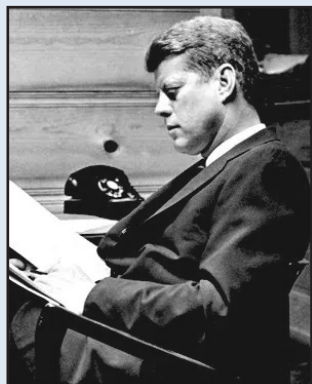




Inside:



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Somerville's Community Path Extension opens



The Green Line Extension (GLX) Community Path officially opened for public use on Saturday, June 10.

The City of Somerville and the MBTA are pleased to announce that the Green Line Extension (GLX) Community Path opened to the public on Saturday, June 10.

"The Green Line Extension Community Path offers a critical connection point between public transportation and the many wonderful pathways, bikeways, and other community spaces in Somerville and beyond," said Governor Maura Healey. "We are excited to open the Community Path this weekend and grateful to the City of Somerville and the MBTA team for their collaboration to make this project a reality."

"The completion of the GLX Community Path represents the culmination of so much hard work by the MBTA's GLX team, the City of Somerville, and the many advocates who have

Continued on page 4

Union Square market tours are back

By Beatriz Leite

The Union Square market tours are officially back for the season and will take place once a month, until September. The tour is free of charge and goes through the three small Union Square markets and finishes at Nibble Kitchen located in Bow Market. The duration is one and a half hours.

The markets are a great opportunity to connect with Somerville's community and local vendors. The markets are ethnically diverse, and offer food and produce from all parts of the world. It ranges from Brazilian to Bengali, serving a broad clientele.

Thursday, June 22 is the earliest day currently available for sign-up, which is required prior to attendance. The other tours will take place on July 27, August 24, and September 21, all from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. For more information, visit <https://nibblesomerville.com>.



The Union Square market tours continue on Thursday, June 22.

— Photo courtesy of the Somerville Arts Council

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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.








The 2023 Taste of Somerville has been postponed due to a forecast of inclement weather to Thursday, June 15, outside at Assembly Row, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Produced by the Somerville Chamber of Commerce Dining and Nightlife Group, the Taste of Somerville is a unique way to experience our dining and nightlife scene. For tickets and more information visit <http://tasteofsomerville.org>

The Somerville Arts Council and Somerville Health and Human Services Department's Big Gay Dance Party will take place in Union Square Plaza on Saturday, June 17, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. (Rain Date: June 18). Enjoy music, comedy, drag performances, craft vendors, and more. All are welcome to attend.

Celebrating their birthdays this week: Happy birthday to Steve Mirabella. We wish him many more. Happy birthday to Linda Spinosa, who celebrates this week. We hope she enjoys her day. Happy birthday to former Spring Hill resident Gail Chambers, who is celebrating this week as well. We hope she and Bill enjoy the day. Happy birthday to one of our former writers, Jack Nicas. As always, we wish him the best. Happy birthday, Jack, hope you have a great day. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as Shawn M. Lynch, Former Alderman Rebekah Gewirtz, Gretchen Ann Graham, Martin Janet, Pindi Singh, Donna M. Gilberti, Chris Marshall and Kathi Mullins a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may *Continued on page 7*

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of June 14 – June 20 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday June 14	Cloudy	76°/60°	23%	16%	SSE 11 mph
 Thursday June 15	Partly Cloudy	72°/59°	21%	15%	WNW 9 mph
 Friday June 16	Thunderstorms	74°/60°	60%	33%	W 10 mph
 Saturday June 17	Rain	71°/56°	32%	27%	WNW 8 mph
 Sunday June 18	Cloudy	75°/60°	21%	17%	ESE 11 mph
 Monday June 19	Rain	69°/56°	45%	38%	NE 13 mph
 Tuesday June 20	Rain	70°/54°	31%	22%	ENE 11 mph

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: City of Somerville sharing Community Path Extension opening details

Wren says:

I rode the path this morning from Lechmere to just past the East Somerville stop. The views are amazing but there are no entrances/exits along the way – which made me feel unsafe. There were not many people out – and I can't think of another bike path that is so fenced in. I hope my instincts are wrong and that there are no problems.

Response to: Obituary: Albert F. Argenziano Retired Superintendent of Somerville Public Schools

Lori Gilbert says:

During his short time in Beverly, Dr. Al made a huge impact on students and staff with his wisdom and kindness. He was a wonderful leader.

Neil MacNevin says:

One of my great pleasures in life was meeting and spending time with Al at the annual Somerville High School thanksgiving day football game. And, how quickly he said yes when I invited him to be the speaker at my SHS class reunion. He was a special, highly accomplished person, friendly to all and a pleasure to know. Al is and, will be missed and fondly remembered by a great many friends and colleagues!

Response to: Senator Jehlen on the Senate's budget for FY24

Howard Horton says:

Senator – great job on the budget – especially the increased funding for early childhood education. But, we need to think about getting the wages up for early childhood teachers and aides. They are mainly not unionized. Is that part of the appropriation? – HH

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

Dear Mr. President



The year was 1960 and we were in the second grade. For some reason me and a girl named Barbara Kennedy were behind Richard Nixon in the presidential election. Sister Clarinda made us agree to write a letter to the president if JFK was elected.

The whole thing was crazy because my friend's name was Kennedy and we decided to be rabble-rousers and get behind Richard Nixon who was not Catholic. Since he was handsome, young and Catholic it was a reason for the nuns to be behind JFK.

We agreed to write a letter to JFK telling him of our newfound support and congratulate him. We explained that we "liked Nixon but sister talked us into liking you."

We sent the letters to the White House

and awaited a reply. Three weeks later a letter arrived from The White House on official stationery. Although it was very exciting we were a bit disappointed that the letters began, "The president has received your nice letter..." It was signed by a secretary.

We were still on cloud nine and the school made a big deal about it. We even got our pictures in the school newspaper. The letter today is in one of the bins in the cellar. My brother framed it for me and it was hanging up in our play room for years.

We should've felt special for a while back then and developed a strong love of President John F. Kennedy. Who would've thought that just three years later we would've lost the president to an assassination. It broke my heart and I remember the day like it was yesterday. But I'll always feel close to JFK and treasure my letter from the president, wherever it is.



New Specialized Energy Code takes effect July 1

On January 26, 2023, the City of Somerville adopted the State's new Municipal Opt-in Specialized Stretch Energy Code ("Specialized Code"). The code focuses on achieving net-zero buildings and will further the City's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from buildings, prepare facilities to utilize clean energy, and support the City's Net-Zero Carbon-Negative by 2050 goal. The code goes into effect in Somerville on July 1, 2023.

Under the Specialized Code, all new construction in the city will be required to be all-electric or wired to allow a transition to all-electric in the future. The Specialized Code focuses on maximizing energy

efficiency, reducing heating demands, and promoting efficient electrification. Buildings that use only electricity as an energy source, rather than fossil fuels, can eliminate their greenhouse gas emissions when the electricity comes from renewable sources. Somerville offers electricity through renewable sources through its Community Choice Electricity (CCE) program.

Additionally, updates to the Stretch Energy Code issued in 2022 by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources establish stricter energy-efficiency standards for nearly all new construction and major renovations in Somerville. The new requirements went into effect for



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residential buildings in January 2023 and go into effect for commercial buildings in July 2023. As a Stretch Code community, the recent updates automatically apply to Somerville.

The City of Somerville first adopted the Stretch Energy Code in 2011, setting a higher bar for energy performance of new buildings and major renovations, and the January 2023 adoption of the Specialized Code further builds on the work of the City's climate action plan,

Climate Forward.

The Office of Sustainability and Environment is hosting an information session about how the Specialized Code will impact residential property owners on Wednesday, June 14, at 6:30 p.m. Register in advance for the meeting at tinyurl.com/SpecializedCode. The information session will be recorded and posted online for viewing after the event. For more information, contact Elyse Belarge, Sustainability Planner, at ebelarge@somervillema.gov.

GLX Community Path now open CONT. FROM PG 1

rallied for this path extension,” said MassDOT Secretary and CEO Gina Fiandaca. “Thank you to the MBTA, the city, and the residents and activists for their diligence. I look forward to utilizing the Path, which is a vital connection to both GLX stations and our broader network of community paths.”

“The Community Path is of course a critical part of the region’s transportation system, but in Somerville, it’s also a unique part of our social fabric and the open space network we envisioned for all to enjoy and use,” said Somerville Mayor Katjana Ballantyne. “I am grateful to the many incredible, determined Somerville residents, activists, elected officials, and staff who labored to make this dream a reality. And I want to applaud our state partners and elected officials for hearing the calls to save the path and finding solutions. The Community Path is the product of so many hands, so today we celebrate both the path itself and the pathway that got us here.”

“I have heard directly from so many constituents how important this path is. I’m proud that we are now able to open this accessible path to better serve our GLX riders and the neighboring community,” said MBTA General

Manager and CEO Phillip Eng. “The GLX Community Path runs right alongside GLX’s Medford Branch, providing local residents with this excellent recreational outdoor amenity and access to Green Line service. Thank you to the City of Somerville and the GLX project team for their commitment and dedication, and to the many community advocates for their strong support in making the path a reality.”

As a final connection from Bedford, MA, to the City of Cambridge and Downtown Boston, the GLX Community Path runs parallel to the GLX Medford Branch and has direct access to newly built Green Line stations at Magoun Square, Gilman Square, East Somerville, and Lechmere Stations. The GLX Community Path also makes connections to the 26 miles of bike paths along the Charles River.

The original Somerville Community Path was constructed in 1985 in the former Fitchburg Cutoff Rail Bed and ran approximately 1.3 miles from Massachusetts Avenue to Lowell Street via Davis Square. The Somerville Community Path connects with the Minuteman Trail, which was constructed in 1991 and runs 10 miles from Bedford Depot to the MBTA’s Alewife Station. Bus



Routes 62 and 76 also run nearly parallel with the Minuteman Trail. The GLX Community Path extends these paths, connecting with the Somerville Community Path at Lowell Street. This network of 13.2 miles of multi-use path serve approximately 900,000 people from the communities of Bedford, Lexington, Arlington, Cambridge, Somerville, and Boston.

During the first efforts to build GLX’s Union and Medford Branches in 2014, the cost

of the GLX Community Path was estimated to be approximately \$39 million. In 2015, the GLX Project faced significant cost challenges beyond available funding, and the proposed Community Path was removed from the project scope in 2016 following a funding revaluation. Following robust advocacy from area communities, a partial path to Washington Street in Somerville was added back to the GLX Project in May 2016. The fol-

lowing year, following the implementation of a Design-Build Method to move the GLX Project forward, an additive option was included to extend the path to the Cambridge Crossing Development, adjacent to the relocated Lechmere Station.

