

617-666-8600 | 1-800-444-4300 winterhillbank.com

A Mutual Bank Serving the Community Since 1906

Somerville's original independent newspaper

The Somerville Times

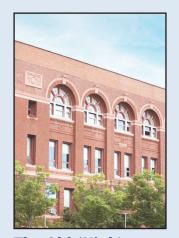
54

VOL. 10 NO. 17

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 2022

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



The Old (High) School

page 3



Somerville's housing needs assessed page 5



Are we ready for free buses?

page 9

Somerville eviction moratorium extended by Board of Health



The Somerville Board of Health unanimously approved an extension of the city's eviction moratorium at their April 21 meeting.

By Jim Clark

Renters in Somerville who have experienced financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and its resulting effects on their ability to pay their rent can breathe a little easier when it comes to facing the prospect of facing eviction from their homes.

The following information outlining details of the proposal was released last week:

The City of Somerville's proposed extension and sunset date for its eviction moratorium was unanimously approved by the Somerville Board of Health at their Thursday, April 21, meeting. Otherwise set to expire on April 30, the moratorium now has a 60-day sunset period and will end on June 30.

The city urges tenants and owners to use the sunset period to seek assistance if they are facing housing instability. A range of Continued on page 4

Groundwork Somerville celebrates Earth Day with spring cleaning

By Molly Rains

Last Saturday at Groundwork Somerville's South Street Farm, over 40 volunteers gathered to get their hands dirty in celebration of Earth Day. Volunteers weeded, raked, clipped invasive species, and picked up trash, helping to prepare the property for what the Groundwork team expects to be a busy and productive growing season.

Last year, according to Executive Director Alex Lennon-Simon, Groundwork Somerville produced a full metric ton of produce for distribution at reduced cost to Somerville residents. This year, they hope to produce even more. The South Street Farm, which boasts several raised beds, pollinator gardens, and a greenhouse, will be an essential part of that effort. The nonprofit also grows produce at other locations, including vegetable gardens at Somerville's public elementary and middle schools.

Groundwork Somerville was Continued on page 4



Volunteers tidy up in the pollinator garden at Groundwork Somerville's South Street Farm.

— Photos by Molly Rains



Monthly Parking Available
At 81 Cambridge St. Charlestown
Next to: Sullivan Square Orange Line
And Major Bus Terminal
\$175 per month 24/7

Stanhope Garage, Inc. 617-262-0691

Email: stanhope@stanhopegarage.com



Logan reservations our specialty - Call 3 days in advance to book your trip.

A DAY!
24 hour GPS automated

OPEN 24-HOURS

dispatching system

We'll get you home safely.

Please don't drink and drive.

JSILLARI, INC. Over 50 Years
Experience

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

Residential - Industrial - Commercial

625-9877

Proud to be a Somerville resident Master Plmb. Lic. #6106



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.

Somerville's Board of Health unanimously approved the city's proposed extension of the eviction moratorium. The moratorium now has a 60-day sunset period and will end on June 30. The city urges tenants and homeowners to use this period to seek assistance if they are facing housing instability. The Office of Housing Stability (OHS) is ready to help and can be reached at 617-625-6600 ext. 2581. Landlords are encouraged to contact OHS on a tenant's behalf rather than pursuing eviction. For more information, visit somervillema.gov/ohs

Open Studios 2022 will take place on Saturday and Sunday, April 30 and May 1, from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. Artists across Somerville will open their studios to the public to display their latest work and meet visitors. www.somervilleopenstudios.org. *******

The City of Somerville is participating in National Prescription Drug Take Back Day this month, hosting two collection events for residents to safely dispose of prescription medications. On Saturday, April 30, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., join the Community Outreach, Help, and Recovery (COHR) Department and the Prevention Services Division at 220 Washington St. and 6 Newbury St. Staff will be onsite at both locations to collect unused or expired medications and provide overdose prevention information and resources. Free Narcan will also be distributed at each location. In addition to collection events each spring and fall, Somerville offers 24/7, year-round disposal kiosks at the Public Safety Building, 220 Washington St. for medications and sharps (needles and syringes).

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Big happy birthday to our good friend over at Ball Square Café, Mike Moccia. Happy birthday this week to Linda Beebe, who is celebrating this week. We hope she celebrates big time, she deserves it. Also, happy birthday to Anthony Fraser, who grew up in East Somerville. We wish all of our Facebook Continued on page 7

The Somerville Times

699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144 news@thesomervilletimes.com www.thesomervilletimes.com

Phone: 857-488-5138



@somervilletimes



www.facebook.com/ thesomervilletimes

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

Advertising Director – Bobbie Toner Arts Editor – Doug Holder

Writers: Jim Clark, Denise Keniston, Isabel Sami, Rachel Berets, Elizabeth Long

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

The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

A proud member of the following newspaper organizations:







© 2022 The Somerville Times except where noted. All rights reserved.

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of April 27 – May 3 as provided by the National Weather Service

	DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
	Wednesday April 27	Cloudy	59°/38°	18%	14%	WNW 19 mph
	Thursday April 28	Partly Cloudy	53°/38°	1%	1%	NW 21 mph
	Friday April 29	Partly Cloudy	55°/38°	0%	2%	NW 18 mph
	Saturday April 30	Partly Cloudy	57°/40°	5%	2%	NNW 13 mph
*	Sunday May 1	Sunny	64°/44°	3%	1%	NNW 10 mph
	Monday May 2	Partly Cloudy	66°/50°	12%	7%	SSE 12 mph
••	Tuesday May 3	Rain	63°/48°	29%	21%	SSW 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: City foresters to plant 175 trees this spring

Arn Franzen says:

Great article. Can we see more articles about trees and the well documented need for, and benefits of contact with nature? As development increases in Somerville I am worried that our intrinsic human need to be connected to the natural world is getting pushed aside. Clearly many of the changes in our city are improving our quality of living, but the need to provide more natural connections should go hand in hand with the improvements to housing and infrastructure.

Response to: City weighs setting standard on mandating of indoor masks

Peter B says:

This ridiculous crap needs to stop! Forcing people to wear a mask just to make the Germaphobic Hypochondriacs feel better by not being the only lunatics wearing masks!!! Nobody said you couldn't wear one if you want but stop cramming your fears down everybody's throats!!! Enough is enough! Keep this crap up and I will take all my business to Normal cities and towns who have realized this is killing their businesses.

Gail Thornton says:

Everything about this guy's crazy rant demonstrates exactly what's going wrong in this fight against the pandemic, which is still very much a major threat to public health. The fact that regulating bodies may relax mandates for indoor masking at this time does not change the fact that the virus is still being passes around, still making people sick, and still killing many. It's only wise for states and municipalities to plan for contingencies when indoor masking may be necessary through periods of high infection rates which could spike at any time. Kudos to the city for looking forward and not hiding their heads in the sand, as certain others do.

harry w says:

How is requiring masks indoors "killing businesses"? Because childish goofballs like Peter B throw tantrums and refuse to cooperate? That won't kill a business. Certain businesses suffered and some failed when out of necessity they were temporarily closed to the public at the height of the pandemic. But we're pretty much past that now.

Maybe people like this need to gather together in some other place, like...oh, I don't know...maybe Florida, and let Darwinism take its course. I'm fully behind that.

George Miller says:

COVID-19 and its variants aren't germs, they're potentially deadly viruses. And pointing this out doesn't make anyone a hypochondriac. People like this scare the hell out of me.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments



Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

Old (High) School



Now that Somerville has a new high school, I asked our friends to share their funniest stories about the old high school.

"Class of '71, The

wooden floor on the basement level was warped from a flood. One day Ted Kennedy was touring the school and as I walked by I overheard him tell some Somerville official 'Get these GD floors fixed!"

"Class of '82, there was an Oreo cookie on the hallway ledge leading to the cafeteria on my first day. EVERY day I'd see that lone, abandoned cookie on my way to lunch. Three years later on my last day that cookie STILL sat in its original spot. I like to think somewhere in the new school it still waits."

"Leaving school for lunch, going to get a

\$1.25 Johnny's special, and then having to break back in."

Oh boy, how I missed those subs at that price.

"Trying to get back into the building after a trip to Nan's for lunch without getting caught by Mr. Joyce. He was everywhere at once!"

"Not so funny, meeting a new girl in my sophomore home room, making a date to get together one evening. She lived in West Somerville, stood in front of the Venice for over an hour and got stood up. That relationship went nowhere. Ran into her about eight years later as my wife and I were dining at a local restaurant. She was our waitress."

"Music in the auditorium. Cheerleading practice in the caf and hanging out in Joe Pignatelo's classroom to hide."

"Class of '83, I remember the big walk out sophomore year in protest of no heat



in the building. I jumped out my home room window (Mr. Hughes). It ended up being the hottest day on record for that day but we still walked out. We also had a dress code walkout that was epic!"

"Nan's Sub Shop was across the street for years. Great place!"

"Second to last day of school junior year, a friend and I walked past the office down the main hallway smoking a joint. Good times."

"Mr. Sweet having the principal, vice principal and superintendent come to his room to celebrate the last time anybody would be in his room 210 at 2:10 p.m. on 2/10. Before the first renovation when they moved the voke up to the high school."

"My first day of Somerville High, walking through the corridor outside the caf-

eteria, intimidating older kids lined up against wall, my older cousin Christine yelled out, 'Hey everyone, this is my cousin Carol. Look at her good and there better be no body messing with her or you mess with me!' Miss you Chris."

My favorite memory of the old high school was before a big concert. The boy's glee club was on stage behind the stage curtain. The director, Mr. Smith, was talking to the audience. All of a sudden, we all started singing the Schaefer beer jingle: "Schaefer is the one beer to have when you're having more than one!" Mr. Smith went berserk with anger. Good times.

I hope the kids in the new high school have as many great memories as we do of our old high school. Wave high.





Ninth annual dinner to benefit the

Sisters of St. Joseph of Boston May 11, 2022 at the Seaport Hotel in Boston Join us for an engaging evening from 6 p.m. - 9p.m.



HONORING Rosemary Scapicchio

a Boston criminal defense lawver who has saved the lives of the wrongfully accused

Join us in person or virtually.*

*Register to receive link (will be sent in the future.)

REGISTER NOW!

