

Somerville's original independent newspaper

The Somerville Times

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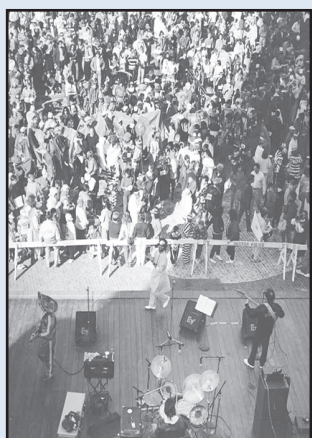


VOL. 9 NO. 20

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2021

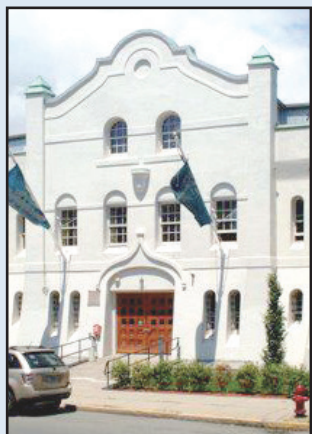
TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



Three times so good!

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Acquiring the people's Armory

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MassDOT postpones safety improvements to McGrath Highway



Members of the Somerville City Council have expressed impatience with the slow pace of progress in making safety improvements to MacGrath Highway pedestrian areas.

— Photo by Bobbie Toner

By Joe Creason

The regular City Council Meeting held on May 13 began with a moment of silence. The remembrance was for a couple Navy veterans and long-time Somerville residents, who passed away before many felt it was their time to go.

Richard Daily Sr., age 94, was a husband and a father who leaves a legacy of 14 great grandchildren. Along with serving in the United States Navy during World War Two, he was a retired long-time employee of the school supply company J L Hammet.

Marshall Mac, age 72, served in the South Vietnamese Navy during the war in Vietnam. After being forced to spend time as a prisoner of war, Mac sought to escape the country with his family by boat. Though he had navigation skills as a seaman, Mac and his family were attacked by pirates who robbed them

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New underground artwork at Sacramento Street pedestrian tunnel

By Jessica Sisavath

The Somerville Arts Council (SAC) debuts a new mural at Sacramento Street by local artists. The Council contacted local artist Hector Sanchez to search for local graffiti artists to help paint a mural at Sacramento Street's pedestrian tunnel.

Justin Diaz used color, inspiration, and expression on one side of the tunnel and Brett Cullen's used unity and peace as inspiration for the other side of the tunnel. The two selected artists brought old school hip style in combination with some influence from the local graffiti of the 80s. Additionally, they were influenced by the tunnel's history of being known as a graffiti wall from the late 90s and 2000s, hoping to invigorate the tunnel's history.

The SAC and the local artists' goal was to create inspiration for young artists in the area, hopefully becoming an ongoing project to keep the underground art in the tunnel a collaborative art space for viewing.

Continued on page 11



Local artists Juan Diaz and Brett Cullen recently created new artwork at the Sacramento Street pedestrian tunnel.

— Photos by Jessica Sisavath



IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE

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








Join a town hall meeting on **Tuesday, May 25**, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., to discuss plans to establish a **supervised consumption site (SCS)** in Somerville. At the meeting you can learn more about how SCS work, see data from a recently conducted needs assessment and evaluation, and ask questions of city officials and public health experts. The meeting will be hosted on Zoom, and there will also be an option to call into the meeting from a phone. Visit somervillema.gov/virtualtownhall at the start time of the meeting to join live or get call-in information. The **Somerville Public Schools** will also send meeting information via their alert system to all student families and conduct additional multilingual outreach via the **School’s Somerville Family Learning Collaborative**. Call-in information will also be available on the day of each meeting on City Cable TV and the Educational Channel (channels 13 and 15 on RCN, channels 15 and 22 on Comcast) or by calling 311. You can submit feedback and questions about information presented at the meeting online at <http://bit.ly/SCSComments>. The comment form will be left open until Friday, June 11.

The **City of Somerville’s annual Water System Flushing Program** began the week of May 17 and will conclude in late October. This annual program flushes pipes at high velocities to clean water mains and maintain the highest possible water quality. Flushing will be done on **Mondays and Thursdays between 6:00 p.m. and midnight** to minimize disruptions to water service. In most cases, residents will not notice any changes to their water service. However, some homes may experience a temporary, slight drop in water pressure and/or discolored water. In these cases, though the water may be discolored, it is safe to drink. Until the water runs clear, it is advisable to avoid washing laundry, especially white fabrics. If any rust stains appear on wet laundry, it should not be dried, and residents can call 311 (or 617-666-3311 from cell phones or outside the city) for a free bottle of rust remover. Residents will be notified via signage when their neighborhood will be

Continued on page 7

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of May 19 – May 25 as provided by the National Weather Service

| DAY | CONDITIONS | HIGH/LOW | PRECIPITATION | HUMIDITY | WIND |
|--|---------------|----------|---------------|----------|------------|
|  Wednesday May 19 | Partly Cloudy | 80°/58° | 1% | 1% | NNE 8 mph |
|  Thursday May 20 | Partly Cloudy | 81°/59° | 6% | 2% | ENE 10 mph |
|  Friday May 21 | Partly Cloudy | 79°/63° | 14% | 7% | W 10 mph |
|  Saturday May 22 | Partly Cloudy | 88°/67° | 55% | 19% | WNW 12 mph |
|  Sunday May 23 | Partly Cloudy | 81°/65° | 22% | 6% | NW 10 mph |
|  Monday May 24 | Partly Cloudy | 82°/63° | 10% | 4% | W 11 mph |
|  Tuesday May 25 | Partly Cloudy | 75°/59° | 23% | 11% | WNW 13 mph |

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: City moves to acquire Somerville Armory Building

joe says:

Eminent domain... on what basis? Looks like another example of the city completely ignoring that property rights are a thing.
Either the city should arrange a mutually agreeable price with the owner or it should move on if the owner just doesn't want to sell / has other plans for the building. There is no reason that this particular spot needs to be a community arts center.

Response to: Somerville petitions for domestic partnership benefits

Peter Blaikie says:

Good Luck with changing from the GIC. It is an enormous and expensive undertaking that requires planning years before the exit can happen. Then you need healthcare insurers to be sent request for proposals (Bids) and the last time we considered it Blue Cross wanted a 30-40% over our current plan costs and many insurers chose to not even bid for Somerville due to usage statistics and the cost of insuring an older workforce like Somerville. I have been involved from the beginning when we were forced into the GIC (through law changes by Deval Patrick) that gave the Teacher's Union and some School affiliated unions the leverage to give the Mayor what HE WANTED. Unless you appease that crowd their will be no change. Friend's with Benefit's does NOT include Medical & Dental Insurance.

Response to: Ooh that smell!

joe says:

nice article jim

Retired SPD says:

Jimmy: I'm on assignment the other day and I see this guy with a cane and I can't mention his name. However he was a notorious B and E kid from the pearl street area. Part of his notoriety was that kemp's nuts payed him TO NOT BREAK INTO THE KEMPS BUILDING. Which he broke into many many times. When they payed him the break-in stopped. Another Somerville character.

Response to: Tova Speter and her chain of empathy

Hair Extensions says:

Love the Hope poetry too!

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times

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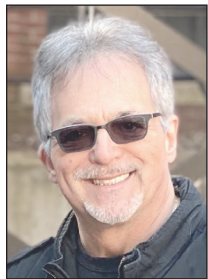
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Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

So good, so good, so good!



I usually write about the old days of Somerville in one shape or form. It's pretty simple because I can delve into actual proven history which is chronicled. Plus, I was usually there. It's rare for me to get a scoop, or an inside tip on a cool story. Well, the following is a hum dinger! I may have found the source of how and when the three extra "so goods" became part of the iconic Neil Diamond song *Sweet Caroline*.

The main subject of this tale, musician/ front man Pat Benti, has been a friend and musical associate of mine for decades. He's also performed with many other Somerville musicians and has professional and personal relationships with countless superstars. Here's more about the man who says he started the extra "so goods" in *Sweet Caroline*.



Pat Benti has performed in most of the former popular Somerville nightclubs in their heyday, such as The Surrey Room (behind The Rosebud) and Johnny D's. Pat and his band Sha-Boom, were the last live band that played at Winter Hill's legendary Pal Joey's. I had to take a longer look at the man who claims he is responsible for altering and adding to one of the most popular tunes in the American songbook.

Pat Benti, (Pasquale Bentivegna) from East Boston, was the leader of the band Sha-Boom, a very popular Boston band in the '70's and 80's. Pat and Sha-Boom opened for The Righteous Brothers and Roy Orbison to name a few. They also had a long run of warming up the huge Oldies 103 Concert Series audiences. They performed Celtic Pride Day, June, 10, 1986. (see color crowd photo)

2021 marks Pat's 50th year in the music business and he wanted to share this very special story about how he believes he started the popular "so good, so good, so good," in *Sweet Caroline*.

I conducted a few interviews and got Pat's lifelong friend Mike Capozzi, who was there, to share his recollection of the Pat Benti/*Sweet Caroline* connection.

"Back in the late 80's, the city of Boston ran an event during Halloween season called the Monster Dash. This was a road race in which individuals and or teams



dressed in costume and ran a race on the city streets. People would gather at City Hall Plaza at the end of the race to be entertained by Pat Benti and his Sha-Boom band, performing at a platform in the plaza. During the performance, the band got around to playing Neil Diamond's hit single *Sweet Caroline*. In the Benti version, Pat got the crowd into it with the "so good, so good, so good" refrain. As far as I know, this refrain was a brainstorm of Benti's, as I had never heard any other band perform the song in this manner.

Years later, during the 2003 season of the Boston Red Sox, and under their still new ownership, I attended a late season game. During the break between the top half and bottom of the eighth inning, the music played over the loud speaker system was Neil Diamond's *Sweet Caroline*. Well, wouldn't you know it, the fans (as always, a mostly sold-out Fenway) spontaneously did the "so good, so good, so good" refrain. Could it actually be true that thousands of fans in Fenway that night might have learned the refrain from having attended the Monster Dash years earlier? I called Pat Benti on his cell number from my seat in the (Fenway) park and told him that the crowd was doing his version of the song.

Finally, what goes around comes around. In the aftermath of the Boston Marathon bombing in 2013, as part of the healing process for Boston, its residents and fans, the Red Sox invited Neil Diamond to sing *Sweet Caroline* at a home game. And wouldn't you know, Neil did the Pat Benti version of his own song, getting the

crowd going with the "so good, so good, so good" refrain. The following are Pat's own words:

"Basically, it was a medley, that began with *I'm A Believer*. At The Monster Dash, in front of around 15,000 costume dressed people, I announced the composer, Neil Diamond. Then I went into, *Sweet Caroline*. Then I just started improvising by throwing in the "so good, so good, so good." The year was 1986. Yes, when the Sox were in the World Series."

