Line).

General Nutrition Classes – Mondays starting at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom and 12:30 p.m. in person at the Ralph & Jenny Center. Wednesday, March 28th starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Holland Street Center. New and returning members are welcome! To RSVP, call Mary Marshall at 617-625-6600, ext. 2316 or email her at headtofitness10@yahoo.com.

Bingo – Every Tuesday at our Ralph & Jenny Center – starting at 10:00 a.m. Lunch is available following Bingo. RSVP to Debby Higgins by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Bingo –Holland Street Center –starting at 10:00 a.m. Lunch is available following Bingo. Dates include March 28th. RSVP to Debby Higgins by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Project Outlook, Low Vision Group - Meets the 4th Thursday of each month (March 28th) from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. Project Outlook is a group of residents with low or no vision who enjoy getting together for camaraderie and socialization. Project Outlook has been active for over 30 years. All are welcome. This month's group will feature Mr. Erin Fragola from Perkins School for the Blind. He will be presenting on services available through the Perkins Institute and the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled. For more info contact Claudia Ferro at 857-237-1801 or Molly Pagliuca at 617-625-6600, ext. 2318.

Tech Time – Drop In Hours. Tuesday, March 26th at 9:30 a.m. (Please note new time) at the Holland Street Center - RSVP to Molly Pagliuca at 617-625-6600 ext. 2318 or mpagliuca@somervillema.gov.

Coffee & Conversation – Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center. Grab and Go lunch available. Join us as we discuss a range of topics. No books – no test – just friendly conversation and good coffee. Please contact Maureen Bastardi at mabstardi@Somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 to RSVP.

Coffee & Conversation – Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Join us as we discuss a range of topics. No books – no test – just friendly conversation and good coffee. Please contact Maureen Bastardi at mabstardi@Somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 to RSVP.

Game Hour – Mondays from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center. Please contact Maureen Bastardi at mabstardi@Somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 to RSVP.

Brown Bag Supplemental Food Program

– PICK UP Thursday, March 28th, from 9:00

- PICK UP Thursday, March 28th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street. For an application contact Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 or email Natasha at nnaim@somervillema.gov.

General Exercise / Holland Street Center – Every Monday starting at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center and Every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. and

11:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Join Michelle as she leads a general exercise program. All levels of participants are welcome to attend. RSVP to Michelle Deutsch at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Michelle at mdeutsch@somervillema.gov.

General Exercise / Ralph & Jenny Center – Every Monday starting at 3:00 p.m. at the Ralph & Jenny Center. Join Michelle as she leads a general exercise program. All levels of participants are welcome to attend. RSVP to Michelle Deutsch at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Michelle at mdeutsch@somervillema.gov.

Virtual General Exercise Class – Every Wednesday & Thursday with Michelle, at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom. Please email Michelle Deutsch at mdeutsch@somervillema.gov for the Zoom link.

LGBTQIA+ Exercise Class – Thursday, March 28th starting at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. March 14th is our in-person exercise class starting at 6:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. Please RSVP to Michelle Deutsch at mdeutsch@ somervillema.gov if you plan on attending or for the Zoom link.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

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

The Council on Aging's Senior Transportation Program

The COA is offering free taxi rides to Somerville residents over the age of 60. Rides are available to go to the grocery store, farmer's market, and pharmacy in Somerville and routine medical appointments in the surrounding communities. To best accommodate the needs of everyone in the city and to maximize the use of our funding, we will be capping the number of rides per week. To ensure the health and welfare of every resident of Somerville, exemptions will be made for chemotherapy and radiation appointments. To find out more information or to schedule your ride, please call Connie Lorenti at 617-625-6600 ext. 2319. All rides must be booked two business days in advance. This program is funded through ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funding.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Interested in history, art, and culture? The Somerville Museum is seeking volunteers to help in a variety of areas, including historic events (pictured), museum programming/exhibitions/events, front desk coverage, collection care, grant writing, accessibility, and more. Fill out their volunteer form to indicate which opportunities you're interested in: https://wkf.ms/49im3cE

Save the date for the Hive Open House. It will be on held on Monday, April 11, 7:00 p.m. The Somerville Arts Council's SomArt program, which supports the creation of new work in performance, visual arts, and trans/interdisciplinary disciplines, continues to grow. Over at the Hive location, there are classes in Butoh, modern contemporary, African Contemporary, among others. It's also a rehearsal space; Nozama Dance, InEdit, and Advance Theater Lab in Italian with All'italiana have been in deep exploration and practice. The Hive, 651 Windsor Street Suite 401a, Somerville. https://somartspace. org/somartspacethehive/. *********

The Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church and the Somerville Garden Club are hosting a plant swap in honor of Earth Day, April 20, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., 29 Central St. Stop by and share the plant love. You don't have to bring a plant/cutting/seeds to take something. While there, take a tour of the newly renovated church. Free coffee and pastries from Lyndell's Bakery will be served.