Visit: CSJDream2022.givesmart.com

Two Family - For Sale

Magoun Sq. area



\$919,99

8 Rooms 3 Bedrooms 2 Baths

Contact: Bobbie Toner 857-488-5138 bobbietoner@aol.com

Messina Realty Collective LLC



HOLIDAYS MEAN

FAMILY

WE SELL

LIQUOR

Now Open **Assembly Row**



325 Canal Street, Unit 518 Somerville, MA 02145

STORE HOURS

Mon-Tues 9am-9pm Wed-Sat 9am-10pm Sundays we are now open 12pm-8pm

City's Human Rights Commission launches recruitment campaign

By Ryan DiLello

Somerville's Human Rights Commission is recruiting. On Saturday, April 23, at 11:00 a.m., members of Somerville's Human Rights Commission held a meetand-greet at the Somerville Public Library's East Branch.

The organization, headed by and comprised of two city residents, Christopher Spicer Hankle and Lara Versari, focuses on promoting the wellbeing of the city. Spicer Hankle is a stay-at-home father and trained theologian. Versari is a community youth and family resources navigator.

Much of the Commission's work centers around holding the city accountable on issues of racial and social justice, via independent investigation. "In the past we've had a full-time director, with a memorandum, able to subpoena witnesses, and bring an investigation to court," Spicer Hankle said. With more members, the commission can return to its duties in full.

The Commission also holds community events and projects, through partnerships with other organizations. Last March, the Commission launched a video project that documented the experiences of the city's immigrant restaurant owners.

Spicer Hankle also mentioned that the Commission holds annual events to commemorate MLK day and pride month. Most recently, the Commission backed the city's Safe Streets Alliance, a coalition of activists pushing for

safe and equitable city streets.

The Human Rights Commission will launch online applications on its website in two weeks. Applications will remain open for a month. If you missed them last weekend, the Commission will hold another meeting on May 14 at the West Branch Library.

To read more about the commission, visit the link: https://library.municode.com/ma/somerville/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICO-



OR_CH2AD_ARTVBOCO-AG_DIV6HURICO

CONT. FROM PG 1

Somerville eviction moratorium extended by Board of Health

alternative supports are available for qualifying households, and the City's Office of Housing Stability staff are ready to help. Landlords are also encouraged to reach out on behalf of tenants rather than pursuing eviction.

The Somerville eviction moratorium is the last remaining municipal eviction moratorium in the Commonwealth. It is one of a range of tools that Somerville has deployed to help keep residents in their homes during the pandemic. Mayor Katjana Ballantyne also recently announced new municipal housing assistance programs including flex funds and housing vouchers launching soon, and

since March 2020, the city has substantially increased housing staff and services to connect residents to federal, state, and local housing aid.

How to Contact the Somerville Office of Housing Stability for Assistance

Somerville residents unable to pay their rent or mortgage, and landlords reaching out on behalf of tenants, are urged to contact the city's Office of Housing Stability (OHS) or the nonprofit Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS) for help.

Somerville residents in need of assistance are urged to contact OHS at 617-625-6600 x2581 or fill out a referral form at somervillema.gov/ohs. The Somerville

Homeless Coalition and the Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS) are also providing similar assistance. CAAS can be reached at 617-623-7370 or caasomerville.org/need-help. The Somerville Homeless Coalition can be reached at 617-623-6111, info@shcinc.org, or somerville-homelesscoalition.org/programs.

How the Somerville Eviction Moratorium Works

The Somerville eviction moratorium prevents the physical removal of tenants from their homes. While landlords may file notices to quit and seek court orders for evictions, Somerville tenants may not be removed from their homes while this

pandemic protection is in place.

Through June 30, Somerville residents who receive a "notice of levy" (a date and time when they will be removed from their homes by a constable or deputy sheriff) or who are experiencing a physical eviction should immediately contact 311 (617-666-3311) to be connected to Office of Housing Stability (OHS) staff (for residential tenants or homeowners), and the Somerville Police Department as necessary, to intervene. After June 30, Somerville residents who expect to receive, or have received, a notice of levy should still reach out to OHS staff for other potential support.

Groundwork Somerville celebrates Earth Day with spring cleaning CONT. FROM PG 1

founded in 2000 with the mission to "cultivate the next generation of environmental leaders to grow a greener and more equitable Somerville." The organization's involvement with Somerville youth includes the school garden program as well as a seasonal crew of Somerville teens, who produce food for their community while connecting with their natural surroundings. The produce the team harvests will be distributed to Somerville residents via the Mobile Farmers' Market. This way, said Lennon-Simon, fresh produce can "get to the people who need it," bypassing the supply-chain issues and prohibitive costs that can make a fresh

and nutritious diet inaccessible to many.

As the growing season approaches, Groundwork Somerville is gearing up. "We're looking for some more space," says Lennon-Simon; "the goal is to grow more." In addition to farming, future Groundwork events include more volunteer opportunities like last Saturday's cleanup, as well as a summer live music series, comedy night, and trivia, all at Groundwork properties. The freshly tidied farm at 138 South St. is open to the public. You can also stay up to date with information on events, getting involved, or making a donation at the Groundwork Somerville website: https://groundworksomerville.org.



Volunteers raked, weeded, and removed debris along streets near South Street Farm on Saturday.

O'Donovan Law Office 741 Broadway Sean T. O'Donovan, Esq.

Specializing in:

- Zoning/Permitting
- Real Estate
- Civil and Criminal Litigation
- Estate Planning/Wills & Trusts

CALL FOR INITIAL FREE CONSULTATION 617 629-8888 FAX 617 623-7990

Housing Needs Assessment reveals Somerville's key housing factors

By Kyle Dante

Housing is not easy to come by in any location. Several external factors make housing hard to access. The most prominent reason is income. Other factors include family size and background information. Among the demographics besides income assessed are race and ethnicity, age, and disability.

On April 20, the Somerville Housing and Community Development Committee held a meeting on Zoom discussing its recently conducted Housing Needs Assessment (HNA). The HNA, led by the Barrett Planning Group, drew public and private data across the Somerville neighborhood. The purpose reviewed rental property listings, including two-family homes, small multifamily, and big projects of older and newer quality.

According to the American Community Survey, 80,906 Somerville residents make up 32,802 of its total households. When referring to demographics, residents between 18 and 34 make up close to twice the state population. The reasoning stems from the number of students living in Somerville increased over the last fifty years. Tufts University plays a significant role in this because it is the only major Massachusetts college renting and owning property.

The survey addressed the following demographics: race and ethnicity, disabilities, and housing access. Of the sampling, 68.2% of Somerville are non-Latino whites, 12.4% are Latino or Hispanic, 10.2% are



Asian, 5.6% are Black, and other-to multiracial makes up 3.8%. Of that percent, at least 1/4th of Somerville are foreign-born; another 30% do not speak English.

For disability, approximately 6,400 Somerville residents have a disability.

Furthermore, a startling 23% are at a poverty wage rate. With a disability, a Somerville man makes no higher than about a median of \$30,000, with disabled women making around half that amount. A Somerville man without disability makes around \$55,000 to about a \$47,000-\$48,000 median earning for a woman. Income-wise, it is still a problem.

Although over 40% of Somerville households make over \$125,000 yearly, 16.8% make below \$30,000. As a result, the Census Bureau for Somerville estimated that 1,139 family incomes are below poverty. It is a slight decrease for homeowners but an increase for renters with extremely low to minimal income.

With these in mind, consider the households owned in Somerville. In Somerville, renters make up 66% of the 32,802 households. Most Somerville households consist of 2 to 3 people (a 2.37 average). In addition, 34% of the Somerville households and 43.5% of the renters are of the 24-34-yearold demographic.

These factors have led to the creation of the Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance. IZO has created 310 affordable housing units in Somerville as of April 2021. The goal is to continue helping find affordable housing for qualifiers. Also, it is to stabilize various aspects of Somerville housing, such as parking, utilities, and housing costs

Through the survey, the issues in Somerville housing are as follows: the addition of more units, small and large, that are affordable. The goal is to create more affordable housing for people no older than 25 years old and help the elderly and disabled with greater accessibility to their current housing.

The Housing and Community Development Committee meeting video can be accessed and viewed at: http://somervillecityma.iqm2.com/Citizens/

The Somerville Times **Historical Fact of the Week**

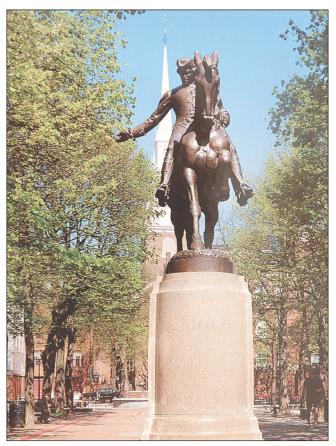


Eagle feathers #252

The North Coast

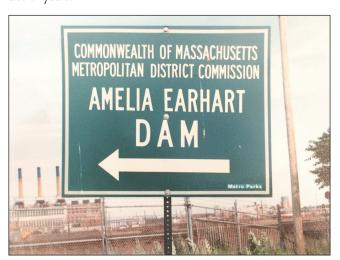
By Bob (Monty) Doherty

The City of Medford makes up most of the northern border of Somerville and is one of the oldest settlements in the United States. She was originally known as Mistick or Meadford on ancient maps. Her founding in 1630 was the same year as our capital City of Boston and was two years after the 1628 settlement of Charlestown/Somerville.



Through the years, the Mystic River's boundary, which has separated the two sister cities for close to 400 years, has shared many historical occurrences:

· Thatcher Magoun, the father of shipbuilding on the Mystic, was a young carpenter picnicking atop Winter Hill when he envisioned his future unfolding below him. His prophecy produced 84 sailing ships which he built near Medford Square. His Clipper Ships romanticized the Mystic.



- + Medford resident Amelia Earhart was the first female to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. She departed on June 17, 1928, Bunker Hill Day. In her honor, a parade began in Magoun Square and ended in Medford Square. Somerville's largest memorial is the Amelia Earhart Dam at Assembly Square.
- · Longfellow's spirited poem, Paul Revere's Ride, reminds us of the horseman's ride that bridged two historic days. Revere would later go on to leave many more hoof prints in Medford and Somerville. He is said to have had a shine for Medford's famous rum. Continued on page 13

Somerville Open Studios this weekend



Open Studios 2022 will take place on Saturday and Sunday, April 30 and May 1, from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. Artists across Somerville will open their studios to the public to display their latest work and meet visitors. www.somervilleopenstudios.org.

