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The Somerville Times

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VOL. 8 NO. 21

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, MAY 27, 2020

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

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Wild, wild,
Somerville

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timeline

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City's Shared Streets pilot to begin next month



The intent of the Somerville Shared Streets plan is to prioritize creating routes that connect residents to critical services.

In late May, the City of Somerville will begin a Shared Streets pilot program in an effort to provide more walking and biking routes that allow for social distancing. Routes will connect residents to essential services like food distribution sites, medical facilities, and grocery stores. The Shared Streets initiative opens up low-volume or residential side-streets to pedestrians, cyclists, and other users while still allowing vehicle access for residents of the street, first responders, delivery drivers, sanitation trucks, and street sweepers.

The first Shared Streets route, which will be up in running in early June, will connect Winter Hill and East Somerville neighborhoods and include the Somerville Public Schools food distribution sites at the Healey and East Somerville Community schools; the Project Soup Food Pantry at 165 Broadway; Stop and Shop; and the Capuano School.

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Moroccan Hospitality: Just the two of us

By Alberto Gilman

In the midst of COVID-19, Moroccan Hospitality, located at 585 Somerville Ave., owned and managed by sisters Amina Ghallay Mctursh and Nouzha Ghallay, struggles to stay afloat during the statewide lockdown.

Across the state and country, local restaurants adapt to new regulations, lack revenue and customers, and prepare for what lies ahead for their businesses.

"I thought in my mind this stuff will never come to America," Mctursh said in a phone interview. "Then, I started learning about the COVID-19."

In the weeks that followed the rise in cases here in Massachusetts, customers would not come into the restaurant and catering orders were all cancelled.

Now, Moroccan Hospitality transitions to take out options in order to keep their customers safe. This is the main

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Moroccan Hospitality, owned by Amina Mctursh and Nouzha Ghallay, hopes to return to serving its customers at the conclusion of the lockdown.

— Photo courtesy of Moroccan Hospitality

ATTN: LOCAL BUSINESS OWNERS

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

Street sweeping has begun and parking enforcement will begin the week of June 1. Until then, the city is asking for voluntary compliance. On Monday, June 1, parking control officers will start issuing tickets for not observing street sweeping rules. Street sweeping allows more debris to be cleaned off the streets, which means it doesn't end up in the storm drains, which can cause flooding. Make sure you know where you can park by checking out the signs on your street and visiting somerville-ma.gov/sweeper. Policies are being developed to account for per-sons ordered to isolate due to COVID-19 who are thus unable to move their car.








Healthy, local food is important. The Farmers Markets are open again in Davis Square (www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis) and Union Square (www.unionsquaremain.org/2020-season). But this year they will be different. Both markets will encourage only one person per household to do the shopping, incorporate social distancing guidelines and allow a limited amount of shoppers in the space. Please sign up for a shopping spot in advance at the market websites. SNAP and HIP benefits are accessible for shoppers in both markets. No gathering or socializing is allowed in the markets. See you there and remember that we are in this together ... from a responsible 6 ft. distance, of course.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to Mary Hart, the matriarch of the Hart family. Even today while she could be enjoying retirement she went back to work to help as a nurse during this crisis. She is a great person and we wish her the very best of birthdays. Another great person to wish a happy birthday to, Chrissie Clark, our own Editor's wife. We hope after this edition is done they will have time to celebrate and enjoy her birthday. Happy birthday to a great guy we grew up with down in East Somerville, Russell (Rusty) Smithe Jr. We hope he has a great time this week with his many friends and family members. Happy birthday to

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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of May 27 – June 2 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday May 27	Partly Cloudy	86°/65°	10%	55%	SW 15 mph
 Thursday May 28	Partly Cloudy	84°/67°	10%	58%	SW 14 mph
 Friday May 29	Rain	82°/67°	19%	68%	SSW 16 mph
 Saturday May 30	Rain	80°/58°	69%	60%	WSW 12 mph
 Sunday May 31	Rain	69°/47°	9%	38%	NW 11 mph
 Monday June 1	Sunny	66°/49°	10%	31%	N 10 mph
 Tuesday June 2	Sunny	68°/50°	11%	36%	NW 10 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: New health campaign proposed to prevent COVID-19 spread

KRISTEN STREZO says:

THANK YOU for writing about this, Somerville Times team! I do want to clarify a little what I mentioned in the City Council Meeting; if the PPE travels through the water system, it is more of an environmental concern. I want to clarify that do not believe there are any studies that have found that Covid can be transmitted through the water system.

Response to: City's Shared Streets Pilot to begin next month

Courtney O'Keefe says:

"Somerville has also begun a pilot to modify city-controlled traffic signals where the equipment allows this." In order for this to be suggested, researched and completed successfully, a traffic engineer would be needed. Do we have one? Full time? Part time?

Response to: Newstalk – May 20

Tom O. says:

It's funny how the city thinks that one group of people can be prohibited from using public city streets. It's a group that contains people who pay property taxes in the city for the use of city services and excise taxes for the maintenance of the roads. Much of this group is made up of families, elderly, and disabled and those belonging to this group should be considering a class-action lawsuit against the city. It's clear discrimination since there is no other group in the city who are barred from using a city street. Try re-reading the article using another group (bicyclists, teachers, artists, plumbers, etc.) who are barred from using city streets.

Casimir H. Prohosky Jr. says:

Huh? What is it exactly that you're complaining about? If you yourself even know.

Response to: Lyrical Somerville – May 20

Bridget Galway says:

Great poem! Great to experience the city that no longer exists, and kept well in this poem, which every stanza keenly describes. You did it proud.

Response to: A happy birthday drive-by

Steve Keenan says:

What a wonderful gesture by the SFD and the SPD! You gave a little boy a very memorable birthday! You Public servants are awesome!

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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Life in the  by Jimmy Del Ponte

Somerville's wild kingdom



Disclaimer: in no way does the following story endorse, recommend or approve of going near any railroad tracks. It is extremely dangerous.

We had a lot of fun growing up in Somerville during the 50's, 60's, 70's etc. Sometimes we refer to that time as "the good old days."

Sometimes we say, "back in the day." We may even say, "way back when." Lately, I find myself saying, "seems like yesterday." All these phrases run through my mind

when I write these stories of the Somerville I grew up in. "Remember when..." is a good one too.

I loved most of my experiences being raised here and I try to share the memories that I think may be entertaining. If nothing else, my little stories will be saved in *The Somerville Times* archives so my grandkids can read about the fun their crazy grandfather had growing up. They will also learn that their grandpa used poor sentence structure, run on sentences, and too much punctuation!!

Here's another page out of Somerville's past that I feel should be chronicled. Just



a little tale about a fun summer pastime activity we enjoyed before cell phones, laptops and Netflix.

Somerville has a wide array of wildlife within its boundaries. We have many varieties of birds, wild turkeys, squirrels, and lots of bunnies. There's even a family of coyotes living under a porch behind my house on the next street over, which has us very nervous. When we were kids there were lots of baby frogs in our neighborhoods. Yes, baby frogs.

When I first asked my friends to share their memories about catching pollywogs in what I like to call Yester Ville, some were baffled. It seems most called the baby frogs tadpoles but my Davis Square area crew always called them pollywogs. They use to be abundant in the puddles that formed along the B&M railroad tracks. The stretch of track that we hunted the squirmly little creatures at was between Davis Square and Willow Ave.

We would go down the tracks with a bucket and come home with a bunch of pollywogs. I have

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Per the order of government restrictions in helping to stop the spread of COVID-19, we are only open for **take out and delivery** until further notice.

Please note that we are offering in addition to our full menu platters and trays of food to go as well.

For delivery, please visit [doordash.com](https://www.doordash.com)

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

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

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

Be safe and stay healthy – The Mount Vernon Restaurant

THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Stolen car spotted with wrong plates

While on patrol at the intersection of Broadway and Cross Street, a Somerville Police officer queried the license plate of a vehicle bearing a California registration. The results of the query showed that the registration expired on August 28, 2019, and the plates belonged to a different vehicle.

The officer activated his emer-

gency equipment and stopped the vehicle on Cross St. East.

The officer then approached the operator and requested his license and registration. The operator, later identified as Yosvani Hernandez, of Somerville, stated that he borrowed the vehicle from a friend and did not have the registration.

The officer informed Somerville Police of the location, and other officers arrived as backup.

The officer queried the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) of the vehicle and the results showed that it was reported to the Everett Police Department as stolen on April 20, 2020.

RMV records also showed

that Hernandez was not duly licensed to drive.

The officer removed Hernandez and four juvenile passengers from the vehicle and placed Hernandez under arrest for attaching wrong motor vehicle, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, and receiving a stolen motor vehicle.

The four juveniles were identified and released to their legal parent/guardian. The vehicle was inventoried and towed from the scene in accordance with department policy.

Hernandez was transported to Somerville Police headquarters and booked on the above stated charges.

Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210

Help Keep Somerville Safe!

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Yosvani Hernandez, of Somerville, May 23, 9:29 p.m., arrested at Cross Street

E. on charges of attaching wrong motor vehicle, un-

censed operation of a motor vehicle, and receiving a stolen

motor vehicle.


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City's Shared Streets pilot to begin next month CONT. FROM PG 1

Subsequent routes will open throughout the summer, which will give city Mobility staff members time to evaluate each route and make changes as needed. To see a full map of planned routes and schedule, visit our SomerVoice site at <https://somervoice.somervillema.gov/covid19mobility>. As routes are implemented, feedback on them can also be submitted on SomerVoice.

"As we begin to reopen the economy and more people need to leave their homes, we need to make sure we have safe options for that. This is essential planning for life during a pandemic," said Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone. "We're anticipating more people will be on foot or on bikes in these warm weather months, and we're creating more space for safe, accessible transportation. Our community has shown tremendous resolve and made many shared sacrifices during the COVID-19 emergency, and now is not the time to let our guard down. Somerville's shared streets are for moving, not for gathering. We'll be relying on everyone to use the streets responsibly and remember that we are all in this together."