East Somerville Spring Community cleanup will take place on April 27, 10:00

a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Join in and make a difference in the East Somerville community. Meet at the East Branch Library.

Somerville PorchFest 2024 will take place on Saturday, May 11, (rain date May 12) from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. Perhaps you've sat on your porch and overheard a neighbor strumming guitar on another porch? Porchfest takes this idea and multiplies it. This is not a festival per se but rather a community event where Somervillians share their love of playing and listening to music ... from

their porch, driveways, yards, etc. Registration is now open: https://beta.somervilleartscouncil.org/porchfest/porchfest2024/.

Vist the Arts at the Armory for the last two winter farmer's markets of the season, this Saturday March 30, and next Saturday, April 6. The Center for the Arts at the Armory offers a weekly winter market with 71+ local food vendors with the best locally grown and regionally produced foods, including fresh produce, cheese, eggs, meats, fish, breads, tamales, pastries, chocolate, skincare products, and

more. The market accepts SNAP/EBT

and HIP benefits. They also offer a \$15

SNAP match to customers each week.

9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., 191 Highland Ave.

For a list of weekly events visit www.som-wintermarket.org.

Don't miss the March 30, 6:00 p.m., airing of the Somerville High School vs. Philips Academy High School Quiz Show. Catch the show on the online at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzfhFQDPPCM3yRPcnpica0w Read more about this year's tournament: https://trst.in/CtDVmr

Somerville Little League 2024 Spring registration is open.Go to www.somervillelittleleague.org to register.

The Welcome Project welcomes back YUM 2024: A Taste of Immigrant City to an in-person event. After a five-year hiatus, they will be returning to the Arts at the Armory for a night of great food, music, and conversations about how the immigrant community continues to be an asset to Somerville and the US. For more information visit. https://www.welcome-project.org/yum2024.html.

Are you a member of Somerville High School's class of 1974? The class of 2024 is looking for participants for this year's Class Day festivities which will take place on Friday, May 31, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at Somerville High School. They are looking for 50 graduates in total from 1974 to participate. The Class of 2024 looks forward to seeing you. Email any questions to Irma Calderon at icalderon@k12.somerville.ma.us.

Don't miss the in-person **Somerville Public Schools recruitment fair** on **April 11**, 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. at the **Kennedy**

School (5 Cherry Street, Somerville, MA 02144). Bring your resumé, meet district staff, learn more about our district. Learn more here: https://bit.ly/42LJ3hT

The Somerville Homeless Coalition's Amazon Wish Lists are updated monthly with the most requested items from their food pantry to meet the needs of their clients experiencing food insecurity.

their food pantry to meet the needs of their clients experiencing food insecurity. If you would like to learn more and donate through our wish lists, please see the link here: https://bit.ly/SHCLinks.

Food For Free announced their newest event, Hoops for Hunger. A 3 on 3 basketball tournament. People of all genders, ages 14 and older, are welcome to create a team of 4 and square up against other supporters of Food For Free. This will be a single elimination, 16 team tournament. Teams of 4 will compete to win the ultimate prize, and the first team to 21 points will move onto the next round. Teams will be allowed 3 timeouts per game and will adhere to traditional basketball rules monitored by a referee. Team registration deadline is April 12. Register your team https://foodforfree.org/hoopshere. forhunger/.

Carnaval will be here soon. If you are a vendor, make sure you submit an application soon. This will be in our stories as well: https://www.eastsomervillemainstreets.org/carnaval.

The Somerville Redevelopment Authority Board is seeking one new member (a five year term), and all residents are invited to apply. The Somerville Redevelopment Authority Board is dedicated to enhancing the livability and prosperity of areas within the city through the implementation of urban renewal. Learn more and apply by April 15 at somervillema. gov/BeSomerville.