Beacon Hill Roll Call



Volume 46 – Report No. 16 • April 18-22, 2022 • Copyright © 2022 Beacon Hill Roll Call. All Rights Reserved. By Bob Katzen

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

THE HOUSE AND SENATE. Beacon Hill Roll Call records local senators' votes on roll calls from a recent session. The three Senate roll calls are on proposed amendments to an energy bill, approved by the Senate, which would expand the clean energy industry and reduce emissions from the transportation and building sectors across the state with the goal of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050.

There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week.

REPUBLICAN ALTERNATIVE TO ENERGY BILL (S 2819)

Senate 3-36, rejected a Republican version of the energy bill that would replace the Democratic version. The GOP version would create a central Decarbonization and Energy Independence Fund that would be funded by \$250 million from state funding and another \$250 million from the state's portion of federal funding from the American Rescue Plan Act.

Supporters of the GOP bill said the Independence Fund would be used to modernize the state's electric grid, provide more rebates for the purchase of electric vehicles and charging stations, provide grants to regional transit authorities and local school districts for the purchase of zero-emission busses and other vehicles and facilitate tax credits for the transition of commercial vehicles and equipment to lower emission substitutes.

"We take the challenges of reducing carbon emissions and supplying the state's energy needs seriously," said Senate Republican Leader Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester). "And we are putting a plan on the table to effectively use state and federal funding to meet the most pressing needs involved in addressing those challenges, while working to ensure that consumers have access to the energy that they need without undue risk of the rate shock that can accompany ambitious goals without the energy supplies and infrastructure to meet them. Our plan directs attention and spending to the places they need to go today to make cost-effective differences for tomorrow."

Opponents of the GOP bill said it is a truncated version of the Democrat's progressive bill and leaves out many good parts of the Democratic version including a provision that would remove biomass from the definition of clean energy sources. They said that large wood-burning electric power plants should not be counted as clean energy like wind and solar because biomass burned at that level creates tiny particles that get into people's lungs.

Sen. Mike Barrett (D-Lexington) got a plug in for Attorney General Maura Healey and Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz (D-Boston), the two women who are running for the Democratic nomination for governor, when he said that another difference in the two versions is that the Democratic one gives the next governor, "whoever she may be," an opportunity to shape policy.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

OFF-SHORE WIND (S 2819)

Senate 5-34, rejected a new amendment that would require the solicitation and procurement of a state-wide offshore wind capacity total of 10,600 megawatts by 2030. Another provision would establish an ocean ecosystem protection practices designed to avoid, minimize and mitigate impact to wildlife, nat-

ural resources, ecosystems and traditional or existing water-dependent uses.

Sen. Marc Pacheco (D-Taunton) said he sponsored the new amendment because offshore wind is a critical component of the state's clean energy future that must be incorporated as quickly as possible in order to ensure compliance with the state's Global Warming Solutions Act requirements. He noted that the new amendment would require the procurement of 10,600 megawatts by 2030 instead of 10,000 megawatts by 2035 that was required in an earlier amendment.

"While the Senate acted favorably on [the earlier] amendment, which I also supported as a co-sponsor, [this new] amendment that would have required the procurement of an additional 600 megawatts by 2030 instead of by 2035—that is, five years sooner," said Pacheco. "Although I am pleased that the Senate took favorable action to include additional offshore wind capacity, ultimately we must act with more urgency to seize the economic benefits of a robust statewide offshore wind workforce and achieve compliance with our updated emission reduction laws."

"I am a fierce proponent of offshore wind, and I'm proud that the Senate adopted [the original] amendment which I filed to bolster offshore wind procurement," said Sen. Julian Cyr (D-Truro) who voted against the new amendment. "The [original] amendment increases the commonwealth's target to at least 10,000 megawatts of offshore wind generation capacity by 2035—which will account for a third of the nation's offshore wind goal. The [new] amendment was redundant, considering the Senate already took action to advance the [original] amendment—hence why I voted no."

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

COMMERCIAL FISHING (S 2819)

Senate 39-0, approved an amendment that would provide a preference for offshore wind proposals that can clearly demonstrate meaningful collaboration with commercial fishing in order to foster the long-term coexistence and sustainability of the two industries.

"As the offshore wind industry continues to develop, we must take steps to protect our existing commercial fishing fleet that produces an enormous impact on our ports and the Massachusetts economy," said sponsor Sen. Mark Montigny (D-New Bedford). "By emphasizing the importance of commercial fishing during the development and consideration of offshore wind proposals, we can help ensure that a robust fishing fleet can coexist with a new renewable energy industry that can increase energy independence and reduce carbon emissions."

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

EXCAVATION SAFETY (H 3297) – The House gave near-final approval to and sent to the Senate a proposal that would require a professional land surveyor working on a preliminary design for a new facility or renovation where excavation is necessary to pre-mark the proposed excavation. The bill is sponsored by former

Rep. Carolyn Dykema (D-Holliston) who recently resigned her seat to take a job as Northeast policy director Boston-based Nexamp, a solar energy company.

"The bill ensures that underground utilities are marked during the planning process for projects rather than only at the time of construction," said Dykema (D-Holliston) when the bill was given initial approval by the House in January. "This will help ensure that projects are designed from the outset to minimize potential disruption to utilities during construction. I filed the bill in partnership with the Massachusetts Council of Engineering companies. Given the significant extent of natural gas infrastructure in my district, I filed the bill to help protect the public from emergencies that result from construction crews mistakenly damaging underground utilities."

OFFICIAL STATE DINOSAUR (H 3190/S 2028)

- The Senate approved a bill that would make the Podokesaurus holyokensis the state's official dinosaur. The House approved the bill in October and only final approval in the House and Senate are needed prior to the measure going to Gov. Charlie Baker.

Rep. Jack Lewis (D-Framingham), the House sponsor of the proposal, said that while the initial idea grew out of his work with his son's cub scout den, more than 35,000 Massachusetts residents took part in a poll to help determine which of two dinosaurs discovered in Massachusetts should earn the designation of the official state dinosaur. The runner up was the Anchisaurus polyzelus.

"Never in my wildest dreams could I have imagined the passion that our Massachusetts State Dinosaur Project would generate," said Lewis. "I will always be grateful to the thousands of students and their parents and teachers who took the time to learn about prehistoric Massachusetts and all of the paleontologists and fellow dinosaur enthusiasts who made this project such a fun success. But none of this would have been possible without the remarkable Massachusetts professor Mignon Talbot of Mt. Holyoke College who in 1910 became the first modern woman to discover, name and describe a dinosaur."

Senate sponsor Sen. Jo Comerford (D-Northampton) said that at the time Talbot discovered the species, some critics said that women were unfit for working with fossils. "Talbot's discovery showed that women were fully qualified for all roles in science," said Comerford. "As both a tribute to a dinosaur whose fossils have only been discovered in Massachusetts, and as a reflection of the commonwealth's commitment to equality and the advancement of women, this legislation has already inspired excitement and engagement from researchers, academics and students.

BAN DISPOSAL OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE (S

2791) – The Judiciary Committee held a virtual hearing on legislation, filed by Sen. Susan Moran (D-Falmouth), that would ban disposal of radioactive material directly or indirectly into coastal or inland waters, tide water or land owned by another entity. The measure imposes fines ranging from up to \$10,000 for a first offense and up to \$25,000 for any second and subsequent offenses. It also holds the offender liable for all damages or losses suffered by the state, a business or an individual as a result of the disposal.

According to Moran's office, she filed the bill as a response to a proposal by Holtec International, the company responsible for decommissioning the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station in Plymouth, to dump Continued on page 12

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Hey, where do I park around here?

Our View Of The Times



Many have been complaining for some time now about the lack of adequate parking spaces in the city. And it seems for some that the number of available spaces continues to dwindle as time marches on.

It used to be only the motor vehicle operators who raised their voices in dismay, but lately even bicycle riders have noticed that it's getting increasingly harder to find a place to lock up while stopping in the

city for some shopping, café haunting, or just hanging around.

Who is responsible for installing bike racks for use by cyclists? Who should be responsible?

The city has made great strides in providing dedicated bike lanes along many of our major thoroughfares. But what about consideration for those times when the cyclist needs to stop their forward progress and do whatever they have to do while dismounted?

Some feel that as a courtesy to potential customers, the owner-operators of local businesses should install bike racks outside their storefronts. Obviously, not every business owner would go along with that. And what about the provision of lock-up spaces away from commercial centers? The city is certainly not made up

solely of brick-and-mortar retailers. The parks, residential areas, and other open spaces might need a few bike racks as well.

So, should the city step in and provide a few of the necessities for cyclists? They've gone to great lengths to make this city "bikeable." Shouldn't it be suitably lockable as well? Cyclists and motorists alike now share a surprisingly unlikely common cause: where to park it.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

friends, such as Dom Panzino, Chris Lavelli, Joseph DeSousa, Rose Lister, George Sharpe, Charlotte Scanzillo Perkins, Barbara A. Balkwill and G.P. Redmond 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.

The city is hiring Crossing Guards to help protect student safety at intersections along school routes. Uniforms and on-the-job training provided. The ability to work both morning and afternoon shifts is required. Applicants must pass a pre-employment CORI and drug screen. For more information, contact School Safety Officer, Joseph Teves, at (617) 625-6600 ext. 7248 or visit somervillema.gov/CrossingGuards

The City of Somerville and Center for Teen Empowerment will hold a Somerville Youth Peace March, May 13, at 6:00 p.m. March with them from Foss Park to City Hall as they raise awareness of violence in our community and work together to create peace. The march starts at 6:00 p.m. The vigil and

rally at City Hall starts at 7:15 p.m.

