

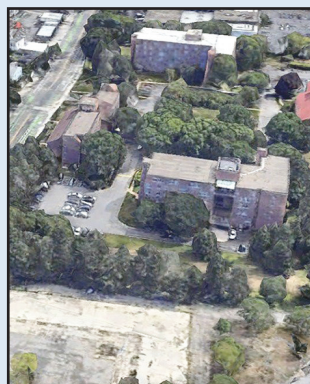


## Inside:



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## Ordinances protecting polyamorous families, other diverse relationships passed by city



The Somerville City Council recently passed ordinances bolstering the rights of individuals in non-traditional relationships.

By The Times Staff

At the latest meeting of the Somerville City Council on Thursday, March 23, ordinances amending section 1-4 of the Code of Ordinance to add definitions for relationship status and intimate personal relationships and amending section 2-326 of the Code of Ordinances, related to the Personnel program were brought forward and passed by the Council.

A statement issued by the Council explained the ordinances in detail:

Somerville City Council just made history by passing groundbreaking non-discrimination ordinances protecting polyamorous families and relationships. The ordinances make Somerville the first city in the United States to extend explicit legal protections to polyamorous and other non-nuclear families and relationships.

Continued on page 4

## Saving 'Ducky the Bruce'

By Jim Clark

Thanks to the efforts of a number of compassionate individuals, a feral female Muscovy duck that had been stranded in the wild during the record-breaking cold months of last winter was rescued and relocated to the safety of an animal sanctuary on Tuesday of this week.

Reports of the bird's presence in the Mystic River at Assembly Row area were first recorded in November of 2022, where it had been spotted among a gaggle of geese. In January, a few locals took notice and began feeding the duck, who they had named "Ducky the Bruce."

Beverly and Miriam Schwartz, along with Olga Akselrod and another woman by the name of Maureen, were each independently feeding and watching after Ducky, and they eventually became aware of one another's benevolent efforts.

Continued on page 5



A stranded feral female Muscovy duck, who had suffered through the ravages of a record cold winter, was rescued this week, thanks to some kind human intervention.

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

City staff will be tabling at the corner of Broadway and Cross Street to share information and answering questions about upcoming bus and crosswalk improvements on East Broadway. Stop by on March 30 anytime between 3:00 and 6:00 p.m. to talk to city staff. Learn more about the project and other in-person and virtual engagement opportunities at somervillema.gov/eastbroadway. Then on April 11, 2:00 – 4:00 p.m., city staff will be tabling at the corner of Everett Avenue and Cross Street (near East Somerville Community School) to share information and answering questions about upcoming bus and crosswalk improvements on East Broadway.

\*\*\*\*\*








The Somerville Council of PTAs is organizing an awesome fund-raising event for the Somerville High School Scholarship program. Come to the high school auditorium on March 31 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. to cheer on SPS teachers and staff as they compete against teams from other Somerville schools in a "survey says" style game show. Tickets are required and are limited. Buy them at bit.ly/PTAGameshow. On the website you'll also find a silent auction and the link to the GLX and Somerville Public Schools t-shirt sales that are all part of the scholarship fundraiser.

\*\*\*\*\*

Help celebrate Paul Revere's famous ride from Boston to Lexington and Somerville's revolutionary history by volunteering to be a part of Somerville's Patriot's Day festivities. The Continued on page 7

# Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of March 29 – April 4 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 <b>Wednesday</b> March 29	Sunny	54°/30°	3%	1%	WNW 8 mph
 <b>Thursday</b> March 30	Sunny	42°/29°	0%	1%	NW 16 mph
 <b>Friday</b> March 31	Cloudy	49°/40°	22%	17%	SW 11 mph
 <b>Saturday</b> April 1	Rain	63°/34°	90%	82%	SW 19 mph
 <b>Sunday</b> April 2	Sunny	50°/32°	11%	7%	NW 17 mph
 <b>Monday</b> April 3	Partly Cloudy	54°/45°	3%	1%	SSW 12 mph
 <b>Tuesday</b> April 4	Cloudy	65°/46°	25%	14%	SW 15 mph

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

## TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

### Response to: TV Ville

mike says:

Gomer Phyle, Boom Boom Town, I still love watching TV. Another epic article 17

### Response to: Cars and storefronts damaged by stray bullets in Somerville

Retired says:

Welcome to Somerville come on in for a beer and a shooting, use to be a beating but times have changed.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

# 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

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## The Superintendent search needs you!

In late January, the School Committee voted to reopen the application process for a new Superintendent of Schools. Finalists, chosen by the Screening and Interview Team, made site visits and had interviews with the School Committee on March 27.

The public interviews will be streamed live online and viewable on the City's Cable TV station. Community members may provide feedback on the candidates until April 2.

Find more information on the Superintendent Search page: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/district-leadership/somerville-school-committee/superintendent-search>

Follow us on Twitter

@somervilletimes





Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

# Coffee Break



I'm a big coffee drinker. I hang around with a lot of people who also enjoy a good cup of coffee. I drink coffee basically all day. I make it myself with K cups or instant but the day usually starts out with a nice large Dunkin's coffee.

I'm not a Starbucks fan. The coffee is good but I don't like the whole set up with the silly names, etc. It seems there



two camps in Somerville. There are the Dunkin's people and the Starbucks people. But there were a lot of choices around Somerville for a good cup of coffee. My Somerville social media friends helped me grind out this story.

"Three Little Figs and Winter Hill Brewing are great also." (There's always a crowd there)

"Magnificent Muffin & Bagel has really good iced coffee."

"True Grounds in Ball Square."

"I still weep for the iced Americanos at the Someday Cafe."

There's plenty of coffee places in Somerville including Cumberland Farms, Starbucks, and Dunkin's within walking distance of each other.

I'm going to go out on a limb and say that I feel that Dunkin' Donuts coffee and McDonald's McCafé coffee are a tie for me.

Coming in the strong second is Cumberland Farms coffee. You can't beat the price either. 99 cents, any size. Boy what a deal! I'm sure our old friend Juan Valdez would enjoy a nice cup of coffee with me.



## Are You Sitting On A Fortune?

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# THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

## Unmemorable restaurant, but strong drinks

Somerville Police officers were dispatched to a Willow Ave. location last Friday evening on reports of a vehicular hit and run. Responding officers were advised by Somerville Police Control that a motor vehicle struck two parked cars, left the scene, and turned left onto Highland Ave. The vehicle reportedly had a flat tire and heavy front-end damage.

Arriving officers heard a car driving down Highland Avenue and then saw a purple motor vehicle matching the description with heavy front-end damage and a flat tire. They activated their emergency equipment and stopped the vehicle and asked the driver, identified as Halle Arnold, to step out of the vehicle. The officers asked Arnold if

she would like medical attention, which she declined. They asked her where she was coming from, and she stated that she was coming from a Mexican restaurant in Davis Square, but could not remember its name. The officers reported that Arnold was unsteady on her feet, had bloodshot eyes, and had the odor of an alcoholic beverage emanating from her person. The officers asked Arnold if she consumed any alcoholic beverages, and she reportedly stated that she had one margarita at the Mexican restaurant. She was asked if she had eaten anything that day and she stated that she had eaten a taco at the restaurant and that she had eaten breakfast and lunch that day.

When asked about the damage to the vehicle she was driving, Arnold reportedly stated that she had no idea how it had gotten damaged. Arnold was subsequently placed under arrest on charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and leaving the scene of property damage.

### SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

**Robert Ortiz**, March 20, 5:03 a.m., arrested at Cummings St. on a charge of possession of a class B drug, and on warrant charges of possession of a class B drug and carrying a dangerous

weapon.

