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The Somerville Times

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VOL. 8 NO. 23

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



Fun in the boom,
boom, Boomtown!

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A vigil in the city
against racism

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A grand reopening
in Somerville

page 11

Systemic racism to be declared a public safety and health emergency



The City of Somerville will be adopting and carrying out policies aimed at furthering the delivery of compassionate policing practices.

— Photo by Kevin Carmichael

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone announced last week that the City of Somerville will continue ongoing efforts to deliver just, unbiased, and compassionate policing to the community via a number of new initiatives and efforts that draw from policy platforms developed by Campaign Zero and the 10-point plan released by Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley and other elected officials of color in Massachusetts:

- Declaration of a local state of emergency officially deeming systemic racism a threat to public health and safety.
- Establishment of an independent, civilian oversight structure of the Somerville Police Department with membership representative of the community's diversity.
- Launch of immediate efforts to eliminate the inherent conflicts of interest arising from police officers internally investigating allegations of misconduct by fellow

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Shared Streets and Curbs expansion pilot makes space for residents

By Isabel Sami

The City of Somerville has started implementing a pilot for its mobility strategy in Union Square and East Somerville. Beginning June 1, East Somerville began testing Shared Streets, while on May 29 Union Square started piloting Shared Curbs, both with the goal to provide safe and open streets for residents as summer eases stay at home orders due to the pandemic. The expansion is projected to remain in place until November.

New signage and flexible barriers were put in place to alert residents to the shared use of these streets, and cones show where the sidewalk extends into the road for pedestrians and bikers. The city recommends that pedestrians, bikers, and drivers on the shared streets remain alert and aware of signage and new boundaries designed to promote social distancing.

The Shared Streets pilot affects Jacques St. in Winter Hill to Glen St. in

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The Shared Streets and Shared Curbs programs are being implemented in select locations throughout the city as a safety measure to help protect the public from COVID-19 exposure.

— Photo by Bobbie Toner

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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.

Congratulations to all the **students** graduating this week! It's been a tough and challenging time, but you all pulled through magnificently. As the world gets back to normal, your stars will shine. The **Class of 2020** is the classiest of all!








How great is it to have the **Ball Sq. bridge** open again? After a year of putting up with snarled traffic and back-bending detours, the people of Somerville can move quite a bit more freely. We're sure that **business owners** in the Ball Sq. area will be enjoying a healthy rebound in sales. So be sure to visit them and enjoy the drive!

The City of Somerville will hold a **virtual information session and public hearing** on the **proposed Fiscal Year 2021 water and sewer rates** on **Thursday, June 11**. The information session will start at 6:00 p.m. and the public hearing will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. Anyone who would like to testify is welcome to attend. Written testimony will also be accepted until 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16. Written testimony can be submitted by emailing water@somervillema.gov or by mailing it to the Water and Sewer Department, 17 Franey Rd., Somerville, MA 02145. The information session and hearing will be hosted on the GoToWebinar platform and there will also be an option to call into the meeting from a phone. Visit www.somervillema.gov/water shortly before 6:00 p.m. to join live or get call-in information, or call 311. The information session and public hearing will be recorded and rebroadcast on City Cable (channel 13 on RCN, channel 22 on Comcast) and on the city's YouTube channel. The proposed rates were submitted to the City Council during its meeting on **Thursday, May 28**, and can be viewed online at www.somervillema.gov/water.

Sitting in the Fire: An Online Race Retreat, hosted by Somerville Media Center – SMC on June 13, 10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Join **Healing Our Human Family: Let's Talk About Race** co-hosts **Diane Wong** and **Pharaoh Saunders** as *Continued on page 7*

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of June 10 – June 16 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday <i>June 10</i>	Cloudy	70°/64°	10%	29%	E 14 mph
 Thursday <i>June 11</i>	Cloudy	78°/63°	19%	34%	2SW 18 mph
 Friday <i>June 12</i>	Partly Cloudy	82°/60°	19%	33%	SW 10 mph
 Saturday <i>June 13</i>	Partly Cloudy	75°/57°	9%	21%	NE 8 mph
 Sunday <i>June 14</i>	Cloudy	68°/58°	19%	20%	ENE 11 mph
 Monday <i>June 15</i>	Cloudy	69°/56°	20%	19%	NE 10 mph
 Tuesday <i>June 16</i>	Rain	70°/57°	29%	36%	ENE 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: **Somerville to officially declare systemic racism a public safety and health emergency**

TheoNa says:

Why to we need to be Instituting asset forfeiture funding policies? Doesn't this create a conflict of interest with the police and the criminal justice system being the beneficiaries of the forfeitures? Funding for these initiatives should be funded through taxes to avoid conflicts of interest. Justice is never served when a certain number of people must be found guilty to fund a cause.

Ron says:

The Mayor is a total incompetent Mayor andcedds to be impeached or voted out.

Gaspar Fomento says:

So, just to be clear, it's your opinion that the mayor is "total incompetent" and — uh— "cedds" [sic] to be impeached or voted out because he's taking on systemic racism? I think this says a lot about you. It may surprise you to learn that most of your fellow citizens agree with this policy, and many other policies that he advances. Not that you're even expected to believe it after you've been informed of it. This mayor has led us through the coronavirus crisis brilliantly, and now he's addressing another tremendously important issue that faces us. I shudder to think what shape this city would be in if it were in the hands of anyone you would endorse. And no, he won't be impeached or voted out. But you impeach yourself from civil society by making these lame ass, vile remarks. Now go to bed.

Fredd says:

If the city is systematically racist which has led to a public safety and health crisis and they mayor has been in POWER for 17 years who is to blame? Just sayin

Gaspar Fomento says:

No one has said that the City of Somerville is systematically racist. It isn't, thanks in part to "they" [sic] mayor who has been in "POWER" for 17 years. If you would take the time to actually read the article, and if you have the capacity to intellectually process that information, you will learn that the city is joining a statewide – and at this point nationwide – effort to bring an end to systematic racism in all communities. Time and again, the characters who pop in here to mouth off against the mayor – only because of their particular political biases and not the issues themselves – typically exhibit the intelligence levels of tsetse flies. Now buzz off.

Bob Ross says:

We all need to come together. This whole entire thing makes me sick to my stomach. Enough is enough, is enough.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times

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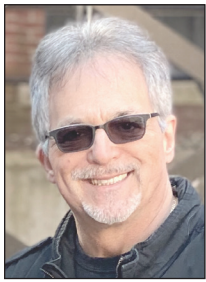
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Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

Boomtown!



If you were on the TV show *Boomtown* you are part of an elite, and very lucky group.

I can still sing most of the *Boomtown* theme song, "Come

along folks 'cause we're gonna start the fun in Boom, Boom, Boomtown!"

The locally produced live western themed show starring Rex Trailer was on the air from 1956 to 1974. We watched every week on Boston's WBZ channel 4. The *Boomtown* set, which was mostly

painted scenery, was located in the WBZ studio on Soldiers Field Road in Brighton. Kids that appeared on the live show were surprised when they saw the cut out sections that made up the *Boomtown* set. It looked very different on TV. A vibrantly colored western style town was recreated right in Brighton.

Over the years, Rex had a few different sidekicks including Pablo (see photo), Cactus Pete and Sargent Billy.

One of my own memories involved a friend from my street who was on the show and was picked to be the masked villain. The "hombre" would march around



Rex Trailer, Jimmy Calderone on accordion, and former Somerville resident Bill King (in the middle) on the guitar.

to the song *Hey Look Me Over* until an alert kid picked him out. The "posse" of show participants all had a chance to be seen as they passed by the camera looking for the villain. Some Somerville kids also got to be the sheriff.

Cartoons such as *Davy and Goliath*, *Pop-eye* and *Gumby* were shown along with fun games and educational segments. All on live TV.

Somerville friends recall these *Boom-*

town memories:

"Rex Trailer came to Somerville High School and put on a California/Disneyland presentation for our Senior Class in 1974, and 42 seniors signed up and we went to California and had a great time. Oh, and by the way, I was the General Store Keeper on his show *Boomtown*!"

"Rex always came to First Night in Quincy Center and performed! Brought back so many

Continued on page 10

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

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

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

Be safe and stay healthy – The Mount Vernon Restaurant

THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Unarmed bank robbery in Union Square

On Friday, May 29, two Somerville police officers on detail were approached by the Union Square Citizens Bank branch manager who stated that a woman had just passed a note to a teller and robbed the bank. The manager pointed out a woman, later identified as Jodie Perkins, of Dorchester, as she crossed Union Sq. and started to walk up Webster Ave. Both detail officers began to walk in the direction of Perkins and called dispatch to request

that area patrol units respond. The officers approached Perkins in the front stairway of a Webster Ave. building, where Perkins was reportedly yelling that she did not want to live anymore. A silver purse and several dollar bills were observed scattered in the hallway of the building. Officers spoke further with the bank manager, who stated he had noticed Perkins as she was at a teller station yelling and swearing. The manager said he believed she was an unhappy

customer so he was going to talk to her. As he approached her she continued to swear and at that point he observed a note on the counter, at which time she quickly walked out of the front entrance of the bank. Police obtained images of Perkins from the bank's security unit. The teller who waited on Perkins stated that she observed her walking in through the front door. She said she took out a transaction slip and wrote on it at the counter. She then walked

up to the teller window and handed her the slip which had writing on the back. The writing was very messy so she asked Perkins what she wanted. She reportedly said, "Just give me all your money!" The teller said she handed her the front row of bills from her money draw – \$654 in various denominations – and pressed the alarm button. Perkins was placed under arrest for unarmed robbery. She reportedly continued to make

statements to officers that she wanted to harm herself. She was transported to the Cambridge Hospital for evaluation. Officers went to the hospital where they spoke to Perkins. She was read her rights and agreed to speak to them, stating she knew her rights. During the interview, Perkins stated she had been smoking crack cocaine all day and had robbed the bank in the hopes that she would get shot by the police when they went to stop her.