Stay protected and up to date with your COVID-19 vaccines. A reminder for two vaccine clinics happening this week on Wednesday, April 27, and Saturday, April 30. The Pfizer vaccine will be available for all people 5 years and up, and boosters will be available for all people 12 years and up. The clinic is free, regardless of immigration status or health insurance. Identification is not required. NOTE: Pre-registration is required for the April 27 clinic. To register and learn more, visit: www.somervillema.gov/vac-

Reconstructed is a photography exhibition that explores the ideas of belonging, origins and home by bringing together the work of five photographers: Astrid Reischwitz, Eleonora Ronconi, Hugo Teixeira, Iaritza Menjivar, and Yorgos Efthymiadis, who is also the curator of the exhibition. Reconstructed will run from April 17 to June 4 at FPAC Gallery, 300 Summer St., Boston, with an opening reception on April 21 from 5.30 to 8:00 p.m. http://www. fortpointarts.org/. To see the work of Somerville photographer Iaritza Manjivar, visit https://www.iaritza.com

Reminder: Street sweeping began for the season on Friday, April 1. Make sure you know when your neighborhood is swept and where you can park by checking signs in your neighborhood and visiting www.somervillema.gov/sweeping. The schedules are currently being updated. Street sweeping helps keep leaves and other debris out of storm drains, which helps prevent flooding. Help keep the streets clean - and avoid getting a ticket - by moving your car on street sweeping day.

East Somerville Main Streets hosts Spring Neighborhood Cleanup, Saturday, April 30 at 10:00 a.m. Come join your neighbors, friends, and larger community to help clean up and beautify East Somerville. Meet at the East Branch Library, 115 Broadway, at 10:00 a.m. Pickers, trash bags and gloves will be available. Feel free to bring your own gloves or tools, as well.

Spring Garden Day 2022 at the Somerville Community Growing Center, Sunday May 8, 2:00 p.m. Come together in community with others to celebrate Spring Garden Day at the Growing Center. Tour the Pollinator Gardens

and learn about native plants and their partnerships with pollinators. Learn about saving seeds and take home some native seeds. Bring seeds or seedlings to exchange with others, or just take some home to nurture. The Growing Center Chorus will premiere several songs. Performances by Red Herring and Branbury Cross Morris Dance teams. Daisy Hebb of GreenBlossom Paintings will demonstrate her native and pollinator watercolors, with notecards and calendars for sale. Rain date: Sunday, May 15

The Somerville Homeless Coalition (SHC) Big Sleep Out weekend is weeks away. Sleep In Sleep Out, May 13 - May 15, while you sleep in your yard, basement, porch, couch or anywhere that isn't your bed. SHC members will be sleeping outside (rain or shine). No planning necessary, just register with the link below and share the event with your friends and family. To register: https://app.mobilecause.com/ vf/22SLEEPOUT

******** Are you a member of **Somerville High** School's Classes of 1970, 1971, or 1972? The SHS Class of 2022 is looking for participants for Continued on page 15

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's Dio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

- 1. What pop star wrote songs for Ariana Grande, Miley Cyrus, Britney Spears and Alice Cooper?
- 7. With which art form was Robert Frank most associated?
- 2. How many feet separate the stakes in a game of horseshoes?
- 8. What day is national French Fry Day in the US?
- 3. In the Harry Potter stories, who is the Hogwarts professor that can be transformed into a tabby
- 9. Which country is known as the Land of White Elephant?
- 4. How many Pyramids of Giza were made?
- 10. Janet Jackson had a starring role in which TV series?
- 5. On what part of the body would you wear "mules"?
- 11. Which famous takeout container was invented by Frederick Weeks Wilcox in 1894?
- 6. What is the world's
- 12. What is the most expensive rose devel-

biggest island?

Answers on page 10

SUDOKU

GRAND ALASKAN CRUISE & TOUR

12 days, departs May - Sep 2022



promo code N7017 1-855-208-9533



	6	3		2			
				5	7		1
				4		5	
		4	7				
6	1	5			4	8	7
				1	2		
	9		4				
3		7	2				
			5		8	1	

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

1. It's impossible to tickle yourself.

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

2. Queen Elizabeth II is a trained mechanic.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

MOTHER'S DAY

ACROSS

- 1. Wild onion
- 5. Standardized testing acronym
- 8. Accounting degree
- 11. Hunted by hunter
- 12. Don Johnson's TV role, 1996-2001
- 13. Run ____ of the law
- 15. Mercantile establishment
- 16. Chemistry Nobelist Hahn
- 17. Deborah Guarino's "Is Your Mama

- 18. Manner of controlling yourself
- 20. Tiny bit
- 21. Willow twig
- 22. Nutcracker's distinguishing feature
- 23. Like a longer route?
- 26. German white wine
- 30. Mom's little one
- 31. Bear the expenses of
- 34. Knock about
- 35. Dodge
- 37."____ the fields we go"
- 38. Binary digits code
- 39. Bear den
- 40. Northern peat bog
- 42. Modern address
- 43. Analyst in a chemical lab
- 45. Smooth, as in surface of the lake
- 47. Gangster's pistol
- 48. Eyelid infections
- 50. Wafting emanation
- 52. "Arrangement in Grey and Black,
- No. 1" portrays this artist's mother
- 55. Evil one
- 56. Simmering feeling
- 57. Prepare for publication
- 59. Give benediction
- 60. Heston's foes in 1968 sci-fi movie
- 61. Boundary
- 62. Communism or Taoism
- 63. P in #1 Down
- 64. Do like a model

- 1. Dashboard acronym
- Kuwaiti or Saudi
- 3. Maman alternative
- 4. Kaa of "The Jungle Book"
- 27. Loci, sing.

12 63 **BRING EVERYTHING Blazing Fast** Internet!

CROSSWORD

YOU LOVE TOGETHER! 2-YEAR

TV PRICE

GUARANTEE

\$6999 MO. MO. 190 CHANNELS Including Local Channels! CALL TODAY - For \$100 Gift Card Promo Code: DISH100

1-888-416-7103 Offer ends 4/13/22

dish 🗥

© StatePoint Media

- 6. He made his fortune in fur trading
- 7. Jord is mom to this hammer-wielding mythic thunder god
- 8. Chesterfield or ulster
- 9. Feline-inspired shoe brand
- ____ mode
- 12. Not quite a nun
- 13. Spy's cover
- 14. Popular Mother's Day gift
- 19. Cast somebody there
- 22. Almond-induced state?
- 23. Type of monument
- 24. Pepsi and Coke
- 25. Tiny purses
- 26. Actor Wahlberg
- 28. #39 Across, pl.
- 29. Lorelai Gilmore's mother

- Elizabeth have?
- 33. Hi-_
- 36. Daenerys Targaryen's "babies"
- 38. End of a shoelace
- 40. "How I ____ Your Mother"
- 41. Knights' breastplates
- 44. Gridiron measure, pl.
- 46. In the Land of Nod 48. Guillermo del Toro's "The ____ of
- 49. Amy Chua's "Battle Hymn of the ____ Mother"
- 50. Rembrandt's paints
- 51. Regard
- 52. Sandwich alternative
- 53. Edible root of taro plant
- 54. Semis
- 55. Hoover's agency
- 58. Casual attire
- 5. French composer Erik Alfred Leslie 32. How many children does Queen Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

3	7	2	4	1	8	9	5	6
1	8	5	2	9	6	3	7	4
4	9	6	7	5	3	8	2	1
2	5	3	9	6	1	7	4	8
7	1	9	3	8	4	5	6	2
8	6	4	5	7	2	1	3	9
9	4	7	8	2	5	6	1	3
6	2	8	1	3	7	4	9	5
5	3	1	6	4	9	2	8	7

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:



Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

COMMENTARY

The views and opinions expressed in the commentaries and letters to the Editor of The Somerville Times do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Somerville Times, its publishers or staff.

Transportation 2: Free buses?



By State Senator Pat Jehlen

Rep. Christine Barber and I filed and are pushing a bill to provide for pilot programs for fare-free buses. Free bus programs encourage people to leave their cars for transit. Transportation is the largest and fastest growing source of global warming emissions in Massachusetts. Shifting from cars to public transit is a powerful means of reducing those emissions.

Pilot programs in Regional Transportation Authorities (RTAs) in Worcester, Merrimack and Franklin, as well as in Boston are teaching us about the benefits and costs. Additional pilots could attract more people to transit, reduce traffic congestion and pollution, and allow us to gather information about costs and benefits as we plan next steps.

These are some reasons to have more fare-free pilots:

More people could decide to travel by bus instead of by car

This could reduce traffic, pollution, and commuting time for everyone. Several RTAs, including Worcester and Lawrence, as well as Boston, have had fare free services during the pandemic. Lawrence saw a 40% increase in ridership. Boston's route 28

pilot had a 22% higher increase than other routes as people returned to work.

Commuting will be faster and more reliable

There will be less "dwell time," as buses won't have to wait while passengers pay, and people can get on through all doors. The National Association of City Transportation Officials estimates that the time it takes to pay fares is 1/3 of the time a bus spends en route. Dwell time in the Boston pilot was reduced by 20%.

This video is a dramatic demonstration of all-door boarding on the Silver Line: https://vimeo.com/237815309

Eliminating fare collection reduces commuting time and increases reliability and predictability, making transit more attractive.

The loss of net revenue would be small because most of the revenue from fares is spent collecting them.

Bus fares are less than 10% of RTA revenue and only 5% of MBTA revenue

The cost of the new contract for MBTA fare system is \$1 billion, and years away from completion. The new system is estimated to cost \$33 million in annual costs to operate.

The Merrimack Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) says that fare collection is a clunky, inefficient way to generate revenue.

For every dollar they collected in fares, they only saw 23.9¢ when the full cost of fare collection was factored in (e.g., operating money room, hiring armored car, maintenance and repair



Thanks to MassBudget for this graphic summary.

of fareboxes). Including hard-ware upgrades that would have been required this year, the true amount they would have seen for every dollar collected would have dropped to 8.1¢.

Lawrence has paid the MVTA for fare free buses on three routes for four years. The cost for four years has been \$450,000.

The Worcester Research Bureau concluded from its study of the pilot that "Making the WRTA fare-free is not charity. It is a way to increase the efficiency of a key government service in a creative and compassionate way...The loss of \$3 million in fares would be mitigated by the elimination of fare collection costs, and the operational benefits could make that price a bargain."

Bus riders are more likely to be low-income and people of color

For example, the MVTA says 65% of their bus riders are people of color and more than half

have an annual household income of less than \$36,000. In the Boston pilot, 97% of riders were low-income, older, and people of color. So, fare free buses can contribute to reducing inequality and increasing economic survival for those workers.

