



Somerville's
original
independent
newspaper

The Somerville Times

www.thesomervilletimes.com



VOL. 8 NO. 18

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2020

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



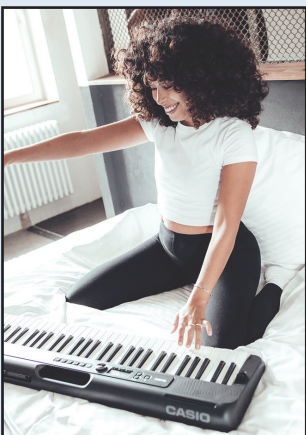
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City requiring masks or face coverings in all public spaces



An order establishing mandatory mask and face coverings in public places, both indoors and outdoors, will go into effect on Wednesday, April 29.

To help further slow the spread of COVID-19, Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and the Somerville Board of Health announced on Monday that Somerville's facial covering advisory will become mandatory.

The new order requires anyone over the age of two to wear a clean face mask or face covering when in any indoor or outdoor space that is open to the public. The order, which has the unanimous support of the City Council, goes into effect on Wednesday, April 29, and a one-week grace period will be granted to allow the community time to comply.

"I know this feels strange for many of us, but it is the best way you can prevent yourself from inadvertently spreading coronavirus to others when you're out in public," said Mayor Curtatone. "Not everyone who has COVID-19 shows symptoms. You can be carrying the virus and infecting others" *Continued on page 4*

Top tips to plant, grow and care for a container garden

Container gardens are a viable and popular cultivation option, especially for those who have limited sun-exposed spaces or are looking to start small and learn the basics of gardening.

"Containers, whether bought or recycled, are a great place to plant herb and vegetable gardens," says landscape designer, Doug Scott of Redeem Your Ground in Atlanta, Ga. "But to get it right, there are a few things to keep in mind."

To help you successfully cultivate a container garden, Scott offers the following pointers:

- Well-drained, not dry or overly wet soil, is necessary for herb and vegetable growth, so using bottom-draining pots with a peat-based potting soil specifically formulated for herbs and veggies will facilitate proper soil drainage and moisture retention.

- The proper container size depends on what you'll be growing. Most small herbs do well in pots as small as eight inches in diameter, while larger plants may require a gallon pot or larger.

For visual interest, consider

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Landscape designer, Doug Scott.

ATTN: LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS

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

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and the Somerville Board of Health have announced that facial coverings will be mandatory starting **Wednesday, April 29**. In an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19, anyone over the age of 2 must wear a facial covering when in any indoor or outdoor space that is open to the public.








On **May 1**, ONCE will be launching a brand new platform: The **ONCE Virtual Venue (VV)** will be a place for fans of the venue to interact and enjoy performances under the **ONCE Presents** identity. The programming will range from music to comedy, yoga, tutorials, and more. They have reached out to a lot of our favorite local artists and beyond to participate in the unique programming and have some amazing folks lined up. For a complete list visit www.oncesomerville.com.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Big happy birthday to our good friend over at **Ball Square Café**, the man with the smiling face, **Mike Moccia**. We hope he has a great day. Happy birthday to another great restaurant owner, **Brett Henry**, of the famous Henry family at **Mt. Vernon Restaurant**. We hope he has a great day. Happy birthday this week to **Linda Beebe**, who is celebrating this week. We hope when this pandemic is over she gets out to celebrate, she deserves it. Also, happy birthday to **Anthony Fraser**, who grew up in East Somerville. Happy birthday to attorney **Frank J. Kautz II**, celebrating this week as well. **Sal Ferro III** is celebrating this week. He is well known here in Somerville and the son of our photographer, **Claudia**. He comes from a great family and we wish him a great birthday. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Chris Lavelli**, **Joseph DeSousa**, **Rose Lister**, **George Sharpe**, **Barbara A. Balkwill**, **G.p. Redmond**, **Lillian Bove Litchfield**, **Johnny Ferola**, **Fred Parker**, **Bernie Duggan** and **Eric Pedro Sr.**, 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.

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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of April 29 – May 5 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday <i>April 29</i>	Sunny	52°/43°	10%	55%	E 120 mph
 Thursday <i>April 30</i>	Rain	53°/50°	49%	70%	SE 15 mph
 Friday <i>May 1</i>	Rain	57°/50°	78%	87%	SE 17 mph
 Saturday <i>May 2</i>	Rain	60°/46°	38%	75%	N 9 mph
 Sunday <i>May 3</i>	Partly Cloudy	61°/50°	9%	60%	WNW 11 mph
 Monday <i>May 4</i>	Rain	59°/41°	40%	61%	WNW 13 mph
 Tuesday <i>May 5</i>	Partly Cloudy	55°/40°	19%	50%	NW 15 mph

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: Somerville mayor announces face coverings are now mandatory in public

Bob Ross says:

About time. I'm not happy about it but this needs to be done. Thank you Mr. Mayor!

John says:

Where do we pick up our free masks? City Hall?

Casimir H. Prohosky Jr. says:

Free masks? Rampant socialism.

Jane Doe says:

How will this be enforced in retail settings where there is no police presence?

street walker says:

Great. Now with everyone wearing masks I need something new as a basis for my righteous indignation. Instead of railing against people standing 20 yards from anyone with no mask on I think I'll start complaining about the quality of people's masks. "hey! that fabric looks too flimsy to do anything!!!". Better start working on my email rants now.

Courtney O'Keefe says:

Completely necessary and much appreciated. Thank you.

Response to: Mayor Curtatone launches community testing/tracing/safe isolation plan

Daniel M Kimmel says:

This is good and I've been proud of how official Somerville has handled the crisis. But this is only a start and not helpful to those of us who are carless and don't live near a testing site. I would have to take two buses just to get to the hospital. I don't bicycle and calling a cab/driving service — assuming one is available — has its own risks.

So, good start, but as more tests become available there will have to be more testing sites.

Courtney O'Keefe says:

Increased testing – overall – is critical. Once testing sites, capabilities are increased, a real, proper gage of this pandemic can be made.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times

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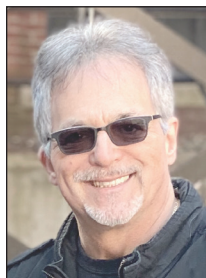
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Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

Our first jobs



I did a story a few years back about the first jobs of my baby boomer Somerville friends (those of us born roughly between 1946 and 1964).

In the first story, I mentioned that I worked at Lyndell's Bakery as a baker's helper and at Woolworth's as a stock boy, graduating to the lunch counter. On those two jobs I got to eat my mistakes. Stuffing jelly donuts at Lyndell's bought me one of my first guitars. Newcomers to the Ville may be scratching their heads when they read some of the following places,

saying, "I never heard of that joint..." That's because a lot of the establishments mentioned are now gone. If I said, "I'll meet ya at Goodell" you'd know I meant Goodell Drug Store where Dunkin' Do-

nuts is at Powder House Park. If I said "Joe Izzy's," old timers would know. Yup, most of the places are history.

Friends worked at Loud's Candy shop in Powder House Square for Mr. Melville who wore round glasses and a white apron. They made all kinds of delicious barley pops, fudge and other sweet treats. I can still smell that place. The Dunkin' Donuts in Porter Square hired a lot of Somerville kids. Some also worked at the CVS in Porter Square before it moved across the parking lot. Some of my friends worked at FFC, Friendly Family Center and Osco Drug in Davis Square. It's now Rite-Aid, though I still call it Osco.

A friend traveled all the way to Medford for her job at Child World toy store near Wellington Circle. La Contessa Italian Bakery, formerly in Davis Square for years, hired locals like Annette and Felix. A young lady told us that she spent her first paycheck on a leather coat at Cum-



mings, also formerly in Davis. Star Market in Porter Square gave a lot of Somerville kids their first real jobs, my daughter included. Cleaning Khoury's State Spa, formerly on lower Broadway, was a friend of mine's first job.

Today, there are many new up-and-coming businesses in the building that used to house Ames Safety Envelope Company. Half of the crew that used to frequent The Embassy Lounge on Somerville Avenue worked at Ames as well as family and friends too.

A lot of my Somerville pals put in many years at Polaroid in Waltham. I miss the free film for my Polaroid Swinger camera. Some are now enjoying their Polaroid pensions. Did you work at McDonald's back in 1975, when a Big Mac cost 65 cents? How about Mark's Department Store? I think the wage was \$2.85 an hour.

The Stop & Shop near Union Square and the one in Davis Square, along with the Dairy Queen on Cedar Street, hired us boomers. One of my fellow SHS class of '71 classmates worked at Friendly Ice Cream also on Cedar St. at the corner of Highland Ave. One of my buddies worked at Y-Not (Tony spelled backwards) Variety on Willow Avenue with the original owners, Tony and the other Tony.

Did you work at Kresge's, where you could get sliced boiled ham for 89 cents a pound? Lots of Villens worked at the Somerville and Broadway theaters (I worked at the one in Davis). We worked at local parks as playground counselors making key chains and things out of plastic "gimp."

Sal and many of my friends worked for Somerville's Somerfest program setting up outdoor stages for bands and performers. The city gave many their first paying jobs. Royal White laundry on Cedar Street hired a few friends. Brigham's in Davis Square and on Winter Hill were popular for getting Somerville kids off the streets. Would you like jimmies on

that? Others worked next door at the Star Market formerly on Broadway. My pal John washed pots and pans in Somerville Hospital's kitchen making \$2.10 an hour.