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:	Union Sq. on a charge of unarmed robbery.	May 29, 5:59 p.m., arrested at Temple St. on a charge of distribution of a class A drug.	Jonathan Perry , of Medford, May 29, 10:15 p.m., arrested at Washington St. on warrant	charges of manslaughter and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.
Jodie Perkins , of Dorchester, May 29, 2:33 p.m., arrested at	Joseph Mendez , of Medford,			

Systemic racism to be declared a public safety and health emergency

CONT. FROM PG 1

officers: the city has filed a petition to remove the internal investigation oversight position from Somerville Police Superior Officers Association (one of two police unions).

- A call for the creation of an independent special prosecutor at the state level to review and where appropriate to prosecute cases of potentially criminal police misconduct rather than leaving this authority with county district attorneys.
- Submission of a resolution to the City Council reiterating the critical need to implement body-worn cameras in the Police Department, an initiative the city has been pursuing with police union leadership since 2015.

Instituting asset forfeiture funding policies that limit the use of these monies to two purposes: 1) to provide prevention and substance use recovery, mental and behavioral health, and other services and resources — primarily through the city's Community Outreach, Health and Recovery (COHR) Office — to support residents and divert them from the criminal justice system; and 2) implicit bias, de-escalation, crisis intervention, health and mental wellness, and other similar training for Somerville police officers.

- A call for statewide action to address the gaping deficiencies of the Civil Service system combined with local civilian review

of whether the Somerville Police Department (SPD) should pursue legislative action to depart from the Civil Service system in order to ease the city's ability to hire and promote officers who reflect the community's values and diversity and who have the skills necessary for policing in the 21st century.

- A commitment to further demilitarization and an end to Somerville's participation in federal military weaponry distribution to local police departments, which the Somerville Police Department already significantly curtailed in recent years.
- A commitment to diligently and persistently pursue further reforms. "No one should fear for their lives because of the color of their skin. No one should have to grieve the loss of a loved one, friend, or stranger who died because they were black. No one should have to fear those who are sworn to protect and serve," said Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone. "We have long been striving to develop and uphold the highest standards of fair, safe, just, and compassionate community policing in Somerville. These initiatives are neither the beginning nor the end of this vital effort. They are an intensification, one that every city, town, and state — as well as our nation — must commit to." "We have been systematically transforming our approach to policing from an

outdated model focused on arrests to one that acknowledges and responds to the needs of the community and is focused on compassion, de-escalation, and crisis intervention. I'm proud that our officers are committed to continually evolving how we protect the health and welfare of our community. But we have more work to do," said Somerville Police Chief David Fallon. "These steps will help us continue on that path so that we can not only fairly and safely protect and serve but so that we can also continue to strive to earn and maintain community trust daily in our every action."

Civilian oversight structure

The Mayor's Office will include in its proposed fiscal year 2021 budget funding to hire an independent facilitator to help establish and lead a task force charged with developing actionable recommendations for the purview, composition, and implementation of a civilian oversight and advisory structure for the SPD.

Responsibilities of the civilian oversight committee may include but are not limited to evaluating and recommending changes to the Department's use of force policies; investigating alleged officer misconduct; evaluating the hiring, promotion, internal investigation, and discipline policies of the Department; and recom-

mending changes necessary to the associated regulatory, legal, and policy structures.

In addition, the civilian oversight committee will be asked to provide recommendations on whether the SPD should remain in the state Civil Service system, which interferes with the city's ability to hire and promote diverse, well-rounded candidates who would contribute community-minded skills and aptitudes to the Somerville Police Department that aren't measured by a paper and pencil test.

"We need to bring new voices and perspectives into the oversight and rank and file of the police department. This committee will play a critical role in establishing and maintaining trust between the community and the police. It will also provide independent guidance on critical policy questions, like how to best address the state's outdated civil service law, which has interfered with some of our efforts to achieve greater diversity in our police force and command staff," said Mayor Curtatone. "If we're serious about advancing compassionate and unbiased policing, everything has to be on the table."

The funding, subject to city Council approval, would be available in July. In order for work to begin as soon as possible, the city will issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for an

independent facilitator in June; both individuals and organizations are invited to submit their qualifications. Once selected, the facilitator will be responsible for constituting a task force that is representative of the community and developing a timeline that allows for meaningful deliberation while also avoiding unnecessary delays.

Resolution in support of body cameras

At the City Council's next meeting, on Thursday, June 11, Mayor Curtatone will submit a resolution reiterating the critical need for officers to wear and use body cameras and reaffirm the city's commitment to push for body cameras with the city's police unions. The Mayor will seek City Council and School Committee support of the resolution.

"For more than five years, the city has been fighting to get body cameras for our officers, but state laws, arbitrators, and union leadership have stood in the way despite the vital need for this reform and indications that it is supported by rank and file officers," said Mayor Curtatone. "So we are going to get back to the table, we are going back zealously, and we expect union leadership to put the public safety of the community we all serve first and do the right thing. Body cameras are an absolute. They must become

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Remembering the Heart of the Library

(Message from Somerville Public Library)

Dear Community Members,

It is with the heaviest heart that I share with you the passing of librarian, George Pierce. George began his career at the Somerville Public Library as a part-time ‘page’ in 1968, at the tender age of 18, and became part of the full-time staff in 1972. To say George represented the heart and soul of how we approach library service in Somerville is not an overstatement. He is remembered by library staff as a person who loved his job, his family, music, fast cars, and a good IPA. He was a prankster, and always enjoyed a good laugh. He thoroughly enjoyed his interactions with his co-workers, and with you, and is going to be missed terribly.



How fortunate we were to have his service for more than 50 years.

These have been challenging times for many of us, but there are signs of better days ahead. It is Pride Month, a time when we affirm, support, celebrate, and advocate for the LGBTQ community.

There are peaceful protests taking place across the country, and right here in Somerville, that are empowering generations young and old to stand up to institutional racism. And we are starting to resume our daily routines, with much guidance and caution.

Please know that we are working hard to bring back library services to you. As soon as it has been deemed safe to reenter our facilities, we will be offering contactless pick-up for actual, tangible library materials! I can’t wait until we can hand off bags of picture books, summer reads, and anything else on our shelves that you’ve been missing.

Thank you for your continued patience and support. Take care.

Cathy
Somerville Public Library

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #206

Father’s Day

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

William Jackson Smart was the original inspiration for Father's Day. He was born in Arkansas in 1842, the year of Somerville’s birth, and fought for both sides during the Civil War. After his supply wagon was captured, the North offered him the choice to be imprisoned or to join them ... so he chose to become a Yankee.



After the war, he moved to Spokane, Washington and fathered nine children, raising six of them alone after his wife’s death. In June of 1910, the people of Spokane began celebrating Father’s Day. Smart’s daughter, Sonora, then lobbied Congress for sixty–two years to make Father’s Day official. On April 24, 1972, it was declared a United States holiday.



Two hundred and forty-four years is a long time to honor any person’s memory, and yet Americans of all generations have done so. We have lauded this man for the heroic deeds he achieved in a time when no other person could have accomplished them.

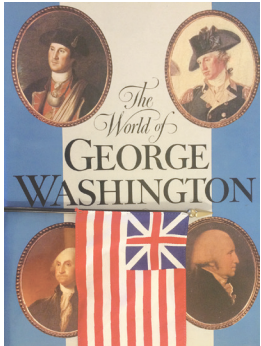
He was General George Washington. He raised the first American flag on Prospect Hill on January 1, 1776, the same day the American army was formed here.

General Nathanael Greene (Greene Street on Prospect Hill), second in command under General Washington, idolized him. The Washingtons had no children and were deeply moved and honored when the Greens named their first son George Washington Greene and their first daughter Martha Washington Greene.

Washington led the Army through eight long years of war followed by eight years of leadership as our first American President. Since then, his name has been noted through a myriad of ways. Hundreds of towns, cities, boroughs, and villages have taken his name and celebrate his distinction as the Father of our Country. For example:

- Our nation’s capital, Washington D.C.
- The State of Washington
- One of the four faces on Mount Rushmore in South Dakota
- New Hampshire’s Mount Washington, the highest mountain in the Northeast
- The George Washington Bridge in

Continued on page 15



Donations needed for our neighbors

Clarendon Hill Towers - drop off location: 49 Russell Road, last house in deadend, deposit in purple bins in the driveway, date: no later than Sun. June 14, 7:00 p.m.

There is a list for about 30 families. Donate items only on this list: hand & body soap, hand & body lotion, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, feminine hygiene products such as: sanitary pads/towels, tampons etc., deodorant for both men and women, Men and Women’s razors, Q-tips, Lip balm/Chapstick, Paper towels, Toilet Paper, snacks such as: granola bars, dried fruit, mixed nuts, Tea, Soup, Baby products such as: diaper/pampers, baby wipes, baby formula/powder, baby lotion, baby shampoo and soap, Tooth brushes, and tooth paste (adults and kids), Dental floss/Plackers/mouth wash

Peaceful protest in Davis Square

Protestors came together in Davis Square last Thursday afternoon to peacefully express their feelings about the recent deaths African Americans such as George Floyd and others. According to reports, Somerville Police officers on the scene were asked to kneel with the protestors but they declined to do so. No instances of violence or vandalism were reported.



— Photos by Kevin Carmichael

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.

Bridging the chasm between law enforcement and justice

Part 1: How do we begin?



By William C. Shelton

Ten years ago I wrote a column in which I argued that we are incapable of complete objectivity. The most honest things we can do are to be humble before all relevant evidence, and to disclose our underlying assumptions so that others can evaluate how they have influenced what we are saying.

I believe that those underlying assumptions are most powerfully shaped by our lived experience. So before discussing how we might begin to move our city and nation toward the ideal of equal justice before the law, we might reflect on the personal experiences that have shaped our perceptions, and respectfully listen to others. I will tell you mine.