Some say "only 21% of the Boston riders saved more than \$20 a month." For a low-income family, \$20 is significant.

Fighting climate change requires getting more people to choose public transit as well as cycling and walking

What will get them to shift to transit? Polls report reliability, affordability, frequency, and crowding are the main concerns people have about shifting. All of these are improved with fare free systems and will attract people to shift to transit. Getting more riders is especially important for RTAs, whose federal funding depends on ridership numbers.

Livable Streets Alliance has

more information on fare free buses on its website: https:// www.livablestreets.info/fare_ free_buses?

Despite all these advantages, the MBTA General Manager has said he won't expand pilots unless the state or cities pay for them.

This is the right time for fare free pilots. Implementing them is a very appropriate use of ARPA funds, or state surpluses, in helping public transit recover from the loss of ridership during the pandemic. It is also a crucial time, as commuting patterns and work patterns are changing, so it may be more possible to change those patterns.

Reduced low-income fares are also important especially for subway and commuter rail. Pilots of both low-income fares and fare free buses can help determine the costs and benefits af each, and where they might be appropriate.

34 years later - but still worth waiting for



By Mayor Emeritus Eugene C. Brune

I was always pleased that as the Ward 6 Alderman I helped in the fight to have the Red Line in Davis Square. I was equally as pleased in 1984 as your mayor to join Governor Dukakis, Alderman Jack Connolly, and others in cutting the ribbon for the new Red Line.

In 1988 we began to have several meetings with the MBTA regarding the extension of the Green Line north through Somerville. I wanted that to happen, but there was talk that maybe citizens might not like the idea of allowing trains to come through the city. In fact, there was an appropriation bill before the State Senate to issue

bonds for a proposed \$825 million reconstruction project.

The funds would allow for the relocation of the Cambridge Lechmere T-Station from its present location to a new location east of the highway. Now, 34 years later, we celebrated the Green Line serving Union Square and in the coming months several more stops, finishing the completion at Tufts University.

Somerville is privilege to be able to have the Red Line, Orange Line and five Green Line stops as well as excellent cross town bus routes allowing Somerville to be the most convenient city in the state to travel on public transportation. But with that title comes setbacks. Higher rents, higher cost to purchase homes, and higher real estate taxes.

I fear that we will lose many more long time Somerville families due to landlords increasing rents especially for homes in the vicinity of one of the stations. Our lawmakers will have an extremely grueling task to lessen the burden for our low-income



residence that would like to continue to live in the city where some were born.

Visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

LEGAL NOTICES

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



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

GEORGE J. PROAKIS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a public meeting and public hearings on Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 - 7-28.

Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to historic@somervillema.gov.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL:

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6060905438627311119

Webinar ID: 696-746-755

TO CALL IN

Phone Number: 1 (562) 247-8422 Access Code: 142-889-290

ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT

Alterations to Local Historic District (LHD) Properties

HPC.ALT 2022.22 - 63 Adams Street

Applicant: Dirk Walther Owner: Same as Applicant

The Applicant seeks a Certificate of Appropriateness to alter an LHD property by installing a rooftop deck in the rear of the property.

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

HPC.DMO 2022.16 – 147 Highland Avenue

Applicant: Robert DiTucci

Owner: Martha Lee Trust, Robert A. DiTucci and Martha L. DiTucci, Trustees

The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

HPC.DMO 2022.17 - 229 Tremont Street

Applicant: John F. Reilly

Owner: John F. Reilly and Liese Reilly

The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

HPC.DMO 2022.18 - 223 Tremont Street Applicant: John F. Reilly

Owner: John F. Reilly and Liese Reilly, Trustees of the Reilly Trust

The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

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

HPC.DMO 2022.20 - 245 Elm Street

Applicant: Scape Davis Square, LLC Owner: Dana Family Series, LLC

The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

HPC.DM0 2022.21 - 233 Elm Street

Applicant: Scape Davis Square, LLC Owner: Dana Family Series, LLC

The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

HPC.DM0 2022.22 - 243 Elm Street

Applicant: Scape Davis Square, LLC Owner: Dana Family Series, LLC

The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a

minimum of 75 years ago.

While City Hall continues to be closed in response to the COVID19 pandemic, case documents reviewed by the HPC are available on the City website at https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases.

Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email historic@somervillema.gov to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Note: Written comments due to historic@somervillema.gov NO LATER THAN NOON one week prior to the meeting date. Email historic@somervillema.gov with

4/27/22 The Somerville Times



City of Somerville PLANNING BOARD

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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville Planning Board (PB) will hold a virtual public hearing on Thursday, May 05, 2022, at 6:00pm through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the Planning Board will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to planning@somervillema.gov.

TO USE A COMPUTER

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7854700385006398221 277-454-251 Webinar ID:

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (562) 247-8321 Access code: 905-070-837

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

350 Assembly Row SRI Assembly Row B7, LLC proposes to

develop a 7-story lab/office building subject to the Assembly Square Mixed Use District (ASMD) of the Somerville Zoning Ordinance in effect as of August 1, 2019, and subject to PUD-PMP PB2006-59, as amended, which requires a Special Permit and Site Plan Approval, and is seeking waivers for minimum parking stall width and minimum parking requirements.

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.

4/20/22, 4/27/22 The Somerville Times



City of Somerville **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) will hold a virtual public hearing on Wednesday, May 04, 2022, at 6:00pm through GoT-

Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to planning@somervillema.gov.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8726520746856023568 Webinar ID: 240-752-987

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (914) 614-3221 Access code: 640-558-043

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

292 Beacon Street

Kenneth Spera requests an extension to a previously approved Variance (ZBA 2018-118).

263 Washington Street Philip Sima proposes a Major Amendment to a previously approved Special Permit (ZBA

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

Interested persons may provide comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to Planning & Zoning Division, 3rd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; or by email to planning@somervillema.gov.

4/20/22, 4/27/22 The Somerville Times



SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY 30 Memorial Road Somerville, Massachusetts 02145 Telephone (617) 625-1152 Fax (617) 628-7057 TDD (617) 628-8889

ADVERTISEMENT

The Somerville Housing Authority is requesting quotes from qualified Electrical Contractors to perform electrical work including installations and repairs on as needed basis.

Term:12 months

Not to exceed \$99,000.00

Quotes are subject to M.G.L c.149 sec.44A (2)(A) and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

All contractors will be required pay Prevailing Wage Rates

All Contractor will be required to furnish 100% Payment and 100% Performance Bonds for the full amount of the contract of \$99,000.

Scope of work: The Contractor shall provide all labor and tools to provide the necessary work as directed for the completion of the electrical service for the SHA state elderly facility, Bryant Manor, in Somerville, MA. The Contractor shall apply for and obtain permits and regulatory approvals as may be required. The SHA shall reimburse the contractor the amount paid. The cost shall be identified and included in the monthly invoice.

The Contractor shall be required on site within one week as scheduled by SHA.

Stock and Materials: The Contractor shall use SHA furbished fixtures and finishes unless otherwise authorized. Items purchased by the Contractor at the SHA's request shall be billed at no more than cost plus 15%. The Contractor will be required to present the original itemized invoice to the SHA. The cost shall be identified and included in the monthly invoice

Payment Invoicing: Contractor's invoicing must be itemized to reflect contract pricing for each item.

Proposal information will be available on Thursday, April 28th,2022 at 11:00AM and can be obtained by emailing Brian Langton at

Proposals must be received by 2:00PM on Thursday, May 11th, 2022. Proposals can be emailed to BrianL@sha-web.org. Please contact Brian Langton at Brian Langton at BrianL@sha-web.org with any questions.

4/27/22 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT IFB 22-59

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

On-call Elevator Repairs

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at www.bidexpress.com, https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement, or PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after Thursday, April 28, 2022. Sealed bids will be received at above office until: Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 3:00 PM. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please email yrobles@somervillema.gov for more information.

Yolanda Robles-Casanova **Construction Procurement Manager** 617-625-6600 x3407

4/27/22 The Somerville Times

From on page 8 Ms. Cam's

1. Kesha

7. Photography

2. Forty

8. July 13

3. Minerva McGonagall

9. Thailand 10. Diff'rent Strokes

4. Three

and Fame

5. Feet

11. Chinese takeout container

6. Greenland

12. Juliet Rose

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

LEGAL NOTICES

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



NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING Removal of Public Shade Trees City of Somerville

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 87, the City of Somerville will hold a **virtual public shade tree hearing on** <u>Thursday</u>, <u>April 28th</u>, <u>2022 at 5:00 p.m.</u> using GotoWebinar software to consider the removal of the following

 37 Walker Street – 26-inch diameter American Sycamore due to impact of root system to foundation and underground utilities of abutting house.

The tree 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: trees@somervilleMA.gov, or mailed to: 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. 02143.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, 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
Webinar ID: 784-266-019
Registration URL:

public shade tree(s):

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4394267911715812367

CALL IN

United States: +1 (415) 930-5321 Access code: 884-738-487

4/20/22, 4/27/22 The Somerville Times



SOMERVILLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

THE SOMERVILLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT'S FY2023 BUDGET

Wednesday, May 4, 2022, AT 6:00 P.M.
Via the Zoom Webinar Online Meeting Platform

THE PUBLIC IS CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

Andre Green, Chair

llana Krepchin, Chair Finance and Facilities Subcommittee Mary Skipper Superintendent of Schools

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 SCHOOL
CHOICE PROGRAM FOR THE 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR
MONDAY, MAY 23, 2022 at 6:30 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL

 $\label{eq:pullic_policy} \textbf{Please use the following web address to join the School Choice Public Hearing, if you need to join virtually: $$ $$ https://k12somerville.zoom.us/j/82142009956?pwd=dUtKNFpic1R3ZDhsSIZ4VXpzSUxSdz09$$$

4/27/22 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP# 22-61

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement & Contract Services

Department invites proposals for:

Greenhouse Gas Inventory Consultant

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 27th, 2022. 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, Monday, May 16th, 2022.