**Christopher Morrissey**, of South Boston, March 23, 8:52 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on a warrant charge of shoplifting by concealing merchandise.

**Halle Arnold**, of Watertown, March 24, 9:16 p.m., arrested at Willow Ave. on charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and leaving the scene of proper-

ty damage.

**Robison Silva**, of Medford, March 26, 12:48 a.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor and unlicensed operation of a motor

vehicle.

**Stephen Callinan**, March 26, 6:53 a.m., arrested at North St. on warrant charges of receiving property in a false trade under \$1200 and larceny over \$1200.

## Ordinances protecting polyamorous families, other diverse relationships passed by city

CONT. FROM PG 1

The ordinance, introduced by City Councilor At-Large Willie Burnley and Councilor JT Scott, prohibits discrimination in employment, policing, and more based on one's family and relationship structure. The ordinances protect diverse families and intimate relationships in the city, including multi-partner/multi-parent families and relationships, step-families, multi-generational households, non-nuclear family structures, consensually non-monogamous relationships, and consensual sexual and/or intimate relationships, including asexual and asexual relationships. The ordinances were drafted by lawyers and activists at the Polyamory Legal Advocacy Coalition, a project of Chosen Family Law Center and Harvard Law School's LGBTQ+ Advocacy Clinic. Somerville previously

partnered with these organizations to pass their multi-partner domestic partnership ordinance in Somerville in 2020, as well as Cambridge and Arlington, MA in 2021. Similar non-discrimination laws and plural domestic partnership laws based on their model ordinances have been introduced on the west coast and are expected to pass this year. Councilmembers from the City of Berkeley, California, are working simultaneously to pass a similar non-discrimination ordinance for non-monogamous families and relationships. "People should be able to love and provide support for each other without fear of discrimination," said Terry Taplin, the Berkeley City Council member sponsoring the Berkeley ordinance. "As a polyamorous person, I'm grateful to live in a city that embraces rather than punish-

es people based on their family or relationship structure," said Somerville Council member Willie Burnley Jr., who introduced the ordinance. "The protections we extend today not only cement Somerville's legislative leadership and legacy on non-monogamous rights, they ensure that our neighbors know that they live in a community where they can be who they are freely and love whom they love openly without fear of government interference." "We commend the Somerville city council for their leadership on this issue," shared Dr. Heath Schechinger, counseling psychologist and Co-Founder of Polyamory Legal Advocacy Coalition. "Every family, including polyamorous ones, should have equal legal protections, and it's heartening to witness this crucial step in cultivating a society that cherishes the liberty to love and

form secure families without the burden of discrimination." "With the passage of today's non-discrimination ordinance, Somerville is vindicating the promise it made to its residents three years ago when it passed the first multiple domestic partnership ordinance in the country that Somerville's government will not only legally recognize diverse family structures, but also protect them from unequal treatment," said Alexander Chen, Founding Director of the Harvard LGBTQ+ Advocacy Clinic, who testified before the Legislative Matters Committee concerning features of the bill. "Children deserve to know that their families are protected no matter what shape they take." Diana Adams (they/them) is Executive Director of Chosen Family Law Center and an attorney who has been advocating

for legal support for polyamorous and non-nuclear families since founding their New York firm in 2007, as described in their TED Talk. They commented: "Since 2007, I have represented thousands of clients in beautiful constellations of family beyond nuclear, including polyamorous families. I've represented many clients in child custody cases in which inaccurate stigma about being polyamorous was used against them. I've heard countless stories of discrimination, including being fired for just mentioning being polyamorous. In 2023 when the majority of American children and adults don't live in a heterosexual nuclear family, we need anti-discrimination laws like this one in Somerville to protect and value families as they exist, so we don't need to worry about losing our job or custody of our child

Continued on page 13



## Saving 'Ducky the Bruce' CONT. FROM PG 1

Although Ducky had bonded with the flock of geese – and one goose in particular – they eventually moved on to dry land, leaving Ducky behind. Since her wings had been clipped, she could only fly very short distances. In cold weather, geese gather on land to stay warm, and it's possible they took flight for some place to stay warm, and ducky was unable to travel with them. She remained at the river, standing alone on the rocks, at the mercy of the elements and dependent on the kind generosity of her human benefactors.

When the extreme cold snap of early February developed, the group of caregivers became acutely aware of the peril that Ducky was facing. The Schwartzs were concerned about her and they didn't see her for a week thereafter, but then discovered her on the river. Maureen had seen that Ducky had been abandoned by the geese before the weekend, and that ducky spent the weekend on a rock. Maureen went to feed Ducky on every day of that cold snap.

Once Beverly Schwartz heard from Maureen that Ducky was alone, she bought a pair of hip waders and 70 lbs. of duck food and started feeding her every day. She later met Olga, who was feeding ducky twice a day.

City Councilor At-Large Kristen Strezo's son Vincent decided that her name should be Cody or Bruce, so everyone started calling her Ducky the Bruce – as in Robert the Bruce.

The tissue damage to her feet<sup>0</sup> caused by the frostbite continued to progress. Her feet were in bad shape, making it difficult for her to walk and swim. While she was losing tissue, she was probably in a tremendous amount of pain.

Somerville Animal Control had been contacted about Ducky at one point, but they were unable to catch her.

Olga Akselrod reached out on Facebook asking for help finding sanctuaries or anyone that could help Ducky once she noticed she had frostbite on her beak and feet from the cold spell in February. Miriam

Schwartz found Cloa's Ark Animal Sanctuary, based in Hadley, MA and they offered to come rescue the duck. They were happy to take in a female domestic Muscovy. They have an injured male in residence, and have had numerous Muscovies in the past. They were happy to add a female.

Claudine and Patrick Veistroffer run Cloa's Ark Animal Sanctuary. They both made the drive to Somerville from Hadley this past Tuesday, and Patrick managed to capture Ducky.

Please consider giving a donation to Cloa's Ark Animal Sanctuary to help them continue to feed, care for, and cover veterinary costs for the animals who call the sanctuary home and to continue to rescue animals who have suffered from abuse, neglect, and abandonment. Go to <https://www.cloasark.org> to learn more and to make a donation.

Above all, Beverly Schwartz is emphatic in stating, "The most important message is to not release domestic animals into the wild. At Easter, too many people buy



Cloa's Ark Animal Sanctuary's Patrick Veistroffer pulls Ducky the Bruce from the frigid waters of the Mystic River.  
— Photos by Bobbie Toner

chicks and ducklings and when they get past the cute and fuzzy stage, they are released into a local pond or river where they become prey."

Thanks to the generous and loving souls who helped make this rescue possible, Ducky will have a safe place to live out her life as it should be lived.



Paul Revere rides again from Lexington to Boston,  
through Somerville!

# SOMERVILLE PATRIOTS' DAY COLONIAL FAIR

**MONDAY  
APRIL 17, 2023**

**10:00 – 11:30 AM**

Foss Park on Broadway  
Near Fellsway West

- ★ Colonial clothing encouraged!
- ★ Enjoy time-period refreshments!
- ★ Play games!

**MAYOR KATJANA BALLANTYNE**

[www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/historic-events-and-education](https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/historic-events-and-education)



## 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.*

# Open letter to the Somerville City Council

**Dear Honorable Members of Somerville City Council:**

It is our understanding Somerville City Council, not the former Mayor, not the Planning Department, and not the current Mayor, will be the final “decider” on the future of 90 Washington Street. With this in mind, I hope that each of you will vote against cutting down 84 mature trees, plowing under well-manicured green space, and removing a parcel of land that for 40-years has provided both resident parking and hauling access to Cobble Hill’s trash facility.