Some of my friends worked at their Uncle Vinny's restaurant on Broadway. Bob tells us, "I was a car shuttler for Belotti Oldsmobile. It was the best job because I got to drive all the new cars that came out." A friend tells me he worked for the Neighborhood Youth Corps at the Trade High School one summer for 90 cents an hour.

And how many of my old friends worked for Mrs. B at Bradlees? A lot. Do you remember the Bradlees credit card? I think it was my first one. Quite a few Somerville "yutes" got their first taste of the work world at Lechmere Sales in Cambridge, where you pocket the difference!

If you had to pick the granddaddy of all Somerville employers, it would be none other than Somerville Lumber. I know at least 25 of my oldest friends who have fond memories of working there. For newcomers, Somerville Lumber was what Home Depot and Lowe's is now, only better, with a real family feeling. Lots of Somerville kids worked at Somerville Lumber and made friends for life there. It was located where the Stop 'n Shop is on McGrath Highway across from Foss Park. Comfort Pillow and MW Carr bear Davis Square were big Somerville employers which we will discuss at another time.

It was so exciting when we finally entered the work force. The friends we made at these jobs will stay in our memories forever. It was a great feeling to be able to buy our own clothes, record albums, go to the movies, and save up for that first car. I'll never forget the look on my dad's face when I came home wearing bell bottom pants and a suede fringe jacket ... that I bought myself.

Please stay safe and follow all the COVID-19 guidelines and rules.



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Our menus and specials are posted on our Facebook page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/Mount-Vernon-Restaurants-103209019028/>

We ask you to bear with us while we implement these guidelines. The safety of our patrons and employees remain our number one priority as we continue to operate and maintain our small business during this difficult time.

Our hours of operation moving forward will be
12:00 to 8:00 p.m. until further notice.

Be safe and stay healthy – The Mount Vernon Restaurant

NOTICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

Please take notice: Ward 1 City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin invites interested parties to participate in a neighborhood meeting on Wednesday, April 29 at 5:00 p.m. to discuss amendments to a previously approved PUD Preliminary Master Plan for the XMBLY project at 5 Middlesex Avenue and adjacent parcels in the Assembly Square Mixed-Use District of Somerville. The neighborhood meeting will not be held in person due to the Covid-19 gathering limitations, but will be held virtually via Zoom.

Please contact Councilor Matt McLaughlin at mattforward1@gmail.com for more information and to obtain information in order to access the meeting.

4,000 masks distributed to senior buildings in Somerville

This week the City of Somerville distributed 4,000 facial masks to residents in senior living facilities across the city. In other city efforts to aid residents during the crisis, 21,000 meals have also been distributed to families by the Somerville Public Schools and roughly 1,700 persons per week are receiving groceries from the city.

“Getting masks to our seniors was a top priority. Our older residents and those with underlying health conditions are especially vulnerable to COVID-19 and we must do what we can to help protect them. We are advising our seniors to wear these masks when in common areas or out in public to help protect their neighbors and ultimately themselves,” said Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone. “I also want to thank our Council on Aging and Department of Public Works for their quick work in distributing these masks throughout the city.”

Along with the masks, residents also received information about how to wear them safely, other COVID-19 safety precautions, and where to find resources and supports should they need them.

As another support measure, throughout the crisis the Somerville Public Schools (SPS) and city have been distributing food to a rising number of residents. Over the past five weeks, SPS has distributed more than 21,000 meals to families, more than 4,000 of them just in the week of April 12, at four sites. Separately, the City’s Emergency Food Pantry, which was established at the outset of the COVID-19 crisis, provided food for nearly 700 households – or about 1,700 people – during the week of April 12 through a combination of deliveries and pick-ups. Again, the number of families receiving groceries via the pantry has also been steadily growing. “While our community is dealing with so much uncertainty, we don’t want residents also worried about where their next meal will come from,” said Mayor Curtatone. “If you need help accessing food, please reach out and make use of these services.”

The Somerville Public Schools are distributing meals to residents from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., Monday through Friday at the following locations: East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St.; Arthur D. Healey School, 5 Meacham St.; Winter Hill Community Innovation School, 115 Sycamore St.; West Somerville Neighborhood School, 177 Powder House Blvd.

Residents can access the Emergency Food Pantry by filling out an online form. Groceries are available for pickup and the pantry is steadily expanding

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City requiring mask or face covering in all public spaces

CONT. FROM PG 1

without knowing. No one wants to be the one who infected the grocery store clerk, or the hardware store stocker, or the family out for a stroll. Wearing a mask is one way to avoid that.”

The order is based on safety guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It also takes into account that with more than 80,000 residents in just

4.1 square miles, Somerville is the most densely populated city in New England, which makes protective and social distancing measures all the more critical.

“Wearing a mask is far more effective if everyone is doing it,” said City Council President Matt McLaughlin. “The effectiveness of face masks decreases significantly if someone infected with

COVID-19 isn’t wearing a mask, even if others do wear masks. We need a collective buy-in from the public to stop the spread of infection.”

The city and the Somerville Police are aware that it may be a challenge for everyone to comply at all times, such as parents trying to keep masks on small children. The Police are committed to compassionate policing, and will seek first to educate members of the public about the face covering requirement wherever possible. As available, Officers will also carry masks to give to our most vulnerable residents such as persons experiencing homelessness or persons living with mental illness. However, after the one-week grace period, persons showing willful disregard, may be subject to a written warning or a \$300 fine. Exceptions will be made for persons unable to medically tolerate a face covering. “Ticketing for this is our last resort, but we do have to put public health first. So for those individuals who willfully fail to comply, we will reserve this option,” said Chief of Police David Fallon. “It’s encouraging how many residents are already wearing masks, and we will work with understanding to help others do so as well.”

“I hope that everyone who is able does the right thing and covers their face. But I want to remind the general public that it is not your job to enforce this order,” said Mayor Curtatone. Appropriate face coverings must cover the nose and mouth and be made from a clean material. Scarves, bandanas, or any piece of clean cloth, may be used. The Centers for Disease Control has suggestions for ways to make a face covering at home, including sew and no-sew options. There are also many tutorials on YouTube such as this no-sew mask bit. ly/3bRT2GU made from an old t-shirt. Meanwhile, the city will continue to prioritize distribution of any available masks to our most vulnerable residents.

“I hope that everyone who is able does

the right thing and covers their face. But I want to remind the general public that it is not your job to enforce this order. Please just worry about yourself and your family,” said Mayor Curtatone. “I also know that there are members of our community who don’t feel safe wearing a face covering in public. We will do what we can to help make you feel more comfortable and I urge everyone in the community to do the same. Remember, if you see someone walking down the street with their face covered, they are doing what they are supposed to.”

Where must face coverings be worn?
Indoors, the order applies at any business open to the general public such as grocery stores, pharmacies, laundromats, hardware stores, and restaurant pickup sites. Face coverings must also be worn inside when in public common areas of multi-unit residences or commercial buildings such as entrances and public hallways.

Outside, face masks/coverings must be worn in or at all public spaces such as parks, sidewalks, streets, paths, squares, or outdoor commercial areas such as parking lots and outdoor premises of retail locations. Joggers and cyclists must adhere to the order along with pedestrians.

All open businesses must also display signs reminding anyone entering that they need to be wearing a face covering. While face masks can help control the spread of COVID-19, it’s important to remember it is an extra protection in addition to social distancing to help reduce transmission of the virus. Facial coverings do not make it safe for people to start congregating.

While the order does not require the use of face coverings on public transportation or in ride shares, because the city does not have authority to regulate these, it is strongly encouraged anyone using a shared means of transportation to wear one.

— City of Somerville

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Partridge Avenue Marathon

After many residents in the Partridge Ave. area began working from home, Roxane Scrima and her neighbor, Tina Lu, decided to start a neighborhood "Google Group" In mid-March. They rang doorbells to collect emails to begin this process. All that work paid off when on Monday, April 20, they celebrated their first event: The Partridge Avenue Marathon, running the lower half from Medford St. to Vernon St. Everyone was told to wear masks and sign up to run down the middle of the street or to cheer from their doorsteps. The event was a huge success.



Daniel, Anne, Marcel and Jade Sprintzen.



Tina, Jonathan, Zoe and Joshua Lu heading to the finish line.



Sinead, Brad, Ronan and Cormac Chapman complete the marathon run.

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #203

The French American

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

His father was a Huguenot, born outside Bordeaux, France. He arrived alone in Boston by way of Guernsey, England when he was only 13 years, old with not much more than his name, Apollos Rivoire. The young man worked hard learning the gold and silversmith trades. He changed his name to appease the English vernacular, and subsequently passed it and his shop on to his eldest son, the patriot Paul Revere.



April 19, 1775 was the day that both Middlesex farmers and Boston businessmen put their lives and their holdings on the line in a rebellion against the powerful British Empire. Paul Revere delivered the wind that would ignite the spark of defiance. British Cavalry came dangerously close to capturing him in Somerville at the beginning of his Lexington ride.

He evaded them by riding up Winter Hill toward Medford. He partially traced the path the British took eight months earlier when they attacked the Powder House. Revere's original plan was to warn Cambridge, skirting Prospect Hill where eight months later, the first American flag would be flown. January 1, 1776, was Revere's 40th birthday.



