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The Somerville Times

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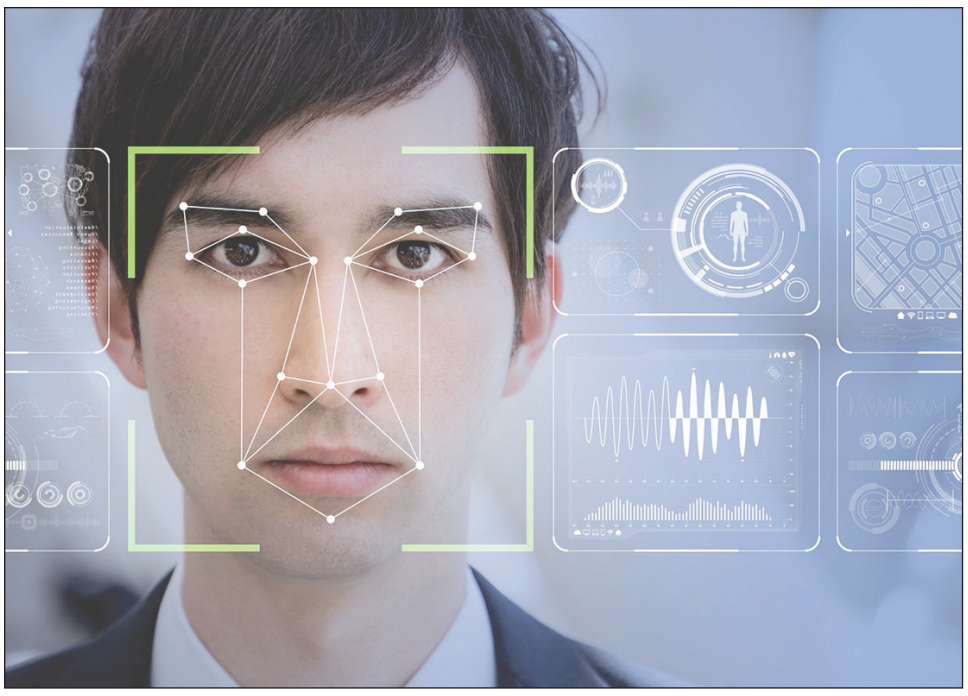

Facial recognition technology is being scrutinized and scorned by the members of the City of Somerville City council as an unwelcome addition to the community.

By Jim Clark

A proposed ordinance was put forward for consideration at the latest regular meeting of the Somerville City Council that would ban the use of facial recognition technology in the city.

While speaking in favor of the ordinance, Ward 3 Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen asked those present at the meeting, "Does anyone in Somerville think that it would be a good idea to pass a new law that would require everyone who lives here – any visitor passing through Somerville – to wear a permanent identification badge on their chest any time they go out in public? Walking your kids to school, going to Market Basket, HONKfest? And in addition to that, the information from all these identification badges would be going to a central database that is not really regulated, we don't exactly understand who has control over it Continued on page 4

The 13th Annual Somerville Youth Peace Conference telling the truth

By SC

The Lies We Live, The Truth We Tell, was the name of this year's Somerville Youth Peace Conference, where members of Teen Empowerment Somerville performed a show this past Saturday at the school with three different acts in which they tackled different issues that teenagers are facing nowadays. The performances mainly focused on mental health issues, teenage pregnancy, and drug addiction.

The show began at 6:00 p.m. and it started with Mayor Joseph Curtatone, who gave a speech about teen empowerment in which he mentioned how teenagers have been involved in changing policies, and helped to make Somerville a safer place for everybody in their community. He also said the pressures that teenagers face today are different from the ones older generations once faced.

Curtatone also said that teenagers today are brave and courageous, and we Continued on page 5

Teen Empowerment Somerville held its 13th Annual Somerville Youth Peace Conference last weekend at Somerville High School. — *Photo by Claudia Ferro*

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NEWSTALK

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

The Medford St. bridge, in Gilman Square behind Somerville High School (SHS), will close for construction starting **Friday, May 17**. The bridge is expected to remain closed through the spring of 2020. For the duration of this closure, all traffic will be detoured around the work zone via Pearl St. and McGrath Highway. Detour maps and directions for vehicular and pedestrian/bicycle traffic are available on www.mass.gov/GLX in the Bridge Closures section. To stay informed about construction, sign up to receive a weekly email outlining upcoming construction citywide at www.somervillema.gov/construction. Residents are also encouraged to enroll in the city's alert system at www.somervillema.gov/alerts to receive notifications prior to major detours or disruptive construction activity in their neighborhood. Anyone seeking assistance for an urgent Green Line construction-related matter should call the 24/7 GLX hotline at 1-855-GLX-INFO (459-4636) or email info@glxinfo.com. For additional information about the Green Line Extension project, including construction schedules, fact sheets, and the latest station designs, visit www.mass.gov/GLX.

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The Annual Special Olympics Event takes place **May 23** at **Trum Field**, 541 Broadway. Activities kick off at 9:00 a.m. and end at noon. Come out and enjoy the camaraderie while you cheer on and support our incredible special Olympic student-athletes. This is a free family event.

****

Celebrating their birthdays this week: Happy birthday to **Melissa Hurley**, who is celebrating this week. A nice person who is well known here in Somerville and by local unions. Happy birthday to our good friend who was born and raised here in Somerville, **Donald Chamberlain**. Happy birthday to **Caroline Shea Rosas**, who is also celebrating this week. Happy birthday to **Mark MacLeod**, who grew in East Somerville. Happy birthday to **Dennis Sullivan**, of the Berkeley Street Sullivans. Happy birthday to an old friend *Continued on page 11*

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Comments of the Week

Response to: *Councilman eyes $220K traffic mitigation fund, city wants to 'preserve' it*

LindaS says:

I completely agree with the Councilman on this issue. I live about two streets away and off of Lowell, and considering just how narrow that street is, it's a wonder someone hasn't gotten hurt or killed already, despite the speed limit being 25. Maxwell's Green is right there, along with the Community Path, so just about everyone travels that area all day long.

It's a disgrace that someone does have to either get hurt or killed before a safety issue is discussed, much less implemented. We are an old city trying to pretend we're a new one, and our streets are simply too narrow to allow for the amount of traffic we get every day, be it cars, bikes, or pedestrians (and maybe scooters in the future). We need to make sure that everyone can travel and move through this densely-populated city without having to worry for their safety.

But I guess Councilman Niedergang will just have to wait until there's a fatality before he gets his funding. Oh, well. Maybe if enough people get killed, there will be more room for the rest of us to move more freely, right?

Stuff and Nonsense says:

A perfect example of a solution looking for a problem. If you keep calling the streets 'dangerous' and 'deadly' and talk about how many people are getting killed all the time, some people will actually believe it. I drive on Lowell Street, and Albion Street almost every day. I can remember seeing one accident there in years. Neighbors told the city repeatedly that Maxwell's Green should not be built with an entrance/exit at the crest of a hill. Yet that's where I saw the accident. The city is bowing to the bicycle groups, because they're loud, rather than taking into consideration the elderly and the disabled of the city. I wouldn't mind if they made them ride safely, but if the streets are 'dangerous', they are what is making them so.

Taryn says:

As a resident of Lowell St in this area, I can assure you, I hear accidents at these intersections (primarily Lowell and Albion or Hudson) pretty regularly. First it's a loud bang and when I peak out the window, sure enough, it's another accident.

Additionally, the new traffic calming measures on Lowell St that were mentioned above certainly do not cover the entire length of Lowell St as was quoted. Maxwell's Green to Magoun Sq is only one half of Lowell St (excluding the length of one-way Lowell St south of Highland, which I think is less of a concern). The stretch in question is on the other side, from Maxwell's Green to Highland.

ritepride says:

The Alderman is correct. Money sitting there for eight years? The city has "planners" & "engineers" on the payroll. What are they doing? "Some" of the bke groups do go overboard with what they want. There are streets that are too small to have bike routes.

BMac says:

I can solve all this with out touching more than a few hundred dollars.
Make it one way for the whole length.
Make Cedar one way, in the other direction for the whole length.
Both are already one way for half the street, just continue it.
With out two way traffic there would be room to add a bike lane on the current two way parts.

John says:

Install stop signs and some blinking lights.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

Life in the VILLE by Jimmy Del Ponte

A busy weekend

What a weekend! PorchFest, Mothers's Day, Red Sox win, Bruins win! It was sure a busy couple of days and now it's back to earth.

My two sons' band and a pick up band with my friends and I played at the first PorchFest nine years ago in 2010. This year, more than 200 musical acts performed on porches and in driveways all over the city, on a weather perfect day. Too many to list but just about all and any performing musical configurations entertained thousands of people on Saturday.

Somerville has a history of turning out extremely talented people and Saturday reinforced that tradition in a big way. After taking the fam out for a pleasant Mother's Day lunch at Assembly Row, I drove from Central St. at Highland Ave. to my home near Davis Square. It's a ride I've done hundreds of times, but never like that. The usual 10-minute ride took me 40 minutes. All along the way I heard several musical acts on both sides of the street. I enjoyed it immensely. So much talent and so, so many people!

Most were drinking beverages out of open containers. Red Solo Cups were in abundance! But what impressed me the most was that everyone was enjoying themselves and acting civilly. Well, most were acting civilly.

I remember thinking back to when the cops would make us dump out our open containers of beer at the corner of Bay State and Kidder Aves or up at the top of Powder House Park where we hung around in our teens. Makes me think of that old cigarette commercial "you've come a long way baby!"

Even though I don't drink anymore I was a little jealous. I turned into my father for a minute. "You kids have it easy today! For crying out loud, when I was a kid we couldn't walk around with open cans of beer! We'd have to hide the booze under our coat or drink behind the school or down the tracks! Now you just walk around the streets in broad daylight drinking ya fancy shmancy craft beers and silly wine coolers!"

This year, I took the high road. Instead of staying home and guarding my yard against the revelers who turned the last few PorchFests into PeeFests, I planned on being away from my house to avoid any inebriated confrontations. Hey, you wanna pee in my yard and toss your empty tall Narragansett cans in my lilac bushes, God Bless! These days I have to choose my battles carefully. I wasn't about to waste a gorgeous spring afternoon on Pee Patrol.

I always said that the city should have placed a significant amount of Porto Potty's and extra trash receptacles around the Ville when they sponsor an activity like PorchFest. Actually, some host families did have some of the convenient outdoor lavs.

Back to the music. It's nice to see all the talent our rapidly growing community is producing. Back in the day, starting in the early 70's we had a little thing called Somerfest. They'd block off the streets and bands and music and theatre groups would perform outdoors – for pay! But there was no public drinking allowed. My bands played in front of each members' houses and we even played in front of my aunt's and grandmother's house.

Disgruntled neighbors took to social media to voice their gripes about the crowds and traffic jams that PorchFest created. I must be mellowing out in my old age because I only got slightly hot under the collar once. After my long ride home on Saturday, a group of young men ignored my friendly horn toot as they blocked my street 10 houses away from my house. When I stopped, and rolled down my window, a boisterous beer holding guy slurred, "What's the problem man?" I took a deep breath, swallowed my pride, remembered the serenity prayer and uttered through my clenched teeth, "I'm just trying to get home ... man!"

It's a shame that the city can allow PorchFest, Open Studios, Honk Fest etc., yet cancelled this year's Memorial Day parade. Well that's enough griping, I promise next week I'll get back to reminiscing and leave the politics to the "politicians."

Bank robbery reward doubled

The FBI Boston Violent Crimes Task Force and the Somerville Police Department are doubling its reward to $20,000 for information leading to the identification and arrest of a bank robber, who is believed to be armed and dangerous.

On Wednesday, May 1, at approximately 9:57 a.m., the unknown male subject entered Middlesex Federal Savings Bank, 1 College Ave., in Somerville, and allegedly committed an armed robbery.

The suspect wore a blue beanie, a dark glove on his left hand, and a hooded camouflage jacket featuring a Nike logo on the left side above his chest. He wore blue pants, black sneakers, and carried a black and red Under Armour backpack.

The suspect entered the bank holding a black Webley Revolver, Mark IV, fired one round into the ceiling and demanded money from the teller. After a uniformed Somerville police officer in the vicinity of Davis Square was alerted to a possible bank robbery in progress, the officer entered the bank and the suspect allegedly fired a round at the responding officer before fleeing the bank on foot.

The suspect is believed to be a light skinned male in his thirties. He is approximately 5'5" to 5'6" in height, weighs approximately 175 pounds, and has a medium build. The public is being asked to review video of the suspect at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lcGT8bHRs6Y. The FBI wanted poster can be downloaded at https://bankrobbers.fbi.gov/robbers-container/2019-05-01.0151747633.

"We're doubling the reward to $20,000 in an effort to generate new leads about the identity and whereabouts of the suspect," said Joseph R. Bonavolonta, Special Agent in Charge of the FBI Boston Division. "Given the clarity of the photos and video, we believe someone out there must know who this man is and we're asking them to contact us so that he can be apprehended before anyone gets hurt."

The FBI is offering a monetary reward of up to $20,000 for information leading to the identification and arrest of this individual. Anyone with information should call the FBI Boston Division's Violent Crimes Task Force at 857-386-2000. Tips can also be electronically submitted at tips.fbi.gov.

THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Sticking up for his buddy, all the way to jail

A Somerville Police officer responded to the Stop and Shop store at McGrath Highway last week on a report of a shoplifter from the previous evening who allegedly pulled a knife on an employee.

The officer met with store manager and was informed that at around 10:20 p.m. on May 8, a man, later identified as Paul Anderson, of Boston, came into the store and attempted to steal a bag of groceries.

A store employee confronted Anderson and was able to retrieve the items. A few minutes later, Anderson returned and selected several groceries items from the vestibule area.

When Anderson was approached by a member of the overnight staff, he reportedly displayed a knife and left the store with the stolen groceries.

The police officer reviewed the store surveillance video of the vestibule area, where Anderson was observed selecting several groceries before leaving the store.

At approximately 6:45 p.m., the officer, while in the area of the East Branch Somerville Library, observed Anderson, sitting on the wall outside the library. Next to Anderson on the wall, was a brown paper bag with what appeared to be an open container of alcohol in it. Anderson appeared to be the suspect from the video the officer had just watched about 15 minutes earlier.

The officer radioed in his location to dispatch, approached Anderson and asked for his name, which he provided.

The officer informed Anderson that he matched the description of a suspect from a shoplifting incident, and he stated that he was not the suspect.

Anderson then stood up, picked up his container of alcohol, and attempted to walk away from the officer, who informed him that he was not free to leave, at which time he reportedly became aggressive.

The officer ordered Anderson to stop, but he reportedly refused to comply. The officer placed Anderson into the escort position, and be began to struggle with.

At this point backup officers arrived on scene and Anderson was placed into handcuffs.

At the same time, another man ran from across the street, and approached within two feet of the arresting officer. The man, later identified as Shannon McKim, began yelling, "Why are you arresting him? This is America."

The officer ordered McKim to step away and informed him that he was interfering with a police investigation. McKim reportedly took one step back, but was still within arms-reach of the officer, who ordered McKim to step 10 feet back, but he refused to comply, continuing his verbal tirade.