Franz Kafka remarked somewhere that justice wears a blindfold to conceal the fact that where eyes should be there are two festering sores. I developed an intuitive sense of that in the Compton, California streets of my youth. Enduring beatings in the Chicago streets of 1968 hardened that sense into a hatred of police.

Late that fall, and self-medicating undiagnosed PTSD, I took a freeway offramp way too fast for any motorcycle or rider. I became airborne and had a brief but intense physical relationship with a guardrail. Two young Los Angeles Police Department officers found me.

They refused to call an ambulance, telling me that it was the Highway Patrol's jurisdiction, not theirs. They joked about whether I would survive my injuries. This treatment was consistent with past experience.

It's probably hard to understand now how much hatred was directed at men with long hair in 1968. As an L.A.P.D. cop told me during a previous shakedown, "You're white. You have a choice."

But an older Highway Patrol officer showed up, called an ambulance, and comforted me with reassurance that I would be OK. He subsequently stopped by L.A. County Hospital to check on how I was doing.

The CHP officer and the LAPD thugs became icons in my personal mythology, representing what I would like law enforcement to be, and what it too often is. I have since known officers who selflessly give of themselves for others' wellbeing, and sadists who use their position for personal gain while acting out petty hatreds under the color of law. While the former are more common, vanishingly few of either description breach the blue wall of silence.

That autumn was a dark period for me. After a series of small personal catastrophes, I ended up in the same Skid-Row flophouse that I had stayed in when I first left home, working day-labor jobs, loading and unloading freight cars. Life in Skid Row affords another vantage on certain officers' disregard for the humanity of the powerless.

I spent the days that I did not get work reading at the nearby L.A. Public Library and then—while performing mindless physical labor—thinking about what I had read and what I had experienced. That summer I went to work in Harry Hay's and John Burnside's kaleidoscope factory and came under their mentorship.

Before Harry founded the gay-rights movement, he had been a member of the Communist Party. And while he came to reject much of its dogma, he retained a keen analysis of how a class system maintains dominance throughout its economic, politi-

cal, and social institutions.

By the next year I was sharing a home with Black Panthers and working with them to conduct a free-breakfast-for-children program. Police officers would enter our home unannounced and laugh when we pointed out that they had no warrant.

Over the ensuing years I have been blessed by a few genuine friendships with cops who have let me see their lives through their eyes. It is a cliché to say that most are doing the best they can in a challenging job, only because it is true.

As lived experience shapes our perceptions and the credence we invest in ideas, I invest credence in these ideas: We live in a brutal class society with obscene levels of wealth and poverty where more and more working people of all colors are sliding into the underclass.

Racism has served as an effective means of dividing working people, as well documented elsewhere. This is the existing order.

Humans resist injustice in individual and collective ways, from "petty crime," to civil disobedience, to mass uprisings. Such resistance threatens the existing order.

Law is a means of allocating power. Those with the most economic power have the means to buy laws that define an order that maintains and increases their power.

Law enforcement has always protected property rights, and for 246 years some Americans were property, and they endured another century of legally sanctioned racism. Racist attitudes and practices persist throughout many institutional cultures, and in many law enforcement agencies more so than in other organizations, such as the military, our most integrated institution.

Our institutional arrangements create an inherently precarious situation for law enforcement officers. They are members of the working class who often

sincerely want to "protect and serve" their fellow citizens, but who are also required to defend an unjust order.

The more the people in the neighborhoods where they are tasked to serve suffer from this order, the more likely the officers will regularly encounter mistrust, resentment, and abuse. And the institutional culture in which officers operate has more power to sanction them than do those whom they police.

To maintain the clarity of mind and self-discipline necessary to pursue justice in such circumstances would require exceptional character, intensive training, and probably ongoing counseling. In most European countries, recruits are carefully selected and receive several years of training. They go through a kind of apprenticeship before they become sworn officers.

In the U.S., numerous studies show that, embedded in a "police subculture [that] conflicts with the official norms and values of policing," too many officers share personality characteristics with felons. There is evidence that in recent years this situation has been improving. But officers still receive but a few months training in the Academy before they are invested with the awesome responsibility of deciding whether to take away a person's freedom.

Recent events have inescapably forced into the consciousness of most Americans the violence that is disproportionately and regularly visited upon people of color by officers acting under the color of law. Outraged, many Americans of all colors are demanding action.

In a moment of sharply reduced city revenues, a petition has gathered 3,000 signatures. It demands "that our city allocate much less money to policing and much more to nonviolent public services." While I have considerable respect and affection for those who launched this effort, I

could not sign the petition.

Although the impetus for the petition was the police murders of people of color, local people of color were not consulted in the drafting of the petition, and organizations representing them have passed on endorsing it. It's worth noting the paradox that those communities that most suffer police abuse are also those most in need of police protection. Well-meaning white allies can best support people of color by finding the humility to follow their leadership.

Then, I would be more comfortable with a fact-based analysis of what to cut, where to reallocate, and the expected outcomes. The city publishes a detailed line-item budget proposal every year that readers can review.

Last year, Councilor Niedergang moved to cut the police budget by \$600,000, citing a precipitous decline in local crime. Although that seemed reasonable, only Councilor Scott supported the motion. The city's disastrous loss of revenue, along with new needs created by the pandemic, will now obligate a much greater cut. But such decisions should be based on a comprehensive analysis of available resources, desired outcomes, and means of achieving them.

I by no means wish to dismiss the petition's intention or potency. It is a heartfelt outpouring from thousands of Somervillians, and it will force an essential and overdue conversation.

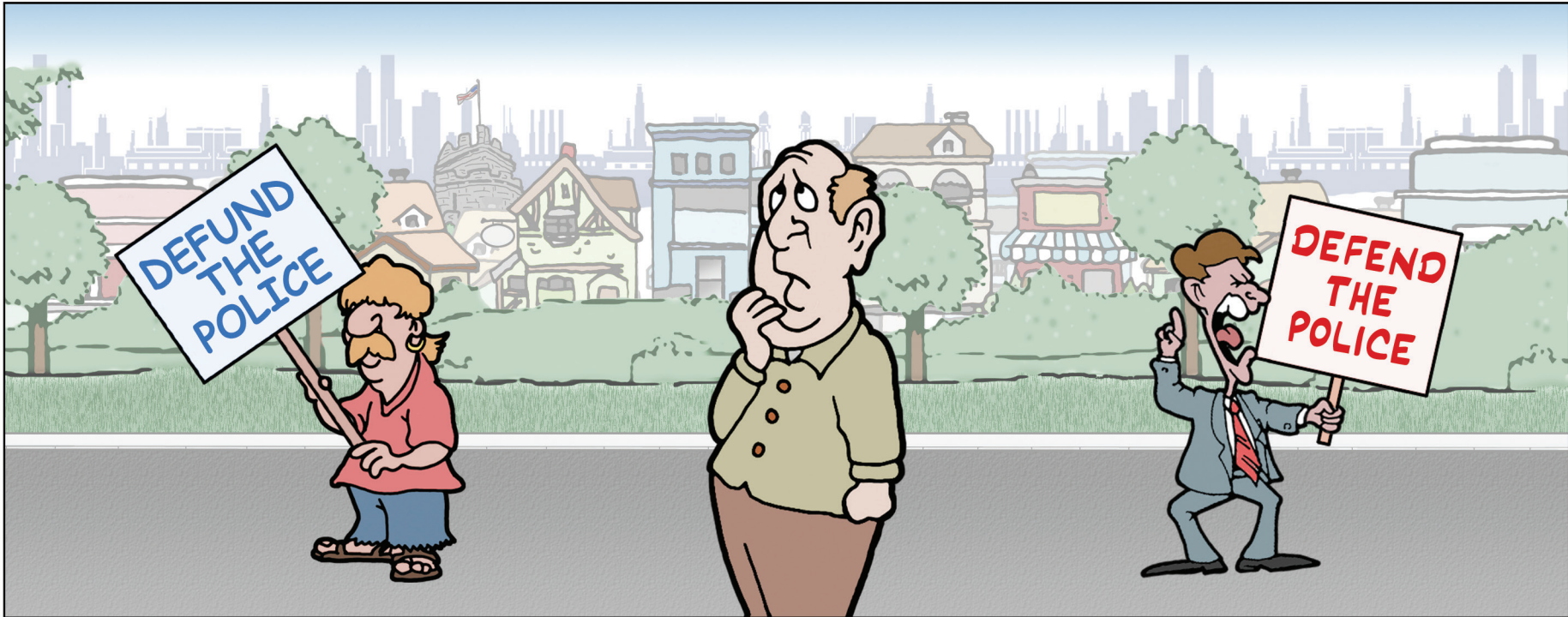
If we want to effect long-term change, we need to move from a tactic to a strategy. And to formulate an effective strategy, I believe that we need to begin with a comprehensive understanding of how racial violence exists within a police-prosecutor-judicial-prison complex that locks up a third of all prisoners on the planet, while we are only 4% of the world's population. I hope to begin that discussion in my next column.

Visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com
Facebook at www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1

COMMENTARY

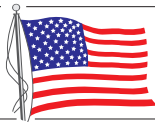
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



There must be a better way.

Our View Of The Times



While passions heat up over the recent incidents of death of black men and women at the hands of police officers in cities throughout the nation, one movement has emerged as a rallying cry for those who are protesting in the streets: the "defunding" of police departments.

While the term itself is rightfully alarming to many at first, the exact meaning of what this action would actually entail.

There is little doubt that no police departments anywhere in this country will be abolished outright, even if there may be those on the extreme ends of the spectrum who may hope for it.

Most advocates of this movement are actually looking to restructure policing policies and redistribute allocated funds so that social programs and job creation opportunities will be enhanced, while the on-

going militarization of police departments is curtailed and significantly scaled back.

While serious study of how to best make use of funds granted to police departments may be a worthwhile thing, it is unfortunate that the issue has become yet one more factor in the already highly divisive political climate we are living in. Those on both ends of the spectrum are pressing their points passionately and broadly.