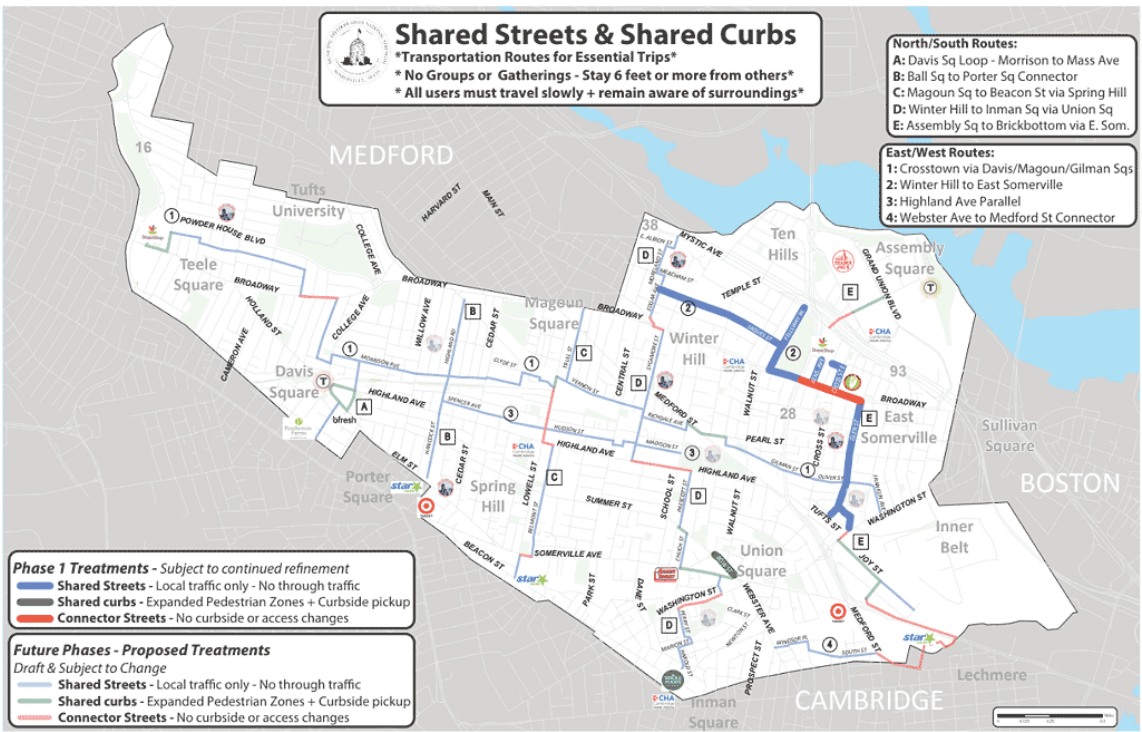
Safety measures include signage and flexible barriers to alert all users to the shared use of

these streets. Somerville's program will use temporary materials that can be modified based on our experience and feedback from residents with the pilot. Motorists allowed to use a shared street, such as abutters, should drive slowly and expect to see people in the street on these routes. People walking, rolling, and biking should remain alert and aware and make room for these allowed vehicles.

Sidewalk expansions, Curbside Pickup Areas, and Touchless Walk Signals

Along with the Shared Streets pilot, the city will be implementing several measures starting this month intended to improve public safety and social distancing on Somerville streets, including temporary sidewalk expansions in commercial areas, pickup/drop-off measures in business districts, and the introduction of touchless walk signals.

The city will be temporarily widening sidewalks in central business districts to provide more room for customers to social distance while waiting for pickup from stores and restaurants. Traffic cones and other movable barriers placed in the street a few feet from the curb will be used to create additional space for circulation and queuing. The city has also modified



parking meters in many business districts to allow 15-minute pickup/drop-off activities that support local businesses.

"As economic activity returns to Somerville's commercial squares, we must keep workers, customers, and passersby safe from community transmission of COVID-19," said Mayor Curtatone. "Temporary sidewalk expansions and 15-minute vehicle parking will help facilitate contactless curbside retail and restaurant take-out business. These strategies have been successfully deployed in dozens of cities around

the world over the past two months, and I look forward to Somerville's first pilot projects."

Somerville has also begun a pilot to modify city-controlled traffic signals where the equipment allows this. This will eliminate the need for pedestrians to push a button to gain a walk signal. The measure reduces unnecessary physical contact with the push button, reducing the likelihood of viral transmission from a high-touch surface. Multilingual informational signage is being installed at each modified signal. The Mobility Team is also working in partnership with the

MA Department of Transportation to make similar changes to State-owned walk signals, while exploring equipment upgrades for city signals that currently cannot be changed to touchless.

Finally, a broader exploration of public realm solutions is underway to support the community and local businesses as we seek to move toward greater activity safely. The city's Planning, Public Space, Public Schools, and Parks and Recreations staff are reviewing best practices worldwide during the pandemic for moving more activities and business outdoors.

City updated on COVID-19 assistance to senior residents



An Officer's Communication was submitted by the Director of the Council on Aging at the latest regular meeting of the Somerville City Council providing the Council with updates and ways to help seniors living in our community during the current COVID-19 pandemic. The report was ordered by the Council at its previous meeting.

In the report, Somerville Council on Aging Executive Director Cindy L. Hickey stated, "Since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic in mid-March 2020 the Council on Aging has remained committed to provide a width breath of programming focused on the social, mental and physical well-being of older adults. The staff of the COA have been quick to mobilize changes in service modalities to meet the ever-increasing needs of our seniors."

"We have maintained close communication with older adults through an expansion of our Friendly Phone-Caller program. The program now consists of over 20 community volunteers in addition to our staff who are reaching out to members of our community to provide vital connections in an effort to combat isolation. We have expanded our social media platform and are posting daily health and wellness tips, virtual resources and daily challenges to boost mood and well-being."

"For those without access we have increased publications of our newsletters and direct mailings of our Living Your Life Well, a publication focused on one's health and wellbeing. Our social workers remain committed to assisting residents in their full breadth of services. They continue to counsel clients on an individual basis and perform all case management duties. They have built a virtual program focused on resiliency and dealing better with difficult times and are routinely in communication with their caregiver's groups. The social workers remain committed to those with cognitive decline and have worked in partnership with Steve Gintz, music therapist, to bring one of our Memory Café's most beloved programs to them virtually."

"Our physical fitness program has also turned virtual. In partnership with our cable access station we now offer, Music and Movement, Fit-4-Life, and Yoga among others on public television, YouTube and Zoom."

"Additionally, we have expanded our food access, Brown Bag, program. We have successfully turned a monthly food pick-up center into a fully home delivered program reaching close to 200 homes this month alone. We thank you for your vital assistance, along with partnerships with Green Cab and SCM, in making these home deliveries a possibility."

"In an effort to maintain elder's physical health and compliance with regulations, we have mobilized a drive that delivered over 4,000 protective masks, to all seniors living in elderly buildings. Our plan is to distribute over 30,000 by the completion of the project. In addition, we have been able to provide assistance with obtaining prescriptions and supplies to meet resident's hygienic needs and are working in close contact with other city services to meet the unique needs of those under quarantine."

"Using these varying outreach techniques, we have seen an expansion of our client base and have begun revamping and reorganization of our client data base."

"As the pandemic progresses, we continue to face each new challenge with a pragmatic and empathetic approach. For instance, just today, we are in the process of determining if we can partner with local restaurants to provide nutritious meals to our senior buildings under quarantine. While we are evolving and learning every day, we remain focused on our original goal; to provide a safe, social and educational space for all older adults in Somerville."

The report was subsequently placed on file by the City Council.

— By Jim Clark

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week

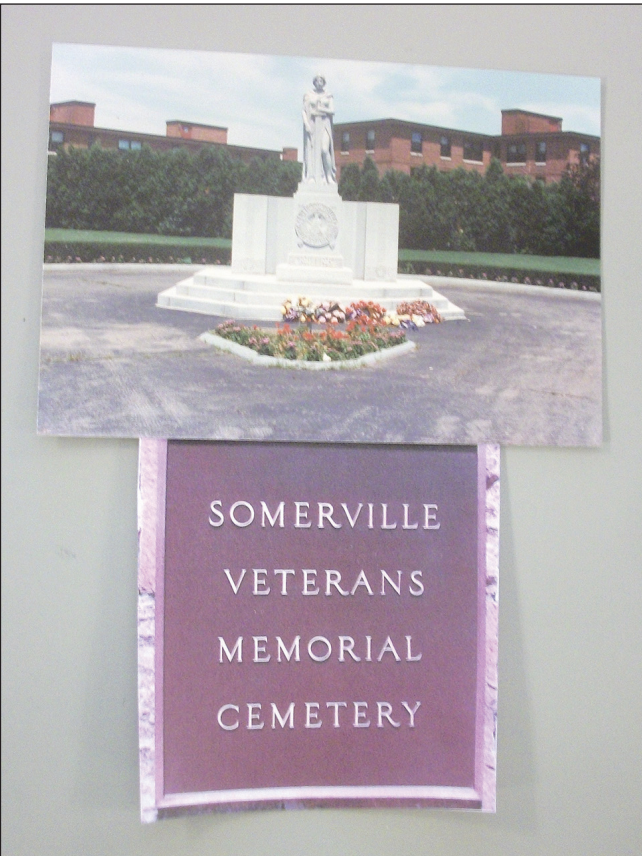


Eagle feathers #205

Memorial Day

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

The tradition began in 1868 with the men of the Grand Army of the Republic. They designated May 30 as a day for decorating the graves of those who had fallen in the Civil War with flowers. It later became a day when parades and orations celebrated the victories of both Armies, the Blue and the Gray. The graves of these veterans numbered over 600,000, and they are found in thousands of their hometowns throughout the country.