Over the years, Revere's tale has been noted:

- Somerville Statesman Edward Everett first brought Revere's ride to notice in his 1825 speech at Lexington.
- Poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow solidified Revere's fame with his legendary 1860 poem, Paul Revere's Ride.
- City Hall concourse once boasted the setting of a rustic fountain. It was constructed of surface rock from the original East Somerville pavement that Revere and his steed had traversed.
- Interestingly, the Boston Marathon's route was originally designed to pattern Paul Revere's ride.

In 1777, after American victories at Saratoga and Bennington, over four thousand English and German prisoners were held captive at Prospect Hill and Winter Hill. They were brought here under guard of Colonel Paul Revere.

Continued on page 12

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.

Updates on Somerville’s response to the COVID-19 crisis

Normally there is an editorial from Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone in this space, but this week the city is instead sharing important information and updates about COVID-19.

Face Coverings Required in all Indoor and Outdoor Public Spaces as of April 29

As of Wednesday, April 29, Somerville’s facial covering advisory is mandatory to help slow the spread of COVID-19. Anyone over the age of two is required to wear a clean face mask or face covering when in any indoor or outdoor space that is open to the public. A one-week grace period was granted to allow the community time to comply before enforcement begins.

The city and the Somerville Police are aware that it may be a challenge for everyone to comply at all times, especially for parents trying to keep masks on small children. The Police are committed to compassionate policing, and will seek first to educate members of the public about the face covering requirement wherever possible. As available, Officers will also carry masks to give to our most vulnerable. However, after the one-week grace period, persons showing

willful disregard, may be subject to a written warning or a \$300 fine. Exceptions will be made for persons unable to medically tolerate a face covering.

Appropriate face coverings must cover the nose and mouth and be made from a clean material. Scarves, bandanas, or any piece of clean cloth, may be used. The Centers for Disease Control website has suggestions for ways to make a face covering at home, including sew and no-sew options. There are also many tutorials on YouTube such as this no-sew mask at bit.ly/3bRT-2GU made from an old t-shirt. Meanwhile, the city will continue to prioritize distribution of any available masks to our most vulnerable residents.

Free COVID-19 Testing Available to Somerville Residents at Somerville Hospital

Free COVID-19 tests are now available to all Somerville residents by appointment at the Somerville Hospital. You do not need to be symptomatic or have health insurance to get a free test. To schedule a testing appointment, call 617-665-2928, Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

The testing program will be-

gin with drive-through testing at the Crown Street parking lot adjacent to Somerville Hospital and will be open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Testing will soon be expanded to walking and bicycling patients. An additional testing location will also soon be set up in East Somerville. 3,500 testing kits are being provided by the State for this new testing program and we are advocating for additional tests.

Anyone who is tested will receive guidance on how to protect themselves and family members while test results are pending. Guidance will be available in multiple languages. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 will be contacted by a public health nurse who will provide information and support on how to isolate and recover safely at home. Individuals who must isolate and cannot safely isolate in their home will be given the option to isolate at the Chelsea-Revere-MGH isolation hotel. Those who need additional aid will be connected with food assistance and other support services.

Applications Available for Resident and Business Assistance

Funds

Applications for the Somerville Cares Fund, jointly launched by Mayor Joe Curtatone, the United Way, and the Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS), are now available. The Somerville Cares Fund will provide emergency financial assistance to individuals and families during the COVID-19 public health crisis to meet needs such as food, housing, medicine, funeral costs, and other essential expenses.

Funding is available for:

- Somerville residents
- Persons who work in Somerville (including those recently laid off due to the pandemic)
- Families with children enrolled in Somerville Public Schools

Applications will be prioritized and funded on the basis of need; not on a first-come, first-served basis.

The application and more information can be found at www.somervillema.gov/SomervilleCaresFunding. If you would like to donate to the Somerville Cares Fund, visit www.somervillema.gov/somervillecares.

The city is also accepting applications for the Somerville Small Business COVID-19 Relief Fund, which will provide forgiv-

able loans of up to \$10,000 to Somerville businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Applications are due by 3 p.m. on Monday, May 11. Relief funds can be used for working capital expenses, including but not limited to rent or mortgage payments, payroll expenses including healthcare, and utility expenses. To learn more about eligibility requirements and to apply, visit www.somervillema.gov/BizRelief. Visit www.somervillema.gov/covidbizhelp for more business resources.

Staying Informed During COVID-19

The city’s COVID-19 website, www.somervillema.gov/coronavirus, is updated frequently with public health information as well as resources and supports.

Here are some additional ways you can stay informed:

- Sign up for city alerts at www.somervillema.gov/alerts or by calling 311. You can choose to get phone, text, and/or email alerts.
- Tune in to City Cable (RCN channel 13, Comcast channel 22) for information and updates.
- 311 is available 24/7 to answer questions and provide information.

Biosensor pilot at Somerville Veterans Home to support vulnerable residents

Cherish Health, a Cambridge technology innovator that pioneers solutions to improve lives and enable care using advanced sensors, artificial intelligence, medical evidence, and human touch, and its non-profit partner, Health eVillages, a global organization that provides medical resources such as mobile technology, training, and apps to low-resource settings, are launching their broad partnership during the COVID-19 pandemic with a program that will monitor and support the health care needs of formerly homeless veterans.

Their first joint program will bring this new technology to 29 elderly veterans who currently reside at the Somerville Veterans Home, a transitional and permanent housing complex in Somerville operated by the Volunteers of America of Massachusetts (VOAM), that also provides a range of support services for veterans with multiple medical conditions.

Mayor Joseph Curtatone has taken a lead in bringing these organizations together to improve the delivery of health care to the most vulnerable, including the city’s veterans. “We’ve heard tragic stories involving multiple deaths at veterans’ facilities in other parts of our state and for that reason I have brought together a number of partners who are working to prevent that from happening in here in Somerville,” Curtatone said. “Like our beloved veterans, we are embracing the creed that no one gets left behind.”

Cherish Health was founded earlier this year by serial entrepreneur Sumit Nagpal, formerly SVP and GM for Health Innovation at Comcast, and prior to that Global Lead for Digital Health Strategy at Accenture. “Initially, we launched a biosensor patch to help individuals with long-term conditions receive care where they live with 24/7 support from their care teams,” said Nagpal, who serves as CEO. “As the COVID-19 pandemic spread across the globe, we worked with clinicians in the United States, UK, India, and elsewhere to rapidly devise care pathways while we scaled up production to make the technology available to healthcare organizations racing to cope with the disease. We are now deploying the solution across these and other geographies.”

Three versions of bandage-like, low cost Cherish Serenity biosensor patches monitor combinations of respiration, oxygen levels, temperature, heart rate, and EKG. Cherish Health’s Safe@Home kits contain a two-week supply of these connected biosensors and provide a turnkey solution to help safely monitor individuals who have been diagnosed with the virus while remaining socially distanced to minimize transmission. They also help those admitted to hospitals to return home sooner, freeing up beds for those who need them.

“Our veterans have sacrificed so much so we may live with the freedoms and privileges we enjoy,” said Cherish Health CEO Sumit Nagpal. “During this time of unprecedented need, we are grateful to do all we can, with generous support from Health eVillages, to help keep our national treasures safe.”

Continued on page 11



FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#728

1. What does the C stand for in the CBS TV network?

2. What was Magnum's first name in the TV series *Magnum, P.I.*?

3. What month is ALS Awareness Month?

4. In the TV series *Murder She Wrote*, where did Jessica Fletcher live?

5. Stewart Copeland was the drummer with which band?

6. What is Robert Trent Jones Sr. known for?

7. What day is Star Wars Day?

8. What ear does Mr. Clean where his earring in?

9. Which country pop singer was born Eilleen Regina Edwards?

10. What is the state muffin of Massachusetts?

11. In which movie did Humphrey Bogart play Charlie Allnut?

12. In the comic strip *Garfield*, what is the teddy bear's name?

Answers on page 15

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. During the chariot scene in 'Ben Hur,' a small red car can be seen in the distance.

2. More people speak English in China than the United States.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

ACTORS AND ACTRESSES

ACROSS

1. "Flowers in the ____"
6. Emergency responders
9. Peacock's pride
13. Life force in Sanskrit
14. Doctor Dolittle, e.g.
15. The Beast's problem
16. Happen again
17. Freudian topic
18. In a fitting way
19. Hopkins' Lecter to ____'s Starling
21. McGillis' Charlie to ____'s Maverick
23. Unagi
24. Undesirable row
25. Stuff in a tray?
28. The Tramp's love interest
30. Hairy vertebrate
35. "Best ____ schemes o' mice an' men"
37. Be inclined
39. City in Belgium
40. Debussy's "Clair de ____"
41. D'Artagnan's weapon, pl.
43. Speed on water
44. "This ____," on a box
46. The Chapin School, e.g.
47. Ä
48. Post-roller coaster ride state
50. The Coen brothers' "True ____"
52. ____ Diego
53. Deuce topper
55. Lamb's mother
57. Clark's Rhett to ____'s Scarlett
60. John's Danny to ____'s Sandy
63. Continually annoy
64. Matterhorn, e.g.
66. Cooler clime conifer
68. Do like phoenix
69. Tiger's peg
70. "My Own Private ____"
71. Thou ____, or you have
72. Bajillion years
73. Article of faith

DOWN

1. 2020 Easter mo.
2. Not kosher
3. Meal in a shell

CROSSWORD											
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10
13						14				15	
16						17				18	
	19				20			21	22		
			23				24				
25	26	27		28		29			30	31	32
35			36		37			38		39	
40					41				42		43
44				45		46					47
48					49		50			51	52
				53		54			55		56
	57	58	59					60			61
63						64	65			66	
68						69				70	
71						72				73	

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4. Occupied, two words

5. El Chapo's organization

6. "What ____ Happened to Baby Jane?"