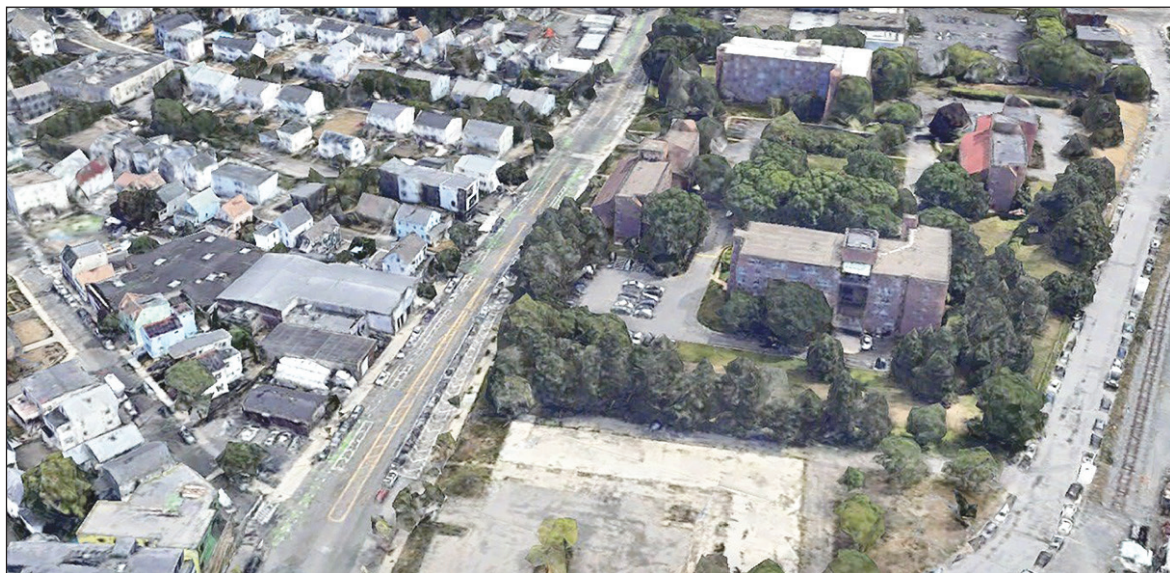
I have worked at Cobble Hill for 21 years and find it beyond belief city government removed quality of life assets from 300 affordable elders. I am not a public person, nor do I enjoy my new public role in defending Cobble Hill Apartments. That said, I find it more distasteful to do nothing when truly bad decisions are being made and Cobble Hill residents are in urgent need of advocacy. And so, I first sought out advice from residents, co-workers and community activists to help me understand why this was happening. And as we chipped away at the untruths we were told by city officials; we responded each time with a letter writing campaign to report the facts. It has been exhaustive, but I believe we have completed everyone’s homework. Our hopes to stop this mistake from happening now rests with Somerville City Council.

Perhaps, it could be helpful to know 44% of Cobble Hill’s 224 units own a registered vehicle. When we lose our parking lot at 74 Washington Street, three dozen elderly households along with homecare workers, visiting nurses, and family members will need to play the cruel game of Ward 1 “musical cars” due to the immediate loss of off-street park-

ing. I have yet to meet anyone who thinks Cobble Hill’s spill-over parking requirements can be absorbed by street parking. Currently, Cobble Hill’s parking is tight but workable. Absolutely nothing good will come from having Cobble Hill elders and their service providers compete for Ward 1’s severely limited street parking.

Likewise, you should be interested to know the alleyway behind 84 Washington Street was designed four decades ago to allow garbage truck removal of multiple two-yard trash receptacles and one large trash dumpster. The architect designed the dumpsters to be next to the building’s trash chute compactor room. If at any point garbage trucks lose access to the alleyway, the twice-a-week pick-up of compacted trash will no longer be possible because the bins are much too large to be rolled out any door other than the one that presents to the alleyway. And if this happens, I will need to permanently lock the hallway trash chutes at 84 Washington Street and instruct the 97 residents to dispose of their household trash in a perimeter dumpster outside the building. This is not a small problem to be ignored as the average Cobble Hill senior is 75 years old and at varying stages of health and mobility. It is my experience the trash chutes conveniently located on every floor are difficult enough for many elders who struggle to live independently. Requiring frail seniors to use perimeter dumpsters is an unnecessary burden.

We now imagine the then-City Council voted for the Demonstration Plan Project without a full understanding of these consequences. Given how much Cobble Hill has been gaslighted in our cry for advocacy, we suspect the Planning Department failed to tell City Council these collat-



eral hardships as well. Indeed, how else would any City Counselor have known these details because there was not one public hearing about the land-taking before the City Council vote.

As disturbing, the alleyway behind 84 Washington Street is frequently used for a more convenient vehicular drop-off when seniors return from shopping or when they ambulate with walkers. This makes sense of course because it is the closest point of access as the building’s front entrance is set back considerably from the street requiring more mobility. The routine requirements of life will be more difficult for seniors when this building access point is needlessly taken away.

These examples of unjustifiable hardship are the causal effects of poor decision making. They are also infuriating because they were created by the former mayor’s overreach without public input. Cobble Hill’s legitimate concerns were easily anticipated, easily prevented, and sadly just as easily ignored.

Absent a public community process, the Planning Department wasn’t asked to explain how the taking of these assets might diminish Cobble Hill Apartment’s quality of life. Nor were Planning Department officials ever asked if all four of the acres they took

qualified as “blight”. They were not! Instead, Cobble Hill Apartments discovered a much darker lesson about Somerville’s “community process”. If facts and public scrutiny prove inconvenient, they are to be circumvented. And when facts do not align with the Planning Department’s narrative and/or the deeply flawed Site Selection Study and equally flawed Demonstration Plan Project, it is best to ignore them altogether and keep moving forward. How else to explain no written responses to Cobble Hill’s letters and the absence of our expressed concerns on the [https://voice.somervillema.gov/90washington\\_redevelopment](https://voice.somervillema.gov/90washington_redevelopment) website?

To say the City’s outreach to date has been dismissive, insensitive, and anti-community is prologue. So much so it is reasonable to wonder if the Planning Department made the cold calculation that Cobble Hill is comprised of low-income residents who are powerless to stop them. Whatever the truth, I would wager Cobble Hill’s now endangered “quality of life” that nothing so bold would have occurred if Cobble Hill Apartments were a high-end market rental or homeowner community.

Fortunately, it is not too late. The Administration’s request for bond funding requires City Council approval. We respectful-

ly and urgently ask you to vote no.

Voting against this request should not be hard. The 2018 Site Selection Study and the 2019 Demonstration Plan Project made clear the proposed Public Safety Building required a land parcel no larger than 30,000 sq ft with a projected construction cost of between \$36 and \$48.5 million. Inexplicably, this grandiose plan has since been put on steroids. City Council is now being asked to approve a previously unimaginable price tag of \$102 million to include a land parcel almost five times the size of the need that was projected. This amount will very likely climb once again when the pro tanto stage of the land value dispute is resolved.

Now is the time for City Council to show awareness and fiduciary responsibility. The original plans for 90 Washington Street were poorly justified and should not have been predicated on the taking of quality-of-life assets from low-income elders. We ask instead for City Council to adopt Councilor McLaughlin’s promise to Cobble Hill residents that no parking or alleyway will be taken, and the green space and trees will be preserved.