(See *Monster Mash* crowd photo. Pat Benti is up front dressed in white as a mad scientist)

To sum up the story, here are comments by longtime Sha-Boom guitarist Tony Baglio:

"Having performed with the Sha-Boom Band for many years, I can tell you, Pat Benti knows how to "read the room," whether it's a small club, concert hall or huge event like the Monster Dash. While I can't swear he was the first to do the "so good, so good, so good" refrain, I can tell you the first time we performed at the Monster Dash was the first time I'd heard it, and knowing Pat's penchant for whipping up a crowd, I'm convinced he was and is the "so good, so good, so good" originator. So, there you are."

Was East Boston's Pat Benti actually the one who started the infamous tradition of adding the three "so goods" to *Sweet Caroline*? Sounds to me like a pretty solid case. Will we ever find out for sure? In Neil Diamond's own words, "Where it began, I can't begin to know when..."



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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Rent it and wreck it not in the agreement

Somerville Police officers were dispatched to a Windsor Street location last Friday evening on reports of a motor vehicle accident with unknown injury.

Upon arrival, the officers observed a vehicle with significant damage and total airbag deployment, and a man, Lamont Sands, of Holbrook, pacing back and forth outside of it.

Sands told the officers that he was driving the vehicle westbound on South Street, and when he attempted to stop at the intersection of South Street and Windsor Street the vehicle would not stop and he struck the wall of the building straight ahead.

Sands reportedly told the officers that he was uninjured except for a small cut on his forehead and other small cuts on his knuckles from the airbag deployment.

While questioning Sands, dispatch advised the officers that the rental vehicle was reported stolen. Additional queries confirmed that it was reported stolen out of Lynn on April 23 by Enterprise Rental.

The officers asked Sands if he could show them the rental agreement, which he was able to provide. However, there was no end date listed on the paperwork to prove that he should still be in possession of the vehicle.

Sands was placed under arrest and transported to the station for booking on a charge of receiving a stolen motor vehicle.

Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

| | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| Arrests: | warrant charge of larceny under \$1200. | at Windsor St. on a charge of receiving a stolen motor vehicle. | May 16, 3:43 p.m., arrested at Assembly Row on warrant charges of failure to stop or yield, miscellaneous municipal ordinance violation, larceny over \$1200, reckless operation of a motor vehicle, and assault and battery. |
| Christine Benjamin , of Roxbury, May 13, 1:02 p.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on a | Lamont Sands , of Holbrook, May 14, 10:27 p.m., arrested | Oscar Peguero , of Boston, | |

MassDOT postpones safety improvements to McGrath Highway

CONT. FROM PG 1

of their supplies, including their boat’s engine which left them adrift in the ocean for 10 days.

The Mac family was rescued by a cargo ship that took them to a refugee camp in Thailand where they awaited sponsorship for travel to the United States.

After decades of living for the community, Mac suffered life threatening injuries in a horrific traffic accident while he was crossing McGrath Highway on April 13. Mac passed away while in a coma on April 29.

“This individual was a survivor. It is an indescribable tragedy that he was killed while crossing the street in Somerville. We must do everything we can to make sure that this does not get repeated,” said Ward 5 Councilor Mark Niedergang.

Referred to by many as the “Corridor of Death,” the thoroughfare of Mystic Avenue and McGrath Highway has seen three residents killed by cars in just the last two years.

According to the City Council, MassDOT is set to begin safety improvements for pedestrians soon, though the most impactful improvements have been pushed back to begin in 2023. This is in addition to the fact that MassDOT is fast tracking a major steel viaduct rehabilitation project on I-93 in 2022.

The steel rehabilitation project is being expedited in the same area where pedestrian fatalities continue and safety improvements have been postponed.

“It’s shameful that MassDOT is putting private property in the form of cars over the lives of people,” said Councilor At-Large Wilfred N. Mbah.

According to Niedergang, city officials and state representatives have been persistent in asking MassDOT to build sound walls along I-93. This would protect residents from fine particle air pollution produced by cars which are known to cause serious health consequences with long term exposure.

Although the steel rehabilitation as a large-scale project provides the prerequisite opportunity in which the sound walls could be built, MassDOT has not added them to the construction plans.

“(Steel rehabilitation) is clearly MassDOT’s priority. They don’t seem to care nearly as much about our residents who are being killed crossing the street,” Niedergang said. “Pedestrians have to cross at Mystic and McGrath, they don’t have a choice.”

The Somerville Alliance for Safe Streets is sponsoring *Highway Justice for People: Mystic and McGrath* on May 26 at 6:00 pm. The event will demand that MassDOT prioritizes the safety of people over the movement of cars. Members of the media will be present at the rally.

In other business, City Councilors submitted another resolution with regards to the treatment of the Tufts University dining hall staff. A student activist group known as the Tufts Labor Coalition backs the resolution and states that it stands in solidarity with the dining hall workers.

“I really admire the young people who live in our community, and certainly the students up at Tufts who have had the back of the Tufts workers on this,” said Ward 7 Councilor Katjana Ballantyne.

A student from the Tufts Labor Coalition was present at the meeting and stated that the Tufts Administration had shown its true colors during the pandemic, exposing the administration’s supposed stance on social justice as mere rhetoric.

According to the student, dining hall staff were left guessing about the status of their compensation at the height of the lockdown. He said that one worker even reported having to use her own sick time just to bury her husband who had passed away from complications from Covid-19.

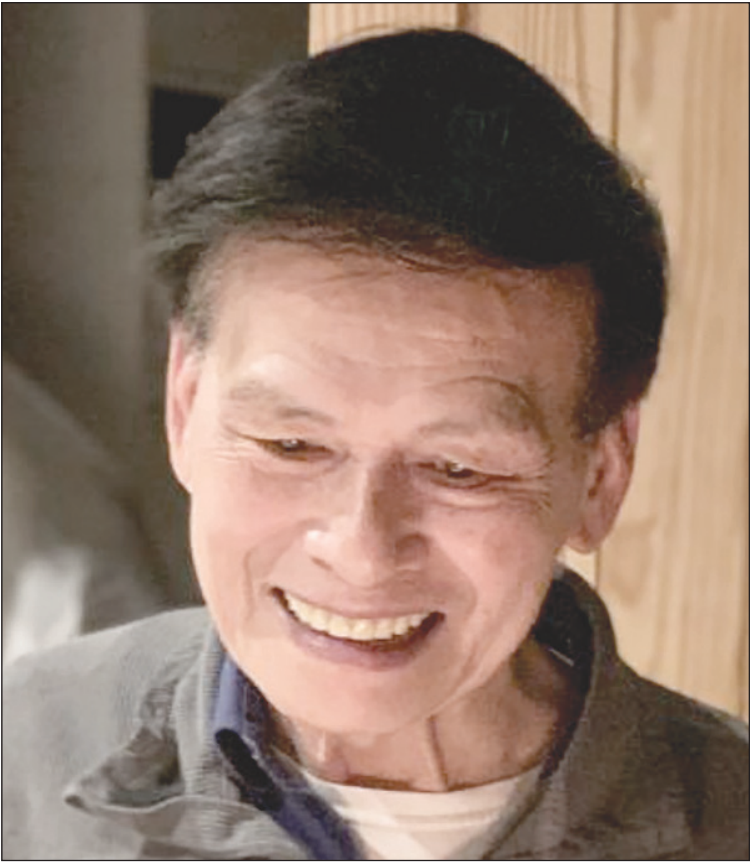
Also, the mayor communicated a Proclamation for Women’s Advancement, Equity and Opportunity in Somerville.

“This proclamation comes as a result of a resolution I wrote and submitted in February which was prompted by the fact that women lost three decades of progress in under a year due to the pandemic,” said Councilor At-Large Kristen Strezo.

According to Strezo, women reported all the job loss claims in January 2021. Many women were employed in some of the industries hardest hit by the pandemic, such as retail and hospitality.

Additionally, the Council submitted an order to appropriate a bond in the amount of \$5,000,575. The bond will be used to acquire the Armory Building located at 191 Highland Avenue. After discussion in the most recent Finance Committee meeting, the Council voted unanimously to acquire the property at 191 Highland Avenue as well as to approve the bond cost.

And in celebration of the 56th anniversary of the passage of the Older Americans Act by the United States congress, the Council passed a resolution to make May, 2021, Older Americans Month.



McGrath Highway hit-and-run victim Marshall Mac.

City moves to acquire Somerville Armory building

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone submitted a \$5 million proposal to the City Council to acquire the Somerville Armory building at 191 Highland Ave., which the Council approved by a unanimous vote at its May 13 meeting.

The city would be acquiring the property via eminent domain and would preserve the facility for arts uses. It would be the first publicly owned arts and culture center in Somerville, a city known for its vibrant arts community.

The building is owned by the Highland Armory Realty Trust and the site has served as the home for the Center for Arts at the Armory and smaller co-tenants, mostly arts-related organizations, since 2005. The building has however been operating under a financial model that is not sustainable and the pandemic has intensified the financial strain.

By acquiring the property, the city will stabilize the financial situation and develop a financially sustainable operating model that will reduce revenue pressure on arts activity, and allow the building to remain as a community arts center.

“Our city is proud of its commitment to its arts community and this is a chance for us to make a tangible investment in a permanent public space for arts activities,” said Mayor Curtatone. “We’ll be taking a historic building in the center of our city and making sure it is preserved as a civic institu-



tion. Projects like this are how we make sure the arts thrive in Somerville and remain accessible to all residents. It’s a practical investment in an essential portion of our community.”

“I am thrilled and delighted that the City Council has voted to support the mayor’s request to take the Armory by eminent domain. The Armory is one of the most important places in Somerville for community events and gatherings of all kinds and, of course, for arts programming. Losing the Armory as a community space and a center for the arts would be a devastating blow to culture and public life in Somerville,” said Ward 5 City Councilor Mark Niedergang. “I look forward to the Armory and the Center for Arts at the Armory thriving even more than they have in the past with financial support from the city.”

Because of overhead costs, it is often difficult for arts organizations to find a permanent home. state laws limit the ability for the city to provide operating

subsidies to cover a non-profit organization’s operational costs. An acquisition by the city would create needed permanently affordable arts space that will both support local arts and artists during the pandemic recovery as well as strengthen arts activity for the long-term.

“It is important to proceed quickly at this site,” Mayor Curtatone said. “Our arts community needs help now. Artists have been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic and the sooner we’re able to establish a city-owned center for the arts, the sooner we can start providing opportunities to artists. Fortunately, we are also in a window when it’s most advantageous for us to go out to bond for projects like this, meaning it will cost the city less in the long run to acquire this important site.”

Now that the City Council has approved the bond, the city can execute the eminent domain filing. The city must assume control of the property within 30 days of the vote.