7. Billy's Harry to ____'s Sally

8. Investor's asset

9. ____-Guarani languages

10. Liberal pursuits

11. Archipelago unit

12. Bovine hangout

15. Posterior, anatomically speaking

20. Fill with optimism

22. Basketball target

24. Two heads are better than one, e.g.

25. Keaton's Annie to ____'s Alvy

26. Sweating room

27. Hinduism follower

29. Knightley's Swann to ____'s Sparrow

31. Cameron's Fiona to ____'s Shrek

32. List of options, pl.
33. Ancient Greeks' assembly area

34. Pretend, two words

36. ____ ex machina

38. Doe, e.g.

42. Sales pitch

45. Smallest at the clothing store

49. Second person of be

51. Lighted by twilight

54. Related on mother's side

56. Avoid, as in taxes

57. Designer Bradley

58. Osiris' wife

59. One third of a three-piece suit

60. Welcoming sign

61. A Flock of Seagulls' hit, 2 words

62. Soreness

63. "____, humbug!"

65. Kate's Rose to ____'s Jack

67. "Some Like It ____"

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

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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.

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

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Mayor Curtatone launches community testing/tracing/safe isolation plan

A new community-wide COVID-19 mitigation program for testing, tracking, contact tracing, and safe social isolation for Somerville residents was announced on Monday by Mayor Joe Curtatone, Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) CEO Assaad Sayah, MD, and Doug Kress, of the Somerville Board of Health.

The multi-step plan is based first on broader access to free testing for any Somerville resident, both those with and without symptoms. To decrease further spread, the testing is then followed by contract tracing as well as ongoing follow-up and safe isolation support for those who test positive for COVID-19.

Curtatone was able to successfully advocate for a significant increase in local testing. Approximately 3,500 test kits are being provided by the State and administered by the Cambridge Health Alliance. Individuals seeking tests do not need to be symptomatic, do not need insurance or a doctor's referral, and immigration status will not be checked. The only requirement is that individuals must be Somerville residents and must call to set up an appointment using a new hotline number at 1-617-665-2928.

"Expanding testing to a broader sample of the whole community, including tracking, tracing, and safe social isolation, are the only way we can begin to safely think about re-opening our communities and economy," said Mayor Curtatone. "These first 3,500 tests are a good start, but you can be sure we will be advocating for more. No matter who you are or whether you have health coverage, you should have access to this kind of free testing."

The testing program will roll out in three phases starting with drive-through testing at CHA's Somerville Hospital location, followed by expansion to walking and bicycling clients, and then the opening of a satellite location in East Somerville. The location at the Crown Street parking lot adjacent to Somerville Hospital will be open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Amid a national shortage of COVID-19 tests, criteria for testing has generally been limited to the sickest patients with the most severe symptoms. By expanding testing more broadly, the joint city-CHA program aims to provide local officials with a better understanding of how widespread the virus could be in the community.

"Increased testing for COVID-19 is an essential step in determining the scope of this outbreak," said Cambridge Health Alliance CEO Assaad Sayah, MD. "With the support of the Mass. Department of Public Health and Mayor Curtatone and the City of Somerville, we are excited to expand testing to all Somerville residents to help prevent further spread of the disease in our community."

All persons tested will receive guidance on how to protect themselves and family members while test results are pending. This is available in multiple languages. For those who test positive, city Public Health nurses will reach out to conduct contact tracing and offer ongoing support as needed to residents to ensure they can recover safely. Those who need guidance, food, counseling, or supplies will be aided in accessing information and supports, such as the city's emergency food pantry deliveries. Individuals who must isolate and need notes for employers will receive them from the Board of Health.

Those who cannot isolate safely at home after testing positive will be given the option to stay in at the Chelsea-Revere-MGH isolation hotel. Somerville has now officially joined that partnership, which includes transportation to the isolation hotel and meals as well as medical supervision by Mass General Hospital. Contacts identified by Somerville contact tracing efforts will be shared with the nonprofit Partners in Health, which will conduct further tracking of those who may have been exposed as part of their statewide tracking and tracing effort.

"Getting tested is just the first step to fighting this virus. What happens next is critical to ensure that we can identify and prevent further spread, ensure that those who are not sick enough to require hospitalization have the best chance for successful recovery, and that we reduce household transmission of the virus by helping persons with the virus to isolate safely," said Doug Kress, Director of the Somerville Department of Health and Human Services.

Again, appointments are required for testing. Please call 617-665-2928 to request an appointment. Call Center hours are Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

A video of Monday's announcement can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O1AlThmIxxw&feature=emb_logo.

For more information and regular COVID-19 updates, visit www.somervillema.gov/coronavirus and sign up for city alerts at www.somervillema.gov/Alerts. The public is urged to sign up for every alert method it is able to receive: phone call, text, email. Also follow [FB.com/SomervilleCity](https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCity) and [@SomervilleCity](https://twitter.com/SomervilleCity).

Director of the Somerville Department of Health and Human Services Doug Kress emphasized the importance of COVID-19 testing at the announcement of the program on Monday at City Hall.

CDC adds six new symptoms to common COVID-19 symptoms list

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention now advises that you may have COVID-19, and should contact a medical provider, if you have the following symptoms: "Cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty breathing or at least two of these symptoms: fever, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell."



4,000 masks distributed to senior buildings in Somerville

CONT. FROM PG 4

deliveries as well. Please call 781-747-8198 for more information or with questions.

More information on available state and federal food access programs, cash assistance, and unemployment and business assistance, as well as guidance on how to use or make masks or facial coverings can be found on www.somervillema.gov/coronavirus.

For more information and regular COVID-19 updates, visit www.somervillema.gov/coronavirus and sign up for City alerts at www.somervillema.gov/Alerts.

The public is urged to sign up for every alert method you are able to receive: phone call, text, email. Also follow [FB.com/SomervilleCity](https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCity) and [@SomervilleCity](https://twitter.com/SomervilleCity).

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PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with 24 CFR 91.05(c)(2) and subpart B of the federal regulations relative to citizen participation for Community Planning and Development Programs and applicable waivers made available to those requirements through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), the City of Somerville is making an amendment to the 2019–2020 Housing and Urban Development Annual Action Plan for the City of Somerville available to the public through this notice.

Public Comment Period and Process:

This Annual Action Plan amendment is available for a 5-day public review and comment period from May 4, 2020 to May 8, 2020. Citizens wishing to submit written comments during the public review and comment period may mail them, postmarked no later than May 8, 2020, to the following:

OSPCD
93 Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02143
Attn: Alan Inacio

You may also email comments no later than May 8, 2020 to ospcd@somervillema.gov

Amendment:

This is an amendment to the 2019-2020 Housing and Community Development Annual Action Plan for the City of Somerville to enable the City to receive and administer \$ 1,493,384 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and \$ 750,831 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) made available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). These funds are being added as an additional available resource available in the 2019-2020 plan.

Additional CDBG and ESG funding made available to the City of Somerville by HUD through the CARES Act is unknown at this time but will be used for the same purpose of the initial allocations indicated above which is to prevent the spread of coronavirus 19 (COVID-19) and facilitate assistance to eligible communities, households, and persons economically impacted by COVID-19. In addition, the City plans to reprogram up to 60% of the original FY 2019-2020 CDBG funding allocation as needed to respond to COVID-19. FY 2020-2021 CDBG funds already allocated to the City may also be used to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eligible CDBG activities include, but are not limited to, assisting low- and moderate-income households with rental assistance for no more than three months, general food security and meal programs, workforce development and re-training programs, business assistance to retain employees that are low- and moderate-income, and support of other COVID-19 response services to ensure public health and well-being. Eligible ESG activities include street outreach, emergency shelter, homelessness prevention, rapid re-housing, Homeless Management Information System and administration.

Further, eligible CDBG and ESG costs incurred as of March 27, 2020, which is the date in which the CARES Act was signed, and paid for with non-federal funds may be repaid with CDBG and ESG funding, including those made under the CARES Act. These pre-award costs will meet all HUD requirements applicable to CDBG and ESG, including those under the CARES Act. Unless waived by HUD, CDBG pre-award costs for FY 2020-2021 will not exceed 25% of the grant and will be used for the CDBG eligible activities as indicated above.


Public notices regarding future amendments to the Consolidated Plan will be printed in local newspapers and posted online on the City of Somerville website at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/administration> Specific activities using ESG funding under the CARES Act will not require a 5-day public comment period but will be posted on the City of Somerville website.

Lastly, as part of this amendment, the City of Somerville has revised the Consolidated Plan's Citizen Participation Plan to include the 5-day comment period as indicated above as well as to make other changes. The revised Citizen Participation Plan is available for review on the City of Somerville website at: <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/administration>

Background on the Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans:

The Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plans describe the housing and community development needs, as well as activities to address those needs through the City of Somerville, as defined and funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As required by HUD, the Consolidated Plan and subsequent Annual Plans bring together, in one consolidated submission, the planning and application aspects of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Programs.