In New England, Rhode Island first made it a legal holiday in 1874, followed by Vermont, New Hampshire, and in 1881 Massachusetts. Following World War I, the day of observance was changed to honor not only the Civil War dead, but all American veterans who lost their lives in all of her wars. Today, it is known as Memorial Day.



There are two cemeteries in Somerville. The newer cemetery is located on Broadway near the Arlington line and is one of the only veterans "killed in

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COMMENTARY

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

Honoring military victims of disease on Memorial Day



By Matthew McLaughlin
City Council President

Every Memorial Day television networks show war movies filled with heroic acts and graphic violence. Prior to World War II, however, military personnel were more likely to die from disease than bullets, bombs or bayonets. No camera could ever capture their struggle against an invisible enemy, one that does not recognize borders or sides. The last time Americans dealt with anything close to our current situation was the Influenza

pandemic of 1918. Known as the Spanish Flu because Spain was the only country willing to acknowledge the disease, the first recorded American cases were in Fort Riley, Kansas. Soldiers carried this disease to the European theater where it spread across the battlefield. Neither side wanted to acknowledge the silent suffering of their troops lest they appear weak to the enemy. These veterans didn't have the luxury to shelter in place. They didn't even have the luxury of penicillin. Their shelter was a trench and their hospitals were more dangerous statistically than crossing No Man's Land. Death by disease was a fact of life throughout history, and the military always suffered the most due to the extreme conditions they are exposed to. For every three soldiers killed in action during the Civil War, five more

died from disease. Valley Forge is a symbol of American resilience during the Revolutionary War, not for an epic battle, but just for surviving. Of the 2,000 patriots who died at that encampment, two thirds died from disease like dysentery, typhoid and typhus. Even today American troops deal with a dual front of the battlefield and Covid-19. As of May 22, 5,959 troops were diagnosed with Covid-19, 161 were hospitalized and two died. Troop withdrawal in Afghanistan is currently hindered due to quarantine. For those veterans lucky enough to survive war, many are dying from disease due to poor health and living conditions, such as the more than 50 veterans who died at the Soldier's Home in Holyoke. The sacrifices of these brave men and women put into per-



spective the sacrifice of wearing a mask outside and staying home whenever possible. While some bemoan basic precautions as a violation of their civil liberties, the veterans who succumbed to disease throughout history would gladly trade their trench for a couch and their gas mask for a piece of cloth.

Sacrifice comes in many forms. Those who made the ultimate sacrifice should be honored, whether they died by machine gun or malaria. Those of us who benefit from their sacrifice have a responsibility to remember them and must strive to create a world where war and disease are prevented at all cost.

Moroccan Hospitality: Just the two of us

CONT. FROM PG 1

source of income that keeps the business going, along with catering. No savings, possibilities of closure, and the risk of infection are always in the back of the minds of the sisters. "I'm scared. I'm shocked. I always think about tomorrow, what's going to happen?" Ghallay said. "If we lose the business, who's going to hire me with this situation going on now?" This business is a small part of the larger Somerville community and to lose it would be devastating for the sisters. The restaurant serves Mo-

roccan food and delicacies to all those who enter and to the surrounding student populations of Harvard and MIT, as well as others. With not many Moroccan based restaurants in the area, students who traveled to Morocco for a time and wanted to get authentic food back in the states would come to the restaurant to dine. Creating relationships with the customers since they first started the business is a part of what keeps the business going. "I love the customers because they love us," Ghallay said. "I'm

going to miss my customers." The idea of the restaurant was just after dinner talk between Amina and her late husband James. The idea for the name was his. In 2010, James passed away and Amina returned to Morocco for a time to be with her family. Returning to Somerville, she set out to bring the dream her husband had into a reality. Supporting this business and other local businesses across Somerville, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the rest of the country will help these owners continue to provide food to their customers.



"Anything you want, I will make it for you," Mctursh said. "Any special dishes, we will make it for them."

Connect with Moroccan Hospitality on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/moroccan-hospitality>.

Somerville's wild kingdom

CONT. FROM PG 3

to mention that we would also chomp on stalks of wild rhubarb that grew free down there. I realize that hanging around the railroad tracks was very dangerous and we were very careful. On that stretch there were usually only freight trains that used the tracks and we could hear them coming with plenty of time to get to safety. Here are some stories that friends shared about their pollywog hunting days: "We used to catch them in the puddle that formed on the tracks next to the White Banner laundry (Cedar St. area) we even called it pollywog ponds."

"We caught ours on the tracks between Davis Sq. and Cedar St. All along the side of the tracks in those huge puddles. Good memories." "The trick was if you found and old board or cardboard, flip it and you were almost guaranteed to find a snake." (yes, snakes also.) "We caught a lot of grasshoppers by the train tracks by my house. Grass snakes made you jump when you saw one ... you would run away ... then be back the next day." "I brought home a bunch of pollywogs from the puddles down by the tracks (now bike

path) and filled the tub for them to live in. My mother was not happy!" We brought home a lot of pollywogs that we caught down the tracks but I never recall one growing into a full grown frog. It was just another way we entertained ourselves with what we had. Speaking of animals in the old days, when my cousin was about seven she went a step further and "borrowed" a baby turtle from Woolworths in Davis Square. It was kind of like entrapment for an animal loving kid because the pet section was right next to the rear exit.



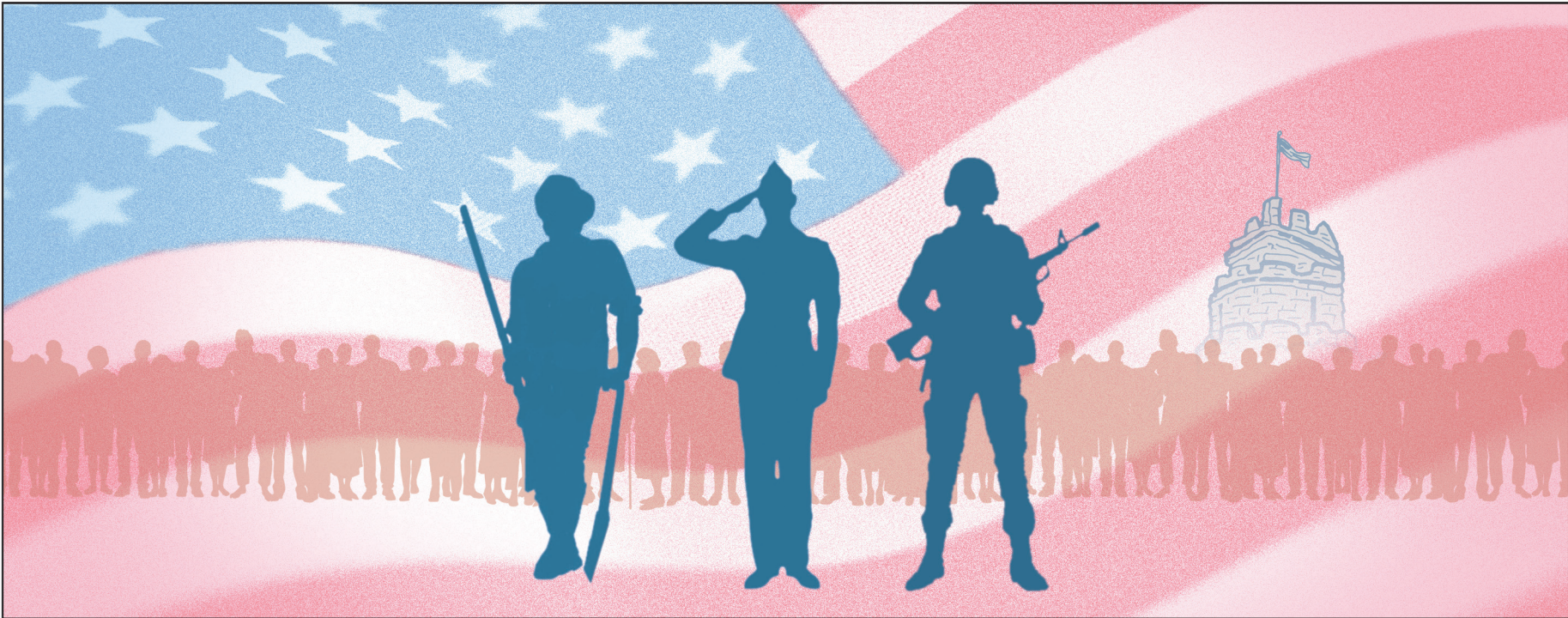
Has anyone else noticed that there seems to be hardly any more pigeons around? Remember when flocks of cooing and flapping pigeons used to be in-

side the old Sullivan Square station? Thankfully, there are still lots of robins and cardinals around. But I haven't seen a wild Somerville pollywog in years.

COMMENTARY

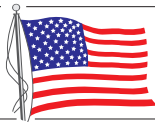
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



A different kind of Memorial Day remembrance - with the same values.

Our View Of The Times



It began as a way to memorialize the military casualties of the Civil War, and was originally termed Decoration Day. Decorating the graves of the countless multitudes of fallen soldiers helped to console the grieving survivors of the debacle while uniting the once divided nation in a worthwhile common cause.

On Monday of this week we took some time to pay homage to those who made the supreme sacrifice for their country. For us all. We had to do it differently this time because of the restrictions and precautions being followed due to the coronavirus problem.

Missing this year was the colorful parade that we usual enjoy. In the past it was always inspirational and a great place to meet old friends and perhaps make some new ones. It was an opportunity to take some time to meet and get to know a veteran that we may encounter during this special celebration.

These heroes deserve recognition and thanks for the service they have given, and we always came away from the experience feeling a bit more enlightened and enriched than before. But even though the usual means of recognition are on hold this year, we still hold them dear in our hearts and minds.