Your up-to-date candidate list for mayor and City Council

Mayor:

Katjana Ballantyne
Mary Cassesso,
Will Mbah,
Billy Tauro

City Council (ward specific)

Ward 1 - Matt McLaughlin
Ward 2 - JT Scott
Ward 3 - Ben Ewen-Campen
Ward 4 - Jesse Clingan
Ward 5 - Tessa Bridge, Beatriz Gomez
Ward 6 - Lance Davis
Ward 7 - Alexander Anderson, Maria Koutsoubaris, Becca Miller, Judy Neufeld

At-Large Councilor:

Stephanson Aman, Willie Burnley, Virginia Hussey, Charlotte Kelly,
Justin Klekota, Tracey Pratt, Eve Seitchik, Kristen Strezo, Jake Wilson



The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #64

This article originally appeared in the October 29, 2014 edition of The Times. We are repeating it this week in memory of Olympia Dukakis, who recently passed.

On Guard!

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Olympia was her name ... fencing was her game ... and acting was her fame.

Her immigrant mother and father came to America from Greece and named her after the fields of Olympia, the site of the ancient games. As a young girl, she grew up in the tough ethnic neighborhoods of Lowell and Somerville and learned to be a scrapper while living here before, during, and after World War II.



She volunteered at Christmas time to ring Salvation Army bells; and with her love of books and reading, she haunted the Somerville Library. She diverted her aggressions to basketball courts, and later by taking up fencing with the Boston Fencing Club, the oldest in the nation. In this arena, she found that she fit like a glove, winning the New England Fencing Championship three years in a row.

This energy was paramount in her life-long development into the Oscar-winning actress of today whose star decorates Hollywood Boulevard. After her high school years, she trained for and survived the dangerous occupation of physical therapy. It was risky, because this was during the country’s worst Polio epidemic years. She then returned to school at Boston University, pursuing her life-long passion of acting.

Olympia perfected her craft and won the laurel-wreath of acting, an Oscar, for the movie Moonstruck. This opened the floodgates to other acting opportunities, in movies such as Working Girl, Steel Magnolias, Mr. Holland’s Opus and Look Who’s Talking. These and many other opportunities also came her way.



She became so popular that she was selected to introduce her cousin, the past Massachusetts Governor and then Democratic Presidential candidate to the Democratic National Convention. Another leaf in her laurel cap was the naming of four Greek salad dressings after her. To some, this put Olympia on the same table as Newman’s Own.

Applause and laurels to Somerville’s actress and champion, Olympia Dukakis. Touché!

Beacon Hill Roll Call



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THE HOUSE AND SENATE. There were no roll call votes in the House or Senate last week. This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* reports local senators’ roll call attendance records for the 2021 session through May 14.

The Senate has held 28 roll calls so far in 2021. *Beacon Hill Roll Call* tabulates the number of roll calls on which each senator votes and then calculates that number as a percentage of the total roll call votes held. That percentage is the number referred to as the roll call attendance record.

In the Senate, 39 of the 40 members did not miss any roll calls and have 100 percent roll call attendance records. It is a Senate tradition that the Senate president only votes occasionally. Senate President Karen Spilka follows that tradition and only voted on 11 of the 28 roll calls while not voting on 17 of them. Sen. Spilka’s office did not respond to repeated requests by *Beacon Hill Roll Call* to comment on her voting record.

We specifically asked if Spilka was in the Statehouse building for all the formal and informal sessions; how the tradition developed that the president rarely votes; has she ever thought of breaking that tradition and being recorded on all roll calls; and how does she choose on which roll calls she will vote?

The vast majority of the 40 senators are not in the Senate chamber during a session because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Most are watching and listening to the session from their home, business or Statehouse office and voting remotely. Senators’ votes are communicated to Senate officials during the session or prior to the session if senators are informed in advance that there will be a roll call vote.

If a member wants to speak on an issue under consideration, they do so on a separate “debate phone line” and their voice is then heard in the Senate chamber and by anyone watching the broadcast online.

2021 SENATE ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE RECORDS THROUGH MAY 14

The percentage listed next to the senator’s name is the percentage of roll call votes on which the senator voted. The number in parentheses represents the number of roll calls that he or she missed .

Sen. Patricia Jehlen 100 percent (0)

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

\$950,000 IN GRANTS TO PROTECT HOUSES OF WORSHIP – Gov. Charlie Baker announced that 53 faith-based organizations and houses of worship will receive a portion of \$950,000 in grants to strengthen on-premises safety and security and fund safety enhancements to protect attendees facing potential increased risk of violence.

The grants began in 2018 when Massachusetts established the Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Grant Program to allocate state funding to nonprofit organizations selected through a competitive grants process managed by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. Since its inception, the program has provided

about \$3 million in funding to 124 organizations.

“Our administration remains committed to ensuring that all of the commonwealth’s residents can worship freely and safely,” said Baker. “These grants help equip houses of worship with additional tools to keep the faith communities they serve safe.”

“Security, preparedness, and emergency management depend on all of us working together to protect public spaces,” said Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito. “The Commonwealth Nonprofit Security Grant Program delivers critical safety resources to nonprofit and faith-based organizations to support that ongoing effort.”

“Public safety professionals at the municipal, state and federal levels are deeply committed to working together for the safety of places of worship,” said Secretary Thomas Turco of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security. “This program is one of many ... initiatives that engages community leaders and empowers organizations across our 351 cities and towns to keep people safe while [they] carry out their unique, community-based missions of service.”

PROHIBIT LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH FROM UNILATERALLY BANNING THE SALE OF TOBACCO (H 2287) – The Public Health Committee held a virtual hearing on legislation that would prohibit local boards of health from banning the sale of tobacco without a vote by a town meeting or vote of a city council.

“The local board of health should only be able to recommend a community-wide ban of such products to the community’s governing body, and not have the authority to make a local bylaw change themselves,” said the bill’s sponsor Rep. Paul Frost (R-Auburn). “This legislation came about after the Town of Westminster with a three-person Board of Health voted to ban all tobacco sales in the community in 2014. One member changed his mind and it didn’t go through.”

COVID-19 AND WORKERS – Several proposals relating to COVID-19 and workers were aired at a virtual hearing by the Labor and Workforce Development Committee including:

PROHIBIT FIRING OF EMPLOYEES WHO CANNOT WORK BECAUSE OF LACK OF CHILD CARE (S 1207) – Prohibits an employer from firing an employee who cannot physically report to work because to a lack of childcare. Allows employers to require that these employees utilize paid time off including vacation, sick and personal time to offset their unavailability and requires that employers provide reasonable accommodations to employees lacking childcare including telecommuting and flexible schedule arrangements. Another provision makes a terminated employee without childcare who has exhausted all of his or her paid time off benefits eligible for unemployment benefits until 90 days following the termination of the March 10, 2020 state of emergency and requires that they then be entitled to return to their position.

“We have seen a mass exodus of women, many of whom shoulder the responsibility of childcare, from the work-

force during the past year.” said sponsor Sen. Adam Hinds (D-Pittsfield). “This legislation is critical to supporting women and closing a gap of inequity for those who are responsible for childcare. Until childcare is affordable and accessible for all, our workplaces must be accommodating to child caretakers.”

HEALTH CARE WORKERS AND COVID PRESUMPTION (S 1194) – Stipulates that any frontline healthcare worker who contracts COVID-19 acquired it at work and making that individual eligible for workers-compensation benefits. Also would prohibit employers from requiring healthcare workers to use their own sick time or other earned time to quarantine, treat or recover from COVID-19. Another provision requires the employer to allow the worker to return to their previous position at the end of their leave.

“Our healthcare system did a lot right during this pandemic,” said sponsor Sen. Paul Feeney (D-Foxborough). “But we cannot simply bury our heads in the sand and forget the many workers, especially our bedside nurses, who were exposed at work and who got sick and suffered just because they were doing their jobs. As a matter of policy, we should be doing everything we can to ensure that nurses who expertly perform their jobs in the most challenging of circumstances are not only celebrated and thanked but they are protected and kept safe.”

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 10-14, the House met for a total of two hours and 48 minutes while the Senate met for a total of two hours and 46 minutes.

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Mon.May 10 | House 11:03 a.m. to 11:16 a.m. Senate 11:14 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. |
| Tues.May 11 | No House session No Senate session |
| Wed.May 12 | No House session No Senate session |
| Thurs. May 13 | House 11:00 a.m. to 1:35 p.m. Senate 11:26 a.m. to 1:46 p.m. |
| Fri. May 14 | No House session No Senate session |

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

COMMENTARY

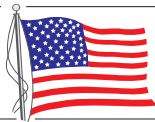
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



The city gets an early Christmas gift.

Our View Of The Times



"Hmm ... let's see. What does our city need that it does not yet possess and just has to have? Ah, yes! Its own center for the arts!"
Clearly, this was not the actual thought process that brought the city to take steps towards acquiring the Center for Arts at the Armory complex by eminent domain in the very near future. Still, to some it may well be easily imagined that way.

Many are opposed to the practice of the city laying claim to properties it would like to have in this way. They insist that the rights of property owners should supercede the wishes of the city.
Be that as it may, the system is what it is, and the city is well within its own rights to pursue this course of action.
The question now is how beneficial this action will be for the city, in both the

short and the long term.
It's no secret that the Center has been struggling to make ends meet – especially since the COVID-19 pandemic's effects have devastated the local economy – and its fundamental ability to sustain itself is now in question.
The city stepping in to preserve the property as a center for the arts may indeed represent one of the most important

initiative it has ever taken up.
The Center has been home to a great many highly valued programs and events that add character and creative vibrancy to the community.
It just might be that the city's move to take the Center under its wing to nourish and sustain it will eventually regarded as one of the best things that could have happened in this most challenging time.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

affected by the Flushing Program. For more information, please contact the **Water Department** by email at water@somervillema.gov, or call 617-625-6600 ext. 5850.

Celebrating their birthdays this week: Happy birthday to one of Somerville's political pundits, **Mr. Fergal O'Toole**. A great guy, we wish him the very best on this his birthday. Happy birthday to **Vinny (Clue) Vicente**. We wish him the best. Happy birthday to local Winter Hill resident **Brian Roche**. We hope he enjoys his day. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Kevin D. Downey, Ken McIntyre, Karen Keenan McCann, Rick Driscoll, Gene Duggan, Deirdre Grace, Shirley Valentine, Danielle Scrima** and **Iona O'Brien** a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

Groundwork Somerville's next **Cleaning & Greening** workday will take place **Saturday, May 22**, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. They will be carrying out basic garden tasks along with collecting trash at four of our school garden sites: **Albert**

F. Argenziano, Arthur D. Healey, Next Wave Full Circle, and West Somerville Neighborhood School. Registration is required. For more information visit <http://www.groundworksomerville.org>

The **City of Somerville Health and Human Services Department** is partnering with **Riverside Trauma Center** to offer a free two-day virtual training in **Psychological First Aid and Post-Traumatic Stress Management** for individuals who live or work in Somerville. Participants will learn basic behavioral health disaster-response skills in order to support youth and adults impacted by a traumatic event. This training would be beneficial for school staff, youth workers and service providers, human service workers, nurses, juvenile justice and law enforcement personnel, clergy, social workers, and anyone providing services in a support capacity. Training sessions will be held **Friday, June 4**, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and **Friday, June 11**, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Participants must attend both sessions. Learn more and register at somerville-ma.gov/HHS.