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

City of Somerville Community Path Extension details

The new segment of the off-street, multi-use Community Path will run from the current end of the path at Lowell Street, through Somerville Junction Park, and along the south side of the rail corridor to Cambridge Crossing. It is a key milestone in the efforts of community advocates and the city to enhance transportation equity, create more sustainable transportation options, and make Somerville a more walkable, bikeable, and transit-friendly city.

Additional Lighting Installation

The City of Somerville is collaborating with an external consulting team to determine the best options for additional permanent lighting along the Community Path. This process is anticipated to be completed by the end of fall 2023.

While plans for permanent lighting are in development, city staff are currently working with the MBTA to determine the feasibility of temporary solar lights along the path, as well as traditional lighting options if there is not an adequate amount of sunlight along the route.

The timing of installation will depend on when the city receives the feasibility information from the MBTA.

Temporary Detour

One short segment of the Community Path Extension is expected to open on a later schedule and a detour will be in place until that time. The stretch of the path between School Street and the Gilman Square T-Stop entrance at Medford Street will be closed to all users to accommodate safe construction of the new Somerville High School Phillip Reavis Field. This section of the path is currently expected to open in fall of 2023.

The detour consists of a protected, two-way bike lane along School Street and Medford Street, providing a safe, efficient route that reconnects users with the Community Path. To facilitate safety on the detour, Medford Street will be closed to westbound vehicle traffic from Walnut Street to School Street.

To learn more about the path, visit somervillema.gov/glx and through other city information channels.

Somerville Cares About Prevention (SCAP) celebrates strides in preventing substance misuse among Somerville’s youth

By Maile Blume

Somerville Cares About Prevention (SCAP), a community-based coalition working to reduce substance misuse among the city’s youth, celebrated achievements the group has made over the past year, during their annual Zoom meeting last Thursday. Some of the achievements the coalition celebrated include conducting trainings on preventing drug overdoses, distributing Narcan throughout the city, developing youth led projects in Somerville’s schools to prevent vaping and other substance misuse, and providing supports rather than punishments for students who are found vaping or misusing other substances.

Matthew Mitchell, the Prevention Services Manager for the city, said, "Prevention is all about meeting people where they’re at, literally. This includes low-threshold, more equitable access to services and educational materials, as well as providing information on harm-reduction and addressing stigma."

Lily Dolyak, the Substance Misuse Prevention Coordinator for the Somerville Public School System, said in a video shared during the meeting that one of the programs that the Somerville school system piloted this year is an "alternative to suspension" program that provides educational programming rather than suspension to students who are found misusing substances in school settings.

The program is based in a restorative approach, and includes two tiers: first, a requirement that

students who are referred to the program attend a two-hour long educational session on substance misuse; secondly, a requirement that students who are referred back to the program attend four, weekly educational sessions, including ongoing check-ins with program staff.

Mitchell said on the topic of prevention: "It’s important for us to invest in opportunities to provide prevention programming, interventions, and strategies that promote accurate and reliable information to allow individuals of all ages to make informed decisions that work for them."

During the meeting, students from Somerville Positive Forces (SPF), a youth leadership group supported by SCAP, led a game of trivia to educate attendees on student health data. The questions were based on the most recent Student Health Survey conducted within Somerville High School and Full Circle High School.

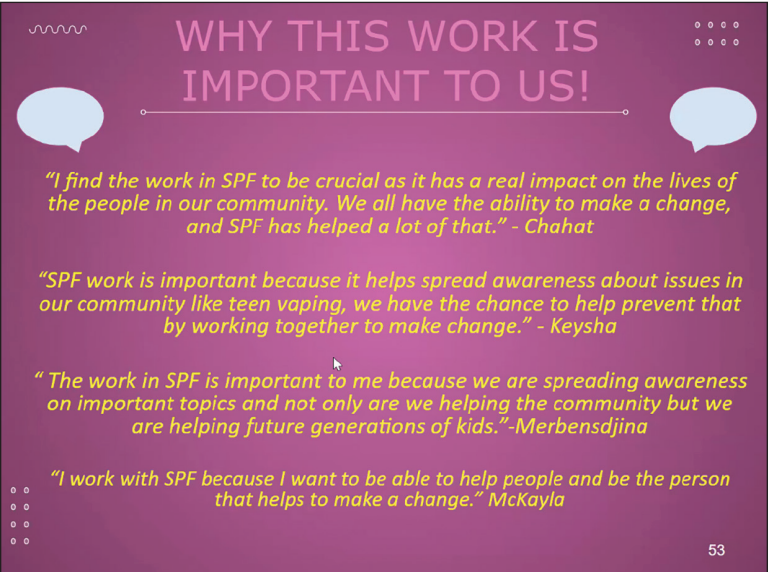
Some of the results on substance misuse that the youth leaders highlighted are that 60% of students surveyed said that vapes are easy and accessible to obtain (although 90% reported that they do not vape), and that female students reported using alcohol at a higher rate than male or non-binary and gender-nonconforming students, yet reported the lowest rate of receiving support for substance misuse.

The youth leaders also educated attendees on results pertaining to students’ mental health, including that 53% of students reported experiencing anxiety for greater than two weeks,

32% of students reported experiencing depression in the last 12 months, 30% of students witnessed bullying in the last 12 months (with multi-racial students reporting the highest rate), 24% of students reported experiencing sexual violence in the last 12 months, and female students reported self-harm in the last 30 days at a rate of 2.5 times that of male students.

The students then shared the projects that they created and implemented over the past year to support their communities in preventing substance misuse. Some of the student led projects included designing stickers and distributing them on 3,000+ paper bags to remind adults not to purchase alcohol for people who are underage, meeting with legislators, a campaign to educate Somerville students on the fact that most students do not vape (despite there being a misperception that most do), and a photography project to call for change around youth substance misuse. The photography project, "Photovoice", will be available for viewing at the Somerville Youth Center throughout the summer.

Director of SCAP, Lovelee Heller-Bottari, concluded the event by celebrating all of the youth leaders for their energy, dedication, and efforts this year, and said they are "an outstanding group of young leaders". The attendees took a moment to recognize each of the leaders for their contributions to preventing substance misuse in Somerville schools. Heller-Bottari addressed the youth leaders: "Your



Youth leaders Chahat Kalia, Keysha Saint-Cyr, Merbensdjina Jean Paul, and McKayla Hahn share why their work with Somerville Positive Forces (SPF) matters to them - Slide from SCAP Annual Meeting

work is really inspiring and essential to our community, and it’s really been such a pleasure working with all of you and seeing what you’ve accomplished. I look forward to all of the many, wonderful things you’ll do in the future."

Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Another of Somerville’s secret gardens...
— Photo by Denise Provost

Orientation for Student Athletes

Any students planning to play on a sports team when they arrive at Somerville High School are encouraged to look through the Orientation Slides for Incoming Athletes (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sUKDsxjYy0FKXWHHAnCn-xtbY3-YdIF3/view>). This presentation was put together by the SHS Athletics staff and contains all the information you need to know to get started.

Public Hearing on further development near Encore Boston Harbor

By Ana Celerier Salcedo

On Tuesday, June 6, the Massachusetts Gaming Commission held its second public hearing for a proposed development plan near Encore Boston Harbor. The expansion would be a development on the east side of Broadway in Everett, MA, which would allow for an increase of gaming space, theater, entertainment venues, food and beverage areas.

As well as three separate garages, retail stores, two hotels, a warehouse, and a pedestrian bridge which would allow for foot traffic across Broadway. Encore Boston Harbor Stands between the Assembly Row area of Somerville and Everett on the border of the Mystic River.

A draft detailing the project's environmental impact has been submitted to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs and is reportedly under review. The project is also under consideration by the Massachusetts gaming commission.

JP Bechta, a concerned member of the public, said that she felt Encore had not kept its promises to the city of Everett to provide income and jobs to Everett residents. She cited that Encore had previ-

ously mentioned that 14 percent of their workforce would be Everett residents. She later explained that if you do the math, 14 percent of a budget of 4,000 people is 560 people out of Everett's population of about 50,000 residents.

"We didn't get anything near the money we thought we were going to get when we voted the referendum for the original casino in 2013," Bechta said.

She later added that allegedly public service calls such as police and fire have substantially increased since the casino opened, along with increased traffic and taxes in the city. Another citizen named Paula felt that the public meetings, such as the current one, needed to be publicized more to members of the public. She expressed her concerns that the opinions of many residents may need to be heard due to the lack of awareness.

In attendance at the meeting was Ward 3 Everett City Councilor Darren Costa who also shared his opinions on the matter as a whole. Costa commented that, overall, he supports the expansions, however, under some critical conditions. He stated that he feels the original agreement should be renegotiated in light of promises to Everett residents not being kept.



Costa also noted that he supports the expansion because Encore has been a good partner in cleaning toxic land in the area.

"Poorly considered expansion will only make the issue of heat islands worse this is why I do not support the proposal for three new parking garages to be built above ground when they can and should install underground parking instead of clearing the area for parks and trees,"

said Costa.

He highlighted the importance of a partnership between the city and Encore and how the partnership could bring fruitful benefits to both parties as long as supporting the city and its residents was a forefront priority.

This virtual hearing was only the second of its kind, signifying that no final vote was taken at the meeting regarding the matter.

Somerville Firefighter John Gullage receives commendation



Somerville Firefighter John Gullage was presented with a citation at the City Council meeting on June 8, 2023. The citation commended Firefighter Gullage's life saving actions while off-duty on May 19, 2023. Firefighter Gullage along with off-duty Danvers Firefighter James Gallo witnessed a fellow hockey player collapse on the ice and was unresponsive at the Veterans Skating Rink on Somerville Avenue. They obtained an automatic defibrillator and attached it to the victim and immediately performed chest compressions until the arrival of firefighters and Cataldo Ambulance. The patient was transported to the hospital and survived. Chief Breen, in a commendation issued by the Fire Department, mentioned that this was an example of the fact that firefighters are never truly off-duty.