4/29/20 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR**

**GEORGE J. PROAKIS, AICP
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, May 19, 2020** 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 Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public meeting and hearings **will be conducted via remote participation**.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Webinar ID: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2545282963437880079>

Access code: 673-636-171

TO CALL IN

Phone number: +1 (562) 247-8321

Access code: 704-098-230

DETERMINATIONS OF APPROPRIATENESS (PUBLIC HEARING)


HPC.ALT 2020.07 - 58-66 Bow Street / 369-377 Somerville Avenue
Applicant: CBI Consulting
Owner: Gerrior Square Condominium Trust, through their agent
Agent: Harvest Properties, LLC
Replace existing siding, window trim/window elements/window pediments on Bow St & Somerville Ave facades; some alterations with non-traditional materials

DETERMINATIONS OF PREFERABLY PRESERVED (STEP 2 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS) (PUBLIC HEARING)

HPC.DMO 2020.07 - 26 Hawthorne Street
Applicant: Thomas W. Matthews
Owner: same as applicant
Demolish principal structure.

All applications summarized above are available to the public on the third floor of City Hall at 93 Highland Avenue (Monday - Wednesday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.; and Friday 8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.). A cases may be continued to a later date, please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website, email historic@somervillema.gov or call (617) 625-6600 x2500 to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide comments to the Historic Preservation Commission at the public hearing, via e-mail to historic@somervillema.gov, or by US mail addressed to the Historic Preservation Commission, Planning Division, 3rd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143. All written comments must be received by NOON, one week prior to the date of the HPC meeting.

4/29/20 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 request **quotes from qualified Electrical Contractors** to perform electrical work including installations and repairs on an as needed basis.

Term: 6-12 months

Not to exceed \$24,999.00

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 §526 to 27H inclusive.

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 multiple SHA state\Federal properties in Somerville Massachusetts. 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: The Contractor shall use SHA stock unless otherwise authorized. Items purchased by the Contactor at the SHA's request shall be billed at no more than cost plus 15%. The Contractor will be require to present the original itemized invoice to the SHA. The cost shall be identified and included in the monthly invoice.

Payment Invoicing
Contractors' invoices must be itemized to reflect contract pricing for each item.

Proposal Information available on April 29th,2020 at 9:00 AM and can be obtained by emailing Brian Langton at BrianL@sha-web.org or calling 617-625-1152 ext.331

Proposal must be received by **May 14thth, 2020 at 11:00 AM Proposals can be mailed to Somerville Housing Authority Modernization Department 30R Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145 or emailed to BrianL@sha-web.org. Please contact Brian Langton BrianL@sha-web.org with any questions.**

4/29/20 The Somerville Times



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Payment Invoicing
Contractors' invoices must be itemized to reflect contract pricing for each item.

Bid Packages can be obtained by emailing Brian Langton at BrianL@sha-web.org.
Proposal must be received by **April 30th, 2020 at 11:00 AM Proposals can be mailed to Somerville Housing Authority Modernization Department 30R Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145 or emailed to BrianL@sha-web.org. Please contact Brian Langton BrianL@sha-web.org with any questions. 617-625-1152.**

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**City of Somerville
PLANNING BOARD**
City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville Planning Board (PB) will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, May 7, 2020 at 6:00pm**. Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Webinar ID: 307-624-099

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (415) 655-006
Access code: 372-376-816

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

378 Highland Ave NE Harvest Corp proposes to establish a Cannabis Retail Use in the MR3 district which requires a Special Permit.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions>.

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

4/22/20, 4/29/20 The Somerville Times

How to manage stress through music

With routines upturned and health concerns top of mind, many people are feeling an extra amount of stress these days, too much of which can be bad for one’s mental and physical health. However, music has many mood-boosting, stress-relieving benefits. Here are four ways to incorporate more of it into your life without even leaving the house:

- Too much time spent scrolling through social media can induce anxious feelings. Allow music to provide a healthy distraction from digital devices. Carve out a block of time each day to practice your instrument.
- Get a fun, easy and most importantly, stress-free introduc-

tion to music-making with the right tools. By connecting a Casio keyboard with lighted keys to the Chordana Play App or using the app’s keyboard, beginners can gain a better understanding of music study. The app displays the music score and piano roll notation for built-in songs and MIDI files, allowing you to select which tracks to play with your left and right hands. With the ability to slow the tempo and transpose to a key that’s easier to play, you can practice at your own pace. Plus, a scoring system lets track your progress.

- Social distancing doesn’t have to be antisocial. Connect with fellow musicians from the comfort

and safety at home by hosting a virtual jam session for the added stress-relieving benefits of socializing with friends, old and new.

- Expressing yourself creatively is one of the best tools for kicking stress to the curb, and making music in no exception. Once you feel comfortable with the basics, you may feel empowered to write your own melodies or even develop them fully into songs.

In these unusual times, music can benefit your mood and mental health by serving as a valuable creative outlet, a means for practicing mindfulness and a great way to connect with others. (StatePoint)



Top tips to plant, grow and care for a container garden

CONT. FROM PG 1

repurposing items around the house to use as your container, such as an old pail.

- Incorporate a “thriller, filler, spiller” planting approach to maximize space and aesthetic appeal. This means tall focal plants in back, middle layer plants that fill in, and plants that will cascade over the container in front.
- Soil dries out more quickly in container gardens than garden beds, especially if you place containers outdoors in the sun. Per-

form daily soil moisture checks. You may need to water outdoor container gardens every day – and possibly twice a day – in extremely hot weather.

- Place your container garden where it will get the optimal amount of sunlight – between six and eight hours a day. The beauty of container gardens is their movability. You can even follow the sun as exposure changes throughout the seasons. Always refer to the care tags on the specific plant to determine a

prime location.

- Gardens planted in a container are entirely dependent on you to provide nutrients. Start out with an organic, rich potting soil formulated for container gardens. Then, going forward, fertilize your container every two to four weeks by pouring a nutrient-rich liquid solution directly into the soil.
- Don’t forget to reap what you sow. Harvesting will generally help increase yields and prevent plants from outgrowing

their containers. For best results, use this five-step method: water plants before harvesting, make clean cuts, keep them clean, dry your harvest quickly and store them away from sunlight and moisture.

More expert advice is available online. Scott has partnered with Exmark, a leading manufacturer of commercial mowers and equipment on a video series for DIY homeowners called “Done in a Weekend.” Among the free

videos is “Contain Your Enthusiasm,” offering tips to help you successfully plant, grow and care for herbs and vegetable container gardens. To view the video, as well as access other videos in the series covering a range of home and garden topics, visit Exmark.com/DIY.

There are a few important considerations that every container gardener should know. Be sure you’re equipped with the proper tools and knowledge before getting started. (StatePoint)

Biosensor pilot at Somerville Veterans Home to support vulnerable residents

CONT. FROM PG 6

Global healthcare activist and innovator Donato Tramuto founded Health eVillages in 2011 following the earthquake that devastated Haiti. Since that time, the organization has provided state-of-the-art mobile health technology, including medical reference and clinical decision tools as well as community resources, to medical and public health professionals serving the most vulnerable populations around the world. Tramuto has been a champion for addressing loneliness, social iso-

lation, and social determinants of health both domestically and in emerging countries.

Tramuto, also the founder of the non-profit Tramuto Foundation and author of “Life’s Bulldozer Moments”, is looking forward to this collaboration with Cherish Health and Volunteers of America of Massachusetts. “When I founded Health eVillages in 2011, I never intended to try to solve the world’s healthcare problems alone,” Tramuto explained. “Health eVillages is a collaborative mission shared by

many dedicated, experienced individuals and organizations and I am thrilled to have the support of Sumit and Cherish Health and Volunteers of America of Massachusetts, to help us move the needle to improve the lives of our aging veterans. These are uncertain times for us all, but no one deserves our appreciation and unwavering support more than the soldiers who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. I am honored to be a part of this effort.”

Charles E. Gagnon, President

& CEO of Volunteers of America of Massachusetts, explained that Mayor Curtatone and the City of Somerville “have always supported and partnered with our Mass Bay veterans to ensure that they are provided a safe, supportive and healthy environment. Our mission is to stabilize the health of our residents while customizing an individual service plan in order for all our vets to achieve and realize a greater degree of self-sufficiency and secure permanent housing.

“It certainly ‘takes a village,’” Gagnon added, “and this innovative collaboration and partnership with Mayor Curtatone, Cherish Health and Health eVillages is an ideal opportunity to improve the care for our elderly veterans by providing early prevention measures and improving access in real time to address their complicated health conditions. We are thrilled and humbled to participate in such an important health innovation during this public health crisis.”

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) is accepting masks. The link provided here offers a pattern and provides more details. Thanks to many local sewers who have already been hard at work on this. The link for CHA’s **Call for Masks** is: https://www.challiance.org/about/newsroom/personal_protective_equipment_ppe_homemade_donatio_1180.

To contact us at *The Somerville Times* during these closures, please go to news@thesomervilletimes.com. We

are still up and running but will be working remotely.