In addition, at the core of our public dispute is whether 90 Washington Street is the very best location

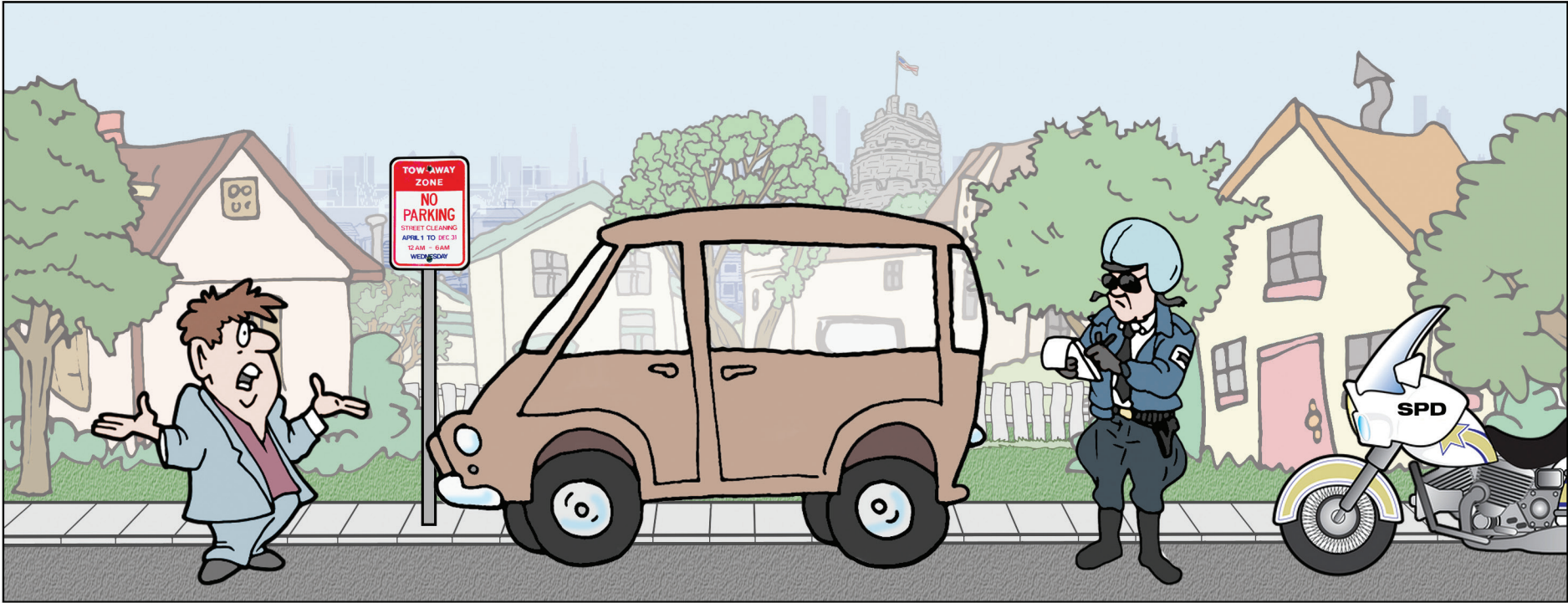
*Continued on page 9*



COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Don't be a fool on April 3 - street sweeping resumes and parking restrictions apply.

Our View Of The Times



Spring has finally arrived, and with it comes the inevitable regular street sweep-activities throughout the city.

As inconvenient and annoying it may be to comply with schedule, it is an inescapable fact of life for us all and we must make the adjustment accordingly.

Practically speaking, the Traffic and Parking department is doing its best to keep city residents informed and ready to

make sure they avoid the \$50 fine that has been mandated for those who fail to comply with the parking regulations.

The city has provided complete schedules on various Web pages as well as offering email re-minder services and access to scheduling data on its 311 phone line. Additionally, all streets affected are furnished with signs indicated the days and hours of sweeping times.

So all in all, there is little excuse for getting caught with your car being parked in the wrong place at the wrong time. The information is out there, and you can mark your calendars, set your phone apps, tell your mom to call and remind you, etc.

We can grouse and moan about the inconvenience, but let's face facts. We all want our streets to be safe and clean, and

complying with these reasonable regulations isn't so much to ask of us, is it?

Just get out there when the times comes, put the ignition key in the slot and you know the rest. Nothing could be simpler and aggravation will soon fade away.

Consider it your small contribution to keeping our great little city looking as good as possible. Pitch in and do your part, or at least be ready to pay the price.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

city is seeking **volunteers** to help publicize and support activities at the **Colonial Fair on Monday, April 17**, at **Foss Park**, which follows a reenactment of Revere's ride. Both adults and Somerville students are welcome to sign up. For more information or to volunteer, contact **Historic Events and Education Coordinator Brandon Wilson** via [bwilson@somervillema.gov](mailto:bwilson@somervillema.gov) or 617-776-3938.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Community members** ages 12 and older can now **submit ideas for funding** online, by phone (617-863-6622 or call 311), and in person at **City Hall** (93 Highland Ave.) and **all library branch locations**

**through Saturday, May 20**. Ideas will be reviewed by **Budget Delegate volunteers** and presented for Somerville residents to vote on later this fall. For more information and to keep up with the **Participatory Budgeting process**, visit [somervillema.gov/pb](http://somervillema.gov/pb).

\*\*\*\*\*

Stop by **Lyndell's Bakery**, 720 Broadway, **April 14 – 16** for a **half moon** in loving memory of **Officer Sean Collier**. Proceeds will go to the **SAPD (Somerville Auxiliary Police Dept.) Sean Collier Memorial Scholarship**. Grab a friend and stop by for a treat, and maybe even win some raffle prizes.

\*\*\*\*\*

Happy birthday this week to the following: Happy birthday to **Pat Scrima**, a great guy and former resident. We hope he has a great 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 **Brittany Roberts**, **Christine Andrade McSheehy**, **Jim Halloran**, **Megan O'Brien**, **Kathleen Kennedy**, **Daniel M Rivera**, **Christopher John**, **Charles Ryan**, **April Yarasitis**, **Heather Ann**, **Douglas Kelley**, **Michael R.**

**Foster**, **Leo Connerty**, **Sarah O'Brien**, **Liam Seward**, **Rachel Lynn**, **Joanna Costante Callinan** and **Lyss Nicole**, 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.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Connexion** and **East Somerville Main Streets** will be hosting their **annual Easter Egg hunt** on **Saturday, April 8**, at 1:00 p.m. in **Chuckie Harris Park**, Cross Street E. Stop by or some Easter fun.

\*\*\*\*\*



FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#869

1. Besides pasta, what is the main ingredient in "pasta e fagioli"?

2. Which charitable organization was founded by London minister William Booth?

3. Which U.S. cities were the first to put fluoride in the drinking water?

4. If a dish is A la Crecy what is it garnished with?

5. Which item of clothing is also the name of a traffic barrier?

6. What kind of drink is a mocktail?
7. Leo the Lion was the mascot for which film studio?

8. What is an octothorpe also known as?

9. What would you be studying if you saw arches, whorls and loops?

10. What is the name of a screwdriver with a four pointed pattern?

11. What city is known as The City of Lights?

12. What is an oyster pail most commonly used for?
- Answers on page 10

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. The cigarette lighter was invented before the match.
2. Dragonflies have six legs but can't walk.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD  
COLORS

- ACROSS
1. Partner of pains

6. "Raiders of the Lost \_\_\_\_"