We in this city can take pride in the fact that our civic leaders and the police have taken the pledge to practice responsible use of force.

Upcoming city budget negotiations will likely include discussions on police department funding. We can expect some shifting of funds, but we think our own cops deserve their fair share of what it takes to do their jobs effectively.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

they invite you to engage in courageous conversations around racial justice and inequity through a modern and historical lens. Go deep in unlearning your own biases and overcome personal roadblocks when it comes to race and racism. Participate in scaffolded role plays where you can practice the hard work of interrupting racism and white supremacy. Learn from experts what it means to truly "sit in the fire" with this hands-on, engaging virtual class. The class will be held on **June 13** on **Zoom** over two sessions, for the full schedule visit SMC's Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/events/2649475955327927/>

Celebrating their birthdays this week: Happy birthday to **Muriel White**, formerly of Winter Hill, is celebrating this week. We, of course, hope she has a great one. Happy birthday to another former Somerville person, **Raymond Trant**, formerly the Chairman of the Licensing Committee. We hope Ray has a great day for himself. Happy birthday to **Carolyn Pedersen**, we wish Carolyn a great day. Happy birthday to **Suzanne Bremer**, of Prospect Hill, we hope has a great birthday as well. Happy birthday to our good friend **Beth Chamber-**

lain. We hope Beth has a great day. To the former **Councilor At-Large Stephanie Hirsch**, we hope she has a great day as well. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Gavin House, Annmarie Callaway, Len Tower, Rand Wilson, Amanda Esteves, Donna Amenta, Nancy Lally Kelly, Donna M. Quinn, Shawn Lynch, Gretchen Ann Graham** and **Rebekah Gewirtz**, a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

The **Somerville School Committee** will conduct a public hearing on the **School Department's FY2021 Budget, Wednesday, June 17, at 6:00 p.m. GoToWebinar Online Meeting Platform**. Please use the following web address to join the budget hearing: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5352296567632079115> The Public is invited to attend.

Record Store Day 2020 with vinyl index at **Bow Market, June 20, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m., 1 Bow Market Way**. Support an independently owned record store while catching a vibe with live DJ sets.

The shelves in vinyl index will be stocked with as many special releases as they can fit while shop co-owner, **DJ 7L**, and the **Soulelujah DJs** mix killer funk, soul, hip hop and dance tracks outside in the **Bow Market courtyard**. Be sure to check their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/events/132617214831145/> for the official list of music inspired special offerings from your favorite Bow Market shops, bars and restaurants.

Continuing through **Monday, June 15**, the **Department of Conservation and Recreation** will close various sections within **Draw Seven Park** from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to enable soil surveying work. Additionally, the state park will remain open for the public to visit.

The **Washington Street Art Center** presents its inaugural virtual exhibition of the COVID-19 era, a solo show by studio member **Catherine Aiello**, opening **June 20. Power and Service**, an online and interactive exhibition, features multimedia work that reflects on and illuminates Aiello's experience working in the food service industry. An online reception and artist talk take place **Saturday, June 20, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.** Information

on how to access the **Zoom** reception/talk will be available closer to the event at www.washingtonstreet.squarespace.com/events and the artist's website.

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.

East Somerville Safe Pick-up Market takes place **Sunday, June 14**. 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>.

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#734

1. Who was the first African American head coach in the NFL?

2. What 2007 hit did Rihanna have that featured Jay-Z?

3. The Big Dipper is made up from what constellation?

4. What is the name for the Southern Italian code of silence?

5. Who was the first solo female host of the Academy Awards?

6. What is Ichthyophobia a fear of?

7. What NBA All Star has the nickname "The Mailman"?

8. What Rolling Stone video featured Angelina Jolie?

9. When did the the Gulf oil spill take place?

10. What do you call the dot above the letters i and j?

11. What actress was in Stone Temple Pilots Sour Girl video?

12. In what kind of pie would you find ground beef?

Answers on page 11

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. There is a hotel in Sweden built entirely out of ice; it is rebuilt every year..

2. In Bangladesh, kids as young as 15 can be jailed for cheating on their finals.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

FATHER'S DAY

ACROSS

1. Kind of lively dance
6. Greenwich time
9. Pilgrimage to Mecca
13. Belittle
14. A note to follow soh
15. Annie Oakley's show
16. Hipbone-related
17. Chicago to Detroit direction
18. Historical period
19. *Most gifted Father's Day gift?
21. a.k.a. Father of the Constitution
23. Have a cold, e.g.
24. Bog deposit
25. Styling product
28. Not yet final, in law
30. Squirrels away
35. "Metamorphoses" poet
37. Antioxidants-rich berry
39. Text that precedes the main text
40. Car brand, e.g.
41. "Full House" father
43. Brazilian indigenous people
44. a.k.a. dropsy
46. Precedes shine
47. Paving stone
48. Early TV manufacturer
50. Bayonet wound
52. "Zip it!"
53. Popular form of communication
55. Part of a match
57. Christopher Robin's father
61. Father known as "one-shot" Finch
65. Largest deer
66. Richard Bobbsey's offspring
68. Precedes desist
69. Cuckoo
70. Friedrich Schiller's " ____ to Joy"
71. Personnel person
72. Job for a body shop
73. Parent's order
74. Wrestling's ____ the Giant

DOWN

1. It's equivalent to pain?
2. Sound mind, ____ body
3. Not of the cloth

CROSSWORD											
1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10
13						14				15	
16						17				18	
19					20			21	22		
			23				24				
25	26	27		28		29			30	31	32
35			36		37			38		39	
40					41				42		43
44				45		46				47	
48					49		50			51	52
				53		54			55	56	
57	58	59	60					61			62
65						66	67			68	
69						70				71	
72						73				74	

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4 (5 oz.) Butcher's Cut Filet Mignon

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4 (4 oz.) Omaha Steaks Burgers

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4 (2.8 oz.) Potatoes au Gratin

4 (4 oz.) Caramel Apple Tartlets

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

© 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:

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

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

Anti-racism candlelight vigil

A candlelight vigil in honor of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and others killed by police brutality and racist violence took place Sunday evening at the East Somerville Public Library.

— Photos by Bobbie Toner



The Somerville Police Department has adopted all 8 Can't Wait police reform policies

The Somerville Police Department has adopted all of the 8 Can't Wait police reform policies espoused by Campaign Zero (see the graphic). Six of the policies were already formally in place in writing and two were existing, taught standard procedures (a ban on choke- and strangleholds and duty to intervene) that will now be added to written policy and procedures. Officers will continue to be educated on all of these policies.

In addition, Mayor Curtatone has committed to and signed President Obama's Pledge for Mayors (<https://www.obama.org/mayor-pledge/>) to address police use of force policies. This is in addition to the slate of policies announced on June 3 (<https://www.somervillema.gov/police-reform>), including a commitment to establish civilian oversight, that are part of our continued effort to deliver just, compassionate and unbiased policing to the community.

Please know that these steps by no means mark the beginning or end of our work on this issue. We will continue to look for and implement the best policies and solutions to address both excessive use of force as well as systemic racism not just in terms of policing, but in all city services and functions so that we can equitably serve our entire community.

— City of Somerville

#8CANTWAIT

BAN CHOKEHOLDS & STRANGLEHOLDS

REQUIRE DE-ESCALATION

REQUIRE WARNING BEFORE SHOOTING

EXHAUST ALL ALTERNATIVES BEFORE SHOOTING

TOGETHER, THESE 8 POLICIES CAN DECREASE POLICE VIOLENCE BY 72%.

VISIT 8CANTWAIT.ORG TO FIND YOUR CITY, CALL YOUR MAYOR, AND DEMAND CHANGE RIGHT NOW.

CAMPAIGN ZERO

LEGAL NOTICES

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



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

GEORGE J. PROAKIS, AICP
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, June 23, 2020** at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public meeting and hearings **will be conducted via remote participation.**

TO USE A COMPUTER

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/45144155584240655>

Access code: 885-331-859

TO CALL IN

+1 (631) 992-3221

Access code: 788-982-253

DETERMINATIONS OF APPROPRIATENESS (PUBLIC HEARING)

HPC.ALT 2020.11 - 47 Vinal Avenue
Applicant: Michio Painter & Nadia Cohen
Owner: same as applicant
Replace basement windows with egress windows and replace bulk-head doors

DETERMINATIONS OF HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT (STEP 1 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS)

HPC.DMO 2020.11 - 55 Heath Street
Applicant: Lynne Thompson
Owner: same as applicant
Demolish carriage barn

HPC.DMO 2020.12 - 71-72 Union Square
Applicant: Laxmi N. Pradhan, Trustee of Everest Realty Trust
Owner: same as applicant
Demolish principal structure

HPC.DMO 2020.13 – 217-233 Holland Street
Applicant: Silva Realty, LLC
Owner: same as applicant
Demolish principal & accessory structures

As cases may be continued to a later date, please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email historic@somervillema.gov to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide comments to the Historic Preservation Commission at the public hearing or via e-mail to historic@somervillema.gov. All written comments must be received by NOON, one week prior to the date of the HPC meeting.


6/3/20, 6/10/20 The Somerville Times

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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville Planning Board (PB) will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, June 25, 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/6213733141602116363>

Webinar ID: 472-537-403

TO CALL IN

Phone number: +1 (562) 247-8321
Access code: 988-336-644


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

365-369 Somerville Ave Nikhilesh Rao Gorukanti seeks a Use Special Permit to establish a Health Care Service on a Pedestrian Street.

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.

6/10/20 The Somerville Times



SOMERVILLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING

THE SOMERVILLE SCHOOL COMMITTEE WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT'S FY2021 BUDGET

Wednesday, June 17, 2020, AT 6:00 P.M.
GoToWebinar Online Meeting Platform

Please use the following web address to join the Budget Hearing:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5352296567632079115>

THE PUBLIC IS CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND.

