VOL. 11 NO. 17

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

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Assembly Grow page 3



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Making 'Make the **Voices Stop'** page 20

Somerville PTAC discusses safe routes to school and transit pass pilot programs



The "Safe Routes to School" (SRTS) and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) pilot programs were the main topics at the recent meeting of the Somerville PTAC.

The Somerville Pedestrian and Transit Advisory Committee held their monthly meeting on Thursday, April 20, hosted by Vitor Pamplona, vice-chair of PTAC. The goal of the meeting was to discuss plans for "Safe Routes to School" (SRTS) and the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) pilot programs.

"Safe Routes to School" is a federally funded program administered by MassDOT, aimed at providing resources to cities and schools to increase safe walking, biking and other forms of transit for public grade schools within the state.

Aside from the established state-run program, the city of Somerville also has a city based SRTS working group, which was founded in Continued on page 4

Capuano School's Squirrel Class performers create 'The Magical Forest'

One March morning, the sound of birdsong and musical flutes filled the Capuano School cafetorium. Ms. Snikeris's Squirrel Class preschool performers waited patiently for the audience to settle and the lights to dim.

'Welcome!" said Ms. Snikeris to the assembled students, educators, and parents. Then the performance of The Magical Forest began.

The students wrote, workshopped, and prepared The Magical Forest collaboratively with prompts and scaffolding assistance from Ms. Snikeris. Students were involved in every aspect of the show. Besides creating the story together, they painted the sets, chose the props and costumes, and rehearsed for two months before the performances for other Capuano students and educators.

In the story, the magical forest Continued on page 12



Capuano School's Squirrel Class developed and presented their creation, The Magical Forest, for a





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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.

The City Hall Community Meetings kick off in your area this week. Tonight, Wednesday, April 26, the Ward 5 meeting will take place at the Kennedy School (5 Cherry St.). The in-person meetings run from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Ask questions and get updates from the mayor and city staff. Swing by early at 6:00 p.m. for pizza and refreshments. Learn more at somervillema.gov/ communitymeetings.

Unions and Racial and Economic Justice: A Labor Spring "Teach-in" - All of Somerville is invited to learn about the accomplishments of the labor movement and the challenges Somerville workers are facing today. Explore how race and racism has weakened working class power. Learn and share the struggles of workers of color in Somerville today. Develop and refine our vision for a municipal "Green New Deal" that addresses both economic and racial inequality. Free and open to the public. Sponsored by Somerville Stands Together and the Racial Justice Collaborative. Wednesday, April 26, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., Somerville Public Library, 79 Highland Ave.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Big happy birthday to a good friend over at Ball Square Café, Mike Moccia. We wish him a great day. Happy birthday to Anthony Fraser, who grew up in East Somerville. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as Kate Sherlock Guiliano, Debbie Shansky Murray,

The Somerville Times

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The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of April 26 – May 2 as provided by the National Weather Service

	DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND	
	Wednesday April 26	Partly Cloudy	58°/43°	11%	8%	ENE 13 mph	
•	Thursday April 27	Rain	55°/42°	43%	39%	NNE 7 mph	
	Friday April 28	Partly Cloudy	57°/41°	9%	6%	E 12 mph	
•	Saturday April 29	Rain	55°/45°	36%	28%	E 13 mph	
•	Sunday April 30	Rain	51°/48°	72%	55%	E 20 mph	
••	Monday May 1	Rain	55°/46°	66%	46%	E 19 mph	
•	Tuesday May 2	Rain	57°/44°	45%	9%	N 13 mph	

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: 'I say this a lot: it really does take a village!'

Steve Keenan says:

This story made my day! God bless all involved in this rescue.

Response to: Somerville's Patriots' Day Colonial Fair 2023

brandon wilson says:

Wonderful collection of photos for the event this year — bravo and thanks!

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

Somerville Prevention Services hosting webinars for community to learn more about problem gambling

The city's Prevention Services division, in partnership with the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC), invites the community to learn more about gambling, signs of problem gambling, how to prevent it, and treatment resources. The National Council on Problem Gambling estimates that two million adults in the U.S. meet the criteria for gambling



disorder, with another four to six million people in the U.S. struggling with problem gambling. The Zoom webinars, which will be hosted in English and Chinese, are free to join and will also be recorded and subsequently uploaded on the City's YouTube page: youtube.com/SomervilleCityTV. Event details:

English: April 27, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.: bit.ly/problemgambling23

Mandarin Chinese: May 4, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.: bit.ly/problemgambling23

To request additional information, please contact Prevention Services Manager, Matthew Mitchell, at mmitchell@somervillema.gov or calling (617) 625-6600 ext. 2570.

APRIL 26, 2023 3

Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

Assembly Grow



skyline Somerville has sure changed a lot lately and it is still changing. Just took a look at what's going on over at Assembly Square. Recently I

posted a comment saying I believe they are building on any old available space. Not to mention the houses and businesses that are disappearing and turning into new construction. Have you been to Assembly Square lately? Gives the term ever-changing a new meaning. I drive over there once a week and I swear it changes weekly. Here are your comments.

"There is some interesting development there including housing, employment and transportation. Not for everyone but there are other options in Somerville."

"What is happening to the city I loved and grew up in? I have not been back there in a while. It seems all the yuppies moved in and there changing the structure of the city for the worse. Bring back the old Somerville!"

"There is not bringing back, wherever you are geographically. Adapting to change is important at whatever level one chooses and is comfortable with."

"Exactly, but then they also plan to make all of these buildings inaccessible by car, and only by walking, bike or T. It's insane. Takes two hours to navigate Somerville by car."

"Gee, the Star Market/Walgreens plaza on Broadway. I wonder what's going to be built there? More friggin' condos. They should change the name of the city to Condominiumville."

"The grand master plan by people of a certain mindset is to get rid of most cars since they use gasoline and make Somerville residents use public transportation or bikes since they have bike lanes."

"There's lots of parking at Assembly Row. It's in parking garages and parking lots.



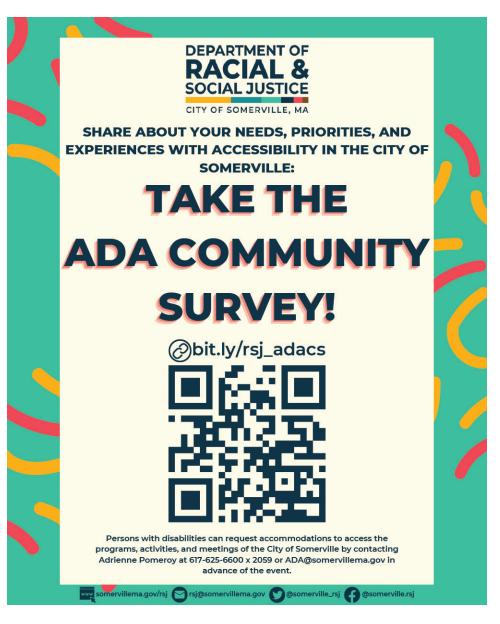
They can't put the parking underground because the area is a sealed toxic waste site."

"You miss your home you grew up in, then when you ride through it, and realize, WOW this really isn't my home any more. And sit and cry."

Progress keeps taking our businesses, and starting new businesses. Old schools and entire blocks are disappearing. Somerville is bulging with development especially Assembly Row.

— photos by Jonathan





11 year anniversary for local gym

Soul.Train. Fitness celebrates 11 years helping the Somerville community get fit, feel fit and stay fit. Soul.Train. Fitness' mission is to have you sweat, laugh, build strength and burn fat, while working towards your full potential. The gym is proud to announce its 11th year anniversary event on April, 29. Soul.Train. has been a cornerstone of the community since its founding in 2012, providing a welcoming and challenging environment for people of all abilities and backgrounds.

Over the past 11 years, Soul. Train. Fitness has become known for its experienced trainers, group classes, and close community, which provide a well-rounded fun fitness experience for its members. Jill says she loves Soul. Train because, "Even if you've never worked out or you are super into working out you will feel at home. This is a gym that can be good for anyone wanting to get a workout and have a sense of community."

To celebrate its 11-year anniversary, Soul.Train Fitness will be hosting a series of events, including a free class, raffles, and giveaways. The celebration will kick off at 10:00 a.m. and end at 12:00 p.m. on April, 29 at 1180 Broadway, Somerville. Individuals interested in attending are asked to RSVP with Kourtney at kourtney@soultrainfitness.com.

"We are thrilled to be celebrating our 11th year anniversary!" said Jonathan Medeiros, the gym's owner. "Over the past decade, we have helped hundreds of individuals achieve their fitness goals, and we are excited to continue to do so for years to come. We invite the Somer-

ville community to come celebrate with us and experience what Soul. Train. Fitness has to offer."

AMINO & SOOT FINESS STUDO

EXERCISE

For more information about Soul. Train Fitness and its 11th year anniversary event, visit the gym's website at soultrainfitness.com or contact them at 617-764-3345.

Somerville PTAC discusses safe routes to school and transit pass pilot programs CONT. FROM PG 1

August 2022, operating under four main components that are programming, resources, street-scape changes and community engagement.

Greg Hanafin, transportation planner in the mobility division, serving as the liaison of the program, went over plans he has going forward. "The goal of the working group is to systematize city and school coordination, making sure that we're all on the same page around safety, construction, programming and safety for students really being the focus," he said.

As of now, the group has established in-school trainings for second grade pedestrian safety and fifth grade bike safety in addition to crossing guard, bike parking, transit pass and school bussing programs. "I was able to participate in a couple of the bike safety trainings this year, it was really fun to see how interested all of the students were and just excited to learn more about biking," Hanafin said.

SRTS also recently launched their website that features walking and bike facilities maps, tips and ideas for starting family run walking school buses or bike trains. These resources are not exclusive for just schools, but they aim to create a one stop shop for families to plan out their effective commutes for students.

Hanafin said that the group is currently trying to standardize and pool together arrival and dismissal plans and policies to inform families on what they should be doing at those times based on their form of transportation. His hope is for that to be compiled into a one-to-two-page document and have schools distribute those out in the beginning of the upcoming school year.

The program over the past year has been gathering information during arrival and dismissal times through drone footage, onground observations, surveys as well as speed, volume and crash data. Hanafin mentions that with this knowledge, SRTS is gearing up to implement changes such as pavement markings and flex posts as well as long term changes including speed humps and even full street or sidewalk reconstruction in the coming future.

Finally, SRTS works with the schools to coordinate annual events such as the International Walk, Bike, and Roll to School Day in October. as well as the upcoming Massachusetts Walk, Bike, and Roll to School Day in May to push students to try a new method of getting to school. The program also continues to share updates directly through the schools as well as their mobility newsletter, but Hanafin expresses that this part of SRTS is the most underdeveloped one out of the four components.

Committee members, many of which are parents of students in primary schools, found the program to be helpful and exciting and brought up questions and suggestions regarding a shortage in crossing guards, construction, communication and alternative

methods to gain engagement.

Hanafin addressed as many comments as he could, but with SRTS being relatively new much information is left to be developed. "This program in Somerville is still something that we are developing so I hope to continue to come in and speak to you all and hear feed so that we can continue and improve," he said.

In the latter half of the meeting, PTAC members discuss the MBTA pilot pass programs. Lauren Craik, who is also a transportation planner in the mobility division, explains that the pilot pass program is looking to help low-income households who need to commute around the city.

In addition to the city's "Student M7" pass, there are also three new pilot programs for parents and guardians, low-income residents as well as workforce passes. As of now, the pilot passes have hundreds of active cards and have shown themselves to be very effective in helping households, as seen through

surveys sent out to users.

Laura concludes by stating that with these programs, data and information is being collected to make the case that they are beneficial in assisting those who need are affected by the passes.

Members wrapped up the meeting by briefly discussing general city updates such as a new code of conduct for board and committees, construction season for sidewalks, crosswalks and bike lanes, outreach for East Broadway bus service and crosswalk improvements and plans that are still open from prior months.