According to reports, McKim then attempted to engage Anderson, saying, "Don't answer them. I want to know why you are arresting him. Don't worry, they are all going to lose their job."

The officer ordered McKim two more times to step back 10 feet, but he refused to do so.

The officer informed McKim that if he did not step back 10 feet he would be forced to arrest him. McKim reportedly shrugged and asked, "Is your job really worth it?"

The officer placed McKim under arrest, handcuffed him, and asked him to identify himself, but he reportedly refused to do so.

The prisoner transport unit arrived on scene, at which time the officer advised McKim that if he identified himself, he would release him and summons him to court instead. McKim again refused to identify himself.

McKim and Anderson were subsequently transported to the Somerville Police Department for booking. At the station, Anderson was booked in the usual manner. McKim initially refused to identify himself at the booking window, but he eventually identified himself.

Anderson was booked on charges of violation of city ordinance open container and armed robbery.

McKim was charged with miscellaneous common law violation.

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Namron Holder, of 81 Woods Ave., May 6, 8:53 a.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of armed robbery, kidnapping, armed assault in dwelling, and carrying a firearm without a license.

Mario Medeiros, of 35 Marshall St., May 7, 4:00 p.m., arrested at Mystic Ave. on a charge of shoplifting by concealing merchandise and on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended registration, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, no inspection sticker, and tire tread depth violation.

Shannon McKim, of 5 Lincoln St., May 9, 6:43 p.m., arrested at Broadway on a charge of miscellaneous common law violation.

Paul Anderson, of 471 Boylston St., Boston, May 9, 6:43 p.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of violation of city ordinance open container and armed robbery.

Graziano Mellone, May 10, 12:51 a.m., arrested at Memorial Rd. on warrant charges of felony daytime breaking and entering and assault and battery.

Jamialle Williams, of 319 Francis Ave., Mansfield, May 10, 5:26 p.m., arrested at Assembly Row on warrant charges of threat to commit a crime, false crime report, and evading a taxi fare.

Richard Greene, of 175 Cottage St., Chelsea, May 11, 10:40 p.m., arrested at Washington St. on warrant charges of speeding and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Richard Hughes, of 6686 Mass Ave., Boston, May 12, 5:52 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on charges of disorderly conduct, assault and battery, and violation of city ordinance open container.

City considers banning use of facial recognition technology

CONT. FROM PG 1

or under what circumstances they can access it. And also, these badges are not particularly accurate. There's like a high false positive rate and there are racial biases in them. They're more likely to misidentify women of color than white men. I don't think that would be a popular law for Somerville to pass, and that is exactly what facial recognition technology is."

Ewan-Campen went on to explain that the technology would allow the government to essentially track the identity of every person at any time with no transparent regulations or guardrails.

"Research has shown that existing technologies are not particularly accurate," Ewan-Campen said. "And in particular, are far less accurate with people with darker skin, and in particular women with darker skin."

Ewan-Campen mentioned the ACLU's facial recognition survey on the current House of Representatives using an algorithm that is actively being marketed by Amazon to law enforcement agencies. In the survey, the faces of members of Congress were mapped to a database of mugshots of people who have been accused of crimes, and 28 members of Congress were subsequently misidentified by the technology used. In fact, the errors were over-represented for people of color.

Ewan-Campen stated that he has been working on an overall policy to regulate surveillance technology with the Mayor's Office, the Police Department, and with the City Council, and that he looks forward to continuing that work. "But I really believe that facial recognition technology is in a class by itself and that the only thing that is appropriate to do at this time is to ban it altogether for usage by the City of Somerville and any of our agencies," he said.

The ordinance submitted was drafted in consultation with the ACLU, and Emiliano Falcon, who represents that organization as its the Technology and Civil Liberties Policy Counsel, was sponsored by Ewan-Campen to address the Council. Falcon stated in part:

"I am here to support the Ordinance introduced by Councilor Ewen-Campen. This Ordinance provides for a ban on the use of face surveillance by Somerville's government."

"Face surveillance is technology that allows the Government to identify, track, and catalogue people based on the unique physical characteristics of their faces. This software works by creating a unique "faceprint" of individuals based on pre-identified photos or set of photos. These 'faceprints' are collected and included in a database. This database is then used to search for matches and identify new and unknown faces captured by public video cameras or similar surveillance devices. Some companies are also selling so-called 'emotion detection' facial surveillance systems, which they claim can determine whether someone is happy, sad, honest, or deceitful."

Falcon identified three primary areas of concern regarding these technologies: the unregulated use of the technology, its intrinsic dangers, and civil rights and civil liberties.

"Today, Somerville has a unique opportunity," Falcon said. "Your city can become the first in the country to pump the brakes on the spread of this dangerous technology. The Ordinance presented by Councilor Ewen-Campen will protect the people of Somerville and free and open society in three key ways."

It was announced on Tuesday – days after this Council meeting – that the city of San Francisco passed its own ban on the technology.

The proposed ordinance referred to the Council's Legislative Matters Committee and the City Solicitors office for further review and recommendation.

The 13th Annual Somerville Youth Peace Conference telling the truth

CONT. FROM PG 1

can all learn from how students are fighting for issues like gun control and lack of diversity in politics.

Lastly, he said he is proud of how Somerville believes in their youth, as they have shown by pressing to lower the municipal voting age to 16.

In the first act, teenagers Oskervens Leneus, Mila Maia, Elie Billon, and Tyrell L. Lee began telling the story of how a couple of teens dealt with an unwanted pregnancy and how one of their friends dealt with his drug addiction.

The second act had students Melanie Mauniz, Oskervens Leneus and Ekaterina Hicks-Magana sing a song called *Everything You Need* that focused on the mixed feelings that come after a couple of teens break up, but also how to support friends who are going through difficult times when their parents do not support them.

After that, Smirline Jacques performed a poem, *The Hurt You Gave*, in which she shared her own story about how she was bullied and how unrealistic beauty standards affected her self-esteem. She also reminded everyone that bullying can start with one person, but that one person could also help end it, and that person could be any of us.

Another performance that left everyone speechless was given by Youdson Felix, who recited a poem in which he said that being black made him feel scared, as he feared that he could not control the way the world perceived him or treated him.

In the third act, there was a powerful performance by Jadrianis Vega, who recited a poem, Mujer Poderosa, that explained how strong immigrant Latina women are, due to the amount of hard work they had to endure in order to help their kids get an education.

Teachers, parents and friends were all proud of their loved ones who performed their original content on a stage, singing and acting out scenes that dealt with issues like racism, sexism and homophobia. They made it clear that it is not only teens that are struggling with these social problems, but in the political climate we live in we all are.

Go to www.thesomervilletimes.com for more photos

— Photos by Claudia Ferro

Beacon Hill Roll Call

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THE HOUSE AND SENATE: *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records local representatives' and senators' votes on roll calls from the week of May 6-10.

CON CON VOTES TO TAX MILLIONAIRES ANOTHER 4 PERCENT (H 86)

House and Senate held a constitutional convention and approved 156-37, (House approved 121-33, Senate approved 35-4), a proposed constitutional amendment that would allow a graduated income tax in Massachusetts and impose an additional 4 percent income tax, in addition to the current flat 5.1 percent one, on taxpayers' earnings of more than $1 million. Language in the amendment requires that "subject to appropriation" the revenue will go to fund quality public education, affordable public colleges and universities, and for the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges and public transportation.

The proposal is sponsored by Sen. Jason Lewis (D-Winchester) and Rep. James O'Day (D-West Boylston). In order to go on the ballot for voters to decide, it needs to twice have the votes of 101 of the 200 members of the House and Senate in the current 2019-2020 session and again in the 2021-2022 session. The earliest it could be on the ballot is in November 2022.

A similar effort by a group called the "Raise Up Coalition" to get the question on the 2018 ballot was derailed when it was ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Judicial Court which said the constitution prohibits placing more than one objective in a single proposed constitutional amendment that is sought by a citizens' group. The court's decision noted that the proposal imposed the tax and then stipulates how the money could be spent.

The current amendment is proposed by legislators rather than citizens and according to proponents, amendments proposed by legislators can have more than one objective and would not be ruled unconstitutional by the court.

There was no debate on the proposal and no amendments were considered despite efforts by GOP Minority Leader Brad Jones (R-North Reading) to propose one. Jones said that Senate President Karen Spilka, who presided over the convention was intent on gaveling through the proposal quickly and deflected his attempts to offer an amendment. Jones said his amendment would have required that revenue from the new tax be spent in addition to funds already directed toward education and transportation, and not simply replace those funds.

Jones was clearly unhappy with the procedure. "You know what it is?" Jones told the State House News Service. "You can quote me. It's b--------. That's what it is."

Senate President Karen Spilka said there will be debate and the opportunity to propose amendments when the proposal is debated again on June 12.

Supporters say the amendment will affect only 20,000 extremely wealthy individuals and will generate up to $2 billion annually in additional tax revenue. They argue that using the funds for education and for the repair and maintenance of roads, bridges and public transportation will benefit millions of Bay State taxpayers. They note the hike would help lower income families which are now paying a higher share of their income in taxes.

Opponents argue the new tax will result in the loss of 9,500 private sector jobs, $405 million annually in personal disposable income and some millionaires moving out of state. They say that the earmarking of the funds for specific projects is illegal and said all the funds will go into the General Fund and be up for grabs for anything.

"The new revenue that would be raised by the Fair Share Amendment would go a long way in helping to fix crumbling roads and bridges, improving service on the MBTA and other public transportation, increasing funding for public schools, expanding access to quality early childhood education, and making higher education more affordable for students and families," said Sen. Jason Lewis (D-Winchester), the Senate sponsor of the proposal. "It's also the best way to raise revenue that would make our tax system fairer and more progressive, rather than increasing taxes on middle class families who cannot afford to pay more. I'm pleased that the Legislature's action today moves the Fair Share Amendment one step closer to the ballot."

"The Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance (MFA) stands with the voters, who on five separate occasions voted against making Massachusetts a graduated income tax state, and with the state's highest court which recently rejected a similar scheme as unconstitutional," said Paul Craney, spokesman for the MFA. "Some lawmakers think history started in 2019, but this policy idea is the most rejected in the state's history. The answer should always be 'no,' when considering removing our constitutionally protected guarantees of equal taxation."

"Community, faith, and labor groups all across Massachusetts strongly support the Fair Share Amendment because it's the most fair, progressive and sustainable way to raise the major new revenue Massachusetts needs to invest in transportation and public education," said Andrew Farnitano, the spokesman for Raise Up Massachusetts. "We thank the Legislature for moving the Fair Share Amendment forward today."

"If there was ever any doubt that the Legislature would expedite the scheme to tax more, today's brief constitutional convention dispelled it," said Chip Ford, executive director of Citizens for Limited Taxation. "It took longer to call the convention to order than to actually vote on and advance the so-called 'Millionaire's Tax,'" Ford added. "A whopping billion dollars in excess revenue above last April's haul poured into state coffers just last month alone but that's still not enough for the 'spendoholics' on Beacon Hill. More never is."

(A "Yes" vote is for the additional 4 percent tax. A "No" vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Didn't Vote
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

$200 MILLION IN CHAPTER 90 FUNDING FOR LOCAL ROADS (H 69)

House 156-0, approved and sent to the Senate a bill authorizing $200 million in one-time funding for the maintenance and repair of local roads and bridges in cities and towns across the state. The package is a bond bill under which the funding would be borrowed by the state through the sale of bonds.

Other provisions include $200 million for rail improvements and $1.5 billion in bonding to allow for federal interstate repairs to advance. According to officials, 80 percent of the $1.5 billion would be reimbursed by the federal government.

Supporters said the $200 million would help cities and towns keep their roads and bridges safe and allow many vital municipal road projects to move forward.

No one voted against the bill but there are some legislators and city and town officials who say the $200 million that has been given for the past few years is insufficient. The Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) said it appreciates that the bill is moving forward because cities and towns maintain and repair 30,000 miles of local roads—that's 90 percent of the roadways in the Bay State.

However, for several years, the MMA has been seeking to increase the amount to $300 million. "The MMA's long-term goal is to work with the governor and Legislature on a shared strategy to increase Chapter 90 funding and provide a multi-year framework, so that cities and towns can improve the quality of our roadways and save taxpayer dollars," said MMA Executive Director Geoff Beckwith.

Transportation House chairman Bill Straus (D-Mattapoisett) said the current $200 million is sufficient when combined with other state programs to help cities' and towns' infrastructure including a $50 million small bridge repair.

"We have increased not just state spending, but the money we provide to municipalities in other ways," said Straus. "I don't agree that we've flatlined the expenditure. I just think we're striving to find additional ways, either through the bridge program which I would like to see expanded or as direct budget aid to municipalities for their road and bridge needs."

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

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Didn't Vote

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT LEGALIZING SPORTS BETTING – Anticipating that sports betting will soon come to the Bay State, the State House News Forum is holding a forum on Thursday, May 16 from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education Center at 10 Winter Place in Boston. A panel of experts will discuss the future of this new tax revenue source and the challenge it presents to current revenue sources like the Massachusetts State Lottery.

On Tuesday, May 28 and Wednesday, May 29, the Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies will hold hearings at the Statehouse on several bills to legalize sports gambling in the Bay State. The May 28 hearing is in Gardner Auditorium and is by invitation only. The May 29 hearing is in Room B-1 and is open to the public.

The U.S. Supreme Court's landmark decision in Murphy v. NCAA to overturn the federal ban on state-authorized sports betting has opened up the floodgates of sports betting in Massachusetts and across the country. Gov. Charlie Baker kicked things off in January when he filed a bill to legalize sports betting.

Some of the key players in government and industry at the forum will discuss the major considerations

Beacon Hill Roll Call

continued from page 6

Massachusetts will address as the legislation is considered on Beacon Hill.

Panelists include Cathy Judd-Stein, chair of the Massachusetts Gaming Commission; Michael Sweeney, executive director of the Massachusetts State Lottery Commission; Chip Tuttle, CEO of Sterling Suffolk Racecourse; and Sen. Eric Lesser and Rep. Ann-Margaret Ferrante, the co-chairs of the Legislature's Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

Admission is only $10 and open to the public. You can register at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-line-on-mass-sports-betting-tickets-60422015876

For more information, contact George Donnelly at gdonnelly@bostoneconomy.com

TAX SUGARY DRINKS (S 1709) – The Revenue Committee held a hearing on a bill that taxes sugary soft drinks which are currently exempt from the state's 6.25 percent sales tax.

Supporters say the tax would raise an estimated $368 million that the state would put to good use. They note the tax would discourage people from buying these drinks, help fight the obesity epidemic and stem the rising tide of obesity-related health issues including diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease.

Opponents say families are struggling financially and it is not the time for another tax increase promoted by the "food police." Some noted that many other things contribute to obesity including a sedentary lifestyle, lack of exercise and fast food consumption.

REDUCE SALES TAX FROM 6.25 PERCENT TO 5 PERCENT (H 3545) The Revenue Committee's hearing also included a bill reducing the sales tax from 6.25 percent to 5 percent

Supporters say this increased sales tax is hurting consumers and retail operations, especially those on the state's borders.