The Somerville Council on Aging's Cultural Musical Event takes place on Wednesday, March 27, starting at 1:00 p.m. at the Holland Street Center. Explore the world through music, as vocal-

ist and educator **Tamara Jokic** discusses the music of the Mediterranean, and performs songs in multiple languages while bringing their historical and cultural contexts to life via stories, images, and video. Lunch will be provided by SCES at 12:00 p.m. RSVP to **Debby Higgins** by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov

Through the generosity of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), and from the direction of Mayor Ballantyne, the Council on Aging is now able to provide Durable Medical Equipment at no cost to Somerville residents. Residents with a documented need for medical equipment must be over the age of 60, or have a permanent disability, and must be otherwise unable to afford or access needed medical equipment. They currently have available: Commodes, Bath Chairs, Bath Benches, Rollator Walkers, Incontinence Supplies and Transport Wheelchairs (wheelchairs are intended for transport and are not self-propelling or self-breaking.) For additional information, or for an application, please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

Somerville Public Schools is looking for substitute teachers. Join an amazing team of educators, earn \$150/day, and play an important role in our schools. Learn more about job requirements and apply here: https://somerville.tedk12.com/hire/ViewJob.aspx?JobID=1146.

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.

Mayor Ballantyne and partners invite Somerville community to Women's History Month celebration

Mayor Ballantyne, the Somerville Commission for Women, Somernova, and the city's Department of Racial and Social Justice are announcing the city's third annual Women's History Month celebration. Members from the Somerville community are invited to



join the celebration and share in honoring the many contributions of women throughout our history.

The event will take place on Wednesday, March 27 at 6:30 p.m. at Somernova, 29 Properzi Way. Registering for the event via RSVP is encouraged but not required. Attendance is open to all.

"It is so important that we gather as a community to celebrate the remarkable contributions and achievements of women who have shaped our community and beyond," said Mayor Ballantyne. "As only the second female mayor in Somerville's long history, I look forward to honoring the work of the women who have paved the way forward and hope our celebration will inspire our community to continue breaking barriers and never accept their gender identity as a roadblock to achieving their goals."

This year's celebration will feature keynote speakers, music from DJ L'Duke, and interactive games with prizes. Food and drink will also be provided during the event.

"In celebration of Women's History Month, the Somerville Commission for Women hopes this event allows all of us to take a moment to reflect on our commitment to support women's empowerment, uplift the women in our lives, celebrate our progress, and continue to build a community of equality and love," shared the Somerville Commission for Women.

For more information about the event, please contact Latoya Saulters, Commissions Coordinator, at lsaulters@somervillema.gov.

Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Breezy morning on Broadway...

— Photo by Denise Provost

Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner



By Bobbygeorge Potaris

What do you call mischievous Easter eggs?

Deviled eggs

The "Original" All Types Vent Cleaning

Restaurant Hood Cleaning
Dryer Vent/ HVAC Cleaning

Power Washing

Licensed and Insured in Massachusetts

We travel all over Massachusetts

Call today to find out our weekly specials!

Call Jimmy 857-366-3761

To advertise in
The
Somerville
Times
call
Bobbie Toner
857-488-5138

On This Day in Kistory March 27

1512 - Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon sights Florida.

1836 - The Mexican army massacres Texan rebels at Goliad.

1866 – President Andrew Johnson vetoes the civil rights bill, which later becomes the 14th amendment.

1884 – The first long-distance telephone call is made from Boston to New York.

1899 – The Italian inventor G. Marconi achieves the first international radio transmission between England and France.

1912 – The first cherry blossom trees, a gift from Japan, are planted in Washington, D.C.

1933 - Some 55,000 people stage a protest against Hitler in New York.

1941 – Takeo Yoshikawa arrives in Oahu, Hawaii, to begin spying for Japan on the U.S. fleet at Pearl Harbor.

1942 - The British raid the Nazi submarine base at St. Nazaire, France.

1958 - The United States announces a plan to explore space near the moon.

1977 - In aviation's worst disaster yet, 582 die when a KLM Pan Am 747 crashes.

GovTV - Xfinity 22/Astound 13/613

2023

Talking Business: Night Life

Chair Yoga w/ Janine Duffy

Immigrant Means to Me

School Committee Update:

Talking Business: Night Life

SomerViva em Português

Talking Business: Night Life

Broadway Corridor Meeting

SomerViva em Português

Museo Inmigrante: What Being an

9:30 AM School Committee Meeting 3-18-24

1:00 PMBroadway Corridor Public Input Meeting

School Committee Meeting 3-18-24

3:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting 3-12-24

SomerViva an Krevol

Emily Ackman

Public Results

WEDNES	SDAY, MARCH 27					
7:00 AM Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan #2						
7:30 AM Finance Committee Meeting 3-12-24						
8:00 AM	SomerViva an Kreyol					
8:30 AMS	School Committee Update: Leiran Biton					
9:00 AMI	Broadway Corridor Public Input Meeting					
11:00 AM	Museo Inmigrante:					
W	hat Being an Immigrant Means to Me					
12:30 PM	1 Phil Reavis: Highlander to					
	Olympian & Beyond					
2:00 PM	Finance Committee Meeting 3-12-24					
2:30 PM	City Council Spotlight: Naima Sait					
3:00 PM	Museo Inmigrante: Mental Health					
	In the Latino Community					
5:00 PM	Somerville Museum: How the GI Bill					
	Changed America					
6:06 PM	Talking Business: Night Life					
6:30 PM	SPS Capacity Study Community					