So give some thought to what the brave men and women who laid down their lives mean to all of us today. How the quality of life we enjoy in America would not be possible without those selfless acts of courage and devotion. It is good to have that sense of appreciation, no matter what we ourselves may be going through at the present time.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

another local guy, **Dan Rogovich**, who is celebrating this week. Happy birthday to a good friend who grew up here in the city, who still has ties here and plans on moving back, **David Byron**. He owns his own masonry company in Harwich right now. We wish him the very best of birthdays. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Peggy Ryan Lookliss**, **Karen Ferullo**, **Tim Devin**, **Denise Pereira Barker**, **John Gore**, **Helen Mooney** and **Mary Champagne Adams** 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.

East Somerville Safe Pick-up Market takes place **Sunday, May 31**. Pre-order from the list of participating businesses and pick-up your order safely on Sunday between 10:00 a.m. and Noon. For more information, visit: <https://www.east-somervillemainstreets.org/market>

Once Somerville is pleased to announce the launch of their fundraising shirts. They're printed by **Somerville's Hemlock Ink Custom Screenprinting**. When you buy this T-shirt you are simultaneously supporting **Once Somerville** and another small local business. Order your T-Shirt here: https://stores.inksoft.com/hemlockink_support/shop/product-detail/1002755

As of **Sunday, May 24**, the **Green Line service** between **Lechmere** and **North Stations** is replaced with shuttle buses every day for approximately one year to accomplish work as part of the **Green Line Extension project (GLX)** and the **Green Line Transformation Program (GLT)**: the closure, relocation, and complete replacement of Lechmere Station and work to demolish, relocate, and reconstruct sections of the Lechmere Viaduct. Commuter bus routes (Routes 69, 80, 87, and 88) will continue to provide service to the existing busway at Lechmere Station during the Green Line service suspension. Customers should note that shuttles will be extended to operate between Lechmere and Haymarket Stations during some weekends in June, which are currently being finalized and scheduled.

Help celebrate the **Class of 2020**. Make a poster or sign to put on your windows or yards to congratulate our **2020 Somerville High School, Full Circle High School**, and **SCALE** graduates.

On **May 30, 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.**, **Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA)** is accepting **masks**. The following link offers a pattern and gives more details. Thanks to the many local sewers who have already been hard at work on this. Here is the link for CHA's **Call for Masks** and directions: https://www.challiance.org/about/newsroom/personal_protective_equipment_ppe_homemade_donatio_1180

Learn to **grow your own food**. Are you interested in **starting a garden**? Already have one, but want to take it to the next level? **The Somerville Public Library** and **Green City Growers** have partnered to offer gardening workshops on nine Saturdays this season. Due to the social distancing measures required by COVID-19, they will videotape the workshops and share them on their YouTube channel until it is safe to meet in person. A Green City Growers farmer will lead the workshops at the library's raised bed gardens. You'll learn when and what to plant, and how to maintain, fertilize, and harvest crops. This workshop series is made possible with generous funding by the **Friends of the Somerville Public Library (MA)**. For more information, con-tact Meg at mragland@minlib.net or (617)523-5000 x2956.

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.

Support local business and enjoy the best of Somerville's culinary scene by ordering takeout or delivery during this difficult time. Check out <https://www.somervilledelivers.com> for a list of restaurants accepting orders now. Don't see your restaurant listed? Add it here: [Somerville-ma.gov/covidbizhelp](https://www.somerville-ma.gov/covidbizhelp).

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

Continued on page 13

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#732

1. What direction does the sun rise in the summer?

2. What are shovel-head, knucklehead, and panhead?

3. What is the only state in New England that does not border the Atlantic Ocean?

4. What is the state beverage of Maine?

5. In which city would you find the Blue Mosque?

6. Which city contains a palace called the Forbidden City?

7. What are amber-

jack, cusk and pout?

8. Where would you find the pisiform bone?

9. Who created the character of Ziggy Stardust in his glam-rock period?

10. In what year did the millionth Volkswagen roll off the assembly line?

11. In which TV western series did James Drury star?

12. Who spoke in film for the first time in the movie *Anna Christie*?

Answers on page 15

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by taking out an olive from First Class salads.
2. In case of an emergency, Switzerland could fit 114% of its population in bunkers.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

LAWYER LINGO

ACROSS

1. Requests
5. Pub dispenser
8. Feline sound
11. HGTV's "____" or Flop"
12. Ferdinand, e.g.
13. Like a ghost
14. Pro _____, or in proportion
15. Miscellany
16. Elsewhere
17. Response to #51 Across?
19. Cher has one
20. Marine enchantress
21. Not tac nor toe
22. Not underwear!
25. Battery's companion
29. Literary "even"
30. "____ it ____," or go full force
33. Quartet minus one
34. Greyish brown
36. Common conjunction
37. Ban from school, e.g.
38. Homesteader's measurement
39. Complete failure
41. "Stand and Deliver" singer
42. Relating to breastbone
44. Spectacle venues
46. Marcia's jealous sister
47. Type of assistant, for short
49. Sudden and brilliant success
51. Courtroom protest
55. Like blue sky
56. Twins, e.g.
57. Was a passenger
58. Shirking work
59. Volcano in Sicily
60. All over again
61. _____ se or _____ tem
62. Bear's hangout
63. Quiet attention grabber

DOWN

1. Big do
2. Eastern European

CROSSWORD

12345678910

111213

141516

171819

2021

22232425262728

2930313233

34353637

38394041

42434445

464748

495051525354

555657

585960

616263

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✓ Patented Quick Drain® Technology

✓ Lifetime Warranty on the bath AND installation, INCLUDING labor backed by American Standard

✓ 44 Hydrotherapy jets for an invigorating massage

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Or visit: www.walkintubinfo.com/spm

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3. Toy with a tail
4. Thinly spread
5. Tutu fabric
6. Mork from Ork
7. Walk, as through mud
8. Cripple
9. Major European river
10. Ancient Chinese dynasty
12. Stock exchange, in Paris
13. Mollify
16. Anisette, for short
18. Often precedes through, to search
21. Cough syrup amt.
22. Greek Bs
23. Don't just stand there!
24. Habituate
25. Gives a hand
26. Of a city
27. Tarzan's swing rope
28. Reasons to sue
31. Peacock's pride
32. Genetic initials
35. Lie made under oath
37. Pre-Ionic
39. Belieber or Parrothead, e.g.
40. Usually not allowed in court
43. Back of the neck
45. To lure into a compromising act
47. To annul or suspend
48. Jinn or genie
49. Old Russian autocrat
50. Anis-flavored aperitif
51. Newspaper piece
52. Atom that lost an electron, pl.
53. Words from Wordsworth, pl.
54. Type of salamander
55. European peak

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

SUDOKU

FREE! Savings include an American Standard Right Height Toilet FREE! (\$500 Value)

AS SEEN ON TV

American Standard Walk-In Tubs

WALK-IN BATHTUB SALE! SAVE \$1,500

✓ Backed by American Standard's 140 years of experience

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

© StatePoint Media

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

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

Somerville sets official schedule for first phase of reopenings

After a review of Governor Charlie Baker’s phased reopening plan, the City of Somerville has set a Monday, June 1, start for on-premises businesses such as manufacturing, offices, and certain personal services. The extra time added by the city will allow for new local case numbers to continue their steady decline and for COVID-19 testing efforts to be expanded both in number and with a new mobile testing unit.

As of June 1, the city and state reopening will largely be aligned, with the major differences being that Somerville will remain on its previously established schedule to resume construction in phases, houses of worship will continue to be limited to no more than 10 people in a gathering, and hair salons and barbershops will reopen in early June after further consultation

with local owners regarding safe practices. Meanwhile, businesses that will be reopening will have more time to make critical physical changes to their operations, obtain protective equipment for employees, and modify workplace routines. It also gives State and city health officials more time to enhance best practices for social distancing, sanitization, and protection of both employees and customers.

"We are putting safety first in our reopening plan ... this is the greatest public health crisis of our lifetimes"



“We are putting safety first in our reopening plan,” said Somerville Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone. “This is the greatest public health crisis of our lifetimes. Like the State, we are trying to work through the issues of what constitutes safe economic activity in the middle of a pandemic.

Yet we are the most densely populated city in the most densely populated region of one of the hardest-hit states in the nation. Everyone recognizes our risks are higher than less populated areas of Massachusetts. This brief but critical extra time will enable us to make vital gains on the health front and give our local businesses time to work through the enormous list of considerations we all have connected to reopening.”

The extra time will help the city and its partners get critical resources for managing COVID-19 into place. Somerville already has one of, if not the most, aggressive and comprehensive local testing and contact tracing effort underway in the state. But the city is also poised to further expand testing and tracing. Today, the city will launch a mobile testing unit with the Cambridge Health Alliance and Cataldo Ambulance Service. Recently, Cambridge Health Alliance also received 20,000 new cotton swabs from the state to conduct tests in Somerville and nearby communities.

“Without expanded testing, we may not realize we have new hotspots that need to be addressed until residents end up in the hospital or we see an increase in deaths. Earlier intervention is key to the containment of the virus,” said Doug Kress, Director of the city’s Department of Health and Human Services. “Having this

extra testing capacity in Somerville and neighboring towns – as well as our new mobile testing unit that can get to our most vulnerable residents or to hotspots quickly – is critical to a safer easing of restrictions.”

“I understand the urgency of some in the business community, but the safety of our workers and community has to be our paramount concern,” Mayor Curtatone said. “In turn, how we address those health concerns will determine the long-term success of our economic recovery. For a sustainable reopening, employees and customers alike need to be confident that it is safe to work in and frequent establishments. We all need to appreciate the higher degree of difficulty of reopening in a compact urban environment. This is a highly contagious disease, and it has the potential to cause a deadly resurgence if we don’t get this transition right.”

The decision to keep gatherings in houses of worship to 10 or fewer people is based on state guidance that all gatherings should be kept to 10 or fewer people as well as warnings from health experts. Residents are reminded that the city’s health emergency remains in effect and facial coverings and social distancing are still required in all public spaces.