Opponents say the state cannot afford the estimated $1.25 billion loss of revenue and predicted that this cut would result in reductions to local aid, education, health care and human service programs.

NEW EXEMPTIONS FROM THE SALES TAX - Other bills on the Revenue Committee's agenda include exempting several purchases from the state's 6.25 percent sales tax including gun safes and trigger locks (S 1680); residential security systems (S 1658); all Energy Star products and hybrid and electric motor vehicles purchased on Earth Day (H 2571); and artisan products sold in a cultural district (H 2460).

MAKE "ROADRUNNER" THE OFFICIAL ROCK SONG OF MASSACHUSETTS (H 2739) – The Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight held a hearing on legislation making "Roadrunner" the official rock song of the commonwealth. Natick native Jonathan Richman led the group Modern Lovers who sang the tune as a 1970s ode to the joys of driving along Massachusetts' Route 128 late at night. The bill is sponsored by Rep. David Linsky (D-Natick).

"Roadrunner, roadrunner going faster miles an hour," begins the song. "Gonna drive to the Stop & Shop. With the radio on at night. And me in love with modern moonlight. Me in love with modern rock 'n' roll. Modern girls and modern rock 'n' roll. Don't feel so alone, got the radio on. Like the roadrunner."

"I can think of no better song to designate as the official rock song of the commonwealth," said Linsky. "'Roadrunner' embodies what it was like for my generation growing up in the Massachusetts of the 1970s and 1980s. The passionate and candid lyrics take the listener on a late-night car ride down Massachusetts Route 128, passing by several Bay State landmarks, including Stop & Shop, Howard Johnson's, Route 3 and the Mass Turnpike. 'Roadrunner' combines the liberation of youth on the open road with the sights and sounds of our beloved commonwealth."

The original backers of the campaign for "Roadrunner" were ex-legislators Bob Hedlund, now Mayor of Weymouth and Boston Mayor Marty Walsh. Hedlund explains that he first heard the song as a 15-year-old working at a local Hingham gas station in 1977. He immediately bonded with the song and years later, although concerned that people might think this is just another frivolous bill, decided to listen to his heart and filed the proposal in 2013.

Rep. Josh Cutler (D-Duxbury) and former Marshfield Rep. Jim Cantwell, filed a rival bill making the official state rock song the classic Boston-based Aerosmith rock ballad "Dream On" written by Stephen Tyler. Neither bill was getting traction in the Legislature and eventually Cutler and Cantwell decided to end the competition and support "Roadrunner."

"'Roadrunner' is a great Massachusetts rock song and Aerosmith is a classic Massachusetts rock band," said Cutler. "Since 'Dream On' is not specific to our state per se, we agreed, with sweet emotion, that it was time to come together and support 'Roadrunner.' We hope the bill passes this session and it's not the same old song and dance. As a final note, I'm thankful we've had this fun discussion and been able to focus attention on the rich musical tradition in the commonwealth."

"The song is a teenager's Paul Revere ride," Hedlund said. "The lyrics capture the perfect mood and vibe about everything that's great about rock 'n' roll. I am hopeful it will get through all the legislative hurdles this year and be signed by Gov. Baker."

QUOTABLE QUOTES ON THE SENATE'S $42.7 BILLION BUDGET

The Senate Committee on Ways and Means unveiled a $42.7 billion budget for fiscal year 2020.

"I am proud that my first budget as chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means is a fiscally balanced budget that fulfills our commitments and focuses on areas of fundamental importance to our commonwealth. By targeting investments in education, mental and behavioral health, workforce development, and economic opportunity, this budget is aligned with the Senate's commitment to ensure equity and access for all people." — *Sen. Mike Rodrigues (D-Westport)*

"The people of Massachusetts have long deferred dreams of bold improvements to education, transportation, and investments in programs that ensure all residents have the chance to succeed. While the Senate Ways and Means Committee does not propose any significant, new revenue, it does include some modest revenue initiatives that the governor proposed in his budget and the House did not include. Without significant, new revenue, the commonwealth will continue to put on hold any initiatives that require major investment." — *Marie-Frances Rivera, President of the Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center*

"We are happy to see that Senate Ways & Means has kept strategic increases to the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Conservation and Recreation Watershed as well as an increase to the Division of Ecological Restoration in Chair Rodrigues' first budget. It speaks to the importance that the Senate has placed on protecting public health, the environment and supporting our economy. We do hope to see the line-item for Department of Conservation and Recreation administration increase further as the budget process continues." — *Environmental League of Massachusetts President Elizabeth Henry's statement*

"We're pleased that the Senate budget makers are moving in the right direction on public education funding, both with increased state aid and with their commitment to providing more funding for low-income communities whose students have the greatest needs. Still, we recognize that students, especially students of color in low-income urban schools and students in rural communities, need more than this budget provides, and they need to see those increased investments this year. We need to build on this down payment by passing a comprehensive school finance overhaul that fully funds local schools this spring." — *Statement from Fund Our Future*

"We are pleased the Senate Ways and Means Committee extended MassHealth's authority to provide greater leverage in negotiating lower drug prices. The provisions allow MassHealth to refer high-cost drug manufacturers to the Health Policy Commission (HPC) if negotiations are unsuccessful, where the HPC could require manufacturers to submit disclosures and testify at public hearings to justify their prices. We commend the Senate for strengthening this proposal to make progress not only towards transparency but also accountability." — *Amy Rosenthal, Director of Health Care for All*

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 May 6-10, the House met for a total of five hours and 22 minutes while the Senate met for a total of eight hours and 21 minutes.

Mon. May 6	House 11:11 a.m. to 1:27 p.m. Senate 11:02 a.m. to 5:13 p.m.
Tues. May 7	No House session No Senate session
Wed. May 8	House 11:08 a.m. to 1:55 p.m. Senate 11:15 a.m. to 1:20 p.m.
Thurs. May 9	House 11:04 a.m. to 11:23 a.m. Senate 11:07 a.m. to 11:12 a.m.
Fri. May 10	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

One-month Somerville Community Path closure for upgrades

A section of the Somerville Community Path, from Buena Vista Rd. to Cameron Ave. behind the Davis Square T station, is expected to close on or around Monday, May 13, for the final phase of the Community Path Drainage & Retaining Wall Upgrades project. It's anticipated to reopen around mid-June.

All cyclists and pedestrians will be detoured for the duration of the closure. Eastbound cyclists can access Davis Square via Cameron Ave. and Holland St. or Massachusetts Ave. and Day St. Westbound cyclists can access Massachusetts Ave. via Meacham Rd. or Dover St. Pedestrians should use Meacham Rd. Detour maps are available at www.somervillema.gov/CommunityPathClosure.

The bulk of this project was completed last year, when crews upgraded the local drainage infrastructure and repaired a retaining wall to address recurring flooding and improve safety. During the closure this spring, five new trees will be planted, among other landscaping improvements, and this section of the path will be paved to its final condition.

To stay informed about construction, sign up to receive a weekly email outlining upcoming construction citywide atwww.somervillema.gov/construction. Residents are also encouraged to enroll in the City's alert system at www.somervillema.gov/alerts to ensure they're notified prior to major detours or disruptive construction activity in their neighborhood.

For the latest updates and additional information about the Community Path Drainage & Retaining Wall Upgrades project, please visitwww.somervillema.gov/CommunityPathClosure.

McGrath Boulevard community meeting

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and Ward 1, 2, and 3 City Councilors McLaughlin, Scott, and Ewen-Campen, invite you to a community meeting on plans to ground McGrath Boulevard. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 22, at the East Somerville Community School Auditorium, 50 Cross St.

The preliminary design phase of MassDOT's McGrath Boulevard Development Project is complete. It includes a corridor concept that would replace the Rte. 28 McCarthy Overpass with a boulevard at street level to support safer pedestrian and cycling routes as well as reconnect the Somerville neighborhoods separated by Route 28.

The conceptual design includes two lanes for automobile travel in each direction, wide sidewalks, and landscaping including a large number of trees as well as specialized lanes, signals, and intersection features for cyclists.

Although construction funding for the project will not be available until 2026, community participation during this planning phase is important for helping to ensure the community's goals for the corridor are realized.

City staff from the Transportation and Infrastructure Division, as well as MassDOT staff, will be on hand to provide a status update and answer questions. For more information, please visit contact transportation@somervillema.gov.

Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO

Grilled Zucchini, Zá atar and Pomegranate Molasses

While you're grilling chicken, fish or steak for your next meal, you may want to consider this side dish. It only takes a minute to prepare and is grilled for 5-6 minutes resulting in a nice smoky, charred flavor that is sure to go perfect with any grilled protein of your choice.

4 Medium Zucchini
2 Tablespoons Extra Virgin Olive Oil
2 Teaspoons Za'taar, plus additional for garnish
1/2 Teaspoon Kosher Salt
Pomegranate Molasses, enough to drizzle

Cut the zucchini lengthwise into halves. Then cut the halves into halves again. Place into a bowl and toss with the oil, Zá atar and salt. Grill for 5-6 minutes. Remove from grill and plate, adding additional Zá atar seasoning and drizzle the pomegranate molasses over the top. Serves 4.

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

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US2 Names Cranshaw Construction for early phase construction of its mixed-use development in Union Square

Union Square Station Associates ("US2") announced today that it has selected Cranshaw Construction of Newton, MA for early phase construction for the first phase of its $1.5 billion mixed-use transit-oriented development in Union Square known as USQ. Under terms of the contract, Cranshaw will begin providing constructability and estimating services for a significant portion of the D2 parcel consisting of a 450-unit residential building with ground floor retail, and new public open space adjacent the Union Square T Station.

"We are pleased to add Cranshaw Construction to our development as an experienced construction partner that has a proven track record of successfully completing a variety of complex, multi-use projects," said Greg Karczewski, President of Union Square Station Associates. "Cranshaw understands our vision to create a new destination for employers and a place for more people to work, live, enjoy, and discover while possessing a clear grasp of proactive approaches to project challenges."

Labor leaders applauded US2's choice as good for union workers.

"The strength of any project depends upon the skill and dedication of working men and women," said Thomas Flynn, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the New England Regional Council of Carpenters, which represents more than 28,000 commercial and residential carpenters throughout the region "We look forward to working closely with Cranshaw Construction and its subcontractors, to deliver a tremendous project in the City of Somerville, that all involved will be proud of."

"The revitalization of Union Square represents a critical opportunity for sustainable economic growth and significant local benefits. We believe the diversity and productivity of Local 103's men and women are assets to the city of Somerville! And we couldn't be more excited to get to work for USQ on this exciting project." said Lou Antonellis, Business Manager/Financial Secretary for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 103, Boston which was recently named as the fastest-growing IBEW affiliate in the USA.

The selection of Cranshaw Construction follows a recent announcement that Union Square Station Associates intends to enter into a joint venture partnership with Skanska USA for development of the life sciences and office building on block D2.1. The D2.1 lab building will include commercial office, lab and retail space close to the future Union Square Green Line station. It will also utilize union workers.

At full build-out, the 15.7-acre USQ project will include 2.4 million square feet of new life science, lab, office, residential and retail space that will support generating 5,300 new permanent jobs, along with more than 4,000 new construction jobs and will generate $11.3 million annually in new property tax revenue. The project will be comprised of 60 percent commercial and 40 percent residential development and will include over 2.5 acres of open space.

The City of Somerville has received significant support from local, state and federal partners in making the Union Square redevelopment possible including more than $16 million in state MassWorks Infrastructure grants and approximately $1 billion in federal funding for the Green Line Extension. The Green Line Extension will connect Union Square in less than ten minutes to the vibrant, Greater Boston economy. Additionally, the extension will create a new regional destination making Union Square an even better place for people to live and enjoy.

The City of Somerville selected US2 as the developer for the Union Square Revitalization Project in 2014. In December 2017, the Planning Board approved Union Square Station Associate's Coordinated Development Plan via a zoning Special Permit and the Board of Aldermen approved District Improvement Financing for $60 million in infrastructure improvements to the square, which are currently underway.

ABOUT UNION SQUARE STATION ASSOCIATES

Union Square Station Associates LLC is the Designated Master Developer working in partnership with the community, the Somerville Redevelopment Authority and the City of Somerville to realize the shared vision for Union Square's Revitalization. For more information, visit www.discoverUSQ.com.

ABOUT CRANSHAW CONSTRUCTION

Cranshaw Construction is a general contracting and construction management company with practical design and construction experience. Founded in 1983, the company has successfully completed over 20 million square feet of commercial space, totaling over $1 billion in the suburban Boston area in the last 32 years. For more information, visit www.cranshaw.com.

— Union Square Station Associates LLC

A conversation with East Somerville

East Somerville Main Streets in collaboration Somerville Media Center present A Conversation with East Somerville on Thursday, May 23 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Somerville Media Center's VOX POP at Assembly Row, a pop up community, arts and media space (somervillemedia.org/voxpop).

All are welcome to attend an evening of discussion about East Somerville.

From 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. there will be an opening mixer and community input session followed by a recorded panel discussion featuring business owners, city officials and East Somerville Main Streets.

They will be discussing what is happening in East Somerville including upcoming public events and programming, new public art work, what the local businesses are doing and more.

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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.*

Be Somerville

By Joseph A. Curtatone

A monthly look at ways to get involved with your city: Don't just live in Somerville, be Somerville!

Spring ResiStat Meetings

Each spring and fall we host a ResiStat meeting in each of Somerville's seven Wards. There are three ResiStat neighborhood meetings left in the spring season, so consider coming to one if you're interested in getting more involved in the community. Along with updates about things happening in your neighborhood, you can also hear about what's going on citywide, and talk with elected officials, City staff, and your neighbors. There is time before and after the meetings for one-on-one conversations as well. Each meeting runs from 6:30 to 8 p.m., but come at 6 for a social half hour and refreshments (including pizza). You can find out more about ResiStat at www.somervillema.gov/resistat. The three remaining meetings are:

- Thurs., May 16 – Ward 3, Somerville High School cafeteria, 81 Highland Ave.
- Tues., May 21 – Ward 1, East Somerville Community School auditorium, 50 Cross St.
- Thurs., May 30 – Ward 4, Healey School cafeteria, 5 Meacham St.

Powder House Blvd. Traffic Safety Plan & Bike Lanes Community Meeting, May 22

Join us for a discussion on the progress that has already been made on implementing the Powder House Blvd. Traffic Safety Plan and the beginning of a community conversation about bike lane options on the road. The community meeting will be on Wed., May 22, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., at the West Somerville Neighborhood School, 177 Powder House Blvd. The first portion of the meeting will be on the Safety Plan. The second portion will be on the bike lanes. Single lane bike lanes had been planned for the fall of 2019, but the idea of a two-lane, two-way bike path has also been suggested. Either option would be part of a "road diet," an effective approach to slowing traffic and increasing safety for all road users by narrowing the travel lanes. The two-lane, two-way plan would require eliminating parking on some sections of Powder House Blvd. You can see a copy of the Powder House Blvd. Traffic Safety Plan, which includes information on bike lane options, at www.somervillema.gov/powderhouseboulevard.