8:00 PMBroadway Corridor Public Input Meeting

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

12:00 AM

10:00 PM

12:00 AM SomerViva an Kreyol 12:30 AM Museo Inmigrante: Mental Health In the Latino Community 2:10 AM School Committee Meeting 3-18-24 7:00 AM Museo Inmigrante: Mental Health In the Latino Community 8:40 AM SPD Ride Along 9:00 AM Davis Sq. Commercial Area Plan Meeting 11:05 AM Talking Business: Night Life 11:30 AM SomerViva em Português 12:00 PM City Council Meeting 3-14-24 3:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting 3-12-24 3:30 PM City Council Spotlight: Naima Sait 7:00 PM City Council Meeting - LIVE

12:30 AMChamber of Commerce Awards Dinner

9:20 PM Museo Inmigrante: Mental Health In the Latino Community 11:00 PM City Council Spotlight: Naima Sait 11:30 PM SomerViva an Kreyol **SATURDAY, MARCH 30** 12:00 AM Haiti: Resilience Rising 2:00 AM Museum of Bad Art Tour Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice III 7:00 AM Phil Reavis: Highlander to 7:45 AM Olympian & Beyond 9:00 AM Talking Business: Night Life 9:30 AM School Committee Meeting 3-18-24 12:33 PM SomerViva em Português 1:00 PM Museo Inmigrante: Mental Health In the Latino Community 3:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting 3-12-24 3:30 PM Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II

4:30 PMDavis Sq. Commercial Area Plan Meeting

Ayanna Pressley Press Conference of

Talking Business: Night Life

Clarendon Hill Housing

Museum of Bad Art Tour

1:40 AM

2:04 AM

7:00 AM

7:30 AM

9:00 AM

12:33 PM

3:30 PM

4:00 PM

7:03 PM

7:30 PM

9:00 PM

6:35 PM

7:00 PM

8:00 PM

Presentation

Haiti: Resilience Rising

SomerViva em Português

9:00 PM Phil Reavis: Highlander to Olympian & Beyond **Broadway Corridor Meeting** 10:10 PM **Public Results SUNDAY, MARCH 31**

12:00 AM City Council Meeting 3-28-24 6:30 AM Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan #2 Haiti: Resilience Rising 7:00 AM 9:00 AM School Committee Update: **Emily Ackman** 9:30 AM School Committee Meeting 3-18-24 12:33 PM Talking Business: Night Life 1:00 PMBroadway Corridor Public Input Meeting 3:00 PMDavis Sq. Commercial Area Plan Meeting 5:05 PM **Broadway Corridor Meeting Public Results** 7:00 PM School Committee Update: **Emily Ackman** City Council Spotlight: Naima Sait City Council Meeting 3-28-24

7:30 PM 8:00 PM **MONDAY, APRIL 1** SomerViva em Português 12:00 AM 12:30 AM Museo Inmigrante: What Being an Immigrant Means to Me Davis Sq. Commercial Area 2:00 AM Plan Meeting 7:00 AM SPS Capacity Study Community Presentation 8:30 AM SomerViva an Kreyol 9:00 AM School Committee Update: **Emily Ackman** 9:30 AM City Council Spotlight: Naima Sait 10:00 AM **Broadway Corridor Public** Input Meeting City Council Meeting 3-28-24 12:00 PM 4:00 PM SPS Capacity Study Community Presentation 5:30 PM School Committee Update: **Emily Ackman** 7:00 PM School Committee Meeting - LIVE

10:30 PM School Committee Update: **Emily Ackman** 11:00 PM Entrepreneur Spotlight S1E2 Himalayan Kitchen SPD Ride Along 11:45 PM **TUESDAY, APRIL 2**