The Ryan Harrington Foundation is honored to be hosting their **5th Annual Just One Run in Memory of Neil Naugler**. Please join them on **Sunday May 31**, at 10:00 a.m. for the Just One Run with a free **Kids Fun Run** at 9:30 a.m. The Ryan Harrington Foundation is a group dedicated to helping people with the disease and struggle of addiction while raising awareness and funding. The Foundation maintains the

simple message: If we can help “JUST ONE” individual find and maintain their recovery, we have succeeded. This 5k race will start and end at the Blessing of the Bay Boat House in Somerville, looping around the Mystic River on Rt. 16 to Medford, through the Mystic River Reservation, and back over the Wellington Bridge to the finish. Shirts are guaranteed to the first 200 registered and to all kids registered prior to race day, 12 years of age and under. The event includes a free half mile Kid’s Fun Run, post-race refreshments, mu-

sic and family activities! Informational stations provided by local resources. Online registration fees for the 5K race are \$30 for participants ages 13 (plus processing fees). Participants for age 12 and under are \$15. Adult registration fees increase to \$35 on race day. Kids 12 and under are welcome to come and run at no cost, but please register your child. For more information about the Ryan Harrington Foundation and its mission, please visit <http://www.ryanharringtonfoundation.org/the-foundation/>

New rides for the SFD

New Fire Department deputy and district chiefs cars were recently spotted on display in Somerville.



Statewide stay-at-home advisory extended to May 18

On Tuesday, April 28, Gov. Charlie Baker announced that the statewide stay-at-home advisory, as well as the closure of non-essential businesses, is being extended to May 18.

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 5

Revere was a metal smith and silver engraver by trade. He did much work for Elias Hasket Derby of Somerville, the nation's first millionaire. He coppered the Massachusetts State House's dome and the metal work on the ship U.S.S. Constitution and its bell. His foundry made almost 400 bells. Today only 134 are left, and the only one outside of the United States rests in the National Museum of Singapore. It was a gift and symbol of friendship from Maria Revere Balestier, the daughter of Paul Revere

and wife of the first American Consul to Singapore. Through the years, Revere's name has adorned some of our city's parks, apartment buildings, businesses and monuments. A statue of the hero was erected adjacent to the Holiday Inn on Washington Street. Unlike many cities whose interest in the Boston Marathon has eclipsed Patriot's Day, Somerville is unique. It has a deep root system for this hero. Somerville reveres Paul Revere!

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



What do you call a pudgy psychic?
A four-chin teller.

SMCxHome: Stay on Your Media Journey



In the span of a few short weeks, we've all had to adapt to new ways of interacting with one another. Media making in this new environment means also adapting to new ways of learning, creating and sharing.

SMC's aim is to keep the Somerville community and their members inspired creatively. They will be adapting some of their Digital Literacy series into a lineup of virtual workshops such as *Virtual Rough Cut - Share your Media Works in Progress!* on Wednesday, April 29, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. (RSVP at <https://somervillemedia.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f666d0ca2473e6d81ef0dc44f&id=f49d9095a3&e=a6639670d7>). This is a safe space for people or groups working on media projects (short films, experimental, podcasts, TV shows, promotional videos, trailers, etc.) to present their work to a group for constructive feedback. Please submit one form for each video being screened and note that in order to be fair and respectful of people's time, only up to 5 minutes will be aired. You must submit your video ahead of time in order to be accepted.

There will also be more free tutorials under SMCxHome that are designed specifically with media making from home in mind.

SMC will be expanding their free and paid workshop offerings in the next few weeks, and their next update will include May, June and July course offerings. Is there a media making course that you would like to see? Are you interested in teaching one? Let them know.

They've also organized a weekly no-agenda Zoom meetup for SMC members called the SMC Water Cooler. If you're a member and want to join in at the Water Cooler, reach out to us!

Stay safe, stay creative and stay in touch.

"We could never learn to be brave and patient if there were only joy in the world"
— Helen Keller

On This Day in History April 29

- 1429 – Joan of Arc leads French forces to victory over English at Orleans.
- 1624 – Louis XIII appoints Cardinal Richelieu chief minister of the Royal Council of France.
- 1672 – King Louis XIV of France invades the Netherlands.
- 1813 – Rubber is patented.
- 1852 – The first edition of Peter Roget's Thesaurus is published.
- 1913 – Gideon Sundback of Hoboken patents the all-purpose zipper.
- 1945 – The Nazi concentration camp of Dachau is liberated by Allied troops.
- 1975 – The U.S. embassy in Vietnam is evacuated as North Vietnamese forces fight their way into Saigon.
- 1992 – Four Los Angeles police officers are acquitted of charges stemming from the beating of Rodney King. Rioting ensues.

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SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

SCATV is part of Somerville Media Center, home to Boston Free Radio, Somerville Neighborhood News and SMC Youth Media!

Join SMC today to make your own TV or Radio Production, learn skills like editing and field production and sign up for special media making workshops and classes for youth and adults! sommervillemedia.org

Wednesday, April 29

1:00am	Free Speech TV	2:00pm	VOX POP: Somerville Connects	9:00am	SMC Youth Media	5:00am	Free Speech TV
6:00am	NASA TV	4:30pm	The Struggle	9:30am	Science 360	6:00am	NASA TV
7:00am	Community Bulletin Board	5:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	10:00am	Dead Air Live	7:00am	Somerville Storytellers
7:30am	DW In Good Shape	6:00pm	#AFAD	11:00am	TeleGalaxie	7:30am	Going Postal
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:30pm	#AFAD	12:00pm	Somerville Storytellers	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am	DW Global 3000	7:00pm	Community Lens: SHC 5K Race	1:00pm	Tele Magazine	9:00am	Science 360
9:30am	Both Sides of the Bars	8:00pm	LIVE - Our View	2:00pm	Reeling Review	10:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News
10:00am	Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer	9:00pm	PABFONE Closing Day Ceremony	3:00pm	MA House of Representatives Formal Session	11:00am	Our View
10:30am	Somerville Neighborhood News	10:00pm	Community Bulletin Board	4:00pm	Tele Kreyol	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show
11:00am	SNN Neighborhood Update	10:30pm	The World Fusion Show	5:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	1:00pm	SOM ARTS
11:30am	From My Heart to Yours	11:00pm	VOX POP Comedy Night	5:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	1:30pm	Somerville Storytellers
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	Friday, May 1		6:00pm	Somerville Pundits	2:00pm	NASA TV
1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	6:30pm	The Somerville Labor Show	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
1:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	1:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	7:00pm	BLOWW Show a Go Go	4:00pm	African Television Network
2:00pm	Colores Latinos	1:30am	SCATV Secret Stash	7:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	5:00pm	Community Lens: SHC 5K Race
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	2:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	#AFAD	6:00pm	LIVE from VOX POP
4:00pm	DW Conflict Zone	6:00am	NASA TV	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:30pm	Fur, Fins and Feathers
4:30pm	Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library	7:00am	The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	Heavy Leather Music Video Show	7:00pm	Tele Galaxie
5:00pm	Hello Neighbor	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	SCATV Secret Stash	8:00pm	LIVE -Somerville Overcoming Addiction
5:30pm	From My Heart to Yours	9:00am	DW Euromaxx	11:30pm	Queer Cats	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	9:30am	Strata	Sunday, May 3		10:00pm	Colores Latinos
6:30pm	VOX POP: Somerville Connects	10:00am	NASA TV	12:00am	Flotilla	11:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
7:00pm	"The Cask of Amontillado" at VOX POP	11:00am	SOM ARTS	1:00am	NASA TV	Tuesday, May 5	
7:30pm	Sidewalks Entertainment	11:30am	Cambridge Calendar	1:30am	NASA TV	12:00am	Public Safety/Homeland Security Hearing
8:00pm	LIVE - Somerville Pundits	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	2:00am	NASA TV	6:00am	NASA TV
8:30pm	DW Euromaxx	1:00pm	Community Benefits Agreement	3:00am	Free Speech TV	7:00am	NASA TV
9:00pm	Revolution Awakening at VOX POP	2:00pm	Somerville Pundits	6:00am	Bate Papo com Shirley	8:00am	Democracy Now!
10:00pm	LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	2:30pm	Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library	7:00am	Nossa Gentes e Costumes	9:00am	The Chef's Table Series
11:00pm	Flotilla	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ	10:00am	Strata
Thursday, April 30		4:00pm	Gay USA	9:00am	NASA TV	11:00am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals
12:30am	SCATV Secret Stash	5:00pm	DW Global 3000	10:00am	Tele Kreyol	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show
1:00am	Free Speech TV	5:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?	11:00am	MA House of Representatives Formal Session	1:00pm	Revolution Awakening at VOX POP
1:30am	Free Speech TV	6:00pm	Grandstanders	12:00pm	Sidewalks Entertainment	2:00pm	Somerville Overcoming Addiction
2:00am	Free Speech TV	7:00pm	Emergency Preparedness	1:00pm	SOM ARTS	3:00pm	Democracy Now!
3:00am	Free Speech TV	7:30pm	The Somerville Labor Show	1:30pm	SNN Neighborhood Update	4:00pm	SMC Youth Media
6:00am	Bate Papo com Shirley	8:00pm	LIVE - Greater Somerville	2:00pm	Chico and B-Man	4:30pm	Going Postal
7:00am	DW Conflict Zone	8:30pm	Greater Somerville	3:00pm	African Television Network	5:00pm	LIVE - Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer
7:30am	DW Euromaxx	9:00pm	Fur, Fins and Feathers	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	5:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	5:00pm	Gay USA	6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
9:00am	DW Tomorrow Today	11:00pm	Heavy Leather Music Video Show	6:00pm	VOX POP: Somerville Connects	6:30pm	From My Heart to Yours
9:30am	Hello Neighbor	Saturday, May 2		6:30pm	DW Tomorrow Today	7:00pm	The Somerville Labor Show
10:00am	The Chef's Table Series	12:00am	VOX POP Comedy Night	7:00pm	Emergency Preparedness	7:30pm	LIVE - Greater Somerville
10:30am	The Chef's Table Series	1:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	Dead Air Live	8:00pm	LIVE - Dead Air Live
11:00am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals	2:00am	Free Speech TV	9:00pm	Tele Magazine	9:00pm	The World Fusion Show
11:30am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals	3:00am	Free Speech TV	10:00pm	Community Lens: Somerville 5K Detour	10:00pm	Totally Working Out
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	5:00am	Free Speech TV	11:00pm	TUTV	11:00pm	Box House Productions Presents
1:00pm	The Somerville Line	6:00am	DW Focus on Europe	11:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash	11:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash
1:30pm	The Somerville Line	7:00am	Effort Pour Christ	Monday, May 4			

