



### Inside:



**Good Time**

page 3



**Gospel legend at Arts at the Armory**

page 13



**The joys of the Maple Boil Down**

page 20

## Somerville's Unofficial Results: 2024 Presidential Primary



Somerville weighed in along with much of America on Super Tuesday with its choices for presidential candidates and other races.

Below are the unofficial results showing how Somerville voted in the 2024 Presidential Primary:

### PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE

#### Democratic Race

Dean Philips 445  
Joseph R. Biden 7,940  
Marianne Williamson 431  
No Preference 2,596

#### Republican Race

Donald J. Trump 989  
Nikki Haley 1,296  
No Preference 21

Continued on page 4

## Lunar New Year Rolling Parade

On Sunday, March 3, Mayor Katjana Ballantyne joined leaders and members of the Boston, Belmont, Cambridge, and Malden communities to celebrate the fourth Lunar New Year Rolling Parade which kicked off at the Lions Gate in Chinatown Boston at noon.

February 1 was the start of the 4722nd Lunar New Year and Black History Month. The Korean-American Citizens League of New England, Chinese American Citizens Alliance Boston Lodge and the Chinese American Heritage Foundation with the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community honored the 2024 Parade Grand Marshal Brigadier General Joseph Milano for his dedication to our country and his efforts to build bridges and improve the lives of Asian Americans in the United States.

Those selected to assist Honorary Consul General Milano included Boston Parade

Continued on page 16



The Lunar New Year Rolling Parade rolled into Somerville last Sunday in celebration of the 4722nd Lunar New Year. — Photos by Bobbie Toner

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

Don't forget to **set your clocks forward** this weekend. **March 10, Daylight Saving Time** starts. When local standard time is about to reach Sunday, March 10, 2:00 a.m., clocks are turned forward one hour to Sunday, March 10, 3:00 a.m. local daylight time instead. Sunrise and sunset will be about one hour later on Mar 10 than the day before. There will be more light in the evening.

\*\*\*\*\*

Somerville's Youth Services division is hosting **self-care and stress management workshops** for teens. The first workshop is on **Wednesday, March 6**, at **Somerville Public Library Central Branch** (79 Highland Ave.) from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Teens will learn stress management and mindfulness techniques, and get tips for practicing self-care. Please contact **Dan Harris** at dharris@somervillema.gov with any questions. To register, visit: [bit.ly/3wiz4nW](https://bit.ly/3wiz4nW).

\*\*\*\*\*








Join the City and Somerville Public Schools at the **Summer Camp and Activities Fair** on **Thursday, March 7**, at **East Somerville Community School Gym** (50 Cross St.) from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Get information on Somerville's summer camps, recreational activities, and learning opportunities. Pizza and fun activities will be provided. Learn more at <https://somervillehub.org/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

Happy birthday this week to the following: At the very top of the list of birthdays this week, we wish a very happy birthday to our own Editor, **Jim Clark**. We wish him a very *Continued on page 7*

## Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of March 6 – March 12 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 <b>Wednesday</b> March 6	Rain	55°/44°	72%	67%	SSE 7 mph
 <b>Thursday</b> March 7	Rain	45°/33°	68%	54%	NE 18 mph
 <b>Friday</b> March 8	Partly Cloudy	44°/30°	20%	14%	NNE 12 mph
 <b>Saturday</b> March 9	Cloudy	43°/37°	11%	7%	SE 11 mph
 <b>Sunday</b> March 10	Rain	49°/36°	88%	71%	SE 14 mph
 <b>Monday</b> March 11	Rain	43°/36°	42%	23%	NW 17 mph
 <b>Tuesday</b> March 12	Partly Cloudy	49°/35°	7%	3%	NW 12 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: *New documentary film examines child protection issues in Massachusetts*

Lauri Baker says:

This was a very informative article and I look forward to seeing the documentary. This system is broken and must be changed for the children and families.

Mary McDermott says:

I applaud the efforts of Lewitas and Litchenstein. The seriously flawed foster care system needs to be brought into focus. This documentary can explore what systemic issues need to change in order to serve and protect children. I look forward to seeing this film.

### Response to: *Lyrical Somerville – February 28*

Bridget Seley Galway says:

This has the dept and mystery of a conceptual painting, in which colors define meaning in its truest form leading to a bittersweet reality. I say bittersweet, because there is recognition of beauty which profoundly defines what is lost.

*Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments*

## The Somerville Times

news@thesomervilletimes.com

www.thesomervilletimes.com

Phone: 857-488-5138



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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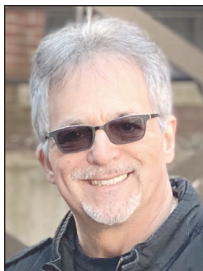
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Life in the  by Jimmy Del Ponte

# Good Time



There used to be a facility called Good Time the Assembly Square area. It got wild in there at times. It was a good place for kids' birthday parties along with the pool tables and other machines. I asked our friends to share their memories of Good Time with us.

"My ex-wife worked there for years, I set up the golf and batting cages when they opened."

"I was the clown there. Saturday and Sundays."

"Just found three ROLLS of tokens from Good Time. Anyone interested in joining me at the batting cages? They are also good for food purchases. I hear the Buffalo wings are the best!"

"I really miss Good Time. Twice a year, my co-workers and I would go and spend a good part of the day there while we did

just about everything they offered, while we competed against one another. It was fun and there was money involved too. Lots of fun."

"I've been driving around looking for Good Time lately. With all the new building going on, I can't seem to find it anywhere!" Lol.

"I loved Good Time! We had so many parties there over the years, bridal shower, 40th birthday party, family reunion and kids' parties."

"When it was football season, I would go there every Sunday to watch the games with my friends."

"And yes, Good Time, a few birthday parties when the kids were young! I miss Somerville, been in North Reading since 1983. The good news is my son lives on Powder House Boulevard now after living in San Francisco for 10 years so I get to visit."

Good Time got a bad rap due to a few instances where some people were fighting. I still have a few Good Time tokens.



## Upcoming Somerville Ward 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 Democratic caucuses and conferences

On Thursday, March 14, at 7:00 p.m., Democrats from Wards 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 will convene at the Somerville High School Upper Cafeteria and elect delegates and alternates to represent each ward at the 2024 State Democratic Convention.

Registered and pre-registered Democrats in Somerville who will be 16 years old by February 15 may vote and be elected as delegates or alternates during the caucus. Youth (age 16 to 35), people with disabilities, people of color, veterans, mem-

bers of underrepresented ethnic and racial groups, and members of the LGBTQ+ community not elected as delegates or alternates are encouraged to apply to be add-on delegates at the caucus or by visiting MassDems Convention | Massachusetts Democratic Party

The 2024 Convention will be held on June 1 at the DCU Center in Worcester. Delegates will convene to endorse candidates for statewide office ahead of the September Democratic Primary.

Following the caucus to elect dele-



gates to the State Democratic Convention, each ward will meet to elect delegates to the Senate District Conference, who will elect a State Committeewoman representing the 2nd Middlesex District. Any registered Democrat can run to be a conference delegate. Only members of the ward committees can vote for the conference delegates.

Once the delegates are elected, they will attend the Senate District Conference, which will be held at the Somerville Central Library, 79 Highland Ave, Somerville MA 02143, at 2:00 p.m. on March 23. This conference will be fully in person.

For more information, please contact the Somerville Democratic City Committee at [info@somdems.org](mailto:info@somdems.org).



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## Somerville Police Crime Log February 20-26

### Recovered Firearm

On 2/23/24 at approximately 2:18 p.m., Somerville Police responded to an apartment on Memorial Rd. to assist DYS officers with a juvenile male who cut his GPS bracelet off. Officers were given consent to search the apartment and located a loaded firearm inside.

### Arrest

On 2/24/24 at approximately 2:03 p.m., Somerville Police responded to Assembly Row for a suspicious male attempting to break into vehicles. Upon arrival, officers located the male party based on a witness description. Officers then searched the suspect and found him in possession of a knife as well as numerous stolen items that were taken out of several vehicles in the area. Officers then placed the male suspect under arrest.

Other Crimes: 2 package thefts, 1 MV theft, 4 car breaks, 2 bike thefts, 2 MV vandalisms



— Somerville Police Dept.

# Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210

## Help Keep Somerville Safe!

# Text-A-Tip

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Simply text the phone number "TIP411" ( 847411 ) and put "617spd" at the beginning of your text message. If your message requires an emergency response PLEASE DO NOT TEXT and instead call 9-1-1.

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## Somerville Board of Health updating tobacco and nicotine regulations

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne is announcing that the Somerville Board of Health recently tightened two key regulations for tobacco/nicotine retail sales in Somerville.

As of March 1, 2024, the cap on the number of tobacco/nicotine retail licenses within Somerville will progressively decline. Each time a permit is surrendered, revoked, or not renewed, the cap will be adjusted downward. Additionally, all retailers will now be required to verify the age of every purchaser of tobacco/nicotine products via government photo I.D. to confirm the purchaser is 21 or older.

The measures received vocal community support. Community members, including several local high school students, spoke strongly in favor of the new regulations in a public forum that was immediately followed by the vote on the proposed regulations.

"The City and the Board of Health prioritize community health, particularly for youth, and these new regulations will advance that effort. Evidence shows that 90% of smokers begin smoking before age 25, and that the density of tobacco retailers near adolescents' homes has been associated with increased youth smoking rates and initiation of non-cigarette tobacco product use," said Bonny Carroll, the City of Somerville's Six-City Tobacco Control Director.

Somerville is now one of more than 150 other Massachusetts communities that have enacted these regulations. Through this long-term public health intervention, the Board of Health and City hope to support the health of residents by progressively reducing potential exposure and access to tobacco/nicotine products within the city for generations of Somerville youth to come.

For more information, please contact Six-City Tobacco Control Director, Bonny Carroll, at bcarroll@somervillema.gov or Prevention Services Manager, Matthew Mitchell, at mmitchell@somervillema.gov. Be sure to also follow Somerville Prevention on Instagram: @somervilleprevention.



## Somerville's Unofficial Results: 2024 Presidential Primary CONT. FROM PG 1

<b>SECOND MIDDLESEX DISTRICT – Democrat</b>	<b>WOMAN</b> Teresa Walsh 8,986	<b>STATE COMMITTEE WOMAN</b> Christine H. Doherty 934 Patricia Brady Doherty 595	<b>PREFERENCE</b>  <b>Libertarian</b> Jacob George Hornberger 7 Michael D. Rectenwald 5 Chase Russell Oliver 6 Michael Ter Maat 2	Lars Damian Mapstead 4 No Preference 12
<b>STATE COMMITTEE MAN</b> Justin Klekota 5,995 Rand Wilson 3,776	<b>STATE COMMITTEE MAN – Republican</b>  John Joseph Sousa 944 Mark Alan Steffen 475	<b>PRESIDENTIAL</b>		To see the unofficial results for all wards and races in Somerville go to: <a href="http://www.thesomervilletimes.com/downloads/electiontotalsmarch2024.pdf">http://www.thesomervilletimes.com/downloads/electiontotalsmarch2024.pdf</a>

## Glen and Otis Streets Neighborways Block Party



Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Ward One Councilor Matthew McLaughlin, and City of Somerville staff are inviting all community members to a block party to share exciting upcoming safety improvements to Glen Street and Otis Street. The event will be held on Saturday, March 16, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the East Somerville Community School.