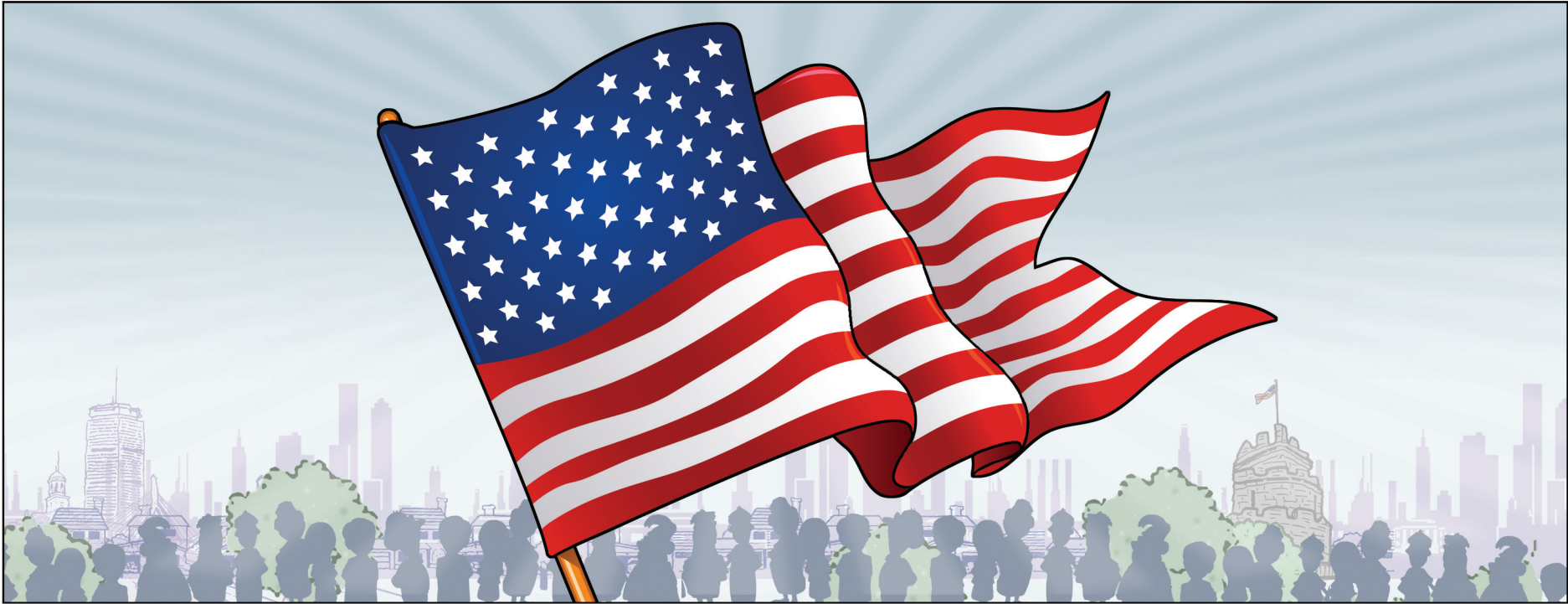
Pictured here: Firefighter Gullage along with members of his family, the City Council, Senator Pat Jehlen and Fire Chief Charles Breen. Mayor Ballantyne was also present to congratulate Firefighter Gullage.

— Photo courtesy of Somerville Fire Dept.

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Somerville honors the national flag's special day.

Our View Of The Times



You won't get the day off from work or school or grocery shopping or ... anything, really. There'll be no three-day weekend or big picnic to mark the occasion. But for many, the significance of the day will ring loudly in their hearts and minds.

Flag Day is not an official federal or state holiday, but June 14 is the date designated by proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson back in 1916 as a day to official-

ly honor the stars and stripes that we solemnly revere today.

President Harry S. Truman signed a Congressional act into law in 1949 recommending a voluntary observance of Flag Week. This year, Flag Week falls on June 13-19.

Of course, as most locals know, the Colonial Army led by General George Washington was formed on January 1,

1776, and its first flag, The Grand Union Flag, was raised on Prospect Hill in what was then Charlestown, and is now part of Somerville.

Therefore, we can take pride in this special aspect of our civic heritage. As it is with so many other historic events and traditions born in this part of the country, the birth of our nation's colors can be added to the sprawling list of firsts established

by our forebearers.

While some place more importance on this occasion than others, it is an indisputable fact that the flag symbolizes patriotism and love of country. Many fought and died defending the ideology and values it represents. One thing is certain, among other things, it represents unity. Something so precious and fragile, and yet so vital for our very survival.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

For a sixth year, **Union Square Main Streets** and **local businesses** (<https://www.unionsquaremain.org/good-food-for-all>) proudly present **Good Food for All**, a week-long community campaign to raise awareness and funds for the **Union Square Farmers Market's** local **SNAP match**. Good Food For All: Sustaining a more inclusive Farmers Market Union Square (Somerville) takes place **June 17 - June 24**.

Join **Mayor Katjana Ballantyne** and the

Arts Council for the **Anniversary of 4th of July Fireworks** with live entertainment at Trum Field on **Thursday, June 29**, rain date Friday, June 30. Festivities begin at 6:00 p.m., with tunes by **DJ Philip Tan**. Come sing along and dance with live music performance by local funk band, **Midnight Motion**. There will be food vendors like **Nibble Kitchen**, **Italian Wizard** and can't forget the fried dough! Mayor Ballantyne will countdown the beginning of the fireworks at approximately at 9:15 p.m. To ensure public safety and pedestrian access to events, traffic and parking restrictions will be in place, please visit the website for details: [\[leartscouncil.org/fireworks\]\(https://leartscouncil.org/fireworks\).

The **Winter Hill Community School** has closed for the **remainder of the school year** due to concrete falling from the ceiling of a stairwell. Everyone is grateful that no students were in that stairwell at the time and hoping the city will be assessing all the schools during the summer to look for any other issues before the next school year begins. For updates on the Winter Hill School visit <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/alert>.

Kickstart your summer and join the **City of Somerville Parks and Recreation De-**](https://somerville-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

partment for the annual **Family Fun Day** event on **Saturday, June 24** (no rain date - event will be cancelled for inclement weather), from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at **Trum Field** (541 Broadway). There will be fun for kids of all ages including bounce houses, face painting, cotton candy, games, music, arts and crafts, and more. To learn more, please visit somervillerec.com or call 617-625-6600 ext. 2980.

With hot summer days ahead the **Somerville Homeless Coalition** is looking for essential supplies to help keep those without a home safe and cool. Whether it's sunscreen or juice

Continued on page 20

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's
Olio
#877

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

1. On what date is Flag Day celebrated in the U.S.?

2. Why is Flag Day celebrated?

3. When was the U.S. Army founded?

4. When was first Father's Day celebrated in the U.S.?

5. What is the major artery in the neck?

6. Who was the founder of The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Long-haired Men?
7. Glands and hormones make up what system?

8. What is the term "whale" used for in a casino?

9. What do you call a theater complex with multiple screens?

10. What does URL stand for?

11. "SCUBA" is an acronym for what?

12. NIMBY is an acronym for what phrase?

Answers on page 11

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. Women see more colors than men.
2. People once answered the phone with "ahoy" instead of "hello."

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
THE 1970s

- ACROSS
1. Aardvark's repast

5. Game official, colloquially speaking

8. In alignment

12. Tiny bottle

13. Big rig

14. ____ Apso

15. Fairy-tale opener

16. Arabian chieftain

17. Peter Pumpkin ____

18. White House Plumbers' affair

20. Arrival times, acr.

21. Gerald R. Ford and Nelson A. Rockefeller

22. Tolkien's Ogre-like creature

23. Charlie's TV detectives

26. At sea but close to shore

30. Always, poetically speaking

31. Adjust

34. Cupid, to the Greeks

35. High

37. 9 to 5, e.g.

38. Bow-like structure

39. Hippocrates' promise

40. Struck in certain way, in baseball

42. Paleontologist's estimate

43. Like a kilt

45. English county

47. Boiling blood

48. ____, Stinky and Stretch

50. Shade of beige

52. "Rainy Day People" singer Gordon ____

56. Things on a list

57. Rod of a hot rod

58. Bee Gees or The Supremes, e.g.

59. Sainly glows

60. Never, poetically speaking

61. Pre-Easter period

62. Demeanor

63. Banned insecticide, acr.

64. Oxen connector

- DOWN
1. Assert

2. "Black Gold" singer Nina ____

3. Diplomat's asset

CROSSWORD

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4. Popular bell-shaped part of garment

5. Gerrymander

6. Gives off

7. Earth and Wind partner

8. First female British prime minister

9. Pro ____

10. Operates

11. Head canal locale

13. Wisest

14. Unfriendly looks

19. Track event

22. Buck

23. Famous fable-maker

24. Kathmandu location and Hippie Trail stop

25. Heating outlet cover

26. Research facil.

27. Shamu and such

28. Khmer ____
29. English county

32. Sound of impact

33. Coffee holder

36. Mao's honorific

38. Sunbaked, archaically speaking

40. Busy flyer

41. ____ Rolle of "Good Times"

44. Corbel

46. "Killing Me ____ with His Song"

48. Spayed

49. End of a shoelace

50. Evening purse

51. Wrap in waxy cloth

52. It "was made for you and me"

53. Black and white cookie

54. Piglet sound

55. Carrying container

56. Helen Reddy's "____ Woman"

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soultion to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

Somerville issues 500 unlimited MBTA passes to low-income residents

The City of Somerville, in partnership with the Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS), is launching a pilot program to distribute 500 fully subsidized MBTA passes to low-income households in Somerville. This program is the latest of several initiatives the city has undertaken recently to deliver economic relief to residents and expand access to sustainable and equitable transportation options. Funded by American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) dollars, this pilot is among the first means-tested transit pass programs in Massachusetts.

Through Somerville's program, free 12-month MBTA transit passes will be distributed to qualifying individuals on a first-come, first-served basis. Anyone who either is currently enrolled in a public benefits program (such as SNAP or MassHealth) or earns up to twice the federal poverty level and does not currently qualify for an existing free or reduced-fare pass is eligible to apply.

Applications are now open at caasomerville.org/transit-program. To learn more by phone, call CAAS at 617-599-4185.

Somerville's means-tested program fills a critical gap for low-income residents who don't qualify for other transit benefit programs. Young people and older adults, for example, may be eligible for the MBTA Youth Pass Program or the Senior Charlie Card Program, while in Massachusetts, there are very few reduced-fare options for people between the ages of 26 and 65.

"In Massachusetts, public transportation has become cost-prohibitive for too many residents, so Somerville is stepping up to the plate," said Mayor Katjana Ballantyne. "No one should be forced to choose between buying a T pass or paying for groceries, and low-income



riders have little recourse. When we cover the cost of fares, we remove a barrier to ridership and deliver economic relief to those in our community who need it most. I'm grateful to CAAS for their partnership on this initiative, and I hope we can inspire similar programs to take shape across the region."

Research shows that means-tested fare programs improve affordability and mobility for low-income residents, providing more equitable access to health care and social services in particular. Subsidizing passes also preserves choice and flexibility for riders, ensuring they can use all subway lines and bus routes to get where they need (and want) to go.

"We see this program as a natural extension of our mission to help local families and individuals achieve financial security," said David Gibbs, Executive Director of CAAS. "Reliable and affordable public transportation is a basic necessity in today's economy, and this program will help to ensure that working people have meaningful opportunities for a better future."

The average household in Somerville spends 12% of their

income on transportation-related costs, which can be a substantial burden for houses with constrained budgets. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 10.4% of the city's population lives in poverty, and 50.8% of Somerville Public Schools students are considered low-income.

In the past year, the City has undertaken a number of new and expanded initiatives to subsidize public transit, working with the MBTA, the Somerville Public Schools, and community partners to fully fund more than 4,000 passes for low- and moderate-income Somerville residents, students, families, and workers. In September, the Somerville Public Schools distributed 2,000 M7 Transit Passes to all students in grades 7 through 12, up from 1,400 passes the previous year. Through new programs, the City also funded 1,200 MBTA passes for low-income parents and guardians of Somerville Public Schools students using ARPA funds and distributed more than 640 passes to teachers and staff.