Carrie Normand, Chair
Somerville School Committee


Andre Green, Chair
Finance and Facilities Subcommittee

Mary Skipper
Superintendent of Schools

6/10/20 The Somerville Times

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www.TheSomervilleTimes.com



City of Somerville
PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. c. 131 § 40, the **SOMERVILLE CONSERVATION COMMISSION** will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, June 23rd, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** to review the Notice of Intent by submitted by LEC Environmental Consultants on behalf of applicant Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) for the Blessing of the Bay Park improvements. The project entails the reconfiguration of existing paved walkways and the creation of a multi-use trail that ties into the Mystic River Greenway. Copies of the application can be viewed at the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA. Contact Malik Drayton, Conservation Agent, at 617-625-6600 x2514, or send an email to mdayton@somervillema.gov for more information


Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, **this public meeting will be conducted via remote participation.**

TO USE A COMPUTER
Webinar ID
993-513-387
Registration URL
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1622435367356370445>

TO CALL IN
UNITED STATES
+1 (562) 247-8422

Access code: 767-723-008

6/10/20 The Somerville Times



Information Session and Public Hearing on FY2021 Water and Sewer Rates, June 11

The City of Somerville will hold a virtual information session and public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2021 water and sewer rates on **Thursday, June 11**. The information session will start at 6 p.m. and the public hearing will begin promptly at **6:30 p.m.** Anyone who would like to testify is welcome to attend. Written testimony will also be accepted until 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 16. Written testimony can be submitted by emailing water@somervillema.gov or by mailing it to the Water and Sewer Department, 17 Franey Rd., Somerville, MA 02145.

The information session and hearing will be hosted on the GoToWebinar platform and there will also be an option to call into the meeting from a phone. Visit www.somervillema.gov/water shortly before 6 p.m. to join live or get call-in information, or call 311. The information session and public hearing will be recorded and rebroadcast on City Cable (channel 13 on RCN, channel 22 on Comcast) and on the City's YouTube channel.

The proposed rates were submitted to the City Council during its meeting on Thursday, May 28, and can be viewed online at www.somervillema.gov/water.

Interpretation into Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Kreyol, or Nepali is available upon advance request (at least 5 business days advance notice needed) by contacting the Somerviva Office of Immigrant Affairs at somerviva@somervillema.gov or calling 311.

Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication, written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Somerville or to attend meetings, should contact should contact Nancy Salamoun, at 617-625-6600 x2323 or NSalamoun@somervillema.gov.

6/3/20, 6/10/20 The Somerville Times

Boomtown! CONT. FROM PG 3

childhood memories! He was still great!"

"I saw him at Wellington circle!! He was on his horse!"

"I remember he called square dances when I was little and he helped choreograph some dance scenes for me when I was doing community theater during the 80s."

"Rex also raised a lot of money for Muscular Dystrophy. I loved the cardboard barn at WBZ!"

"I remember he landed by helicopter one time in the Zayres

parking lot!"

"I was on his show a few times. I also remember him at Pleasure Island in Wakefield, MA. A real nice guy!"

"I loved him. I still have my autographed picture he signed!"

"He came to Porter Square in Cambridge around 1963 ... I got on the show there ... it was done outdoors in the parking lot "

Rex Trailer was an accomplished musician, singer and songwriter. His song *Hoofbeats* accompanied by a live

action film of Rex on his horse, Goldrush, was the very memorable show opener. Rex wrote and recorded *Hoofbeats* and *Cowboys Don't Cry*. In later years, Rex taught Film Production at my Alma Mater, Emerson College.

Rex Trailer and *Boomtown* are a huge part of my childhood and many in my age group. If you were on the show you have special memories and if you ever had the pleasure of meeting Rex, you were very fortunate. He is a

true Boston icon.

Rex Trailer passed away in 2013, leaving an extensive legacy of dedication to kids, education and a love of the old west. Thank you Rex. You will forever be remembered fondly by us Baby Boomer *Boomtown* fans.

"So do-si-do and swing around, Get your gal and promenade down to Boom, Boom Boomtown!"

From Wikipedia:

A documentary film titled *Rex Trailer's Boomtown* was

produced by Milford, Massachusetts native Michael Bavaro. Bavaro used rare archival footage along with the memories of *Boomtown* fans to provide a nostalgic overview. The Emmy® nominated film aired on WBZ-TV on June 18, 2005 with encore broadcasts on WGBH in 2010, 2013, and is now sold in DVD format.

There is also a book called *Rex Trailer, The Boomtown* years by Shirley Kawa-Jump.

Amal Niccoli discusses its reopening

By Jessica Sisavath

Lori Pino is preparing to open her salon with the new Covid-19 guidelines on June 10. Although salons and barbershops were allowed to open on June 1, Pino is taking her time to make some adjustments prior to opening to prepare her hairdressers and customers for a safe experience at Amal Niccoli.

Pino has been cutting hair for the elderly before the opening on June 10 in order to keep her high-risk clients safe. In preparation for Amal Niccoli’s opening, she has installed plexiglass, purifying systems for clean air, and constructed a space where her staff can roam easily while working, separated from the client area. Lori has also painted her salon as well, saying, “It’s great changes, it gives me a little bit of a facelift. June 1 was my 25 years in my location.”

On June 1, 1995 Amal Niccoli opened in their Somerville location on 731 Broadway and is getting ready for a big change. The other services, such as for

skincare, will be available in Phase 2, which has not been announced yet.

Pino is making sure her hairdressers and customers are taken care of. With the new guidelines, hairdressers must wear gloves, a mask, face shields, and safety goggles if necessary. Once they get a client, the hairdresser will change their smock. They must change any cloths and cape for every customer.

“... no Covid conversation once you pass the Covid check point”

According to the guidelines, conversations will be minimized, no water fountain or sharing of food and liquids will be allowed. However, Pino is making sure her customers still have a comfortable experience when they come in for their appointments.

Since closing in March, Pino

has kept in contact with her customers that needed to re-book for hair cutting services only. She’s confirmed every appointment and assures that customers are aware of the changes to protect them and the hairdressers from Covid-19.

Once a customer walks in, there will be a Covid-19 check-in process. There will be six-foot distance markers outside of the salon, a poster of the government guidelines which customers will have to read, a sign-in log, and a hands-free sanitizer, and they will be required to wear masks upon entering.

After the customers have read the guidelines, they will have to ring an automatic doorbell that the salon installed. Then, their temperatures will be taken and after passing these check-in points, they will be able to move around in the salon at the six-foot distance. Pino is telling all of her customers about the new check-in process so they know what to expect and also requesting, “I have one request no Covid conversation once you pass the



Amal Niccoli Salon is poised to make a sweeping comeback as reopenings gradually unfold across the city. — Photo by Bobbie Toner

Covid check point.” This will allow customers to hopefully have a peaceful experience.

For customers who don’t have a mask, Pino will have a masks available that she sewed herself. Also, for her first 200 customers, she has prepared coronavirus

care packages that include the sewed masks and hand sanitizers.

With the new changes and guidelines, Pino is crossing her fingers that her re-opening will go well and is anticipating there might be more changes along the way.

Shared Streets and Curbs expansion pilot makes space for residents

CONT. FROM PG 1

East Somerville. According to the city’s mobility division, these streets are remaining open to local vehicles, deliveries, and emergency vehicles, and are discouraging unnecessary drive through vehicle traffic. They also have slower speed limits and allow bicyclists and pedestrians to maintain at least six feet of distance while making daily car-free trips to schools, stores, and other essential locations.

Cones set up on the street give pedestrians an extra 7-10 feet of walking space by extending the sidewalk into the street and also set new boundaries for parking. On Bow St. in Union Square, street parking has been reoriented from reverse angle into parallel, and new 15-minute parking zones are being added for curbside pickup and quick errands. The extra space also allows businesses to potentially bring out tables for outdoor seating or shelves for open-air shopping.

For residents who have seen the cones on Bow St., don’t worry. Jessica Eshleman, Executive Director of Union Square Main Streets, wants to emphasize that there’s no new construction happening. She says the cones are meant to be temporary because the city’s mobility division is using tactile urbanism, a broad approach to city planning with low-cost, low-intervention tech-

niques that are temporary and can be adjusted as needed based on feedback and experiences of residents. Community input is necessary for changes to be made.

Maria Rondeau, owner of Peruvian restaurant Celeste in Union Square, likes the changes so far. Rondeau is on the board of directors of USMS as well as an architect, and she is involved in a number of efforts to reopen Somerville. Despite understanding the adjustments on Bow St., she admits that she was shocked to see so many cones in front of her restaurant for the pilot. Rondeau thinks that boards or paint should be used as less overwhelming visual cues to define street boundaries.

“There’s a lot of things at play, and the city was very receptive when listening to the concerns,” Rondeau says. “This is an experiment for them. So they’re open to figuring out what works best.”

USMS volunteered to help facilitate the pilot by reaching out to the community and business owners to relay information and receive feedback. Eshleman says that so far, reactions have been positive, with people being open to changes. Community members can share thoughts through a survey on SomerVision or through the feedback form in the USMS newsletter.

One response said that the new

15-minute parking spaces were an improvement, making curbside pickup quick and easy. Eshleman has witnessed pedestrians and bikers being able to pass with more ease on the streets than before the expansion. “Right now it’s about getting the community and passersby – in car, on bike, or on foot – comfortable with this new configuration since it is different than it has been for several years,” she says.

Eshleman believes it is valuable to begin the pilot now before Mayor Curtatone announces businesses can open again, giving people time to adjust to the new patterns for parking and shopping. “Hopefully as businesses reopen people will feel even more comfortable with outdoor dining and shopping from open-air bookshelves because it won’t be a brand new arrangement for everybody experiencing it.”

The community has made sacrifices for businesses, such as giving up parking spaces to allow more room for pedestrians, and Rondeau sees this as a big step forward.

“We’re hoping that as more of these extended sidewalk pilots take place in the city, people start to realize that there’s a real value in outdoor civic space,” she says, later adding, “I think that it’s going to be an interesting moment for people to recognize the val-

ue of allowing private space to come out to public space. It just makes everything more cohesive as a place to live. We’re hoping that this is an experiment that will have longer term results that people will appreciate.”