The City of Somerville is partnering with local non-profits CultureHouse and Neighborways Design to create Neighborways on Glen Street and Otis Street. Neighborways are designed to create safer and more comfortable environments for pedestrians, cyclists, and residents, and are designed to prioritize the needs of local residents and emphasize a sense of community and livability.

This Neighborways project will use quick-build traffic-calming techniques and materials such as pavement markings, vertical plastic posts, and planters to improve safety on the street without major structural changes. Learn more about Neighborways in Somerville's Bicycle Network Plan.

After hearing from community members through door-to-door outreach and cider socials, the team has developed potential designs for the street that they'll share as part of the block party.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to share their feedback on the proposals. Music, refreshments, and games will be provided. Information about proposed designs will also be made available on the project website following the block party.

This project is made possible through American Rescue Plan Act funds intended to support collaborative and impactful partnerships between the City and local non-profits. To learn more about the City's current ARPA projects and funding parameters, visit [somervillema.gov/arpa](https://somervillema.gov/arpa).

Learn more about this project at [somervillema.gov/glenandotis](https://somervillema.gov/glenandotis).

## Punk Rock Aerobics for Kidz (PRA4K)

PRA4K is a new series of workouts for kids (6-11) that is all about having a blast while getting fit, no special outfits or gear required. The moves are set to a "G-rated" soundtrack (sung by youth) that parents will recognize and love.

Our DIY Activity Zine featuring punk rock history and art activities is available online for those who want to work out to PRA4K YouTube videos and have fun at home. Check out the attached press release!

Somerville Public Library is hosting an in-person event on at the West Branch on Wednesday, March 13 at 1:00 p.m. and at the Central Branch on Friday, March 29 from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

A larger event with puppets by Jef Czekaj (award-winning children's book author) and video projection will be at The Discovery Museum in Acton on March 24 from 11:00 a.m. to noon.

Play Union in Somerville is hosting a series of PRA4K classes on Wednesdays, starting in April with a launch party on March 23 at MAGPIE kids. Check the PRA website for new dates being added: <https://www.punkrockaerobics.com/>

## Affordable Housing Open Waitlist Opportunity

### AVALON AT ASSEMBLY ROW/AVA SOMERVILLE

#### Free Translation/Language Assistance Available Upon Request

Avalon at Assembly Row and AVA Somerville are a non-smoking community with common grill areas and covered bike storage.

#### Open waitlist opportunity for affordable rental units

for households earning at or below 50% and 80% of Area Median Income (AMI) Liquid Asset Limit: \$75,000 per household

#### Low-Moderate-Income Guidelines Apply

We will be accepting applications for studio, 1-, 2- and 3-bedroom apartments! Applications for Disabled Accessible and Hearing-Impaired units (ADA) units will also be accepted. Documentation of need will be required upon reaching the top of the waiting list.



#### OPEN APPLICATION PERIOD: APRIL 5, 2024- JULY 5, 2024

Applications will be ranked by date and time received. To Submit a Completed Application Online starting April 5, 2024, **Visit:**

[www.avaloncommunities.com/affordable-housing/community-list/](https://www.avaloncommunities.com/affordable-housing/community-list/)

Paper applications available by request at

AssemblyRow@AvalonBay.com or at Avalon at Assembly Row – 333 Great River Road, Somerville, MA 02145

\*In addition to rent, Avalon at Assembly Row and AVA Somerville Residents are responsible for gas heating and cooking, electric, water heating (gas), sewer, water, phone, and cable utilities. Additional fees for parking and pets may apply. Credit check required.

#### Voucher Holders are encouraged to apply.

Household Maximum Income Limits (50 AMI% Program)	Household Maximum Income Limits (80 AMI% Program)
One (1) Person \$51,950	One (1) Person \$82,950
Two (2) People \$59,400	Two (2) People \$94,800
Three (3) People \$66,800	Three (3) People \$106,650
Four (4) People \$74,200	Four (4) People \$118,450
Five (5) People \$80,150	Five (5) People \$127,950
Six (6) People \$86,100	Six (6) People \$137,450
Seven (7) People \$92,050	Seven (7) People \$146,900

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#### To pick up a paper application please visit:

Avalon at Assembly Row and AVA Somerville  
333 Great River Road, Somerville, MA 02145  
AssemblyRow@AvalonBay.com | (617) 658-3840



# Beacon Hill Roll Call



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

**THE HOUSE AND SENATE:** *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records local representatives' votes on one roll call from the week of February 26-March 1. There were no roll calls in the Senate last week.

## USE INTEREST FROM STATE'S "RAIN DAY FUND" TO LEVERAGE FEDERAL FUNDS (H 4446)

House 154-0, approved a bill that would leverage the interest from the state's Rainy Day Fund to better compete for federal dollars, to ensure the state receives the maximum possible share of federal funds and to pay down the state's long term debt liabilities. The Rainy Day Fund currently has a historic balance of \$8.2 billion.

The Senate already approved a different version of the bill in January. A House-Senate conference committee will likely hammer out a compromise version.

"This legislation expands our commonwealth's competitive edge as we compete for federal funds and pay down our debt obligations," said Rep. Jack Lewis (D-Framingham), chair of the House Committee on Federal Stimulus and Census Oversight Committee. "The Bipartisan Infrastructure Act, CHIPS Act and Inflation Reduction Act, all contain time-sensitive opportunities for our commonwealth and our local communities – opportunities that require us to have matching resources available. The passage of this bill today ensures that we can properly compete for all available federal funds.

"Ensuring that the commonwealth is able to aggressively compete for the federal funding being made available to states is critical, especially given the challenging revenue conditions that we are facing here in Massachusetts this fiscal year," said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy). "It's vital that Massachusetts does everything that it can to share in that prosperity."

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

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven	Yes

## ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

**SEX EDUCATION (S 2686)** - Senate approved, on a voice vote without a roll call, and sent to the House legislation that would require that all public schools offering a comprehensive sexual health education curriculum "provide medically accurate, age-appropriate sexual health education." The Senate has approved the bill four times in the past including a 38-1 vote by which it passed in 2023. Each time the measure died from inaction by the House.

The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) in September adopted updated revisions to local sex education rules that are in line with the changes sought under the Senate bill.

Sen. Sal DiDomenico, the sponsor of the bill, said he supports the revisions adopted by the board, with the backing of Gov. Maura Healey, but noted they are "guidelines and suggestions only."

"The [bill] turns them into a minimum standard," said DiDomenico. "It gives teeth to frameworks, and ensures kids aren't receiving inaccurate and harmful information. This prevents bad stuff from being taught in our schools."

The bill's prospects for passage in the House do not look promising this year, given the remarks by House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy) last week. "Given that it has been less than a year since BESE adopted the new guidelines, it is important that we give school districts adequate time to implement them, rather than rush to potentially amend or codify them into law," said Mariano.

Under current law, public schools are not required to teach sex education and the bill does not change that but rather mandates that any schools that choose to teach sex education are required to follow a curriculum, based on age, that includes human anatomy, reproduction and sexual development; the benefits of abstinence and delaying sexual activity; the importance of effectively using contraceptives to prevent unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV and AIDS; ways to effectively discuss safe sexual activity; relationship and communication skills to form healthy, respectful relationships free of violence, coercion and intimidation; and information about gender identity and sexual orientation for all students, including recognition that people have different sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions.

The measure also requires any school offering sex education to notify parents about the school's sex education curriculum and gives parents the right to withdraw a student from the instruction. Another provision creates a process for parents to inspect the program instruction materials before the start of the course.

Supporters said that under the bill, local cities and towns still have the authority and power to decide whether sex education is taught in their schools. They said the measure will ensure that schools that choose to teach sex education will have a framework to follow. They noted the bill will prepare students to make healthy decisions and will reduce teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

"The [bill] will finally make it clear that sex and relationship education in Massachusetts must be inclusive of all students and emphasize the importance and necessity of consent in relationships," said DiDomenico. "I am proud we passed this commonsense health policy through the Senate and now we must get it over the finish line to ensure our children have the information they need to protect their health, form respectful relationships and build the bright futures they deserve."

"Today's vote affirms what we already know – a strong majority of people in Massachusetts, including most parents, want young people to receive sex and relationship education at school," said Jamie Klufts, co-chair of the Healthy Youth Coalition. "We look forward to working with the House to pass the [bill] this session so that the state's exciting new Health and Physical Education Framework can reach its full potential and do the most to support our students and teachers."

"Providing comprehensive, age-appropriate, and medically accurate sex and relationship education to our youth is the best way to prepare them to make safe and healthy choices," said Sen. Jason Lewis (D-Winchester), Senate Chair of the Committee on Education. "I'm pleased that the Senate is continuing to advance this legislation that ensures that Massachusetts public schools use research-informed curricula that prioritize inclusivity and the health and well-being of students."

No one spoke against the bill during Senate debate on the proposal but there was opposition from outside the Legislature.

"The bill is government mandated ideological instruction under the guise of health education," Catholic Action League Executive Director C. J. Doyle told *Beacon Hill Roll Call*. "It will use the authority of the law and the money of the taxpayers to impose the value system of the secular left onto the public schoolchildren of the state. This legislation requires sex-ed courses in public schools to include 'affirmative education that people have different sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions.' That affirmative approach extends, explicitly, to the practice of contraception, and implicitly, to abortion.

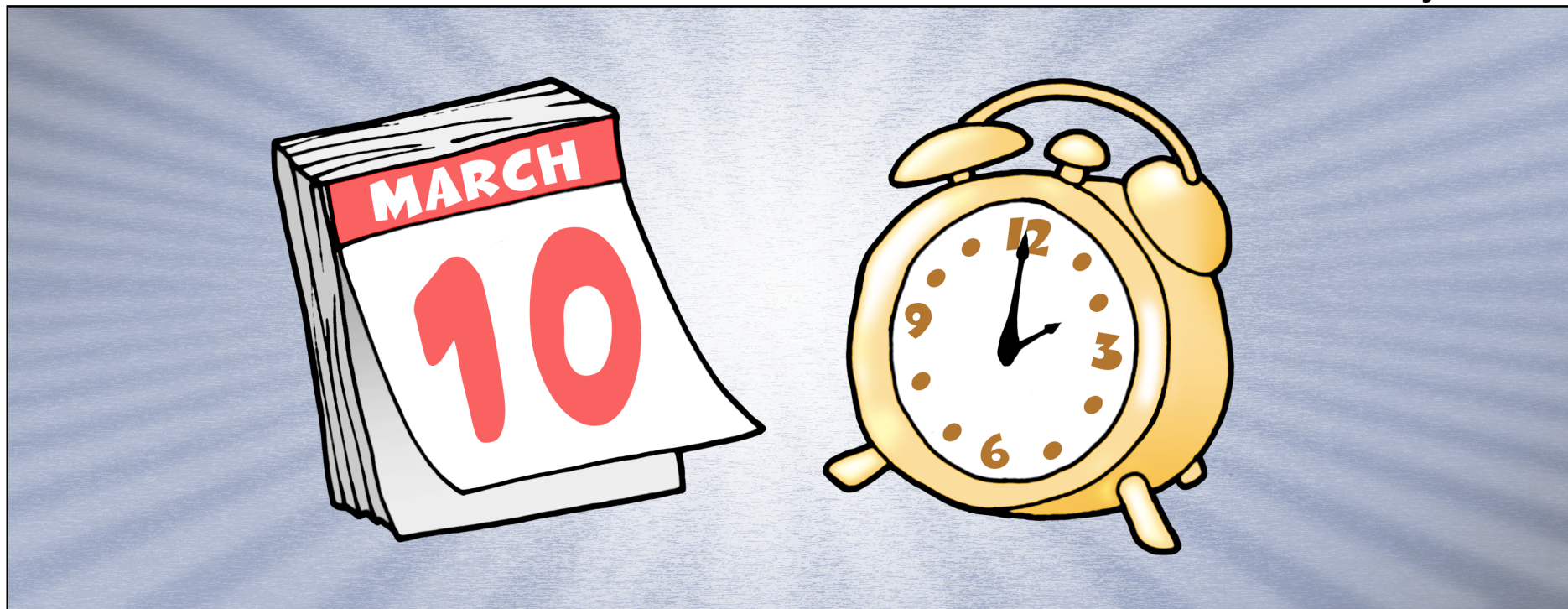
Doyle continued, "According to the proposed law, all public school sex education must be consistent with the Massachusetts Comprehensive Health Curriculum Framework, recently revised by the Healey Administration. That document is filled with references to acknowledging diversity, showing respect for different kinds of families and overcoming stereotypes, prejudices, bias, sexism and cultural stigmas – thinly disguised code language for traditional moral beliefs.