The city will be using the coming days to meet and speak with faith leaders, business owners, and workers to shape local plans going forward and also gather their concerns, questions, and needs so that we can continue to advocate for their interests to State officials on issues such as worker protections, PPE access, clarity in the reopening guidance, technical support, and other issues.

All Safer at Home and safety advisories for individuals in the Commonwealth’s reopening plan also apply in Somerville immediately. The city also strongly urges all offices to choose work-at-home for all employees able to do so in order to reduce public transit crowding and exposure risks for workers who cannot work unless on site.

“We really shouldn’t be thinking of this as a return to normal. As the governor said, we are moving from Stay at Home to Safer at Home, and that needs to be our focus. The virus is still here. The perils we faced before we united to flatten the curve still exist.

Continued on page 11

OBITUARY

Raymond Joseph Martinez Jr. (1945-2020)



Raymond J. (Butch) Martinez Jr., of North Reading, MA, died April 11, 2020 at Blueberry Hill Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Beverly, MA, following several years of declining health.

Born on December 13, 1945, in Everett, MA, Butch was the son of the late Agnes (Nowak) Martinez and Raymond J. Martinez. He attended Everett schools and graduated from Everett Vocational High School. Initially working in the plumbing field, Butch later found his true calling as a Policeman. He ended his career as a Police officer for the City of Somerville, MA, retiring with a disability after 22 years of service. While in good health, he enjoyed body building, stamp collecting and especially, travel. He sought out paternal relatives in Colorado and maternal relatives in Poland. A Norway to Poland road trip, with cousins Marianne and Frances in pre-GPS days, left many amusing mem-

ories. Although his detective work did not lack excitement, Butch also travelled with his cousin Paul in then Communist Poland and they managed to reach destinations despite neither speaking Polish. A drive through rural Sweden also left a lasting impression.

In his late sixties Butch was infected with Lyme Disease, initially undiagnosed and from this he never fully recovered. He continued to enjoy the outdoors, the heavily treed privacy of his home in North Reading but his overall health began to decline. He was a companion and support to his late mother until her death in 2017, after which his own health rapidly deteriorated. Butch is survived by sisters Donna Rae Logan and Loretta Martinez of North Reading MA and Linda Woodin of Durham, North Carolina. He is also survived by cousins Paul Nowak of Tyngsboro MA, Richard Nowak of Salem NH, Joanne Lemay of Mashpee MA, Frances Nowak and Marianne Staid of Lowell MA, Stanley Nowak of Barnstable MA, Richard Tufenkjian of Belmont MA, Marianne Morton of Amherst, NH and Leo Paradis of Chelmsford, MA.

Butch had the brusque manner and “tough” speech not unusual after years in police work, but he was a soft touch; kind and generous to friends and family. He will be missed.

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LEGAL NOTICES

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COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

NORFOLK, ss. SUPERIOR COURT
CIVIL ACTION NO. 1928CV01293

JAY CASHMAN, INC.,
Plaintiff,

v.
ADIL DHOUIH,
Defendant.

ORDER FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

WHEREAS, a civil action has been brought against Adil Dhoui seeking judgment on counts of Money Had and Received, Unjust Enrichment, Breach of Fiduciary Duty and Breach of Loyalty, Conversion, Fraud, and Breach of the Covenant of Good Faith and Fair Dealing.


WHEREAS it appears to the Court from the Affidavit of Tom E. Zoller filed in this action that after the exercise of reasonable due diligence that no one can find Adil Dhoui and that no personal service of the Complaint may be made upon Adil Dhoui, it is ORDERED, pursuant to Mass.R.Civ.P. 4(d)(1), that notice of this suit be given to Adil Dhoui by publishing this Order, once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, the last publication to be at least twenty (20) days before said return day, in the Boston Globe and each of three newspapers of general circulation distributed within three miles of 15 Murray Court, East Boston, MA 02128; 16 Franklin Street, Apt. 1, Somerville, MA 02145; and 7 Lowman Circle, Peabody, MA 01960.

WE COMMAND YOU, ADIL DHOUIH, if you intend to make any defense, that on or by June 30, 2020, or within such further time as the law allows you, do cause your written responsive pleading (or other response as appropriate) to be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court, Norfolk Superior Court, 650 High Street, Dedham, MA 02026 in said Commonwealth, with a copy to be served upon the Plaintiff's attorney, James G. Grillo, Esq., Davagian Grillo & Semple LLP, 365 Boston Post Road, Ste. 200, Sudbury, MA 01776, and further that you defend against said suit according to law if you intend any defense, and that you do and receive what the Court shall order and adjudge therein. If you fail to meet the above requirements, judgment by default may be rendered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

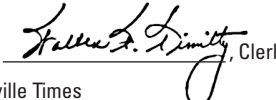
Unless otherwise provided by Rule 13(e), your answer must state as a counterclaim any claim which you may have against the Plaintiff which arises out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the Plaintiff's claim or you will be barred from making any such claim in any other action.

SO ORDERED.

Dated this 3rd day of April 2020.


JUSTICE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

WITNESS, Judith Fabricant, at Dedham, Massachusetts the 3rd day of April in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty.



Clerk

5/20/20, 5/27/20 The Somerville Times

Legal Notices can be downloaded

from our website:

www.TheSomervilleTimes.com


City of Somerville
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, June 10, 2020 at 6:00pm**. Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

The meeting will be held using GoToWebinar.
TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4668677411644376336>
Webinar ID: 960-238-323

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (631) 992-3221
Access code: 852-021-233

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

345 Medford St 345 Medford St, LLC proposes to construct a 6 story general building with a non-conforming rear set back in the Mid-Rise 4 district. This proposal requires three (3) Hardship Variances: for additional floors, for additional building height, and for encroachment on the rear setback.


34 North St (Clarendon Hill) POAH, Redgate, and the Somerville Community Corp seek a Comprehensive Permit under M.G.L. Chapter 40B. The proposal would replace the existing 216 units of housing at Clarendon Hill and create 375 additional units, for a total of 591 residential units in a mixture of apartment buildings and rowhouses. The Applicant is requesting waivers from various sections of the City's ordinances and requirements, including but not limited to waivers relating to the following topics: maximum density; maximum height; minimum set backs; parking requirements. The Applicant is also seeking a waiver to have the review required by various sections of the Code of Ordinances be conducted by the Zoning Board.

71 Union Square Laxmi Pradhan, Trustee of Everest Realty Trust, proposes to construct a 3-story commercial building in the Commercial Core district. The proposal requires two Hardship Variances for ground story height, and for ground story fenestration.

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

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

5/27/20 The Somerville Times


City of Somerville
PLANNING BOARD
City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville Planning Board (PB) will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 6:00pm**. Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

The meeting will be held using GoToWebinar.
TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4776727518817582096>
Webinar ID: 737-354-627

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (562) 247-8422
Access code: 835-015-452

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

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

5 Middlesex Ave CDNV Assembly, LLC & CDNV Land, LLC is seeking an Amendment to the Planned Unit Development-A Preliminary Master Plan previously approved under PB2018-7 from June 7, 2018 on 9.43 acres (Lots 88-A-1 & 99-A-15) in the Assembly Square Mixed-Use District (ASMD). The Amendment would allow for approximately 1.6 million square feet of mixed-use development (an increase of approximately 100,000 square feet). The proposal replaces the existing building (Block 24) and approved buildings for Blocks 21, 25, and 26 with primarily office/R&D/lab development and a new above-ground structured parking for up to 1,283 vehicles still focused around a significant Civic Space. The Applicant has also requested modifications to previously approved waivers.

133 Middlesex Ave Federal Realty Assembly Square, LLC is seeking a Revision to the SPSR-A Phase 1-AAA Assembly Square Marketplace, (PB#07.10, approved March 16, 2007), under the Planned Unit Development - Preliminary Master Plan (PUD-PMP) originally approved on December 14, 2006 (PB#2006-59 as amended) in the Assembly Square Mixed-Use District (ASMD) for a change of use to accommodate new office or restaurant uses within the existing building (no increase in square footage).

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

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

5/27/20 The Somerville Times

Year-long Green Line closure between Lechmere and North Stations

The Green Line Extension (GLX) project is reminding customers that Green Line service between Lechmere and North Stations is replaced with shuttle buses every day for approximately one year to accomplish work as part of the Green Line Extension project (GLX) and the Green Line Transformation Program (GLT): the closure, relocation, and complete replacement of Lechmere Station and work to demolish, relocate, and reconstruct sections of the Lechmere Viaduct.

During the Green Line diversion, GLX crews will remove the existing Lechmere Station, reconstructing a brand new Lechmere in a new location in Cambridge. The GLX team has also closely collaborated with the GLT team to close and replace the existing Lechmere Viaduct, which carries Green Line trains from Lechmere across the Charles River and into Downtown Boston. When complete, upgrades made to the Lechmere Viaduct will allow more trains to pass over the bridge, serving the new Lechmere Station and six new Green Line stations in Somerville and Medford constructed as part of GLX.

Shuttle bus service will replace Green Line trains between Lechmere and North Stations every day, including weekdays and weekends. Commuter bus routes (Routes 69, 80, 87, and 88) will continue to provide service to the existing busway at Lechmere Station during the Green Line service suspension. Customers should note that shuttles will be extended to operate between Lechmere and Haymarket Stations during some weekends in June, which are currently being finalized and scheduled.

Through close collaboration with MassDOT's District 6 Highway Division and the City of Boston Transportation Department, Charles River Dam Road will include all-day, bus-only lanes in both directions to support the Green Line shuttle bus diversion, providing continued service for Green Line riders. In addition to MBTA buses, professionally driven coaches, shuttle buses, and emergency vehicles will be allowed to fully access the bus lanes. Dedicated bicycle lanes installed on Charles River Dam Road last year will remain in place and fully operational for the duration of the bus replacement service. Upon completion of the Green Line service suspension, Charles River Dam Road will be restored to its original condition.