CITY TV 22 (Comcast) | 13 (RCN) Schedule

Wednesday, April 29

7:00am	Poetry Reading by Lloyd Schwartz	4:00pm	Chair Yoga w/Janine	9:45am	SPD Ride Along	8:45am	SPD Ride Along
7:04am	Cooking w/ Ellen: Orange Cornmeal Cake	5:30pm	Raising Families "Special Needs Education"	11:00am	Fit-4-Life #4	9:00am	COVID-19 Testing Program Announcement
7:30am	Music & Movement w/ Steve Gintz April 2020	6:00pm	CC-Legislative Matters 4.30.20	11:30am	Poetry Reading by Lloyd Schwartz	10:00am	Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz
8:15am	SPD Ride Along	11:30pm	Health & Human Services Update	12:00pm	Chair Yoga w/Janine	11:00am	Fit 4 Life 2020 #1
8:30am	SomerViva en Español - Public Charge	11:40pm	SPD Community Update 4/10/20	12:30pm	School Committee Meeting 4.27.20	11:30am	Chair Yoga w/Janine
9:10am	Talking Business			4:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	12:00pm	City Council Meeting 4.28.20
9:27am	Mental Health Issues & Coping	12:00am	School Committee Meeting 4.27.20	5:30pm	City Council Spotlight - Mark Niedergang	4:00pm	Fit-4-Life #2
11:00am	Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	3:00am	SomerViva em Português - March 2020	6:00pm	CC-Legislative Matters 4.30.20	4:30pm	City Alert 4.30.20
11:30am	SomerViva em Português - March 2020	7:30am	Cooking w/Ellen: Orange Cornmeal Cake	11:00pm	SomerViva em Português - March 2020	5:00pm	COVID-19 Testing Program Announcement
12:00pm	School Committee Meeting 4.27.20	7:45am	SPD Ride Along			6:00pm	Public Health & Public Safety Committee
4:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #1	8:01am	Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	Sunday, May 3		11:00pm	SomerViva em Português - March 2020
4:21pm	Cooking w/Ellen: Orange Cornmeal Cake	11:30am	City Council Spotlight - Mark Niedergang	12:00am	Public Health & Public Safety Committee	11:30pm	COVID-19 Update em Portugues
5:00pm	City Alert 4.28.20	12:00pm	City Council Meeting 4.28.20	7:00am	SomerViva em Português - March 2020		
5:30pm	Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"	4:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	7:30am	Chair Yoga w/ Janine	Tuesday, May 5	
6:00pm	SomerViva en Español - Public Charge	5:30pm	Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz	7:57am	Covid PSA Facemask-1	12:00am	CC-Legislative Matters 4.30.20
6:30pm	City Council Meeting 4.28.20	6:10pm	SPD Community Update 4/10/20	8:00am	Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz	7:00am	The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism
11:10pm	SPD Community Update 4/10/20	6:30pm	Storytime with Anne	9:30am	Cooking w/Ellen: Orange Cornmeal Cake	8:25am	Poetry Reading by Lloyd Schwartz
11:15pm	SPD Ride Along	7:45pm	SPD Community Update 4/10/20	11:00am	Fit-4-Life #2	8:30am	City Council Spotlight - Mark Niedergang
Thursday, April 30		8:00pm	School Committee Meeting 4.27.20	11:30am	Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"	9:00am	The Spiritual Music of Henry Hadley
12:00am	CC-Land Use Meeting - 4.23.20	8:00pm	SPD Ride Along	12:00pm	School Committee Meeting 4.27.20	11:00am	Chair Yoga w/Janine
7:00am	City Alert 4.28.20	11:30pm	SomerViva em Português - March 2020	4:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	11:30am	SomerViva em Português - March 2020
7:30am	Chair Yoga w/ Janine	Saturday, May 2		5:30pm	Music & Movement w/Steve	12:00pm	CC-Legislative Matters 4.30.20
8:00am	Fit-4-Life #6	12:00am	Cooking w/Ellen: Orange Cornmeal Cake	6:30pm	Chair Yoga w/ Janine	4:00pm	Fit-4-Life #5
8:30am	SomerViva em Português - March 2020	12:11am	Talking Business	8:00pm	City Council Meeting 4.28.20	4:20pm	SPD Community Update 4/10/20
9:15am	Health & Human Services Update	12:30am	CC-Confirmation of Appt. COTW	Monday, May 4		4:25pm	Poetry Reading by Lloyd Schwartz
9:30am	Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz	7:30am	Chair Yoga w/Janine	12:00am	COVID-19 Testing Program Announcement	5:30pm	Cooking w/Ellen: Orange Cornmeal Cake
11:00am	Fit 4 Life 2020 #1	8:00am	Music & Movement w/ Steve Gintz	1:00am	City Council Meeting 4.28.20	6:00pm	CC-Land Use Meeting 5.5.20
11:30am	Cooking w/Ellen: Orange Cornmeal Cake	8:45am	Poetry Reading by Lloyd Schwartz	7:00am	Fit-4-Life #3	10:30pm	COVID-19 Testing Program Announcement
				7:30am	Chair Yoga w/Janine		

Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, April 29

8:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Alison [4/14]	2:30am	SHS Boys Basketball 2009-10	9:00pm	93rd All City Track Meet 2014	12:00pm	Capuano Spring Concert 2014
9:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Ann [4.9.20]	3:00am	Girls' Indoor Soccer Final '14	10:30am	SHS Boys Basketball 2009-10	1:00pm	Outdoor Track GBL Invitational 2014
10:00am	Highlander Football 2014	8:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Ann [4/16]	11:00pm	Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14	3:00pm	SHS Graduation 2019
11:00am	Highlander Football 2013	9:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Annmarie [4.3]	Sunday, May 3		5:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball 2009-10
12:00pm	93rd All City Track Meet 2014	10:00am	SHS Graduation 2014	12:00am	Girls' Indoor Soccer Final '14	5:30pm	SHS Highlander Football 2011
2:00pm	Capuano Kindergarten Spring Concert 2014	12:00pm	SHS Football 2007	1:00am	SHS Graduation 2014	6:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Ann [4.1.20]
3:00pm	Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14	1:00pm	SHS Football 2008	3:00am	SHS Football 2008	7:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Meghan [4/15]
4:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Medford	1:30pm	SHS Highlander Football 2011	8:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Alison [3.24.20]	8:00pm	Student of the Qtr. - Healey School
6:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Alison [4/14]	2:00pm	Highlander Football 2013	9:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Alison [4/14]	8:30pm	Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School
7:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Ann [4.9.20]	2:30pm	Highlander Football 2014	10:00am	Highlander Boys Basketball 2013-14	9:00pm	Student of the Qtr. - ESCS
8:00pm	Highlander Football 2014	3:00pm	Capuano Spring Concert 2014	10:30am	SHS Boys Basketball Highlights 2016-17	9:30pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS
9:00pm	Highlander Football 2013	4:00pm	Outdoor Track GBL Invitational 2014	11:00am	SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18	10:00pm	Capuano Spring Concert 2014
10:00pm	93rd All City Track Meet 2014	6:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Ann [4/16]	11:30am	SHS Highlander Boys' Basketball 2018-19	Tuesday, May 5	
Thursday, April 30		7:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Annmarie [4.3]	12:30pm	SHS Girls Basketball 2015-16	1:00am	SHS Graduation 2019
12:00am	Capuano Spring Concert 2014	8:00pm	SHS Graduation 2014	1:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball Highlights 2016-17	3:00am	SHS Boys Basketball 2009-10
1:00am	Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14	10:00pm	SHS Football 2007	1:30pm	SHS Girls Basketball 2015-16	3:30am	SHS Highlander Football 2011
2:00am	SHS Hockey vs Medford	11:00pm	SHS Football 2008	2:00pm	Outdoor Track GBL Invitational 2014	8:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Ann [4/16]
8:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Meghan [4/15]	Saturday, May 2		4:00pm	Girls' Indoor Soccer Final '14	9:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Annmarie [4/17]
9:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Ann [4.9.20]	12:00am	Highlander Football 2013	5:00pm	Capuano Spring Concert 2014	10:00am	Girls' Middle School Basketball Finals '18
10:00am	SHS Graduation 2014	12:30am	Highlander Football 2014	6:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Alison [3.24.20]	11:00am	Boys' Middle School Basketball Finals 2018
12:00pm	Highlander Boys Basketball 2013-14	1:00am	Capuano Spring Concert 2014	7:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Alison [4/14]	12:00pm	Girls' Middle School Soccer Championships
12:30pm	WHCIS Innovation Fashion Show 2014	2:00am	Public Domain Theater	8:00pm	Highlander Boys Basketball 2013-14	1:00pm	Boys' Middle School Soccer Championship
1:00pm	Outdoor Track GBL Invitational 2014	8:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Annmarie [4/17]	8:30pm	SHS Boys Basketball Highlights 2016-17	2:00pm	Boys Intramural Basketball Championship
3:00pm	Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14	9:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Ann [4.1.20]	9:00pm	SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18	3:00pm	Girls Intramural Basketball Championship
4:00pm	SHS Highlander Football 2011	10:00am	SHS Football 2007	9:30pm	SHS Highlander Boys' Basketball 2018-19	4:00pm	Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals
4:30pm	SHS Boys Basketball 2009-10	10:30am	WHCIS Innovation Fashion Show 2014	10:30pm	SHS Girls Basketball 2015-16	5:00pm	Boys' Indoor Soccer Finals 2018
5:00pm	Girls' Indoor Soccer Final '14	11:00am	93rd All City Track Meet 2014	Monday, May 4		6:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Ann [4/16]
6:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Meghan [4/15]	12:30pm	SHS Boys Basketball 2009-10	12:00am	Outdoor Track GBL Invitational 2014	7:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Annmarie [4/17]
7:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Ann [4.9.20]	1:00pm	Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14	2:00am	Girls' Indoor Soccer Final '14	8:00pm	Girls' Middle School Basketball Finals '18
7:30pm	WHCIS Innovation Fashion Show 2014	2:00pm	Girls' Indoor Soccer Final '14	3:00am	Capuano Spring Concert 2014	9:00pm	Boys' Middle School Basketball Finals 2018
8:00pm	SHS Graduation 2014	3:00pm	SHS Graduation 2014	8:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Ann [4.1.20]	10:00pm	Girls' Middle School Soccer Championships
10:00pm	Highlander Boys Basketball 2013-14	5:00pm	SHS Football 2008	9:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Meghan [4/15]	11:00pm	Boys' Middle School Soccer Championship
Friday, May 1		6:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Annmarie [4/17]	10:00am	Student of the Qtr. - Healey School	12:00am	Boys Intramural Basketball Championship
1:00am	Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14	7:00pm	SPL Storytime with Miss Ann [4.1.20]	10:30am	Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School	1:00am	Girls Intramural Basketball Championship
		8:00pm	SHS Football 2007	11:00am	Student of the Qtr. - ESCS	2:00am	Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals Finals