More information on PTAC, their projects as well as "Safe Routes to School" can be found on their respected websites at https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/somerville-pedestrian-transit-advisory-committee-ptac and https://somerville.k12.ma.us/district-departments/health-physical-education/safe-routes-school.

Residents respond to Somerville's Participatory Budget, the first of its kind

By Mandile Mpofu

It's a rainy Sunday, and Somerville resident Rana McLaughlin wants to take her two kids to the local library or, perhaps, the pool. There's only one problem: they're closed. This scenario has played out often for McLaughlin, so when the City of Somerville introduced its inaugural Participatory Budget, she knew exactly the project to propose: keep the Ginny Smithers Pool and Library open on Sundays when families are most available. Her idea is just one of more than 700 that the city must parse through before putting the top 20 to a vote.

In 2022, the city announced its first ever Participatory Budget, an initiative that would let residents decide how it would spend \$1 million of its fiscal 2023 budget. Since March 20, 2023, residents have been able to add ideas to a map on the official website, pbsomervillema.poepublic.com, or submit suggestions via telephone.

McLaughlin, 41, has been living in Somerville for 13 years, and while she said it's "a great place to be" and an ideal location for retirement, she has some frustrations with how the city has handled its budget in the past.

"My husband and I are always asking ourselves, 'What is the city doing with all this tax money?' Our taxes [have] gone through the roof since we moved in," she said. "We're sleeping in the same place, paying double the taxes and not really seeing many changes from the city."

Megan Huckenpahler, a budget analyst for the city, said the government intends to see this project to the end. "We wouldn't start this program if we didn't think that we could," she said. "But I think we just have to show and put our money where our mouths are."

In some respects, the initiative is already a success. The city has already surpassed its goals of 100-250 idea submissions. Huckenpahler attributes this to how engaged Somerville residents are as well as the awareness of the City of Cambridge's long-running Participatory Budget, which Somerville used as a model.

"What [Participatory Budgeting] really does is allows us to also get feedback from the community on some creative ways they'd like to see the city improved, and then engage residents in how we think about what those improvements are going to be," Huckenpahler said.

The City of Somerville still has some work to do, though. In 2022, Somerville had a population of approximately 79,000, with 74% of those identifying as White, according to recent estimations from the U.S. Cen-



sus Bureau.

While Huckenpahler and her team did targeted outreach to marginalized groups, she said Black and Hispanic communities as well as younger populations are still underrepresented. She and her team will focus on rectifying this in the latter half of the idea submission phase, which ends on May 20, 2023.

Alyssa Rae McGinn, 32, a Title IX consultant, added her idea as soon as the website opened to the public. Her project proposal:

a dog park for "our four-legged residents." She said off leash spaces are scarce in her area, and her suggestion has been "hearted" 35 times, making it one of the topmost supported. McGinn, a Somerville resident of two years, is optimistic that the Participatory Budget will yield good results. "I generally have found that the Somerville government is fairly well run, maybe just compared to other places I've lived," she said. "So, I'll say I have hope that we'll see some Continued on page 12



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SOMERVILLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

THE SOMERVILLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT'S FY2024 BUDGET Thursday, May 4, 2023, AT 6:00 P.M.

In the EAST SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL AUDITORIUM - 50 Cross Street

To watch the Budget Hearing live from home Use the following web address and choose GovTv: www.somervillema.gov/tv

THE PUBLIC IS CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

Andre Green, Chair Somerville School Committee

Ilana Krepchin, Chair Finance and Facilities Subcommittee **Jeff Curley**

For questions regarding the Budget Hearing, please contact your School Committee Ward Member: https://somerville.k12.ma.us/district-leadership/somerville-school-committee

Budget information will be posted on the Somerville Public School website prior to the Budget hearing here: https://somerville.k12.ma.us/district-leadership/central-administration/finance-and-facilities

STATE-WIDE SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM **PUBLIC HEARING**

THE SOMERVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING TO DETERMINE PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHOOLCHOICE PROGRAM FOR THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR MONDAY, MAY 22, 2023 at 6:30 P.M.

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

To watch the School Choice Public Hearing live from home Use the following web address and choose GovTv: www.somervillema.gov/tv

Beacon Hill Roll Call



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

THE HOUSE AND SENATE. There were no roll call votes in the House or Senate last week. This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* reports on the percentage of times local senators voted with their party's leadership so far in the nearly four months of the 2023 session.

Beacon Hill Roll Call uses 16 votes from the 2023 Senate session as the basis for this report. This includes all roll calls that were not on local issues.

The votes of the 35 Democrats were compared to Senate Majority Leader Cynthia Creem (D-Newton), second-in-command in the Senate. We could not compare the Democrats' votes to those of Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland) because, by tradition, the Senate president rarely votes.

Thirty-one (88.5 percent) of the senators voted with Creem 100 percent of the time so far in 2023.

The senator who voted with Creem the least percentage of times is Sen. John Keenan (D-Quincy) who voted with her only 11 times (68.7 percent). "I always respect and value the views and contributions of all my colleagues," Keenan told Beacon Hill Roll Call. "I also recognize the differences in our perspectives and the politics of the districts we represent, and these sometimes lead to differences in voting records. What has always guided me in voting is doing what I believe to be right and what best benefits my constituents and all the residents of the commonwealth."

The only other senators who did not vote with Creem 100 percent of the time are Sen. Becca Rausch (D-Needham) and Walter Timilty (D-Milton), both of whom voted with Creem only 13 times (81.2 percent); and Jamie Eldridge (D-Acton) who voted with Creem 15 times (93.7 percent),

The votes of the two Republican senators were compared with those of GOP Senate Minority Leader Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester). Sen. Patrick O'Connor (R-Weymouth) voted with Tarr 100 percent of the time while Sen. Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton) voted with Tarr 93.7 percent of the time, disagreeing with Tarr on only one roll call.

SENATORS' SUPPORT OF THEIR PARTY'S LEADERSHIP IN 2023

The percentage next to the senator's name represents the percentage of times the senator supported his or her party's leadership so far in 2023. The number in parentheses represents the number of times the senator opposed his or her party's leadership.

Some senators voted on all 16 roll call votes. Others missed one or more roll calls. The percentage for each senator is calculated based on the number of roll calls on

which he or she voted.

Sen. Patricia Jehlen 100 percent (0)

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

HEARINGS ON LOTTERY GAMES AND RULES

- The Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee held a hearing on several bills making changes in the Lottery including:

REDUCE LOTTERY LITTER (S 201) – Would require the Lottery to create a second chance Lottery game involving all paper lottery tickets and cardboard scratch tickets that do not contain winning numbers.

Supporters said this second chance game would encourage the return and recycling of millions of losing lottery tickets that otherwise are carelessly tossed out in stores and on the streets and contribute to the litter problem.

"While there is currently an anti-lottery littering regulation in place, it does not go far enough to ensure lottery tickets and scratch tickets are redeemed and recycled," said State Senator Patrick O'Connor (R-Weymouth). "These tickets are constantly being found on the side of the road, in our parks and in our oceans. We can do better. Massachusetts had a very successful second-chance lottery game, the Clean Fund Sweepstakes, from 2001 to 2007 and it is time we revisited the concept to help keep our public spaces clean."

PRIVACY OF LOTTERY WINNERS (S 194) -

Would allow Lottery winners to request that their names, addresses and other identifying information not be disclosed by the Lottery Commission. The measure also requires the Lottery Commission to inform a winning ticket holder of their right not to have their personal information disclosed to the public. Another provision gives winners the right to refuse to perform any public action in connection with the awarding, payment or collection of prize money.

"Private citizens should never have to worry about their personal privacy or safety should they choose to play the lottery," said sponsor Sen. Mark Montigny (D-New Bedford). "Right now, the commonwealth effectively forces a prize winner to hire private legal counsel in order to remain confidential. This policy needs to change before someone is harmed by the shameless publicity and marketing sought by the Lottery, which is the only reason this bill has stalled. Personal safety is far more important than the promotion and advertisement of mere games, and I will continue to aggressively push this legislation."

DISTRIBUTE LOTTERY REVENUE BASED ON

LOTTERY SALES IN CITIES AND TOWNS (H

363) – Would require that revenue from the Lottery be apportioned to cities and towns proportionate to lottery sales in those cities and towns. Under current law, the revenue is distributed under a formula based on population.

Supporters said that towns where no or few tickets are sold are getting an unfair amount of revenue. They argued distributing the revenue based on Lottery sales is a fairer system.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Companies who employ young workers must comply with our child labor laws and provide a safe and fair environment for them. My office remains committed to protecting the health and well-being of the state's youngest workers, ensuring their rights are protected, and that companies are complying with the rules we have in place."

— Attorney General Andrea Campbell upon issuing citations totaling over \$370,000 against two Dunkin' franchisees for numerous child labor violations.

"With the passage of the income tax surcharge, taxpayers are now paying more in taxes than they were a year ago. It's time for Gov. Maura Healey, Speaker Ron Mariano and Senate President Karen Spilka to step up and do their part in making Massachusetts more affordable and efficient with how they spend taxpayer money. We cannot continue to be among the costliest states in the country if we want to be economically competitive." — Mass Fiscal Alliance spokesman Paul Craney upon release of a new report which Craney says ranks the Bay State as one of the most inefficient states in the country for how it spends taxpayer dollars on maintenance and administrative costs of highways.

"Our waste reduction work is another great example of how investments in environmental protection directly contribute to the economic development of our state. As we work to reduce waste from mattresses, textile, and food, Massachusetts' entrepreneurs are stepping up with innovative businesses to power this shift. Our administration is proud to support these efforts." — Gov. Maura Healey on \$1.1 million in grants awarded to 19 Massachusetts organizations as part of the state's Recycling and Reuse Business Development Grant program aimed at expanding the collection of mattresses, textiles and food material.

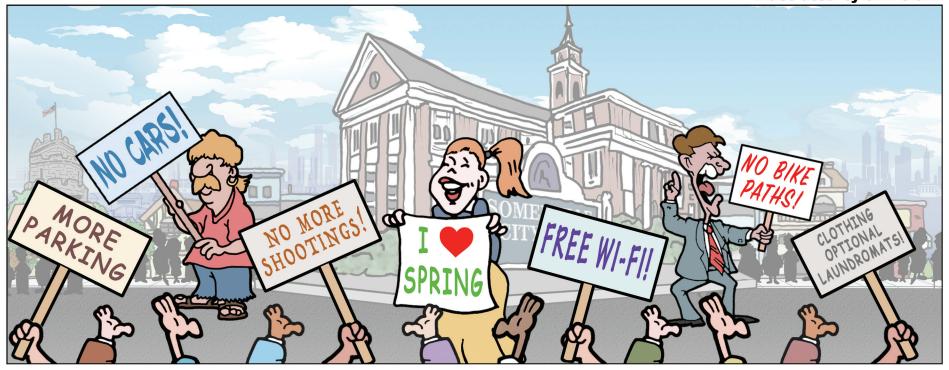
"This expansion ... will further diversify and strengthen the Massachusetts' life sciences ecosystem. Entrepreneurs of all backgrounds deserve full access to our robust life sciences sector, and our economy will be stronger because of it. We will continue to do all we can to support diverse founders looking to advance innovative therapies and products for patients around the world." — Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll on the launching of the

Continued on page 15

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Lets get it off our chests this spring, Somerville.

Our View Of The Times



One of the greatest things about our American democracy is its resilient capacity for freedom of expression, along with lively engagement with our governing bodies. This extends from the highest levels on the national level down to local civic affairs.

Here in Somerville, we can take advantage of the many opportunities presented to us to communicate our wishes and concerns at regular public meetings. By way of example, the city has scheduled its spring 2023 City Hall Community Meetings. Meetings such as these are held twice a year in each of Somerville's seven wards, sharing the latest city and neighborhood updates with community members. And, of course, the public has a right to attend and also be heard.