McGrath Boulevard Community Meeting, May 22

Find out more about plans to ground McGrath Boulevard at a community meeting on Wed., May 22, starting at 6:30 p.m., at the East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St. The preliminary design phase of MassDOT's McGrath Boulevard Development Project includes a plan that would replace the Rte. 28 McCarthy Overpass with a street level boulevard with two lanes for vehicle traffic in each direction, wide sidewalks, landscaping, and bicycling infrastructure. Funding for the project won't be available until 2026, but being involved in the process now will help ensure the process will deliver on the community's goals to increase safety and reknit the neighborhoods currently separated by the highway. City staff from the Transportation and Infrastructure Division as well as MassDOT staff will be at the meeting to provide a status update and answer questions. For more information, please contact transportation@somervillema.gov.

Community Preservation Act Funding Application Workshops, June 4 and 5

About $900,000 in Community Preservation Act (CPA) funding is available in the coming fiscal year from projects that preserve historic resources or expand or improve Somerville's parks and recreation space. If you're interested in proposing a project and requesting CPA money, you're encouraged to go to one of two upcoming information sessions to learn more about the application process. The meetings are being held on Tues., June 4, at 6:30 p.m. and Wed., June 5, at 1 p.m. Both sessions will be in the Central Library, 79 Highland Ave. To learn more about the CPA and get application materials, visit www.somervillema.gov/cpa. All CPA applications are due by Wed., June 10, at 4:30 p.m.

City Alerts

Get important City notifications for snow emergencies, construction, detours, and other public safety matters delivered to your phone (voice and text) and/or your email. Sign up for alerts at www.somervillema.gov/alerts.

City Newsletter

For weekly updates on city cultural and civic events, City services, job openings, and more, sign up for the City e-newsletter at www.somervillema.gov/newsletter.

City Calendar

Look up city events and meetings (as well as agendas and minutes) 24/7 on the City calendar at www.somervillema.gov.

The injustices of climate change

By James Healy

If a theme was to define climate change it would be injustice. This injustice can be seen on a global, nationwide and generational scale.

Take South Sudan, one of the world's newest nations, whose survival as a country is teetering on the edge due to climate change. The state, who recently sought independence from Sudan in 2011, is in the middle of Africa's largest refugee crisis since the Rwandan genocide. What began as an ethno-religious conflict, has been compounded by a major two-year drought in 2015 which has forced four million people to leave their homes, with two million of those seeking refuge in neighboring countries. South Sudan is seeing the harshest realities of climate change in spite of being one of the world's poorest nations with an annual carbon foot print one three-thousandth to that of the United States. The country is paying for the West's inability to act on climate change and the situation is set to worsen. Future rises in temperature are set to decimate crop yields. Such crops like sorghum, an essential grain for millions of Africans in terms of nutrition and income, is set to fall in production by 70 percent if increases in regional temperature continue as predicted. The future stability of South Sudan, and Africa on a whole, is hard to imagine with the destabilizing omnipresence of unmitigated climate change.

The U.S. is also not impervious to its own addiction to fossil fuels and the injustices of climate change. In 2018, California experienced the most destructive wildfire season in the state's history. These fires are getting more destructive as climate change is causing longer, drier and hotter wildfire seasons. The Camp Fire was the single most deadly and destructive of which, as the inferno took the lives of 86 people, destroyed 18,800 structures and incinerated 153,000 acres of land. The source of the Camp Fire has been traced to the power lines of Pacific Gas and Electric, who have also been named responsible for seventeen of the twenty-one major Northern Californian fires in 2017. Though, instead of being held responsible, PG&E and other utility companies lobbied the Californian legislature to offload the billions the company owed in damages onto consumers. They succeeded and Californians have to pay for the wildfire damages. Now, in a further egregious act of injustice, PG&E and others are looking to offload the damages for 2018 onto Californians again.

That finally brings me to generational injustice. Four weeks ago in this publication I began my piece by asking the reader to relate to the climate anxieties of young people and the potentially apocalyptic future which past generations have left them. While many older folk grapple with the facts of climate change and wrestle with appropriate solutions, for younger generations the facts are clear, the reality is alarming and the solution is obvious – a Green New Deal. This can be seen most clearly by the Youth Climate Strikes taking place throughout the U.S. and the world. The strikes, which have been taking place on Fridays, have seen hundreds of thousands of school goers skip class for the day to fight for their futures. I spoke to one of these school goers, Audrey Lin, who organized the May 3rd strike at the Massachusetts State House in Boston.

Audrey, a high school senior, got worried about climate change in her Earth Science class as a sophomore, "I really started making the connections between climate change in directly impacting and directly hurting human health." Inspired to tackle the issue she decided to get involved in climate activism and in June of 2018 she joined the Sunrise Movement's Boston Chapter.

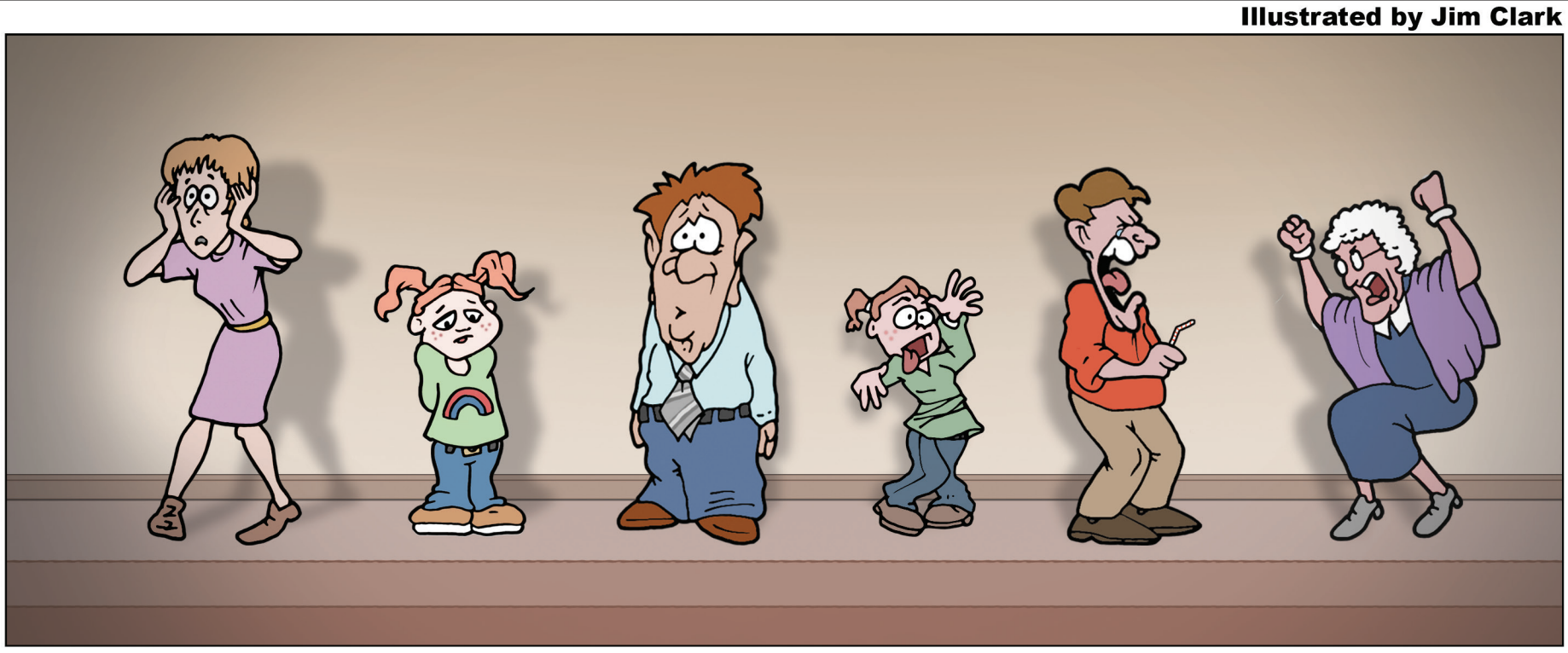
The Sunrise Movement have fervently worked to place the Green New Deal, a plan to decarbonize the entire country in a decade while creating millions of jobs, on the national stage. With the Green New Deal introduced as legislation by Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Sen. Ed Markey in February, the Sunrise Movement has made the legislation central to the country's discourse on climate change. When asked what a Green New Deal means for her, Audrey exclaimed, "A Green New Deal is really hopeful for me. I really think it's a promise that my generation will have access to a safe and livable future." In a somber summation of her reasons for not attending class and striking on Friday, Audrey said that she did not understand why she would continue on the conveyor belt of high school, and then college, and then to some career if her future wasn't secure.

It's hard to look past the injustice of young people having to sacrifice part of their education to rectify a situation not of their creation, but seeing the fearless drive and optimism of students like Audrey, I'm certain that the missteps of past generations will be overcome by these courageous young people.

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



The plastic straw withdrawals have already set in.

Our View Of The Times

Some things just take some getting used to. And we are such creatures of habit, aren't we? These two principles sometimes combine to create real dilemmas for many of us. Such is the case when it comes to accepting the ban on plastic straws which was recently passed by the City Council.

The new law hasn't even taken effect yet and already we're hearing grumblings of "there go the good old days" and "the nanny state is at it again." It seems a little extreme – and possibly selfish – considering the incontrovertible evidence at hand proving that plastics are doing great damage to the world's environment, not to mention the innocent wildlife that is being tormented and slowly killed off by the choking masses of synthetic debris spread hither and yon by the thoughtless practices of mankind.

Some of the scenes are truly heartbreaking, and enough to break the habits of the most stalwart deniers among us.

And let's face it, if this change really does make a difference - no matter how small in the greater scheme of things - then who are we to say we're unwilling to try going along with it?

Some of us remember the older types of straws made of paper, with a bit of wax coating to stiffen them up. Ah, those were the days. How did we fare when those were replaced by the new-fangled plastic ones? Did we refuse to accept them and make a fuss? Or did we survive the ordeal and live on to fight other battles? Courage.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

from Winter Hill, **Ed Palazzolo**. We wish him always the best. Happy birthday to local attorney and a real nice guy and smart guy, **Neil Berman**. We hope Neil has a great birthday. To another great local attorney, **Edwin Smith**, we wish him nothing but the best as well. A great guy, with a fun family and one of the best real estate attorneys here in Somerville. To those that are celebrating this week, and we didn't post, again we wish you the best of birthdays.

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Somerville High School is looking for 50 graduates from the **Class of 1969** to participate in this year's **Class Day festivities**. Class Day is a traditional celebration that honors graduates from 50 years past, this year's graduating class, and the rising freshmen and senior classes. If you would like to participate in the Class of 2019 Class Day activities, please email **Barbara Favaloro**, SHS Main Office, Head Clerk (bfavaloro@k12.somerville.ma.us), or call 617-625-6600 x6110. Class Day will take place on **Friday, May 31** beginning at 8:00 a.m. at **Somerville High School**.

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The Ryan Harrington Foundation hosts their **4th Annual Just One Run 5K** in memory of **James "PJ" Pefine**, on **Sunday, June 2**. The run begins at 10:00 a.m. and starts at the **Blessing of the Bay Boathouse** on Shore Drive in Somerville. The event includes a **Kids' Fun Run** as well as a **5K Run/Walk**. To learn how you can participate in and support this event, visit: http://www.ryanharringtonfoundation.org/just-one-run-in-memory-of-james-pj-pefine. For more information about the Ryan Harrington Foundation, visit www.ryanharringtonfoundation.org.

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A couple of weeks ago we mentioned the conditions at **City Hall** and wow, parking across the street you'll notice it even more so. Hopefully, we can get the city to do a great job on re-painting.

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Summer HONK 2019 and **Somerville String Fest** registration is now open. Students who want to continue making music over the summer can do so with Summer Honk 2019 and the Somerville String Fest. For more information and to register, visit www.somerville.k12.ma.us/summermusic.

****

A third **East Somerville Reunion** is set for this year. **Dan Rogovich** has let us know he is once again planning it. Lots of people who grew up in East Somerville have missed the last two but wanted to have a third. Thanks to Dan, who is an East Somerville lover, managed to get the **Somerville City Club** booked on **Saturday, June 15**. Dan and his assistants worked hard on the past two and they will do the same this year to make it a success. Many here at The Times are from East Somerville and we will be there, and we have already reached out to others. A small group of "down backers" behind the Bucket who grew up there in the 60's will all be there. They meet every four or so months to talk about old times and great times. Help make this a success. Go online to Facebook to check it out. Ask Dan what you can do to help. He is looking for the food, entertainment and just plain East Somerville fun.

****

The Somerville High Scholarship annual fundraiser is set for **May 17**, 7:00 p.m., at the **Somerville Lions Club**, 9 Washington St., Somerville (behind the Holiday Inn). The drawing, with a top prize of $10K, is based on selling 250 tickets at $100 each. Several door prizes will be awarding and refreshments will be served. To buy a ticket, contact SHS Raffle c/o **Joseph Favaloro**, PO Box 440275, Somerville, 02144, or call **Eugene C. Brune** at 617-628-5835.

****

The Somerville City Club manager Donny Johnson is looking all the time for new members to join the club, if you think you'd be interested give him a call at 617-623-9340. It's a great local club for the residents of Somerville, and has been around now for over 40 years, their location on Innerbelt Road. Plenty of parking and a very nice hall for rent, some say the best deal in Somerville. Call the hall and ask for details at 617-623-9340.

****

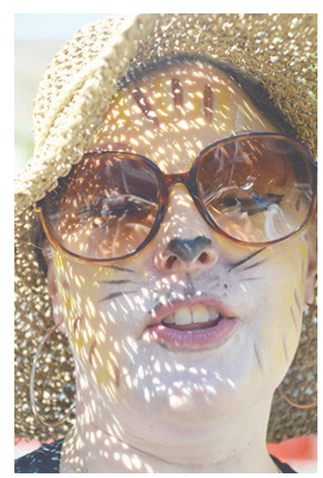
East Somerville Family Scavenger Hunt takes place this **Saturday, May 18**, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the **East Branch Library**, 115 Broadway. A family-friendly event, especially for elementary school kids and their guardians. Explore what makes our city tick and find urban artifacts identified by local artist/trainspotter **Daniel Fireside**. Solve the clues and earn fun prizes. The scavenger hunt will use manhole covers identified by local artists, plus other urban artifacts, to explore Somerville history and what makes our city tick. Designed for youth and their families. The event is part of **May Preservation Month**.

PorchFest 2019

More than 200 musical acts performed on porches – sometimes spilling into front yards and gardens – across Somerville on Saturday, May 11 as PorchFest 2019 unfolded across the city.

Almost every genre of music you've heard of (and a few you probably haven't) was played at this year's PorchFest, including gypsy punk, cosmic Americana and killer blues, Afrobeat, acid folk, and American space rock. There was even Porch-ioke where passersby could step up and belt out a tune with a band backing them up.

PorchFest originated in Ithaca, NY, in 2007. The first one in Somerville involved 75 acts that registered to perform in 2011.