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

'Living Weapon'

by Rowan Ricardo Phillips

Weaponized

Review by Off the Shelf Correspondent Ed Meek

Living Weapon
By Rowan Ricardo Phillips
Farrar, Straus and Giroux
2020 – \$24.00.

Poetry is always the subject of the poem
— Rowan Ricardo Phillips

I had NPR on in the fall and I heard poem called *Violins* read by Rowan Ricardo Phillips. I loved the sound of it. Words are repeated and then rhymed and off-rhymed linking sounds and concepts and combining jarring images and language. The poem ends with a date: 1916 and it expresses a bold vision of the 20th century. It's the best poem in Phillips' new collection. It begins, "He never saw a violin. / But he saw a lifetime of violence." Right away Phillips makes this unlikely association of violins and violence – an apt comment on our current era of privilege and Black Lives Matter. He goes on:

This is not to presume
That if he had simply seen

A violin he would have seen
Less violence. Or that living among

Violins ... would have made the violence
Less crack and more cocaine ...

That is a cool phrase comparing the explosive effect of crack to the more sustained cocaine and perhaps making the statement that even if you inhabit the world of Harvard and Brown, if you are African-American, you may still be subject to violence, "why god oh why" Phillips says. He goes from there into a meta-comment on poetry, something he does throughout the book:

More of one thing
Doesn't rhyme with one thing.

A swill of stars doesn't rhyme
With star. A posse of poets doesn't rhyme

With poet. We are all in prison.
This is the brutal lesson of the twenty-first century.

Phillips then brings in the "fiddler" who watches us while we eat. Ironically, Trump posed as a fiddler recently.

So, there's a lot going on here. In this poem, Phillips seems to be embodying the "living weapon" who is striking out against injustice. If the "we" he refers to represents African-Americans, the claim that we are all in prison makes sense. For the rest of us, not so much. Although, as this pandemic goes on, it is really beginning to feel like house arrest. Throughout the book, Phillips makes a commentary on poetry, on what it is and what its role is. John Gardner in *The Art of Fiction* talks about the fictional dream and how if the author steps out of the story to talk about the story, as a lot of meta-fiction does, the author risks losing the audience. That happens often in *Living Weapon*. All poems make a comment on poetry without explicitly saying so. Whenever Phillips explicitly does so, I want him to just get back to the poem.

In *Living Weapon*, Phillips has a running commentary on history, myth and poetry, and how it bears on life in the present. He is an erudite poet and he likes to make reference to earlier poets, Wallace Stevens,

Elizabeth Bishop, Eliot, Donne, and all the way back to Homer. It isn't a big surprise to find out that he has a PhD in English Literature from Brown. This is his third book of poems. He has also written essays and translations. He has won many awards including the 2013 PEN/Osterweil Prize for Poetry, a Whiting Writer's Award, the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award. He's been a Guggenheim Fellow and he has taught at Harvard, Columbia, Princeton. He lives in NYC and Barcelona.

Here is Phillips talking to Orpheus in *The Testament of Orpheus*.

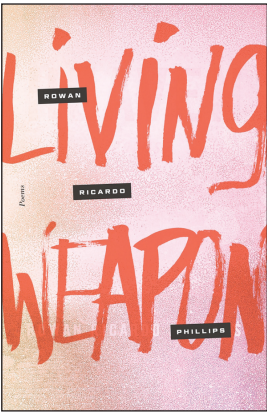
You start to tell me, then you simply tell me,
And as soon as you do you disappear
From the cab. It happened so quickly,
The turn. I remember you singing. Here
I am and my body is, my mind is
All labyrinth laired with trillium and word
And sun and moon and echo and I think
To keep going but shut the hell up, fold
Back into the cab, and close the door.
This is not about us. The drained sky meets
The drained moon in a compromise of dawn.
We are the morning's lingering lamplights
Mulling lullabies in our useless heads.
And love is the sun's power as it spreads.

Living Weapon is prefaced with a poem by Wallace Stevens that begins: "Far in the woods they sang their unreal songs / Secure." Phillips sees himself in the tradition of singing and poetry as song so the poem to Orpheus fits into that notion. The poem is, you may have noticed, a sonnet. Philips is comfortable using forms. He is at times eloquent: "labyrinth laired with trillium" and "morning's lingering lamplights" and "Mulling lullabies." And he's not afraid to make a statement about love; our heads may be useless these days, but love still has power.

It's a compelling package that Phillips brings to the table. He quotes Jessica Care Moore in the opening pages: "I ain't scared of none of this." The quote follows the poem by Wallace Stevens (one of the most cerebral of our poets) at the beginning of the book. Phillips attempts to combine a woke perspective with his vast knowledge of poetry from the past. In the final poem *Dark Matter*, Phillips is projecting into the future, speaking to a child in a crib: "That you asleep in your crib were a god / In the machine and that poem your father / wrote you was a fucking living weapon."

Language can be as Donne said, an "instrument," a "weapon." Can poetry play that role? Is Rowan Ricardo Phillips a warrior and his poetry a living weapon? He certainly has a few arrows in his quill.

Are there other poets who are living weapons? Lawrence Joseph maybe. Robert Bly back in the day. Alan Ginsberg in *Howl*. Writers of nonfiction like Naomi Klein, Bill McKibben, Ta Nehisi Coates. Rappers like Kendrick Lamar, Eminem, (and many others), activist Greta Thunberg. Because of the artificiality of our age, the simulacrum we inhabit, we search for authenticity in our artists. The artists and activists listed above all have it. It is highly valued in our culture. Lizzo, Cardi B., Beyonce, Drake, all have it. Jay Z once had it but he's now a long way from Bed Sty. Rowan Ricardo Phillips claims to have it but in doing so, he's entering Kanye territory. I'm not a fan.



Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Kaleigh Putnam is a senior from Connecticut attending Endicott College and pursuing a degree in Sport Management. A four-year member of the Women's Basketball Team she is currently finishing up her last year of classes. She is taking Creative Writing 101 to develop writing skills she hopes to take her into her career.



Golden Moment

The hours of the day start dwindling down
The sun starts setting
beginning the show for the day
Ready to paint a masterpiece
It descends behind the trees
The color of the sky changes
the further the sun drops
First is pink,
A deep fuchsia color
a calla lily
being draped over the sky
Next orange,
A warm color
like a marigold flower ready to bloom
Then red,
A deep and rich color
like a rose petal
Finally,
Comes one golden moment
A bright yellow gold
Glowing like a fire
Blazing across the sky

— Kaleigh Putnam

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

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Columbia | 7. May 4 |
| 2. Thomas | 8. Left |
| 3. May | 9. Shania Twain |
| 4. Maine | 10. Corn muffin |
| 5. The Police | 11. The African Queen |
| 6. Designing golf courses | 12. Pooky |


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