For more information on transit benefits programs in Somerville, go to somervillema.gov/transitbenefits.

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



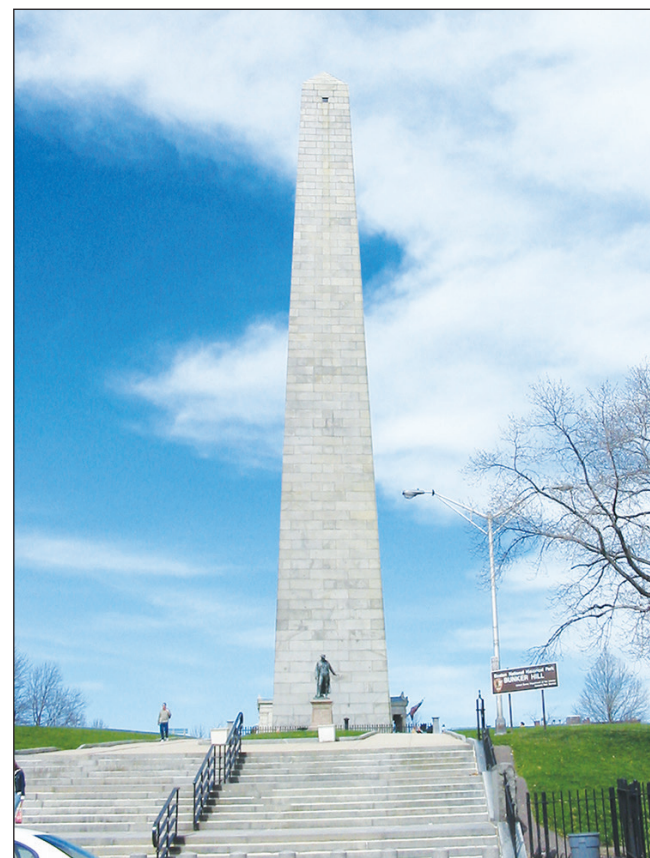
Eagle feathers #281

(originally published on June 12, 2013)

Bunker Hill

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

If you drive out of Boston over the Leonard P. Zakim (Bunker Hill) Bridge, the first exit brings you to Sullivan Square at the Charlestown/Somerville line. This area used to be known as Charlestown Neck. The site was an isthmus, or small thread of land, that connected Charlestown with what is today Somerville.



These two towns, until 1842, were one. The Neck was normally a quiet spot, but not at this time. It was late in the day of June 17, 1775 and the infant Colonial American Army was in the midst of losing its first battle to the British. They lost control of the battleground they fought on.

Amazingly, later when the story was told and the statistics revealed, the results were staggeringly in the favor of the Americans. They had just repulsed the cream of the British army during two assaults on their Bunker/Breeds Hill defensive works and only gave way on the third attack because of their lack of ammunition.

This impressed General George Washington, who was in Virginia on his way to Massachusetts. At that time, he was leery of leading the Colonials, thinking that Lexington and Concord were only skirmishes.

Continued on page 11



LEGAL NOTICES

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

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Lord Mansoor LLC to Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Three Trust, dated February 14, 2023 and recorded with the Middlesex (Southern District) County Registry of Deeds in Book 81250, Page 91 of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, and in which the mortgaged premises consist of a certain parcel of land with the buildings and improvements thereon located in Somerville known as 41 Derby Street, Somerville, Massachusetts, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold collectively commencing at Public Auction at 11:00AM on the 27th day of June 2023, at the mortgaged premises located at 41 Derby Street, Middlesex County, Somerville, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

To wit:
A certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon in Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, shown as lot "E" on a plan recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds at the end of Book 2028, being a sub-division of lots thirty-three (33), thirty-four (34), and thirty-five (35) on a plan of land recorded with said Deeds and Book of Plans 54, plan 39, and bounded and described as follows:

SOUTHWESTERLY by Derby Street, Forty (40) feet;
NORTHWESTERLY by lot F on said sub-division plan, one hundred (100) feet;
NORTHEASTERLY by lot 49, recorded in said Book of Plans 54, plan 39, forty (40) feet; and
SOUTHEASTERLY by lot thirty-two (32) on said last mentioned plan, one hundred (100) feet.

For Grantor's title see Deed dated July 7, 2022, and recorded on February 14, 2023 with the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Book 81250, Page 79.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid condominium fees, taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. No representations express or implied are made with respect to any matter concerning the premises, which will be sold "as-is".

TERMS OF SALE:

Twenty-Five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$25,000.00) shall be paid in certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of said sale, and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid by certified or bank cashier's check at the offices of Erik T. Potter, Esq., Potter MacLellan LLP, 113 Ripley Road, Cohasset, MA 02025 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. The successful bidder of the sale of the premises shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Terms of Sale containing the above terms at the Auction Sale. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale.
Present Holder of Said Mortgage:
Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Three Trust - c/o Erik T. Potter, Esq. Potter MacLellan LLP
113 Ripley Road, Cohasset, MA 02025 – 617-257-7050
Dated: May 30, 2023

6/7/23, 6/14/23 The Somerville Times

Growing Center Open Hours

Visit the Growing Center during their open garden hours: Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Sundays from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m.
Check their website for information and to find more family-friendly programs: <https://www.thegrowingcenter.org/calendar> Open hours are weather dependent.

LEGAL NOTICE - Vehicle Sale 07/08/2023

Pro Tech Towing notice to owner. The following abandoned motor vehicle will be privately sold unless claimed:

Car information	VIN#	Last registered owner	Address
2003 Mercedes M-Class	4JGAB54E73A379915	Nick McKenna	301 Ashmont St. Dorchester, MA 02124
Date of Sale 07/08/2023 . A 5-day notice to the Waltham Police Department Chief will be provided before sale. Location: Pro Tech Towing, 205 Willow St. Waltham, MA, Phone: 781-894-5058			
6/14/23 The Somerville Times			

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

MIDDLESEX Division Docket No. MI23P2913EA

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Estate of:

Frank		Centrella
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name

Also Known As: _____

Date of Death: March 26, 2023

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

Petitioner Frank Centrella, Jr. of Somerville MA
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

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

[x] Frank Centrella, Jr. of Somerville MA
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

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

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

6/14/23 The Somerville Times

NOTICE OF TIER CLASSIFICATION
31 Tufts Street
Somerville, MA
RTN 3-37468

A release of oil and/or hazardous materials has occurred at this location, which is a disposal site as defined by M.G.L. c. 21E, § 2 and the Massachusetts Contingency Plan, 310 CMR 40.0000. To evaluate the release, a Phase I Initial Site Investigation was performed pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0480. The site has been classified as Tier II pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0500. On June 9, 2023, 31 Tufts Street LLC and Tufts Glen Pocket Park LLC filed a Tier II Classification Submittal with the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). To obtain more information on this disposal site, please contact Eliza Datta, E3 Development LLC, 40 Homer Street, Newton, Massachusetts, 617-834-7734. The Tier Classification Submittal and the disposal site file can be viewed at MassDEP website using Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-36624 at <https://www.mass.gov/find-out-about-a-contaminated-property> or at MassDEP, Northeast Regional Office, 150 Presidential Way, Woburn, MA, 978-694-3200. Additional public involvement opportunities are available under 310 CMR 40.1403(9) and 310 CMR 40.1404.

6/14/23 The Somerville Times

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Applications Open for 41 Income-Restricted Rental Units at Arris

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the City of Somerville Housing Division are pleased to announce that applications are now open for 41 income-restricted rental units at Arris (20 Inner Belt Rd. & 56 Roland St.) in the Inner Belt/Brickbottom neighborhood, available through the City of Somerville's Inclusionary Housing Program. Units are available to households making at or below 50%, 80%, and 110% of the Area Median Income. The lottery includes 8 studio apartments, 18 one-bedroom apartments, 14 two-bedroom apartments, and 1 three-bedroom apartment.

About the Units: All units feature modern kitchens with stainless steel appliances, granite countertops, and dishwashers, as well as in-unit laundry and air-conditioning. The building features a fitness center, business center, pool, clubhouse, game room, on-site pet concierge, pet washing station, car washing area, and bike storage. On-street parking is available by permit; limited garage parking is reserved for tenants of Inclusionary units. For more information on unit layouts and features, contact Greystar at 617-863-9000.

How to Apply: Multilingual applications and full eligibility requirements are available at maloneyaffordable.com/arris. Applications must be submitted by Thursday, June 22. Completed applications can be emailed to Arris@MaloneyProperties.com, mailed or delivered to Maloney Properties, Inc. Attn: Arris Lottery, 27 Mica Lane, Wellesley, MA 02481 (must be received by this date, not postmarked).

The lottery is expected to be held one to two weeks after the application deadline. For more information, visit maloneyaffordable.com/arris, email Arris@MaloneyProperties.com, or call 617-639-3064 ext. 743.

Upper Middlesex Commission on the Status of Women discusses eldercare

By Ana Celerier Salcedo

The Upper Middlesex Commission on the Status of Women held a virtual town hall on eldercare on Monday, June 5. The virtual town hall was held due to the various concerns about eldercare and its effects on women, specifically in the local community.

The mission of The Upper Middlesex Commission on the Status of Women is to uphold the ideals and pursue actions consonant with the upward economic and social mobility of women and girls.

On the agenda for the town hall meeting was a personal opening story given by Commissioner Jennifer Roecklein-Canfield, followed by upcoming bills enhancing eldercare, planning for the care of older adults, improving employee caregivers' lives, and elder law planning.

Michael A. Stankavish Esq. came to speak about elder law and stressed the importance of having discussions on the legalities of elder care before having

an immediate need for it. Honoring Choices Massachusetts was a resource provided to aid in advanced financial and legal planning for older adults. The importance of building a care team was also discussed. A care team is created with the ideal end goal of developing a team that will be involved in the care of the elder long-term.

It was suggested that one should consider the following questions when planning for a discussion with an elderly family member. What are the older adult's goals and wishes for the future? Living in the current home? Relocating near family or friends? Moving to an alternate care setting? What plans have already been considered or made? If there are care needs, how will these be met?

Another resource presented was Minuteman Senior Services, a non-profit that has been providing services for 47 years and has 16 communities north and west of Boston with over 20 plus programs and services.



Speaking about an upcoming Eldercare Bill was Senator Jason Lewis. The bill is called "An Act to Establish the Family Caregiving Tax Credit." According to Lewis, more than 800,000 bay state residents are caring for aging parents or loved ones.

What the bill proposes would be a refundable tax credit, which

would be available when you file your income tax return, and the credit would be 100% on eligible expenses up to a maximum amount of 1,500 dollars annually. What would be eligible for that reimbursable credit would be the following, stated Lewis.