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

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

<u>Jordan Remy</u> Procurement Analyst 617-625-6600 x3400

4/27/22 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT IFB #22-60

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

Ward 2 Sewer Rehabilitation

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at www.bidexpress.com, https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement, or PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after 04/28/2022. Sealed bids will be received at above office until: 05/19/2022 2:00PM EST. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please contact Andrea Caruth at ${\color{blue} \underline{acaruth@somervillema.gov}}$ for more information.

5% Bid Deposit required.

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

4/27/22 The Somerville Times

Tufts University Department of Music presents Tufts Arab Music Ensemble

The Tufts University Department of Music presents the Tufts Arab Music Ensemble in their spring performance, under the direction of Naseem Alatrash, in the Distler Performance Hall at the Perry and Marty Granoff Music Center on Monday, May 2, at 8:00 pm.

The Granoff Music Center is located at 20 Talbot Avenue on Tufts' Medford/Somerville campus. Due to COVID regulations, live audience attendees at Tufts Music events must present a Tufts ID or a Covid Vaccination Card showing that they have been vaccinated and boosted. For more information, please visit go.tufts.edu/musicevents or call the Granoff Music Center Box Office at 617-627-3679.

Mayors of Cambridge and Somerville endorse Tanisha Sullivan for Secretary of State

On Tuesday, April 26, Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui of Cambridge and Mayor Katjana Ballantyne of Somerville announced their support for Tanisha Sullivan in her race for Secretary of State.

"Mayor Siddiqui and Mayor Ballantyne have been at the forefront of efforts to make Cambridge and Somerville more equitable, more inclusive, and more vibrant," said Sullivan. "I'm proud to have them with us in this campaign, and look forward to working alongside them as an engaged, proactive partner in the Secretary of State's office, to bring more people into our democracy, ensure transparency and accountability, and expand economic opportunity for residents in Cambridge, Somerville, and beyond."

"I've known Tanisha for years, and have seen firsthand her courage and commitment as an attorney, an advocate, and a civil rights champion," said Mayor Siddiqui. "Tanisha embodies the kind of leadership we need in the Secretary of State's office, and I know she'll work tirelessly to build a stronger, more inclusive democracy that will benefit all Cambridge residents." "As an immigrant, my own lived experience provides a window into the challenges many of our friends and neighbors face when it comes to fully engaging in our democracy," said Mayor Ballantyne. "I believe we all deserve a Secretary of State who works proactively to expand opportunity and create new pathways to participation for every person in our communities, and I'm proud to endorse Tanisha's campaign."

This new support builds on a growing wave of endorsements for Sullivan's campaign, including elected leaders across the state, labor unions, progressive organizations, and national groups. So far, Sullivan has also been endorsed by nearly two dozen elected officials in Boston, Springfield, and Holyoke, as well as Collective PAC, UNITE HERE Local 26, Progressive Massachusetts, and national democracy advocate and former Massachusetts gubernatorial candidate Danielle Allen.

About Tanisha Sullivan

Tanisha is an attorney, former Chief Equity Officer in the Boston Public Schools and President of the NAACP Boston, who has led a career dedicated to service — from working in community and across the ideological spectrum to deliver on civil rights and social, economic, and racial justice, to decades as a practicing lawyer in corporate firms and life science companies. A Brockton native, she's running for Massachusetts Secretary of State because it's time to realize the full potential of this office in the fight to protect voting rights, increase government transparency and accessibility, engage the electorate, and build a stronger, more vibrant democracy for all.

Learn more about Tanisha and her campaign at www.TanishaSullivan.com and @Tanisha4MA on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

A poetry reading with Denise Provost

Join in for a poetry reading with Denise Provost at the Somerville Museum on April 28 at 7:00 p.m. This is an in-person event at the Somerville Museum.

Provost will read from her recently published book, City of Stories and other poems. Provost has received the Best Love Sonnet award from the Maria C. Faust Sonnet Competition in 2012, and the New England Poetry Club's Samuel Washington Allen Prize in 2021. She is also a beloved member of the Somerville Museum and a long-time Somerville resident.

Long ago, Denise Provost attended Bennington College to study poetry. She then became a lawyer, worked in local government and served in the Massachusetts House of Representatives for fifteen years. She has published in such journals as Ibbetson Street, Muddy River Poetry Review, Qarrtsiluni, Quadrille, Poetry Porch's Sonnet Scroll, Sanctuary, and Light Quarterly. Her chapbook Curious Peach was published by Ibbetson Street Press in 2019. Her collection, City of Stories, was published by Cervena Barva Press in 2021. Provost will be introduced by Pulitzer Prize for Criticism award winner Lloyd Schwartz.

Admission: \$10, Museum members free. Space is limited and tickets must be purchased in advance. For tickets go to: https://www. eventbrite.com/e/somerville-museum-poetry-reading-with-denise-provost-tickets-323322956667. Location: Somerville Museum,1 Westwood Road, Somerville, MA 02143



Denise Provost

Book Cover Artwork: artwork is a painting by Steve Imrich, an artist working out of Miller Street Studios. Imrich was also a part of the "Somerville as Muse" project coordinated by curator, Debra Olin. This project was conceived from The Art of Observation exhibition curated by Debra Olin at the Somerville Museum.

Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 6

radioactive discharge into Cape Cod Bay made last November after agreeing to a two-year moratorium. Moran says that the disposal of such discharge into the Bay would pose significant public health risks and impact the viability of the local shellfish industry, particularly in the Southeast and Cape Cod, as well as potentially deteriorate the region's coastal ecosystems and compound the already present impacts of climate change.

"Holtec's plan would introduce dangerous pollutants into the Commonwealth's coasts," said Moran. "We must be sure that the national business of nuclear plant closures does not overshadow the foundation of our local economies, coastal resilience and the health of current and future generations in Southeastern Mass and the Cape. Coastal resources are too precious to waste on dumping radioactive material in favor of the corporate bottom-line."

FUND SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (S 373)

- The Judiciary Committee has recommended that a measure that would establish a grant program to provide money to cities and towns for School Resource Officers (SROs) go to a study committee where bills are rarely actually studied and are essentially defeated. It is a way to kill a proposal without holding a vote on the bill itself. A school resource officer, according to the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, is a law enforcement officer "responsible for safety and crime prevention in schools."

"In my conversations with South Shore school officials

over the years, one aspect of school security has stood out to me: the importance of SROs," said Sen. Pat O'Connor (R-Weymouth). "These officers not only protect school campuses, but also foster a healthy social environment and help students build positive relationships with law enforcement. I think it's important that districts across the commonwealth receive the opportunity to have an SRO if they would like to."

REQUIRE RETAILERS THAT SELL TOBACCO TO ALSO SELL PRODUCTS TO HELP SMOK-ERS QUIT (S 1392) - Another bill on its way to a study committee would require any retailer that sells tobacco products to also sell at least one type of nicotine replacement therapy drug or device that has been approved by the FDA for assisting with helping people quit tobacco. Violators would be fined \$100 for the first offense, \$200 for a second offense and \$300 for a third or subsequent offense.

"We know the obvious dangers that come from tobacco use, but far too many people are still addicted to these products," said sponsor Sen. Brendan Crighton (D-Lynn) who plans to file the bill again next year. "We must ensure that people know tobacco cessation treatments are readily available and this bill would certainly help achieve this."

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 18-22, the House met for a total of 57 minutes and the Senate met for a total of 42 minutes.

No House session Mon. April 18 No Senate session Tues. April 19 House 11:02 a.m. to 11:29 a.m. Senate 11:10 a.m. to 11:33 a.m Wed. April 20 No House session No Senate session Thurs. April 21 House 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Senate 11:05 a.m. to 11:24 a.m. Fri. April 22

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

No House session

No Senate session

Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

By Bobbygeorge Potaris

Why do bees have sticky hair? Because they use a honeycomb

The "Original" All Types Vent Cleaning

Restaurant Hood Cleaning Dryer Vent/ HVAC Cleaning

Power Washing Licensed and Insured in Massachusetts

We travel all over Massachusetts

Call today to find out our weekly specials!

Call Jimmy 857-366-3761

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

On This Day in Kist April 27

1296 - Edward I defeats the Scots at the Battle of Dunbar.

1565 - The first Spanish settlement in Philippines is established in Cebu City.

1773 - British Parliament passes the Tea Act.

1813 - American forces capture York (present-day Toronto), the seat of government in Ontario.

1861 - President Abraham Lincoln suspends the writ of habeas corpus.

1863 - The Army of the Potomac begins marching on Chancellorsville.

1909 - The Sultan of Turkey, Abdul Hamid II, is overthrown.

1975 - Saigon is encircled by North Vietnamese troops.

1978 - The Afghanistan revolution begins.

1989 - Protesting students take over Tiananmen Square in Beijing, China.

CLASSIFIEDS

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

AUTOS WANTED

CASH FOR CARS! We buy all cars! Junk, high-end, totaled-it doesn't matter! Get free towing and same day cash! NEWER MODELS too! Call 844-813-0213

EDUCATION

Train online to do medical billing! Become a Medical Office Professional at CTI! Get trained & certified to work in months! 888-572-6790. The Mission, Program Information and Tuition is lo-cated at CareerTechnical. edu/consumer-information. (M-F 8-6 ET)

FINANCIAL

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

FOR RENT

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

HEALTH & FITNESS

DOYOU HAVE CHRONIC KNEE OR BACK PAIN? If you have insurance, you may qualify for the perfect brace at little to no cost. Get yours today! Call 1-800-217-0504

OXYGEN-Anytime. Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. Only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: Call 1-855-917-4693

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 50 Generic Pills SPECIAL \$99.00. 100% guaranteed.