The meetings provide the mayor and city

staff with the opportunity to present plans for neighborhood projects and initiatives, and keep us all up-to-date with the latest city news, as well as providing information on how to become personally involved in our city's affairs.

The meetings are friendly and include a half-hour pizza and snacks conversation session with city officials and staff.

One of the important topics covered this

year that citizens can weigh in on is how the city should spend the \$1 million dedicated to the city's Participatory Budgeting process. To learn more about this and get the full schedule of meetings, go to www. somervillema.gov/mysomerville.

It's a much more effective way to get your wants and concerned across to our civic leaders than simply taking them to the streets. And much nicer too.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Dom Panzino, Chris Lavelli, Joseph DeSousa, Rose Lister, Charlotte Scanzillo Perkins and George Sharpe a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

Join the Somerville Public Library and

the Office of Sustainability and Environment at the West Branch Library in honor of Earth Day. View An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power (2017), a documentary about former Vice President Al Gore's continuing efforts to fight climate change globally. Register at:

https://rb.gy/diqhn. Wednesday, April 26, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., West Branch Library (40 College Ave.).

In 2023 bus service and crosswalk improvements are coming to East Broadway between McGrath and Rush Street to reduce bus delays and improve safety and visibility for all people walking, wheeling, and driving around intersections. There will be a pop-up on Thursday, April 27 at Broadway and Franklin Street from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. to ask questions and provide feedback. For more information and full project details, visit somervillema.gov/eastbroadwaybus.

The Independent Film Festival Boston returns for their 20th anniversary. The festival will run from April 26 through May 3. To view the full schedule visit https://iffboston.org/series/the-festival/.

Nibble Kitchen is proud to present the Nibble Cooking Class Series 2023. Each class is led by a Nibble Program Graduate representing their home countries, cultures, and of course cuisines. The upcoming chefs will be highlighting cuisines from countries including Jamaica, Laos, and Benin. This year's series will

be a weekly **cooking class from May 9 to June 6** and will be led by an all women group. Learn more at https://nibblesomerville.com/classes-events. Nibble Kitchen is a space and program supported by the **Somerville Arts Council**.

place April 29. Join East Somerville Main Streets at 115 Broadway at 10:00 a.m. and enjoy pastries and coffee from Ola Cafe.

Somerville's Memorial Day Parade will return this year on Sunday, May 28 (rain date: May 29), stepping Continued on page 14

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's lío

mixture, hodgepodge 1. What was the first

facility to host the

Bruins?

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous

elements of tennis, badminton and pingpong?

- 2. Who serves as the official mascot for the Boston Bruins?
- 8. Whose face was on the very first one dollar bills issued in the U.S.?
- 3. Thom Yorke is the lead singer of what band?
- 9. Where is the Golden Gate Bridge located?
- 4. George Clooney played Dr. Doug Ross in what TV series?
- 10. What is the material that means "baked earth" in Italian?
- 5. What dessert is made up of ice cream, sponge cake, and meringue?
- 11. What was Boston Celtics Coach Arnold Jacob Auerbach's nickname?
- 6. What is the longest river in the world?
- 12. What is the most visited state in the

U.S.?

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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Answers on page 11

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1. Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise.

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

2. Dolphins give each other names.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

U.S. STATES

ACROSS

- 1. Attired
- 5. Alabama, for short
- 8. Type of pit, at a concert
- 12. Nevada's "biggest little city in the
- 13. October birthstone
- 14. Don't do this to words?
- 15. Elusive Himalayan
- 16. Poet Sandburg
- 17. Come to pass
- 18. Home of the Bourbon Trail
- 20. Not us
- 21. Winds to a ship captain
- 22. Dish popular in the 50th state
- 23. Largest state, by area
- 26. Dick ____ of "Bewitched"
- 30. Tombstone acronym
- 31. Spews
- 34. Succulent medicinal plant
- 35. Cast member
- 37. Greek "t"
- 38. Gibson garnish
- 39. Evade payment
- 40. Like certain pentameter
- 42. Lenon's wife
- 43. Fashionable
- 45. Barely audible words
- 47. Casino's pull
- 48. Bear down under
- 50. Sound bounce-back
- 52. a.k.a. Commonwealth
- 55. Sing like Sinatra
- 56. Not working
- 57. Lymphatic swelling
- 59. Flourishing
- 60. Commotions
- 61. Type of pitcher
- 62. Not in port
- 63. Chop off
- 64. What the phone did

DOWN

- 1. Have a bawl
- 2. Potato's soup partner
- 3. Initial stake

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	50	51				52						53	54	
55						56					57			58
59						60					61			
62						63					64			



- © StatePoint Media
- 4. Happenings
- 5. Lickety-split
- 6. Shenanigans
- 7. Friend in war
- 8. State with longest freshwater
- shoreline
- 9. It's enough?
- 10. Pond gunk
- 11. Joaquin Phoenix 2013 movie
- 13. Relating to eye
- 14. Michigan's "_
- 19. Selfish one
- 22. Pavlova's step
- 23. Middle East natives
- 24. Permissible
- 25. In a fitting way
- 26. Half a ticket
- 27. Sober Ness
- 28. Not a soul (2 words)

- 29. Operatic voice
- 32. Home to Arches National Park
- 33. Tucker of "Modern Family"
- 36. State with panhandle
- 38. Round openings
- 40. School of thought suffix
- 41. Google search category
- 44. Often-missed humor

46. Hide craftsman

- 48. Little one
- 49. Lowest deck on a ship
- 50. Timeline divisions
- 51. His was a merry old soul
- 52. Tiny bottle
- 53. "Field of Dreams" movie setting
- 54. Port in Yemen
- 55. Tax pro
- 58. Bit of work
- Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Somerville's Spring 2023 City Hall Community Meetings begin this week

Community members are invited to join Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the City Council at the spring 2023 City Hall Community Meetings. These meetings are held twice a year in each of Somerville's seven wards to share the latest city and neighborhood updates with community members. They are an opportunity to get an overview of the latest city news, learn more about city programs and initiatives, meet your neighbors, find ways to get involved, and talk with elected officials and city staff.

In-persons meetings start with a social half-hour with pizza and kid-friendly, healthy snacks, where you can chat one-on-one with elected officials including the mayor and your ward City Councilor or At-Large City Councilors as well as staff about issues important to you. The meeting then includes presenta-

tions by the mayor and staff on projects in your neighborhood, updates on citywide initiatives, and a look at neighborhood crime stats followed by a roughly 20-minute open Q&A. This year, we'll also be collecting ideas for how to spend the \$1 million dedicated to the mity's first ever Participatory Budgeting process (somervillema.gov/PB).

All Ward meetings will be held in person and one all-virtual, all-ward meeting will be held on Zoom and will be accessible online or by any phone. Two additional, all-ward meetings will take place in person: one in Spanish and one in Portuguese. All in-person meetings will be recorded for later on-demand or TV viewing.

Spring 2023 Community Meeting Schedule

Meetings run from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., with refreshments

and meet-and-greets starting at 6:00 p.m. Unsure about which ward you live in? Find out with the MySomerville address look-up tool at www.somervillema. gov/mysomerville.

Ward 3 (N. Union Sq., Prospect Hill, Spring Hill, Central Hill, and more): Tues., April 25, Somerville High School Cafeteria, 81 Highland Ave.

Ward 5 (Magoun Sq., NE Ball Sq., Cedar & Lowell St. areas, NW Porter Sq., and more): Weds., April 26, Kennedy School Cafeteria, 5 Cherry St.

All Ward Meeting in Portuguese: Tues., May 2, East Somerville Community School Cafeteria, 50 Cross St. This meeting will also be livestreamed on the City of Somerville YouTube page, and shared on Portuguese language Facebook page fb.com/SomervilleCidade.

Ward 6 (Greater Davis Sq.

neighborhood and more): Mon., May 8, Somerville Community Baptist Church, 31 College Ave.

Ward 1 (East Somerville, Assembly Sq., and more): Tues., May 9, East Somerville Community School Cafeteria, 50 Cross St.

All Ward Meeting in Spanish: Weds., May 10, East Somerville Community School Cafeteria, 50 Cross St. This meeting will also be livestreamed on the City of Somerville You Tube page, and shared on the Spanish language Facebook page fb.com/SomervilleCiudad.

Ward 2 (S. Union Sq., Perry and Lincoln Park neighborhoods, Beacon St. area, and more): Mon., May 15, Argenziano School Cafeteria, 290 Washington St.

Ward 4 (Winter Hill, Ten Hills, and more): Tues., May 16, Healey School Cafeteria, 5 Meacham St.

Ward 7 (West Somerville, Teele Sq., and more): Thurs., May 18, West Somerville Neighborhood School Cafeteria, 177 Powder House Blvd.

All Ward Virtual Meeting: Monday, May 22, online via Zoom with interpretation into Spanish and Portuguese, as well as other languages by request. You may join online or call in on any phone. For sign-in information, please visit www.somervillema.gov/communitymeetings or call 311 at 617-666-3311.

All meetings will be recorded by the City's GovTV team. Watch them on-demand with optional closed-captioning (select the CC icon) on YouTube. com/SomervilleCityTV. Or watch on cable TV at GovTV Comcast Ch. 22 and GovTV Astound (RCN) Ch. 13 & 613. Videos generally post within one business day of recording.

Dorothy's Corner by dorothy dimarzo

Lentil Soup

I always have lentils in the pantry for a quick and easy weeknight meal. This soup is a perfect accompaniment to a hearty salad and some crusty bread.

1/2 lb. lentils

2 tbs. olive oil

2 large carrots, chopped in 1/2" pieces 2 celery stalks, chopped in 1/2" pieces 1/2 large onion or 1 small, finely

2 garlic cloves, finely minced

1/4 cup tomato paste

4 - 1/2 cups of water

1 1/2 tsp. vegetable base or chicken base

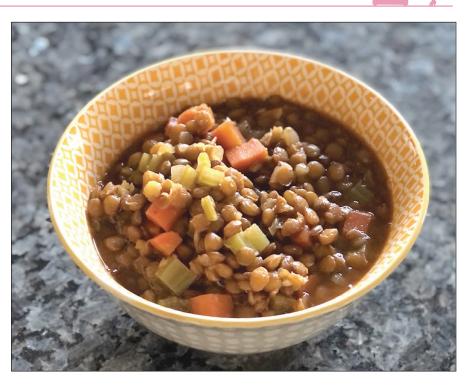
Salt and pepper

In a 6-quart pot, add olive oil, carrots, celery, and onion. Add 1/4 teaspoon of each salt and pepper and sauté for about 7 minutes. Add tomato paste and cook down for about 3 minutes, then add garlic and cook additional 30 seconds.

Add water and vegetable or chicken base along with the lentils. Bring to a simmer, cover and cook until the lentils are soft, about 35 - 45 minutes.

Check for additional seasoning. For additional flavoring, I add a teaspoon of pesto to each bowl, this is optional, but certainly bumps up the flavor! Serves 3.

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



Visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com
On Facebook at www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1

LEGAL NOTICES

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



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, May 3, 2023, 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

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3817432234329074526 Webinar ID: 671-635-627

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (562) 247-8422 Access code: 300-135-228

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

18 Ivaloo Street

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

483 Broadway

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

45 Trull Street

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

21 Francesca Ave

Manuel O. Zepeda and Katherine R. Jong seek an administrative appeal of the Building Official's determination of the building type for the nonprincipal building located at the rear of the lot.

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

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.