Things like improvements or alterations to the taxpayer's

residence where they are caring for their elderly family member that would help that person be mobile, for example, a ramp. Purchase or lease of equipment necessary to carry out daily activities. As well as hiring home care aids, adult day health services, transportation costs, and legal costs.

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week

CONT. FROM PG 9

Then, upon hearing of the appalling losses the New England militia inflicted on the British (1,054 British losses vs. 441 American losses), he proudly determined that he would lead these men.

So what does the Battle of Bunker/Breeds Hill have to do with Somerville? Well, the heart of the battle was fought at the earthworks fort. But upon running out of gunpowder, they began to retreat toward The Neck and the sanctuary of Prospect and Winter Hills.

The retreating Americans suffered many casualties heading toward the Sullivan Square area. One such person was the famous General Warren, whom Somerville almost named itself after. New Hampshire's Colonel John

Stark, who at the battle famously quoted, "Live Free or Die" and his Winter-Hill based troops covered the withdrawal.

While the British soldiers were fighting on the Hill, their navy was at work, trying to stop American reinforcements from crossing The Neck or escaping, thus turning it into a shooting gallery. They barraged the entire area with cannon shot from their war ships and floating gun batteries. These cannons did much damage well into East Somerville, destroying houses, barns, docks, and crop fields. Cannon balls are still occasionally found in the area.

The first Somerville City Seal was depicted on police, fire, and city buildings and apparatus. For 100 years, it honored General

Washington and the Bunker Hill monument on its depiction.

One of Washington's Generals, Marquis de Lafayette, laid the cornerstone of the Bunker Hill monument and was afterward honored with a candlelight parade from Charlestown through Somerville ending in Cambridge. Because of Lafayette's love of America, his son, George Washington Lafayette, came to America to take Bunker Hill soil to be mixed with the French soil where his father was put to rest.

Many Somerville streets are named after heroes who fought and died that day. The Battle of Bunker Hill began on Breed's Hill and ended in what is now Somerville. This is why, historically, Somerville proudly participates in this holiday.

Ms. Cam's

Olío

Answers

1. June 14

2. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the U.S. on June 14, 1777

3. June 14, 1775

4. 1910

5. Carotid artery

6. David Bowie

7. Endocrine

8. A high roller

9. Multiplex

10. Uniform Resource Locator

11. Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus

12. Not in my back yard

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'Phil Reavis: Above and Beyond' exhibit opening reception

By Denise Provost

On Thursday evening, June 8, the Somerville Museum hosted an opening reception for its exhibit, Phil Reavis: Above and Beyond. As an athlete, Reavis went from setting high jump records as a Somerville High School student to representing the U.S. in the Olympics. Former Boston Globe executive sports editor Jerry Nason wrote, "Phil is the greatest jumper (personal height vs.

height of bar) America has ever produced." Both Phil Reavis and his son Phil Reavis, Jr., spoke at the exhibit's opening event. The younger Reavis said that his father's career showed the importance of "being open to possibilities, and taking advantage of opportunities." Reavis himself told how the recreation leader at his local playground encouraged him to try the high jump, and helped him develop his technique. Reavis stated,

"I became what I am because of what Somerville was." Reavis, in turn, has been dedicated to nurturing the talents of others. He coached Vietnam's 1964 Olympic track and field team, then spent over 20 years working as a teacher and coach. A world traveler, Reavis currently lives abroad, and has had a third career as a jazz musician. He has also published a book of poetry. A big crowd was present on Thursday evening to honor Rea-

vis, a man of remarkable modesty. All applauded the efforts of the students of the Local History Club at Somerville High School, who curated the exhibit, and their award-winning teacher, Adda Santos. The Somerville High School's athletic field, still under construction, will be named the Philip Reavis, Sr. Field. This exhibit is open until Saturday, July 8. See it during Somerville Museum open hours: Thursdays, 2:00 – 7:00

p.m.; Fridays, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.; Saturdays, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. Check the Somerville Museum website, <https://www.somervillemuseum.org> for special events connected to the exhibit, such as its Juneteenth Special Open Hours, on Monday, June 19, starting at noon, with a poetry reading by Phil Reavis from 1:00 to 1:30 p.m., followed by student poetry slam. Space is limited, tickets can be purchased in advance.



The Reavis exhibit illuminates the many aspects of a life driven by curiosity and a willingness to try new things.
— Photos by Denise Provost



Phil Reavis, Sr. Explains how he learned to adjust his jumping technique. Seen over his shoulder is a photograph of Reavis in his youth, clearing a high jump pole.

Somerville Rocket Club takes off

Congratulations to the Somerville Rocket Club at the Argenziano for placing third at the national competition hosted by the aerospace company United Launch Alliance. Students designed an experiment to test how liquids would react under the forces experienced during launch. The team created an experiment to fit inside a cardboard tube that would fit into the rocket and be collected after launch. The Somerville Rocket Club placed third overall in the competition out of dozens of teams from across the country and won a \$1000 prize to be donated to their classroom.



Somerville resident helps create art display for CowParade New England

Local resident and artist, Emily Bhargava, has painted and transformed a life-size cow sculpture as part of CowParade New England presented by Herb Chambers, a one-of-a-kind public art installation and fundraiser designed to recognize the Jimmy Fund 75th anniversary, benefiting Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's lifesaving mission.

The cow, Alphonse Moo-cha, is on display at The InterContinental Boston from June 24 through September 4. CowParade will be located throughout Greater Boston, including herds sponsored by presenting sponsor Herb Chambers, Coca-Cola, fairlife, HomeGoods, OOFOS, Bond Brothers, Bonhams Skinner and Jordan's Furniture, the Boston Common Pasture Sponsor. A full pasture map will be available this spring at CowParadeNewEngland.org/PastureMap. Select cows will be auctioned off in August to benefit the Jimmy Fund which supports cancer research and care at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

CowParade New England features 75 unique cows, decorated by local artists throughout the region, which will be placed at landmarks throughout Greater Boston to recognize 75 years of progress and impact made possi-

ble by the Jimmy Fund community. This event is the 105th for CowParade, which is the largest and most successful public art event in the world and is for people of all ages.

Emily Bhargava is a teaching artist and works primarily in glass and steel, transforming blank walls and empty spaces into playful designs that inspire reflection, collaboration and community ownership. Emily works at the intersection of art and public health, using art as a tool for health promotion.

In the case of CowParade New England, she is excited by the prospect of supporting Dana-Farber's fundraising and also using cows as a way to bring art and health into classrooms across Somerville. Emily is creating a full-size cow using glass and ceramic tile in a style inspired by artist Alphonse Mucha, in addition to creating a smaller "mini-moo" sculpture with her students as part of an educational arts initiative through CowParade New England.

"We're thrilled to have so many talented and diverse local artists in Greater Boston and throughout New England participating in CowParade New England," said Suzanne Fountain, vice



president of the Jimmy Fund. "CowParade is a beautiful way to bring our community together to celebrate 75 years of the Jimmy Fund and look ahead to continue raising funds to bring us one step closer to a world without cancer."

All proceeds also benefit The Dana-Farber Campaign, the Institute's ongoing and ambitious, multi-year fundraising effort to prevent, treat, and defy cancer by accelerating revolutionary science, extraordinary care, and exceptional expertise. For more information on CowParade, please visit cowparadenewengland.org.

About the Jimmy Fund

The Jimmy Fund, celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2023, is comprised of community-based fundraising events and other programs that, solely and directly, benefit Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's lifesaving mission to provide compassionate patient care and groundbreaking cancer research for children and adults. The Jimmy Fund is an official charity of the Boston Red Sox, the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, the Pan-Mass Challenge, and the Variety Children's Charity of New England. Since 1948, the generosity of millions of people has helped the

Jimmy Fund save countless lives and reduce the burden of cancer for patients and families worldwide. Follow the Jimmy Fund on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: @TheJimmyFund.

About CowParade

CowParade is the largest and most successful public art event in the world. CowParade events have been staged in 80+ cities worldwide since 1999 including Boston, Brussels, Buenos Aires, Chicago, Dublin, Houston, Istanbul, New York City, London, Mexico City, Milan, New York City, Paris, Rio, Sao Paulo, Taipei and Tokyo.

Four affordable homeownership opportunities: 395 Alewife Brook Parkway

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the City of Somerville Housing Division, in partnership with 395 ABP LLC, are pleased to announce an income-restricted homeownership lottery for four affordable condominium units at The Parkway 395 (395 Alewife Brook Parkway).

These deed-restricted condominiums are open to eligible first-time homebuyer households at a below-market price through the City's Inclusionary Housing Program. Two 2-bedroom units with dens are available to households with an annual gross income at or below 80% Area Median Income (AMI) at price tier P1. One 1-bedroom unit with a den and one 2-bedroom unit are available to households with an annual gross income between 81% AMI and 110% AMI at price tier P2.

About the Units: The Parkway 395 is a new 23-unit residential development. Units include hardwood flooring, modern Bosch appliances, balconies and/or private patios, and other modern finishes. All four income-restricted units include assigned parking spaces in the adjacent parking lot. Units will be ready for occupancy upon closing, anticipated for Summer/Fall 2023.

How to Apply: Applications must be submitted by Friday, July 14, at noon. Applications and full eligibility requirements are available at somervillema.gov/inclusionaryhousing. Printed copies are available at City Hall (93 Highland Ave.), the City Hall Annex (50 Evergreen Ave.), and the Somerville Public Library East and Central branches.

Completed applications can be emailed to inclusionary@somervillema.gov, mailed or hand-delivered to the Inclusionary Housing Program (Housing Division) at 50 Evergreen Ave., Somerville, MA 02145 (must be received by July 14, not postmarked), or faxed to the Inclusionary Housing Program at 617-591-3235.

The lottery will take place virtually on Thursday, July 20, at 2 p.m. Winners will be notified within 24 hours. For more information, visit somervillema.gov/inclusionaryhousing, email inclusionary@somervillema.gov, or call 617-625-6600 ext. 2566.

SomerStreets: Carnaval 2023

After a week's postponement, SomerStreets: Carnaval, organized by the City of Somerville Arts Council and East Somerville Main Streets, took place on Sunday, June 11, in East Somerville. Free activities and entertainment was offered for everyone, including Let's Get Truckin', Esh Circus, Dunk Tank and getting to know your local non-profits and community organizations. 30+ artisan vendors were present and the crowd danced along with Grooversity and many more live acts. — Photos by Claudia Ferro



Somerville Kiwanis members honored

On Thursday, June 8, the Kiwanis Club of Somerville held its annual Legion of Honor luncheon at the Mount Vernon Restaurant. The Legion of Honor recognizes Kiwanis members after 25 years of continuous membership and service and again every five years thereafter. The meeting honored four outstanding members for their dedication and service to the Kiwanis Club and the Somerville community:

- Distinguished Past President **David O'Brien**, 25 years
- Distinguished Past President **Sandra McGoldrick**, 30 years
- Member **Robert Gorin**, 35 years
- Past President **Robert Costello Jr.**, 50 years

All of these members are well-known in the community and have dedicated hundreds of hours supporting the Somerville Kiwanis Club and the many ways that they serve others, especially children.