The pilots are only beginning. Later advancements to the mobility strategy include touch-free traffic buttons and “traffic calming,” a way to reduce vehicle speeds and improve the safety of residential streets.

“As we do these sidewalk expansions, I feel that they are playing a very important role in

building customer confidence that Union Square is a safe place to come,” Eshleman says. “There are outdoor business opportunities, so you don’t have to be inside a store to support that business. I think by taking over the public space, it sends the message to shoppers that we’ve been working on this for weeks and we want to create an environment where you feel safe to shop here.”

For more information, visit the city’s mobility division at <https://sommvoice.somerville-ma.gov/covid19mobility>.

Ms. Cam’s

Olio

Answers

1. Fritz Pollard

2. Umbrella

3. Ursa Major

4. Omertà

5. Whoopi Goldberg

6. Fish

7. Karl Malone

8. Anybody Seen My Baby?

9. April 20, 2010

10. Superscript dot

11. Sarah Michelle Gellar

12. Shepard’s pie

Systemic racism to be declared a public safety and health emergency

CONT. FROM PG 4

a standard part of police work.”

Changes in how police misconduct cases are handled

Mayor Curtatone calls on the Commonwealth to appoint an independent special prosecutor to investigate and, if necessary, prosecute potentially criminal cases of misconduct by officers. Currently, Massachusetts District Attorneys serve this function despite their close working relationship with local police in the investigation of crimes and the delivery of testimony. Mayor Curtatone applauds state and federal lawmakers and elected officials of color for taking the lead on advocacy efforts at the state level and are committed to supporting that work to achieve this critical change.

“Just as independent oversight is needed at the local level, we need independence when it comes to prosecutions of police officers to remove any real or perceived conflicts of interest. Like many of these reforms, there will be strong pushback by those entrenched in a system that no longer holds the public’s trust, but we must summon our courage as a society to institute this needed change,” said Mayor Curtatone.

The city has also filed a Petition at the Massachusetts De-

partment of Labor Relations (DLR) to remove the SPD’s internal investigation oversight Lieutenant position from the Somerville Police Superior Officers Association so that investigations into allegations of police misconduct can be conducted by an individual with no potential conflict of interest due to their membership in the police union. The city is subject to the DLR’s process and disposition of its Petition before it can effect this change.

“Having reports of police misconduct investigated by a fellow union member can create the appearance of a conflict of interest. Even when investigations are conducted correctly and without bias, it’s understandable that the public might not trust the process,” said Chief Fallon. “We want full transparency. I want our residents to have the level of faith in Somerville police officers that I do. I want them to know they have the highest caliber of officer serving them and dedicating themselves to public safety.”

“We want to set up a system to investigate allegations of misconduct that is fair to both the accused and the accuser,” said Mayor Curtatone. “This step is an action we can pursue right now as we work to-

ward the longer-term solution of civilian oversight.”

Asset forfeiture policy changes

One outcome of the Community-Police Dialogue earlier this year was a call for changes to the city’s policies on asset forfeiture funds. Asset forfeiture is when assets – often money and other property – allegedly gained by criminal activity are confiscated by the government. The stated purpose of asset forfeiture is to disrupt criminal activity by confiscating assets that potentially could have been beneficial to the individual or organization.

As a result of the Dialogue, the city raised concerns with the Middlesex District Attorney’s Office (MDAO) regarding the fact that some funds are derived from cases where the owner of the seized property was ultimately not convicted. After these inquiries, not only did Somerville end its own policy of accepting funds derived from state-level asset forfeitures in cases without convictions, the MDAO independently changed their own policy, so no police department in Middlesex County will receive such funding.

The Somerville Police also participate in the Department of Justice Equitable Sharing Program, the federal asset forfeiture

program, which in Somerville has primarily involved forfeitures from cartel-level drug enforcement actions vital to protecting the safety and health of our community and combating the opioid epidemic. Currently, the city uses these funds for various police expenses ranging from vehicles and equipment to overtime and training. As of July 1, 2020, the start of the City’s fiscal year, these funds will be solely dedicated to two purposes: 1) to provide substance use prevention and recovery, mental and behavioral health, and other services and resources designed to support residents and divert them from the criminal justice system, primarily through the City’s Community Outreach, Health and Recovery (COHR) Office; and 2) de-escalation, crisis intervention, health and mental wellness, implicit bias, and other similar training for officers and associated expenses.

Continued demilitarization of the SPD

After already scaling back their participation in a Department of Defense program that provides military weaponry to local police departments, the SPD will formally withdraw from the program.

“Our officers are not soldiers on a battlefield, and they should not be equipped with military-grade gear and weapons. Militarizing the police makes it difficult for residents to feel safe approaching and interacting with officers, increases risk, and sets an overall hostile, confrontational tone,” said Mayor Curtatone. “Community policing, not high-powered guns or armored vehicles, has been the most effective tool in promoting public safety in Somerville. The only war to be fought here is against racism, and we don’t need military-grade gear and weapons to do that.”

Commitment to further reforms

“We’ve undertaken numerous reforms, actions, and initiatives over the years to provide our community with values-based policing that is compassionate and just, but now is not the time to run through that list. It’s time for sustained and responsive action,” said Mayor Curtatone. “We are listening. We are learning. We too are grieving. And we are committed to continuing this work. The fact that something is missing on today’s list of new steps doesn’t mean we aren’t looking at it. We’re looking at everything. There is more to come.”

Broadway Bridge is now open

The Broadway bridge is now open with one travel lane in each direction. During this early stage, temporary accessible sidewalks and bike lanes will be installed on one side of the bridge allowing bike/pedestrian travel in both directions at all times. MBTA bus routes 80 and 89, which have been diverted around the closure, are expected to revert to their original routes shortly after the bridge reopens. The MBTA will post signage and more information when it’s available. Final surface restorations are expected to be completed this summer. At that time, the bridge will include permanent pavement markings with two travel lanes in each direction, in addition to finished sidewalks and bike lanes on each side of the bridge. When the future Ball Square Station (now under construction) is complete, the bridge will feature a fully accessible entrance to the station platform from the bridge sidewalk via an elevator and staircase. A second at-grade entrance will be constructed from Boston Ave.



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By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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- 1692 – Bridget Bishop is hanged in Salem, Mass., for witchcraft.
- 1776 – The Continental Congress appoints a committee to write a Declaration of Independence.
- 1854 – The U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, holds its first graduation.
- 1925 – Tennessee adopts a new biology text book denying the theory of evolution.
- 1898 – U.S. Marines land in Cuba.
- 1920 – The Republican convention in Chicago endorses women's suffrage.
- 1948 – The news that the sound barrier has been broken is finally released to the public by the U.S. Air Force.
- 1963 – Buddhist monk Ngo Quang Duc dies by self immolation in Saigon to protest persecution by the Diem government.

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「SCATV」Channel 3 Schedule

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Wednesday, June 10		3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)		8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)		12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	
12:00am	Free Speech TV	4:00pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects	9:00am SMC Youth Media	5:00am		Free Speech TV	
6:00am	NASA TV	4:30pm The Struggle	9:30am Science 360	6:00am		NASA TV	
7:00am	Community Bulletin Board	5:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News	10:00am Dead Air Live	7:00am		Somerville Storytellers	
7:30am	DW In Good Shape	6:00pm #AFAD	11:00am TeleGalaxie	7:30am		Going Postal	
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:30pm #AFAD	12:00pm Somerville Storytellers	8:00am		Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
9:00am	DW Global 3000	7:00pm Community Lens: SHC 5K Race	1:00pm Tele Magazine	9:00am		Science 360	
9:30am	Both Sides of the Bars	8:00pm LIVE - Our View	2:00pm Reeling Review	10:00am		Somerville Neighborhood News	
10:00am	Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer	9:00pm PABFONE Closing Day Ceremony	3:00pm MA House of Representatives Formal Session	11:00am		Our View	
10:30am	Somerville Neighborhood News	10:00pm Community Bulletin Board	4:00pm Tele Kreyol	12:00pm		The Thom Hartman Show	
11:00am	SNN Neighborhood Update	10:30pm The World Fusion Show	5:00pm Henry Parker Presents	1:00pm		SOM ARTS	
11:30am	From My Heart to Yours	11:00pm VOX POP Comedy Night	5:30pm Henry Parker Presents	1:30pm		Somerville Storytellers	
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show		6:00pm Somerville Pundits	2:00pm		NASA TV	
1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	Friday, June 12	6:30pm The Somerville Labor Show	3:00pm		Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
1:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	7:00pm BLOWW Show a Go Go	4:00pm		African Television Network	
2:00pm	Colores Latinos	1:00am SCATV Secret Stash	7:30pm SCATV Secret Stash	5:00pm		Community Lens: SHC 5K Race	
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	1:30am Free Speech TV	8:00pm #AFAD	6:00pm		LIVE from VOX POP	
4:00pm	DW Conflict Zone	2:00am NASA TV	9:00pm Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:30pm		Fur, Fins and Feathers	
4:30pm	Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library	7:00am The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm Heavy Leather Music Video Show	7:00pm		Tele Galaxie	
5:00pm	Hello Neighbor	8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm SCATV Secret Stash	8:00pm		LIVE -Somerville Overcoming Addiction	
5:30pm	From My Heart to Yours	9:00am DW Euromaxx	11:30pm Queer Cats	9:00pm		Dedilhando au Saudade	
6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	9:30am Strata		10:00pm		Colores Latinos	
6:30pm	VOX POP: Somerville Connects	10:00am NASA TV	Sunday, June 14	11:00pm		Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	
7:00pm	"The Cask of Amontillado" at VOX POP	11:00am SOM ARTS	12:00am Flotilla				
7:30pm	Sidewalks Entertainment	11:30am Cambridge Calendar	1:00am NASA TV				
8:00pm	LIVE - Somerville Pundits	12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show	1:30am NASA TV				
8:30pm	DW Euromaxx	Community Benefits Agreement	2:00am Free Speech TV				
9:00pm	Revolution Awakening at VOX POP	2:00pm Somerville Pundits	3:00am Bate Papo com Shirley				
10:00pm	LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	2:30pm Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library	6:00am Nossa Gentes e Costumes				
11:00pm	Flotilla	3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00am Effort Pour Christ				
Thursday, June 11		4:00pm Gay USA	9:00am NASA TV				
12:30am	SCATV Secret Stash	5:00pm DW Global 3000	10:00am Tele Kreyol				
1:00am	Free Speech TV	5:30pm What's New Massachusetts?	11:00am House of Representatives Formal Session				
1:30am	Free Speech TV	6:00pm Grandstanders	12:00pm Sidewalks Entertainment				
2:00am	Free Speech TV	7:00pm Emergency Preparedness	1:00pm SOM ARTS				
3:00am	Free Speech TV	7:30pm The Somerville Labor Show	2:00pm SNN Neighborhood Update				
6:00am	Bate Papo com Shirley	8:00pm LIVE - Greater Somerville	3:00pm Chico and B-Man				
7:00am	DW Conflict Zone	8:30pm Greater Somerville	4:00pm African Television Network				
7:30am	DW Euromaxx	9:00pm Fur, Fins and Feathers	5:00pm Dedilhando a Saudade				
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	6:00pm Gay USA				
9:00am	DW Tomorrow Today	11:00pm Heavy Leather Music Video Show	VOX POP: Somerville Connects				
9:30am	Hello Neighbor		DW Tomorrow Today				
10:00am	The Chef's Table Series	Saturday, June 13	Emergency Preparedness				
10:30am	The Chef's Table Series	12:00am VOX POP Comedy Night	8:00pm Dead Air Live				
11:00am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals	1:00am Free Speech TV	9:00pm Tele Magazine				
11:30am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals	2:00am Free Speech TV	10:00pm Community Lens: Somerville 5K Detour				
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	3:00am Free Speech TV	11:00pm TUTV				
1:00pm	The Somerville Line	5:00am Free Speech TV	11:30pm SCATV Secret Stash				
1:30pm	The Somerville Line	6:00am DW Focus on Europe					
		7:00am Effort Pour Christ	Monday, June 15				