In compliance with the Commonwealth's Reopening Massachusetts Report, riders must wear face coverings while within the MBTA system, including onboard shuttle buses. Additionally, in an effort to promote social distancing efforts and protect the health and safety of MBTA riders and bus operators, ridership on shuttle buses will be limited with shuttles on standby to accommodate ridership demands as needed.

For more information, please visit mbta.com/GLEwork, mbta.com/GLX, mbta.com/GLT, or connect with the T on Twitter @MBTA, Facebook /TheMBTA, or Instagram @theMBTA.



LEGAL NOTICES



NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS

May 27, 2020
City of Somerville
93 Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02143
617-625-6600

On or about June 4, 2020 the City of Somerville will submit a request to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the release of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) authorized by Title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Act (NAHA) of 1990, as amended, for CDBG Cares funds to be applied to eligible CDBG activities which include, but are not limited to, assisting low- and moderate income households with rental assistance for a limited period, general food security and meal programs, workforce development and re-training programs, business assistance to retain employees that are low- and moderate-income, and support of other COVID-19 response services to ensure public health and well-being. The total estimated Cares Funds for COVID-19 eligible activities are 1,493,384. Further, eligible CDBG costs incurred as of March 27, 2020, which is the date in which the CARES Act was signed, and paid for with non-federal funds may be repaid with CDBG including those made under the CARES Act. These pre-award costs will meet all HUD requirements applicable to CDBG including those under the CARES Act. Unless waived by HUD, CDBG pre-award costs for FY 2020-2021 will not exceed 25% of the grant and will be used for the CDBG eligible activities as indicated above.

The activities proposed are categorically excluded under HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58 from the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements. Additional environmental factors will be reviewed as project sites are identified. An Environmental Review Record (ERR) that documents the environmental determinations for this project is on file at the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, and may be emailed or posted on the City website. Requests for review of ERR can be made to ospcd@somervillema.gov

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development. All comments received by June 3, 2020 will be considered by the City of Somerville prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.

RELEASE OF FUNDS

The City of Somerville certifies to HUD that Joseph Curtatone in his capacity as Mayor consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows the City of Somerville to use program funds.

HUD will consider objections to its release of funds and the City of Somerville's certification for a period of fifteen days following its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the City of Somerville; (b) the City has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the project have committed funds or incurred costs not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted via email in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to the Office of Community Planning and Development New England Office at CPD_COVID-19OEE-BOS@HUD.gov. Potential objectors should contact the Office of Community Planning and Development New England Office, Boston, MA via the provided email to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Joseph A. Curtatone, Mayor of the City of Somerville
5/27/20 The Somerville Times

Tufts employee grants help local organizations

Thirty-four local organizations in Tufts' four host communities have been awarded \$28,000 in grants from the Tufts Community Grants (TCG) program. The grants, which are fully funded by donations from Tufts University faculty and staff, are awarded each year to community-based charitable organizations in Boston, Grafton, Medford and Somerville.

"The Tufts Community Grants program is a great way for our employees to support nonprofit organizations in our host communities. All of these organizations are also supported by Tufts volunteers -- students, faculty and/or staff," said Rocco DiRico, director of Tufts University's Government and Community Relations office. "Now, more than ever, local nonprofit organizations need our support. These grants will provide vital resources for our community partners."



Local non-profits have experienced a surge in need for their services as the COVID-19 crisis has impacted host communities. Hearty Meals for All, a hunger relief program based in Somerville, received a \$1,600 TCG grant to support their services. "During the COVID-19 crisis, our food and material costs have increased as we have transitioned to to-go meals, and this grant will help cover the extra expenses," said Sally Brzozowski, board president of Hearty Meals for All. "We're grateful that more people have found our work during this hard time."

Once a year, a volunteer committee comprised of Tufts faculty and staff members meets to review proposals and select TCG recipients. This year, the committee received 60 proposals and ultimately awarded grants to 34 organizations. Members of the TCG board look for applicants that provide important services and programming for residents of our host communities.

TCG is a giving option within the annual Tufts Community Appeal (TCA), an internal fundraising campaign for faculty and staff at Tufts University that occurs each fall. The TCA is an opportunity for employees to come together to support students, our neighbors and non-profits in our host communities.

Questions regarding Tufts Community Grants can be directed to the office of Government and Community Relations at Tufts University by email at communityrelations@tufts.edu or by phone at 617-627-3780.

The Somerville grant recipients are:

- The Beautiful Stuff Project - \$300 for art and supplies to fill "treasure boxes" for early childhood classrooms
- Center for Arabic Culture - \$400 towards the purchase of a traditional Middle Eastern instrument for their Youth Orchestra
- East Somerville Main Streets - \$400 for marketing and supply costs for neighborhood clean-ups
- Second Chances - \$450 towards marketing and technology investments for 15th anniversary fundraising efforts
- Mystic Learning Center - \$600 for costs associated with tuning the piano housed in the Mystic Activity Center's Community Room
- RESPOND, Inc. - \$1,000 to fund summer programs for children living in their shelter for domestic violence victims
- Somerville Homeless Coalition - \$1,500 to support their housing stability "Coordinated Entry Program" for homeless individuals
- Hearty Meals For All - \$1,600 towards the cost of funding a free monthly meal
- CASPAR, Inc. - \$1,750 to purchase bed linens and towels for their Emergency Services Shelter

Somerville sets official schedule for first phase of reopenings

CONT. FROM PG 9

Everyone must still do their part to keep the curve flat," said Mayor Curtatone. "You should stay at home except for essential needs or for necessary activities at reopened businesses or sites. Socializing and playdates are still not safe. Persons over 65 or with underlying health conditions must continue to take extra precautions. Facial coverings must be worn in public, and hand washing is still vital. How well we each meet these responsibilities will determine whether we keep the virus under

control or if we face a deadly second surge. We remain in this together, and together we will get through this." The official calendar for reopenings in Somerville is as follows. Please note that State safety requirements and any Somerville safety requirements (such as construction site safety plan approval) must be met for entities seeking to reopen. Entities found to be out of compliance will be ordered to comply or suspend operations:

- May 18:**
- Construction phase one, primarily large municipal and utility projects (only with approved safety plans)
 - Hospital and medical care facilities for high-priority preventative care visits
 - Houses of worship with a ten-person limit and social distancing
- May 25:**
- Curbside retail and remote order fulfillment
 - Additional healthcare providers as defined by the State plan

- DCR parks, with appropriate social distancing practices and passive uses
- June 1:**
- Manufacturing
 - Laboratory and life science facilities
 - Offices – work from home strongly encouraged wherever possible; businesses should restrict workforce to less than 25% maximum occupancy and strive for less
 - Pet grooming by appointment only
 - Car washes – only exterior

- car washing allowed
 - Recreation and outdoor areas, notably athletic fields and courts, boating, and outdoor gardens (as per the State plan and City orders, playgrounds will remain closed until further notice)
 - Construction phase two, primarily residential and commercial construction (only with approved safety plans)
- Early June (announcement of date to follow):**
- Hair salons and barbershops by appointment only

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 5



action” cemeteries in the nation. The older burial ground is located on Somerville Avenue opposite School Street. A fifteen-foot high, eagle-adorned monument stands prominently in its center and is dedicated to Somerville’s slain Civil War soldiers.

It is inscribed with the names of the deceased Somerville heroes and the quote, “Their warfare is over, they sleep well.” This obelisk is said to be the first stone erected and paid for by citizens as a public memorial to those who died in their country’s service during the Civil War. Somerville has had a tragic list of her sons and daughters who gave the supreme sacrifice for our liberty. It reads:

War	Lives Lost
Civil War	98
World War I	148
World War II	415
Korean War	30
Vietnam War	33
Beirut, Lebanon	1

Somerville’s Marine Sargent Henry Hansen died ten days after helping raise the flags of Iwo Jima. A small park on Medford Street honors him and the 7,000 Marines who died fighting for freedom on that island. A prayer on the memorial reads:

“When you go home
Tell them for us and say
For your tomorrow
We gave our today”

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER
By Bobbygeorge Potaris

My uncle named his dogs Rolex and Timex.
They're his watch dogs.

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Support the Somerville Cares Fund



New data report that hunger is on the rise in our region due to COVID-19 impacts. One is six children in Eastern Massachusetts are projected to be at risk of hunger in 2020, a 93% increase in need over 2019, according to *The Boston Globe*.

One way you can help is by making a contribution to the Somerville Cares Fund at somervillema.gov/somervillecares. This donation-based fund gives money directly to residents so they can cover essential costs like groceries, medication, personal products, and rent. If you are fortunate enough to have something to share right now, please donate. And everyone can help spread the word. Please tell others about the Somerville Cares Fund (perhaps a tweet, a Facebook post, or draw the web address on your sidewalk with chalk) so others are aware of it. If you know people who can give, including major donors, consider asking them directly to make a donation. Everything helps and, again, these funds will be helping neighbors cover their essential expenses. We’ve raised just over \$275,000, which is amazing, but need another \$1 million to meet the need based on current applications.

— City of Somerville

Memorialization Committee seeks two resident members

The City of Somerville’s newly formed Memorialization Committee, which will name public assets like buildings, streets, and parks, is accepting applications for two resident positions. The Committee will also develop policies and procedures to follow when choosing names. The committee will meet when needed to name a public asset and meetings could begin as early as this summer. Appointees will serve a two-year term and must be confirmed by the City Council. If you are interested in applying, please send a statement of interest to memorial@somervillema.gov by Sunday, June 28.

On This Day in History
May 27

- 1564 – John Calvin, one of the dominant figures of the Protestant Reformation, dies in Geneva.
- 1647 – Achsah Young becomes the first woman known to be executed as a witch in Massachusetts.
- 1668 – Three colonists are expelled from Massachusetts for being Baptists.
- 1907 – The Bubonic Plague breaks out in San Francisco.
- 1919 – A U.S. Navy seaplane completes the first transatlantic flight.
- 1935 – The Supreme Court declares President Franklin Roosevelt’s National Recovery Act unconstitutional.
- 1941 – The German battleship Bismarck is sunk by British naval and air forces.
- 1969 – Construction begins on Walt Disney World in Florida.
- 1972 – President Richard M. Nixon and Soviet Communist Party chief Leonid Brezhnev sign an arms reduction agreement.