*Continued on page 19*

# COMMENTARY

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Don't forget to "spring forward" this Sunday morning.

## Our View Of The Times



Who thought this thing up anyway? Spring forward, fall back. Or is that fall forward, spring back? The only way we can ever be sure is if we're early or late for church Sunday morning, or whatever it is you do on Sunday morning.

To be fair, there's usually someone around smart enough to know the difference, if it isn't you yourself.

But back to the main question at hand,

who did think this up?

Popular belief has it that it's all about farming and the agrarian lifestyle that dominated western societies for the past few hundred years. Digging a little deeper, it turns out that the whole thing was invented by a gentleman from New Zealand named George Vernon Hudson, an entomologist (bug lover) who highly valued his daylight time and detested those who slept

away those precious sun filled hours of summer. Long story short, he got the ball rolling, and some hundred or so years later we're still locked into that bug-loving cycle of spring forward (or backward) and back again. Year after year.

There is a lot to be said for getting that extra hour of sunshine going when spring finally ... springs.

But how much fun is it when the re-

verse is the case and we suddenly end up plunged into darkness by late afternoon? Some people become seriously depressed during the shorter days of winter. Others aren't bothered by it at all, the ones who shun the sunshine.

It's all above the average person's pay grade to know just what to make of it, and why we keep at it year after year.

After all, it's just what we do, isn't it?

### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

happy year ahead and we hope takes the day off to enjoy his special day, he deserves it. Happy birthday to real estate agent and former Somerville resident **John Pratti**. We hope John has a great birthday. Happy birthday to another nice guy, **Mike Browne**. We hope he has a great one. Happy Birthday to **Donald Coutomas**. We wish him the best. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such **Scott Naugler, David Rudolph, Bob Schofield, Shu Tai, Jackie Levy Harrington, Patrick Callinan, Toni Vetrano and Denize Ramos** a very happy birthday. To all those that are also celebrating this week, we wish a happy birthday.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Somerville Little League 2024 Spring registration** is open. Go to [www.somervillelittleleague.org](http://www.somervillelittleleague.org) to register.  
 \*\*\*\*\*

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. If you would like to take part in the festivities, visit SPS Facebook page and fill out the Google Form by **March 15**. The Class of

2024 looks forward to seeing you! Email any questions to **Irma Calderon** at [icalderon@k12.somerville.ma.us](mailto:icalderon@k12.somerville.ma.us).

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Somerville students** are invited to this annual literacy tradition on the **Tufts campus**. This **Sunday, March 10**, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the **Joyce Cummings Center** at Tufts University, 77 College Ave, Medford, MA 02155. Kids are invited to enjoy a **reading themed carnival and activities**. Paid parking is available for families who drive. There will be a story time and surprise guest. This event is free.  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Tabletop Game Night at CultureHouse,**

64 Union Square takes place **Saturday, March 9**, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. **Glasshouse Games** invites you to a night of play-testing in anticipation for their upcoming card-battling strategy game, **Whisker Wars**. This is a free, public event for both indie game designers and players to come together and connect through unpublished tabletop games. Non-alcoholic drinks and snacks provided.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Liam Mannion**, proprietor of **Sally O'Brien's**, and former City Councilor **Bob McWatters** invite the public to celebrate **Irish Heritage** and hoist a pint of Guinness on **St. Patrick's** *Continued on page 22*

# FUN & GAMES

## Ms. Cam's Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#913

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. What year does the Chinese new year cycle start?                                 | <i>Twilight Zone</i> , who narrated the show's opening monologue?                      |
| 2. What is the traditional gift for Chinese New Year?                               | 8. What large fruit was cultivated for hydration purposes?                             |
| 3. Who recorded the album <i>Wonderful Wonderful</i> ?                              | 9. What is the full moon in March called?  |
| 4. When is Pi Day celebrated?   | 10. In early Roman times, the "Ides of March" was the deadline for what?               |
| 5. What famous doll was introduced to the world in March of 1959?                   | 11. What 1960s TV show was set aboard the USS Seaview, a futuristic nuclear submarine? |
| 6. Which American rapper had a Billboard hit with the song <i>Congratulations</i> ? | 12. In 1999 Shigetaka Kurita invented what keyboard additions for cell phones?         |
| 7. In the TV show <i>The</i>  |  |

Answers on page 14

### The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. Emus and kangaroos cannot walk backward.
2. The average American produces 4.5 pounds of trash per day.

#### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD MARCH MADNESS

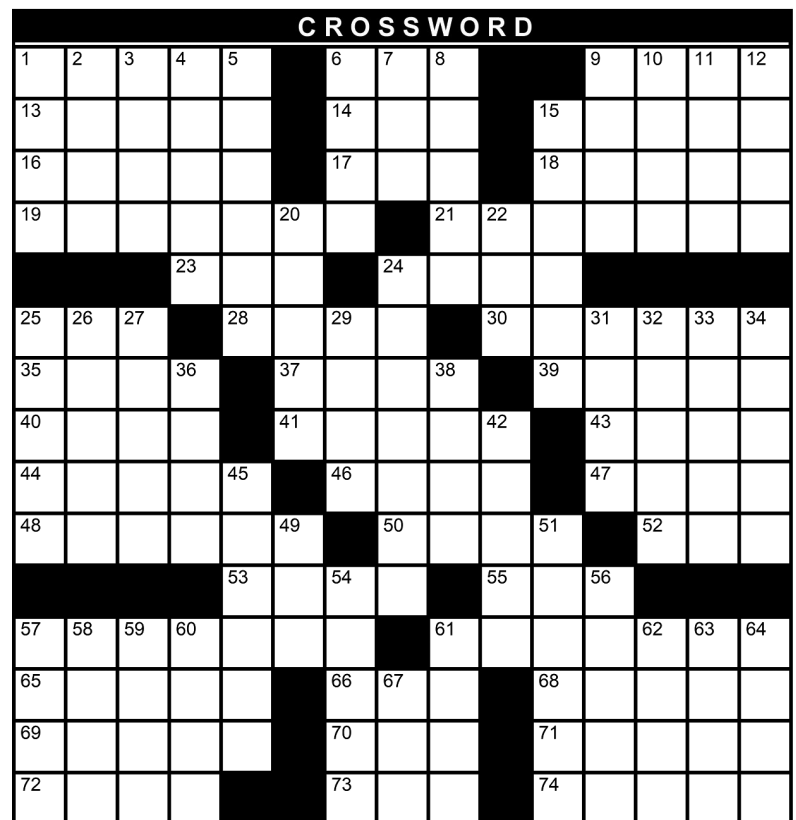
##### ACROSS

1. Window addition?
6. Huge software company
9. Spill the beans
13. Watcher
14. Acronym, abbr.
15. Words to live by
16. Ocean-dwelling \_\_\_\_ ray
17. Polynesian necklace
18. Once upon a midnight dreary" bird
19. Fill-in-the-blanks, March Madness style
21. "One \_\_\_\_ Moment"
23. Like jalapeño
24. Give off
25. Bean counter?
28. Dominate opponent, slangily
30. \_\_\_\_-elimination tournament
35. Bricklayers' carrier
37. Wood sorrels
39. Jeweler's unit
40. Alight, past tense
41. Swings around
43. Spice Girl
44. Bubonic plague carriers
46. Away from wind
47. D'Artagnan's sword
48. Elite Eight, or the \_\_\_\_ round of tournament
50. Bono's bandmate, with The
52. Make a mistake
53. Landlord's due
55. Small lump
57. State Farm Stadium state
61. Not pro
65. Chocolate substitute
66. Hot temper
68. Derived from oats
69. Cuckoo
70. Sir George Ivan Morrison's stage name
71. Baby at a recital
72. Have supper
73. Young newt
74. Many affirmatives

##### DOWN

1. Brush alternative
2. Culture-growing turf
3. Long forearm bone
4. Satyr
5. City in Poland
6. Delta Center location: \_\_\_\_ Lake City
7. Hole-in-one
8. Type of polyhedron
9. Raisin's breakfast companion
10. Denim innovator
11. Port in Yemen
12. Toker's pipe
15. Professional reviewer
20. Not pathos
22. Not hers
24. Shoulder rank display
25. Winnowing leftovers
26. Chicken in Mexico
27. Farewell in Paris
29. School with most NCAA basketball titles
31. Back of the neck
32. Search blindly
33. Lightsaber beam
34. Olden days anesthetic
36. \_\_\_\_ player
38. Garden starter
42. D.S., in sheet music
45. Dance club light
49. Female chicken
51. Speech at a funeral
54. Lacking guile
56. What speakers do
57. LSD, e.g.
58. Indian princess
59. Turkmenistan's neighbor
60. Type of defense
61. One tenth of a dime
62. Airline postings, acr.
63. Type of pool
64. What means justify
67. Churchill's "so few"

Solution in the next edition of *The Somerville Times*.



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#### Soultion to last week's crossword puzzle:





## Somerville Community Schools Afterschool Program registration opens March 19-28



Registration for the Somerville Public Schools' Community Schools Afterschool Program will open from March 19 through March 28, 2024. Families of students in grades PK-5 who are interested in enrolling their students in the SPS Afterschool Program should complete the online registration form during this period in order to be part of the enrollment lottery for School Year 2024-2025.

Afterschool spots are assigned based on availability at sites and through a weighted lottery system. Families who register their student during the March 19-28 registration period will automatically participate in the Afterschool enrollment lottery.

The Enrollment Office sends out school placement notifications for PK and K families during the week of March 18. After receiving the student school placement notice, families should register for Afterschool at the student's assigned school. When registering, families must select the same school their child attends as their afterschool location.

Families of students in grades 1-5 can also re-enroll in the Community Schools Afterschool Program between March 19 to March 28. All registration links will be available at [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/CommunitySchools](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/CommunitySchools) beginning on March 19.