If you would like to learn more or to join the Kiwanis Club of Somerville, visit their website: www.somervillekiwanis.org.



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.

Winter Hill Community Innovation School – Can Its Reconstruction Planning be Accelerated?



By Wilfred Mbah
Candidate for Somerville
City Councilor at Large

When the ceiling collapsed in the stairwell at the Winter Hill School on June 2, happily it was late in the day and no children were in the building. But after surveying the damage, the Acting

Superintendent and Mayor closed the school for the remaining two weeks of classes and the students were reassigned to other schools.

The accident brought to a point of crisis an accumulation of problems that the city had treated for years as maintenance work but recently had begun to study in a long range plan for reconstruction or replacement. The city will now have to decide whether the school can safely reopen in the fall with emergency repairs, or may better be closed permanently.

With either decision, however, it seems necessary to accelerate the long-range planning process. Our colleagues on the City Council and School Committee have begun to think about how this planning can be done. We encourage their efforts.

The city recognized the problems at Winter Hill and began long-range planning

The structural and building systems problems at the Winter Hill and Brown schools – which are the oldest elementary school buildings in the city – became better understood after COVID, when it was necessary to add ventilation and communications equipment and make other changes for student health and safety. The obsolete design and overloaded systems worked badly. In particular, the air conditioning at Winter Hill School failed in May 2022 and the teachers and parents petitioned the School Board and City Council to undertake a thorough review, looking forward to major reconstruction or replacement of the school.

In the fall of 2022 three actions were taken. First, the Department of Public Works (DPW) and Infrastructure and Asset Management (IAM) started more frequent inspections and faster scheduling of repairs. Second, the City Council appropriated some funds from the stabili-

zation accounts for systems modernization. Third, the Mayor, School Committee and City Council authorized a long-range feasibility planning process to evaluate the conditions of Winter Hill and Brown schools in the context of city-wide student needs and resources and decide whether new construction or reconstruction would be needed. This would follow a standard model of facility master planning with four elements:

(1) An Enrollment Study, projecting the future growth or decline of student population in each age group and needs category;

(2) A Gap Analysis, comparing the future student needs with the system-wide physical facilities – what new schools, classrooms, common spaces, labs or other specialized spaces would be required;

(3) Project planning with a formal Construction Committee and full community engagement, if a new or reconstructed school is decided;

(4) Design and contracting for this construction project.

The Enrollment Study element has been completed in April 2023. It foresees a modest decline of student population city-wide, but still foresees demand for the classrooms at the Winter Hill and Brown neighborhood locations.

Work on the Gap Analysis and subsequent Design/Contracting was originally expected to stretch to 2026 and this timing also was allowed for the City Finance Department to organize a financing mechanism and fit the costs into the capital improvement plans.

As one method of financing, the School Committee and City Council in April 2023 authorized the School Superintendent and Mayor to send in an application for state school construction grants for Winter Hill and Brown schools. These are competitive grants and typically take several years to achieve priority among all the other cities and towns.

Can this feasibility planning process and capital budget planning be speeded up? Can both activities carry forward effectively at the same time that the emergency work and planning for fall re-opening of schools is underway? Certainly the city agencies should try to do it all at once.

Urgent actions have begun

The School Department, with DPW and IAM, has begun the structural inspections to determine whether Winter Hill School can be made safe during the summer and re-open in the fall. As a parallel contingency, they are also considering the acquisition of temporary classrooms if the building cannot be safely used.

Members of the City Council have also acted quickly. On 8 June, they introduced three proposals:

- To add full-time project managers at both the DPW and IAM to work on the school emergency and planning tasks with added salary lines in the FY2024 Budget;

- To appropriate \$1.3 million from existing surplus Free Cash to go into the Facilities Construction Stabilization Fund for the immediate school repairs and capital planning;

- To create a new city school emergency website to inform parents and the public as decisions and actions are taken on repairs, re-opening and planning.

The Somerville Educators Union has joined with the PTA in urging the city to move forward with a full re-construction of the Winter Hill School. In their statement, they expressed frustration with the city's past neglect of maintenance, but now are confident that the city has resources available for such a capital project, which would realize the first fully carbon-neutral facility in the city school system.

The Mayor, Council and School Board must give the highest priority to the questions of Winter Hill school safety, usability and long-term re-construction in all its work. The short term, the schedule of emergency actions seems to be in place but will require their need careful and constant oversight.

Looking beyond, by the end of June, the City Finance Department will announce the final amount of revenue that has come in for FY2023 and will calculating an expected surplus of revenue over spending. This will be the Free Cash that Mayor and Council can appropriate for emergencies and capital projects. Recent discussions suggest that Free Cash may be \$30 million or more this year. The priority of affordable housing need remains, but we would support moving a substantial amount of any free cash into the Facilities Construction Stabilization Fund for Winter Hill and other schools.

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and follow us on Twitter at [@somervilletimes](https://twitter.com/somervilletimes)

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14		
6:30 AM	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice III	
7:30 AM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/Phelan #1	
8:00 AM	Pride Flag Raising 2023	
8:30 AM	City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo	
9:00 AM	Spanish All Ward Spring Community Meeting	
11:00 AM	Porchfest 2023	
12:00 PM	School Committee Meeting 6-12-23	
3:00 PM	Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony 2023	
4:00 PM	Ward 7 Spring Community Meeting 5-18-23	
6:15 PM	ECSA Park Ribbon Cutting	
6:30 PM	City Council Meeting 6-8-23	
10:00 PM	Haitian Flag Day 2023	
10:30 PM	Jane's Walk: Boynton Yards	
THURSDAY, JUNE 15		
12:00 AM	Ward 4 Spring Community Meeting 5-16-23	
2:00 AM	Spring Hill Walking Tour 2023	
7:00 AM	Haitian Flag Day 2023	
7:30 AM	Jane's Walk: Boynton Yards	
9:00 AM	Juneteenth Flag Raising	
9:30 AM	School Committee Meeting 6-12-23	
12:00 PM	Senior Circuit - Climate Change	
12:30 PM	Ward 2 Spring Community Meeting 5-15-23	
3:00 PM	Porchfest 2023	
3:45 PM	ECSA Park Ribbon Cutting	
4:00 PM	Somerville Museum: Sanctuary City	
6:30 PM	Finance Committee of the Whole - LIVE	
11:30 PM	City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis	
FRIDAY, JUNE 16		
12:00 AM	Senior Circuit - Climate Change	
12:30 AM	Pride Flag Raising 2023	
1:00 AM	Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony 2023	
2:00 AM	SPS Superintendent's FY 2024 Budget Presentation	
6:30 AM	Chair Yoga w/ Janine Duffy	
7:00 AM	Patriots Day 2023	
7:30 AM	Somerville Museum: Sanctuary City	
8:30 AM	City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis	
9:00 AM	An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington	
10:31 AM	School Committee Update: Laura Pitone	
11:30 AM	Juneteenth Flag Raising	
12:00 PM	Ward 7 Spring Community Meeting 5-18-23	
2:30 PM	Porchfest 2023	
3:30 PM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan #2	
4:00 PM	An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington	
5:31 PM	City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo	
6:00 PM	Haitian Flag Day 2023	
6:30 PM	Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony 2023	
7:30 PM	Ward 1 Spring Community Meeting 5-9-23	
10:00 PM	An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington	
11:31 PM	SPD Ride Along	
SATURDAY, JUNE 17		
12:00 AM	COHR and SPD: Discussion Panel	
1:30 AM	Charter Review - Committee of the Whole 5-24-23	
7:00 AM	Spring Hill Walking Tour 2023	
8:30 AM	School Committee Update: Laura Pitone	
9:01 AM	SPS Superintendent's FY 2024 Budget Presentation	
10:31 AM	Charter Review - Committee of the Whole 5-24-23	
3:00 PM	Porchfest 2023	
4:00 PM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan #2	
4:30 PM	Jane's Walk: Boynton Yards	
6:00 PM	Green New Deal w/ Senator Markey	
7:00 PM	Ward 4 Spring Community Meeting 5-16-23	
9:00 PM	Porchfest 2023	
10:00 PM	Pride Flag Raising 2023	
10:30 PM	City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo	
11:00 PM	Somerville Museum: Sanctuary City	
SUNDAY, JUNE 18		
12:00 AM	Ward 6 Spring Community Meeting 5-4-23	
2:30 AM	COHR and SPD: Discussion Panel	
7:00 AM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan #2	
7:30 AM	COHR and SPD: Discussion Panel	
8:45 AM	SPD Ride Along	
9:00 AM	Juneteenth Flag Raising	
9:30 AM	City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis	
10:00 AM	Spanish All Ward Spring Community Meeting	
12:00 PM	Senior Circuit - Climate Change	
12:30 PM	City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis	
1:00 PM	Ward 2 Spring Community Meeting 5-15-23	
3:30 PM	Pride Flag Raising 2023	
4:00 PM	Jane's Walk: Boynton Yards	
5:30 PM	School Committee Update: Laura Pitone	
6:01 PM	Pride Flag Raising 2023	
6:30 PM	Senior Circuit - Climate Change	
7:00 PM	Juneteenth Flag Raising	
7:30 PM	Finance Committee of the Whole 6-15-23	
MONDAY, JUNE 19		
12:00 AM	Senior Circuit - Climate Change	
12:30 AM	ECSA Park Ribbon Cutting	
1:00 AM	An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington	
6:30 AM	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV	
7:30 AM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan #1	
8:00 AM	City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis	
8:30 AM	Pride Flag Raising 2023	
9:00 AM	Ward 1 Spring Community Meeting 5-9-23	
11:10 AM	ECSA Park Ribbon Cutting	
11:30 AM	City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis	
12:00 PM	Finance Committee of the Whole	
6:15-23		
4:00 PM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan #2	
4:30 PM	Haitian Flag Day 2023	
5:30 PM	City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis	
6:00 PM	City Council Special Meeting 6-1-23	
9:30 PM	Porchfest 2023	
10:15 PM	Jane's Walk: Boynton Yards	
TUESDAY, JUNE 20		
12:00 AM	Healey Schoolyard Ribbon Cutting	
1:00 AM	Connecting Communities - Accessibility	
1:30 AM	Ward 7 Spring Community Meeting 5-18-23	
6:30 AM	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice I	
7:05 AM	Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan #1	
7:30 AM	Healey Schoolyard Ribbon Cutting	
8:10 AM	Pride Flag Raising 2023	
8:30 AM	Juneteenth Flag Raising	
9:00 AM	An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington	
10:31 AM	City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo	
11:00 AM	School Committee Meeting 6-12-23	
1:30 PM	School Committee Update: Laura Pitone	
2:01 PM	Ward 2 Spring Community Meeting 5-15-23	
4:30 PM	An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington	
6:01 PM	Spanish All Ward Spring Community Meeting	
8:00 PM	Juneteenth Flag Raising	
8:30 PM	Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony 2023	
9:30 PM	Healey Schoolyard Ribbon Cutting	
10:07 PM	Haitian Flag Day 2023	
10:30 PM	City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis	
11:01 PM	Porchfest 2023	
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21		
12:00 AM	Senior Circuit - Climate Change	
12:30 AM	Spring Hill Walking Tour 2023	
2:00 AM	An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington	