SPS Capacity Study Community 12:00 AM Presentation 1:30 AMSchool Committee Update: Leiran Biton 2:00 AM Spring Hill Walking Tour 2023 6:30 AM Chair Yoga w/ Janine Duffy 7:00 AM Ayanna Pressley Press Conference of Clarendon Hill Housing 8:00 AM **Broadway Corridor Meeting Public Results** 9:30 AM City Council Spotlight: Naima Sait 10:00 AMFinance Committee Meeting 3-12-24 Senior Circuit - Climate Change 10:30 AM 11:00 AM Davis Sq. Commercial Area Plan Meeting 1:05 PM Talking Business: Night Life 1:30 PM Phil Reavis: Highlander to Olympian & Beyond 3:00 PM SomerViva an Kreyol Haiti: Resilience Rising 3:30 PM 5:30 PM Museo Inmigrante: What Being an Immigrant Means to Me 7:00 PM City Council Spotlight: Naima Sait 7:30 PM SomerViva em Português 8:00 PM School Committee Update: **Emily Ackman** 8:30 PM School Committee Meeting 4-1-24 11:00 PM School Committee Update: Leiran Biton 11:30 PM Talking Business: Night Life **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3**

EdTV - Xfinity 15/Astound 15/614

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27 8:00 AM Boston Debate League City Championships 10:15 AM el Sistema Spring Concert 11:00 AM B Team Intramural Soccer Championship 12:00 PM School Committee Meeting 3-18-24 3:30 PM Boys Intramural Futsal Championship 5:00 PM Girls Intramural Futsal Championship 6:00 PM **Boston Debate League** City Championships 8:15 PM el Sistema Spring Concert 9:00 PM **B** Team Intramural Soccer Championship 10:00 PM Phil Reavis: Highlander to Olympian & Beyond 11:30 PM el Sistema Spring Concert

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

12:00 AM SHS Hockey vs Hopedale 1:18 AM el Sistema Spring Concert 8:00 AM School Committee Meeting 3-18-24 11:05 AM SHS Baseball vs Medford 1:30 PM Boys Intramural Futsal Championship 3:00 PM SHS Boys' LAX vs Salem 4:30 PM SHS Girls' LAX vs Matignon 6:00 PM School Committee Meeting 3-18-24 SHS Baseball vs Medford 9:05 PM 11:30 PMBoys Intramural Futsal Championship

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

1:00 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Salem

SHS Girls' LAX vs Matignon 8.00 AM **Brown School Winter Concert** 9:00 AMSchool Committee Update: Leiran Biton 9:30 AM Scrapheap Showdown 2023 10:00 AMSHS Boys LAX vs Plymouth N 5-11-23 11:30 AM WHCIS 4-8 Winter Concert 1:00 PM SHS Spring Concert & Art Exhibition 3:00 PM Girls Intramural Futsal Championship 4:00 PM Boys Intramural Futsal Championship 5:30 PM El Sistema Spring Concert 6:00 PM **Brown School Winter Concert** 7:00 PMSchool Committee Update: Leiran Biton Scrapheap Showdown 2023 7:30 PM 8:00 PM SHS Boys LAX vs Plymouth N 5-11-23 9:30 PM WHCIS 4-8 Winter Concert 11:00 PM SHS Spring Concert & Art Exhibition

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

1:00 AM Girls Intramural Futsal Championship 2:00 AM Boys Intramural Futsal Championship 3:30 AM El Sistema Spring Concert 8:00 AM SHS Evening of Song 9:30 AM Week of the Young Child Celebration 10:00 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Revere SHS Volleyball vs Medford 12:00 PM 2:00 PM SHS Girls' GLAX vs Matignon 3:05 PM Girls Intramural Futsal Championship 4:00 PM Boys Intramural Futsal Championship 5:10 PM El Sistema Spring Concert 6:00 PM SHS Evening of Song 7:30 PM Week of the Young Child Celebration

SHS Bovs' LAX vs Revere 10:00 PM SHS Volleyball vs Medford

SUNDAY MARCH 31

12:00 AM SHS Girls' GLAX vs Matignon 1:05 AM Girls Intramural Futsal Championship 2:00 AM Boys Intramural Futsal Championship 3:10 AM El Sistema Spring Concert 8:00 AM School Committee Meeting 3-18-24 11:05 AM SHS Baseball vs Medford 1:30 PM Boys Intramural Futsal Championship 3:00 PM SHS Boys' LAX vs Salem SHS Girls' LAX vs Matignon 4:30 PM 6:00 PM El Sistema Spring Concert 7:00 PM SHS Boys Basketball vs Reading 9:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Medford 11:30 PMBovs Intramural Futsal Championship