4/19/23, 4/26/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT INVITATION FOR BIDS IFB# 23-65

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

Kennedy DX Unit Compressor Replacements

The RFP package may be obtained online at

https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement or from the City of Somerville's BidExpress page at http://www.somervillema.gov/BidExpress on or after: Wednesday, April 26, 2023. Sealed responses will be received at the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via Bid Express until: 2:00 pm, May, 10, 2023

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

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

Jordan Remy Senior Procurement Manager 617-625-6600 x3400

4/26/23 The Somerville Times

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by 382 McGrath NT LLC to Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Trust, dated June 10, 2022 and recorded with the Middlesex (Southern District) County Registry of Deeds in Book 80264 Page 140 of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, and in which the mortgaged premises consist of a certain parcel of land with the buildings and improvements thereon located in Somerville known as 382 McGrath Highway, Somerville, Massachusetts, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:30 p.m. on the 4th day of May, 2023, at the mortgaged premises located at 382 McGrath Highway, Somerville, Middlesex (Southern District) County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

A certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon situated in Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, being shown as Lot "A" on a plan entitled, "Plan of Land in Somerville owned by the Estate of George D. Haven," Charles J. Elliot, Engineer and Surveyor, dated May 18, 1922, recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds at the end of Book 4685, being bounded and described as follows:

Northeasterly by Medford Street, now known as McGrath Highway, by a line with a radius of 750 degrees, forty-seven and 18/100 (47.18) feet; Northwesterly by Lot "B" on a said plan, eighty and 55/100 (80.55) feet; Southwesterly by land now or formerly of Hopkins, fifty-two and 61/100 (52.61) feet; and

Southeasterly by land now or formerly of Francis, seventy-two and 58/100 (72.58) feet.

Containing 3,749 square feet of land according to said plan.

For title see Deed recorded with the Middlesex (Southern District) County Registry of Deeds in Book 80264, Page 137.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid condominium fees, taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. No representations express or implied are made with respect to any matter concerning the premises, which will be sold "as-is" TERMS OF SALE:

Twenty-Five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$25.000.00) shall be paid in certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of said sale, and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid by certified or bank cashier's check at the offices of Erik T. Potter, Esq., Potter MacLellan LLP, 113 Ripley Road, Cohasset, MA 02025 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. The successful bidder of the sale of the premises shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Terms of Sale containing the above terms at the Auction Sale. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale, Present Holder of Said Mortgage:

Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Trust - c/o Erik T. Potter, Esq.

Potter MacLellan, LLP

113 Ripley Road, Cohasset, MA 02025 - 617-257-7050 Dated: April ____, 2023

4/12/23, 4/19/23, 4/26/23 The Somerville Times

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Prime Storage - Somerville located at 39R Medford St., Somerville, MA 02143 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagetreasures.com on 5/10/2023 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Ngin Workplace/NGIN Workplace unit #321B. 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.

4/26/23 The Somerville Times

Legal Notices can be downloaded from our website: www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by 0037 Main Somerville LLC to Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Trust, dated August 2, 2021 with the Middlesex (Southern District) County Registry of Deeds in Book 78389, Page 62 of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, and in which the mortgaged premises consist of a certain parcel of land with the buildings and improvements thereon located in Somerville known as 37 Main Street, Somerville, Massachusetts, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 p.m. on the 4th day of May, 2023, at the mortgaged premises located at 37 Main Street, Middlesex (Southern County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

The land together with the improvements thereon, situated in Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts ("the premises") shown as Lot A on a plan ("the Plan") entitled: "Plan of Land in Somerville, Mass. Dated July 20, 1965, made by Fred M. Gould, Surveyor, recorded Middle-sex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 10934, Page 201.

For title see Deed recorded with the Essex County Registry of Deeds in Book 78389, Page 59.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid condominium fees, taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. No representations express or implied are made with respect to any matter concerning the premises, which will be sold "as-is"

Twenty-Five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$25,000.00) shall be paid in certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of said sale, and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid by certified or bank cashier's check at the offices of Erik T. Potter, Esq., Potter MacLellan LLP, 113 Ripley Road, Cohasset, MA 02025 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. The successful bidder of the sale of the premises shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Terms of Sale containing the above terms at the Auction Sale. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale.

Present Holder of Said Mortgage: Steven A. Ross, Trustee of ΩS Lending Trust - c/o Erik T. Potter, Esq. Potter MacLellan, LLP

113 Ripley Road, Cohasset, MA 02025 – 617-257-7050 Dated: April 5, 2023

4/12/23, 4/19/23, 4/26/23 The Somerville Times

TO PLACE LEGAL **ADVERTISMENTS** IN THE **SOMERVILLE TIMES**, **CONTACT US BY 12 PM MONDAY**

PH: 857-488-5138

LEGAL NOTICES

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

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS City of Somerville OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR OF TAXES

NOTICE OF TAX TAKING

TO THE OWNERS OF THE HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED LAND AND TO ALL OTHERS CONCERNED: YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT on Thursday. the 11th day of May, 2023, at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at the Treasury, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143, pursuant to the provisions o General Laws, Chapter 60, Section 53, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, iIT IS MY INTENTION TO TAKE for the City of Somerville the following parcels of land for non-payment of the taxes due thereon, with interest and an incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same has been paid before that date.

Linda Dubuque, Treasurer/Collector of Taxes.

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 10 WARWICK ST

ASSESSED & CURRENT OWNER(S): BRUM LUIS
PARCEL ID: 033-G.00024-000000 ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: 07295050 DESCRIPTION OF LAND & TITLE REFERENCE: A parcel of land with any building thereon, containing approximately 7500 square feet and being part of the premises recorded at Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 29636, Page: 461.

This land is taken because taxes, as defined in Chapter 60, Section 43, assessed on the property to BRUM LUIS for the fiscal year 2021, which were not paid within fourteen days after a demand for payment was made on May 14, 2021. After notice of intention to take said land was given as required by law, they remain unpaid along with interest and incidental interests and costs to the date of taking as follows:

Fiscal Year 2021 Taxes Remaining Unpaid \$4.178.70 Interest to Date of Taking \$1,221.29 Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking \$225.00 \$5.624.99 Total for which Land will be Taken

4/26/23 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 42 LIBERTY AVE

ASSESSED & CURRENT OWNER(S): PHELAN RITA D PARCEL ID: **023-A.00021-000000** ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **16537140** DESCRIPTION OF LAND & TITLE REFERENCE: A parcel of land with any building thereon, containing approximately 4707 square feet and being part of the premises recorded at Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Book 08576, Page: 305.

This land is taken because taxes, as defined in Chapter 60, Section 43, assessed on the property to PHELAN RITA D for the fiscal year 2021, which were not paid within fourteen days after a demand for payment was made on May 14, 2021. After notice of intention to take said land was given as required by law, they remain unpaid along with interest and incidental interests and costs to the date of taking as follows:

Fiscal Year 2021 Taxes Remaining Unpaid \$7.824.12 Interest to Date of Taking \$2,426.54 Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking \$225.00 \$10,475.66 Total for which Land will be Taken

4/26/23 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 12 NEWBURY ST 2

ASSESSED & CURRENT OWNER(S): BURT A ADELMAN AND LYDIA ROGERS, TRUSTEES OF THE 12 NEWBURY STREET #2 REALTY TRUST PARCEL ID: 013-A.00081-000002 ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: 20064050 DESCRIPTION OF LAND & TITLE REFERENCE: A parcel of land with any building thereon, containing approximately 0 square feet and being part of the premises recorded at Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book:

This land is taken because taxes, as defined in Chapter 60, Section 43, assessed on the property to BURT A ADELMAN AND LYDIA ROGERS, TRUSTEES OF THE 12 NEWBURY STREET #2 REALTY TRUST for the fiscal year 2021, which were not paid within fourteen days after a demand for payment was made on May 14, 2021. After notice of intention to take said land was given as required by law, they remain unpaid along with interest and incidental interests and costs to the date of taking as follows:

Fiscal Year 2021 Taxes Remaining Unpaid \$7,175.21 Interest to Date of Taking
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking \$2 150 89 \$225.00 Total for which Land will be Taken

4/26/23 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: 8 MELVIN ST

ASSESSED & CURRENT OWNER(S): KUMAR SENTHIL, TRUSTEE OF WINTER HILL REALTY TRUST

PARCEL ID: **078-C.00024-000000** ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **03156205** DESCRIPTION OF LAND & TITLE REFERENCE: A parcel of land with any building thereon, containing approximately 3728 square feet and being part of the premises recorded at Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 70893, Page: 570.

This land is taken because taxes, as defined in Chapter 60, Section 43, assessed on the property to KUMAR SENTHIL TRUSTEE for the fiscal year 2021, which were not paid within fourteen days after a demand for payment was made on May 14, 2021. After notice of intention to take said land was given as required by law, they remain unpaid along with interest and incidental interests and costs to the date of taking as follows:

Fiscal Year **2021** Taxes Remaining Unpaid \$18.811.28 Interest to Date of Taking
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking \$2,505.60 \$225.00 Total for which Land will be Taken \$21,541.88

4/26/23 The Somerville Times



NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Removal of Public Shade Trees

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 87, the City of Somerville will hold a virtual public shade tree hearing on Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. using GotoWebinar software to consider the removal of the following public shade tree(s):

625 McGrath Highway on Bonair Street

1. One (1) zelkova- 4" diameter, fair condition Tree is in conflict with planned sewer installation by Somerville Engineering.

66 Oxford Street

1. One (1) green ash- 13" diameter, fair condition Tree is in conflict with overhead utility lines and has been excessively pruned. Condition and size of tree make it a poor candidate for emerald ash borer treatment.

• 91 Highland Road

1. One (1) Colorado blue spruce- 7" diameter, fair condition Tree is directly adjacent to utility pole and under power lines and is shaded by adjacent trees. Will require excessive utility pruning in

95 Highland Road

1. One (1) Norway maple- 4.5", good condition Tree is in direct competition with adjacent oak, planted ~5' apart. Removal would promote long term viability of the neighboring oak.

The trees identified above have been posted for public inspection. In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 87, any objections to the removal of any of these trees must be submitted in writing to the Tree Warden prior to or at this public hearing. Documents may be sent via email to: <u>trees@somervilleMA.gov</u>, or mailed to: 1 Franey Rd., Somerville,

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this Public Shade Tree Hearing will be conducted via remote participation. A recording of this hearing will be available upon request to trees@somervillema.gov.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL: https://tinyurl.com/rses5ze5

United States: +1 (562) 247-8321 Access code: 111-327-391

4/19/23, 4/26/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT IFB #23-67

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

Parking Department Roof Replacement

An Invitation for Bids may be obtained online at

https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement, or from the City of Somerville's BidExpress landing page http://www.somervillema.gov/BidExpress, on or after April 26th, 2023

Sealed bids will be received at the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via BidExpress until: 3:00PM EST, Wednesday, May 10th, 2023.

The City of Somerville reserves the right to waive any minor informalities, to cancel this bid, or to reject any and all bids, in whole or in part, if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the City.

5% Bid deposit is required.

Massachusetts Prevailing Wages Apply.

 $Please\ email\ \underline{procurement@somervillema.gov}\ for\ more\ information.$

Thupten Chukhatsang Senior Procurement Manager 617-625-6600 x3400



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT IFR #23-66

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

Annex Roof Replacement

An Invitation for Bids may be obtained online at https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement, or from the City of Somerville's BidExpress landing page http://www.somervillema.gov/BidExpress, on or after April 26th, 2023

Sealed bids will be received at the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via BidExpress until: 2:30 PM EST, Wednesday, May 10th , 2023.

The City of Somerville reserves the right to waive any minor informalities, to cancel this bid, or to reject any and all bids, in whole or in part, if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the City.

5% Bid deposit is required.

Massachusetts Prevailing Wages Apply.

Please email procurement@somervillema.gov for more information.