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14		
8:00 AM	SHS Baseball vs Marblehead	
10:30 AM	Kennedy 4-8 Spring Concert	
11:30 AM	WHCIS K-3 Spring Concert	
12:00 PM	Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert	
1:00 PM	Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert	
1:30 PM	SCALE Graduation & Awards Night	
2:30 PM	WSNS Moving Up Ceremony	
3:30 PM	SHS 2023 Graduation	
5:00 PM	Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship	
6:00 PM	Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023	
7:00 PM	SHS Baseball vs Marblehead	
9:30 PM	Kennedy 4-8 Spring Concert	
10:30 PM	WHCIS K-3 Spring Concert	
11:00 PM	Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert	
THURSDAY, JUNE 15		
12:00 AM	Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert	
12:30 AM	SHS 2023 Graduation	
2:00 AM	Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship	
3:00 AM	Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023	
8:00 AM	SHS Chamber Concert	
9:00 AM	WSNS Moving Up Ceremony	
10:00 AM	SCALE Graduation & Awards Night	
11:00 AM	Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship	
12:00 PM	Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023	
1:00 PM	Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert	
1:30 PM	Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert	
2:00 PM	Healey Schoolyard Ribbon Cutting	
3:00 PM	WSNS K-8 Spring Concert	
5:00 PM	SHS 2023 Graduation	
6:30 PM	Healey 5-8 Spring Concert 6-1-23	
7:00 PM	SHS Chamber Concert	
8:00 PM	WSNS Moving Up Ceremony	
9:00 PM	SCALE Graduation & Awards Night	
10:00 PM	Intramural Boys' Basketball	
11:00 PM	Intramural Girls' Basketball	
FRIDAY, JUNE 16		
12:00 AM	Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert	
12:30 AM	Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert	
1:00 AM	WSNS K-8 Spring Concert	
2:00 AM	Healey 5-8 Spring Concert 6-1-23	
8:00 AM	El Sistema Somerville Concert	
9:00 AM	WSNS Moving Up Ceremony	
10:00 AM	SCALE Graduation & Awards Night	
11:00 AM	SHS Class Day 2023	
12:30 PM	SHS 2023 Graduation	
2:00 PM	Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert	
2:30 PM	Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert	
3:00 PM	SHS Chamber Concert	
4:00 PM	Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023	
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7:00 PM	WSNS Moving Up Ceremony	
8:00 PM	SCALE Graduation & Awards Night	
9:00 PM	SHS Class Day 2023	
10:30 PM	SHS 2023 Graduation	
SATURDAY, JUNE 17		
12:00 AM	Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert	
12:30 AM	Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert	
1:00 AM	SHS Chamber Concert	
2:00 AM	Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023	
3:00 AM	Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship	
8:00 AM	WSNS K-8 Spring Concert	
9:30 AM	SHS Baseball vs Marblehead	
12:00 PM	Kennedy 4-8 Spring Concert	
1:00 PM	Spring String Fling	
1:30 PM	SHS Softball vs Chelsea 5-25-23	
3:00 PM	SHS Boys' LAX vs Salem	
4:30 PM	WSNS Moving Up Ceremony	
5:30 PM	SCALE Graduation & Awards Night	
6:00 PM	WSNS K-8 Spring Concert	
7:30 PM	SHS Baseball vs Marblehead	
10:00 PM	Kennedy 4-8 Spring Concert	
11:00 PM	Spring String Fling	
11:30 PM	SHS Softball vs Chelsea 5-25-23	
SUNDAY, JUNE 18		
1:00 AM	SHS Boys' LAX vs Salem	
2:30 AM	WSNS Moving Up Ceremony	
8:00 AM	SHS Chamber Concert	
9:00 AM	WSNS Moving Up Ceremony	
10:00 AM	SCALE Graduation & Awards Night	
11:00 AM	Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship	
1:00 PM	Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert	
1:30 PM	Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert	
2:00 PM	Healey Schoolyard Ribbon Cutting	
3:00 PM	WSNS K-8 Spring Concert	
4:30 PM	El Sistema Somerville Concert	
5:30 PM	Juneteenth Flag Raising	
6:00 PM	SHS Chamber Concert	
7:00 PM	WSNS Moving Up Ceremony	
8:00 PM	SCALE Graduation & Awards Night	
9:00 PM	Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship	
10:00 PM	Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023	
11:00 AM	Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert	
11:30 PM	Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert	
MONDAY, JUNE 19		
12:00 AM	Healey Schoolyard Ribbon Cutting	
1:00 AM	WSNS K-8 Spring Concert	
2:30 AM	El Sistema Somerville Concert	
8:00 AM	ESCS Moving Up Ceremony	
9:30 AM	El Sistema Somerville Concert	
10:00 AM	SCALE Graduation & Awards Night	
11:00 AM	WSNS Moving Up Ceremony	
12:00 PM	Pride Flag Raising 2023	
12:30 PM	Juneteenth Flag Raising	
1:00 PM	Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023	
2:00 PM	Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship	
3:00 PM	SHS Chamber Concert	
4:00 PM	Healey 5-8 Spring Concert 6-1-23	
4:30 PM	Kennedy 4-8 Spring Concert	
5:30 PM	Kennedy K-3 Spring Concert	
6:00 PM	ESCS Moving Up Ceremony	
7:30 PM	El Sistema Somerville Concert	
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10:30 AM	SHS 2023 Graduation	
12:00 PM	WSNS K-8 Spring Concert	
1:30 PM	Kennedy K-3 Spring Concert	
2:00 PM	Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert	
2:30 PM	Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert	
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5:00 PM	Healey 5-8 Spring Concert 6-1-23	
5:30 PM	El Sistema Somerville Concert	
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7:30 PM	WSNS Moving Up Ceremony	
8:30 PM	SHS 2023 Graduation	
10:00 PM	WSNS K-8 Spring Concert	
11:30 PM	Kennedy K-3 Spring Concert	

Neighborhood meeting held for new Davis Square dispensary

By Beatriz Leite

On Tuesday, June 6, the residents of Holland Street and its surroundings joined Ward 6 Councilor Lance Davis, the Green Soul Organics team, and the City of Somerville for a Neighborhood Meeting on Zoom to discuss the impacts of the opening of an Adult Use Cannabis Retail Store at 23 Holland Street, in Davis Square at the former site of Johnny D's Uptown.

Green Soul has been approved as an economic empowerment priority applicant by the state Cannabis Control Commission and signed its host community agreement with the city in 2020. The goal of this public presentation was to establish a relationship between Green Soul's representatives and the community, to ensure there is clear communication about the expectations and impacts of the project. The representatives received feedback and answered questions about the conceptual design of the site, and the impacts on the safety, tranquility, and well-being of the neighbors.

Most community members present in the meeting did not seem pleased with the idea of a new recreational-use cannabis store opening in the area. They shared their concerns about the fear of people smoking outside and creating unwanted crowds, also the fear of minors being able to access Green Soul's products.

One of the residents wrote in the chat, "How many dispensaries do we need in Davis Square? We already have several. We need family and public-oriented business, enough with drugs, people with children already live there." Expressing their disagreement with the business opening at that location.

Rebecca Adams, the project consultant, attempted to calm the community's concerns by highlighting that the Cannabis Control Commission has one of the strictest compliances in the United States. Federal Identification will be checked before entrance, in a secure waiting entrance, so there would not be a crowd outside the facility.

"It is illegal to consume any



Green Soul's graphical simulation of the Holland St. site.

— Photo courtesy of Green Soul

cannabis product outside, so there will be no consumption allowed on site or around the premises," Adams says.

Some neighbors expressed concerns about the delivery of product that is supposed to happen in the back door, that

is shared with the building's residents. Adams assured that there will not be any large delivery vehicles that could disturb the traffic or functioning of the building. All deliveries will be scheduled and constantly filmed, something that alarmed some

residents who do not desire to be filmed constantly.

Green Soul hopes to start functioning soon. The city will be made aware of the opening day plan, and the Somerville police will be assisting with the opening to handle it safely.

Juneteenth Gathering at Longfellow House-Washington's Headquarters

Please join in on Sunday, June 18 (no RSVP required) for an afternoon of outdoor music, #Pop-Up Poetry with Denise Washington and Akili Jamal Haynes, art, family activities, and featured presentations by the Descendants of Tony and Cuba Vassall, followed by an indoor screening of the award-winning 2022 documentary *Descendant*.

Gather for Juneteenth to honor those who endured slavery and seized freedom on Brattle Street before the American Revolution, their living descendants, and the long history of Black freedom activism in Cambridge and beyond. This event will feature a community gathering with music, poetry, and speeches.

The second annual Juneteenth Gathering at Longfellow House-Washington's Headquarters honors those who endured slavery and seized freedom on Brattle Street before the American Revolution, their living descendants, and the long history of Black freedom activism in Cambridge and beyond.

This all-ages gathering is free and open to all. The Forgotten Souls of Tory Row art installation by Black Coral, Inc. will also be on view. Light refreshments provided.



Presented in partnership with the Descendants of Tony and Cuba Vassall, History Cambridge, the Museum of African American History, Royall House and Slave Quarters, Slave Legacy History Coalition, Cambridge Black History Project, First Church Cambridge, Christ Church Cambridge, and Black Coral, Inc.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

boxes, they have compiled an **Amazon wish list** with key summer items for clients. If you are interested in donating you can do so through the link provided or by dropping items off at our **Engagement Center** located at 1 Davis Square between Monday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. for lunch). https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2S0DQD-B857065?ref_=wl_share&fbclid=I-wAR1ZHXC1YJnbbt36ZicxPnsR-7pAEJ4dP1rODG5sNovyNzGE68py-31ENo

Somerville local artist **Claudia Martin** will host a gathering in **Powder House Park** to draw from life, talk about art and connect with other artists in our community. All are invited, regardless of skill. Come with a pad of paper and a drawing utensil, and join in for a morning spent outside and being creative. Life drawing, **Sunday, June 18, 11:00 a.m – 3:00 p.m** at Powder House Park.

Don't forget to visit **Somerville's farmers markets**. Every **Wednesday through November 22, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.** visit the **Davis Square Farmers Market**, across from **American Flatbread** at 44 Day St. Visit: www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis. Every **Saturday through October 28, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**, the **Union Square Farmers Market** takes place at

66-70 Union Sq. visit: www.unionsquare-main.org/2023fmseason.
Join **SomerViva** for a library tour for **Chinese speakers** on **June 17**. Learn about the resources the **Somerville Public Library** has for Chinese-speaking community members, including their Chinese collection in the foreign languages section. Interested persons can register at <https://forms.gle/JQNmA2hKW7r1YYho8>.