9. Opposite of flows

13. Flesh of fish

14. Grazing area

15. Soft palate hanger

16. Boatload

17. Wood-shaping tool

18. Old episode

19. Alice of "Color Purple" fame

21. Fruit and color

23. Long reef dweller

24. Sound of pain

25. Math class total

28. Excessively abundant

30. "Royal" color

35. Arrival times, acr.

37. Color quality

39. Shininess

40. White House "sub"

41. Spritelike

43. Cupid's counterpart

44. Serengeti grazer

46. Feeling blue

47. Hokkaido native

48. Color wheel inventor

50. Walk with a hitch

52. "Malcolm X" (1992) movie director

53. Stare open-mouthed

55. Napoleon of "Animal Farm," e.g.

57. Between blue and violet

60. \_\_\_\_phobia, intense fear of colors

63. Opposite of cathode

64. North American country

66. Run \_\_\_\_ of the law

68. Geography class book

69. Local area network

70. It's firma

71. Has divine power

72. Banned insecticide, acr.

73. German surrealist Max

- DOWN
1. "General Hospital" network

2. Crop of a bird

3. Zeus' sister and wife

4. Two under par on a golf hole

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14				15			
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Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

C	L	O	T			G	N	P				S	A	D
P	E	A	R			A	R	E	A			A	P	P
U	N	T	O			B	E	A	N			S	L	O
		T	H	U	N	B	E	R	G			T	A	T
				P	I	O	N	S				P	I	N
S	I	L	E	N	T				F	U	R	N	A	C
A	N	I		T	S	U	R	I	S			E	R	A
R	A	N	C	H		S	I	R				A	D	A
I	N	T	O			R	E	P	E	A	T		B	E
S	E	Y	M	O	U	R				N	E	L	S	O
			P	A	T				V	A	G	U	E	
		A	M	O	S				O	I	L	S	P	I
Q	U	A	S	I					R	O	O	T		D
U	N	I	T	S					F	L	U	S		E
A	T	M							F	A	D			N

5. Meat-cooking contraption

6. Winglike

7. Predominant color of Mars

8. Type of membranophone

9. Like never-losing Steven

10. Town

11. Primary color

12. \_\_\_\_ Juan, Puerto Rico

15. 7th planet from the sun

20. Chosen few

22. Nicki Minaj's genre

24. Not womenfolk

25. Number of colors in a rainbow

26. Of service

27. Colorful parrot

29. The Lumière brothers' creation

31. "Cheers" actress Perlman

32. Jeopardy

33. Sergio of Spaghetti Westerns fame
34. Follow as a consequence

36. Email folder

38. Cone-shaped quarters

42. Naiad or maenad

45. Motherless calves

49. Old horse

51. Long John Silver, e.g.

54. Modified "will"

56. Bottom-ranking employee

57. Opposite of "out of"

58. Hall of Fame Steelers' coach

59. June 6, 1944

60. " \_\_\_\_ Buy Me Love"

61. Between dawn and noon

62. Yours and mine

63. Expression of pleasure

65. Melancholy

67. Latissimus dorsi, for short
- Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.



## Somerville Street Sweeping Resumes April 3

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the Somerville Parking Department remind all residents that regular street sweeping will resume this season on Monday, April 3, and continue through December 31, 2023. Department of Public Works crews conduct street sweeping not only to help keep our streets clean but to also reduce flooding by preventing clogged street drains. 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. Vehicle owners are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the street sweeping schedule in areas where they park. The best way to do this is to note the days for street sweeping on your street by relying on posted signs.

You can also look up a street’s sweeping schedule or sign up for complimentary street sweeping reminders by text, email, or phone, by visiting [somervillema.gov/sweeping](https://somervillema.gov/sweeping). Soon the City will also release a smartphone app for street sweeping, trash and recycling reminders as well. The reminder service is offered as a courtesy and as a backup, but not as a failsafe service. Drivers should always check the street signs when parking. For more information regarding street sweeping procedures, visit [parksomerville.com](https://parksomerville.com) or call 311 (617-666-3311).



## Open letter to the Somerville City Council

CONT. FROM PG 6

for the City’s new Public Safety Building. It is not. The vacant lot at 90 Washington Street is steps from a MBTA GLX subway stop that should be destined for far better purposes than an upgraded police & fire building. We believe 90 Washington Street could inspire a new hub of activity on a rare and immensely valuable parcel

next to a subway stop.

On the contrary, proposing a Public Safety Building for 90 Washington Street might be the very worst idea as it will forevermore disturb a community of 300 elders with 2,262 annual siren alarms. Unlike our neighbors who go to school and/or work and spend weekends away from home, Cobble Hill residents are

largely homebound 24/7 and will hear every one of the sirens as they wail their way each day and night through heavy traffic on Washington St. It is our firm belief that building a siren producing “noise machine” next to Cobble Hill Apartments is a very bad fit.

The following link is a compilation of protest letters written by

residents, and emails I have distributed that define why Cobble Hill Apartments is so upset with the City’s plans.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/gnx1t1rl12yv7/2023-03-07%20-%20Cobble%20Hill%20views%20on%2090%20WS.pdf?dl=0>

Please let us know what more we can do to save our quality

of life, and to support Somerville with better options. We are counting on you, and again ask that you vote against authorizing this plan to move forward.

Respectfully,

Evelyn Ortiz  
Property Administrator  
Cobble Hill Apartments

Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



### Passover Charoset

Charoset symbolizes one of at least five traditional items found on the Seder Plate during Passover. Charoset is a sweet relish of fruits, nuts, honey, spices, and wine. It represents the clay that was used to make bricks when the Israelites were enslaved in Ancient Egypt.

For more detailed information, go to <https://jamiegeller.com/recipes/ashkenazi-style-charoset/>. The recipe below was adapted from <https://www.realsimple.com/food-recipes/browse-all-recipes/charoset>, Emily McKenna.

- 2 Apples, peeled and chopped into small pieces
- 1/2 Teaspoon lemon zest
- 1/2 Lemon, juiced
- 1/2 Cup toasted walnuts
- 1/2 Cup raisins
- 1/8 Cup honey

- 1/4 Cup orange marmalade
  - 1/2 Teaspoon cinnamon
  - 1/8 Teaspoon Chinese five spice
  - Pinch of kosher salt
- Preheat oven to 350°. Place the walnuts onto a cookie sheet and place in the oven for 10 minutes. Prepare the apples and place into a medium bowl. Add the lemon zest and lemon juice to the apples and mix well. This helps keeping them from oxidizing.
- In a small saucepan, add the raisins, honey, and orange marmalade. Place over a low heat and stir until the raisins are completely covered, about 2 minutes. Take off the heat and add the cinnamon, five spice, and salt, stir until completely mixed. Chop the walnuts into smaller pieces and add to the apples, then add the raisin mixture to the apples and blend everything together until well incorporated.
- Let sit for 4-6 hours in the refrigerator. Serve with matzo crackers. Serves



4-6 people.

If you’re planning on cooking a brisket and the side of tzimmes, here’s a link to a crock pot tzimmes recipe from a previous post I did in the past:

<https://www.thesomervilletimes.com/archives/64030>.

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



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The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from contractors for the SHA Job No. 2301: (AMP-1) Mystic View Apartments Asphalt Shingle Roof Replacement Phase 3, for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville MA, in accordance with the documents prepared by EHA Design, Inc.

The Project consists of, but is not limited to:  
Furnish all labor, materials, equipment, and supervision necessary for the complete replacement of the shingle roofing at (AMP-1) Mystic View Apartments Asphalt Shingle Roof Replacement, located on 40-50-60 River Road and 70-80-90 River Road, Somerville, MA 02145.

The work is estimated to cost: **\$430,000.00.**

All bidding "Requests For Information" (RFI's) shall be forwarded to [Peterd@ehadesign.com](mailto:Peterd@ehadesign.com) by March 30, 2023 for general bids.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149. & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §526 to 27H inclusive and federal wage rates established by the Davis Bacon Wage Act and the Secretary of Labor, under the Provisions of the Code of Federal Regulations, as amended. The higher of the two rates shall be paid. The project is subject to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968.

**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 online bidder. All bids shall be submitted online at [www.biddocsonline.com](http://www.biddocsonline.com), by the date and time specified.