MONDAY, APRIL 1

8:00 AM Boston Debate League City Championships 10.15 AM el Sistema Spring Concert 11:00 AM **B** Team Intramural Soccer Championship 12:00 PM Phil Reavis: Highlander to Olympian & Beyond 1:10 PM Boys Intramural Futsal Championship 2:30 PM Girls Intramural Futsal Championship 4:00 PM SHS Student-Staff Basketball Game 6:00 PM Boston Debate League City Championships 8:15 PM el Sistema Spring Concert

9:00 PM B Team Intramural Soccer Championship 10:00 PM Phil Reavis: Highlander to Olympian & Beyond Boys Intramural Futsal 11:10 PM Championship

Davis Sq. Commercial Area

Broadway Corridor Meeting

Plan Meeting

Public Results

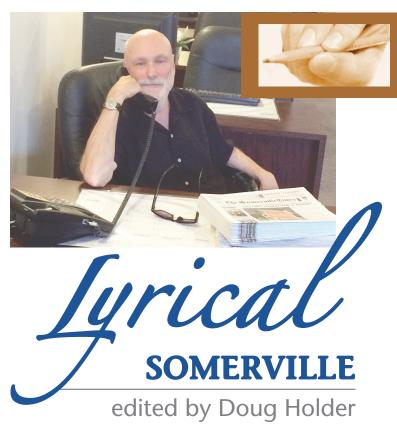
TUESDAY, APRIL 2

12:00 AM

2:05 AM

12:30 AMGirls Intramural Futsal Championship SHS Student-Staff Basketball Game 2:00 AM 8:00 AM SHS Student-Staff Basketball Game 9:30 AM ESCS Music in Our School Month Concert Boston Debate League 11:00 AM City Championships Phil Reavis: Highlander to 1:30 PM Olympian & Beyond 3:00 PM Boys Intramural Futsal Championship 4:10 PM Girls Intramural Futsal Championship 5:00 PM El Sistema Spring Concert 6:00 PM SHS Student-Staff Basketball Game 7:00 PM SHS Student-Staff Basketball Game 7:30 PM ESCS Music in Our School Month Concert Boston Debate League 9:00 PM City Championships 11:30 PM Phil Reavis: Highlander to

Olympian & Beyond 1:00 AM Boys Intramural Futsal Championship 2:10 AM Girls Intramural Futsal Championship 3:00 AM El Sistema Spring Concert



Steve Honig has published six collections of poetry as well as a book of short stories and a spy novel. His most recent work, entitled *Parallel Universes*, was released in March. This collection contains poetry of greater abstraction than his prior works, attempting to capture the thesis of an art exhibition at the Paris Museum of Mod-



ern Art in August, 2023 which proposed that current artistic endeavors were so varied from prior art as to require reclassification as from a parallel world. The below poem makes no reference to its subject or prompt, and its title is omitted here (in the book, titles appear on following pages so that the reader is challenged to think of the initial subject or impetus). The intent is to reflect in each poem a secondary memory, an emotional detritus existing within an afferent plane of thought. Steve is a member of the Board of the New England Poetry Club.

There is blood on the land blood on the hand twisting, gripping rubbing shards of bone All to ill use. if not death now, then surely later often undeserved in the heart of the decedent and for the holder, ahh yesssss the thrill.

Absolved the felon, for a single thrust is pallid infantile invisible in the eyes of Gods such as these where sharp definitions do not lead to truth.

— Steve Honig

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

OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

'The Book of Shores' by Mary Buchinger

The Book of Shores by Mary Buchinger Lily Poetry Review Press 2024, 102 pp.

Reviewed by Off the Shelf Correspondent Thomas

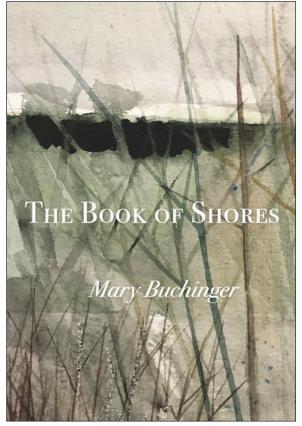
The late American poet Donald Justice once offered his opinion that American poets fall into one of two "camps": the Walt Whitman camp and the Emily Dickinson camp. Whitman-poets are marked by their rambunctious, capacious inclusivity, their embracing acceptance of everything from stamen to stevedore, from wisteria to winebibber. Dickinson-poets are marked by cadence and deliberation, by a discriminating selectivity, by the understated emphasis on one or two painstakingly chosen things. (Justice himself professed a preference for Dickinson's "closed room").