Somerville will join with the state in lifting remaining **COVID-19 restrictions**

on **Saturday, May 29**. Please note, as of May 29, State guidelines will still require face coverings to be worn on public transit, in rideshares and taxis, in healthcare facilities, and in other settings hosting vulnerable populations, such as congregate care settings. Until May 29, face coverings remain mandatory in indoor public spaces and also outdoors when 6-foot social distancing is not possible. For more information on the state's reopening plan and guidelines, visit mass.gov/reopening. All persons age 12 or older are currently eligible for vaccination. For information on how to schedule an appointment, visit www.somervillema.gov/vaccine or call the statewide helpline at 2-1-1.

Join the **Terranova Youth Design Contest** for a chance to win \$175 and have your garden design installed at **Somernova** in **Frost Alley**. Designers must be middle or high school students in Somerville or Cambridge. Due date for proposals is **June 12** and winners will be decided by **August 17**. This is a partnership between **Groundwork Somerville, Somernova**, and the **Boston Society of Landscape Architects**. For more information visit [somerville.org](http://www.groundwork-</div><div><a href=).

You might want to check out **The City Explorers summer program** for your students, offered through the **Elizabeth Peabody House**. For more information about local summer programming, from free programs to privately-run programs with costs associated, please visit: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/Summer>

The **City of Somerville** seeks to fill one vacancy on its **Condominium Review Board**. This position is open to Somerville renters or homeowners who are age 62 or older, who have a disability, or who earn 80% of the Area Median Income (\$70,750) or less. Members serve staggered terms of three years or until another member is appointed. Meetings are held monthly, typically on the **fourth Monday of each month** at 6:00 p.m. This appointment includes a stipend of \$300 monthly. Interested candidates should send a resume and letter of interest to **Hannah Carrillo** at hcarrillo@somervillema.gov. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the positions are filled. For more information, visit [somervillema.gov/CRB](https://www.somervillema.gov/CRB).

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#779

1. If cats are feline, what are sheep?

2. What make of car was the time-machine in the film *Back To The Future*?

3. When all the paint was stripped from the outer walls of the White House for the very first time in the 1980s how many coats were removed?

4. In *CHIPS* what brand of motorcycles did they ride?

5. What actor made his debut in the 1958 movie *Cry Baby Killer*?

6. Who were original-ly the Sons of Daniel

7. For which rock group is Charlie Watts the drummer?

8. Which Memphis label recorded both El-vis Presley and Johnny Cash?

9. Which is the largest animal ever to have inhabited the Earth?

10. What is the world's deepest ocean?

11. The mini skirt was the main fashion style of what decade?

12. What two letters are both symbols for 1,000?

Boone?

Answers on page 11

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. Louisiana's capital building is the tallest one of any U.S. state.

2. Like fingerprints, everyone's tongue print is different.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
SCREEN-FREE PLAYTIME

- ACROSS
- 1. Ivory, in the bathroom
 - 5. Letter of the ____
 - 8. Kiln for drying hops
 - 12. Marine eagle
 - 13. Muffin Man's Drury
 - 14. Zest
 - 15. Landlord's collection
 - 16. Chieftain in Arabia
 - 17. Frequently precedes "nonsense"
 - 18. Tabletop fun (2 words)
 - 20. Passage in a coal mine
 - 21. Clear the whiteboard
 - 22. Sean's mom Yoko
 - 23. Alpine structure
 - 26. Slabbered
 - 30. Clothing border
 - 31. Incense burning container
 - 34. Gauche or Droite, in Paris
 - 35. In a frenzy
 - 37. Unagi
 - 38. Fancy necktie
 - 39. Eye protection, sing.
 - 40. Not dangerous to health
 - 42. Dwight the President
 - 43. Worked the dough
 - 45. Screen-free message
 - 47. Hairpiece, slangily
 - 48. Libra symbol
 - 50. Buenos ____
 - 52. Dirty hobby?
 - 56. African prairie
 - 57. Like family lore
 - 58. Don't let it hit you on your way out
 - 59. Ten-pin establishment
 - 60. Challenge
 - 61. Purse to match a gown
 - 62. Lake of Scottish lore
 - 63. Between 'game' and 'match'
 - 64. Deliver a tirade

- DOWN
- 1. Belgrade native
 - 2. Dessert sandwich
 - 3. Pavlova, e.g.
 - 4. Tube-nosed seabird
 - 5. Tibetan priests
 - 6. Japanese cartoon
 - 7. Used to be
 - 8. Explore the great ____
 - 9. ____ spumante
 - 10. Editor's mark
 - 11. Craggy peak
 - 13. Official emissary
 - 14. Bird-deposited fertilizer
 - 19. Same as schlock
 - 22. Famous Bobby, on ice
 - 23. Sidewalk art medium
 - 24. Macho man
 - 25. Tell jokes, e.g.
 - 26. Sub station
 - 27. Permissible
 - 28. Extract a memory, e.g.
 - 29. Try to prevent
 - 32. It's not a want
 - 33. ____ Bernie Sanders, abbr.
 - 36. Guessing game
 - 38. Administer an oil
 - 40. "Don't make me ____!"
 - 41. With pleasure
 - 44. Full of bunnies?
 - 46. Full of gentleness
 - 48. Rane'e's wrap
 - 49. Macrame or wood carving, e.g.
 - 50. Expunge
 - 51. Bodily disorders
 - 52. Hermes and Apollo
 - 53. 'T' in Greek alphabet
 - 54. Person, place or thing
 - 55. John Wayne's "True ____"
 - 56. Delivery vehicle

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

Somerville sets out on road to supervised consumption

Plan to launch nation’s first supervised consumption site is back in motion following pandemic pause

By Juliet Isselbacher
Somerville Wire

Supervised consumption sites – otherwise known as overdose prevention sites – have been implemented with demonstrable success in Canada, Australia, and much of Europe. Such sites allow people to consume substances – including intravenous drugs – under the supervision of trained professionals, who can administer or arrange life-saving care in the event of a medical emergency.

Despite evidence that this model of harm reduction saves lives, supervised consumption sites have yet to appear in the United States. The major snag is the Controlled Substances Act, which bars any individual or group from “knowingly and intentionally maintaining a place for the purpose of illegal drug use,” according to the Department of Justice. Citing this act, the Trump administration sued to halt the opening of a supervised consumption site in Philadelphia in February 2019.

In August 2019, Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone braved the hostile federal climate to announce plans for a supervised consumption site in his city. His initial goal was to have it done by the end of 2020, though the arrival of COVID-19 made that timeline untenable.

Now, Somerville’s Director of Health and Human Services Doug Kress said the city is back on track to potentially realize its trailblazing vision within the year.

It’s good timing, too: many supervised consumption advocates are hopeful that the Biden administration will take a more temperate stance on the issue than its predecessor, with which the Third Circuit sided in the Philadelphia case this past January. The new administration’s actual position remains to be seen, of course; Biden has been reticent to speak on the issue.

“We don’t mind being the leader in this,” Kress said on Somerville’s precedent-setting status. “We know that part of what we’re looking at here is trying to set a roadmap for others to follow as well.”

In setting this roadmap for the US, Somerville may import some wisdom from Canada. Kress said his team hopes to visit a supervised consumption site in Montreal and receive a lesson in best practices.

Somerville is also seeking wisdom at home: on May 25, the city will host a Supervised Consumption Site Town Hall to share its plans with constituents and make space for discussion.

“At the meeting, you can learn more about how SCS work, see data from a recently



A row of open injection booths line the walls at Insite Vancouver, a safe consumption site in Canada. There are 13 booths in this facility.
— Photo courtesy of Vancouver Coastal Health

conducted needs assessment and evaluation, and ask questions of city officials and public health experts,” the event’s webpage advertises.

Kress said the forum will help his team understand “how we need to move forward in order to make this actually happen.” The city is seeking input about the location of the site itself, as well as what programming and social services it should offer.

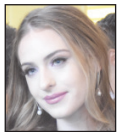
“You want to make sure that the community itself is buying in,” Kress emphasized. “We

realize that this isn’t for everybody, but there’s no one thing that fits everybody. This is just another tool in our toolbox that we can have for our community members.”

Somerville lost 14 residents to opioid overdoses in 2020, according to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Between 2015 and 2020, the city’s death count totals to 93.

This article was produced in collaboration with the Boston Institute for Nonprofit Journalism as part of its Pandemic

Democracy Project, Somerville News Garden, and Film Intervening Getting High Team initiatives. Learn more about BINJ and contribute at binjonline.org.



Juliet Isselbacher is a college student studying philosophy at Harvard.

Her writing and reporting appear in *STAT News*, *The Harvard Crimson*, *The Harvard Advocate*, and *The Harvard Political Review*.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

The next **GLX General Public Meeting** is planned for **June 30**, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. The meeting format will be virtual, and a link will be posted soon on the GLX website. The meeting will include updates on: **Construction Status, Recent Project Milestones, Testing and Commissioning of GLX service.** For project information, please visit www.Mass.gov/GLX.

If a vehicle is **booted**, all unpaid parking tickets must be paid in full within 48 hours to have it released, otherwise the vehicle will be towed. While the **Parking Department** office remains closed to the public, payments can be made online at somer villema.gov/parking, over the phone (1-844-807-9069), or by placing a certified bank check made out to “**City of Somerville**” in the secure drop box outside the Parking office at 133 Holland Street. For more information,

please visit somer villema.gov/parking.

The **City of Somerville** continues to monitor COVID case trends, vaccination rates, and other related data on a daily basis. As more people are vaccinated there is hope for further reopening in the near future. All persons age 16 or older are currently eligible for vaccination. For information on how to schedule an appointment, visit www.somer villema.gov/vaccine or call the statewide helpline at 2-1-1.

CHA Somerville Hospital offers **free testing** at **Assembly Row**. To make an appointment, call 617-665-2928 (Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.). The **mobile COVID-19 testing unit** offers testing for all in our neighborhoods. To make a mobile appointment, call 617-682-0583. Mobile testing schedules, as they become

available, and more testing information can be found at somer villema.gov/covidtesting. The state’s **Stop the Spread** testing sites are also an option, including in the nearby communities of **Chelsea** and **Everett**. For more information, visit the state’s web-site: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/find-a-covid-19-test>.