Thupten Chukhatsang Senior Procurement Manager 617-625-6600 x3400

4/26/23 The Somerville Times



1. Boston Arena

8. Secretary of the 2. Blades the Bruin

Treasury Salmon P. Chase

3. Radiohead

9. San Francisco

4. ER

10. Terra Cotta

5. Baked Alaska

11. Red

6. The Nile

12. California

7. Pickleball

4/26/23 The Somerville Times

LEGAL NOTICES

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City of Somerville PLANNING BOARD

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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The **Somerville Planning Board (PB)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Thursday, May 4, 2023**, at 6:00pm through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting of the Planning Board will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available by using the registration link once the meeting has concluded.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6864805676524218715 Webinar ID: 671-703-243

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (562) 247-8422 Access code: 992-235-658

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

E1 Droopoot Ctroot

Eversource Energy seeks to establish a Minor Utility Facility Use in the Commercial Core and Mid-Rise 4 zoning districts, which requires a

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

https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions. Interested persons may provide comments to the Planning Board at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to Planning & Zoning Division, 3rd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; or by email to planning@somervillema.gov.

4/19/23, 4/26/23 The Somerville Times



SOMERVILLE CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a Public Hearing before the City Council's Special Committee on Charter Review, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on Wednesday, May 10, 2023, on proposed changes to the City Charter:

Charter Review Committee conveying its recommendations and proposed Charter text.

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

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

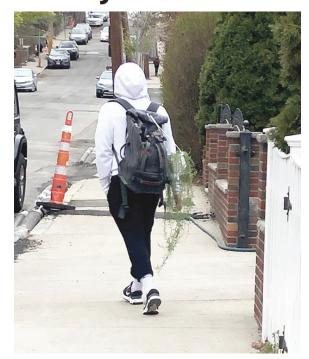
- 1. Virtually through the GoToWebinar platform. Enter this link into your internet browser any time before the meeting:
- https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6828112774658855259.You can also find this link on the City Council's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.
- 2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may email your comments to cityclerk@somervillema.gov, send them by US mail to the City Clerk, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143, or drop them into the secure drop box outside the back door on the School Street side of City Hall. Your comments must arrive no later than 12 Noon on the day of the Hearing, in order to be sure they are conveyed to the Council.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

KIMBERLY M. WELLS
CITY CLERK

4/26/23 The Somerville Times

Somerville through the eyes of Denise



The plant followed me home, mom - honest!

— Photo by Denise Provost

Want to write local Somerville stories? Call 857-488-5138

and speak to the Assignment Editor

Capuano School's Squirrel Class performers create 'The Magical Forest'

CONT. FROM PG 1

contains different creatures, people, and animals. Its trees grow different types of fruit all on the same tree. There is a talking broccoli tree, and another one that grows toys on its branches. One day, the blue and red crystals that fed all of the forest plants go missing. And so the quest to find them begins, with searches under the stars and

sea, and around the snow.

As the students were writing the play, themes of kindness and teamwork emerged. For example, for the crystals to be found, all of the creatures and the audience needed to search together. The crystals are found. To celebrate, the audience was invited to sing and dance together with the Squirrel Class per-

formers to the songs *Pop See Ko*, and *Can't Stop the Feeling*.

The themes of teamwork extended to Ms. Snikeris's colleagues. Ms. Snikeris sent the text of *The Magical Forest* to all Capuano classrooms, so educators and students would know in advance what to expect before watching the performance.

The Capuano Early Childhood Center and several PK-8 schools across the district house public prekindergarten classrooms. Learn more about Early Education in Somerville Public Schools at the Early Education website: https://somerville.k12.ma.us/early-education-care-somerville.

At the end of the performance,

the Squirrel Class performers waited for the audience to leave the cafetorium. Ms. Snikeris and the Squirrel Class performers then lined up and headed back to their classroom. They were happy and tired from dancing, and it was time for a snack.

 Abby Luthin, Grants and Communications Specialist

Residents respond to Somerville's Participatory Budget, the first of its kind CONT. FROM PG 5

improvements out of this."

To get the word out about the Participatory Budget, the city sent out a mailer to every resident and posted on its social media accounts.

Deb Azrael, 61, who found out about the budget through the city's outreach efforts, wants Somerville to invest in restrooms near public parks and pedestrian-friendly streets in high-traffic zones, among other things.

Azrael has lived in Somerville since 1983 and said it has changed significantly, even in the last 10 years. Now, the city has "a lot more privilege" and "a lot more money," which puts it in a better position to successfully execute the initiative. However, she said the city will likely implement the ideas it had already planned to prioritize even without a Participatory Budget in place.

"It seems like a fairly safe bet that ideas will bubble up that the city wanted to have happen in any case," Azrael said. "I mean, it wouldn't surprise if me if things that the city already had as budget priorities just wind up being ratified by this process."

Azrael also has concerns that this effort will be a one-off project. Huckenpahler said in an email to The Somerville Times that "the city plans on continuing [Participatory Budgeting] on an annual basis."

Huckenpahler also said the city aims to give residents regular updates on the process, as transparency will be key in maintaining trust and encouraging participation. Currently, the city is looking for budget delegate volunteers who will decide which 20 ideas get put to a vote in October 2023.

Beth Forrest, 53, a Somerville resident since 1995, would like the city to spend part of its \$1 million budget on vertical gardens, which she said would beautify neighborhoods and improve residents' mental health. She said developers have had a "far louder voice" than residents, but the Participatory Budget is a "great step" on the part of the new adminis-

tration

"I just hope that it really does improve the city for as many people as possible or the people who are most in need," she said. "And it would be nice if it is something that has a legacy, rather than spend it and then whatever it goes to sort of disappears in a few years.

Mandile Mpofu is a Boston-based multimedia journalist. She is earning her master's degree in journalism from Boston University.

Earth Day: Creatively Celebrating the Earth Together

Over 200 people joined together to celebrate Earth Day on April 22 at The Somerville Community Growing Center. Partnered with the City of Somerville's Office of Sustainability and Environment and the Climate Coalition of Somerville, the Earth Day celebration included participatory gardening - seed and seedlings to take home and nature-based art activities, learning about biodiversity and attracting pollinators to urban settings. Due to the rain, the Open Hours for the Arts: MUSIC launch, has been rescheduled to Sunday, May 14 at 3:00 p.m. — Photos by Claudia Ferro



Somerville Rotary Club fundraiser



The Somerville Rotary Club held a bowling fundraiser at American Flatbread in Davis Square to raise money for local non-profits. American Flatbread regularly hosts community organizations on Tuesday nights and donates a portion of the proceeds from pizza sales to the sponsored organization. Nevada Anderson, a Flatbread manager explained, "We are always happy to support Rotary and other local community organizations with our benefit bake nights. Supporting our Somerville community is very important to us!" The Somerville Rotary Club had a great time bowling, eating, and socializing at Flatbreads. Middlesex Federal Savings, Servvpro of Somerville, East Cambridge Savings Bank, and Angelina's pizza all sponsored the event. Members of the Somerville Lions Club also attended. David Worzala, President of the Somerville Rotary Club, thanked American Flatbread for "providing a family friendly and fun atmosphere to raise money for worthy causes in Somerville. Hopefully, this will become an annual event for Rotary and I encourage other organizations to partner with Flatbreads on Tuesday benefit bake nights." Pictured here: Rotarian Nancy Kavanagh, with her daughter, and Gilda Nogueira, with her niece, bowling for Rotary.

Somerville Youth Leaders at the Statehouse



Young people from Somerville Positive Forces from Somerville Cares About Prevention celebrated Kick Butts Day; Youth Day of Action, at the Massachusetts State House recently for the first time since 2019. As part of The 84 Movement, teens educated their legislators about the tobacco industry's historic and unjust targeting of youth, communities of color, and LGBTQIA+ youth. Pictured, are: Back Row (L to R): Youth leaders McKayla Hahn, Jayden Haley, Nancy Nimako, Bhavika Kalia and Adult Advisor Lovelee Heller-Bottari Front Row (L to R): Chahat Kalia, Luka Dvornik, Nico Kuczwara, Havilah Nimako, and Ishana Bali.

— Photo by Gretchen Ertl.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

off at noon from Davis Square, proceeding west on Holland Street through Teele Square and onto Broadway, and ending at the Veterans Cemetery between Alewife Brook Parkway and North Street. The city's annual remembrance ceremony will immediately follow. Sign up to volunteer or participate and march along with local Veterans and first responders by contacting **Somerville VETS** at 617-625-6600 ext. 4700. Parade participants should reach out by **Friday**, **April 28**. To learn more, visit somervillema.gov/veterans. To learn more, visit somervillema.gov/veterans.

Every year the Somerville Museum and Somerville Open Studios (SOS) hosts the First Look Exhibit in the Museum's gallery spaces. This show is open to all artists who are currently registered with Somerville Open Studios. The exhibition opens before SOS weekend and runs through May. It's a great opportunity for visitors to view artists' work and plan their open studios weekend visits. www.somervillemuseum.org.

Kicking off Somerville Open Studios weekend, Upstairs at Bow Market

is hosting the Lexie Butterfly Fashion Show. This show will feature three designer's collections: Lexie Griffith, Martha Friend, and Consuelo Perez. These Three Musketeers have each put together an eight-look collection to send down the runway. Avant garde, thought provoking, and full of creativity, this event is a must see. Come join in for an exhibition of unique fashions and fun. Tuesday, May 2, 1 Bow Market Way, Somerville, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. for more information visit https://www.lexiebutterflyvintage.com/fashion-show.

Open Studios 2023 will take place on Saturday, May 6, and Sunday, May 7. More than 300 artists across Somerville will open their studios to the public to display their latest work and meet visitors. The artist directory is now online, so you can find your favorite Somerville artists and preview this year's event at any time. Physical maps will be available at a corner near you in Somerville. Somerville Open Studio 2023 weekend hours: Saturday and Sunday, May 6 – 7, noon-5:00 p.m. Visit www.somerville-openstudios.org.

The Welcome Project is excited to announce the 14th Annual YUM: A Taste of Immigrant City. Please join in to celebrate the work of immigrants across the Boston area and highlight local restaurants that reflect the diverse and beautiful community Somerville has become. If you would like to be a sponsor of this event or purchase tickets, please use this link: https://bit.ly/YUM2023

Street sweeping not only keeps our streets clean, but is essential for reduced flooding by preventing clogged street drains. The 2023 season continues through December 31. Check signs in your neighborhood for sweeping days. Get familiar with the street sweeping schedule in areas where you park. Visit somervillema.gov/sweeping for a full schedule and to sign up for complimentary street sweeping reminders by text, email, or phone. For more infor-

mation on street sweeping procedures, visit parksomerville.com.

RESPOND, Inc., the Somerville-based nonprofit organization serving survivors of domestic violence throughout Middlesex and Suffolk counties, will host its first back-in-person fundraising gala since 2019. The event will take place at 6:00 p.m. on May 4 at The Kimpton Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin H. Land Blvd., Cambridge. The cocktail reception will feature hearty, passed hors d'oeuvres, an open wine and beer bar, silent auction packages, and other fun prizes. The program culminates with the presentation of the 2023 Timothy White Take a Stand Award to Shaquera Robinson, and a live auction, emceed by A. J. Burnett. Tickets are available on RESPOND's gala website: www.respondinc.org/gala. Tickets are \$125 each, with event host blocks of 10 tickets for \$1,200.

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.

COMMENTARY

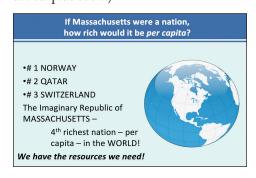
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Cui bono? Tax cuts vs spending



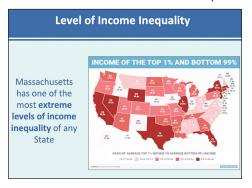
By State Senator Pat Jehlen

Last year, Gov. Baker proposed tax cuts totaling \$700 million. The House and Senate each proposed a tax cut package of around \$500 million. But we never reached agreement, after discovering that a 1986 law required returning \$3 billion to taxpayers because of a "surplus." (More on the surplus soon.)



Meanwhile, following many years of work by thousands of volunteers, the voters approved the Fair Share Amendment, which will raise between \$1 and \$2 billion to be spent on education and transportation. The new revenue will come from a 4% surtax on the portion of any income over \$1 million.