In *The Book of Shores*, and elsewhere, it is Mary Buchinger's good fortune to have united these two opposite tendencies in one glorious aesthetic: yes, there is thoughtful, measured pacing; there are words carefully chosen, a luminous attention to the "minute particulars" (as Blake called them); but there is also expansion and invitation, there is acceptance of all material as poetically valid and vivid, there is the conscious capacity to admit and welcome the domestic vignette, the surreal and dream-like moment, and the globally pertinent "statement."

The form of *The Book of Shores* will be familiar to those who have read Buchinger's *Virology*, her long poem alert to pandemic realities. Shores falls into seven "chapters": *Seaway, Island, Peninsula, Archipelago, Strait, [INLAND]*, and *Continent*. Each section is a chain of much smaller poems, exquisite and intricate lyrics, connected and separated by an asterisk or some other form of punctuation, as we find in Robert Creeley's seminal book Pieces.

Careful observation marks each turn and twist of the word-flow, where "cumulus snags / the upper branches / of an invisible tree"; where "the smallest pieces of meaning" are not neglected; where Buchinger's eye takes in "nets and knots of cloud / figment and fragment." There is alertness to the animal world, be it a tawny spider in the sleeve of a bathrobe, a surprise for the narrator at her morning tea, or the cat whose "compact coil" in the speaker's lap "thrums with warmth."

In *Peninsula* Buchinger alludes to the semicolon as a symbol of mental-health awareness. "It demonstrates," she tells us in her Notes, "continuation with a new beginning as opposed to the finality of a period."



Or as the poem phrases it, "it signifies a decision / to not end." One sees kinship with Buchinger's method: after each asterisk or semicolon, a fresh start, a new "independent clause" of poetry, shining and graspable, luminous and within reach.

"Sometimes," the narrator concedes, "I feel ready to excise and renew" (in sympathy with a friend who had "cancelled" her own past), but memory is tenacious, perhaps especially in *Archipelago*, where the imagery ranges from a child of some decades ago watching Sears catalogs incinerate in a barrel, to a poet of this moment as she is nagged by the small dings of her mobile phone. We feel as if we are reading "remnants of a great lecture" where the parts are of vital importance, as in dreams, but the larger themes are left implicit (as in dreams!). We have hymnody educed from drooping flower-petals; we have the archipelago as "crowd-funded geography." In a sentence that Whitman could have written, "I wake to the history / of my body, each day / another jotting."

In *Strait*, the narrator admits that the "mother tongue" she speaks can sound "foreign"; she speaks further of "translation / from one language to another / feeling into word." But Buchinger's alertness and unswerving purpose makes these translations as palpable and handy as the weight of a necklace "lodged / in the linty corner / of my winter jacket." Walking through this section, we have the poet in sandals that are pretty but which draw blood; the poet's aging mother walking "like a penguin"; and a concert attendee leaving a performance of *Continued on page 23*

Somerville street sweeping resumes Monday, April 1

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the Somerville Parking Department are reminding all residents that regular street sweeping schedules officially resume Monday, April 1, and will continue through December 31, 2024.

Somerville's street cleaning program is an essential public works program that not only keeps our city cleaner but also reduces the risk of flooding and icing due to clogged storm drains.

Residents and community members can check street signs to know when parking is unavailable due to sweeping. A recurring pattern was chosen in order to allow residents to plan ahead.

Find your street sweeping schedule and avoid parking tickets

On designated street sweeping days, vehicles must be moved from the side of the street being swept, as noted on signs posted on each street.

The penalty for not complying with street sweeping parking regulations is a \$50 fine. Community members are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the street sweeping schedule in areas where they park. The best way to do this is to read the signs on the street when you park. You can also sign up for street sweeping reminders.



Sign up for street sweeping reminders

You can use the Somerville Waste Wizard below to find out when your street is being swept. Sign up to receive complimentary street sweeping notifications by selecting "Sign Up for Reminders."

Sign up for reminders here: somervillema.gov/departments/sweeping

Please remember that this is a courtesy service that may experience technical problems; it remains the drivers' responsibility to follow the posted signs and move their vehicle on time.

For more information regarding street sweeping procedures, visit parksomerville.com or call 311 (617-666-3311).

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne invites community to join the West Broadway Reconstruction open house

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Ward 7 Councilor Judy Pineda Neufeld, and the City of Somerville Office of Mobility are inviting the community to an open house to discuss proposed new designs for Broadway between Clarendon Avenue and Alewife Brook Parkway. The event will be held on Saturday, April 13, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the West Somerville Neighborhood School (177 Powder House Blvd).