**General Bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) for the category of Roofing, and general bids must be accompanied by a DCAMM Certificate of Eligibility, and Update Statement.**

General Bids will be received electronically at [www.biddocsonline.com](http://www.biddocsonline.com) until **2:00 p.m., on Thursday, April 6, 2023**, and publicly opened online, forthwith.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five percent (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (including all alternates), and made payable to the **Somerville Housing Authority**. A one hundred percent (100%) Payment Bond will also be required.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for review at [www.biddocsonline.com](http://www.biddocsonline.com) (may be viewed and downloaded electronically at no cost) or at Nashoba Blue, Inc. at 433 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749 (978-568-1167).

A pre-bid conference / site visit will be held at the rear Modernization Office of the **SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, Massachusetts 02145, on Thursday, March 29, 2023 at 1:00pm.** It is strongly recommended that prospective bidders attend.

3/22/23, 3/29/23 The Somerville Times



ADVERTISEMENT

The **Somerville Housing Authority** invites sealed bids for Laundry Equipment Kiosk Purchase, set -up, and Maintenance at various State and Federally aided elderly housing developments owned and operated by the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by the Somerville Housing Authority's Purchasing Manager.

The contract term is 3 years and are subject to the provisions of M.G.L. c.30B, inclusive.

General Bids will be received until **11:00 A.M., April 14, 2023**, and publicly opened forthwith, at Somerville Housing Authority, Modernization Bldg., 30R Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145.

Bid forms and Contract Documents will be available for download from our web site [www.sha-web.org](http://www.sha-web.org) under our Bid opportunities tab. There will be no charge for these documents. If bidding, you must email register with Anthony Crespo, at [tonyc@sha-web.org](mailto:tonyc@sha-web.org) and leave contact information. Identify the email as Laundry Equipment Kiosk P-LKI-OSK042023 purchase. Addendums will be posted on the website and will become part of the contract documents; the bidder shall be responsible to download and include in with bid.

Bids can be mailed, or dropped off to Somerville Housing Authority, Attn.: Anthony Crespo, Laundry Equipment Kiosk bid # P-LKIOSK042023 Purchase/Maintenance at 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145 and must be received by the time and date specified.

A walk through is scheduled for **9:00 A.M., April 6, 2023.** All shall meet at SHA Administrative Offices, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145. Please contact Anthony Crespo at 617/625-1152 Extension 336 if you plan on attending.

3/29/23 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 5, 2023**, at 6:00pm through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, 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](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov).

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1501838755448652123>  
Webinar ID: 129-640-139

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (631) 992-3221  
Access code: 540-973-565

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

**18 Ivaloo Street** Mike Cheng and Dan Flynn seek relief from the side setback encroachment requirement for a rear projecting porch in the Neighborhood Residence (NR) district, which requires a Hardship Variance.

**483 Broadway** Tavis Babbitt seeks re-approval of previously granted, and now expired, hardship variances for story height and the minimum number of stories in the Mid-Rise 4 (MR4) zoning district (P&Z 2021-012).

**45 Trull Street** Alexandra Teyssandier seeks an administrative appeal of the Building Official's determination of the building type for the building at 45 Trull Street.

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

3/22/23, 3/29/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Monday, April 10, 2023, at 6:00 PM**, on the following Application(s): Application of an Alteration of Premises, Outdoor Parklet Seating, for Sally O'Brien's LLC, d/b/a Sally O'Brien's, 335 Somerville Ave.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the GoToWebinar platform.

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

- Virtually through the GoToWebinar platform. Enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8041936225659792986>. You can also find this link on the city website's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.
- If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may send written comments by US mail to the Executive Secretary at 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143, or by email to [licensing@somervillema.gov](mailto:licensing@somervillema.gov). 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 Commission.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

LORI JEAN BATZEK, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
[LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV](mailto:LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV)

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City of Somerville  
PLANNING BOARD

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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

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

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4826750922727010394>  
Webinar ID: 857-269-499

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (415) 930-5321  
Access code: 496-778-281

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

**46 Broadway** CRG Graphics proposes a Major Amendment to a previously approved application that required a Special Permit (PB 2017-07) in the Mid-Rise 6 (MR6) district.

**114-120 Broadway** Good Food Restaurant, LLC seeks to extend the validity of, and a Major Amendment to, a previously issued Special Permit (PB 2019-13) in the Mid-Rise 5 (MR5) district.

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

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Ms. Cam's  
**Olio**  
Answers

From on page 8

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Beans                               | 7. MGM                                  |
| 2. The Salvation Army                  | 8. Hashtag or pound sign                |
| 3. Muskegon and Grand Rapids, Michigan | 9. Fingerprints                         |
| 4. Carrots                             | 10. Phillips head                       |
| 5. Jersey                              | 11. Paris                               |
| 6. Non-alcoholic cocktail              | 12. Take out container for Chinese food |



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

THOMAS F. GALLIGANI, JR.  
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, April 18, 2023** at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

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

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL:  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2168444068226542933>  
Webinar ID: 482-751-595

TO CALL IN

Phone Number: 1 (562) 247-8422  
Access Code: 602-086-014

ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT

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

HPC.DMO 2023.05 – 23 Glenwood Road

Applicant: Grace Spellenberg Revocable Living Trust  
Owner: Same as Applicant

*The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.*

Determinations of Preferably Preserved (STEP 2 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS)

HPC.DMO 2022.49 – 80 Professor's Row

Applicant: Kappa Chapter of Zeta Psi Corporation  
Owner: Same as Applicant

*The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.*

Case documents reviewed by the HPC are available on the City website at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases>. Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. **Note:** Written comments due to [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) **NO LATER THAN NOON** one week prior to the meeting date. Email [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) with inquiries.

3/29/23 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](http://www.storagetreasures.com) on **4/12/2023** at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Christopher Brody unit #229AMZ; Jamal Smith unit #344MZ. 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.

3/22/23, 3/29/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Monday, April 10, 2023, at 6:00 PM**, on the following Application(s): Application of an Alteration of Premises, Outdoor Sidewalk Seating, for Creations Coffee Somerville, LLC d/b/a True Grounds Café, 717 Broadway

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the GoToWebinar platform.

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. Virtually through the GoToWebinar platform. Enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8041936225659792986>. You can also find this link on the city website's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.
2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may send written comments by US mail to the Executive Secretary at 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143, or by email to [licensing@somervillema.gov](mailto:licensing@somervillema.gov). 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 Commission.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

LORI JEAN BATZEK, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
[LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV](mailto:LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV)

3/29/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Monday, April 10, 2023, at 6:00 PM**, on the following Application(s): Application of an Alteration of Premises, Outdoor Parklet Seating, for AnnexTW, Inc., d/b/a Bronwyn Restaurant

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the GoToWebinar platform.

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. Virtually through the GoToWebinar platform. Enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8041936225659792986>. You can also find this link on the city website's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.
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3/29/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Monday, April 10, 2023, at 6:00 PM**, on the following Application(s): Application of an Entertainment by Devices and Performers Outdoors and a 2AM Closing License, for Gauchao Brazilian Cuisine LLC d/b/a Gauchao Brazilian Cuisine, 102 Broadway

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the GoToWebinar platform.

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Monday, April 10, 2023, at 6:00 PM**, on the following Application(s): Application of an Alteration of Premises, Outdoor Private Patio Seating, for Indignant Brewing Co., LLC, d/b/a Winter Hill Brewing Co., 328 Broadway

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the GoToWebinar platform.