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Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

awareness and funding. The Foundation maintains the simple message: If we can help "JUST ONE" individual find and maintain their recovery, we have succeeded. This 5k race will start and end at the **Blessing of the Bay Boat House** in Somerville, looping around the Mys-

tic River on Rt. 16 to Medford, through the Mystic River Reservation, and back over the Wellington Bridge to the finish. Shirts are guaranteed to the first 200 registered and to all kids registered prior to race day, 12 years of age and under. The event includes a free half mile Kid's

Fun Run, post-race refreshments, music and family activities. Informational stations provided by local resources. Online registration fees for the 5K race are \$30 for participants ages 13 (plus processing fees). Participants for age 12 and under are \$15. Adult registration fees increase

to \$35 on race day. Kids 12 and under are welcome to come and run at no cost, but please register your child. For more information about the Ryan Harrington Foundation and its mission, please visit <http://www.ryanharringtonfoundation.org/the-foundation/>.

SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

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

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

Wednesday, May 27

12:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am NASA TV

7:00am Community Bulletin Board

7:30am DW In Good Shape

8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00am DW Global 3000

9:30am Both Sides of the Bars

10:00am Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer

10:30am Somerville Neighborhood News

11:00am SNN Neighborhood Update

11:30am From My Heart to Yours

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News

1:30pm Somerville Neighborhood News

2:00pm Colores Latinos

3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

4:00pm DW Conflict Zone

4:30pm Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library

5:00pm Hello Neighbor

5:30pm From My Heart to Yours

6:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News

6:30pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects

7:00pm "The Cask of Amontillado" at VOX POP

7:30pm Sidewalks Entertainment

8:00pm LIVE - Somerville Pundits

8:30pm DW Euromaxx

9:00pm Revolution Awakening at VOX POP

10:00pm LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

11:00pm Flotilla

Thursday, May 28

12:30am SCATV Secret Stash

1:00am Free Speech TV

1:30am Free Speech TV

2:00am Free Speech TV

3:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am Bate Papo com Shirley

7:00am DW Conflict Zone

7:30am DW Euromaxx

8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00am DW Tomorrow Today

9:30am Hello Neighbor

10:00am The Chef's Table Series

10:30am The Chef's Table Series

11:00am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals

11:30am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm The Somerville Line

1:30pm The Somerville Line

3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

4:00pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects

4:30pm The Struggle

5:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News

6:00pm #AFAD

6:30pm #AFAD

7:00pm Community Lens: SHC 5K Race

8:00pm LIVE - Our View

9:00pm PABFONE Closing Day Ceremony

10:00pm Community Bulletin Board

10:30pm The World Fusion Show

11:00pm VOX POP Comedy Night

Friday, May 29

12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

1:00am SCATV Secret Stash

1:30am SCATV Secret Stash

2:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am NASA TV

7:00am The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)

8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00am DW Euromaxx

9:30am Strata

10:00am NASA TV

11:00am SOM ARTS

11:30am Cambridge Calendar

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm Community Benefits Agreement

2:00pm Somerville Pundits

2:30pm Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library

3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

4:00pm Gay USA

5:00pm DW Global 3000

5:30pm What's New Massachusetts?

6:00pm Grandstanders

7:00pm Emergency Preparedness

7:30pm The Somerville Labor Show

8:00pm LIVE - Greater Somerville

8:30pm Greater Somerville

9:00pm Fur, Fins and Feathers

10:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

11:00pm Heavy Leather Music Video Show

Saturday, May 30

12:00am VOX POP Comedy Night

1:00am Free Speech TV

2:00am Free Speech TV

3:00am Free Speech TV

5:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am DW Focus on Europe

7:00am Effort Pour Christ

8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00am SMC Youth Media

9:30am Science 360

10:00am Dead Air Live

11:00am TeleGalaxie

12:00pm Somerville Storytellers

1:00pm Tele Magazine

2:00pm Reeling Review

3:00pm MA House of Representatives Formal Session

4:00pm Tele Kreyol

5:00pm Henry Parker Presents

5:30pm Henry Parker Presents

6:00pm Somerville Pundits

6:30pm The Somerville Labor Show

7:00pm BLOWW Show a Go Go

7:30pm Somerville Neighborhood News

8:00pm #AFAD

9:00pm Nossa Gente e Costumes

10:00pm Heavy Leather Music Video Show

11:00pm SCATV Secret Stash

11:30pm Queer Cats

Sunday, May 31

12:00am Flotilla

1:00am NASA TV

1:30am NASA TV

2:00am NASA TV

3:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am Bate Papo com Shirley

7:00am Nossa Gentes e Costumes

8:00am Effort Pour Christ

9:00am NASA TV

10:00am Tele Kreyol

11:00amMA House of Representatives Formal Session

12:00pm Sidewalks Entertainment

1:00pm SOM ARTS

1:30pm SNN Neighborhood Update

2:00pm Chico and B-Man

3:00pm African Television Network

4:00pm Dedilhando a Saudade

5:00pm Gay USA

6:00pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects

6:30pm DW Tomorrow Today

7:00pm Emergency Preparedness

8:00pm Dead Air Live

9:00pm Tele Magazine

10:00pm Community Lens: Somerville 5K Detour

11:00pm TUTV

11:30pm SCATV Secret Stash

Monday, June 1

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

Wednesday, May 27

9:00am Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

9:40am COVID-19 City Update 5.16.20

10:00am Raising Families

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #2

11:30am Senior Circuit

12:00pm City Council Meeting 5.14.20

2:15pm SPD Ride Along

2:30pm Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

3:10pm Cooking w/ Ellen: Fried Lemon Pasta

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #1

4:30pm Community Virtual Town Hall

6:30pm Public Health & Public Safety Committee

10:00pm Community Virtual Town Hall

11:30pm COVID-19 City Update 5.19.20

Thursday, May 28

12:00am City Council Meeting 5.14.20

7:00am SomerViva en Espanol - Public Charge

7:30am Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

8:10am Health & Human Services Update

8:30am Senior Circuit

9:00am Raising Families

10:00am City's COVID-19 Testing Program

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #3

12:00pm Senior Circuit

12:30pm School Committee Meeting 5.18.20

4:00pm Chair Yoga w/Janine

5:00pm Raising Families

5:30pm Cooking w/ Ellen: Fried Lemon Pasta

7:00pm Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone

9:30pm Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Joe Curtatone

11:30pm SPD Mask-Wearing Enforcement Discussion

11:35pm Health & Human Services Update

Friday, May 29

12:00am School Committee Meeting 5.18.20

3:00am City Council Meeting 5.14.20

7:00am Chair Yoga w/Janine

7:30am Cooking w/Ellen: Fried Lemon Pasta

8:00am Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

8:40am Health & Human Services Update

9:00am Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Joe Curtatone

11:00am Fit-4-Life #4

11:30am Raising Families

12:00pm CC-Finance Committee Meeting 5.18.20

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #3

5:00pm Senior Circuit

6:00pm Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Joe Curtatone

8:00pm Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone

10:00pm Cooking w/Ellen: Fried Lemon Pasta

10:15pm SPD Ride Along

10:30pm Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone:

Saturday, May 30

12:06am Legislative Matters 5.21.20

7:00am Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

8:00am Cooking w/ Ellen: Fried Lemon Pasta

8:30am Raising Families

9:00am School Committee Meeting 5.18.20

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #1

11:30am Senior Circuit

12:00pm Legislative Matters 5.21.20

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #1

5:00pm Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

5:40pm Cooking w/ Ellen: Fried Lemon Pasta

6:00pm Land Use Meeting 5.19.20

10:00pm Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone

11:31pm CDC Handwashing en Espanol PSA

11:31pm Health & Human Services Update

Sunday, May 31

12:00am Public Health & Public Safety Committee

7:00am Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone

8:36am Cooking w/ Ellen: Fried Lemon Pasta

9:00am Senior Circuit

9:30am Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

11:00am Fit-4-Life #5

11:30am Raising Families

12:00pm Senior Circuit

12:30pm Traffic & Parking Meeting 5.13.20

2:00pm Virtual Town Hall w/ Mayor Curtatone

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #3

4:30pm The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism

6:00pm School Committee Meeting 5.18.20

8:30pm Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone

Monday, June 1

12:00am Senior Circuit

12:30am Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone

2:07am Cooking w/Ellen: Fried Lemon Pasta

7:00am City Council Meeting 5.14.20

9:00am Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Joe Curtatone

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #2

11:30am Cooking w/ Ellen: Fried Lemon Pasta

Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, May 27

8:00am Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

9:00am SPL Storytime w/ Miss Alison [5.5.20]

10:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Lynn Classical

12:00pm SHS Football vs Cambridge

2:05pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Acton-Boxborough

4:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden

5:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS

6:00pm Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

7:00pm Night Owl Storytime w/Miss Meghan

8:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Lynn Classical

10:00pm SHS Football vs Cambridge

Thursday, May 28

12:05am SHS Boys Soccer vs Acton-Boxborough

2:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden

3:30am Night Owl Storytime w/Miss Meghan

8:00am SPL Storytime w/Miss Ann [5.7.20]

9:00am SPL Storytime w/Miss Meghan [5.6.20]

10:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs Chelsea

12:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs N. Andover

2:00pm SHS Football vs Malden [9.20.19]

4:30pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden

6:00pm SPL Storytime w/ Miss Ann [5.7.20]

7:00pm SPL Storytime w/ Miss Meghan [5.6.20]

8:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Chelsea

10:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs N. Andover

Friday, May 29

12:00am Semifinal: SHS Basketball vs N. Andover

1:30am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden

8:00am Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

9:00am SPL Storytime w/ Miss Alison [5.5.20]