24/7 CALL NOW! 888-445-5928 Hablamos Español

Dental insurance - Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Covers 350 procedures. Real in-surance - not a discount plan. Get your free dental info kit! 1-888-623-3036 www.dental50plus.com/58 #6258

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

MISCELLANEOUS

4G LTE HOME INTERNET Now Available! Get GotW3 with lightning fast speeds plus take your service with you when you travel! As low as \$109.99/mo! 1-888-674-1423

DEALING WITH WATER DAMAGE requires immediate action. Local professionals that respond immediately. Nationwide and 24/7. No Mold Calls. 1-800-506-3367

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

DISHTV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some Restrictions Apply. Promo Expires 01/2023. 1-877-925-7371

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-723-0883 GENERAC STANDBY GEN-ERATORS provide backup power during utility power outages so your home and family stay safe and comfortable. Prepare now. Free 7-year extended warranty (\$695 value!). Request a free quote today! Call for additional terms and conditions. 1-877-378-1582

HUGHESNET SATELLITE INTERNET Finally, no hard data limits! Call Today for speeds up to 25mbps as low as \$59.99/mo! \$75 gift card, terms apply. 1-855-703-0743

STAY IN YOUR HOME longer with an American Standard Walk-In Bathtub. Receive up to \$1,500 off, including a free toilet, and a lifetime warranty on the tub and installation! Call us at 1-866-945-3783 or visit www.walk-intubquote.com/pennysaver

Prepare for power outages today with a GENERAC home standby generator \$0 Down + Low Monthly Pmt Request a free Quote. Call before the next power outage: 1-844-334-8353

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protec-tion. Schedule free LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-995-2490

AT&T Internet. Starting at \$40/month w/12-mo agmt. 1 TB of data/mo. Ask how to bundle & SAVE! Geo & svc restrictions apply. 1-888-796-8850

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

Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support

our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398

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

Looking for assisted living, memory care, or independent living? A Place for Mom simplifies the process of finding senior living at no cost to your family. Call 1-833-386-1995 today!

Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 833-719-3029 or visit dorranceinfo.com/acp

Paying top cash for men's sportwatches! Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Day-tona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. Call 833-603-3236

Put on yourTV Ears & hear TV w/unmatched clarity.TV Ears Original - originally \$129.95 - now w/this special offer only \$59.95 w/code MCB59! 1-833-530-1955

Aloe Care Health medical alert system. Most advanced medical alert product on the market. Voice-activated! No wi-fineeded! Special offer w/code CARE20 for \$20 off Mobile Companion. 1-855-521-5138

Hero takes stress out of managing medications. Hero sorts & dispenses meds, sends alerts at dose times & handles prescription refill & delivery for you. Starting at \$24.99/month. No initi-ation fee. 90-day risk-free trial! 1-888-684-0280

DISHTV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 1/21/23. 1-833-872-2545

The Generac PWRcell solar plus battery storage system. Save money, reduce reliance on grid, prepare for outages & power your home. Full installation services. \$0 down financing option. Request free no obligation quote. 1-855-270-3785

WANTED TO BUY

Wants to purchase minerals and other oil and gas interests. Send details to P.O. Box 13557 Denver, CO 80201

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

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 5

- Lydia Maria Child's Thanksgiving poem, Over the River and Through the Woods, refers to the Mystic River and a horse-drawn sleigh trip made through the woods on the Medford/Somerville line.
- + James Pierpont wrote the song *Jingle Bells* after watching sleigh races near the Mystic River's shore. The route was from Medford Square to Malden.
- Massachusetts first Governor John Winthrop's 600-acre Ten Hills farm was split between both Somerville and Medford. It was here, which is now As-
- sembly Square, that he built the first ship in New England, The Blessing of the Bay, which was born on the Fourth of July, 1631.
- Years ago, a Magoun Square restaurant straddled the city line. You could order an alcoholic beverage in either city but could only drink it in Somerville.
- The first bridge in our area was the Cradock Bridge built in 1637. It crossed the Mystic River at Medford Square. Today, a future foot bridge is in the planning stage to be built across the Mystic from Assembly Row to the Encore Casino in Everett.
- Every year in sports, the Somerville Highlanders try to rankle the Medford Mustangs, and the Mustangs try to upset the Highlanders.

Tufts University was named after and built on land donated by Somerville's Charles Tufts. Today's campus bridges both cities. In 1974, there was an inferno at the P.T. Barnum Museum housed on the Tufts campus. Both Medford and Somerville firefighters tried in vain to save the college's giant, stuffed elephant mascot, Jumbo. Sadly, there is only a surviving "tale" to tell.



Dakota Svec is now a freshman communications major at Endicott College. She's always had a love for writing and is just now starting to write creatively. She hopes to continue to grow and get more of her work published.

Looking At a Stranger

Her face is different now.

Slimmer.

Older.

Prettier in a way. But sadder.

Run down.

Those Eyes though,

I remember, Unlike anything else.

Deep blue.

Holding small rings of yellow. Saturn sitting in deep space.

But now I can see only the outsides.

Sunken in.

Dark seas of deep purple,

That wash up onto the shores of her cheeks.

Those seem stronger.

Bones more defined.

The face of adolescence withered down by time.

Glazed over by waves from saturn's seas.

Droplets that run down to her mouth.

Onto full, soft, lips that actually seem almost the same.

But I see it now,

Even they too have changed.

More hesitant than ever before.

Choking on each word.

Fighting to digest each anxiety.

A throat used only to swallow her thoughts.

Protected by a neck barely there,

Scratched and rubbed raw.

Skin all the way down a breaking body,

Irritated beyond recognition.

Barely covering her heart,

Doing its best to beat,

After being so repeatedly tattered and torn.

A frail frame,

Standing in place of someone I used to know.

A girl.

Turned inside out.

Eaten alive.

And I watched it all.
Changes that happened so slowly over time,

That I saw no change at all.

How did I let you get this way?

How did I let you fall so far?

How did I let the world break and bruise so many pieces of you?

What was once so familiar to me,

Now completely unrecognizable.

The face.

The body.

The ones I've lived in all this time.

No longer my own.

— Dakota Svec

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

OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Interview with Louisa Solano:

Former owner of the Grolier Poetry Bookshop tells it all

Many a Somerville poet has visited and been nurtured by the Grolier Poetry Book Shop. I decided to rerun this article because the former owner of the shop, Louisa Solano passed on April 20, 2022. This is an interview I conducted with Louisa Solano shortly after she sold the Grolier. It appeared in Circle Magazine.

The acclaimed poet Donald Hall said of The Grolier Poetry Bookshop, "It is the greatest poetry place in the universe." And this may not be hyperbole. Founded in 1927 by Gordon Cairnie, and Adrian Gambet, it was the first bookstore in the Cambridge area to sell James Joyce's Ulysses.

In its salad days the likes of T.S. Eliot, Allen Ginsberg, Marianne Moore, and countless other poets patronized this store. Louisa Solano, the current owner, has been connected with the store for over forty years, first as a worker, and later as an owner.

Solano changed the original Grolier, to an all-poetry bookstore, probably the most prominent in the country and perhaps the world. Solano told an interviewer that the bookstore was much more than a seller of books. In its prime, Solano said the place was "packed with people, reading books and discussing poetry."

Due to escalating rents, the Internet, and the difficulty with competing chain bookstores, Solano has been forced to sell this haven for poets on Plympton St., in the heart of Harvard Square, Cambridge. I talked with Solano on my Somerville Community Access TV show *Poet to Poet/Writer To Writer*.

Doug Holder: What was the straw that broke the camel's back that made you need to put the business up for sale?

Louisa Solano: I essentially have been supporting the store on my charge card for the past two or three years. I have no real money of my own. It came to the point when I had to pay, and I just couldn't. And also, one year there was a very heavy theft in the store, and I couldn't recover from it.

This store actually existed on mail-order business for many years. In 1998 the Internet started coming up, and gradually ate up my business. Poetry is the texture of life and language, and if you don't have it on an actual page in front of you, you are losing your language.

DH: In an interview with a group of Emerson College students you said of the original owner, Gordon Cairnie, "Gordon was famous for his postcards and correspondence with everybody. He never sold books, he never paid bills, and he just wrote postcards. And he was cantankerous. People who would come into the shop would leave insulted. How have you changed things?

LS: I don't write postcards, I send emails. I do sell books. I try not to be cantankerous, but admittedly I have my moments.

I have Temporal Lobe Epilepsy. I was diagnosed in my 40's. I know people have accused me of looking through them or being a snob. Actually, when I am doing this, it may very be in the midst of a Petite Mal. People say that I sometimes yell at them or say some really horrible things, but quite frankly I have no memory of it most of the time. It's unfortunate when people have that experience of me, because since I am not aware of



it, I can't do anything about it. To apologize is to say I am responsible, but I am really not. People don't comprehend how this disease controls one's personality. Sometimes the way you speak comes out like Tourette's Syndrome.

DH: It doesn't seem that you had warm, fuzzy feelings for Gordon Cairnie.

LS: I was often in there when I was 15 or 16 years old. He let me sit in the shop. And as a lot of the younger people came along, he did the same thing. We could project on him the "second father" and things like that. When I first came to the Grolier he was not cantankerous. I understand that he had an accident that changed his personality. Gordon's social life centered on Harvard international students and the B-School. It was a very sophisticated group that hung around the store. So, the whole group that surrounded him was urbane and well educated. And you had the students from *The Harvard Advocate*. At this time there was also a great sense of warmth.

DH: Could Cairnie be called a snob?

LS: Cairnie was very class conscious. Gordon definitely liked people who were upper class, had money, were beautiful. There was a sign on that door that read "No Law Books" "No Text Books." It was very confusing and ugly for the younger people and students who hung out there. When I took over, the first thing I did was to take down the signs. I democratized it out of the white male poet syndrome and moved the store to more involvement with the community.

DH: How as it for a woman to run a bookstore, when it was a mostly male-dominated business?

LS: I was chronically, acutely shy. I hardly ever opened my mouth. I never talked. I was the youngest person there usually. I took over the store in January 1974 after Cairnie died. It took me over 10 years of owning the store to get any kind of confidence or raise my voice. People were always saying to me, "Can you please speak louder, we can't understand you!"

DH: It is common knowledge that well-established, famous poets patronized your store. But how about the BEATS, or poets outside the mainstream?

LS: Elsa Dorfman, the well-known Cambridge photographer, was one of the employees of the Patterson Society, which basically brought people like Robert Creeleyand and Allen Ginsberg to Cambridge. Dorfman was and is a friend of mine, so she provided a Beat scene. Ginsberg happened to be her best friend.

Jack Kerouac read at Harvard toward the end of his life. Irish poet Desmond O'Grady shoehorned me into a meeting with him. We went to see him read. The audience was packed Continued on page 15

'Reconstructed' photography exhibition at FPAC Gallery

Reconstructed is a photography exhibition that explores the ideas of belonging, origins and home by bringing together the work of five photographers: Astrid Reischwitz, Eleonora Ronconi, Hugo Teixeira, Iaritza Menjivar, and Yorgos Efthymiadis, who is also the curator of the exhibition.