Go to www.thesomervilletimes.com for more photos

Photos by Claudia Ferro

Blood donors needed now

The American Red Cross has a critical shortage of type O blood and urges eligible donors to give now to help patients facing trauma and other life-threatening situations. As a thank-you for helping replenish the blood supply, all donors who come to give blood or platelets now through June 10 will receive a $5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email.

Right now, the Red Cross has less than a two-day supply of type O blood available for emergency rooms, where it can be most critical. That means just six units of type O blood are available for every 100,000 people, but at least 14 are needed every day. While just 7% of the U.S. population has type O negative blood, it can be transfused to patients with any blood type and is what hospital staff reach for during emergencies when there isn't time to determine a patient's blood type. Type O positive blood is the most transfused blood type and is also critical in trauma situations.

"All blood types are urgently needed, but we're facing a critical shortage of type O blood – the blood group most needed by hospitals," said Cliff Numark, senior vice president, Red Cross Blood Services. "Because it's vitally important for hospitals to have type O blood available when every second counts, type O donors are urged to donate now and make a point to donate often."

The Red Cross collected approximately 11,500 fewer type O blood donations than needed to sustain a sufficient blood supply. Spring break schedules are known to decrease blood donations, and schools, including high schools and colleges, begin to host fewer blood drives in late spring as school years end. Because these drives account for about 20% of blood donations during the school year, less drives can also greatly affect the blood supply.

Donors of all blood types, especially type O, are urged to urged to make an appointment to donate using the Blood Donor App, at RedCrossBlood.org or by calling 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767). Eligible donors with type O blood are encouraged to make a whole blood or Power Red donation, where available. During a Power Red donation, donors give a concentrated dose of red blood cells during a single donation, allowing them to maximize their impact.

In thanks, all those who come to donate blood or platelets with the Red Cross through June 10 will receive a $5 Amazon.com Gift Card via email. (Restrictions apply; see amazon.com/gc-legal. More information and details are available at RedCrossBlood.org/Together.) Additionally, those who come to give May 24-28 will receive an exclusive Red Cross-branded T-shirt, while supplies last.

Upcoming blood donation opportunities in Somerville:
May 15: 2:00 - 7:00 p.m., Somerville Armory, 191 Highland Avenue
May 22: 1:00 - 6:00 p.m., AVA Somerville, 445 Artisan Way
May 30: 12:30 - 5:30 p.m., Triumvirate Environmental, 200 Inner Belt Road

Ms. Cam's Olio #679

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

1. How long has the Boston Bruins been in existence?
2. What was first facility to host the Boston Bruins?
3. Who is the current president of the Boston Bruins?
4. What hockey player was awarded the vanity license plate "MR HOCKEY" by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts?
5. What is a a bombilla?
6. What country is the world's largest coffee producer?
7. Where does the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival take place?
8. Who are the two founding fathers that are pictured on U.S. paper currency?
9. What character did Miley Cyrus play in the Disney series *Hannah Montana*?
10. What river flows through the Grand Canyon?
11. What musician has the birth name Reginald Kenneth Dwight?
12. What holiday is celebrated on July 14 in France?

Answers on page 17

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A community working together to support summer learning

The Somerville Education Foundation's (SEF) second annual summer learning campaign is in full swing. One of SEF's goals is to expand access for children and young people to local high-quality out-of-school-time programs in the city. In 2018, SEF raised and distributed $27,000 to enable community partners to provide additional scholarship spots to more than 100 Somerville young people. This year, SEF and the Somerville Chamber of Commerce have begun working together to operate an annual campaign and establish funding to support SEF's summer learning goal. SEF would like to further increase its funding support to these programs.

By middle school, students without access to quality afterschool and summer learning opportunities can suffer up to a 6,000-hour learning gap compared with peers enrolled in quality programs (ExpandED Schools, 2013). Quality summer programs offer young people the opportunity to forge positive relationships with adults and peers, and build social, cognitive, and practical skills. Healthy relationships form the foundation of social-emotional skills and the ability to function successfully throughout life—at home, in school, with family and friends, and as members of a community. (Crowley, Greenberg, & Jones, 2015)

Working together, the Somerville Education Foundation and Somerville Chamber of Commerce are leading the way in ensuring that Somerville youth have access to high-quality summer programs throughout the city. You can be part of this learning adventure by making a donation to the 2019 SEF campaign. Contributions can be sent to: Somerville Education Foundation, 17 Kidder Ave, Somerville, MA 02144 or you can pay online using the link in the Somerville Education Foundation's campaign letter. For more information, contact somervilleedfoundation@gmail.com.

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ADVERTISEMENT

The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Electrical Contractors for the Weston Manor Generator Replacement Project for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by NANGLE ENGINEERING INC.

The Project consists of: The removal of two (2) 50kW diesel generators that serve the buildings emergency loads and fire pump with a new exterior mounted 150kW diesel generator with sub-base tank, and new emergency power supply system.

The work is estimated to cost **$237,460.00**

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.l49 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

General bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) in the category of **Electrical** and must include a current DCAMM Prime Contractor Certificate of Eligibility and a signed DCAMM Prime Contractor Update Statement.

General Bids will be received until **2:00pm, Thursday, May 30, 2019** and publicly opened, forthwith.

All bids shall be submitted electronically online at www.Projectdog.com no later than the date and time specified above. Hard copy bids will not be accepted by the Awarding Authority. Tutorials, instructions and videos on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online as well as in the Instructions to Bidders. For assistance, call Projectdog, Inc at 978-499-9014 (M - F 8:30AM - 5PM).

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternates), and made payable to the Somerville Housing Authority.

Bid forms and contract documents will be available at www.Projectdog.com or for pick-up at: Projectdog, Inc, 18 Graf Road, Suite 8 Newburyport, MA 978-499-9014 (M - F 8:30AM - 5PM), on **Wednesday, May 15, 2019**.

Go to www.Projectdog.com and click Sign Up for free, or login with your existing account. Enter Project Code **831942** in the project locator box. Select "Acquire Documents" to download documents, review a hard copy at Projectdog's physical location, or request a free project CD.

There is a plan deposit of **$50.00** per set (maximum of 2 sets) payable to Projectdog, Inc.

Refundable deposits must be a certified or cashier's check. This deposit will be refunded for up to two sets for general bidders upon return of the sets in good condition within ten (10) days of receipt of general bids. Otherwise the deposit shall be the property of Projectdog, Inc.

Bidders requesting Contract Documents to be mailed to them shall include a separate check for **$35.00** per set, payable to Projectdog, Inc., to cover mail and handling costs.

Bidders must submit as part of their bid a completed form HUD-5369A, "Representations, Certifications, and Other Statements of Bidders".

The job site and/or existing building(s), at 15 Weston Avenue, will be available for inspection at **10:30am, on Thursday, May 23, 2019**.

The Contract Documents may be seen, but not removed at:

Construction Market Data 75 Second Avenue - Suite 320 Needham, MA 02194	F.W. Dodge - McGraw Hill 24 Hartwell Ave. Lexington, MA 02l74 (or closest regional F.W. Dodge Company)

For an appointment call **Brian Langton, Director of Modernization 617-625-1152**.

The Somerville Housing Authority reserves the right to waive any informalities in or to reject any and all bids, or to waive any informalities in the bidding. No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after approval of the award by the Dracut Housing Authority without written consent of the Somerville Housing Authority.

Joseph Macaluso, Executive Director
Somerville Housing Authority
May 15, 2019

5/8/19, 5/15/19 The Somerville Times

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA. 02141
(617) 768- 5800

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

MIDDLESEX Division **Docket No. MI19P2109EA**

Estate of :

Richard	Edwin Ian	McDonald
First Name	**Middle Name**	**Last Name**

Also Known As: _____

Date of Death: February 05, 2019

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of

Petitioner Kiki Chu of Somerville MA
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

[**x**] a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

[**x**] Kiki Chu of Somerville MA
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve
[ ] with [**x**] **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

5/15/19 The Somerville Times

NOTICE OF INITIAL PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLAN SITE MEETING
Conway Park
550 Somerville Avenue, Somerville, Massachusetts 02143
Release Tracking Number 3-34868

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. On May 21, 2018, the City of Somerville, Massachusetts received a petition from residents in Somerville requesting that this disposal site be designated a Public Involvement Plan site, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 21E §14(a) and 310 CMR 40.1404. As a result, a public meeting will be held at the **Somerville Public Safety Building** at 220 Washington Street in Somerville, Massachusetts on **May 29, 2019, at 6:30 PM** to present the draft Public Involvement Plan, to solicit public comment on the draft Public Involvement Plan, and to provide information about disposal site conditions. Copies of the draft Public Involvement Plan will be made available at the meeting.

Any questions regarding this meeting or the draft Public Involvement Plan should be directed to Vithal Deshpande, City of Somerville Environmental Coordinator - Office of Sustainability & Environment, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, Massachusetts, 02143, 617-625-6600 x5070, or send an email to vdeshpande@somervillema.gov.

The disposal site file can be can be viewed at MassDEP website using Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-34868 at http://public.dep.state.ma.us/SearchableSites2/Search.aspx or at MassDEP, 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887, 978-694-3320.

5/15/19 The Somerville Times

NOTICE OF PARTIAL TERMINATION OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION

Northern Portion of Lot 1A
Somerville, Massachusetts 02143
3-15887

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. On **May 2, 2019, Paradigm Direct Roland LLC recorded with the Middlesex County Registry of Deeds** a **PARTIAL TERMINATION** of a **NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION** on the disposal site, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.1080 through 40.1084. The **NOTICE OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION** was originally recorded and/or registered on **January 29, 1998** and amended on **April 9, 2002**.

Any person interested in obtaining additional information about the **NOTICE OF PARTIAL TERMINATION OF ACTIVITY AND USE LIMITATION** may contact **Andrew Eckhardt, Boston Environmental Corp., 203 Spark Street, Brockton, Massachusetts 02302, (508) 897-8021**.

The **Partial Termination of Activity and Use Limitation** and the disposal site file can be reviewed at MassDEP website using Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-15887 at https://eeaonline.eea.state.ma.us/portal#!/search/wastesite or at **MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office, 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington, Massachusetts 01887, (978) 694-3200**.

5/15/19 The Somerville Times

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court Department
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141

MIDDLESEX Division **Docket No. MI19D1291DR**

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

Martine Dreux vs. Henock Theodore

To Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party .**SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:
Martine Dreux
3 Maxwell's Green, Apartment 202
Somerville, MA 02144

your answer, if any on or before **06/07/2019**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, Hon. Maureen H Monks, First Justice of this Court.

Date: April 26, 2019.

Tara E. De Christofaro
Register of Probate

5/15/19 The Somerville Times

CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
8 BONAIR STREET
SOMERVILLE, MA 02145
BID #S2019-06

A The School Committee of the City of Somerville invites sealed bids for a 2019 fourteen (14) passenger activity vehicle for the Somerville School Department.

Every bid shall be submitted in accordance with the Specifications which may be obtained at the Finance Director, Somerville School Department, 8 Bonair Street, Somerville, MA 02145 on or after **May 13, 2019**.

All bids shall be filed no later than **2:00 p.m.** on **Tuesday, June 4, 2019** at the Office of the Finance Director, Somerville School Department, 8 Bonair Street, Somerville, MA 02145 at which time and place they shall be publicly opened and read aloud.

The School Committee of the City of Somerville reserves the right to reject any or all bids or any part or parts thereof, and to award the Contract or not to award the Contract, as the School Committee deems to be in the best interests of the City of Somerville School Department.

Francis Gorski
Finance Director
Somerville Public Schools

5/8/19, 5/15/19 The Somerville Times

CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
RFP #19-92

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department, invites sealed proposals for:

Appraisal Services on an As-Needed Basis

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department, invites proposals from qualified Massachusetts certified general real estate appraisers for property appraisal services, on an as-needed basis.

A request for proposals (RFP) may be obtained online at http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 beginning on **Wednesday May 15th, 2019**.

Sealed proposals will be received at the above office until: **1:00 PM, Wednesday, June 5th, 2019**. The Purchasing Director 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 tchukhatsang@somervillema.gov for more information and to register for the RFP package.

Thupten Chukhatsang
Procurement Analyst
617-625-6600 x. 3400

5/15/19 The Somerville Times

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Five tips for tactfully offering assistance to a loved one

By Carolynn Nagao Marcotte

Sometimes we see changes with older friends or family members that spark concerns. Wanting to help is entirely natural, but those good intentions can sometimes lead to disagreements, frustration, and arguments.

It is a common challenge: what is the best way to tactfully offer assistance? Having worked with many families to help unravel these kinds of issues, I will caution that each circumstance is unique, but the following tips might be helpful:

Recognize when it's reasonable to help

If you are feeling concerned, there is probably a reason, and it is usually a good idea to take a closer look. Common red flags include unpaid bills, missed medical appointments, or signs of memory loss. Changes in appearance can also be important: if the person was always very neat and their home is now cluttered or they appear unkempt, there could be an issue. Sudden weight change could indicate malnutrition. Be respectful, but don't assume everything is okay, just because it was in the past.

Discuss the concerns

So you have concerns. The next step is to discuss them. If you think it is a situation where they might eventually need some assistance, my advice is to have that conversation early and often. If you start the discussion before there's a crisis, it gives everyone more time to think about it. If you wait, the problem might become more difficult to address, and that might lead to more resistance.

Go in with realistic expectations

There is a good chance the older adult will not want to have that conversation and will shut it down. Be respectful. It probably will take more than one conversation, but if you keep bringing up concerns respectfully, it can get easier to address the problem.

Remember to keep it a discussion

The best way to have the conversation is to bring it up is naturally. If you come in saying, "we need to have a talk" and it is clear you have given it a lot of thought and made up your mind already, it can feel like you are imposing a course of action on somebody else. There is a much higher chance of resistance there. It is much better to bring it up as part of an open-ended conversation, where you are valuing their input as well.

A good way to do this is to start with a general conversation. Maybe you are talking to your mother and she tells you about a friend who recently transitioned to assisted living. That might be a good opportunity to ask questions and get an idea of what she envisions for herself. Conversations in that context can be much easier, and you can get an idea of what they want.

Call a professional

A professional opinion can often be helpful for these discussions. If there are health concerns, a primary care doctor might be able to offer helpful advice. If the concerns are more in-home and behavioral, your local elder services agency might be a good place to start; they have social workers who can assess the risk factors and help develop a plan of action.

In addition to benefiting from the professional advice, this can also help take the pressure off you, the person who has concerns.

Care resistance

It is fairly common for a family member to take the above steps, only to discover their loved one still doesn't want any help. Often this is the result of the two people coming at the question with differing goals.

Most of the time family members and professionals value health and safety, and extending life as long as possible, above all other factors. But older adults often prioritize autonomy and independence. They usually want to live in their home, with their current lifestyle, as long as possible.

This is why the discussion is so important. If you want to help, you need to listen and validate what they want. If you do that, there may be room for compromise where change is needed most.

Licensed social worker and former case manager for Adult Family Care Carolynn Nagao Marcotte.