10:00am SHS Football 2000 -Revisited

10:30am HIGHLANDER FOOTBALL 2018

11:00am SHS Football vs Lawrence [11.11.01]

1:00pm SHS Football vs Everett [10.13.01]

3:25pm SHS Football 2006

4:00pm SHS Football 2007

5:00pm SHS Football 2008

5:30pm SHS FOOTBALL 2019 Highlights

6:00pm Night Owl Storytime w/Miss Meghan

6:30pm Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

7:00pm Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

7:30pm SHS Highlander Football 2011

8:00pm SHS Football 2000 -Revisited

8:30pm HIGHLANDER FOOTBALL 2018

9:00pm SHS Football vs Lawrence [11.11.01]

11:00pm SHS Football vs Everett [10.13.01]

Saturday, May 30

1:25am SHS Football 2006

2:00am SHS Football 2007

3:00am SHS Football 2008

3:30am SHS FOOTBALL 2019 Highlights

8:00am SPL Storytime w/ Miss Meghan [5.6.20]

9:00am SPL Storytime w/ Miss Ann [5.7.20]

10:00am SHS Football vs Everett [10.13.01]

12:30pm SHS Boys Soccer v Everett [9.29.14]

2:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett

3:30pm SHS Football 2000 -Revisited

4:00pm SHS Football vs Lawrence [11.11.01]

6:00pm SPL Storytime w/ Miss Meghan [5.6.20]

7:00pm Night Owl Storytime w/ Miss Meghan

7:34pm SHS Football 2000 -Revisited

8:00pm SHS Football vs Everett [10.13.01]

10:30pm SHS Boys Soccer v Everett [9.29.14]

Sunday, May 31

12:00am SHS Football 2000 -Revisited

12:30am SHS Football vs Lawrence [11.11.01]

2:00am SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett

8:00am Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

9:00am Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

10:00am Girls' Middle School Basketball Finals '18

11:00am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Marblehead

12:30pm SHS Boys Basketball 2014-15

1:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham

2:30pm SHS Girls Basketball 2014-15

3:00pm SHS Girls Soccer v Lowell 9/26/15

4:30pm SHS FOOTBALL 2017

5:00pm SHS Spring Concert '18

7:00pm Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

7:30pm Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

8:00pm Girls' Middle School Basketball Finals '18

9:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Marblehead 1.19.18

10:30pm SHS Boys Basketball 2014-15

11:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham

Monday, June 1

12:30am SHS Girls Basketball 2014-15

1:00am SHS Girls Soccer v Lowell 9/26/15

2:30am SHS FOOTBALL 2017

3:00am SHS Spring Concert '18

8:00am SPL Storytime with Miss Alison [3.24.20]

9:00am SPL Storytime with Miss Annemarie [4.10]

10:00am SHS Football 2000 -Revisited

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OFF THE SHELF
by Doug Holder

Tufts University filmmaker
Jennifer Burton throws levity
in the ugly face of ageism

Lyrical
SOMERVILLE
edited by Doug Holder

Susan Tepper is the author of nine published books. Her most recent is a poetry chapbook *Confess* (Cervena Barva Press, 2020) and a road novel *What Drives Men* (Wilderness House Press, 2019). The recipient of many awards and honors, Tepper is a native New Yorker. www.susantepper.com



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It came from golden and sorrow
no simple way to split this pie.
Nature jumped in and took charge;
enough spoilage; Mother Nature
will teach the hard lessons,
no smack on the ass for us,
but death on the grand scale.
Still, many aware of her wrath
refuse to comply as more die
alone, by the truck load, gasping,
jumping off cruise ships, piled
in fields stretching beyond
what the eye can see.
Becoming our new landfill: bones.

— Susan Tepper

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

In July I will turn 65, and will join the fraternity of the Golden Years. I also have a 94-year-old mother. I remember when she was in the back of a cab with me and the driver asked, "How old is she?" My mother – no wallflower – said in response, "I can answer for myself, young man!" So for a while now I have been thinking about ageism and getting older in this country. Then I got a press release about a new online series, *Old Guy*. This seemed right up my alley, and I contacted the Director/creator Jennifer Burton. I had the pleasure to interview Burton for this column.

From the press release: Five Sisters Productions is back with a new six-episode comedic series, *Old Guy*, starring the Five Sisters' father, Roger Burton (*Fargo*, *Shameless*, *Baskets*), their mother Gabrielle Burton, and Peri Gilpin (*Frasier*'s Roz). Beginning April 23, 2020, one episode will premiere each Thursday through May 31 on Vimeo and YouTube as well as Facebook and Instagram TV.

Old Guy is a comedic series about ageism in media. Harry, played by Roger Burton, is going back to acting later in life, after raising his family and retiring from his traditional job. The show looks at his relationships with his wife, played by his real-life spouse Gabrielle Burton, who is a writer and tries to advise him on the value of the jobs he takes, and with his agent, Peri Gilpin, who is more interested in her commission than in what types of roles he plays. In each episode, Harry is challenged by playing an undeveloped character type that humorously highlights different stereotypes about old age. *Old Guy* will make you laugh, and make you think.

Doug Holder: Since I will be 65 this July, this project is of particular interest to me. Many of my peers, especially women, tell me they feel like ghosts because they feel the world barely acknowledges them. Does the series deal with this invisible man or woman syndrome?

Jennifer Burton: What an excellent observation and question. Invisibility of older people in our society is a huge issue, and it is reinforced by most television shows. In Episode 4, Harry, played by my dad, Roger Burton talks about how "You don't see many old people on TV." Even though people over 60 are nearly 20% of the population, less than 10% of characters on TV are over 60, and many of those parts are underdeveloped or stereotyped characters. With so little representation, each stereotyped role has even more of an impact. On the positive side, research is showing that raising awareness about ageism reduces the negative effects for viewers, so we're very happy that *Old Guy* is starting inter-generational conversations about the need for greater visibility and complexity of older characters on TV. Another thing that researchers such as Stacy Smith, (USC, Annenberg's School Inclusion Initiative) is finding is that having more older writers and executives involved in the creation of shows significantly decreases incidences of ageism. What we are working to do with *Old Guy* is show Harry and his wife Bridget as vibrant in their personal lives as vibrant, active people with ambitions and goals, as well as show their daily interests, so they are visible to viewers, which can have both a conscious and subconscious impact. Contrasting this richness to Harry's limited acting roles shows how onscreen stereotypes select only part of the experience of being older, and points to the need for more diversity in representation onscreen.

DH: I love how you break up the series with such titles as *Senile*, *Dead*, *Incontinent* – all the familiar stereotypes of being older. Do you try to deflate these through humor and polemic?

JB: The first step to combating a stereotype is to name it. When my dad starting acting professionally late in life (after retiring as a psychology professor at the Uni-

versity of Buffalo), he and my mom were struck by how the majority of the parts he was offered fell into these narrow stereotypes of life experience after 60: dirty old man, impotent man, senile man – you wouldn't believe how many bit parts he was asked to audition for that were basically just a "joke" about adult diapers.

While incontinence issues are a real part of life for some older people, when that is all you see, or when it's presented as a quick joke, it gives a false and reductive sense of what aging is and promises, as well as the value of older people to our cultural and social fabric. Even as my dad chose not to play offensive roles, we all realized that to really make a difference, we had to bring this issue to a larger audience.

In addition to naming the problem, *Old Guy* works to combat ageism through character development, with Harry as the stand in for the "every person." Harry starts out not really understanding the problem with narrow or stereotyped roles (like some viewers), and he recognizes how some of these things can be funny at times, but his wife Bridget (and his own experiences as he keeps getting the same thin roles) push him to understand how critical it is to recognize and resist ageism in all its forms.

DH: You and your five sisters founded the Five Sisters Productions Company. What was the germ of the idea for this and why did you folks make it a family production? What were the dynamics working closely with your sisters?

JB: Our working together on movies first started when my older sister Maria was directing the romantic comedy *Just Friends* (AMC) in LA, and we all came together as sisters to help. It went well, and we continued working together on *Temps* (shot in the Boston area), and then *Manna From Heaven* (MGM), and now we've made five features, as well as shorts, PSAs, and commercials.

When you put together a cast and crew for a film, you create a family of sorts. We started out with our family as a core, and built out from there, and we work with many of the same crew on project after project. Five Sisters Productions works as an umbrella company, with each of us sisters having our own careers, and our coming together to make film projects together that are spearheaded by different sisters.

Currently, I am creating a series of short films on the untold stories of women in American history, *Half the History*, produced with Five Sisters in conjunction with my students at Tufts, and co-directed with my sister Ursula Burton. Just before production shut down this spring, we shot a film about groundbreaking tap dancer Ayodele Casel and the history of black women tap dancers, all shot on Tufts Campus in Somerville/Medford.

DH: You teach at Tufts, and since we are a Somerville newspaper, I would like to ask you, as an artist, how has it been to work and or live in our burg? Have you filmed in Somerville?

JB: *Old Guy* is set in LA, but half the scenes were filmed on the Somerville/Medford Tufts campus, and in the surrounding area. The area offers a richness of varied looks for locations, from independently owned restaurants like Dave's Fresh Pasta and The Rockwell and to churches (in *Old Guy*'s episode #3) to single family homes to music venues like The Burren. Plus, people are open and excited about being part of a movie project – the Somerville area is a great place to film. Plus, we can't forget about the Somerville Theatre – what a treasure for independent and high-quality films, including the films from Independent Film Festival Boston.

Episode 1 *The Origin Story*: <https://vimeo.com/404296597>

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. At the summer solstice, the Sun rises as far to the northeast as it ever does | 6. Beijing |
| 2. Types of Harley Davidson motorcycles | 7. Types of fish |
| 3. Vermont | 8. The wrist |
| 4. Moxie | 9. David Bowie |
| 5. Istanbul | 10. 1955 |
| | 11. <i>The Virginian</i> |
| | 12. Greta Garbo |

From page 8


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