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

Wednesday, June 10		12:30pm CC-Finance Committee Meeting 6.4.20		9:45am SPD Ride Along		12:00am School Committee Meeting 6.8.20	
7:00am	Chair Yoga w/Janine	2:40pm Old Powder House Docent Tour	10:00am Serenading Seniors at Brady Towers	3:00am		Return to Italy	
7:30am	Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz	4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #3	7:00am		The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism	
8:10am	Cooking w/Ellen: Pudding Cake	7:00pm City Council Meeting 6.11.20 - LIVE	11:30am Raising Families	8:20am		Thank You from Mayor Joe Curtatone	
8:18am	Cooking w/Ellen: Mac & Cheese 6.2.20	11:30pm Atualizacoes em Tempos de Coronavirus	12:00pm CC-Finance Committee Meeting 6.4.20	8:30am		Raising Families	
8:30am	City Council Spotlight: Katjana Ballantyne	Friday, June 12	2:10pm Milk Row Cemetery Tour - 5.23.19	9:00am		Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone	
9:00am	Youth Mental Health During COVID-19	12:00am Housing & Community Development	4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #1	11:00am		Fit 4 Life 2020 #3	
9:16am	Memorial Day Remembrance 2020	1:54am Health & Hygiene PSA 2020	4:30pm Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone	11:30am		Memorial Day Remembrance 2020	
9:31am	Raising Families	2:00am Letters of World War II at Council on Aging	6:06pm School Committee Meeting 6.8.20	11:45am		Youth Mental Health During COVID-19	
10:00am	Atualizacoes em Tempos de Coronavirus	7:00am CC-Land Use Meeting 6.2.20	8:00pm Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone	12:01pm		City Council Meeting 6.11.20	
11:00am	Fit 4 Life 2020 #3	9:01am Youth Mental Health During COVID-19	10:03pm Youth Mental Health During COVID-19	4:00pm		Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	
11:30am	Raising Families	9:30am Pride Flag Raising 2020	10:30pm Raising Families	4:30pm		Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone	
12:00pm	Public Health & Public Safety Committee	9:45am Raising Families	11:00pm Pride Flag Raising 2020	6:06pm		East Somerville Walking Tour - 6.16.19	
3:00pm	Youth Mental Health During COVID-19	11:00am Fit-4-Life #3	11:15pm Memorial Day Remembrance 2020	7:40pm		Memorial Day Remembrance 2020	
3:30pm	Atualizacoes em Tempos de Coronavirus	11:30am Memorial Day Remembrance 2020	11:30pm SomerViva em Português - March 2020	7:54pm		What are the Symptoms of COVID-19	
4:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	11:45am Thank You from Mayor Joe Curtatone	Sunday, June 14	8:00pm		School Committee Meeting 6.8.20	
4:30pm	Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz	12:00pm Public Health & Public Safety Committee	12:00am CC-Legislative Matters 6.4.20	10:30pm		CC-Traffic & Parking Meeting 5.13.20	
5:08pm	Youth Mental Health During COVID-19	4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	2:00am Thank You from Mayor Joe Curtatone				
5:25pm	Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone	4:26pm COVID19 Olderamericans Prevention PSA	2:03am Memorial Day Remembrance 2020	Tuesday, June 16			
7:30pm	Serenading Seniors at Brady Towers	5:00pm Raising Families	2:30am East Somerville Walking Tour - 6.16.19	12:00am		Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Joe Curtatone	
8:30pm	School Committee Meeting 6.8.20	5:30pm Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone	7:00am Serenading Seniors at Brady Towers	2:06am		CC-Finance Committee Meeting 6.4.20	
11:00pm	Senior Circuit	7:01pm Serenading Seniors at Brady Towers	7:50am Thank You from Mayor Joe Curtatone	7:00am		Chair Yoga w/Janine	
11:30pm	City Council Spotlight: Katjana Ballantyne	8:00pm The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism	8:00am Cooking w/Ellen: Fried Lemon Pasta	7:27am		COVID19 Olderamericans Prevention PSA	
Thursday, June 11		9:16pm Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone	8:15am Pride Flag Raising 2020	7:30am		CC-Traffic & Parking Meeting 5.13.20	
12:00am	CC-Legislative Matters 6.4.20	11:20pm Atualizacoes em Tempos de Coronavirus	8:30am City Council Spotlight: Katjana Ballantyne	8:50am		Pride Flag Raising 2020	
2:00am	Pride Flag Raising 2020	11:30pm Memorial Day Remembrance 2020	9:00am Raising Families	9:00am		Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone	
7:00am	Chair Yoga w/Janine	Saturday, June 13	9:30am Youth Mental Health During COVID-19	11:00am		Fit 4 Life 2020 #3	
7:30am	City Council Spotlight: Katjana Ballantyne	12:00am East Somerville Walking Tour - 6.16.19	10:00am Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz	11:27am		COVID19 Olderamericans Prevention PSA	
8:00am	Raising Families	1:00am School Committee Meeting 6.8.20	11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #3	11:30am		Raising Families	
8:30am	Cooking w/Ellen: Mac & Cheese 6.2.20	7:00am Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz	11:30am School Committee Meeting 6.8.20	12:00pm		CC-Legislative Matters 6.4.20	
8:38am	Cooking w/Ellen: Pudding Cake	7:45am Memorial Day Remembrance 2020	1:30pm Public Health & Public Safety Committee	2:00pm		Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone	
8:46am	Pride Flag Raising 2020	8:00am Youth Mental Health During COVID-19	4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	4:00pm		Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	
9:00am	Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz	8:20am Thank You from Mayor Joe Curtatone	4:30pm Raising Families	4:30pm		The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism	
10:00am	Serenading Seniors at Brady Towers	8:30am Cooking w/Ellen: Mac & Cheese 6.2.20	5:00pm Youth Mental Health During COVID-19	6:00pm		CC-Finance Committee Meeting 6.4.20	
11:00am	Fit 4 Life 2020 #1	8:38am Cooking w/Ellen: Fried Lemon Pasta	5:16pm Pride Flag Raising 2020	8:10pm		Memorial Day Remembrance 2020	
11:30am	Memorial Day Remembrance 2020	8:50am Atualizacoes em Tempos de Coronavirus	5:30pm CC-Finance Committee Meeting 6.4.20	8:30pm		Youth Mental Health During COVID-19	
11:45am	Thank You from Mayor Joe Curtatone	9:00am City Council Spotlight: Katjana Ballantyne	7:40pm Memorial Day Remembrance 2020	9:00pm		Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone	
12:00pm	Senior Circuit	9:30am Memorial Day Remembrance 2020	8:00pm City Council Meeting 6.11.20	11:03pm		Atualizacoes em Tempos de Coronavirus	
			Monday, June 15	11:30pm		SPD Ride Along	

Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, June 10		10:00pm SHS CTE Awards Night 2019		9:00pm Drive Up Graduation [Highland/Broadway]		10:30am Drive Up Graduation [Highland/Broadway]	
8:00am	Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #3	Friday, June 12	11:00pm Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020	11:00pm	Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020	12:00pm	ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony
9:00am	Boys Intramural Basketball Championship	12:00am Capuano Kindergarten Spring Concert	Sunday, June 14			1:00pm	WHCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony
10:00am	Girls Intramural Basketball Championship	1:00am SHS Spring Concert [4.11.19]	12:30am SHS Boys Basketball vs MC [12.14.10]			2:00pm	Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020
11:00am	Boys' Middle School Intramural Soccer	2:30am SHS Boys Basketball vs Cambridge	2:30am Highlander Football 2014			3:30pm	SHS Boys Soccer vs Acton-Boxborough
12:00pm	Girls' Middle School Intramural Soccer	8:00am Night Owl Storytime w/Miss Meghan	3:00am WHCIS Innovation Fashion Show 2014			5:00pm	SHS FOOTBALL 2019 Highlights
1:00pm	Boys' Middle School Basketball Finals 2018	9:00am WHCIS Moving On Ceremony	8:00am Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #4			6:00pm	Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #4
2:00pm	Girls' Middle School Basketball Finals '18	10:00am El Sistema Year End Concert	9:00am SHS Football 2000 -Revisited			7:00pm	Drive Up Graduation [Beacon/Elm Houses]
3:00pm	Boys' Intramural Basketball Finals 2016	10:30am SHS Volleyball vs Greater Lowell Tech	9:30am Highlander Football 2013			8:30pm	Drive Up Graduation [Highland/Broadway]
4:00pm	Girls' Middle School Intramural Basketball	11:30am Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert	10:00am SHS Football 2008			10:00pm	ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony
5:00pm	Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020	12:00pm Kennedy School 4-8 Spring Concert	10:30am SHS Football 2007			11:00pm	WHCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony
6:30pm	Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #3	1:00pm SHS Graduation 2019	11:00am SHS Football 2016			Tuesday, June 16	
7:00pm	Boys Intramural Basketball Championship	3:00pm Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020	11:30am SHS Football 2015			12:00am	Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020
8:00pm	Girls Intramural Basketball Championship	4:15pm ESCS Spring Concert [6.4.19]	12:00pm Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020			1:00pm	SHS Boys Soccer vs Acton-Boxborough
9:00pm	Boys' Middle School Intramural Soccer	6:00pm Night Owl Storytime w/Miss Meghan	2:00pm ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony			1:30am	Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #4
10:00pm	Girls' Middle School Intramural Soccer	6:45pm Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020	3:00pm WHCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony			8:00am	Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020
11:00pm	Boys' Middle School Basketball Finals 2018	8:00pm Drive Up Graduation [Beacon/Elm]	4:00pm SHS Football vs Lawrence [11.11.01]			9:00am	Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020
Thursday, June 11		10:00pm Drive Up Graduation [Highland/Broadway]	6:00pm Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #4			10:30am	WHCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony
12:00am	Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020	Saturday, June 13	7:00pm SHS Football 2000 -Revisited			12:00pm	ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony
1:30am	Boys' Intramural Basketball Finals 2016	12:00am Drive Up Graduation [Beacon/Elm]	7:30pm Highlander Football 2013			1:00pm	Drive Up Graduation [Beacon/Elm Houses]
8:00am	SPL Storytime w/Miss Alison	1:30am Drive Up Graduation [Highland/Broadway]	8:00pm SHS Football 2008			2:30pm	Drive Up Graduation [Highland/Broadway]
9:00am	Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020	8:00am SPL Storytime with Miss Annemarie	8:30pm SHS Football 2007			3:30pm	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical
10:30am	CTE Senior Awards Night 2015	9:00pm Drive Up Graduation [Beacon/Elm]	9:00pm SHS Football 2016			5:28pm	SHS FOOTBALL 2019 Highlights
12:00pm	SHS CTE Awards Night 2019	11:00am Drive Up Graduation [Highland/Broadway]	9:30pm SHS Football 2015			6:00pm	Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #4
2:00pm	Capuano Kindergarten Spring Concert 2014	1:00pm Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020	10:00pm Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020			7:00pm	Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020
3:00pm	SHS Spring Concert [4.11.19]	2:30pm Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #3	Monday, June 15			8:30pm	WHCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony
4:30pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Cambridge [1.19.10]	3:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs MC [12.14.10]	12:00am ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony			10:00pm	ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony
6:00pm	SPL Storytime w/Miss Alison	5:00pm Highlander Football 2014	1:00am WHCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony			11:00pm	Drive Up Graduation [Beacon/Elm]
7:00pm	Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020	5:30pm WHCIS Innovation Fashion Show 2014	2:00am SHS Football vs Lawrence [11.11.01]			12:30am	Drive Up Graduation [Highland/Broadway]
8:30pm	CTE Senior Awards Night 2015	6:00pm SPL Storytime with Miss Annemarie	8:00am Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #4			1:30am	Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical
		7:00pm Drive Up Graduation [Beacon/Elm Houses]	9:00am Drive Up Graduation [Beacon/Elm]				

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OFF THE SHELF
by Doug Holder

Somerville's Preeti Mehta:
Brings textiles with style

Preeti Mehta is a social entrepreneur and the sole proprietor of Premaasi Textiles, a social enterprise based in Davis Square, Somerville.

Inspired by beautiful, hand-crafted textiles worldwide during her travels, Preeti chose to indulge her passion after pursuing careers in telecommunications, management consulting and non-profit management. Premaasi's mission is to promote unique, hand-crafted, globally-sourced textile products in the U.S. market and to educate consumers about the value of hand-made products, the techniques used to make them and the skill of the artisans.

Preeti had long considered a textile venture, but the idea finally coalesced on a trip to India in 2018 when she visited artisan communities in Kuchchh, Gujarat India and had a small trunk show of her purchases for friends and family. Guests at the trunk show roundly endorsed the treasures Preeti offered, most of which had been purchased over tea and buttermilk in the homes of artisans.

By starting this enterprise, Preeti has also been able to use Premaasi Textiles to raise awareness about ethics in clothing and advance economic opportunities for artisans, many of whom are based in rural and often marginalized parts of the countries in which Premaasi sources.

Doug Holder: Can you talk about the artisans you promote?

Preeti Mehta: The artisans I promote have deep knowledge and skill about their particular textile craft and are diverse in the techniques used. I work with weavers, surface design artists, embroiderers and block printers many of whom are master-craftspeople, whose ancestors have been honing their crafts for generations. I work with both men and women artisans from many different rural (and often marginalized) parts of India. Their crafts are rooted in India's rich textile tradition, but have evolved to meet more modern and urban tastes and become safer for the environment. I also with a low-income women's co-operative in south-eastern Madagascar.

DH: Is Somerville a good place for a small business?

PM: Yes, I think it is, though I haven't yet had the opportunity to show my products here. I had con-



sidered applying to several pop-up opportunities for small business but all have now been cancelled due to the Coronavirus.

DH: How has your business survived during the corona virus situation?

PM: I have tried to keep expenses low, though I expect sales to be significantly lower this year. I am moving my business online much sooner than originally planned as a response to the current corona-virus situation.

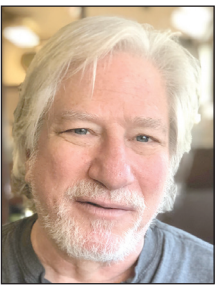
DH: What do you envision for future?

PM: I'm hoping that, for all of us, this period has been a time for reflection about how we consume and how our actions affect the environment. Specifically, for my business and others like mine, I'm hopeful that as people realize how the actions of fast fashion brands have affected garment factory workers both abroad (millions rendered destitute in South Asia due to cancelled orders) and in this country (LA factory workers' wages of \$6 per hour exposed during the pandemic) – that they will be more likely to buy handmade and artisanal products.

www.premaasi.com

Lyrical
SOMERVILLE
edited by Doug Holder

Andy Hoffman writes fiction, non-fiction and poetry. Best-known for his Pulitzer-nominated biography, *Inventing Mark Twain*, he has recently completed a new novel, *How to Live Forever*. He holds a PhD from Brown University and has been an entrepreneur, primarily in educational technology, since 1997. He lives in Providence, RI.



Explorers

Zheng He intimidated peoples
around the Indian Ocean,
mapping the world from China
to Madagascar and beyond.

Colon, called Columbus, faced death,
terror and mutiny on open sea,
breaking tectonic barriers
and transforming global ecology.

Magellan circled the globe
almost -- death stopped him short.
After he died the world shrunk and
every seaside settlement became a port.

I scrabble through dense jungle
finding no pathway through.
Following snakes under rotting leaves
I found a heart-sized ruby: you.

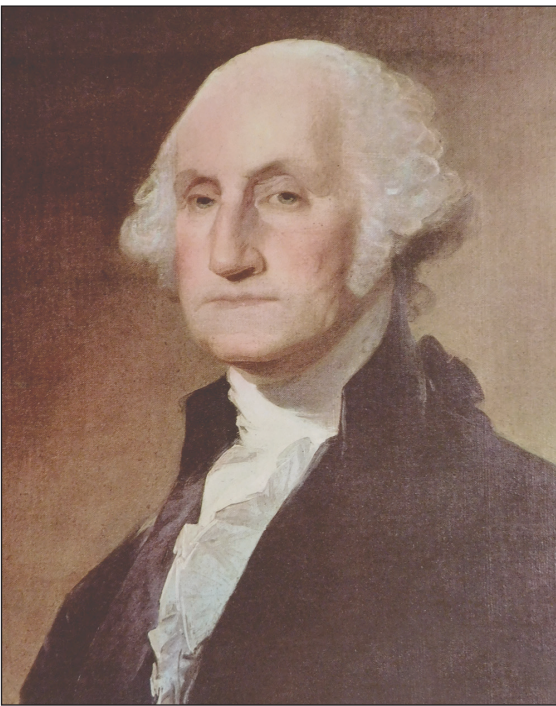
Zheng He sought dominance for China,
Colon wealth, and Magellan trade.
I found only love, the greatest prize,
and won't merit a word when history's made.

— Andy Hoffman

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

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 5

New York City
• Washington's face is on our national currency of dollar bills and quarters
• His image is on many of our postage stamps
Phillis Wheatley, a well-educated Boston slave, was America's first black poet to publish a book. One of her most acclaimed poems was titled To His Excellency General Washington. The General sent her a letter of appreciation and an invitation to thank her in person at his Cambridge headquarters. The last four lines of this 42-line poem read:
"Proceed, Great Chief, with virtue on thy side,
Thy ev'ry action let the Goddess guide.
A crown, a mansion, and a throne that shine,
With gold unfading, Washington! Be thine."
Phillis, like most others, saw him as
"The Father of our Country."




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