Community Schools, a department within the Somerville Public Schools, manages the afterschool program at all SPS PK-8 school facilities. Since 2016, the Afterschool Program has expanded by more than 53%, increasing from 500 enrolled students in 2016 to 768 enrolled students in 2023. From 2022 to 2023, available spots in the Afterschool Program increased by more than 65. Participants in the Afterschool Program participate in enrichment clubs on a wide variety of topics, from martial arts, to dance, and from crafts to gardening.

School-Based Family and Community Liaisons with the Somerville Family Learning Collaborative will work with the Afterschool Program Site Directors to provide registration support for any families requiring it to enroll and re-enroll their child. There is a non-refundable registration fee for each family that registers in afterschool, though that fee will be waived for families applying for financial assistance.

For more information about Afterschool enrolling, programming, costs, and financial aid, and to register, visit [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/CommunitySchools](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/CommunitySchools). The Community Schools Office, with other Central Administrative Offices, moved to 167 Holland Street, Somerville, MA 02144 in the summer of 2023. Starting in School Year 2024-2025, all students in grades PK-8 will be released early on Wednesdays. Afterschool programming will include early release time periods.

Somerville Public Schools also offers the innovative El Sistema afterschool instrument study program and several afterschool clubs. The registration for those programs is separate from Community Schools Afterschool registration.

For anyone interested in learning more about El Sistema, please visit the webpage <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/elsistema>. Links to lists of other afterschool programs available to Somerville students through external and internal providers can be found on the Out of School Time page <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/ost>.

## The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #299

### Brick Solid

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Brick manufacturing in Massachusetts began as early as 1629, the year of Charlestown's charter.

In 1678, Charlestown's Peter Tufts built a brick home for his son in Medford. It is the oldest brick house in New England. Through the years, this extended Tufts family became large landowners and brick makers in both Medford and Somerville.



Somerville's underlying clay surface produced an industry that spawned many brickyards. Over twenty of them dotted Somerville's landscape which contributed to the building of Boston, Cambridge, Lowell and many other cities and towns. For years, the burning kilns' smoke filled the days and their fires illuminated the nights.

Somerville's rich clay deposits produced millions of bricks which were some of the best-made of their time. The largest natural deposits of clay were found along the Mystic's marshes near Ten Hills which is today's Foss Park and the Assembly Square area. They were also found along the Millers River's marshes which ran from today's Cobble Hill to the Union Square area.



These two brickyard locations shared both American history and Somerville history.

#### Ten Hills

♦ The home of Massachusetts first governor, *Continued on page 21*

# LEGAL NOTICES

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**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 **Tuesday, March 19, 2024** 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://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_KtJ7r8tQU6BaopkfjvwxQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KtJ7r8tQU6BaopkfjvwxQ)

Webinar ID: 880 8425 2037

**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.

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

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

**HP24-000001 – 382 Broadway**

Applicant: Garrett Einis  
Owner: 382 Broadway LLC  
*The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.*

**HP23-022084 – 9 Olive Ave**

Applicant: Robert DiPierro  
Owner: Robert DiPierro  
*The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.*

**HP24-000002 - 8 Montrose Court**

Applicant: ThoughtCraft Architects LLC - Mark Wilson  
Owner: Rufus Roscoe LLC  
*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.*

2/28/24 3/6/24 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.storage-treasures.com](http://www.storage-treasures.com) on **3/12/2024 at 12:00PM**. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Carl Esperance unit #318B. 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.

2/28/24, 3/6/24 The Somerville Times

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[www.TheSomervilleTimes.com](http://www.TheSomervilleTimes.com)**



**Section 00 11 13  
ADVERTISEMENT TO BID  
MGL c.149 §50K to §150K w/ DCAMM Certification**

The **SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY**, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the Lobby Mailroom Renovation at Bryant Manor (667-4) in Somerville, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by **REVERSE ARCHITECTURE**.

The Project consists of but not limited to: Construct new mailroom in apartment building lobby including walls, resilient flooring, acoustical ceiling tiles, new mailboxes, counter, cabinetry, trim, and new lighting. Demolish existing mailroom walls and finishes.

The work is estimated to cost **\$58,000.00**.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & 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](http://www.biddocs.com) and received no later than the date and time specified.

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

General Bids will be received until **22 March 2024 on 3:00PM 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 AUTHORITY**. 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](http://www.biddocs.com) (may be viewed and downloaded electronically at no cost).

PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT: Scheduled  
Date and Time: 03/12/2024 at 10:00AM EDT  
Address: 75 Myrtle St, Somerville, MA 02145  
Instructions: Meet at main lobby  
The hard copy Contract Documents may be seen at:

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

3/6/24 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
RFP #24-52**

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

**On-Call Inspections and Environmental Testing**

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at [www.bidexpress.com](http://www.bidexpress.com), <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **03/11/2024**. Sealed proposals will be received at above office until: **03/28/2024 1:00PM EST**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

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

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

3/6/24 The Somerville Times

Visit us online at [www.TheSomervilleTimes.com](http://www.TheSomervilleTimes.com)



**SOMERVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
FINANCE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
PUBLIC HEARING**

There will be a Public Hearing before the City Council's Committee on Finance, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on **Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 7:00 PM**, on the following:

That this City Council hold a public hearing in the Committee on Finance on the community's Fiscal Year 2025 budget priorities.

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\\_GEA0GmOATjKjBvW0niE4\\_Q](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_GEA0GmOATjKjBvW0niE4_Q)

There will be access to and assistance for remote participation provided at City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, 2nd Floor Committee Room.

Spanish and Portuguese translation will be available via Zoom during the meeting.

2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may email your comments to [publiccomments@somervillema.gov](mailto: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**

3/6/24 The Somerville Times

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Suffolk Probate and Family Court  
24 New Chardon Street  
Boston, MA 02114**

**SUFFOLK Division**

**Docket Number 23W2055**

**SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION**

**Luisa Guerrero Ferrera, Plaintiff (s)  
V.  
Hermes R. Romero Garcia, Defendant (s)**

**To the above-named Defendant (s)**

A Complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff (s), Luisa Guerrero Ferrera seeking a Complaint For Custody, Support and Parenting Time.

You are required to serve your answer upon Luisa Guerrero Ferrera, plaintiff(s) whose address is 89 Chestnut Street, #3, Chelsea, MA 02150, your answer on or before 03/14/2024.

If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action.

You are also required to file a copy your answer in the office of the Register of this Court at 24 New Chardon Street, Boston, MA 02114

Witness, **Brian J. Dunn**, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 22nd day of February 2024.

**Stephanie L. Everett, Esq  
Register of Probate**

3/6/24 The Somerville Times

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

# LEGAL NOTICES

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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Tuesday, March 19, 2024**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s): Application of an Alteration of Premises, Outdoor Public Sidewalk and Parklet Seating for Cercross & Sons Inc d/b/a Restaurante Turistico Machu Picchu, 307 Somerville Ave.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting may be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the Zoom platform.

You have three ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. In person in the City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143.
2. Virtually through the Zoom platform. Enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_t\\_VS8KvfQIOJpAz5LWmLow](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_t_VS8KvfQIOJpAz5LWmLow)

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.

3. 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.**

ANDREA R. TORRES, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
[LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV](mailto:LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV)

3/6/24 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Tuesday, March 19, 2024**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s): Application of Change of DBA Name and Entertainment by Performers Indoors for Papagayo Somerville Inc d/b/a Papagayo at 331 Great River Road.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting may be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the Zoom platform.

You have three ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. In person in the City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143.
2. Virtually through the Zoom platform. Enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_t\\_VS8KvfQIOJpAz5LWmLow](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_t_VS8KvfQIOJpAz5LWmLow)

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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Tuesday, March 19, 2024**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s): Application of Alteration of Premises, Outdoor Private Patio Seating and Change of Hours for Lehrhaus LLC d/b/a Lehrhaus at 425 Washington Street.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting may be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the Zoom platform.

You have three ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. In person in the City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143.
2. Virtually through the Zoom platform. Enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_t\\_VS8KvfQIOJpAz5LWmLow](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_t_VS8KvfQIOJpAz5LWmLow)

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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Tuesday, March 19, 2024**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s): Application of Common Victualer and Entertainment by Devices Indoors for Window Seat LLC d/b/a Boston Halal at 248 Elm St.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting may be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the Zoom platform.

You have three ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. In person in the City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143.
2. Virtually through the Zoom platform. Enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_t\\_VS8KvfQIOJpAz5LWmLow](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_t_VS8KvfQIOJpAz5LWmLow)

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[LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV](mailto:LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV)

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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Tuesday, March 19, 2024**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s): Application of Common Victualer and Entertainment by Devices Indoors for Carolicious LLC d/b/a Carolicious Gourmet at 6 Bow Market Way.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting may be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the Zoom platform.

You have three ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. In person in the City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143.
2. Virtually through the Zoom platform. Enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_t\\_VS8KvfQIOJpAz5LWmLow](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_t_VS8KvfQIOJpAz5LWmLow)

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[LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV](mailto:LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV)

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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Tuesday, March 19, 2024**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s): Application of Change of Officers/Directors and Change of Stock Interest for Carlos & Mike Inc d/b/a The Cornerstone at 282 Beacon Street.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting may be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the Zoom platform.

You have three ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. In person in the City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143.
2. Virtually through the Zoom platform. Enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_t\\_VS8KvfQIOJpAz5LWmLow](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_t_VS8KvfQIOJpAz5LWmLow)

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Facebook at [www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1](http://www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1)

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**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Tuesday, March 19, 2024**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s): Application of Wine and Malt Alcohol License, Common Victualer, Entertainment by Devices Indoors, and Sunday Hours for Amelia's Taqueria V Inc d/b/a Amelia's Taqueria at 475 Revolution Drive.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting may be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the Zoom platform.

You have three ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. In person in the City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143.
2. Virtually through the Zoom platform. Enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9JmZ5LWmLow>

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.

3. 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.**

ANDREA R. TORRES, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY  
[LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV](mailto:licensing@somervillema.gov)

3/6/24 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
LICENSING COMMISSION**

There will be a Public Hearing before the **Licensing Commission** on **Tuesday, March 19, 2024**, at 6:00 PM, on the following Application(s): Application of Transfer of Wine and Malt Package Store License and Change of Location for Modern Love LLC d/b/a Wild Child at 30 Bow Street.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting may be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the Zoom platform.

You have three ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. In person in the City Council Chamber, 2nd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143.
2. Virtually through the Zoom platform. Enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9JmZ5LWmLow>

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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[LICENSING@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV](mailto:licensing@somervillema.gov)

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**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, March 20, 2024**, at 6:00pm through GoToWebinar.

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](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov).

**TO USE A COMPUTER**

Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9JmZ5LWmLow>  
Webinar ID: 867 4996 3486

**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:

**120-132 Middlesex Ave.** DWCH Assembly Row, LLC seeks relief from the Master Plan Standards that requires at least twenty-five (25%) percentage of a development site to be provided as a Civic Space in the Assembly Square Mixed-Use (ASMD) district, which requires a Hardship Variance.

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

<https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospdc/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).