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. Virtually through the GoToWebinar platform. Enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8041936225659792986>. You can also find this link on the city website's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.
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SOMERVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE ON LICENSES AND PERMITS  
PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a Public Hearing before the City Council's Committee on Licenses and Permits, **Monday, April 10, 2023 at 6:00 PM**, on the following item:

New Extended Operating Hours License, Chow N Joy, 626 Somerville Ave, opening Sun-Thurs until 1 am and Fri-Sat until 2am for take-out and delivery services.

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

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. Virtually through the GoToWebinar platform. Enter this link into your internet browser any time before the meeting: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8779162072739528286> You can also find this link on the City Council's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.
2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may email your comments to [cityclerk@somervillema.gov](mailto:cityclerk@somervillema.gov), send them by US mail to the City Clerk, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143, or drop them into the secure drop box outside the back door on the School Street side of City Hall. 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

3/29/23 The Somerville Times



SOMERVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE ON LICENSES AND PERMITS  
PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a Public Hearing before the City Council's Committee on Licenses and Permits, **Monday, April 10, 2023 at 6:00 PM**, on the following item:

New Used Car Dealer License Class 2, Top Speed Vehicle, 631 Somerville Ave, 8 cars inside, 6 outside, Mon-Fri 8am-6pm, Sat 8am-2p, Sun Closed.

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

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. Virtually through the GoToWebinar platform. Enter this link into your internet browser any time before the meeting: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8779162072739528286> You can also find this link on the City Council's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.
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CITY CLERK

3/29/23 The Somerville Times



SOMERVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
COMMITTEE ON LICENSES AND PERMITS  
PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a Public Hearing before the City Council's Committee on Licenses and Permits, **Monday, April 10, 2023 at 6:00 PM**, on the following item:

Alfredo's Italian Kitchen seeks a New Extended Operating Hours License at 288 Broadway for opening Fri & Sat until 3am for take-out and delivery services.

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

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. Virtually through the GoToWebinar platform. Enter this link into your internet browser any time before the meeting: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8779162072739528286> You can also find this link on the City Council's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.
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KIMBERLY M. WELLS  
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BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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On This Day in History  
March 29

- 1638 – A permanent European colony is established in present-day Delaware.
- 1827 – Composer Ludwig van Beethoven is buried in Vienna amidst a crowd of over 10,000 mourners.
- 1867 – The United States purchases Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million dollars.
- 1886 – Coca-Cola goes on sale for the first time at a drugstore in Atlanta.
- 1903 – A regular news service begins between New York and London on Marconi's wireless.
- 1951 – The Chinese reject Gen. Douglas MacArthur's offer for a truce in Korea.
- 1962 – Cuba opens the trial of the Bay of Pigs invaders.
- 1966 – Leonid Brezhnev becomes First Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party.
- 1971 – Lt. William L. Calley Jr. is found guilty for his actions in the My Lai massacre.
- 1973 – The last U.S. troops withdraw from South Vietnam.
- 1976– Eight Ohio National Guardsmen are indicted for shooting four Kent State students during an anti-war protest on May 4, 1970.



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Ordinances protecting polyamorous families, other diverse relationships passed by city

CONT. FROM PG 1

because of how we build family.”  
“Millions of Americans are in consensually non-monogamous relationships and non-nuclear families,” added Brett Chamberlin, Executive Director for the Organization for Ethical Non-monogamy and Polyamory (OPEN), which organized for passage of this and other bills. “These populations are increasingly organizing for the acceptance and protections that all families and consensual relationships deserve.”  
Kimberly Rhoten, a socio-legal scholar who has written extensively on the current legal discrimination against consensually non-monogamous parents and Co-Founder of the Polyamory Legal Advocacy Coalition, noted, “Anti-discrimination legislation like this can protect diverse families and their children from harmful prejudices that would otherwise result in limiting or removing a polyamorous parent’s custody rights to their own children. By adopting laws that directly recognize these families as worth protecting, courts may think twice about these harmful actions.”  
Chosen Family Law Center’s Senior Legal Director and Harvard LGBTQ Advocacy Clinic’s Clinical Instructor Andy Izen-son agreed, “It is crucial that protection from discrimination advances hand-in-hand with relationship recognition. As we learned from the fight for same-sex marriage, relationship recognition alone is a hollow victory, when our community members can celebrate their relationship legally on Sunday and get fired for it on Monday. Discrimination protections are an important part of a comprehensive legal strategy that prioritizes the most marginalized community members instead of only serving the needs of the privileged.”  
“This legislation is about more than polyamory,” according to David Jay, founder of the Asexual Visibility and Education Network. “As an asexual activist who’s part of a three-parent family, I’m proud to be part of the coalition advocating for this legislation. Relationships and families built around non-sexual intimacy often don’t fit the two-partner model. Asexual people need these protections, so do solo parents with communities of care.”  
This historic move is applauded by polyamorous individuals and organizations across the country, who have long faced stigma and discrimination. This passage of these bills is an essential step forward in the movement for family inclusivity and recognition of the increasing diversity of families in the United States.





## OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

### Poet Adam Scheffler: Gets to the Worm in the Heart of the Matter

Recently I caught up with poet Adam Scheffler. He is the author of two books of poetry, the latest being *Heartworm*, which won the 2021 Moon City Press Prize, and *A Dog's Life*, which won the 2016 Jacar Press Book Contest. He grew up in Berkeley, California, received his MFA in poetry from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, and his PhD in English from Harvard. He teaches in the Harvard College Writing Program. He is a member of the New England Poetry Club.

**Doug Holder:** George Looney wrote that in your work you "praise the mundane world." Do you find beauty in banality?

**Adam Scheffler:** I'd turn the question around and say I find banality in beauty, or at least in epic adventure. Just try watching all 31 Marvel Movies and you'll see what I mean. Whereas I think poetry gives you an excuse to savor the details of your actual, supposedly mundane life – peering at a spider web, singing in the shower, noticing the full moon suddenly emerge from behind a cloud – and, to quote my poet-friend Mande Zecca, that's where the magic is.

I also really enjoy writing poems about unpoetic, silly, or even gross subjects. I have different poems in this book, for instance, about Jeff Goldblum, a cockroach, and my dog finding a used condom in the park. It's a fun challenge trying to find beauty in something seemingly trivial or off-putting. There might even be more room for failure due to the novelty – if you're going to try to write another pretty poem about trees, you better nail it.

**DH:** The title *Heartworm* seems to be taken from an affliction suffered by dogs. Did you get inspiration from your own dog?

**AS:** Yes, from my poodle-mix Bee Gee. You have to give your dog a pill once a month, so parasitic worms don't form in their heart and kill them. And I was thinking about how Bee Gee does a version of that for me when I'm unhappy, offering me the "treatment" of her company for a more metaphorical kind of heartworm.



And it's not just dogs. There's something about the sheer, surprising presence of animals that can amaze you and shake you free of whatever demons are clinging to you. As my former advisor Peter Sacks was rumored to have said, during a talk in a crowded lecture hall, "If a cow were to walk into the room right now, we would all come to attention."

**DH:** In your poem *Checkout* you use the setting of a Walmart store to explore what a poem can do and can't do. Explain.

**AS:** Hmm, well in that poem I was feeling particularly angry and sad during a trip to Walmart around Christmastime. The whole store seemed to be staffed by 80-year-olds wearing reindeer hats. It's awful that this is how we, as a society, have decided to treat the elderly, forcing them to work for minimum wage to make billionaires richer. Poetry couldn't really teach me how these employees feel. After all, they were stuck there for hours and hours, and I could put my poem down whenever I wanted. But I did think it could help me perceive the whole situation more keenly and, as I say in the poem, place a little curse on the Waltons.