The City of Somerville is planning to reconstruct sidewalks and repave Broadway between Clarendon Avenue and Alewife Brook Parkway (Route 16). The city is taking this opportunity to redesign the street to make it safer for all people whether they are walking or wheeling, cycling, taking the bus, or driving.

In the fall of 2023, community members shared their transportation safety concerns through a range of channels, including street outreach, community meetings, and a survey. The project team reviewed all feedback and has developed a new conceptual design for the street. Attend the open house to review this conceptual design, share your feedback, and ask staff questions. Refreshments and games will be provided.

Following the event, a recorded presentation and information about the conceptual design will be available on the project website. Additional opportunities for community members to share feedback will include an online survey and virtual office hours with Mobility Division staff on April 25 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Questions and comments can also be submitted by emailing transportation@somervillema.gov and by calling 311 (617-666-3311).

Visit somervillema.gov/westbroadway to learn more about the project and stay up to date.

This project is one of a series of actions the city is undertaking in pursuit of our Vision Zero goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and series injuries from our roadways. Final designs are currently anticipated to be completed by early 2025. Construction is anticipated to take place 2025-2026. All schedules are preliminary and subject to change.

Off The Shelf CONT. FROM PG 22

Buxtehude in a rush: "the stranger's sudden departure / changes what I hear."

The section called *INLAND* finds Buchinger as anthologist of startlements and surprises, even of shocks. We have "stakes of herons / stately in ebbtide"; "an ankle-deep sea / of economy"; "a shiny miry / mirror / of sun." We have the beauty of the Self "who carried the sea wherever she went"; INLAND as "a skiffless interior" with "a stillborn moon ...

incubator / of storm & misdirection." Rhymes are discovered: "aghast" with "a guest"; "nest algae" with "nostalgia." The narrator dusts a moose's skull, its "white machinery / of ovals and holes"; "to look into this moose's eyes / I'd have to enter the earth." The poet gives us nature red in tooth and claw, as an Eagle (she capitalizes its name, as one might the Grim Reaper's!) swoops and assaults a fawn.

In the coda called Continent, Buchinger ponders "the

green ... fields" of her manuscript, "its hungry regions and mossy passages" and expresses the belief that "possibility dwells within its rifts." There is much in *The Book of Shores* that this reviewer finds to be challenging, moments and occasions that linger on the outskirts of comprehension. But there is far more that invites, that spurs us to plunge in. There are surprises waiting in the reeds and the bulrushes. Buchinger urges us always to seek, as we will surely find.

The Somerville Times

To advertise in our Business Directory, call 857-488-5138.

Let your customers find you in Somerville's most widely read newspaper!

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Monica Calvo Realtor® Real Estate Professional Cell: 617-605-3308 Email: mcalvo@relocationnewengland.co Web: remaxpartnersrelocation.com RF/MAX PARTNERS RELOCATION 44 Park ST Andover MA 01810 tly Owned and Operated



The Law Offices of Richard G. Di Girolamo

Richard G. Di Girolamo, Esquire Anne M. Vigorito, Esquire Breanna L. Rolland, Esquire

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

Real Estate Law Zoning **Civil Litigation Criminal Defense Family Law Personal Injury**

TELEPHONE: (617) 666-8200 FAX: (617) 776-5435 EMAIL: digirolamolegal@verizon.net 424 BROADWAY, SOMERVILLE, MA 02145





Bobbie Toner – Real Estate Consultant Bobbietoner@aol.com 857 488 5138



Closed Wednesday

Alibrandi's Barber Shop Men & Boys Haircuts

"Best Somerville Barber"

194 Holland St, Somerville, MA 02144

617-628-4282



Velney Development

VBE/MBE Certified

(617) 401-9339 | (617) 201-5769 www.velneydevelopment.com

T. J. SILLARI, INC.

Over 50 Years Experience Proud to be a Somerville Business Resident



- Plumbing Heating
- Gas Fitting Industrial Work
- Water Heater Replacement
 - Complete Drain Service

Residential - Industrial - Commercial

Master Plmb. Lic. #6106

625-9877



(617) 625-2244 (617) 625-4344

(617) 625-4350

EDWIN J. SMITH ATTORNEY-AT-LAW

RUMERY & SMITH

403 HIGHLAND AVENUE OMERVILLE, MA 02144

edsmithlaw@gmail.com



Attorneys at Law

424 Broadway Somerville MA 02145

Bankruptcy Family Law

Immigration

Personal Injury

Business Law

Estate Planning and Probate

Real Estate

Elder Law

Civil Litigation

mdropkin@dropkinmatza.com

To advertise in

The Somerville Times call

Bobbie Toner: 857-488-5138