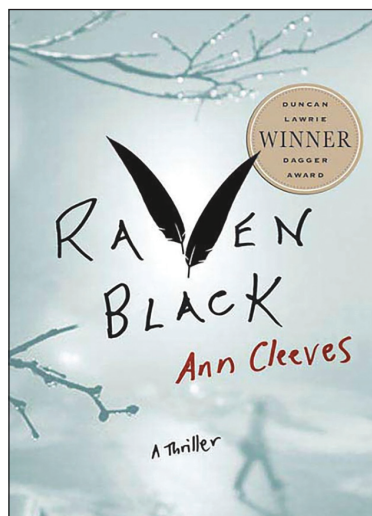
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## Book review: 'Raven Black' by Ann Cleeves

By Dennis Fischman

Do you watch murder mysteries on television? Chances are, you've seen a good number of series set in Britain. Shows like *Midsomer Murders* (based on the Chief Inspector Barnaby books by Caroline Graham) and the *Inspector Morse* series and



*Raven Black*, by Ann Cleeves, Mino-taur Books, 2007, 384 pages.

its prequel, *Endeavour* (based on the series by Colin Dexter) have crossed the pond and become popular in the U.S. My new favorite mystery author, Ann Cleeves, has two series that have been adapted to TV: the Vera Stanhope mysteries on ITV and the BBC's *Shetland*.

The *Shetland* Islands are way to the north, up near the Arctic Circle, pretty isolated from the rest of Great Britain. That isolation has great advantages for a mystery writer. She can present plots that pertain only to the close-knit community, and plots that bring in people from elsewhere, in the same book and make the reader wonder if, and whether, they are connected.

In *Raven Black*, the first book of the *Shetland* Island series, our hero is Inspector Jimmy Perez, the remote descendant of a Spanish sailor who was blown off

course and decided to stay. When Fran Hunter, a local artist of English extraction, discovers the dead body of a teenage girl, Perez has to investigate. Only, since he's just a local, he has to work under the supervision of DI Roy Taylor from the Criminal Investigation Division in Inverness, Scotland, flown in for the occasion.

Suspicion immediately falls on an old, reclusive, perhaps demented man named Magnus Tait. Many years ago, Magnus was suspected in the death of another young woman, but never convicted. Is this history repeating itself, and will they finally put the blame where it belongs? Or is someone else taking advantage of the lonely, isolated countryside and placing the body where suspicion will fall on the wrong man?

The relationship between the off-Island cop, Taylor, and the

local, Perez, is one focus of the book. I won't be spoiling anything if I mention that knowing the local people, their relationships, and even their family history is a great advantage for Jimmy Perez, despite his relative inexperience with murder investigations.

The relationship between Jimmy Perez and Fran Hunter develops slowly in this book, but it won't be a surprise to anyone that Fran and her little daughter, Cassie, will continue to be important in Jimmy's life.

The island itself is a character worth getting to know. Cleeves manages to describe and evoke the bleak beauty of the place without getting lost in description. The title not only refers to actual ravens, but to how dark the days are in *Shetland* for half the year. (The other half has very little darkness at all. Read book 2, *White Nights*, to see what it's like

to live in constant light.)

What about the mystery itself? It held my interest on every page, but I have to admit, I found the ending implausible. That didn't spoil it for me, however. When you read *Raven Black*, write me back and let me know what you think.



Dennis Fischman is a member of the Somerville Public Library's Mystery Book Club and an inveterate reader.

# Blind Boys of Alabama Play Arts at the Armory Spotlight Series

Arts at the Armory's Spotlight Series is thrilled to bring Blind Boys of Alabama to their historic Performance Hall stage on March 14. Hailed as "gospel titans" by Rolling Stone, the Blind Boys of Alabama defied the considerable odds stacked against them in the segregated south, from singing for pocket change in the Jim Crow South, to performing for three different American presidents, soundtracking the Civil Rights movement and helping define modern gospel music as we know it.

Inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 2003, the group has now won six Grammy Awards for their albums (plus a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award). At this month's Grammy Awards, the Blind Boys won Best Roots Gospel album for *Echoes of the South*, and were nominated for two *Echoes of the South* song performances.

In September 2023, Blind Boys of Alabama released their latest album, *Echoes of the South*, which finds these living legends of Gospel coming home to honor those they have lost and making a bold declaration of how far they still plan to go.

The eleven-song collection is a portrait of perseverance and deepens the group's decades-long mission of spreading light and love as they've reckoned with the loss of two of their own, Paul Beasley and Benjamin Moore, both

longtime members of the Blind Boys tight-knit family. *Echoes of the South* is released in their honor – as well as for the group's recently-retired leader Jimmy Carter – and keeps the Blind Boys' long-held mission statement at its core: "As long as everybody gives all that they have to give and we sing songs that touch the heart, we'll live on forever."

On a collection named after the first radio show that ever booked the Blind Boys as guests (out of WSGN in Birmingham), *Echoes of the South* was tracked fully in their home state at The NuttHouse Recording Studio in Sheffield.

The Blind Boys' rich history and own personal touches can be felt everywhere on *Echoes of the South* from including braille on the album cover for the first time to a track list of the music that's most inspired them over their careers: long-lost gospel classics, traditional spirituals and timeless R&B/soul cuts made famous by artists like Pop Staples and Curtis Mayfield.

Teaming with each of their co-producers, these recordings transcend genre and era to touch deep and fundamental elements of friendship, joy, gratitude and persistence. The making of the album even inspired a short documentary film, *This May Be the Last Time*.

The Blind Boys do not show any sign of slowing down, with



tour dates booked through 2025, and a new book due out in March entitled *Spirit of the Century*, which is an insider history of the band, the longest running group in American music, and the untold story of their world, written with band members and key musical colleagues.

The Blind Boys have collaborated with artists as diverse as Stevie Wonder, Chrissie Hynde, Lou Reed, Tom Waits, Peter Gabriel, Bonnie Raitt and Bon Iver. While winning multiple Grammys and being profiled on CBS' *60 Minutes*, the Blind Boys have left their mark on popular music by making gospel their own and "adding jazz and blues

idioms, turning up the volume and creating a sound like the rock 'n' roll that grew out of it" (*New York Times*).

The Center for Arts at the Armory curates and produces the Spotlight Series to celebrate the diversity and culture of our community by bringing world-renowned performers, always paired with a local opening act, into our historic and intimate setting. The Spotlight Series puts the spotlight on local, national and international artists from diverse communities, and provides platforms that amplify these voices. The series includes music and comedy performances, as well as keynote speakers, to create im-

mersive experiences sparking joy, inspiration, reflection, and intercultural learning.

March 14, 7:00 p.m. doors | 8:00 p.m. show.

Tickets: <https://the-center-for-arts-at-the-armory.ticketleap.com/blind-boys-of-alabama/>

The Center for Arts at the Armory is located at 191 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143.

To learn more, visit their website, [artsatthearmory.org](https://artsatthearmory.org), their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ArtsattheArmory/>, and follow on Instagram at @ArtsattheArmory. Join their mailing list at <https://artsatthearmory.org/about/monthly-newsletter/>.

## Somerville High School CTE students awarded SkillsUSA medals

Somerville Public Schools have announced the following CTE students who have won medals representing their shops in the SkillsUSA District Competitions held last Wednesday. Each student competed virtually against 10 schools in a completion that tested their Shop Knowledge as well as their Employability Skills and OSHA Knowledge. Students with a (Q) next to their name will move on to the Massachusetts States Competition at the end of April. Congratulations to all the following students:

Sam Ryan (Q) • Gold Medal - Advertising Design • Rafael Ronen (Q) • Gold Medal - Architectural Drafting • Jasmine De La Cruz (Q) • Silver Medal - Architectural Drafting • Isadora Paiva (Q) • Gold Medal - Baking & Pastry Arts • Zoe-Karen Valdes (Q) • Silver Medal - Baking & Pastry Arts • Molly Milbury (Q) • Gold Medal - CNC 3 • Axis Turning Programmer • Amanda Rodriguez-Sheridan (Q) • Gold Medal - Cosmetology (Under 500 Hours) • Brenda Pineda Interiano (Q) • Bronze Medal - Graphic Communications • Evan Zamer (Q) • Silver Medal - Graphic Image Sublimation • Alexis Cruz Bronze Medal - Graphic Image Sublimation • Lucas Da Silva (Q) • Gold Medal - Industrial Motor Control • Finlay Cooke (Q) • Gold Medal - Photography • Elle Gys (Q) • Gold Medal - Technical Drafting • Hayley Machado (Q) • Silver Medal - Technical Drafting • Daniel Bowles • Bronze Medal - Welding

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# CLASSIFIEDS

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complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-888-872-2809

## MISCELLANEOUS

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Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

From page 8

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. The Chinese new year cycle starts with the year of the rat | 7. Rod Serling                      |
| 2. Red envelopes filled with money                            | 8. Watermelon                       |
| 3. The Killers  | 9. The Worm Moon                    |
| 4. March 14   | 10. Settling debts                  |
| 5. Barbie   | 11. Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea |
| 6. Post Malone  | 12. Emojis                          |

## 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.

## Rent Stabilization for Somerville 2



By State Senator Pat Jehlen

This is my second piece about rent stabilization. Here's the first one [1].

Channel 25 ran a story about the conflict between renters and homebuyers vs. investors. They "found when investors use limited liability companies or LLCs

to purchase properties – they can be hard to track." Rep. Uytterhoeven's bill, H3566, would allow identification of the owners of LLCs.

Doug Quattrochi of MassLandlords doubted the information on increased evictions in the newsletter. I unfortunately have lost track of the citation. However, the Trial Court's dashboard [2] indicates that in Middlesex County there were 914 evictions in 2021, 1298 in 2022, and 2148 in 2023. So more than double in past 2 years.

I pointed out that Somerville has built/permitted over 2500 new units. The Globe just reported [3] that from 2015-2021, all three cities in our district increased their housing stock significantly in 5 recent years; Cambridge by 11%, Somerville by 9%, and Medford by 5%.

### Rent Stabilization doesn't stop new buildings

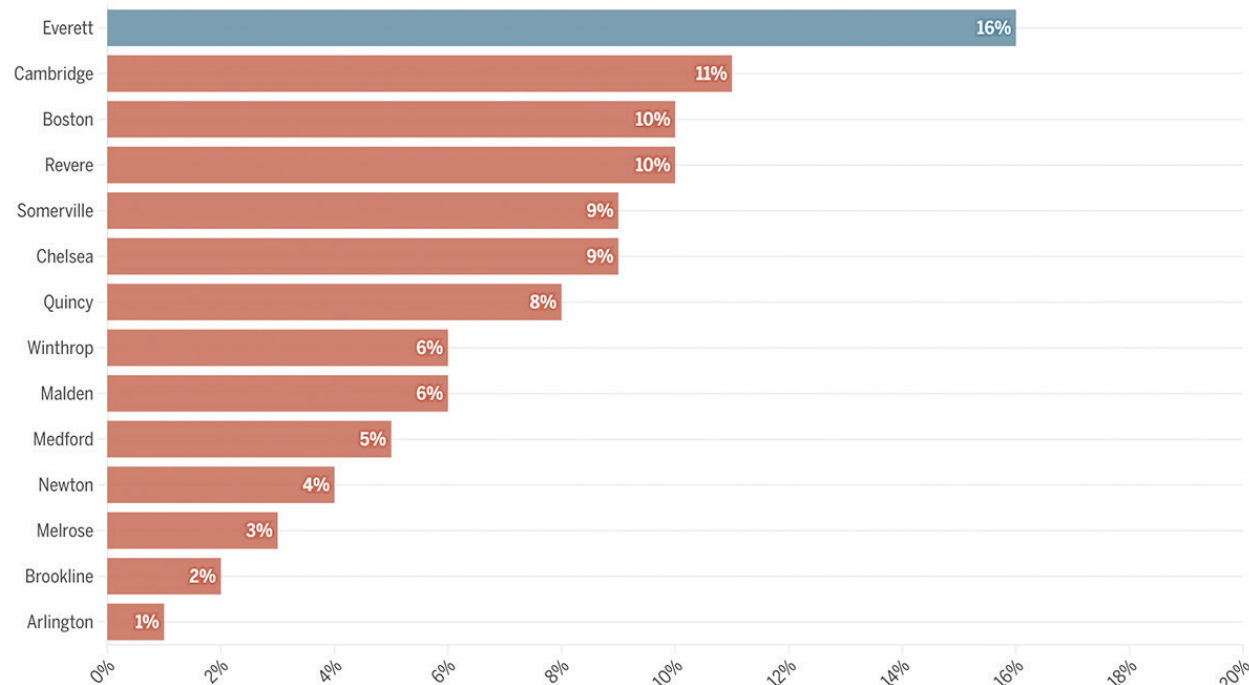
Thirty-two economists, including several from Massachusetts recently wrote, "There is substantial empirical evidence that rent regulation policies do not limit new construction, nor the overall supply of housing. A 2007 study of rent control analyzed 76 cities in New Jersey with varying rent stabilization laws, controlling for population, demographics, income, and renter-occupied units, finding little to no statistically significant effect of moderate rent controls on new construction. Other studies have found similar results. When rent control was repealed in Massachusetts, there was no corresponding increase in housing supply, highlighting again a lack of causal relationship between rent regulations and housing supply."