In February, Gov. Healey proposed tax cuts that will total \$1 billion when by Fis-



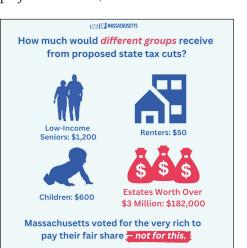
cal Year 2025. (Here's a comparison with Baker's bill.) Last week, the House voted on a bill that will cut taxes by \$1.1 billion when phased in. As the Senate prepares to vote on its own version, one question is: Cui bono?

Who will benefit from these proposals? The simplest explanation of Gov. Healey's proposal is in these slides from RaiseUp, the folks who worked for the Fair Share Amendment. The House plan contains similar provisions. Thanks to Raise Up for the graphics! (With comments by me.)



Those numbers include all state and local taxes, including the regressive sales tax, excise tax, and local property taxes. An opponent of the Fair Share Amendment has confirmed the highly regressive total tax structure in Massachusetts.

The Fair Share Amendment (FSA) is projected to raise \$1 to 2 billion in new an-

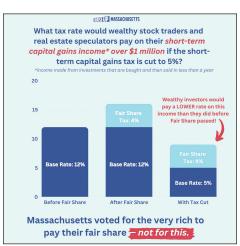


Tues. April 18

nual state revenue, dedicated to education and transportation.

The tax cuts proposed by the Governor and House are about the same as increased revenue generated by the FSA. Both the Governor and the House preserve the FSA spending on transportation and education, but limit or cut spending in other areas. The reductions in revenue and spending will be greater in future years as tax cuts are phased in, especially if there is a widely expected recession or slowdown in the economy.

We in the Senate are now actively discussing what we should do about taxes and spending in this year's budget. Is this information helpful? Comments and questions welcome!



House 11:04 a.m. to 11:19 a.m.

Senate 11:10 a.m. to 11:21 a.m.

Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 6

expansion of the Massachusetts Next Generation Initiative, a public-private partnership designed to support underrepresented entrepreneurs in the Massachusetts life sciences ecosystems.

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 April 17-21, the House met for a total of 25 minutes while the Senate met for a total of 35

Mon. April 17

No House session

No Senate session

Wed. April 19 No House session No Senate session Thurs. April 20 House 11:03 a.m. to 11:13 a.m. Senate 11:12 a.m. to 11:36 a.m. Fri. April 21 No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

Visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com Facebook at www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1

The Hamilton Company announces One Union Square

The Hamilton Company has announced that it has initiated the process for obtaining approvals for One Union Square in Somerville – a transformative development that will anchor new economic activity, create new civic and community spaces, and help realize Somerville's long-term objective of strengthening Union Square as both a neighborhood and commercial center.

The mixed-use development will consist of a four-story office, lab, and R&D building with 200,000 sf of gross floor area and over 13,000 sf of green open space in a new publicly accessible park. New retail and restaurant spaces will be located along Somerville Avenue. Another 6,500 sf of indoor space facing the new park is designated for civic use, such as a branch library. Together, these uses will make this site in the center of Union Square an inclusive destination for the surrounding community, while helping to meet Somerville's public programming needs.

"Somerville's remarkable history includes the evolving neighborhoods around its landmark city squares and business districts," said Jameson Brown, Chairman and CEO of The Hamilton Company. "Union Square is a

vibrant and exciting destination rich with culture and a diverse population. Our One Union Square will be a natural complement to the neighborhood, building on its strengths to create new activity and opportunities."

The One Union Square development site encompasses an area dubbed the "Union Square South Block" bounded by Somerville Avenue and Prospect Street, and is 100 percent owned by The Hamilton Company and its limited partners.

Elkus Manfredi Architects is leading the design of One Union Square, which will integrate Class-A lab and office space, retail, interior and exterior civic spaces, streetscape improvements, and other public amenities into the overall project design. The firm portfolio includes significant buildings for the life sciences sector such as Pfizer at Six Ten Main, Vertex Pharmaceuticals' headquarters building and the Broad Institute. Elkus Manfredi has also led master planning processes rooted in place making including the urban innovation hub at Texas Medical Center, the first WELL-certified neighborhood in the world at Water Street Tampa, and the Volpe Center Redevelopment in

Kendall Square.

"At One Union Square, we are not just designing a building. We are creating a vibrant, inclusive destination that will welcome the surrounding neighborhood and build on what makes Union Square such a special place today. Today's best-in-class workplace is integrated into the community around it, which is why One Union Square will be truly mixed-use, providing public programming such as a branch library, a new public-facing public park, and tree-lined streets with active retail and dining options," said Tim Talun, Senior Associate for Elkus Manfredi. "Somerville has set bold goals related to sustainability and the quality of the public realm, and we look forward to realizing these goals in a way that supports the well-being of all who experience One Union Square."

One Union Square is also consistent and highly compatible with the principles and objectives of transit-oriented development, providing users with superior access to the MBTA's Union Square Green Line Extension (GLX) station.

The development team projects the timetable for obtaining all city approvals and complet-

ing site plan review to be 12-18 months. Necessary approvals include a zoning amendment to allow a single building on the site by special permit. A single building allows the proposed neighborhood park to be located at Somerville Avenue and Prospect Street, where it will be most visible, active, and usable. Following approval of the proposed zoning amendment, the project will seek Site Plan Review and Special Permit approval.

"We are looking forward to engaging with residents, business owners, and other stakeholders during the robust community process that lays ahead," said Brown. "No other project, plan, or vision for Union Square meets the City of Somerville's established planning objectives better than One Union Square."

Founded in 1954 and spanning more than six decades of continuous operation, The Hamilton Company is one of the largest privately held, full-service real estate firms in New England. Managing

About The Hamilton Company

Company is one of the largest privately held, full-service real estate firms in New England. Managing more than 5,600 residential units and 1.5 million sf of commercial space, Hamilton Construction Management Corporation is experienced in all facets of project

development and construction, offering turnkey services from pre-construction planning and permitting through construction and building commissioning. The Hamilton Company Charitable Foundation was formed in 2011 by Harold Brown. Its goal is to provide support for local 501c3 organizations that serve the community. Annual funding ranges from \$250,000 to over \$1,000,000.

About Elkus Manfredi Architects

Elkus Manfredi Architects is a full-service design and planning practice focused on architecture, interior architecture, master planning, urban design, and historic preservation. The firm's diverse portfolio of work includes planning and design for environments for work, play, living, learning, and innovation. With a 30+year legacy of design excellence, Elkus Manfredi is recognized for its strategic work in life sciences, corporate, academic, hospitality, residential, and mixed-use placemaking that fosters inclusion, connection, and sustainability at every scale. Learn more about the firm at www.elkus-manfredi. com and see what they're sharing on LinkedIn, Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook.

The Center for Arts at the Armory announces Night in Bloom Gala 2023

The Center for the Arts at the Armory in Somerville, MA is excited to announce our annual fundraising gala Night in Bloom on Thursday, May 11. Headlining the event will be renowned balafon player, "djeli," and NEA National Heritage Fellow Balla Kouyate, currently based in Medford, MA and originally from Mali. Guitarist Maurizio Fiore Salas will perform for the VIP hour, and DJ Saucy Lady will be spinning throughout the night alongside pop-up performances by students from Deborah Mason Performing Arts Center.

VIP and General Admission are currently on sale. A Night in Bloom will showcase The Center for Arts at the Armory as a vital home for the arts in Somerville through compelling performances, recognition of cultural honorees, and delightful food by Nada Cart and beverages by Aeronaut.

This year Arts at the Armory will be honoring three outstanding individuals based in Somerville:



Lifetime Achievement: Deborah Mason of Deborah Mason Performing Arts Center Community Arts Advocate: Robert Smyth Outstanding Artist: IMAGINE / Sneha Shrestha

Tickets are available on our event platform. VIP tickets are \$100 and include an opening reception; general admission tickets are \$40.

The Center for Arts at the Armory is located at 191 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143. To learn more please visit our website, artsatthearmory.org, our Facebook page, and follow us on Instagram at @ArtsattheArmory.

Somerville Anti-Displacement Task Force seeks new members

The deadline to apply for the Anti-Violence Working Group has been extended to Friday, May 19

The City of Somerville Anti-Displacement Task Force (ADTF), which was formed to research and recommend policies to prevent residential displacement, has now expanded to advocate for a wider range of the Somerville community, including small business displacement and cultural displacement. The Task Force is seeking community members with an interest in working on anti-displacement policies to serve in a volunteer capacity on one of the Task Force's three committees: Residential Displacement Committee (RDC) • Small Business Displacement Committee (SBDC) • Cultural Displacement Committee (CDC)

All committees are seeking both committee members and co-chairs. Residency in the City of Somerville is not a requirement to serve on the Task Force, though applicants should have a direct connection to Somerville and the committee they are applying for. More information on the specific qualifications encouraged to join each committee can be found below.

Residential Displacement Committee

The Somerville Residential Displacement Committee will be made up of community members, professionals in anti-displacement, city staff, and city council members, who will work with city staff to research and develop policy and programming recommendations aimed at reducing the rate of displacement of Somerville's residents over a year-long period. The RDC will research and evaluate different options for addressing displacement including but not limited to rent stabilization. The Co-Chair will work with the city staff assigned Co-Chair to manage the agenda and work of the RDC. Applicants for the Residential Displacement Committee should have professional or lived experience with residential displacement or otherwise have a strong interest in working on issues of anti-displacement in Somerville. Members of the community who are at risk of displacement or have been previously displaced are strongly encouraged to apply.

Examples include but are not limited to: Community members who live in Somerville. • Community members who used to live in Somerville and experienced displacement. • Community members with professional or volunteer experience focused on serving Somerville residents who are either experiencing or, at risk of experiencing, displacement.

Small Business Displacement Committee

The Somerville Small Business Displacement Committee members will work with city staff to research and develop policy and programming recommendations aimed at reducing the rate of displacement of Somerville's small businesses over a yearlong period. The Co-Chair will work with the city staff assigned Co-Chair to manage the agenda and work of the SBDC. Applicants for the Small Business Displacement Committee should have professional or lived experience with small business displacement or otherwise have a strong interest in working on issues of anti-displacement in Somerville. Members of the small business community who are at risk of displacement or have been previously displaced are strongly encouraged to apply.

Examples include but are not limited to: Community members who own a small business in Somerville. • Community members who used to operate a small business in Somerville and experienced displacement. • Community members with professional or volunteer experience focused on serving Somerville small businesses who have experienced or are currently at risk of experiencing displacement.

Cultural Displacement Committee

The Somerville Cultural Displacement Committee will be made up of creatives and non-profit representatives that have connections to the Somerville community. The committee will be made up of community members, city staff, and a city councilor. Applicants for the Cultural Displacement Committee should have professional or lived experience with displacement or otherwise have a strong interest in working on issues of anti-displacement in Somerville. Members of the creative community or non-profits who are at risk of displacement or have been previously displaced are strongly encouraged to apply.

Examples include but are not limited to: Community members who work for or own a creative enterprise or operate a non-profit in Somerville. • Community members who used to operate a creative enterprise or non-profit in Somerville and experienced displacement. • Community members with professional or volunteer experience focused on serving Somerville creative enterprises or non-profits who have experienced, or, are currently at risk of experiencing displacement.

Community members interested in becoming a committee co-chair should also demonstrate proficiency in:

Anti-displacement policy • Public speaking • Board/committee functions • Setting agendas • Leading meetings • Getting consensus

Duration and Time Commitment

Members serve a one-year term in a volunteer capacity. Members will meet four times ADTF-wide: May 18, 2023; September 21, 2023; January 18, 2024; and May 16, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. In addition to the task-force-wide meetings, the members will meet once monthly as their committee on a Thursday, with time to be set by the group. Applicants should expect to commit a total of approximately five to seven hours a month, which includes ADTF-wide meetings, monthly committee meetings, and reviewing and drafting documents circulated in connection with each meeting. Co-Chairs can expect to commit an additional two hours a month to administrative duties.