Carolynn Nagao Marcotte is a licensed social worker and former case manager for Adult Family Care, a non-profit program at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services that supports in-home caregivers across the Greater Boston, North Shore, and Merrimack Valley areas. For more information, visit adultfamilycare.org or call 617-628-2601.

SHS seniors earn Northeastern Conference Student-Athlete honors

The Northeastern Conference has recognized Somerville High School seniors Robert McCarthy and Isabel Silva for their academic and athletic achievements over the past four years. Robert is a three-season athlete and has lettered in varsity cross country, football, and indoor and outdoor track and field. He captains both the indoor and outdoor track and field teams.

As a track and field student-athlete, he is an NEC All-Conference and has received the "Unsung Hero" and "Most Improved" awards. Robert is also a member of the school improvement council and is the Class of 2019 President. Dave Dickerson, the SHS Track and Field Coach, states that Robert's "relentless and dedicated pursuit of his dreams, academically and athletically, has been amazing to watch. He's the real deal and he's got both a personality and leadership that shine. Bobby worked hard to become an integral member of the SHS 4 x 200m relay squad that owns the NEC all-time record and placed as the top Massachusetts team at the National Scholastic Championships in March 2018." Robert will attend Harvard in the fall and plans to major in computer science.

Isabel Silva is a three-sport athlete and has earned varsity letters in volleyball, swimming, and softball. She also has served as the captain of all three programs. She is described by her coaches as a dependable leader with a phenomenal work ethic and limitless enthusiasm, and as someone who motivates her teammates to give their best, feel that they are important to the team, and reminds them that their group effort makes the entire team better.

A member of the National Honor Society, Isabel balances her co-curricular experiences and academics with an unwavering dedication and commitment. She serves as an officer of Best Buddies and of the senior class, and she also teaches Sunday School. Isabel will attend Northeastern University and intends to major in computer science and mathematics.

Kindergarten Transition Day

On Wednesday, May 22, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at schools across the district, parents/guardians and incoming kindergarten students will visit kindergarten classrooms, learn tips to prepare children for kindergarten and what to expect the first day of school, and meet kindergarten teachers and other parents/guardians of incoming students.

From on page 14

Ms. Cam's Olio Answers

1. Since 1924
2. Boston Arena – today's Matthews Arena
3. Cam Neely
4. Eddie Shore
5. A drinking straw, used to drink mate (caffeine-rich infused drink)
6. Brazil
7. Empire Polo Club in Indio, California
8. Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Hamilton
9. Miley Stewart
10. Colorado River
11. Elton John
12. Bastille Day

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Wednesday|May 15

East Branch Library
Preschool Story Time
11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.|115 Broadway

Davis Square Farmers Market
Farmers Market Fun!
12 p.m.-1:30 p.m.|Day & Herbert Streets

Central Library
Somerville High School Anime Club
2:45 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday|May 16

Central Library
Preschool Storytime for 3 to 5-year-olds
10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
TELL (Teen Library Leaders) Meeting
3:45 p.m.-5:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library
Night Owls Story Time
6:15 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

Saturday|May 18

Central Library
Somerville Pirate Meetup
10:30 a.m.-1:45 p.m.
Kids' Yoga with Janine
2 p.m.- 3 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Monday|May 20

Central Library
Sing Along with Jeremy
10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

Tuesday|May 21

Somerville Community Baptist Church
Preschool Storytime
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|31 College Ave.

Wednesday|May 22

East Branch Library
Preschool Story Time
11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.
A Garden Story Time!
3 p.m.-4 p.m.|115 Broadway

Central Library
Somerville Positive Forces
1 p.m.-3 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

MUSIC/ARTS

Wednesday|May 15

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Spring For Children benefit for The Mystic Learning Center! with fun raffles, buffet dinner, merriment, music by The Tom Hagerty Band - $20 donation
See you next week for poker!
6 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room:Americana Session with: Grain Thief|9 p.m.
Backroom: Jarlath Henderson|7:30 p.m.
Comedy Night with Arty P.|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's Pub
The A-Beez
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road
Bearly Dead – Wednesday Night Residency
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
The Blasters
Diablogato, Dead Trains, DJ Easy Ed
8:45 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Highland Kitchen
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Seth Warner & Susanne Gerry
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory
Red Cross Blood Drive
2 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Somerville Theatre
Bobcat Goldthwait & Dana Gould
8 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Thursday|May 16

Sally O'Brien's
Even Twice, Trusty Sidekick, Triple Thick - $10 cover
8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room:Americana Session with Matt Borrello, Mike Verge & Company |7 p.m.
Back Room: WUMB Presents: Jimmy Ryan & Hayride|7:30 p.m.
Scattershots|10 p.m.

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's
Krush Faktory(Dub Down)
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road
Chaco the band live in Union Square, Somerville!
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
156 Highland Ave

Union Tavern
Susan Cattaneo & The Big Loud Band - Special Guest Cosy Sheridan
8 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Adam Janjigian Quartet
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory
Castle of Comedy
8:30 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
Shit-faced Shakespeare®: Macbeth
7 p.m.|255 Elm St

Friday|May 17

Sally O'Brien's
David Johnston Band|6 p.m.
Big Giant, The Curtain Society, The Knock Ups - $10 cover|9pm
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room: Irish Session|9:30 p.m.
Backroom: An evening with Bill Janovitz and friends |7 p.m.
Rip Cord| 10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Once Somerville
Lemmyfest IV
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
DJ starting at 10 p.m.
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's
Hi-Fi Monk
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Joshua Tree
DJ McRiddleton
256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Casey's
Entertainment every Friday
173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road
Soulsha with special guests M'bolo, and Dis N Dat
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Union Tavern
Tender Beats live
7 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
The Gravel Project
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell
Shit-faced Shakespeare®: Macbeth
7 p.m.|255 Elm St

Saturday|May 18

Sally O'Brien's
One Thin Dime|6 p.m.
Lights Out, Newfane, Cold Expectations - $10 cover|9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room:Bluegrass Session|2 p.m.Hunter Americana|5 p.m.|Irish Session|2 p.m.
Back Room: Jeff Jam Family Dance Party|4 p.m.
The Band that Time Forgot|7p.m.
Spittin Vinnies|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Karaoke
65 Holland St

Bull McCabe's
Brad Goff Band
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Casey's
Entertainment every Saturday
173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road
Weird Phishes – Performing Radiohead's 'In Rainbows' in its entirety
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
Super Black Market Clash City Rockers plays London Calling and more!
9 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Union Tavern
Saturday May 18 : Boston New Music Showcase at Union Tavern
9 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory
Rick and Friends
10 a.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
Shit-faced Shakespeare®: Macbeth|7 p.m.
Let Me Break You Up: An Anti-Dating Game Show
9:30 p.m.|255 Elm St

Sunday|May 19

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Brunch! Roundtable Acoustic Series featuring The Eggmen|11 a.m.
The Natural Wonder|4:30 p.m.
African Night, SambaLolo and guests|10 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room: John Gannon & Friends|2 p.m., Alan Kaufman & Friends|6 p.m., Los Goutos|9 p.m.
Backroom: Don Stiffe|7:30 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub
Dub Apocalypse
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen
Sunday Brunch Live Country & Bluegrass
Sunday Night Live Music
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Game Night
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Thunder Road
379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Hillbilly Holiday
2 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Monday|May 20

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Shawn Carter's Cheapshots Comedy|7 p.m.
Marley Monday with The Duppy Conquerors reggae|10 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room: Bur-Run|6:45 p.m., Run, Helena Delaney & Friends|9:30 p.m.
Back Room: Stump Trivia|8:30 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub
Jimmy James Trivia|8:30 p.m.
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road
379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
Toddlerbilly Takeover
5 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Board Game Bonanza
6:30 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory
Queer Tango
6:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday|May 21

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Christian McNeill & Tim Gearan
8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room: Jason Anick & The Swingers|8:30 p.m.
Back Room: Marty O'Reilly and The Old Soul Orchestra|7 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub
Ghetto People Band
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen
First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling Bee Night
hosted by Victor and Nicole of Egoart.
The fun starts at 10:00p.m.
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

PJ Ryan's
Pub Quiz
10 p.m.|239 Holland St.|617-625-8200

Thunder Road
379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
Kontravoid, House of Harm and DJ Brian L
House of Harm
9 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co
Indie Trivia
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Wednesday|May 22

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Free Poker, lots of prizes!
8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room:Americana Session with: Grain Thief|9 p.m.
Backroom: Karen Casey: Two Shows|7:30 p.m.
Comedy Night with Arty P.|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's Pub
The A-Beez
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road
Bearly Dead – Wednesday Night Residency
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville
TV Dinner
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Highland Kitchen
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Fish House
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

CLASSES AND GROUPS

Wednesday|May 15

Central Library
Drop in Knitting and Needlecraft
12 p.m.-2 p.m.
Researching the History of Your House and Family
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday|May 16

Central Library
Friends of the Somerville Public Library Book Sale
6 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

First Church Somerville
Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor).
For more info call: 781-762-6629

Saturday|May 18

Union Square Farmers Market
9 a.m.- 1 p.m.|Union Square Plaza

Bagel Bards
Somerville Writers and Poets meet weekly to discuss their work
9 a.m.-12 p.m Au Bon Pain| 18-48 Holland St

Sunday|May 19

Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon Family Groups
7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street
Unity Church of God
Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement

Monday|May 20

East Branch Library
Chair Yoga!
10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

Central Library
Creative Drama Workshop with Laurie!
4 p.m.-5 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Tuesday|May 21

Central Library
SCORE - Business Counseling and Mentoring (Free)
10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Navigating the Landscape of Genetic Tests
7 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Somerville Media Center
Lunch and Learn Workshop with SMC
12 p.m.-2 p.m.|90 Union Square

Aeronaut Brewing Company
Books & Brews Book Club
6:15 p.m.-7:15 p.m.|14 Tyler St

Wednesday|May 22

Central Library
Drop in Knitting and Needlecraft
12 p.m.-2 p.m.
Public Meeting HUD Annual Action Plan
4:30 p.m.-6 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

CENTER LOCATIONS, TIMES & SCHEDULES

Holland Street Senior Center: located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square)
Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Fridays: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
617-625-6600, Ext. 2300

Cross Street Center: located at 165 Broadway (East Somerville)
Mondays & Tuesdays - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Thursdays - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
617-625-6600, Ext. 2335 Fax: 617-625-1414

Ralph and Jenny Center: located at 9 New Washington Street (behind the Holiday Inn)
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
617- 666-5223

Main Office: located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square.)
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
617-625-6600, Ext. 2300 Fax: 617-625-0688
TTY: 866-808-4851

UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteers needed for the Engage for Brain Health Study – Are you starting to have problems with your memory or have trouble climbing stairs? Engage B might be right for you! 24 week study for people 60 to 89 years of age. Call Chris at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email him at ckowaleski@Somervillema.gov for questions and additional information.

Fit-4-Life Nutrition Classes – Thursday afternoons from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. with our Nutritionist Caitlin McAfee. Learn about our new and upcoming nutrition programs including, Cooking with Caitlin, Fit-4-Life Nutrition Class, Meal in a Mug and more. For more information call Caitlin at 617-625-6600, ext. 2316.

Healthy Steps – Thursdays – Ralph & Jenny Center from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Healthy Steps is a therapeutic, gentle, movement class for anyone who needs to get moving, particularly anyone recovering from surgery, frail elders or those living with chronic fatigue or arthritis. Class is free. For additional information or questions to call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Monthly Book Club Selections – Meets the 3rd Friday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Country Western Line Dancing – The 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month- Holland Street Center. $3 per class – no experience needed. For additional information or questions call at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

The Preakness – Thursday, May 16 – Sunday, May 19th – Baltimore, Maryland - $719 / per person double $969 / per person single. Includes motor coach transportation, deluxe accommodations, reserved seating concourse level for the Preakness Stakes and more. For questions, additional information or to reserve your spot please call Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Charge Up your Charlie Card – Tuesday, May 21 – Holland Street from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Time to preload money onto your Charlie Card. Join the Social Workers when they walk to Davis Square T stop where they will help you load money onto your Charlie Card and show you how to use your card to enter the gate. Please RSVP to Josie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Dollar Days at the Movies – Tuesday, May 21 at the Somerville Theatre. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. movies starts at 12:00 p.m. $1 per person paid to the theatre. This month's movie is Love Simon. Refreshment stand open to make purchases on your own. If you require additional information, have any questions or want to reserve your spot please call Josie or Vivian at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Fiore's Restaurant – Wednesday, May 22 - $25 per person – check in time is 10:45 a.m. at Holland Street and 11:00 a.m. at Ralph & Jenny. Meal choices are Salmon, Lasagna or Chicken Parmesan. Question, need additional information or to reserve your spot please call Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

New York City – Saturday, Sunday and Monday, June 1, 2 and 3. Check in time is Saturday, June 1, at 6:45 a.m. at Ralph & Jenny with an approximate return time of 4:00 p.m. on Monday the 3rd. $315/pp double or $458/pp single. Package includes round trip motorcoach transportation, two nights deluxe accommodations, two hotel breakfasts and guided tour of NYC. For questions, additional information or to reserve your spot please call Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Revere Beach – Friday, June 7 from 8:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Transportation provide – lunch is on your own. $5 - If you have questions, need additional information or want to RSVP please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Mystery Trip – Monday, June 10 - $20 per person includes luxury air-conditioned motorcoach transportation, an activity and lunch. Lunch choices are chicken picatta, Tuscan steak tips or baked cod with cracker crust, chef's choice of potato, vegetable and dessert. Also includes coffee, tea, iced tea, lemonade and water. Don't delay this will sell out fast. Please call Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to join in the mystery.

Happy Wedding Anniversary – Tuesday, June 11 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Dilboy Post located at 371 Summer Street. Are you a married couple celebrating 50 years or more of marriage? Join us for a wonderful celebration. Couples celebrating 50 years or more are free! Friends and family are $15 per person. If you require additional information, have any questions or want to reserve your spot please call at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Finances 50+ Workshop – Thursday, June 13 from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. This workshop was designed to help you make and keep smart money habits. A light dinner to follow. If you require additional information, have any questions or want to reserve your spot please call Josie or Vivian at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Atlantic City Boys – Wednesday, September 18 at the Davensport Yacht Club. $69 per person includes transportation, lunch, show, taxes and gratuity. Meal choice of stuffed breast of chicken or baked scrod.Time to be determined.If you require additional information, have any questions or want to reserve your spot please call at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

LGBTQ EVENTS

LBT Women Fit-4-Life - Fitness Class is Thursday evenings starting at 6:00 P.M. $10 a month fee - scholarships available & it just might be covered under your insurance. We have available slots and would love to have you. If you have any questions or require additional info, please contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2315.

LGBTQ Monthy Lunch – 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. All are welcome to join. Call Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321 to sign up. Upcoming Dates: May 15 and June 19.