During rent control, officers at two Somerville banks



### Net new housing units permitted from 2015 to 2021 in Metropolitan Mayors Coalition communities as a percent of 2010 housing units

No community in Greater Boston added more housing at a faster clip than Everett.



Source: Metropolitan Area Planning Council • DANA GERBER/GLOBE STAFF

told me that rent control made investment in new construction more profitable than buying existing housing. **Sure enough, during the three years after rent control began, investment in new multi-family housing increased by 55% in cities with rent control and only 12% in other communities in the Boston area.** (Somerville Community News, June 1974)

### Rent stabilization can help homebuyers

Would-be homeowners in Somerville are regularly outbid by investors, who raise rents and/or turn workforce housing into luxury condos.

**My husband and I were able to buy our first home because of rent control.** When Somerville adopted rent control in 1971, some investors chose to sell rather than having their rents rolled back 6 months. That gave us and other young families the chance to buy our first, "fixer-up" homes.

**Rent control can reduce the advantage large investors have over homebuyers.** It can increase the incentive to invest in new developments, some in other MBTA communities, instead of purchasing and raising prices in naturally-occurring affordable housing.

### Rapid rent increases require higher wages or higher subsidies

**As the price of housing increases much faster than wages, many essential workers can't afford to live near their jobs.** Renting a 2-bedroom apartment in Greater Boston requires a \$40/hour wage, double the pay of home care workers and other essential workers.

**We could continue to increase the minimum wage,**

which would help those at the bottom of the pay scale, but it would be hard to increase it as fast as housing costs.

**We could increase the pay of direct care workers,** which would mean more disabled and older people would get the care they need. That would cost a lot of money in a constrained budget.

**Or we could increase housing subsidies. Providing vouchers to all eligible renters would cost \$3.2 billion a year.** The need for subsidies only grows as rents continue to rise and increases continue to far outpace wages. Samuel Stein and Oksana Mironova of the Community Service Society testified last year that, "Even though rent regulation is not a subsidy program, it helps stretch public subsidy dollars. By preventing rent inflation, it makes one-time emergency rental assistance grants and housing vouchers more efficient. As stated by sociologist Matthew Desmond, who advocates for a universal voucher program, 'expanding housing vouchers without stabilizing rent would be asking taxpayers to subsidize landlords' profits.'"

I have a lot more thoughts about housing and am glad to hear yours! But taking a break for other topics.

Links:

[1] <https://mailchi.mp/electpatjehlen/rent-stabilization-for-somerville?e=bdd3c47055>

[2] [https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/drap4687/viz/MassachusettsTrialCourtSummaryProcessExecutionsIssued/ExecutionsIssd\\_byWeekMonth](https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/drap4687/viz/MassachusettsTrialCourtSummaryProcessExecutionsIssued/ExecutionsIssd_byWeekMonth)

[3] <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2024/02/17/business/everett-housing-construction/>

# Lunar New Year Rolling Parade CONT. FROM PG 1

Marshal Commissioner Robert Santiago, Belmont Parade Marshal Select Board Member Roy Epstein, Somerville Parade Marshal City Councilor Will Mbah, and Malden Parade Marshal Mayor Gary Christenson.

Santiago, Epstein, Mbah, and Christenson were honored for building inclusive, welcoming, and equitable spaces for the AAPI community. The Marshals blessed the first responders serving our cities and towns with an offering of prosperity, good

health and good fortune.

The festivities continued at the Somerville City Hall concourse with performance and presentations, with State Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven also in attendance.

The organizers remain in solidarity with

the African American community and are thankful for the continued support and help from our allies including the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts and the Eastern Regional Commission on the Status of Women.







## 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.

**St. Patrick's Day Luncheon** – Thursday, March 14th starting at 11:00 a.m. at The George Dilboy Post located at 351 Summer Street. \$10. Per person – Join us for an afternoon of music, a lunch of corned beef and cabbage and a performance by the Rebecca McGowan School of Irish Dance. Please RSVP by calling Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

**Pioneering Women of Early Rock and Roll – Cultural Series Event** – Thursday, March 21st at our Holland Street Center. When it comes to the early days of rock 'n' roll some of the most pioneering and powerfully influential figures were women. This show will highlight women who were instrumental in making rock and roll what it is today. The Retro Polatin Duo, Jill Goldman and David Polatin, will sing, play, and discuss some of the women who defied the odds and changed the landscape of rock and roll. Portuguese Lunch from J&J Restaurant and performance is brought to you at no cost by Somerville Cambridge Elder Services Multicultural Meal Program, a City of Somerville, ARPA funded program. Please reserve your spot for the event and lunch by calling Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

**Bring Your Canvas to Life** – Monday, March 11th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. \$3 per person for materials. Join Licensed Mental Health Counselor and Registered Art Therapist, Erica Curcio for a relaxing and crafty afternoon. Did you know that a canvas can be used for more than painting? Together we will bring your canvas to life! Using artificial flowers, canvas and markers you will create a composition that looks real! You can either hang this in your home or give

as a gift to a friend! RSVP by contacting Molly Pagliuca at 617-625-6600, ext. 2318 or email Molly at mpagliuca@somervillema.gov Grab and Go lunch available upon request.

**Intergenerational Poetry** – Monday, March 25th, Mondays, April 1st and 8th from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. The Somerville Council on Aging, in collaboration with Harvard University's Poetry without Borders course, are hosting intergenerational sessions to learn about and celebrate poetry. Over three sessions, we will be discussing and writing works of poetry. No experience with poetry is required and creative writing will be optional. If you have any questions and to RSVP please contact Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 or email Natasha at nnaim@somervillema.gov

**Beginner's De-Cluttering Group** – Thursday, March 14th from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. Does the thought of spring cleaning overwhelm you? Have you tried to de-clutter only to find yourself stuck? If you are looking for tips and tricks on how to remove some of your belongings, look no further than the Somerville Council on Aging. The Somerville Council on Aging is running a Beginner's De-Cluttering support group. Using the Buried In Treasure curriculum, we will explore ways to reduce the amount of clutter in our homes as well as prevent clutter from accumulating. This six-week group is open to residents of Somerville and Cambridge over the age of 60. To RSVP, please contact Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 or email Natasha at nnaim@somervillema.gov

**Shifting Gear: A presentation on driving from the Registry of Motor Vehicles** – Friday, March 8th starting at 11:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Have you considered giving up your license or are you having concerns about a loved one's ability to drive? The Registry of Motor Vehicles presents information about how different aspects of aging can affect your ability to drive and what to consider when thinking about stopping driving. To RSVP, please contact Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317.

**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 by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov

**Designing Your Retirement, A Path to a Happy, Healthy and Fulfilling Retirement** – Friday, March 22nd at 11:00 a.m. in our Holland Street Center. Many enter retirement with little planning, expecting retirement will be an endless vacation. Unfortunately, some will discover they have too much free time or are occasionally bored. Dr. Zwerling presents a process – based on scientific literature, expert opinion, and common sense – that will empower you to design a happy, healthy, and fulfilling retirement. It is never too late to build a better retirement! RSVP by calling Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317. Grab and Go lunch available upon request.

### 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.

## Beacon Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 6

"If enacted, this legislation will effectively preclude any public school teacher, administrator, nurse or staff member from raising a moral objection or voicing an ethical dissent to any of the sexual behaviors celebrated and affirmed under this curriculum. Should this measure ever become law, one can only hope that the recent experience in the City of Worcester – where significant numbers of parents exercised their right to a sex-ed opt-out for their children – will be emulated throughout the commonwealth."

Sam Whiting, an attorney for the Massachusetts Family Institute told *Beacon Hill Roll Call* that this bill isn't about sex education, it's about sexual indoctrination. "Parents and school committees don't want a radically progressive, one-size-fits-all sex education curriculum crammed down on them from Beacon Hill. We are optimistic that even though the bill has passed in the Senate, it will again die in the House, as it has the last four legislative sessions."

**BIRTH CERTIFICATES (H 4292)** – The House gave initial approval to a bill that would change some of the language in the current law governing the content of birth certificates. Changes include replacing "both parents" to "parent or parents" and changing "the child's mother" to "the person who gave birth to the child."

Current law allows each party to a marriage to adopt any surname, including the present or birth-given surname of either party; retain or resume use of a present or birth-given surname; or adopt any hyphenated combination of names. The bill broadens the options and also allows each party to adopt "any first name, middle name or any other name."

"Our current birth certificate statute uses outdated language and categories that do not represent the full variety of family structures in the commonwealth," said Senate sponsor Sen. Becca Rausch (D-Needham). "No child should start out with a government-issued document that fails them. This bill ensures that our birth certificates reflect reality for all Bay Staters, accurately and inclusively."

"A birth certificate is the first document our government sends us in our lifetimes," said House sponsor Rep. Dwane Shand (D-Newburyport). "That document should accurately reflect the makeup of our commonwealth's families and their complexities."

**ROSA PARKS DAY (H 3075)** – The House gave initial approval to legislation designating February 4th as Rosa Parks Day, "in lasting recognition of a historic civil rights leader."

"Rosa Parks was a hero of the civil rights movement whose courageous act to challenge segregation kindled and continues to inspire the fight for justice and equality of all peoples," said co-sponsor Rep. Kip Diggs (D-Barnstable). "Celebrating Ms. Parks on her birthday will make a great addition to Black History Month in the commonwealth."

Rep. Mike Kushmerek (D-Fitchburg) said he co-sponsored the measure "in order to bring awareness and representation to the heroic actions of Rosa Parks during the Civil Rights Movement." Kushmerek noted, "February 4th is the birthday of Rosa Parks, so it will be a strong and persevering reminder to all those within the commonwealth to reflect on the role she played in raising international awareness of the struggles for civil rights."