*Continued on page 15*

## Lyrical SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Vivian Shipley's 13th poetry book is *Hindsight: 2020* (LaLit Press, Southeastern Louisiana University, 2022). Previous books won Word Press Prize, CT Center for the Book Poetry Prize, Paterson Poetry Prize, New England Poetry Club's Sheila Motton Award and CT Press Club Award. Individual poems have won Poetry Society of America's Lucille Medwick Prize, Robert Frost Foundation Prize, William Faulkner Prize and USC's Ann Stanford Poetry Prize. Shipley is the Connecticut State University Distinguished Professor Emeritus. Her website is [Vivianshipley.net](http://Vivianshipley.net)



#### The Light is Green; I Can Drive Away

Car door open, knees jutting out,  
a man is selling The New Haven Register

at the State Street ramp. I have a red light,  
but he does not get up to offer me a paper.

Smoking, he leans on his thighs.  
Orange safety vest, his bare arms

are a macrame of faded burns, cuts, welts,  
not from barbed fences or baling hay,

but his overalls do sag with dirt that could  
have come from suckering tobacco

in Kentucky fields. This man might be  
my uncle, my cousin. I cannot stop staring

at his thick brown hair, furrowed cheeks  
that arrow my heart back into Appalachia,

to our cabins in its hollows. I can picture

him walking Connecticut streets, probing

seams for coins buried in couches  
left on the curb. If I had the plastic bag

of water bottles I leave in a Shop Rite

basket for people who will bend down

to pick up a nickel, I wonder if this man  
would bother to redeem what he can?

— Vivian Shipley



Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

On **Saturday, April 29**, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., **East Somerville** will be holding their **Spring Clean Up**. Meet at the **East Somerville Library**, 115 Broadway, for coffee and pastries from **Ola Cafe**, and then help beautify the neighborhood.

Beginning **Saturday, April 1**, Somerville residents can once again **drop off household hazardous waste at the DPW yard on designated days**. Drop offs are accepted on **the first Saturday of each month, April through November**, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the DPW yard (1 Franey Rd.). Accepted materials include motor oil, aerosol paint, household cleaning chemicals, rechargeable batteries, and more. Proof of residence such as a driver's license or utility bill is required. Waste materials should be placed in sturdy boxes and not in loose or plastic bags. Residents can learn more about other accepted items by visiting [somervillema.gov/trash](https://somervillema.gov/trash) or calling 311 (617-666-3311).

The signup form for **vendors at this year's Carnival** is now open. For more

details on the vendor application please apply at: <https://forms.gle/1kVUujfvh-Gdwtxm1A>.

**Somerville Youth Soccer** is looking for **volunteer coaches** for their **spring season**. Email [executivedirector@somervillesoccer.org](mailto:executivedirector@somervillesoccer.org) for more information.

The **Powder House Blvd. detour** has begun at **North St. to Alewife Brook Parkway**. Vehicles travelling both eastbound and westbound on Powder House Blvd. between North St. and Alewife Brook Parkway will be detoured during construction hours (weekdays 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). Westbound traffic will be directed south on North St., west on Broadway to return to Alewife Brook Parkway. Eastbound traffic will be directed south on Alewife Brook Parkway, east on Broadway, north on North St. to return to Powder House Blvd. Anticipated detour duration: 3 months (weather permitting). For more information and updates visit [voice.somervillema.gov/intersectionredesign](https://voice.somervillema.gov/intersectionredesign).

**Somerville PorchFest 2023** will take place on **Saturday, May 13** (rain date May 14) 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://somervilleartscouncil.org/porchfest>.

The **Somerville Public Library** in partnership with the **St. Mark Community Education Program** is offering a free, 10-week **U.S. Citizenship Preparation class**. The class will prepare students for the citizenship interview including the 100 civics questions, the reading and writing sections, and interview questions based on the N-400 application. The class will be held in-person at the **Central Library** (79 Highland Avenue) on **10 Saturdays** from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. **from March 4 to May 6**. Requirements: Basic level of English and 5 years as a U.S.

permanent resident (green card holder) or 3 years, if married to a U.S. citizen. Visit <https://www.somervillepubliclibrary.org/ellcitizenship> to register.

The **City of Somerville** continues to host weekly **walk-in vaccination clinics** for residents **through the end of March**, with both flu vaccines and the bivalent Moderna COVID-19 booster available. Clinics will take place **each Wednesday** from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the City Hall Annex, 50 Evergreen Ave., **through March 29**. Advance registration is recommended to save time but not required. Pre-register online at [somervillema.gov/vaccineclinics](https://somervillema.gov/vaccineclinics) or by calling 311 (617-666-3311). Flu vaccines and updated COVID-19 boosters are also available at many pharmacies and other locations. Find a provider at [vaccines.gov](https://vaccines.gov).

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Off The Shelf CONT. FROM PG 14

**DH:** I loved your poem *Facebook*. You examine the size but no steak of the platform – the snake behind the false teeth smile – and how it defines universal yearning and need. Can you comment on this?

**AS:** Writers, and particularly poets, have to engage in self-promotion as nobody else is going to do it for us. But the scary thing about Facebook is how it conflates the personal and the public so that each social interaction you have becomes publicly viewable and recorded as if it takes place on an enormous stage. This often makes people behave in a falsely polite way as if each of us were a PR representative for ourselves.

We then come to be more skeptical of each other online because we feel in some sense we're encountering a "brand" not a person, and that we're not getting the real truth from anyone. But there's still that visceral drive to connect. Beneath everyone's online persona is still a complex, needy, ugly, fascinating human vacillating between wanting to be truly seen and wanting only the perfected avatar of themselves to be seen.

**DH:** There seems to be a theme of looking to be saved from the clutches of the material world. Is poetry a life raft?

**AS:** I wish! I was once in a graduate seminar in which the professor told us, wonderingly, that Wallace Stevens couldn't enjoy poems anymore when he was dying. And I remember thinking of course he couldn't enjoy poems, he was dying! I can't enjoy poems when I've slept badly or have a headache, so expecting poems to save me from the clutches of the material world might be a tall order.

But that said, I do think reading and writing poetry fills a basic need for me like sleep or sex or food. When I go too long without it, I start feeling depressed and scraped out. Or maybe the world starts seeming scraped out. Returning to the theme from the beginning of this interview, I think poetry at its best can restore the material world to us as a place of wonder, a place that no longer makes us ask, like Peggy Lee, is that all there is?

**DH:** Why should we read this collection?

**AS:** Well, it's short! Seriously, though, I tried to trim this collection down, so that it only contains poems I'm happy with, so it doesn't waste your time. I think of writing poems as hatching thousands of baby sea turtles, most of whom get picked off by gulls, or get distracted by highway lights and wander off in the wrong direction. However, a few of them make it to the ocean, into the collection where they can grieve their lost fellows and ride the white surf of the page.

**Florence, Kentucky**

So what if the old man  
on the bus is trying and  
failing to remember his dead  
mom's face, as if the past were  
not a cartoon tunnel scratched  
on a wall?

He's still trying,  
and when did we forget our

cattle-shoes and feather-parkas,  
how we carry with us a lowing  
sadness, an extinguished memory  
of flight?

Today I'm going to count all the  
blackbirds between the prison  
and the Walmart where, right  
now, in its galloping sadness  
a bald man who sounds like  
a car horn is hector-lecturing  
his infant-hushing  
girlfriend—as her unhappiness,  
radiant as a cleat, sharp as an ice  
skate, sprays to a sudden stop.

Right now, at the emergency  
crisis center right next to the  
gun store, the nurse feels entombed  
in hours like a fly in amber  
as the waiting room TVs  
spin despair's golden honey—

and I think of the ice I waded out  
on as a kid, of how often the world  
seems like it's going to shatter,  
but then, miraculously,  
mercilessly, does not.

— From *Heartworm*





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