Application Process

Applications are due Friday, May 19, 20023. Interested candidates should send a resume and/or letter of interest explaining why they want to be a part of the committee as a member or as a co-chair, along with brief answers to the questions below by email to lquizhpe@somervillema.gov or by mail to Luis Quizhpe, City of Somerville, OSPCD Admin, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville MA 02143. Please contact Luis at the email or address above or call 311 to obtain assistance in applying by telephone.

What is your understanding of Somerville's displacement crisis? Why is it important for you to participate in this task force? Please explain which of the eligibility criteria above you meet and how? Do you have any additional experiences that you think will add a new perspective to the Task Force? In your opinion, what are one to two things that would allow residents/small businesses/creatives/nonprofits (please select based on which committee you are interested in joining) to remain in Somerville?

Applicants can fill out the online form here: bit.ly/rsj_avwg.

Applications can also be emailed to rsj@somervillema.gov, or either hand-delivered or mailed to Somerville City Hall, Attn: RSJ Department, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143.

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

Upcoming events:

Wildwood, NJ – Monday, May 15th to Friday, May 19th, 5 days and 4 nights accommodations at a beautiful oceanfront hotel, tour historic Cape May, an afternoon at Atlantic City and more. All trips are non-refundable. Payments accepted by check only, made payable to SCOA; single room \$669; double room \$529 per person. For more information, or to RSVP to this trip please call Connie Lorenti at 617-625-6600, ext. 2319.

Beginner's De-Cluttering Support Group – Mondays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. May 1st, May 8th, May 15th and June 5th at our Holland Street Center. This six-week group is open to residents of Somerville & Cambridge over the age of 60. RSVP to Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317.

Travel Training Seminar – Wednesday, May 31st – 10:00 a.m. to noon at our Holland Street Center. Has it been a while since you've been on a bus or train? If you are looking to become more comfortable using the MBTA look no further. For more information or to RSVP call Natasha Naim at 617-626-6600, ext. 2317 or email Natasha at nnaim@somervillema.gov

SCES Connect Program – Tuesday, May 2nd from 11:00 a.m. to noon at our Holland Street Center. Have you wondered about how best to access mental health support in the community. Join Tatiana, the Community Outreach Specialist from Somerville Cambridge Elder Services CONNECT program who will describe how CONNECT, an in-home therapy program, may be a good fit for you, and will share other ways to access local services. RSVP Molly Pagliuca at 617-625-6600, ext. 2318 or email Molly at mpagliuca@somervillema.gov

Let's Celebrate Older American's Month – Tuesday, May 11th starting at 11:00 a.m. at George Dilboy Post, 351 Summer Street. Join us for an afternoon of fun as we celebrate growing older and wiser. \$10 per person. Please RSVP to Connie Lorenti at 617-625-6600, ext. 2319.

Veteran's Group - Meets Friday, April 28th at the Holland Street Center starting at 10:00 a.m. RSVP to Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321 or email dhiggins@somervillema. gov Please note new day and time for April only. Guest speaker, Andrew Chatfield, will share A Morning of History on WWII.

Project Outlook, Low Vision Group - 3rd Thursday of each month from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Holland Street Center. Project Outlook is a group of residents with low or no vision who enjoy getting together for camaraderie and socialization. Project Outlook has been active for over 30 years. Come join in the conversation, we look forward to meeting you.

For more information, please contact Claudia Ferro at 857-237-1801.

Book Club – Meets the 3rd Friday of each month starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Holland St. Center. Do you love books and want to discuss your love of reading with others? Consider joining book club. Group meets in person and concurrently via Zoom. Please RSVP by calling Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600 or email Natasha at nnaim@somervillema.gov as space is limited.

Music & Munch Program – Meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month. This 45- minute session will treat you to a playlist of diverse musical offerings: a little jazz, some "oldies but goodies," a smidgen of classical, a dip into barbershop, a trip to Broadway. The music is taped but the experience is live. Your guide is Somerville Resident, Laura Zoll, trained as a medieval musicologist and with a life-long love of all things musical. Learn a little, sing-along, relax and enjoy some Music while you Munch. Please RSVP to Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@ somervillema.gov You will then receive your email invitation to join the program via Zoom.

Brown Bag Supplemental Food Program – PICK UP Thursday, April 27th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street. For an application contact Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317.

Men's Group – Meets the second Tuesday of each month at the Holland Street Center from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. RSVP to Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov

In-person Fit-4-Life Exercise Classes at the Holland Street Center – every Monday at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Please RSVP to Phelan Howell at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Phelan at phowell@somervillema.gov.

Virtual Fit-4-Life Exercise Class – Every Wednesday & Thursday via Zoom starting at 1:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Phelan Howell at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Phelan at phowell@somervillema.gov for your Zoom link.

Tai Chi Returns – Fridays at 10:00 a.m., May 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th Join Tarsha Bethel-Stacke in this six-week Tai Chi program as she leads coordinated movements, breathing and meditation. Stemming from Chinese medicine, philosophy and martial arts. All levels are welcome. RSVP Phelan Howell at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Phelan at phowell@somervillema.gov

Ageless Grace – Every Thursday at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. RSVP to Phelan Howell at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Phelan at phowell@

somervillema.gov for the Zoom link.

Friendly Caller Program - Looking for a way to practice social distancing but remain connected to other people? Look no further than the Somerville Council on Aging's Friendly Phone Caller program. We have many wonderful volunteers who are waiting to give you a call. Whether you are looking to make a new friend or would just like a friendly chat to look forward to every week, this program has you covered. Call Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 to learn more about the program and to sign up.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay connected via our Facebook page - Informative, entertaining, lots of photos and updates. Visit our page at https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCOA/

Follow the Somerville Council on Aging on Instagram! You can find us under the Instagram handle: somervillecouncilonaging If you have any questions or need help following us, contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321 or email her at dhiggins@somervillema. gov

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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, 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.

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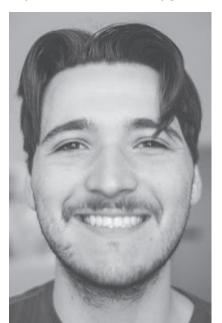
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Endicott College Undergraduate Filmmaker Foster White brings 'Make the Voices Stop' to the Somerville Theatre

Interview by Doug Holder

Recently, a student in my Boston Literature and Film Class at Endicott College told me he is going to have a short documentary that he produced screened as part of the Boston Student International Film Festival Showcase. The film, along with many others can be viewed at the old and storied vaudevillian Somerville Theatre in Davis Square, Somerville, Massachusetts at 1:00 p.m. on April 29. According to the budding filmmaker, undergraduate Foster White:

The film is named, Make the Voices Stop! and the logline is – Identical twins Alex and Aaron have grappled with addiction together for years. However, a distance starts to form between them as Alex gets sober and Aaron's mental health begins to decline. This is my first ever documentary film and I am incredibly proud of it. It follows my twin cousins



Foster White.

Alex and Aaron who are both addicted to opioids. I would go to their separate houses a few times a month to get new footage and just check in

with the two of them. I got a lot of warning about working on such a big project with my family and especially because it's such an important topic. But I think we were able to make it out okay. I will say that I wish I took those warnings a little more seriously, but in the end it turned out to be fine and I got a lot closer with both of them."

Foster White is a senior filmmaking major at Endicott College. Last year his short film, Skinwalkers of Beverly, represented Endicott College at the IFF Boston Student Showcase. This was in the horror/comedy genre.. He is very excited about the screening of this film that deals with both opioid addiction and mental health issues. About the documentary he has produced, he told me,"I think I did the best I could on it." According to White, he always loved being around the camera ever since high school. He has two YouTube channels that he uploads semi-regularly — one is a board game channel and the other are random skits, short films, etc... Foster said, "Once I graduate I am going to on making more films and take things a lot more seriously as a filmmaker. He reflected. "I would love to return to the narrative realm and focus on horror comedies. I am currently looking for a job somewhere in the creative space whether that's writing, editing or somewhere on a production team."

For more info go to https://iffboston.org/series/the-festival/screening/shorts/the-student-showcase/

Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

By Bobbygeorge Potaris

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On This Day in History April 26

757 - Stephen II ends his reign as Catholic Pope.

1514 - Copernicus makes his first observations of Saturn.

1564 - William Shakespeare is baptized.

1607 – The British establish a colony at Cape Henry, Virginia.

1865 – Joseph E. Johnston surrenders the Army of Tennessee to General William T. Sherman.

1929 - The first non-stop flight from England to India is completed.

1931 – New York Yankee Lou Gehrig hits a home run but is called out for passing a runner, the mistake ultimately costs him the home run record.

1941 - The first organ is played at a baseball stadium in Chicago.

1968 - Students seize the administration building at Ohio State University.

1986 – The world's worst nuclear disaster occurs at the Chernobyl power plant in the Soviet Union.

1994 - Nelson Mandela wins the presidency in South Africa's first multiracial elections.

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4·30 PM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

Chair Yoga w/ Janine Duffy 6:30 AM 7:00 AM Finance Committee Meeting 4-11-23

8:00 AMFit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan

8:30 AM City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo 9:00 AM Green New Deal w/ Senator

Markey 11:00 AM Greek Independence Day 2023

12:00 PM School Committee Meeting 4-24-23 3:00 PM Coffee w/ US

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley & Mayor Katjana Ballantyne

4:00 PM Greek Independence Day 2023 5:00 PM City Council Meeting 4-13-23 7:30 PM City Council Spotlight: Kristen

Strezo 8:00 PM Green New Deal w/ Senator Markey

10:00 PM Patriots Day 2023 10:30 PMSchool Committee Update: Laura Pitone

11:01 PM Entrepreneur Spotlight S1E2 Himalavan Kitchen

11:45 PM SPD Ride Along

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

12:00 AMCOHR and SPD: Discussion Panel School Committee Meeting 1:30 AM 4-24-23

7:00 AMFit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan

7:30 AM Connecting Communities - PB 8:00 AM Coffee w/ US Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley & Mayor Katjana Ballantyne

9:00 AM Greek Independence Day 2023 10:00 AM Patriots Day 2023 10:30 AM Finance Committee Meeting 4-11-23

11:30 AMSchool Committee Update: Laura Pitone

12:01 PMSenior Circuit: Health & Wellness Coordinator

12:30 PM City Council Meeting 4-13-23 3:00 PM City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo 7:00 PM City Council Meeting - LIVE

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

12:00 AMSenior Circuit: Health & Wellness

Coordinator 12:30 AM lane's Walk City Council Spotlight: Kristen 2:00 AM Strezo

Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II 7:00 AM 8:00 AM Finance Committee Meeting 4-11-23

9:00 AM City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo

9:30 AM Patriots Day 2023 10:30 AMSchool Committee Update: Laura Pitone

11:01 AM School Committee - Personnel Meeting of the Whole 4-10-23

1:00 PM Greek Independence Day 2023 Finance Committee Meeting

3:00 PMSchool Committee Meeting 4-3-23 5:30 PMSchool Committee Update: Laura Pitone

6:01 PM SomerViva - Servicios Legales 6:30 PM City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo

7:00 PM Patriots Day 2023 School Committee - Personnel 7:30 PM Meeting of the Whole 4-10-23

9:30 PM Superintendent Candidate III Interview III 3-29-23

11:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting 4-11-23

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

12:00 AM SomerViva - Servicios Legales 12:30 AM Greek Independence Day 2023 1:30 AMSchool Committee Meeting 4-3-23 7:00 AMFit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan

7:30 AMCharter Review-Committee of the Whole 3-22-23

SomerViva - Servicios Legales 9:00 AM Coffee w/ US Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley & Mayor Katjana Ballantyne

10:00 AM School Committee - Personnel Meeting of the Whole 4-10-23 12:00 PMCharter Review-Committee of the