**PROHIBIT USE OF NATIVE AMERICAN MAS-COTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS (S 245)** – The Education Committee has given a favorable report to and recommended that the Legislature approve a proposal would prohibit public schools from using an athletic team name, logo or mascot which is associated with Native Americans, or which denigrates any racial, ethnic, gender or religious group.

"I am pleased the bill was approved by the Education Committee," said Senate sponsor Sen. Jo Comerford (D-Northampton). "This bill acknowledges the common humanity of all, corrects historical wrongs and addresses the profound psychological harm caused by perpetuating racist stereotypes — harm caused to both people who are of Native American heritage and those who are not."

**ADDRESS FOOD ALLERGIES IN SCHOOLS (S 150)** – The Education Committee has also given a favorable report to and recommended passage of legislation that would require every school district, approved private day or residential school and education collaborative that enrolls a student with a life-threatening food allergy to develop and implement a Food Allergy Management and Prevention Plan.

The plan would include identifying students with known food allergies, strategies for reducing exposure to allergens and treating allergic reactions. Another provision would require professional development related to food allergies for all school staff, including training on epinephrine administration for appropriate staff members.

Supporters said that currently, school districts are not required to have food allergy plans but it is recommended that they do so.

"I'm thrilled that the bill received a favorable report from the Joint Committee on Education and will continue forward in the legislative process," said sponsor Sen. Cindy Creem (D-Newton). "This bill would help ensure that Massachusetts children with food allergies have safe learning environments, both in the classroom and in the cafeteria."

**CHANGES IN GUN LAWS (H 4139, S 2584)** – The House and Senate each appointed their members of a conference committee which will attempt to hammer out a compromise version of dueling bills that would change some of the state's gun laws.

The House on October 18 of last year and the Senate on February 1 of this year approved different versions of the measure, leading to appointment of the conference committee.

Sens. Cindy (D-Newton), Joan Lovely (D-Salem) and Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester) will represent the Senate while the House members will be Reps. Michael Day (D-Stoneham), Carlos Gonzalez (D-Springfield) and Joseph McKenna (R-Webster).

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH BEGINS** – The Senate kicked off Women's History Month on March 1 with the unveiling of a portrait of former First Lady and Massachusetts native Abigail Adams, the wife of President John Adams and an early advocate for women's rights and women's education who also opposed slavery. Adams was an advocate for women's rights at a time in history when women were barred from voting or holding elected office. Adams famously told her husband, a delegate in the First Continental Congress, to "remember the ladies."

The portrait, unveiled by Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland), will hang permanently in the Senate lobby.

"Centuries after Abigail Adams told the founders to 'remember the ladies,' we still have a long way to go to reach full equality when it comes to women's representation on Beacon Hill," said Spilka. "Either by accident or design, the many contributions of women who have shaped our commonwealth and our nation have been left out of the art here in the Statehouse. As we celebrate their achievements— and those of the strong women who lead our government today— I am committed to ensuring that the halls of power change to reflect these women. As we unveil Adams, we are taking a meaningful step towards 'remembering the ladies' and making it clear that women belong here."

Spilka also announced the revival of the Senate Art Committee which was established in 1972, but has been dormant for many years, and the appointment of Sen. Julian Cyr (R-Truro) to head the committee. One of the committee's first order of business is to solicit nominations from residents for a woman to be honored with a bust in the Senate Chamber. The committee is seeking nominees who are influential woman, with some ties to the Massachusetts, who have made historic contributions to the Bay State.

"The art that adorns the halls of the Statehouse should embody the values of Massachusetts and reflect who we are as a commonwealth," said Cyr. "Yet, as I come and go from my office, I often remark that the portraits, murals, and sculptures in our capital do not encompass the richness of our history and the diversity of our communities. I am thrilled and honored to lead a renewed Senate Arts Committee, one that will work to expand inclusivity and representation in the art that beautifies the Statehouse. As an LGBTQ+ person, I understand *Continued on page 21*

# Annual Maple Boil Down

The 25th annual Maple Boil Down took place last Saturday at the Growing Center in Somerville. Maple syrup lovers were able to taste fresh local syrup collected from the sugar maple trees from Tufts Campus, while learning the process of sugar mapping, witnessing the process of boiling sap into maple syrup, and connecting with other maple syrup lovers. — Photos by Joei Chan



# Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Peregrine falcon, terrifying nearby birds...

— Photo by Denise Provost

Visit us online at [www.TheSomervilleTimes.com](http://www.TheSomervilleTimes.com)

## BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



What kind of clock is the hardest to change for Daylight Saving Time? A sundial.

The "Original"  
**All Types Vent Cleaning**  
 Restaurant Hood Cleaning  
 Dryer Vent/ HVAC Cleaning  
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## On This Day in History

### March 6

- 1521 – Ferdinand Magellan discovers Guam.
- 1820 – The Missouri Compromise is enacted by Congress and signed by President James Monroe
- 1836 – After fighting for 13 days, the Alamo falls.
- 1884 – Over 100 suffragists, led by Susan B. Anthony, present President Chester A. Arthur with a demand that he voice support for female suffrage.
- 1899 – Aspirin is patented following Felix Hoffman's discoveries about the properties of acetylsalicylic acid.
- 1960 – The Swiss grant women the right to vote in municipal elections.
- 1967 – President Lyndon B. Johnson announces his plan to establish a draft lottery.
- 1975 – Iran and Iraq announce that they have settled the border dispute.
- 1980 – Islamic militants in Tehran say that they will turn over the American hostages to the Revolutionary Council.
- 1981 – President Reagan announces plans to cut 37,000 federal jobs.

## Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 9

John Winthrop.

- The launching of New England's first ship, the Blessing of the Bay, on July 4, 1631

- The British landing and attack of the Powder House on September 1, 1774

### Millers River

- The Battle of Lexington – April 19, 1775

- The Battle of Bunker Hill – June 17, 1775

- The first American Flag raising – January 1, 1776

- The siege and evacuation of Boston – April 19, 1775 to March 17, 1776

The nickname for the brick workers' housing section at the Ten Hills brickyard was Happy Hollow. The nickname for the brick workers' housing section at the Millers River was Brick Bottom or New Dublin.

What goes around comes around! Brick ovens died out in the 1880's only to return to our Davis and Union Squares one hundred years later. This time in the pleasant form of brick-oven pizzas and adobe-oven Tacos.



— Photo courtesy of Bostonnow

## Beacon Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 19

how integral it is to see people like yourself represented in spaces of power. As we solicit submissions for a sculpture of a trailblazing woman to join the all-male busts in the Senate chamber, I am excited to see the remarkable names that will be put forward."

A website will soon go online to accept nominations.

### QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Retail giants have a responsibility to provide customers with the facts about the products they sell, including the health dangers associated with gas stove pollution and steps they can take to protect themselves and their loved ones. Our surveys have repeatedly shown that's not happening. Without guidance at the point of sale, customers are too often unaware of the risks and preventative steps they can take." — *Deirdre Cummings, Consumer Program Director, MASSPIRG Education Fund, on the group's report that some 76 percent of surveyed sales associates at the nation's top appliance stores (Lowe's, Home Depot and Best Buy) flatly denied or expressed ignorance about the health risks of gas stoves.*

"Logan Airport should be a secure location for people to travel, not a place for the Healey administration to use as temporary migrant housing. The governor may be holding on to the wishful thinking that the migrant situation is under control, but it's not. Legislative leaders and our governor refuse to reform the policies that make Massachusetts a migrant magnet and instead throw taxpayer money at the problem." — *Paul Craney, spokesman for the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance.*

"Medical debt can be both a barrier to receiving necessary future care and a source of stress, both of which contribute to higher rates of disease and death. We know that the burden of medical debt falls heavily on communities of color. More than 20 percent of those with medical debt are black, compared to 13 percent who are white." — *Ann Hwang, President of the Atrius Health Equity Foundation, on its launching of an initiative to wipe out an estimated \$500 million in medical debt in Eastern Massachusetts.*

"This milestone highlights the success of an extremely effective local and state partnership that has benefitted communities across the state by promoting responsible pet ownership and improving animal welfare. Thank you to the 305 cities and towns and the 74 veterinary providers and municipal partners all over Massachusetts that have worked with us to get these important resources out to our animals in need." — *Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner Ashley Randle announcing it has reached a milestone of helping more than 20,000 animals through its Spay/Neuter Voucher Program.*

"MassDOT is proud to announce our partnership with the BU AdLab for the mass Do Not Disturb campaign. MassDOT is committed to a future without roadway deaths and raising awareness about the dangers of distracted driving is an important step towards that goal." — *MassDOT Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbits-Nutt announcing a campaign urging drivers to put phones away and activate the "do not disturb" feature when driving.*

"I have heard from every part of the commonwealth that people want true opportunity and choice to define and reach their own potential and promise, so that economics and life circumstance don't determine the trajectory of a person's life. By focusing on creating economic opportunity, strengthening public health and safety and prioritizing those who are too often left out and left behind, our plan not only lays out my vision and priorities, but uplifts the very real impact and hard work of the attorney general's office." — *Attorney General Andrea Campbell announcing a plan to prioritize values such as equity, accountability and dignity to advance justice and expand opportunity for all across the state.*

"A lot of signage lights up, there's bright lights that will come at you if you're a driver at night, and there's flashing signs -- a lot of stuff to try to identify to the driver that they are going the wrong way. And then again, those signs for the people that are going the right way that they really, really need to use caution." — *Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver announcing that MassDOT has finished implementing a pilot wrong-way driver deterrence program*

*including 16 highway on/off ramps outfitted to detect when a driver gets on a ramp heading in the wrong direction, alert that driver that they are going the wrong way, notify a state command center of the potential for a dangerous situation and caution drivers going the correct way on the highway.*

### HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION?

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

During the week of February 26-March 1, the House met for a total of four hours and 19 minutes and the Senate met for a total of two hours and 48 minutes.

Mon. Feb. 26	House 11:02 a.m. to 11:35 a.m. Senate 11:19 a.m. to 11:28 a.m.
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Tues. Feb. 27	No House session No Senate session
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Wed. Feb. 21	House 11:01 a.m. to 2:40 p.m. No Senate session
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Thurs. Feb. 22	House 11:01 a.m. to 11:08 a.m. Senate 1:24 p.m. to 4:03 p.m.
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Fri. Feb. 23	No House session No Senate session
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Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at [bob@beaconhillrollcall.com](mailto:bob@beaconhillrollcall.com)

## Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Day, March 17 at Sally O'Brien's, 335 Somerville Ave. Sally's will be featuring an Irish fare of corned beef and cabbage, spirits, Irish music, and appearances of local and state elected officials. All are welcome to join the festivities.

\*\*\*\*\*

The city is partnering with CultureHouse and Neighborways to increase safety on Glen and Otis Streets by creating quick-build neighborways (think: planters, vertical plastic posts, paint markings, speed humps, etc.). These will be located on Glen Street between Tufts Street and Broadway, and on Otis Street between McGrath Highway and the East Somerville Community School. Join the city's Mobility Division for a block party on Saturday, March 16, at East Somerville Community School (50 Cross St.) from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. to learn about the planned neighborways, and share your feedback on the upcoming safety improvements. Music, refreshments, and games will be provided. Learn more at <https://voice.somervillema.gov/glen-street-neighborway>.