Hate incidents impact victims as well as the community. In an effort to make reporting hate incidents easier for the residents of Somerville, you may now report them using an online form. Visit the **Somerville Police website** under the “**Home**” tab and submit your Hate Incident report: www.somer villepd.com/home/.

If you need assistance **accessing food**, there are several resources available to you locally. Visit the COVID-19 Help page at <https://www.somer villema.gov/>

departments/covid-19-help-food-housing-and-financial-assistance to learn more. There you will find a chart that includes local food pantry schedules, contact information, languages spoken at the food pantry, and whether or not you need to bring ID.

Reminder: **city buildings** are still closed to the public. Although city buildings remain closed to the public, a number of city services are still available online or by calling 311. Check the “**City Service Status**” tab on the city’s COVID-19 page for more information.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

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

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Elm Court, LLC, to Athas Capital Group, Inc., dated **March 5, 2019**, and recorded with the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Book 72305, at page 398, as assigned to The Rama Fund, LLC, by assignment recorded on March 29, 2019, in said Deeds in Book 72400, at page 204, and as further assigned to PS Funding, Inc., by assignment recorded on April 11, 2019, in said Deeds in Book 72443, at page 93, and as further assigned to Wilmington Trust, National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as Trustee of MFRA TRUST 2016-1, by assignment dated July 21, 2020, recorded on August 10, 2020, in said Deeds in Book 75328, at page 438, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at One o'clock PM, on the 11th day of June A.D., 2021, on the premises below described being known as 111 Elm Street, Somerville, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage as set forth below:

To wit: "A certain parcel of land together with the buildings thereon situated in the City of Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, and being lot numbered 27 on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Land in Somerville, belonging to Timothy Tufts arranged and numbered by L.R.V., May 6, 1890" which plan is recorded with Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 62, Plan 39. Said land is bounded and described as follows:
SOUTHWESTERLY by Elm Street, eighty-six and 01/100 (86.01) feet;
NORTHWESTERLY by land now or formerly of Wentworth, Trustee, fifty-one and 47/100 (51.47) feet;
NORTHEASTERLY by lot numbered 26 on said plan, seventy-seven 88/100 (77.88) feet; SOUTHEASTERLY by Hancock Street, eighty-seven and 96/100 (87.96) feet. Containing 5,429 square feet more or less, according to said plan of land.

Subject to restrictions of record insofar as the same are now in force and applicable, Said premises are conveyed subject to and with the benefit of easements and restrictions of record insofar as the same are now in force and applicable.

APN: 030-C. 00019-000000

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 111 ELM STREET, SOMERVILLE, MA 02144"

The above premises will be sold subject as above and to the following: any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal assessments and liens; any and all outstanding water and/or sewer charges; any and all covenants, easements, restrictions, rights, reservations, conditions and/or other enforceable encumbrances of record created prior to the mortgage; and to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession, if any of the aforesaid there be.

Terms: Twenty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$20,000.00) will be required to be paid in cash or by certified check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale as earnest money. The balance is to be paid in cash or by certified check within thirty (30) days of the sale at the Law Offices of Ford & Paulekas, LLP, 280 Trumbull Street, Hartford, CT 06103. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.


WILMINGTON TRUST, N.A., NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE OF MFRA TRUST 2016-1
Present Holder of Said Mortgage

By: /s/ David A. Hill, Jr.
David A. Hill, Jr.
Its Attorney

Attorneys for Mortgagee:
Ford & Paulekas, LLP
280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103
(860) 527-0400

Dated: May 12, 2021

5/19/21 The Somerville Times



Correction:

On April 28, 2021 a legal notice was published by the City of Somerville announcing a public hearing for the draft version of the HUD 2021-2022 Action Plan. The deadline to submit written comments was incorrect. Written comments on the draft submission that was presented via virtual public meeting on May 13, 2021 will be accepted until **June 14, 2021** and should be sent to the attention of: Elizabeth Twomey, OSCPD, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143 or via email to ospcd@somervillema.gov

A copy of the Action Plan Presentation 2021-2022 can be found at:
<https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/office-strategic-planning-and-community-development-ospcd/ospcd-administration>

5/19/21 The Somerville Times

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

PROJECT: 28 Fitchburg

LOCATION: : 28 Fitchburg Street and 28 Chestnut Street, Somerville, Massachusetts

PROPOSER: Brickbottom | QOZB LP

The undersigned has submitted an Environmental Notification Form (ENF) to the Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) on behalf of the Proponent. The 28 Fitchburg project (the "Project") is subject to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA).

This will initiate review of the ENF for the Project pursuant MEPA implementing regulations (301 CMR 11.05(7)). Electronic copies of the ENF may be obtained upon request from:

Kyle Greaves
VHB/Vanassee Hangen Brustlin, Inc.
99 High Street
Boston, MA 02110-2354
617-607-2988
kgreaves@vvhb.com

Electronic copies of the ENF are also being sent to federal, state, and local agencies and interested parties.

The Secretary of the EOEEA will publish notice of the ENF in the Environmental Monitor, will receive public comments on the project for 20 days, and within approximately seven days will issue a MEPA Certificate. All persons wishing to comment on the Project should write to the Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office, referencing the Project.

By: Kyle Greaves, AICP - VHB
(agent for the Proponent)

5/19/21 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
RFP 21-76**

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

Nutritional Consulting Services

A RFP package may be obtained online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing> or from the City of Somerville's BidExpress landing page <https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/33100/home> on or after **May 19th, 2021**.

Sealed proposals will be received at the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via Bid Express until: **2:00pm ET, Wednesday, June 2nd, 2021**. 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 contact Thupten Chukhatsang at tchukhatsang@somervillema.gov for more information.

Thupten Chukhatsang
Procurement Analyst
617-625-6600, x3400

5/19/21 The Somerville Times


Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Prime Storage - Somerville located at 39R Medford St., Somerville, MA 02143 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenant at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagetreasures.com on **6/9/2021 at 12:00 PM**. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Osmond Helmand/Helmand Restaurant unit #0841. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

5/19/21 The Somerville Times

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

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



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
IFB 21-59**

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

Powder House Circle Safety Improvements

A bid package may be obtained online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing> or from the City of Somerville's BidExpress landing page at <https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/33100/home> on or after **Wednesday, May 19, 2021**.

Sealed bids will be received until: **2:00 PM, Wednesday, June 9, 2021**. Late bids will not be considered. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all bids 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 information regarding the bid.

Thupten Chukhatsang
Procurement Analyst
617-625-6600, x3400

5/19/21 The Somerville Times


FCC offering Emergency Broadband benefits

Starting Wednesday, May 12, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) began accepting applications for its Emergency Broadband Internet Program. The program is part of the American Rescue Plan Act passed earlier this year and will offer a credit of up to \$50 a month for residential Internet connections and \$100 toward the purchase of a computer or tablet. Only one monthly discount and one device discount is allowed per household. The program is temporary. It will continue until funds are exhausted or until six months after the federal Department of Health and Human Services declares an end to the COVID-19 pandemic emergency, whichever is sooner. Any one of the following qualifies you for the program:

- Income at or below 135% of Federal Poverty Guidelines
- Enrolled in SNAP, Medicaid, Supplemental Security Income, Federal Public Housing Assistance, or Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit
- Substantial loss of income since February 29, 2020 (income cap: \$99,000 for individuals, \$198,000 for joint filers)
- Received a federal Pell Grant this year
- Approved for free or reduced-price school lunch/breakfast program

Qualified for an existing low-income or COVID-19 related program with your cable provider

You can check eligibility and apply for emergency broadband relief at <https://getemergencybroadband.org>. Written applications also may be submitted to the Emergency Broadband Support Center, P.O. Box 7081, London, KY 40742. You can also apply via your current or desired broadband provider. You can look up participating providers in your area at <https://getemergencybroadband.org/companies-near-me>. Both Comcast and RCN are taking part in the program. If you need assistance applying for the Emergency Broadband Benefit program, including language assistance, please contact 311 (617-666-3311).



New underground artwork at Sacramento Street pedestrian tunnel

CONT. FROM PG 1



Somerville residents can follow the local artists on Instagram, Juan Diaz (Juisemoney) and Brett Cullen (Thatflyguy_b), and Hector Sanchez (hector_luis_sanchez).

NOTICE:

Free: Sofa, seats 3, off white in pristine condition.
If interested call Paul 781-396-9350.

Ms. Cam's

Olío

Answers

From on page 8

1. Ovine

2. Delorean

3. 42

4. Kawasaki

5. Jack Nicholson

6. The Boy Scouts of America

7. The Rolling Stones

8. Sun Records

9. Blue Whale

10. Pacific

11. 1960s

12. K and M

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ageless Grace Program – various dates – Ageless Grace is a fitness and wellness program consisting of 21 simple exercise tools designed for all ages and abilities. These exercises, based on everyday movements, focus on the healthy longevity of the body and mind. Classes are held bi-monthly in English and bi-monthly in Spanish via Zoom. Please contact Chris at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315 or email ckowaleski@somervillema.gov with any questions or for additional information.

Music & Munch – Wednesday, May 19 at noon-time. Why not pair your lunch with a celebration of music? This 45-minute session via Zoom will treat you to a playlist of diverse musical offerings: a little jazz, some "oldies but goodies," a smidgen of classical, a dip into barbershop, a trip to Broadway. The music is taped but the experience is live. Your guide is Somerville Resident, Laura Zoll, trained as a medieval musicologist and with a life-long love of all things musical. Your preferences will help shape the session. Learn a little, sing-along, relax and enjoy some Music while you Munch. RSVP to Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at dhiggins@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2321. You will then receive your email invitation to join the program via ZOOM.

Music & Movement – Wednesday, May 19 at 10:30. Join Steve as he plays guitar, sings and leads gentle movements. Just tapping your toe or singing along can help move your body in new ways. Being physically active is not just good for our bodies, but it is also one of Mental Health America's 10 tools to building resiliency; or the ability to overcome obstacles and manage through tough times. Physical activity can improve sleep, increase energy, decrease some kinds of pain, boost our immune systems and lower the risk for stroke and some cancers. It also helps to reduce our anxiety, depression, stress and tension. Join Steve as he shows us that exercise can come in all different forms and movements. Please RSVP to Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at dhiggins@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2321. You will then receive your email invitation to join the program via ZOOM.

Senior Lunch Box Pick Up – Thursday, May 20 beginning at 10:30 am. Ralph & Jenny Senior Center, 9 New Washington Street. While we aren't able to share lunch together we hope you can stop by for this fun treat! RSVP is a must; spaces are limited. To enjoy a box lunch call Connie at 617-625-6600 ext. 2319. Masks required.