Whole 3-22-23 1:00 PMSchool Committee Update: Laura

1:31 PMSchool Committee Meeting 4-3-23 4:00 PMFit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan

6:02 PM Three Paths to Italy Patriots Day 2023
Finance Committee Meeting 7:00 PM 8:00 PM 4-11-23 9.00 PM SomerViva - Servicios Legales 9:30 PM COHR and SPD: Discussion Panel SPD Ride Along 10:43 PM 11:00 PM SomerViva - Servicios Legales 11:30 PMSchool Committee Update: Laura

GLX Celebration

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

12:01 AM Greek Independence Day 2023 1:00 AM City Council Meeting 4-27-23 7:00 AMFit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan

7:30 AM Coffee w/ US Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley & Mayor Katiana Ballantvne

City Council Spotlight: Kristen 8:30 AM Strezo

9:00 AM Ward 3 Spring Community Meeting 4-25-23

11.00 AM Patriots Day 2023 11:30 AM Connecting Communities - PB 12:00 PMSenior Circuit: Health & Wellness Coordinator

Finance Committee Meeting 12:30 PM 4-11-23

1.30 PM Green New Deal w/ Senator Markev

4:30 PM Ward 5 Spring Community Meeting 4-26-23 6:30 PMSchool Committee Update: Laura

Pitone 7:01 PM Senior Circuit: Health & Wellness Coordinator

7:30 PM City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo

8:00 PM City Council Meeting 4-27-23

MONDAY, MAY 1

12:00 AMSenior Circuit: Health & Wellness Coordinator

12:30 AM Green New Deal w/ Senator Markey 2:30 AM Connecting Communities - PB Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II Union Sq. Walking Tour Ward 5 Spring Community 6:30 AM 7:30 AM

9:00 AM Meeting 4-26-23

11:00 AM Entrepreneur Spotlight S1E2 Himalayan Kitchen

12:00 PM City Council Meeting 4-27-23 4:00 PM Green New Deal w/ Senator Markey

6:00 PM School Committee Meeting 4-24-23

9:00 PM Ward 3 Spring Community Meeting 4-25-23 11:00 PM Patriots Day 2023

11:30 PM City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo

TUESDAY, MAY 2

12:00 AM Ward 5 Spring Community Meeting 4-26-23 2:00 AM Coffee w/ US

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley & Mayor Katjana Ballantyne

7:00 AM Somerville Museum: Sanctuary

8:00 AM Greek Independence Day 2023 9:00 AM **Connecting Communities** 9:30 AMSchool Committee Update: Laura Pitone

10:01 AM School Committee Meeting 4-24-23

12:30 PMSenior Circuit: Health & Wellness Coordinator

1:00 PM Connecting Communities Ward 3 Spring Community 1:30 PM Meeting 4-25-23

4:00 PM Green New Deal w/ Senator Markey 6:00 PM COHR and SPD: Discussion Panel

7:15 PM SPD Ride Along 7:30 PM City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo

8:00 PM **Connecting Communities** 8:30 PM SomerViva - Servicios Legales 9:00 PM School Committee - Personnel Meeting of the Whole 4-10-23

11:00 PM Somerville Museum: Sanctuary City

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

12:00 AMSenior Circuit: Health & Wellness Coordinator

12:30 AM Greek Independence Day 2023 1:30 AM Superintendent Candidate III Interview III 3-29-23

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26

8:00 AM SHS Girls' GLAX vs Matignon 9:30 AM Week of the Young Child Celebra-

10:00 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Watertown 12:00 PM SHS Volleyball vs Revere 2:00 PM SHS Softball vs Lynn C 3:30 PM School Committee Meeting 4-24-

6:00 PM SHS Girls' GLAX vs Matignon 7:30 PM Week of the Young Child Celebra-

8:00 PM SHS Boys' LAX vs Watertown 10:00 PM SHS Volleyball vs Revere

THURSDAY, APRIL 27

12:00 AM SHS Softball vs Lynn C 1:30 AM SHS Volleyball vs Medford 8:00 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Watertown 9:30 AM SHS Girls' GLAX vs Matignon 11:00 AM School Committee Meeting 4-24-23

2:00 PM SHS Volleyball vs Revere 4:00 PM SHS Softball vs Lynn C 5:30 PM Week of the Young Child Celebra-

6:00 PM SHS Boys' LAX vs Watertown 7:30 PM SHS Girls' GLAX vs Matignon 8:35 PM SHS Evening of Song 10:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Chelsea

FRIDAY, APRIL 28

12:00 AM SHS Volleyball vs Revere 2:00 AM SHS Baseball vs Chelsea 8:00 AM School Committee Meeting 4-24-

10:30 AM SHS Volleyball vs Revere 12:00 PM SHS Evening of Song 1:30 PM Week of the Young Child Celebra-

2:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Chelsea 3:30 PM SHS Softball vs Lynn C 5:00 PM B Team Intramural Soccer Cham-

pionship 6:00 PM School Committee Meeting 4-24-

8:30 PM SHS Volleyball vs Revere 10:00 PM SHS Evening of Song 11:30 PM Week of the Young Child Celebration

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

12:00 AM SHS Baseball vs Chelsea 1:30 AM SHS Softball vs Lynn C 3:00 AM B Team Intramural Soccer Championship 8:00 AM SHS Baseball vs Chelsea 10:00 AM SHS Volleyball vs Revere 12:00 PM SHS Softball vs Lynn C 1:30 PM SHS Boys' LAX vs Revere 3:00 PM SHS Evening of Song

4:30 PM Week of the Young Child Cele-

5:00 PM SHS Volleyball vs Medford 7:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Chelsea 9:00 PM SHS Volleyball vs Revere 11:00 PM SHS Softball vs Lynn C

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

12:30 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Revere 2:00 AM SHS Evening of Song 3:30 AM Week of the Young Child Celebra-

4:00 AM SHS Volleyball vs Medford 8:00 AM SHS Baseball vs Chelsea 10:00 AM SHS Volleyball vs Revere 11:30 AM SHS Volleyball vs Medford 1:30 PM SHS Evening of Song 3:00 PM Boston Debate League City Championships

5:30 PM Week of the Young Child Celebration 6:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Chelsea 8:00 PM SHS Volleyball vs Revere 9:30 PM SHS Volleyball vs Medford 11:30 PM SHS Evening of Song

MONDAY, MAY 1

1:00 AM Boston Debate League City Championships

3:30 AM Week of the Young Child Celebration

AM School Committee Meeting

10:30 AM SHS Evening of Song 12:00 PM SHS Softball vs Lynn C 1:30 PM SHS Volleyball vs Revere 3:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Chelsea 5:00 PM SHS Boys' LAX vs Revere

6:30 PM School Committee Meeting 4-24-23

9:00 PM SHS Evening of Song 10:30 PM SHS Softball vs Lynn C

TUESDAY, MAY 2 12:00 AM SHS Volleyball vs Revere

1:30 AM SHS Baseball vs Chelsea 3:00 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Revere 8:00 AM SHS Evening of Song 9:30 AM SHS Volleyball vs Revere 11:00 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Revere 12:30 PM SHS Girls' GLAX vs Matignon 2:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Chelsea 4:00 PM SHS Softball vs Lynn C 5:30 PM Week of the Young Child Celebration 6:00 PM SHS Evening of Song 7:30 PM SHS Volleyball vs Revere

9:00 PM SHS Boys' LAX vs Revere 10:30 PM SHS Girls' GLAX vs Matignon 12:00 AM SHS Baseball vs Chelsea 2:00 AM SHS Softball vs Lvnn C 3:30 AM Week of the Young Child Celebra-

A COMERVILLE edited by Doug Holder

Gianna is a junior studying English at Endicott College. She is involved on campus as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Literary Arts Magazine* as well as the News Editor for Endicott's newspaper. She is from Richmond, Rhode Island, a small town by the coast. Being one of five, Gianna grew up in a warm and happy home that has been



difficult to be separated from. But Gianna believes you can have roots and wings. Her love for reading and writing has evolved into a passion that she hopes to maintain with a career in book publishing. She is grateful for her family at home and at school for their unwavering support.

Slim Pickings

after The Red Wheelbarrow by William Carlos Williams

Scrambling like mad so you get someone. Much of your luck depends on the array of flowers left upon your slice of the earth. This time could be perfect, could be a lie, or a big, red sign. Stop-don't wheel your heart in a broken barrow towards a pair of glazed eyes, flickering with a dying spark. The rain will fall and wash him away. That water will help you see growth, too. Stand tall beside the other flowers, the whole lot of you losing petals that were once white. Scrambling for those slim pickings, just like starved chickens.

— Gianna Tretton

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

by Doug Holder

Somerville Artist George Teshu:

A painter of sensuality and spirituality

I noticed that the Somerville Media Center is to have an art exhibit in April and George Teshu is one of the exhibitors. I caught up with Teshu recently, and we talked about his colorful and evocative paintings, and his perception of art and life.

Doug Holder: How has it been for you as an artist living in the Somerville/Cambridge area?

George Teshu: I moved to North Cambridge with my family in 1992. We had a close friend who lived in Davis Square at that time. I was amazed at the extent of artistic activity in Somerville-Cambridge. It seemed like there were lots of creative people of all kinds everywhere. I had not painted for about 18 years. What was going on around me inspired me to pick up a paintbrush again. I've been painting since.

DH: You were influenced by your upbringing in the Russian Orthodox Church. This is reflected in your work. Are you a religious man--do you find that art gives you a sense of transcendence?

GT: I am not a member of any organized religion now. I view myself however as a spiritual person. As far as transcendence, yes, I feel that my art does lift me into a transcendent state of being. I feel very fortunate in that way. I have read that scientific studies have shown that something very unusual happens in the brain when one is creating art. What I know is that it is very relaxing and therapeutic for me. I am lifted into a serene state outside of the everyday world and outside of time.

DH: You choose to focus on the female form, why? GT: I believe that in one's art one should focus on what is inspiring, which is different for every person. That is what I do. I have always viewed women as beautiful divine beings, angels, goddesses, that I am in awe of. I don't know why, but I have always been that way. That is why they are the focus of my art. For me they are the pathway to the divine.

DH: You wrote that at times you feel more like the paint brush, than the painter. As a poet sometimes I feel more like a pen than poet. Do you feel there is some divine inspiration going on here, or is it the sensibility/circuitry of your brain that leads you here?

GT: This is a question that artists have asked for thousands of years, and I don't have an answer for it, that is, "What is the source of art?" The ancient Greeks talked about the Muses, beings who bestowed inspiring works of art upon humans.



There is and has always been a sense that art comes from somewhere outside of ourselves. The painter becomes the paintbrush. The writer becomes the typewriter. The musicians' hands are moved by some invisible force. A friend tells me that I am channeling the women in my paintings. I guess that could be true. I don't concern myself too much with what the source of my art is. I just accept that it is a gift which has been given to me, which I am grateful for. And I believe that it is always best if one has been given a gift to share it.

DH: You say you want to create a Garden of Eden with your art. What would that look like?

GT: The Garden of Eden for me is a place of love, harmony and beauty. And a oneness with nature. Beyond being a physical place, it is a state of being and a state of mind which we are all able to access. Beauty can be found anywhere. Love can be found anywhere. We always have that choice as humans, whoever we are or whatever our situation, to live in that state of being, to enter that Garden of Eden.

DH: Why should we view your art?

GT: I never insist that anyone view my work, or question whatever reaction they may have to it. One's reaction to an artwork is always very individual and personal. We are all different, with different tastes and interests. I simply offer my art as a gift to be accepted or not. I never question either response.

I love art museums and galleries. Some people have told me that they love my work, or that they love a specific painting that I have created. I myself love going to museums and galleries. On a day when I get to see an artwork that I truly love, that is a great day for me. The times that I am able to do something like that for someone else, or even come close, that's a great feeling.

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