WEEKLY EXERCISE AND NUTRITION CLASS SCHEDULE (Please cut out and save)

Monday:

Keep Moving Walking Club** - 9:00 a.m. (H)
Tai Chi – 11:30 a.m. (H)
Fit-4-Life Group C - 1:00 p.m. (H)

Tuesday:

Strengthening - 9:00 a.m. (H)
$3 per class (H)
Fit-4-Life - 11:00 a.m. (C)
Bike Club – 12:15 p.m. (H)

Wednesdays:

Fit-4-Life Group A (exercise) - 9:00 a.m. (H)
Fit-4-Life Group B (nutrition) - 9 a.m. (H)
Fit-4-Life Group B (exercise) - 10:00 a.m. (H)
Fit-4-Life Group C (nutrition) - noon (H)
Fit-4-Life Group C (exercise) - 1:00 p.m. (H)
Zumba 4 All - 5:15 p.m. - $3/class (H)

Thursdays:

Yoga - 9:00 a.m. (H)
Fit-4-Life - 11:15 a.m. (C)
LBT Fit-4-Life, 6:00 p.m. (H)

Fridays:

Fit-4-Life Group A - 9:00 a.m. (H)
Fit-4-Life Group B - 10:00 a.m. (H)
Fit-4-Life Group A (nutrition) 10:00 a.m. (H)

Adventure Group – Please call for details

**All Fit-4-Life classes are $10 per month and require pre-registration*

HOLLAND STREET GROUP INFORMATION

Book Club – Meets the third Friday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This group self-facilitates. Group members choose both fiction and non-fiction titles on a quarterly basis. Books are available on reserve at the Central Branch of the Somerville Library. If interested please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

Caregiver Support Group – Meets the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Are you caring for a parent, relative, s pouse or close friend? Feeling isolated or overwhelmed? You are not alone! Come share your experience and practical support. Open to all and new members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

Conversations of the Heart – Meets bi-monthly on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:00 P.M. at our Holland Street Center. Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

Current Events Group – Meets every Thursday at 9:30 a.m. Our Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Join a group of your peers to discuss current events. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

De-cluttering support group - If you have concerns around your clutter, this group may be for you. This closed group meets both in spring and fall for 6-8 weeks. This group is co-facilitated by Natasha Naim and Marina Colonas. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

Low Vision Support Group – Meets the second Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Do you know someone who has trouble seeing? Do you have low vision? Join our Low Vision Support Group for educational and informative information and peer support in a confidential environment. Lunch and transportation may be available on request. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

Memory Café – Meets the second Thursday of every month from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Mt. Vernon. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. A welcoming place for people with forgetfulness and their family and friends to share a meal and create new memories. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

Mens Group – Meets the first Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This group is facilitated by our volunteer, Norbert DeAmato. Are you recently retired? Looking to connect with other men in the community? Join our men's group where you can connect with old friends and make new ones. All men 55 and over are welcome. If you are interested please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

CROSS STREET GROUP INFORMATION

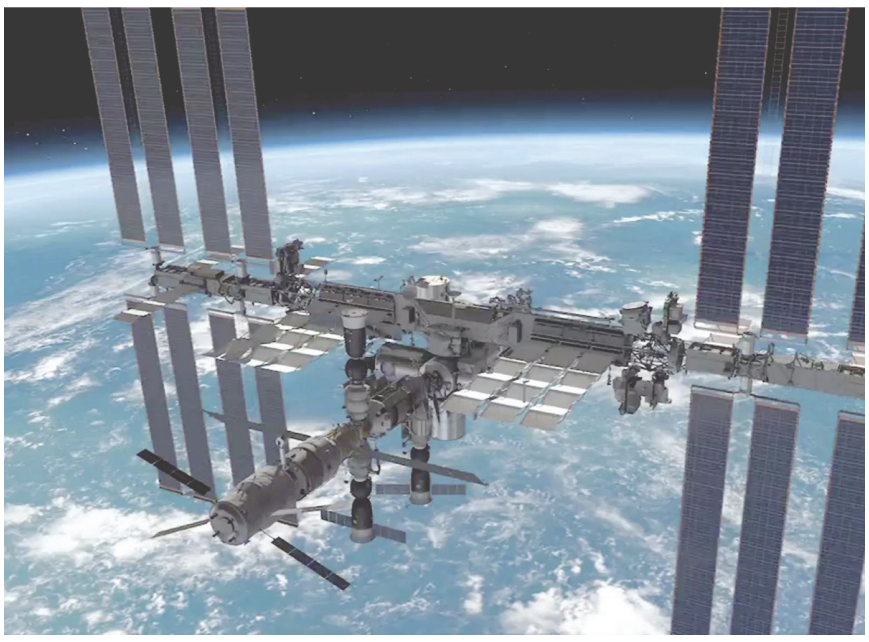
Coffee & Conversation – Meets every Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator and Sandy Francis, Cross Street Center Volunteer, work together to facilitate this group. Come meet people from all over the world and join in the discussion of a different topic every day. Conversation is followed by the Fit-4-Life exercise program and then lunch. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

Arts & Crafts – Meets the second and fourth Thursdays of each month starting January 11th - from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Join us in a relaxing atmosphere as we learn about a wide range of arts & crafts from weaving to watercolor pencils. Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator facilitates this group. Must call a week in advance if you plan on attending. This is necessary to ensure we have enough material for everyone. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

RALPH & JENNY GROUP INFORMATION

Knitting Blankets – Every Tuesday & Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Join us as we knit blankets for babies. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Judy at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300

Somerville schools eligible for JFK Space Labs



— Photo courtesy of ISS National Lab

Schools in Somerville can now apply for a JFK Space Lab presented by Raytheon. The Space Labs support experiments that utilize direct connections with and data from the International Space Station covering areas of Earth science, biology and computer science for middle and high school students.

Schools will be able to conduct their teacher-led JFK Space Lab in virtually any classroom or common area with an Internet connection, with training and maintenance support from the ISS National Lab. Students will even have the opportunity to compare the results of their JFK Space Lab experiments with real scientists and astronauts in space.

Applications for the JFK Space Lab grants are available at www.jfklibrary.org/jfk-space-labs and close May 31, 2019. All schools named after JFK are eligible to apply. More information on the program is available here.

— Photo courtesy of SSEP NCESSE

Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

By Bobbygeorge Potaris

I arrange my dinner plates by oldest to newest.
I am told that is a rare dish order.

Upcoming VOX POP events

Somerville Connects LIVE Podcast
Guests: Mayor Joe Curtatone and Samantha Sim, Orangetheory Fitness
Wednesday, May 15: 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Come be a part of the audience

VOX POP is excited to announce that the Somerville Connects LIVE Podcast series kicks off on Wednesday, May 15 at 5:00 p.m. with Mayor Joe Curtatone and at 5:30 p.m. with Samantha Sim from Orangetheory Fitness at Assembly Row at Assembly Square.

On the first and third Wednesday of the month from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., VOX POP will record a live studio audience interview with some of the movers and shakers of Assembly Row and greater Somerville as part of a SMC Podcast Show called *Somerville Connects* produced by Somerville native and SMC producer, JoJo LaRiccia. The *Somerville Connects* podcast brings Somerville to life by chronicling the unique personalities that shape the diverse city.

Classic Movie Night Series: Charlie Chaplin Marathon
May 16: 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Somerville Media Center presents a Throwback Classic Movie Series at VOX POP this Summer on the third Thursdays from May to August. Following each film, there will be a post-movie discussion led by film industry scholars, filmmakers and enthusiasts. Special shoutout to SMC member, Troy Minkowsky for organizing the post-film discussions.

Full Movie Schedule:

June 20: *Little Shop of Horrors* (1960) starring Jack Nicholson

July 18: *Superman* (1941) Cartoon Marathon

August 15: *Sherlock Jr.* (1924) starring Buster Keaton

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SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

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Wednesday, May 15

12:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am SCATV Community Bulletin Board
7:00am Esoteric Science
7:30am DW In Good Shape
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am DW Global 3000
9:30am Both Sides of the Bars
10:00am Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer
10:30am Somerville Storytellers
11:00am LIVE - Fallon's Daily Roast
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)
1:00pm Health is Wealth
1:30pm Art Seen at SMC
2:00pm Science 360
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm Speak Up! Somerville
4:30pm The Literati Scene
5:00pm Hello Neighbor
5:30pm Women2Women Today
6:00pm Speak Up! Somerville
6:30pm Off the Shelf
7:00pm Haitian Poetry in 3 Languages
8:00pm LIVE - Somerville Pundits
8:30pm Speak Up! Somerville
9:00pm Boston Come Through
10:00pm LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
11:00pm Flotilla

Thursday, May 16

12:00am SCATV Secret Stash
12:30am SCATV Secret Stash
1:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am SCATV Community Bulletin Board
7:00am Perils for Pedestrians
7:30am DW Focus on Europe
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am DW Tomorrow Today
9:30am Hello Neighbor
10:00am Legacies
10:30am Somerville Pundits
11:00am Teen Empowerment
11:30am Art & Ideas
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)
1:00pm The Somerville Line
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm Hello Neighbor!
4:30pm The Struggle
5:00pm Words on Film with Dan Burke
6:00pm Community Lens
6:30pm Somerville Pundits
7:00pm LIVE - The Boston Medium
8:00pm Startup TV Boston
9:00pm The Beantown Beatdown
10:00pm The Chatman Booth
10:30pm TUTV
11:00pm DIWHY The show

Friday, May 17

12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
1:00am SCATV Secret Stash
1:30am SCATV Secret Stash
2:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am SCATV Community Bulletin Board
7:00am The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am Esoteric Science
9:30am Cambridge Calendar
10:00am NASA TV
11:00am SOM ARTS
11:30am DW Tomorrow Today
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)
1:00pm The Yellow Jacket Lady
1:30pm Speak Up! Somerville
2:00pm The Kamla Show
2:30pm SMC Youth Media
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm Gay USA
5:00pm The Chatman Booth
5:30pm What's New Massachusetts?
6:00pm LIVE - Fallon's Daily Toast
7:00pm SOM ARTS
7:30pm Art Seen at SMC
8:00pm The Grandstanders
8:30pm Greater Somerville
9:00pm The Boston Medium
10:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
11:00pm Totally Working Out

Saturday, May 18

12:00am DIWHY The Show
1:00am Boston Come Through
2:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
3:00am Free Speech TV
5:00am Effort Pour Christ
6:00am SCATV Community Bulletin Board
7:00am Road to Recovery
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am SMC Youth Media
9:30am Somerville Storytellers
10:00am Dead Air Live
11:00am Haitian Poetry in 3 Languages
12:00pm TeleGalaxie
1:00pm Tele Magazine
2:00pm The Beantown Beatdown
3:00pm Democracy Now!
4:00pm New England Pride TV
4:30pm What's New Massachusetts?
5:00pm Reeling Review
5:30pm Both Sides of the Bars
6:00pm The World Fusion Show
6:30pm The Literati Scene
7:00pm Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer
7:30pm SOM ARTS
8:00pm Special SCATV Programming
8:30pm Henry Parker Presents
9:00pm Nossa Gente e Costumes
10:00pm DIWHY The Show
11:00pm SCATV Secret Stash
11:30pm TUTV

Sunday, May 19

12:00am Flotilla
1:00am SCATV Secret Stash
1:30am SCATV Secret Stash
2:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
3:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am Community Bulletin Board
7:00am Nossa Gentes e Costumes
8:00am Effort Pour Christ
9:00am Tele Kreyol
10:00am Evangelista Camillo Fodera
11:00am The Chef's Table Series
12:00pm Gentle Belly Dancing
1:00pm Off the Shelf
1:30pm DW Conflict Zone
2:00pm Startup TV Boston
3:00pm African Television Network
4:00pm Dedilhando a Saudade
5:00pm Gay USA
6:00pm The Grandstanders
6:30pm Teen Empowerment
7:00pm Cinema Somerville
8:30pm Somerville Neighborhood News
9:00pm Tele Magazine
10:00pm The Boston Medium
11:00pm Box House Productions Presents
11:30pm SCATV Secret Stash

Monday, May 20

12:00am Free Speech TV
5:00am Evangelista Camillo Fodera
6:00am Community Bulletin Board
7:00am Perils for Pedestrians
7:30am Going Postal
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am The Stephanie Miller Show
10:00am Both Sides of the Bars
10:30am SOM Arts
11:00am Art Seen at SMC
11:30am DW Conflict Zone
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)
1:00pm The Kamla Show
1:30pm DW Global 3000
2:00pm NASA TV Silicon Valley Live
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm DW Euromaxx
4:30pm Legacies
5:00pm TeleGalaxie
6:00pm Going Postal
6:30pm The Last Sip
7:00pm LIVE - The Yellow Jacket Lady
7:30pm Henry Parker Presents
8:00pm LIVE - Somerville Overcoming Addiction
9:00pm Dedillhando au Saudade
10:00pm Duck Village Stage Sessions
11:00pm Boston Come Through

Tuesday, May 21

12:00am Free Speech TV
6:00am Community Bulletin Board
7:00am DW Euromaxx
7:30am Esoteric Science
8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00am The Chef's Table Series
10:00am Road to Recovery
11:00am Graphic Content
11:30am DW In Good Shape
12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show
1:00pm Words on Film with Dan Burke
2:00pm Somerville Overcoming Addiction
3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm SMC Youth Media
4:30pm Henry Parker Presents
5:00pm LIVE - Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer
5:30pm What's New Massachusetts?
6:00pm Community Lens
6:30pm Art & Ideas
7:00pm Art Seen at SMC
7:30pm LIVE - Greater Somerville
8:00pm LIVE - Dead Air Live
9:00pm The Somerville Line
10:00pm TUTV
10:30pm Public Access Boyz
11:00pm Box House Productions Presents
11:30pm Ojo Rojo

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

Wednesday, May 15

10:00am Evolving Face of East Somerville Tour
11:30am Future Park at Powder House School
12:32pm Talking Business "Bow Market"
1:00pm CC-Land Use Committee
6:30pm Building a Narrative of Hope
8:00pm SomerViva en Español - April 2019
8:30pm White Nationalism Community Response
10:30pm Letters of World War II at Council on Aging

Thursday, May 16

12:00am Senior Circuit
12:30am Letters of World War II at Council on Aging
2:00am SomerVision 2040 - Development 101
3:08am Union Sq. Walking Tour
8:30am Fit-4-Life #6
9:00am SomerVision 2040 - Introduction
9:18am Prospect Hill Groundbreaking Ceremony
9:30am City Council Spotlight - Ben Ewen Campen
11:00am Future Park at Powder House School
12:02pm Senior Circuit
12:31pm SomerVision 2040 - Introduction
1:00pm School Committee Meeting - 5.13.19
4:00pm SomerViva em Português
6:00pm CC- Legislative Matters Committee

Friday, May 17

12:00am SomerVision 2040 - Introduction
12:18am Prospect Hill Groundbreaking Ceremony
12:30am City Council Meeting - 5.9.19
8:30am Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"
9:00am Building a Narrative of Hope
11:30am City Council Spotlight - Ben Ewen Campen
12:01pm Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"
12:30pm White Nationalism Community Response
2:30pm SomerViva en Español - April 2019
3:00pm Tuskegee Airmen
6:00pm Gilman Square Walking Tour - 5.13.18
7:06pm Talking Business "Bow Market"
8:00pm School Committee Meeting - 5.13.19