Zoom Book Club – Friday, May 21 at 10:00 a.m. - Do you love books and want to discuss your love of reading with others? Consider joining book club. The book that we will be discussing is: Rivera Gold by Laurie R. King. Please contact Natasha at either 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 or e-mail her at NNaim@Somervillema.gov for the Zoom link or to ask any questions.

Caregiver Check-In – Tuesday, May 25 at 11:30 a.m. - Are you a caregiver for a loved one and want to connect with other caregivers? Would you like to discuss the joys and challenges of caregiving? The Somerville Council on Aging is hosting a monthly check-in via Zoom for caregivers. Please contact Natasha by either called 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 or e-mail Natasha at NNaim@Somervillema.gov.

Virtual Bingo Day – Tuesday, May 25 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Join us online or via phone to play BINGO. If you would like to participate, please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321 or email dhiggins@somervillema.gov. We will supply you with the bingo cards and instructions. Space is limited, RSVP a must.

Online De-Cluttering Class – Wednesdays starting May 26 11:00 a.m. - Sometimes it's easier to collect items and harder to get rid of them. De-cluttering can be a difficult process, but you don't have to do it alone. If you are looking for support in regards to downsizing, decluttering or discarding items, consider joining the online de-cluttering support group. With a supportive group environment, you will learn how to turn your mountain of items into a manageable amount. Call Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 or e-mail nnaim@somervillema.gov to register.

ONGOING EVENTS

Taxi Rides - Do you need a ride? The COA has a program just for you. Taxi Rides for Somerville Residents 60 and Over Rides can be used for: Grocery Shopping in Somerville Pharmacy Prescription pick up in Somerville, Routine Medical Appointments in the follow areas: Somerville, Cambridge, Medford, Boston or the V.A. in Jamaica Plain or West Roxbury. Two Days Advanced Notice Required. For more info, please call Connie Lorenti at 617-625-6600, ext. 2319.

Friendly Caller Program - Looking for a way to practice social distancing but still remain connected to other people? Look no further than the Somerville Council on Aging's Friendly Phone Caller program. We have many wonderful volun-

teers who are waiting to give you a call. Whether you are looking to make a new friend or would just like a friendly chat to look forward to every week, this program has you covered. Call Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 to learn more about the program and to sign up.

EXERCISE

Exercise Schedule

Mondays 1:00 p.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom Exercise
Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom Exercise
Thursdays 1:00 p.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom Exercise
Thursdays 6:30 p.m. = LBT Fit-4-Life Zoom Exercise

Somerville City Cable

RCN = 13/Comcast = 22
The Fit-4-Life Exercise Show = Daily at 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

Fit-4-Life YouTube

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video # 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hd26HjpwBI&t=68s>
Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwHfyoEZaws&t=247s>
Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fcl2eBS024&t=158s>
Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #4: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7EDtaldYSz0>
Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #5: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AAnwfwGybTI>

Yoga YouTube

Yoga with Janine video #1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDGF_EEbqF0&t=130s
Yoga with Janine video #3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Zezcj9XXBU>
For questions or to register for a Fit-4-Life Zoom exercise class, contact Chris at CKowaleski@somervillema.gov or call 617-625-6600, ext. 2315.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Stay connected via our Facebook page - often updated by Debby or Maureen. Informative, entertaining, lots of photos and updates. Visit our page at <https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCOA/>

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

If you would like to receive a virtual copy of our monthly newsletter and daily tips please contact Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 or email Maureen at MBastardi@Somervillema.gov. If you would like to become part of our Google Group please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at DHiggins@Somervillema.gov

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



How does the moon cut his hair?
Eclipse it.

On This Day in History
May 19

- 1535 – French explorer Jacques Cartier sets sail for North America.
- 1608 – The Protestant states form the Evangelical Union of Lutherans and Calvinists.
- 1780 – Near total darkness descends on New England at noon. No explanation is found.
- 1856 – Senator Charles Sumner speaks out against slavery.
- 1864 – The Union and Confederate armies launch their last attacks against each other at Spotsylvania, Virginia.
- 1921 – Congress sharply curbs immigration, setting a national quota system.
- 1964 – U.S. diplomats find at least 40 microphones planted in the American embassy in Moscow.
- 1967 – U.S. planes bomb Hanoi for the first time.

The "Original"
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Licensed and Insured
in Massachusetts
We travel all over
Massachusetts
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SCATV is part of Somerville Media Center, home to Boston Free Radio, Somerville Neighborhood News and SMC Youth Media!

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|--------------------------|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| Wednesday, May 19 | 2:00am 3:00am 4:00am 5:00am 6:00am 7:00am 8:00am 9:00am 10:00am 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm | Free Speech TV NASA TV Community Bulletin Board DW In Good Shape Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) DW Global 3000 Both Sides of the Bars Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer Somerville Neighborhood News SNN Neighborhood Update From My Heart to Yours The Thom Hartman Show Somerville Neighborhood News Somerville Neighborhood News Colores Latinos Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) DW Conflict Zone Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library Hello Neighbor From My Heart to Yours Somerville Neighborhood News VOX POP: Somerville Connects "The Cask of Amontillado" at VOX POP Sidewalks Entertainment LIVE - Somerville Pundits DW Euromaxx Revolution Awakening at VOX POP LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party Flotilla | 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00am 1:00am 2:00am 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00am 8:00am 9:00am 10:00am 11:00am 12:00am | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) VOX POP: Somerville Connects The Struggle Somerville Neighborhood News #AFAD #AFAD Community Lens: SHC SK Race LIVE - Our View PABFONE Closing Day Ceremony Community Bulletin Board The World Fusion Show VOX POP Comedy Night Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party SCATV Secret Stash SCATV Secret Stash Free Speech TV NASA TV The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV) Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) DW Euromaxx Strata NASA TV SOM ARTS Cambridge Calendar The Thom Hartman Show Community Benefits Agreement Somerville Pundits Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) Gay USA DW Global 3000 What's New Massachusetts? Grandstanders Emergency Preparedness The Somerville Labor Show LIVE - Greater Somerville Greater Somerville Fur, Fins and Feathers Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party Heavy Leather Music Video Show | 5:00am 6:00am 7:00am 8:00am 9:00am 10:00am 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00pm | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) SMC Youth Media Science 360 Dead Air Live TeleGalaxie Somerville Storytellers Tele Magazine Reeling Review MA House of Representatives Formal Session Tele Kreyol Henry Parker Presents Henry Parker Presents Somerville Pundits The Somerville Labor Show BLOWW Show a Go Go Somerville Neighborhood News #AFAD Nossa Gente e Costumes Heavy Leather Music Video Show SCATV Secret Stash Queer Cats | 12:00am 5:00am 6:00am 7:00am 8:00am 9:00am 10:00am 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm | Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party Free Speech TV NASA TV Somerville Storytellers Going Postal Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) Science 360 Somerville Neighborhood News Our View The Thom Hartman Show SOM ARTS Somerville Storytellers NASA TV Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) African Television Network Community Lens: SHC SK Race LIVE from VOX POP Fur, Fins and Feathers Tele Galaxie LIVE -Somerville Overcoming Addiction Dedilhando au Saudade Colores Latinos Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party |
| Thursday, May 20 | 12:30am 1:00am 1:30am 2:00am 3:00am 6:00am 7:00am 7:30am 8:00am 9:00am 10:00pm 11:00pm | SCATV Secret Stash Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Bate Papo com Shirley DW Conflict Zone DW Euromaxx Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) DW Tomorrow Today Hello Neighbor The Chef's Table Series The Chef's Table Series Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals The Thom Hartman Show The Somerville Line The Somerville Line | 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00am 1:00am 2:00am 3:00am 4:00am 5:00am 6:00am 7:00am | VOX POP Comedy Night Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Free Speech TV DW Focus on Europe Effort Pour Christ | 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00pm 1:00am 2:00am 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00pm | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) SMC Youth Media Science 360 Dead Air Live Tele Magazine Somerville Storytellers Tele Magazine Reeling Review MA House of Representatives Formal Session Tele Kreyol Henry Parker Presents Henry Parker Presents Somerville Pundits The Somerville Labor Show BLOWW Show a Go Go Somerville Neighborhood News #AFAD Nossa Gente e Costumes Heavy Leather Music Video Show SCATV Secret Stash Queer Cats | 12:00am 5:00am 6:00am 7:00am 8:00am 9:00am 10:00am 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00pm | Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party Free Speech TV NASA TV Somerville Storytellers Going Postal Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) Science 360 Somerville Neighborhood News Our View The Thom Hartman Show SOM ARTS Somerville Storytellers NASA TV Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) African Television Network Community Lens: SHC SK Race LIVE from VOX POP Fur, Fins and Feathers Tele Galaxie LIVE -Somerville Overcoming Addiction Dedilhando au Saudade Colores Latinos Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party |
| Friday, May 21 | 12:00am 1:00am 1:30am 2:00am 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00am 8:00am 9:00am 10:00am 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm | SCATV Secret Stash Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Bate Papo com Shirley DW Conflict Zone DW Euromaxx Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) DW Tomorrow Today Hello Neighbor The Chef's Table Series The Chef's Table Series Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals The Thom Hartman Show The Somerville Line The Somerville Line | 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00am 1:00am 2:00am 3:00am 4:00am 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00pm | VOX POP Comedy Night Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Free Speech TV DW Focus on Europe Effort Pour Christ | 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00pm | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) SMC Youth Media Science 360 Dead Air Live Tele Magazine Somerville Storytellers Tele Magazine Reeling Review MA House of Representatives Formal Session Tele Kreyol Henry Parker Presents Henry Parker Presents Somerville Pundits The Somerville Labor Show BLOWW Show a Go Go Somerville Neighborhood News #AFAD Nossa Gente e Costumes Heavy Leather Music Video Show SCATV Secret Stash Queer Cats | 12:00am 5:00am 6:00am 7:00am 8:00am 9:00am 10:00am 11:00am 12:00pm 1:00pm 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00pm | Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party Free Speech TV NASA TV Somerville Storytellers Going Postal Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) Science 360 Somerville Neighborhood News Our View The Thom Hartman Show SOM ARTS Somerville Storytellers NASA TV Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) African Television Network Community Lens: SHC SK Race LIVE from VOX POP Fur, Fins and Feathers Tele Galaxie LIVE -Somerville Overcoming Addiction Dedilhando au Saudade Colores Latinos Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party |
| Saturday, May 22 | 12:00am 1:00am 2:00am 3:00am 5:00am 6:00am 7:00am | SCATV Secret Stash Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Bate Papo com Shirley DW Conflict Zone DW Euromaxx Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) DW Tomorrow Today Hello Neighbor The Chef's Table Series The Chef's Table Series Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals The Thom Hartman Show The Somerville Line The Somerville Line | 2:00pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00pm | VOX POP Comedy Night Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Free Speech TV Free Speech TV DW Focus on Europe Effort Pour Christ | 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:00pm 12:00pm 1:00pm 2 | | | |