\*\*\*\*\*

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. 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 here. <https://foodforfree.org/hoops-forhunger/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Somerville Council on Aging will be hosting *Shifting Gear: A presentation on driving from the Registry of Motor Vehicles*, Friday, March 8, starting at 11:00 a.m. at the Holland Street Center. Have you considered giving up your license or are you having concerns about a

loved one's ability to drive? The Registry of Motor Vehicles presents information about how different aspects of aging can affect your ability to drive and what to consider when thinking about stopping driving. To RSVP, please contact Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317.

\*\*\*\*\*

Somernova has some new and exciting events coming up. **Saturday, March 9: Join Parkour Generations Boston for a Community Jam at The Dojo: Winter Edition** from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity for practitioners of all backgrounds to train together in this unique space. All movement backgrounds are welcome, such as CrossFit, climbing, obstacle course racing, yoga, Pilates, circus arts, boxing, weightlifting, dance, gymnastics, couch-sitting, and anything in between – meet-ups have something for you. No registration is required. **Wednesday, March 13: Happening the second Wednesday of each month** from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. The Dojo hosts an **Open-Mic Teen Night**. The event will feature fun games, food, and great music all night long. Hosted at The Dojo at 15 Properzi Way, Somerville. **Sunday, March 17: Somerville Bike Kitchen**, a volunteer-run bicycle repair cooperative, is hosting the next session of its Winter Workshops focused on Rim Brakes. Come maintain your bike or learn more about cycling! For more information visit Somernova at <https://somernova.com/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

Looking to grow your Portuguese language skills? With American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds awarded by the City of Somerville, Lesley University is offering a virtual Portuguese II course for Somerville community members that runs **March 18 through May 8 on Mondays and Wednesdays** from 6:45 to 8:00 p.m. This course is intended for individuals with prior knowledge of Portuguese. Applicants must be a Somerville resident or an employee in the City of Somerville. Learn more and apply at [lesley.edu/arpa](https://lesley.edu/arpa).

\*\*\*\*\*

State Representative Christine Barber's Winter 2024 office hours are scheduled. Stop by and share your thoughts on local affairs and legislative priorities. Office hours on March 9, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Yego Coffee, 1212 Broadway will include Ward 7 Councilor Judy Pineda Neufeld, Leiran Biton, Ward 7 Somerville School Committee Member and

Senator Pat Jehlen.

\*\*\*\*\*

Mudflat and East Somerville Main Streets are looking for a muralist to uniquely design and execute a painted mural for the left side, western-facing façade of the Mudflat building at 81 Broadway. The mural dimensions will be approximately 20 feet wide x 13 feet high. East Somerville Main Streets is accepting applications for the next East Somerville Mural. Applications will be accepted until March 22, you can find the application and mural details here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScvEQMdVTZ1CtprlsHRkmCRF3yUdA2irmhoDD4oBwK9F48C6A/viewform>

\*\*\*\*\*

Groundwork Somerville is hiring. Seeking diverse candidates who are passionate about urban agriculture and addressing food access and insecurity issues in Somerville. Are you an experienced urban agriculture advocate who is interested in growing culturally relevant crops and sharing the abundance with the community. Find the full job description on their website [www.groundworksomerville.org](http://www.groundworksomerville.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

Spend your Sunday afternoon learning about the arts of Asia from experts at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco. Join in virtually in March to celebrate Women's History Month and explore *The Goddess: Images of Power*. **Sunday March 10, 2:30 – 4:00 p.m.** Expressions of Gender in Asian Art. Future Events in this Series: **April 14 at 2:30 p.m. – Persia: Crossroads for Art and Culture**, **May 5 at 2:30 p.m. – Glorious Civilizations: An Exploration of Southeast Asia** and **June 9 at 2:30 p.m. – Expressions of Gender in Asian Art**. Learn more and register at <https://somervillepubliclibrary.org>.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Somerville Arts Council has a call to Somerville dancers/movers/makers/choreographers, percussionists and drummers. Apply to participate in an international exchange called "Exchanging Notes," produced by SAC and the Harvard's Davis Center on Georgian Studies. **Deadline: 3/18/24**. Details and application here: <https://somervilleartscouncil.org/exchangingnotes/2024>.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Somerville Arts Council also has a call to all musicians for ArtBeat 2024. Calls are now available. **Submission Deadline April 15**. To learn more visit

<https://beta.somervilleartscouncil.org/artbeat/>. Now in its 38th year ArtBeat is one of their largest festivals of the season. They invite applicants to explore all themes related to "wild." Bands and musicians are invited to apply to play on two different stages. They seek music that lends itself to a festival environment, typically not classical or purely instrumental jazz for this setting.

\*\*\*\*\*

The City of Somerville's Health and Human Services Office, and Housing Families Inc., opened an overnight warming center for the remainder of the winter 2024 season. The warming center will operate seven nights a week from 6:45 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., on the second floor of the Armory (191 Highland Ave). Guests will have access to free hot and cold meals, water, bathrooms, yoga mats, and space to sleep. Learn more at [somervillema.gov/warmingcenter](http://somervillema.gov/warmingcenter).

\*\*\*\*\*

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>.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Somerville Council on Aging (COA) Board of Directors is seeking three new members, and Somerville residents ages 18+ are invited to apply. The COA Board of Directors works collaboratively with seniors and various agencies to enhance the quality of life for our local older adults. Members commit to two-year terms. Apply by **Wednesday, March 13**. To learn more, visit [somervillema.gov/BeSomerville](http://somervillema.gov/BeSomerville).

\*\*\*\*\*

Angelina's Pizzeria has teamed up with the Argenziano PTA. Angelina's Pizzeria is hosting a fundraiser on **Thursday March 7, 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.** Stop by **230 Holland St.** to place your order or order online <https://www.angelinaspizzeriasomerville.com/> and receive a special **10% off your order** when you use code Argenziano. Support Argenziano PTA by eating pizza.

\*\*\*\*\*

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



## OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

# Somerville Printmaker Liv Cappello: Leaving an imprint on her audience

## Lyrical SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Janelle Solviletti is a writer from Boston, Massachusetts. She is the author of two poetry collections, *Euphony* and *The Camero*. Previously, she published works in *Matter*, *The Horn Pond Review*, *The Feather-tale Review* and *The Lyrical Somerville*. She attended Marist College in Poughkeepsie, New York, and currently lives and works in Boston.



### Snow Globe

Octagon chapel topped  
with a bell helmet  
rimmed with snowbanks  
tall as evergreens  
stood up like twin soldiers  
Vienna carved in the baseboard.

No life sign in miniature diorama.

I blame Erwin Perzy for  
luring us to believe in  
paragons of perfection.

We pay homage to  
the birth of Silent Night  
on living room shelves  
and under the weight of  
our palms  
shake up the tiny world,  
eternally jealous of its quick amend  
and think,  
might I return, too?

— Janelle Solviletti

I recently caught up with printmaker Liv Cappello, who recently took up a space at the Vernon Street Studios. She went to college in the hinterlands of Vermont, and is now in the Paris of New England – Somerville, MA – perfecting her craft.

**Doug Holder:** How has it been for you as an artist working in Somerville, and being a resident of the Vernon St. Studios?

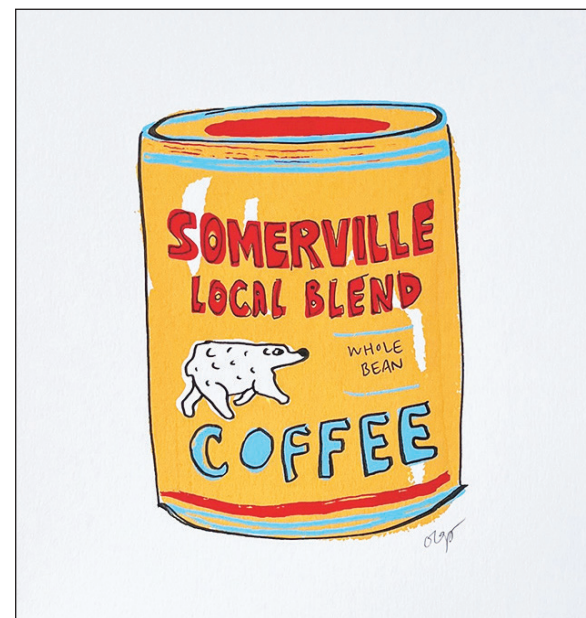
**Liv Cappello:** I'm relatively new to Vernon Street (moved in late 2023) but I've already met a few of the wonderful artists in both buildings and have learned a lot from their experience at Vernon Street and through their art practices. My past studios have been in garages, basements, and my bedroom, so I'm excited to not only have my own studio space but to be a part of a community of artists. I also love how arts-focused Somerville is - it feels like a key part of the community here and we need to keep it that way by protecting Somerville's fabrication districts! <http://www.dontfwithfab.org/>.

**DH:** You named your studio after your favorite wilderness trail in Vermont, the Long Trail. Tell us about the trail, and what experience you had there that influenced your work.

**LC:** I went to college in Vermont and lived there for a bit after graduating. Part of my college's campus intersects with the Long Trail, and while I've camped off the trail many times, I've yet to actually hike the whole thing. I planned to in 2020 but that fell through - it's still a goal of mine! I love everything about the state – the small, tight-knit communities, the enthusiasm for the outdoors, the appreciation for small artists and small businesses. I came up with the name Long Trail Studio as a nod to the place that shaped a lot of my young adult life.

**DH:** You are a printmaker, among other things. Can you give us a snapshot of the process that goes into the making of your prints?

**LC:** I'm trying to be a little more playful with my art. I usually just grab a piece of linoleum or wood and start carving and hope for the best. I've gotten into screen printing in the past few years, which is a medium that, unfortunately for me, requires a lot more planning than I'm used to. I started teaching screen printing classes at Artisan's Asylum in Allston a while back, learning to teach and articulate each step to other people has been really helpful in slowing me down and making me appreciate the process. This is especially true with three or four color screen prints, which require a lot of measuring and registering paper, etc.



Most of my screen prints start with a sketch in my notebook that turns into a finalized design in Adobe Illustrator or Procreate; then is burned into a mesh screen coated in emulsion; then is washed out and ready to print onto paper by pulling ink through the screen with a squeegee. Once you've got the process down it's relatively easy - and addictive. I make each of my prints by hand, so every single copy of a print is a little different from the last - that's one of my favorite things about this medium.

**DH:** From viewing your gallery online, you have a variety of subjects for your prints – fish, an elongated, sinewy torso of a woman, a can of Somerville coffee, etc. How do you pick your subjects?

**LC:** A lot of my earlier work was inspired by living in Vermont. I did a lot of topo maps, trees, trail maps of the Middlebury College Snowbowl and maps of the state itself. Since moving to Massachusetts, I've leaned more toward representing things in my daily life, though I still feel really connected to the outdoors and go back through old backpacking photos and memories of trips for inspiration in my art. Most of my work was black and white when I started out because I thought a big jar of black block ink on sale at Blick. I've finally gotten through that jar and my new year's resolution for 2024 is to use a lot more color, so hopefully I'll follow through with that in my work this year.

**DH:** Why should we view your art?

**LC:** I think there's something cool about seeing art in the everyday object. A lot of my work is based on simple and playful things that you'd see from day to day and I think if you can see the beauty in that, you might like my work!

To have your work considered for the Lyrical send it to:

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Martin B. Dropkin  
Nancy G. Matza  
Tel: 617-623-4600

Attorneys at Law  
Fax: 617-625-7315

**DROPKIN & MATZA LLP**  
Attorneys at Law

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