Reconstructed will run through June 4 at FPAC Gallery, 300 Summer St, Boston. http://www.fortpointarts.org/.

To see the work of Somerville photographer Iaritza Manjivar, visit https://www.iaritza.com







Interview with Louisa Solano CONT. FROM PG 14

with students, waiting for Kerouac to behave like Kerouac. He was inebriated. Afterwards Desmond took Kerouac, myself, and a number of students, to visit (it seemed) every single afterhours bar in Cambridge. We eventually walked Kerouac back to the place he was staying.

I remember that same weekend, Sylvia Plath died. We were at Cronin's in Harvard Square and Desmond came in waving a newspaper and said, "She's dead, she's dead, we are now the only remaining poets." He grabbed Kerouac, and Kerouac backhanded Desmond, and said, "Don't touch me!" Later, two young men came in and told Kerouac they had "gold," and he staggered down the street with them. That's the last we saw of him.

DH: What gave you the idea to change the Grolier from a regular to an all-poetry bookstore?

LS: First of all, it wasn't an all-poetry bookstore. It started out as a Fine Press bookstore. They had quite beautiful, limited, first edition books by Edna St. Vincent Millay, John Galsworthy, and others. When I went in there these books were covered with dust. A second printing of Edna St. Vincent Millay is not worth much to most people. Tastes change. He had a lot of poetry for that time, which made him a leading poetry bookseller on the East Coast. Gordon changed it from a Fine Edition to a more literary bookstore.

When I took over all I inherited was a lot of bills, and unsellable books. I first tried to run it as a general bookstore. I realized if I were going to survive, I'd have to decide what this bookstore represents. After a month of sleepless nights, I decided to make it a poetry bookstore. I felt that was really needed. My decision to make it a poetry bookstore was because of how undervalued poetry was. In this country the only way anything gets respected is by money. Money defines anything that's worthwhile.

If I could create a poetry bookstore that actually existed on commercial terms, people would say, "Look, its got some worth". And it worked. It influenced the Academy of American Poet to start a National Poetry Month.

DH: Can you talk about some of the famous poets who visited the store over the years?

LS: Robert Lowell visited the store twice. The first time I saw him I thought he was a bagman. Octavio Paz passed through here. I had a really wonderful conversation with him in the store. I couldn't believe I was talking psychology with OCATAVIO PAZ. I kept thinking I was going to freeze up, and will not be able to speak. When Seamus Heaney came to town, I noticed a couple with two kids in the Irish section. A little girl turned around and said, "My Daddy (Heaney) wrote this." I thought that was just wonderful. Jorie Graham comes through, as well as Peter Sacks. Donald Hall once said, "I want to be buried under the boards of this store." I said, "Not on your life!"

DH: You started a prize competition and a reading series. Was this an innovation for a bookstore?

LS: Gail Mazur started her reading series, and I followed shortly after. She and I actually started the poetry prize together. Yes, it was an innovation. Most stores did not do that. I also started autograph parties. That was a lot of fun.

DH: What do you view as the role of the small press in the poetry world and literary world in general?

LS: I happen to love the small press. To me the small press is the supporter of poetry. The small press brings back the adventure. When I first came to the Grolier there were all these pamphlets in the store. I was the first store to carry *Language Magazine*. In fact, I was the first seller to carry many of the small press literary magazines.

DH: Poetry can bring out the best and the worst in people. You have had a host of difficult and even irate customers in your store over the years. Can you tell me about your experiences?

LS: A student came in the store and started to yell at his professor, who happened to be there. He claimed the professor had "stolen his mind." I calmed him down and took him to the outpatient clinic of a local hospital. That was an interesting event. Another time a young man came into the store half-naked, swinging a tire iron. I had to take it away from him. One man who was totally obnoxious told me, "I have never been treated in such a manner before!' I said, "Wonderful, now you have a new experience!" I didn't want to disappoint the man, so I gave him a new experience.

DH: Can you name some of your favorite poetry journals?

LS: Hanging Loose, Tin House, to name a couple.

DH: Do you plan to write a book about your experiences?

LS: Yes, I do. People were suggesting I write a memoir of the store, but they were thinking of themselves as a central figure. I informed them the store would be the central figure. They didn't like that.

I have been around so long, and I know a lot of "stories." I feel I am going to need a good lawyer before I publish anything. The Houghton Library at Harvard will receive many of my papers.

DH: Are you a frustrated poet and/or novelist?

LS: I am a frustrated poet. About seven years ago I was ready to shut the doors of the store, and do my own work. Then I figured what I was doing was more important than writing second-rate poetry. I very much want to write again when I leave the store.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

this year's Class Day festivities, which will take place on Friday, June 3, beginning at 8:00 a.m. at Somerville High School. This year will be the first Class Day that will take place in the new school building. Because there was no Class Day in 2020 or 2021 due to COVID-19, they are inviting alumni who did not have an opportunity to participate in this great tradition on the 50th anniversary of their high school graduation. They are looking for 50 graduates in total from the classes of 1970, 1971, and 1972 to participate. If you were an SHS 1970, 1971 or 1972 graduate and would like to participate in the 2022 Class Day festivities, please call Barbara Favaloro at (617) 625-6600, ext. 611018, or email her at bfavaloro@k12.somerville.ma.us. The SHS Class of 2022 looks forward to seeing you!

The City of Somerville launched mattress and box spring recycling. This free service is available to all residential households that have city-managed trash collection. Residents will simply need to schedule a pickup and place their items

on the curb on the pickup day. For more information on recycling in Somerville, please visit www.somervillema.gov/MattressRecycling

******* Somerville's yard waste pickup began on Tuesday, April 19. A full yard waste calendar is available at somervillema. gov/yardwaste and will be in the Environmental Service Guide, which will be mailed to all households later this month. Yard waste should be put out with your trash and recycling on your normal pickup day. Yard waste must either be in a paper bag or a trash barrel with a "Yard Waste Only" sticker. Stickers are available free of charge at the DPW Building, 1 Franey Road, or the entrance desk at City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue. To request a sticker be mailed to you, please call 311 or email 311updates@somervillema.gov. For more information on yard waste pickup, visit somervillema.gov/yardwaste or call 311 (617-666-3311).

The CHA Somerville Vaccine Center is now accepting walk-ins, as sup-

ply allows. The center is open to all, five days a week and some Saturdays. You can get booster shots for ages 12+ and initial vaccines for ages 5+. The vaccines are free, regardless of immigration or health insurance status, and you don't need to show ID. Full hours and details are here: challiance. org/vaccine. You can still make an appointment at tinyurl.com/metronorthvaccine. If you're a CHA patient you can also make an appointment through MyChart: challiance.org/mychart. If you need assistance finding a COVID-19 vaccine or booster, you can call 3-1-1 (617-666-3311). *******

The Davis Square Farmers Market is back with an expanded vendor roster that includes locally grown fruits and vegetables, farm-raised protein and cheese, mushrooms, baked goods, ready-to-eat meals, along with a host of other locally made products. Find the full vendor list here: https://www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis. The market takes place on Wednesdays and runs from May 18 to November

23, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m., rain or shine, in the municipal parking lot at the intersection of Herbert St. and Day St. in Somerville, across from American Flatbread at 44 Day St. They will be offering a weekly \$15 SNAP Match for the second year in a row, and will continue to occupy their expanded footprint that they've held since 2020. Follow them on social media (@davissqfarmersmarket) Text DAVIS to 833-409-0774 to get SMS notifications about the farmers market.

The East Somerville Farmers Market opens on Sunday, May 15, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at 115 Broadway. Join them for fresh produce, bread, baked goods, mead and much more. More information is available at www.eastsomervillemainstreets.org/market.

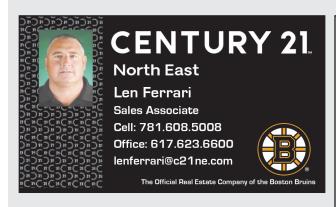
Don't forget, if you would like to subscribe to receive a digital edition of our paper, go directly online to our website over to the right side and fill out your email address to receive a free, full PDF copy of the paper.

The Somerville Times

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

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

BUSINESS DIRECTORY





Richard G. Di Girolamo Anne M. Vigorito Michael LaRosa

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

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

FAX: (617) 776-5435 EMAIL: digirolamolegal@verizon.net

TELEPHONE: (617) 666-8200

EMAIL: digitolamolegat@verizon.net

424 BROADWAY, SOMERVILLE, MA 02145

Sell your house today!

"We'll sell your house fast!"



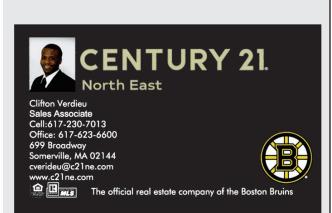
~ Notary Public ~ Justice of the Peace ~

MARIE HOWE REAL ESTATE

617-666-4040









194 Holland St, Somerville, MA 02144 617-628-4282



Josue Velney

Director of Acquisitions

WE BUY HOUSES

ANY CONDITION CASH & FAST

617-684-5363

Josue@WinterHillHomes.com www.WinterHillHomes.com

CENTURY 21. North East Denise Cosby Sales Associate Cell: 857.928.4282 Office: 617.623.6600 dcosby@c21ne.com

Telephone: (617) 625-2244 (617) 625-4344

(617) 625-4350

EDWIN J. SMITH
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
RUMERY & SMITH

AND AMENITIE

403 HIGHLAND AVENUE SOMERVILLE, MA 02144

edsmithlaw@gmail.com



Over 50 Years Experience Proud to be a Somerville Business Resident



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

Residential - Industrial - Commercial

Master Plmb. Lic. #6106 625-9877

To advertise in

The Somerville Times

call Bobbie Toner: 617-666-4 010

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

Attorneys at Law
Fax: 617-625-7315

DROPKIN & MATZA LLP

Attorneys at Law

424 Broadway Somerville MA 02145

Bankruptcy

Eamily I av

Family Law

Immigration Personal Injury

Business Law

Estate Planning and Probate

Real Estate

Elder Law

Civil Litigation

mdropkin@dropkinmatza.com