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| Wednesday, May 19 | 8:00pm Land Use Meeting - 5.18.21 | 3:00pm Saiba das Novidades Sobre a Vacinação | 7:55am Hope, Caution, Reflection |
| 6:30am Civilian Oversight Community Meeting | 11:30pm City Council Spotlight: Ben Ewen-Campen | 4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #4 | 8:00am Lead Paint Safe Somerville |
| 7:10am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice Four | Friday, May 21 | 4:30pm Reunion Informativa Vacuna COVID-19 | 9:00am Reunion Informativa Vacuna COVID-19 |
| 8:00am Congressional Update: Ayanna Pressley | 12:00am Senior Circuit: Ageless Grace | 5:30pm Congressional Update – Ayanna Pressley | 10:00am Civilian Oversight Community Meeting |
| 8:30am City Council Spotlight: Ben Ewen-Campen | 12:30am Traffic & Parking Committee - 5.17.21 | 6:00pm School Committee Update - Ellenor Barish | 11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #3 |
| 9:00am School Committee Update - Ellenor Barish | 6:00am The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism | 6:30pm City Council Spotlight: Ben Ewen-Campen | 11:30am Congressional Update: Ayanna Pressley |
| 9:30am Climate Forward Webinar | 7:16am SPL Cooking 15 - Simple Chocolate Cake | 7:00pm Lead Paint Safe Somerville | 12:00pm Legislative Matters - 5.20.21 |
| 11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #5 | 7:30am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice Three | 8:00pm Land Use Meeting - 5.18.21 | 3:30pm Mable & Jerry - Senior Story |
| 11:30am Traffic & Parking Committee - 5.17.21 | 8:30am City Council Spotlight: Ben Ewen-Campen | 11:00pm Lead Paint Safe Somerville | 4:04pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #2 |
| 2:30pm Reunion Informativa Vacuna COVID-19 | 9:00am Congressional Update: Ayanna Pressley | Sunday, May 23 | 5:00pm Mayor's Business Town Hall 2021 |
| 3:30pm SPL Cooking 15 - Simple Chocolate Cake | 9:30am Reunion Informativa Vacuna COVID-19 | 12:00am City Council Spotlight: Ben Ewen-Campen | 6:00pm Climate Forward Webinar |
| 3:45pm SPD Ride Along | 10:30am Conway Park Groundbreaking | 12:30am City Council Meeting 5.13.21 | 7:00pm Congressional Update: Ayanna Pressley |
| 4:00pm Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice One | 11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #5 | 6:30am COVID Vaccine Virtual Town Hall | 7:30pm City Council Spotlight: Ben Ewen-Campen |
| 5:00pm Conway Park Groundbreaking | 11:30am Land Use Meeting - 5.18.21 | 7:31am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice Two | 8:00pm Mayor's 2021 Midterm Address |
| 5:30pm Senior Circuit: Ageless Grace | 4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #1 | 8:30am School Committee Update - Ellenor Barish | 8:40pm Conway Park Groundbreaking |
| 6:00pm Congressional Update: Ayanna Pressley | 4:30pm Civilian Oversight Community Meeting | 9:00am Lead Paint Safe Somerville | 9:00pm Traffic & Parking Committee - 5.17.21 |
| 6:30pm Climate Forward Webinar | 5:30pm School Committee Update: Laura Pitone | 10:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice Three | Tuesday, May 25 |
| 8:00pm School Committee Meeting 5.17.21 | 6:00pm Legislative Matters - 5.20.21 | 10:45am SPL Cooking 05 - Mocha Pudding Cake | 12:00am Climate Forward Webinar |
| 11:00pm Reunion Informativa Vacuna COVID-19 | 9:00pm Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice Four | 11:00am Fit 4 Life #6 | 1:00am Congressional Update: Ayanna Pressley |
| Thursday, May 20 | 9:45pm SPL Cooking 13 | 11:30am SPD Ride Along | 1:30am Jane's Walk 2019 |
| 12:00am Mable & Jerry - Senior Story | 9:51pm Hope, Caution, Reflection | 11:45am Conway Park Groundbreaking | 6:00am Greek Independence Day Ceremony 2021 |
| 12:34am SPL Cooking 15 - Simple Chocolate Cake | 10:00pm Saiba das Novidades Sobre a Vacinação | 12:00pm Senior Circuit: Ageless Grace | 6:30am Music & Movement w/ Steve Gintz |
| 12:50am Hope, Caution, Reflection | 10:45pm SPL Cooking 15 - Simple Chocolate Cake | 12:30pm Mable & Jerry - Senior Story | 7:15am Conway Park Groundbreaking |
| 1:00am City Council Meeting 5.13.21 | 11:00pm Reunion Informativa Vacuna COVID-19 | 1:04pm Climate Forward Webinar | 7:30am The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism |
| 6:00am COVID Vaccine Virtual Town Hall | Saturday, May 22 | 2:20pm Hope, Caution, Reflection | 8:46am SPL Cooking 05 - Mocha Pudding Cake |
| 7:01am School Committee Update - Ellenor Barish | 12:00am School Committee Meeting 5.17.21 | 2:30pm The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism | 9:00am Congressional Update: Ayanna Pressley |
| 7:30am Conway Park Groundbreaking | 6:30am Climate Forward Webinar | 4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #4 | 9:30am Mable & Jerry - Senior Story |
| 7:46am SPL Cooking 06 - Baked Mac and Cheese | 7:30am Senior Circuit: Ageless Grace | 4:30pm Traffic & Parking Committee - 5.17.21 | 10:04am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice Four |
| 8:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice Two | 8:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice Four | 7:00pm Senior Circuit: Ageless Grace | 11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #3 |
| 9:00am Mayor's Business Town Hall 2021 | 8:45am SPL Cooking 15 - Simple Chocolate Cake | 7:30pm School Committee Update - Ellenor Barish | 11:30am City Council Spotlight: Ben Ewen-Campen |
| 10:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice Four | 9:00am School Committee Update - Ellenor Barish | 8:00pm Lead Paint Safe Somerville | 12:00pm Senior Circuit: Ageless Grace |
| 11:00am Fit 4 Life #6 | 9:30am Conway Park Groundbreaking | 9:00pm School Committee Meeting 5.17.21 | 12:30pm Traffic & Parking Committee - 5.17.21 |
| 11:30am City Council Spotlight: Ben Ewen-Campen | 10:00am Mable & Jerry - Senior Story | Monday, May 24 | 3:00pm Vacina Contra o COVID com |
| 12:00pm Senior Circuit: Ageless Grace | 10:34am Somerville COVID-19 Vaccine Update | 12:00am Senior Circuit: Ageless Grace | 3:15pm Saiba das Novidades Sobre a Vacinação |
| 12:30pm Mable & Jerry - Senior Story | 11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #5 | 12:30am Public Health & Public Safety Committee | 4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #5 |
| 1:04pm Letters of World War II at Council on Aging | 11:30am City Council Spotlight: Ben Ewen-Campen | 3:00am SPD Ride Along | 4:30pm Climate Forward Webinar |
| 2:30pm Congressional Update: Ayanna Pressley | 12:00pm Traffic & Parking Committee - 5.17.21 | 6:00am Memorial Day Remembrance 2020 | 6:00pm Lead Paint Safe Somerville |
| 3:00pm Saiba das Novidades Sobre a Vacinação | 12:00pm Lead Paint Safe Somerville | 6:30am Conway Park Groundbreaking | 7:00pm Senior Circuit: Ageless Grace |
| 4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #3 | 1:00pm COVID Vaccine Virtual Town Hall | 6:42am SPL Cooking 01 - Orange Cornmeal Cake | 7:30pm COVID Vaccine Virtual Town Hall |
| 4:30pm School Committee Update - Ellenor Barish | 2:01pm Mable & Jerry - Senior Story | 7:00am Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice Three | 8:31pm School Committee Update - Ellenor Barish |
| 5:00pm School Committee Meeting 5.17.21 | 2:35pm SPL Cooking 15 - Simple Chocolate Cake | 7:43am SPL Cooking 15 - Simple Chocolate Cake | 9:00pm School Committee Meeting 5.17.21 |