Saturday, May 18

12:00am City Council Meeting - 5.9.19
8:00am Fit-4-Life #6
8:30am Fit-4-Life #2
9:00am Future Park at Powder House School
11:00am White Nationalism Community Response
1:00pm CC-Land Use Committee
6:00pm Future Park at Powder House School - 5.6.19
8:00pm White Nationalism Community Response
10:00pm CC-Land Use Committee

Sunday, May 19

2:30am Proposed Sewer & Water Rates Hearing
8:00am Building a Narrative of Hope
10:00am White Nationalism Community Response
12:00pm Proposed Sewer & Water Rates Hearing
1:00pm Future Park at Powder House School
2:30pm CC-Legislative Matters Committee
7:00pm Proposed Sewer & Water Rates Hearing
8:30pm CC-Legislative Matters Committee

Monday, May 20

1:00am CC-Legislative Matters Committee
8:00am Proposed Sewer & Water Rates Hearing
9:00am West Branch Library Groundbreaking
10:00am Opioid Documentary Discussion Panel
11:00am SomerViva en Español - April 2019
12:00pm CC-Legislative Matters Committee
5:00pm Proposed Sewer & Water Rates Hearing
6:00pm West Branch Library Groundbreaking
7:00pm School Committee - LIVE

Tuesday, May 21

12:00am CC-Legislative Matters Committee
8:00am Building a Narrative of Hope
10:00am West Branch Library Groundbreaking
11:00am Proposed Sewer & Water Rates Hearing
12:00pm School Committee – 5.20
4:00pm CC-Legislative Matters Committee
9:00pm Building a Narrative of Hope
11:00pm West Branch Library Groundbreaking
12:00am Proposed Sewer & Water Rates Hearing
1:00am School Committee – 5.20

Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, May 15

9:00am All-City Middle School Spring Concert
10:00am SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem
11:30am Student of the Qtr. - Healey School
12:00pm SHS CTE Awards Night 2019 - 5.8.19
2:00pm Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School
2:30pm Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School
3:00pm Student of the Qtr. - ESCS
4:00pm Student of the Qtr. - Brown School
4:30pm Student of the Qtr. - WSNS
5:00pm All-City Middle School Spring Concert
6:00pm SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem
7:30pm Student of the Qtr. - Healey School
8:00pm SHS CTE Awards Night 2019 - 5.8.19
10:00pm Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School
10:30pm Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School
11:00pm Student of the Qtr. - ESCS

Thursday, May 16

12:00am SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem
1:30am SHS Baseball vs Medford
9:00am SHS Baseball vs Medford
11:00am SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem
12:30pm Spring String Fling
1:00pm All-City Middle School Spring Concert
1:55pm Future Park at Powder House School
3:00pm SHS Spring Concert
4:28pm Student of the Qtr. - ESCS
5:00pm SHS Baseball vs Medford
7:00pm SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem
8:30pm Spring String Fling
9:00pm All-City Middle School Spring Concert
9:55pm Future Park at Powder House School - 5.6.19
11:00pm SHS Spring Concert

Friday, May 17

12:28am Student of the Qtr. - ESCS
1:00am SHS Highlander Boys' Basketball 2018-19
1:30am SHS Highlander Girls' Basketball 2018-19
9:00am Future Park at Powder House School - 5.6.19
10:30am SHS CTE Awards Night 2019 - 5.8.19
12:30pm SHS Baseball vs Medford
2:30pm SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem
4:00pm All-City Middle School Spring Concert
5:00pm Future Park at Powder House School - 5.6.19
6:30pm SHS CTE Awards Night 2019 - 5.8.19
8:30pm SHS Baseball vs Medford
10:30pm SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem

Saturday, May 18

12:00am All-City Middle School Spring Concert
1:00am Public Domain Theater
9:00am SHS CTE Awards Night 2019 - 5.8.19
11:00am All-City Middle School Spring Concert
12:00pm SHS Spring Concert
1:30pm HIGHLANDER FOOTBALL 2018
2:00pm Future Park at Powder House School - 5.6.19
3:05pm SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem
3:30pm Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School
4:00pm SHS CTE Awards Night 2019 - 5.8.19
6:00pm All-City Middle School Spring Concert
7:00pm SHS Spring Concert
8:30pm HIGHLANDER FOOTBALL 2018
9:00pm Future Park at Powder House School - 5.6.19
10:05pm SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem

Sunday, May 19

12:00am Future Park at Powder House School - 5.6.19
1:05am SHS Baseball vs Medford
3:00am Chris Herren Speaks to SHS
9:00am SHS Highlander Boys' Basketball 2018-19
9:30am SHS Highlander Girls' Basketball 2018-19
10:00am Highlander Football 2018
10:30am Spring String Fling
11:00am All-City Middle School Spring Concert
12:00pm SHS Spring Concert
1:30pm Future Park at Powder House School
3:00pm SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem
5:00pm SHS Highlander Boys' Basketball 2018-19
5:30pm SHS Highlander Girls' Basketball 2018-19
6:00pm Highlander Football 2018
6:30pm Spring String Fling
7:00pm All-City Middle School Spring Concert
8:00pm SHS Spring Concert
9:30pm Future Park at Powder House School - 5.6.19
11:00pm SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem

Monday, May 20

12:30am SHS Baseball vs Medford
8:00am SHS Baseball vs Medford
10:00am SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem
11:30am Spring String Fling
12:00pm All-City Middle School Spring Concert
12:55pm Future Park at Powder House School
2:00pm SHS Spring Concert
3:28pm Student of the Qtr. - ESCS
4:00pm SHS Baseball vs Medford
6:00pm SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem
7:30pm Spring String Fling
8:00pm All-City Middle School Spring Concert
8:55pm Future Park at Powder House School
10:00pm SHS Spring Concert

Tuesday, May 21

12:00am HIGHLANDER FOOTBALL 2018
9:00am HIGHLANDER FOOTBALL 2018
10:00am All-City Middle School Spring Concert
11:00am SHS CTE Awards Night 2019 - 5.8.19
1:00pm SHS Baseball vs Medford
3:00pm SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem
5:00pm HIGHLANDER FOOTBALL 2018
6:00pm All-City Middle School Spring Concert
7:00pm SHS CTE Awards Night 2019 - 5.8.19
9:00pm SHS Baseball vs Medford
11:00pm SHS Boys Volleyball vs Salem

Wednesday, May 22

12:30am HIGHLANDER FOOTBALL 2018
1:00am All-City Middle School Spring Concert

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Lyrical SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Ann Murphy Fletcher started writing and publishing in 1994. During that time, she has published many poems in such journals as *Yankee, The Christian Science Monitor, Georgia Journal, Providence Magazine, Psychopoetica, The Lucid Stone, Ibbetson St. Press, Parnassus, Pegasus, Negative Capability* and many more. She has published articles in the on-line magazine *Better After Fifty* and several in local newspapers especially the Waltham/Newton Tribune. She also has published six short stories and is getting ready to launch a blog about weight loss and maintaining it.

SUBURBAN ANGST

I was in a divey dream
The other night
Drinking Cosmopolitans
With Rhianna and
I knew it was a dream
Because I never drink
Pink drinks when
I'm driving and
I was smoking
Smelly Cuban cigars
Though I lobby against
Tobacco liars and
My legs were not crossed
At the knee corners
And my hair
Was spiked with
Common adjectives
And I was as pierced
As Kabul but it
Felt like Amsterdam
And the leather stools
Had melted into
Biker pants
As slippery as
Shelled pistachios and
I woke up hung over
Well past suburbia
The beat of city heat
Sending me back
To a sweaty sleep
Where a Harley Davidson
Crashed into my Toyota
And I awoke bone jangled

— *Ann Murphy Fletcher*

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

Doug Holder's literary magazine *Ibbetson Street* was recently featured in former U.S. Poet Laureate Ted Kosser's column *American Life in Poetry*.

'Mudança'

Poems by Kevin Cutrer

Mudança
Poems by Kevin Cutrer
Dos Madres Press Inc., Loveland, Ohio
www.dosmadres.com
ISBN: 978-1-948017-31-2
35 Pages

Review by Off the Shelf correspondent Dennis Daly

Never underestimate the power of exuberance. Never, never underestimate the creative power of love's exuberance. Local poet Kevin Cutrer's new book *Mudança* sings a melody of love like nothing I've heard in years. Can this be the return of courtly love? The poet's words radiate authenticity as they reel through an emotional cross-cultural ether. Art, metrics, all of it fade into the distant background as Cutrer pulses out his evanescent, barely containable, joy.

Mispronunciations and other verbal missteps made by Cutrer's persona in the opening poem, *To the Woman for Whom He Is Learning Portuguese*, become gentle love tokens as the poet woos and assures his lover that she is indeed his muse. Hilarity and amorous self-deprecation rule as the poem begins,

You must write about me. I'm your Moose!

O Moose, sing to me of the man who ordered pizza
by asking the waitress for a spanking, extra cheese.
The man who said, when introduced to your mother,
I am so pleased to meet you… Carrot.

Those are garlic bulbs that were my eyes.
The cheap dictionary turns roach faster
than you can say Gregor Samsa, scurries off,
and with it any hope of telling the barber not to short.

Cutrer, like all true lovers, considers separation from his lover anathema. His world also shrinks into the original garden, where he as Adam and his lover as Eve reign again as the center of the animate world. In the poem entitled *Sepatos*, Cutrer laments the loneliness, even if temporary, which often plagues new-found love,

I can't help feeling like some article
you didn't need and didn't pack,
like this pair of sneakers you abandoned
to the cold tiles of the bedroom floor.
At least they make one pair. I'm only one.
What will you wear on your bakery walk,
your morning quest for pao doce?
Will I have the appetite to breakfast alone?
I sit on the edge of our bed staring
at the blue canvas, the laces gray
with street dust, and my slouch deepens.
I touch the laces and say sapos,
my apprentice tongue transforming shoes
into toads, and off they hop…

With love comes magic. Cutrer, given a mango by his beloved, discovers its inherent enchantment. His lover as a child would race her sisters to the mango tree, then climb to its heights in an effort to win nature's succulent prize. The poet succumbs to his muse and imagines it in this charming way,

I see you perched on a branch
the marmosets fled in fright of you,
gloating as you hold your trophy aloft,
Stone-hearted tear larger than a heart,
And your sisters grunt their way toward you.
With a shining blade you trim off
whirligigs of mango peels
letting them drop…drop…your eyes falling
after them, past Eva, past Alba, landing
on roots that spill like the tresses of a witch's
head of hair, root twining over root,
sprawled on the earth like
petrified fire.

Perfect love songs say nothing. They simply tag an internal, searing need to available words that provide life-enhancing rhythms. Those rhythms can convey insuppressible joy or unendurable sadness. In his wonderfully written poem entitled *Yes*, Cutrer does both. He takes his reader from the rarified freedom of physical health through the flickering whispers of sedentary illness. Or from timelessness to a ticking clock. Here are a few of the poet's more joyous lines,

Something in me said say yes,
say yes, and so I said yes, yes, let's dance.
On the floor you giggled at what I called
my moves and kissed me for pity's sake.

Can I see you again? Yes. Move in with me? Yes.

Yes to Brazil and the dilatory days.
Yes to Boston and the deciduous years.
Yes to anywhere and anywhen with you.

A lover often adores items associated with his beloved. Cutrer praises his Brazilian lady by lauding her birth county's currency. Each detail seems in bas relief. Each color nourishes a new beginning. He marvels at the wonders provided to him in compensation for his simple teaching chores,

And like a stall in the ark each bill houses
a subject of the animal kingdom.
A macaw peers with piratical eye.
A jaguar drapes her arm across a branch.

Sea turtles soar in a blue bay, frayed
in the interchange from hand to hand,
folded three-fold upon itself and stuffed
into a man's shirt pocket, showing through the white.

I earn my weekly menagerie
preaching the verb to be.

Mudança, a Brazilian word for change and this collection's title poem, chronicles love's transformative powers. Cutrer conjures up grade-school embarrassments and subsequent long-standing fears. Typical stuff but, nevertheless, traumatic. An early attempt at dancing takes a disastrous turn. Even his school teacher shows distain. Ouch! But all of this is a setup to showcase love's exhilarating intervention,

…You ask
if I like to dance. Something in me
says say yes, say yes. So, I say yes.
It is all happening now
all in one moment
my first disastrous dance
our last I cannot see
in whatever catastrophe
awaits us to part us
some other where in time
I try not dare not think
but how can I not when
I awake and wake you
kiss the dark spot
on your finger one
more time one more turn
in the dance we began
that evening in Somerville…

Yes, dear readers, there are still troubadours among us. Cutrer, with this short, lovely collection, confirms it.

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Recent Single Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:

MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72464929	22 Berkeley St	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath	4	$989,000	$1,200,000
72458151	59 Boston St	10 room, 5 bed, 1f 1h bath	6	$995,000	$1,095,000
72465041	11R Sanborn Ave	9 room, 5 bed, 3f 0h bath	13	$1,095,000	$1,105,000
72466629	48 Elm St	7 room, 4 bed, 2f 0h bath	3	$1,099,000	$1,065,000
72471192	26 Hawthorne St	6 room, 3 bed, 1f 0h bath	15	$1,200,000	$1,200,000

Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:

MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72454357	9 Adelaide	U:2 6 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath	52	$1,049,900	$1,030,000
72455433	8 Appleton Street	U:2 5 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath	45	$1,075,000	$1,092,000
72445619	42 Bow St	U:2 6 room, 3 bed, 3f 0h bath	29	$1,149,900	$1,130,000
72454395	9 Adelaide	U:1 7 room, 3 bed, 3f 0h bath	29	$1,199,000	$1,130,000
72450182	352 Highland Ave	U:3 7 room, 4 bed, 3f 0h bath	20	$1,295,000	$1,260,000
72455438	8 Appleton Street	U:1 7 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath	46	$1,395,000	$1,390,000
72429941	22 White Street Place	U:1 7 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath	86	$1,459,000	$1,365,000
72455053	225 Morrison Avenue	U:2258 room, 4 bed, 3f 1h bath	7	$1,485,000	$1,730,000

Recent Multi-Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:

MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72457936	35 Parkdale St	2 unit, 11 total rooms, 5 total bedrooms	11	$1,100,000	$1,058,000
72407031	15-17 Burnham St	2 unit, 13 total rooms, 5 total bedrooms	14	$1,100,000	$1,050,000
72451743	57 Putnam St	2 unit, 10 total rooms, 4 total bedrooms	16	$1,175,000	$1,175,000
72468503	24 Hall Ave	3 unit, 17 total rooms, 9 total bedrooms	22	$2,099,000	$2,050,000
72441527	46 South Street	6 unit, 23 total rooms, 11 total bedrooms	28	$2,400,000	$2,250,000
72431653	657-659 Somerville Ave	10 unit, 44 total rooms, 14 total bedrooms	88	$5,500,000	$4,850,000
72483651	2-8 Broadway	24 unit, 99 total rooms, 99 total bedrooms	157	$13,500,000	$12,000,000