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| Wednesday, May 19 | 7:00am 8:00am 11:00am 1:00pm 2:30pm 4:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 10:00pm | Friday Family Fun Night III School Committee Mtg. 5.10.21 SHS Football vs Chelsea 5.7.21 SHS Hockey vs Everett 4.8.21 GBL Final: SHS Hockey vs Medford 4.10.21 GBL Semi:SHS Girls' Soccer vs LC 5.10.21 Friday Family Fun Night III School Committee Mtg. 5.10.21 SHS Football vs Chelsea 5.7.21 |
| Thursday, May 20 | 12:00am 1:30am 3:00am 4:00am 7:00am 8:00am 9:00am 9:30am 10:00am 12:00pm 1:30pm 3:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 8:00pm 10:00pm 11:30pm | SHS Hockey vs Everett 4.8.21 GBL Final: SHS Hockey vs Medford 4.10.21 SPL Storytime with Miss Alison SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn English 3.19.21 Spring Forward Highlander History - O'Rourke & Dickerson School Committee Update - Barish SPL Gardening - Spring Awakening SHS Boys' JV Basketball vs Medford SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn English SHS Girls' Volleyball vs Malden 4.29.21 SHS Boys' JV Basketball Intersquad Spring Forward Highlander History - O'Rourke & Dickerson School Committee Update - Barish SPL Gardening - Spring Awakening SHS Boys' JV Basketball vs Medford SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn English SHS Girls' Volleyball vs Malden 4.29.21 |
| Friday, May 21 | 1:00am 4:00am | SHS Boys' JV Basketball Scrimmage SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere 3.22.21 |
| Saturday, May 22 | 2:00am 7:30am 8:00am 10:00am 10:30am 12:00pm 1:30pm 3:00pm 5:00pm 5:30pm 6:00pm 6:00pm 8:00pm 8:30pm 10:00pm 11:30pm | Highlander History - O'Rourke & Dickerson School Committee Update - Barish GBL Qtrfinal SHS Girls' Soccer vs Everett SPL Gardening - Spring Awakening SHS Girls' Volleyball vs Malden 4.29.21 SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere 3.22.21 SHS Girls' Soccer vs Malden 4.24.21 GBL Semi:SHS Girls' Soccer vs LC 5.10.21 Highlander History - O'Rourke & Dickerson School Committee Update - Barish GBL Qtrfinal SHS Girls' Soccer vs Everett 5.6.21 SPL Gardening - Spring Awakening SHS Girls' Volleyball vs Malden 4.29.21 SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere 3.22.21 SHS Girls' Soccer vs Malden 4.24.21 |
| Sunday, May 23 | 1:00am 2:30am 4:00am 7:00am 8:00am 9:00am 10:00am 11:00am 12:30pm 2:00pm 4:00pm 5:30pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:30pm 9:00pm 10:00pm 11:30pm | GBL Qtrfinal: SHS Boys' Soccer vs Medford Highlander History - O'Rourke & Dickerson SHS Football vs Chelsea 5.7.21 SHS Girls' Volleyball vs Malden 4.29.21 SHS Girls' Basketball vs Everett 3.26.21 Friday Family Fun Night III Let's Talk About a Poem - Donne School Committee Update - Barish Spring Forward SHS Girls' Soccer vs Medford 5.3.21 GBL Qtrfinal SHS Girls' Soccer vs Everett GBL Semi:SHS Girls' Soccer vs LC 5.10.21 GBL Qtrfinal: SHS Boys' Soccer vs Medford Highlander History - O'Rourke & Dickerson Friday Family Fun Night III Let's Talk About a Poem - Donne School Committee Update - Barish Spring Forward SHS Girls' Soccer vs Medford 5.3.21 GBL Qtrfinal SHS Girls' Soccer vs Everett |
| Monday, May 24 | 1:00am 3:00am 4:00am 7:00am 8:00am 9:00am 10:30am 11:00am 1:00pm 2:30pm 4:00PM | GBL Semi:SHS Girls' Soccer vs LC 5.10.21 Highlander History - O'Rourke & Dickerson SHS Boys' Basketball vs LC 3.29.21 SPS Music & the Jessye Norman Family School Committee Update - Barish SHS Girls Basketball @ Everett 3.31.21 Highlander History - O'Rourke & Dickerson GBL Qtrfinal SHS Girls' Soccer vs Everett SHS Girls' Soccer vs Malden 4.24.21 SHS Boys Soccer vs Chelsea 4.22.21 Spring Forward |
| Tuesday, May 25 | 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 8:30pm 9:00pm 11:00pm 12:30am 2:00am 4:00am 7:00am 8:00am 9:00am 9:30am 10:00am 11:30am 12:00pm 1:05pm 3:00pm 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 8:00pm 9:30pm 10:00pm 11:05pm | SPS Music & the Jessye Norman Family School Committee Update - Barish SHS Girls Basketball @ Everett 3.31.21 Highlander History - O'Rourke & Dickerson GBL Qtrfinal SHS Girls' Soccer vs Everett SHS Girls' Soccer vs Malden 4.24.21 SHS Boys Soccer vs Chelsea 4.22.21 Spring Forward SHS Girls Basketball @ Everett 3.31.21 Spring Forward Highlander History - O'Rourke & Dickerson School Committee Update - Barish SPL Gardening - Spring Awakening SHS Hockey vs Everett 4.8.21 SPS Music & the Jessye Norman Family SHS Girls' Volleyball vs Malden 4.29.21 SHS Boys' JV Basketball Scrimmage Spring Forward Friday Family Fun Night III Spring Forward Highlander History - O'Rourke & Dickerson School Committee Update - Barish SPL Gardening - Spring Awakening SHS Hockey vs Everett 4.8.21 SPS Music & the Jessye Norman Family SHS Girls' Volleyball vs Malden 4.29.21 SHS Boys' JV Basketball Scrimmage |
| Wednesday, May 26 | 1:00am 2:00am 4:00am | Spring Forward Friday Family Fun Night III GBL Tourney |

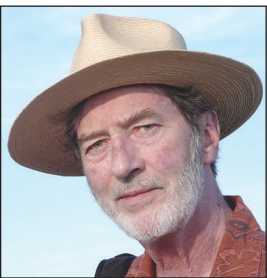


OFF THE SHELF
by Doug Holder

Somerville poet Gloria Mindock:
A poet who makes 'ashes' fly to the sky

Lyrical
SOMERVILLE
edited by Doug Holder

Tomas O'Leary is a poet, translator, music-maker, singer, artist, and expressive therapist. His new and selected poems from Lynx House Press is *In the Wellspring of the Ear*. Previous books of poetry include *Fool at the Funeral*, *The Devil Take a Crooked House*, and *A Prayer for Everyone*. A teacher for many years – college, high school, elementary, adult ed) – he has worked for the past couple of decades with folks who have Alzheimer's, playing Irish accordion and eliciting cognitive and emotional responses through songs, stories, poems, and free-wheeling conversation. He grew up in Somerville, long before it became the Paris of New England.



Grudges

Calling old grudges to the fore

of a rancorous brain is like licking

ice cream off a zombie's eyebrow. How alluring

can they be, those personified grotesques

that slog through the precious muck the stout skull

cradles? If there's a miracle upon us,

call it memory, the maker of each moment.

To knock it off its bright plateau with

phantom anger, ossified hubris? Well,

that rarely makes for tender self-relations.

And as for folks around, they sense a darkness

that seems misplaced in ceremonies of innocence.

If there's a lesson in this terse spiel,

it stands to reason grudge does not discern it.

Yet, one deep breath, one reasoned leap—

most any hardcore idiot can learn it.

— Tomas O'Leary
— Photo by Lee Post

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

Somerville Poet, publisher Gloria Mindock is an institution around our town, and beyond. She founded the Cervena Barva Press, and was our former poet laureate. She has been active member of the arts scene for a number of decades. Mindock has a new poetry collection, *Ash*, from the Glass Lyre Press. This is from their website:

In *Ash*, Gloria Mindock writes a gritty, beautifully haunting collection of poetry. *Ash* is what remains behind after destruction, ruin, death, and burning. Similarly, the poems in this collection are what will remain. Fight the shadows and wade through the darkness on a path paved by Mindock's vivid imagery, stark language, and dynamic voice, all of which, make for a most memorable experience. Now more than ever, we need these poems. With the utmost economy of words, skillful syntax, and emotional connections, each poem reverberates into the depths of your consciousness. Dark, intense, and wholly unique, *Ash*, by Gloria Mindock is what you've been waiting for— a collection of poetry that consumes and smolders.

—Renuka Raghavan,
author of *Out of the Blue* and *The Face I Desire*

Doug Holder: You start your new poetry collection *Ash* with a quote from Lidija Dimkowska, "The monster is sitting next to me, and it's so crowded in there, the membrane between me and the events of the world are going to burst." Have things for you burst? Is the membrane no more?

Gloria Mindock: When I read her quote, I had to use it. The world is so full of chaos everywhere you look. There are atrocities, Covid, social justice issues, power struggles, border woes, economic trouble, death, hate crimes, and the list goes on. Whatever membrane there is, it is quickly disappearing. For me, I cling on to hope that things will get better. There are so many wonderful people out there. I hang on to that.

DH: You are known as a dark poet, but do you have a sense of ugly/beauty, and gallows humor amidst the carnage?

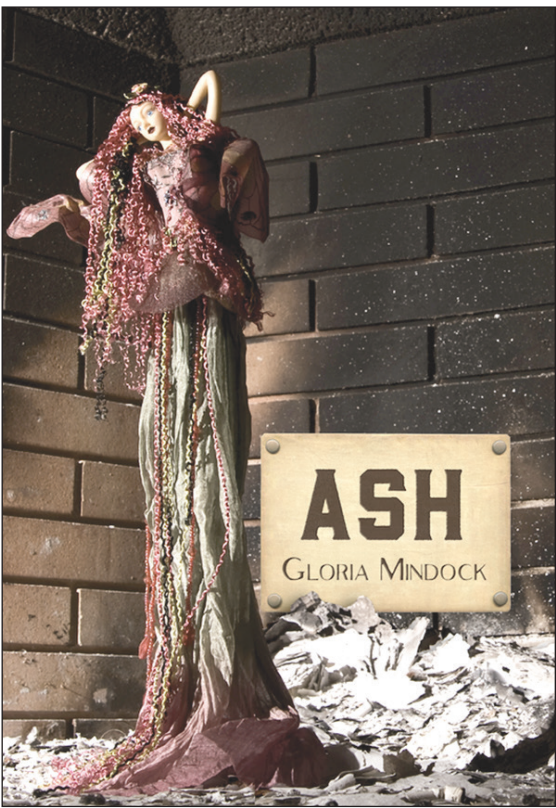
GM: Yes, I am known as a dark poet in my writing, but I am a happy person, cheerful, and find humor in so many things. There are so many beautiful places in this world to see and be a part of. In my life, all my friends are positive, loyal, and caring. Being a publisher, has brought so many people into my life from all over the world. This is one of the best things that has ever happened to me. We all are bridging the gaps between countries and learning about one another.

I also give time to the things that need to change and be a voice for the people who have no voice. This is my calling. Right now, many of us are working to help a writer in Africa because the government is after him because he speaks his mind. He loves his country but has no freedom. I cannot say too much about this because he is in hiding.

I can find humor but to deal with the ugly, the carnage, I keep things in perspective. I do all I can to change the bad but live my life. I love to bring joy into this world and shine light in the dark corners of the world.

DH: In your title poem, *Ash*, with an ashes to ashes, dust to dust theme, you speculate that your ash may be part of a child's toy, or a piece of trash blowing in the wind. You were brought up a Catholic. Do you have any personal sense of the afterlife?

GM: I consider myself spiritual. I was raised Cath-



olic and (Saint) Pope John XXIII is my relative on one side of my family and on the other side, there are many priests. I do believe in an afterlife, angels and God. I respect all religious beliefs and have also taken some of those beliefs into my life too.

DH: Poet Flavia Cosma opined that you know nothing heals. Do you agree with that statement? Is there ever a balm that heals our wounds?

GM: Everyone is wounded in some way or another. It could be a little wound or a big one. Being a counselor and clinical director in addictions for almost 40 years, I have seen the wounded. Dealing with many veterans at times, I have seen the wounded. Watching the news, I see the wounded. The fact is the world is wounded, but you learn to live with it. When you help others and show kindness, this helps the wounds heal, and make wounds easier to live with.

DH: The "sky" in your poems seem more than just a place for ash to drift down. It seems a place of transcendence, a place where you can fly.

GM: I have always, since a young girl, seen the sky as heaven. It is so beautiful. The stars at night so gorgeous. It is a place of calm looking at us. It too has a violent side, bad storms, floods caused by rain, and tornadoes. There is beauty with the storms, but it is horrible when people lose their homes or die. Everything seems to have another side to it. No matter what, it is transcendence, and the universe is where you fly. *Ash* is just a memory the rest of us have. We never forget those we love that have passed on.

DH: Many of your books deal with atrocities, what draws you to this?

GM: As mentioned above, I try to be a voice for those who don't have a voice. It is important for me to bring awareness to what is going on. It is surprising how many people don't know what is happening or are not interested in being involved. When innocent people are getting slaughtered, how can you turn away and live with yourself? So many countries over the years ignored the atrocities happening. The UN does not want to call situations a genocide because they will have to get involved. This infuriates me. So many countries turn a blind eye. You see this happening over and over. So no, I will never shut up about it. I am currently writing about Syria. I do have first-hand accounts of the horror. So I continue.


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