Medford St. behind the High School is **one-way** in order to accommodate a **temporary Community Path detour**. Westbound vehicle traffic on Medford St. between Walnut St. and Pearl St. will be detoured to facilitate installation and use of these temporary bike lanes. Westbound traffic will be directed north on Walnut St. and west on Pearl St. before reconnecting with Medford St. Eastbound travel on Medford St. will be maintained as usual. The detour will be in place 24/7. <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/greenline-extension>.

Enjoy live music **Fridays at Assembly Row on The Lawn** on **alternating Fridays** through the summer. Hear from local bands with a Downeast cider in hand. **Fridays, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

The **City of Somerville's annual Water System Flushing Program** has begun

and will continue **through late October**. This annual program flushes pipes at high velocities to clean water mains and maintain the highest possible water quality. Flushing will take place Mondays and Thursdays between 6:00 p.m. and midnight to minimize potential disruptions to water service. In most cases, residents will not notice any changes to their water service. However, some homes may experience a temporary, slight drop in water pressure and/or discolored water. In these cases, though the water may be discolored, it is safe to drink. Until the water runs clear, it is advisable to avoid washing laundry, especially white fabrics. If any rust stains appear on wet laundry, it should not be dried in a dryer machine, and residents can call 311 (or 617-666-3311 from cell phones or outside the city) for a free bottle of rust remover. Residents will be notified via signage when their neighborhood will be affected by the flushing program. For more information, please contact the **Water Department** at water@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 5850.


The **Free Lockboxes for Seniors Program** is intended to provide **police, fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS)** access to your residence in the event of an emergency where you are unable to open the door. A key to your

residence will be stored in a secure metal storage device, like a realtor's lockbox, at your residence. The access code to the lockbox will only be available to police, fire or EMS personnel and used only during an emergency. The program is targeted towards Somerville residents who live alone and are aged 65+, or those who are disabled and/or suffer from major medical issues at any age. Individuals living in apartment complexes or other facilities with maintenance staff are not eligible for this program. For more information, please contact **Debby Higgins** at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Bad artists welcome! Join the **Somerville Public Library**, 79 Highland Ave. on **Wednesday, June 21**, from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. for an **Adult's Cursed Cards craft night** and create haunted, horror-filled and delightfully unhinged cards to your twisted heart's content. Presented by **Summer Scares!** Registration required: <https://tinyurl.com/5cwhnmk6>; with questions contact **Bethany**, bdoane@somervillema.gov.

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By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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On This Day in History

June 14

1381 – The Peasants’ Revolt, led by Wat Tyler, climaxes when rebels plunder and burn the Tower of London and kill the Archbishop of Canterbury.

1642 – Massachusetts passes the first compulsory education law in the colonies.

1775 – The U.S. Army is founded when the Continental Congress authorizes the muster of troops.

1846 – A group of settlers declare California to be a republic.

1893 – The city of Philadelphia observes the first Flag Day.

1940 – German forces occupy Paris.

1942 – The Supreme Court rules that requiring students to salute the American flag is unconstitutional.

1949 – The State of Vietnam is formed.

1951 – UNIVAC, the first computer built for commercial purposes, is demonstrated

1954 – Americans take part in the first nation-wide civil defense test against atomic attack.

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OFF THE SHELF
by Doug Holder

'The Flounder and Other Stories'
by John Fulton

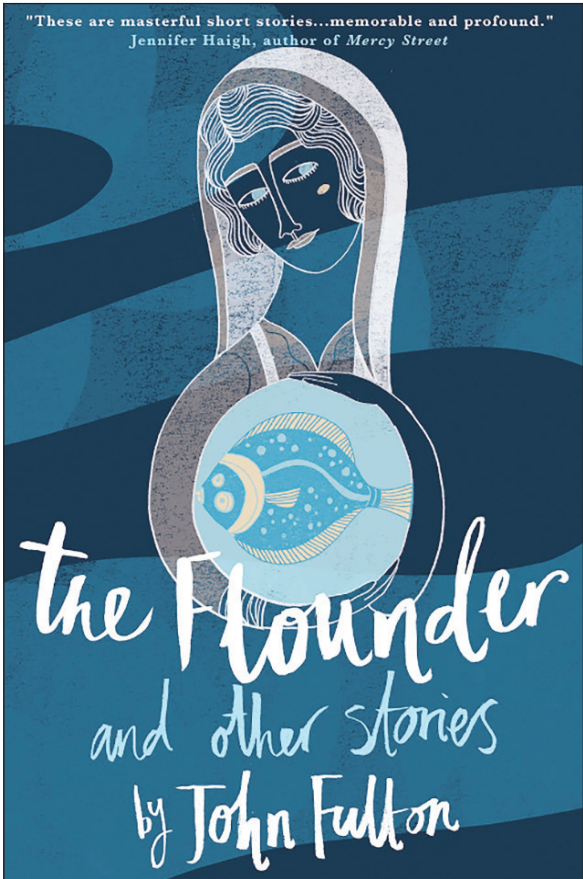
The Flounder and Other Stories
By John Fulton
Blackwater Press, West Virginia,
168 pages. \$18.99.

Book Review by Off the Shelf Correspondent Ed Meek

Some of the best fiction in the past one hundred years or so has come in the form of short stories: Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Raymond Carver, Flannery O'Connor, Alice Munroe, Tobias Wolf, etc. Short stories have some advantages over novels. They can zero in on a particular time period or a conflict or a problem and they can usually provide the reader with a sense of an ending where the endings of novels can be unsatisfactory. Recently there's been a trend toward micro-fiction, but a well-developed short story creates its own little world of escape and contemplation. And despite the availability of so many other ways to entertain ourselves, Fiction still offers insight into the inner lives of characters in a way that is deeper and more satisfying than film and television to give us a portrait of our lives today.

John Fulton is already an accomplished writer with a novel and two short story collections published. He's won a Pushcart Prize and appeared in *Best American Stories*. Fulton has a feel for the uncertainty of our age. In *The Flounder*, his characters are awkward with each other. They grapple with how to love one another and how to deal with childhood pain from fathers that walked out and mothers who were left fearful and sad. They may have grown up religious, and although they no longer are, they still struggle with what they believe in.

His stories jump right into conflict. A store owner is being held up at gun point and telling the robber to go ahead and shoot him, he's dying anyway. A young wife confesses to her husband that she slept with someone else just before they leave for a vacation together. Fulton grew up in Montana and lived in Europe for a number of years and he is able to



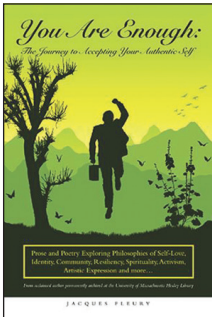
write with authority about both settings and give us an insider's perspective on the American West and on places like Switzerland and Budapest.

The western writer Bill Kittredge says that in order for fiction to be effective, the writer, like a juggler, has to keep a number of story strands up in the air at once. In the best stories in *The Flounder* Fulton does just that. In *Nocturne*, a young couple, Miriam and Daniel, who fight a lot, comically have to fight in whispers when they rent rooms from an older Swiss woman because the Swiss do not want to be disturbed, ever. Because the older woman sees them as a happy young couple, they are forced to act as if it is true. Miriam reads Daniel's journal and discovers he is critical of her. He's indignant because she invaded his privacy. No one in Fulton's stories is completely honest or forthright with

Continued on page 23

Lyrical
SOMERVILLE
edited by Doug Holder

Jacques Stanley Fleury is a Haitian American Poet, Educator and Author of four books. He has a degree in Liberal Arts and is pursuing graduate studies in the fine arts through Harvard University. His first book *Sparks in the Dark: A Lighter Shade of Blue, A Poetic Memoir* about life in Haiti and America was endorsed by the *Boston Globe*. Fleury is prominently featured in newspapers, anthologies and prestigious libraries and literary publications worldwide such as *Muddy River Poetry Review* and Cornell University Press's anthology *Class Lives: Stories from Our Economic Divide*. Two of his books, *Sparks in the Dark* and his epochal tome *Chain Letter To America: The One Thing You Can Do To End Racism*, are permanently archived at the University of Massachusetts Healey Library. Find his books locally at The Grolier Poetry Bookshop, Porter Square Books, The Harvard Book Store, and worldwide online. He lives in Cambridge, MA.



Who Am I?

if you peel layer upon layer upon layer maybe then and
only then will you find me...
for i am a multilayered entity...
a building block of heterogeneity
i can be fierce and unflinching apathetic and also doting
docile and also volatile lovable and also irritable
compulsive and also discernible
i am a man i am a "black" man i am an American i am a "black"
American
i am a DNA test from Ancestry dot com's family tree and twenty-three and me
i am African ancestry i am Afro Haitian ancestry i am European ancestry

i am the legacy of a middle-class family in Haiti i am
the legacy of America's social and economic disparity
I am the story of Horatio Alger's characters thriving over adversity
i am a malady i am a remedy i am a rainbow i am a shadow i am a son i am a brother
i am an uncle i am an author i am an educator and pervasive human valor coconspirator

i am in attrition i am in progression i am an amalgamation i am perfectly imperfect and imperfect perfectly
i am a thesis of social injustice i am a vision of personal apotheosis
i am all this and more... I Am ME!

— Jacques Stanley Fleury

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

Upcoming events:

Health & Wellness Fair – Wednesday, June 21 starting at 10:30 a.m. at the Holland Street Center – Join the Council on Aging as we bring back our annual Health & Wellness Fair! Community vendors will be available to share ways to encourage healthy aging and to provide an opportunity for you to learn about healthy eating, exercise, self-care and so much more. Lunch to follow. Space is limited, please RSVP by contacting Phelan Howell at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Phelan at phowell@somervillema.gov.

City of Somerville Fireworks – Thursday evening, June 29 at Trum Field. If you would like to join the COA reserved seating area, please call Connie Lorenti at 617-625-6600, ext. 2319. Limited transportation available.

Paint Day with Raquel Kaplan – Monday, June 12 starting at 1:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. We will be painting a canvas tote bag. Space is very limited - \$5 per person. Please RSVP to Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov. Grab and Go lunch available following the class.

MassHealth Workshop – Connecting Seniors to Coverage – Wednesday, June 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. Come hear about the requirements to qualify for MassHealth and learn about the Frail Elder Waiver Program. This presentation is provided by Tufts Senior Care Options. To RSVP, please contact Molly Pagliuca at 617-625-6600, ext. 2318 or mpagliuca@somervillema.gov.

Center for Dance Caliente – Thursday, June 15 starting at 11:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Join Eileen & Raul for a fun filled learning experience. They will inspire us to learn the Rumba using fun and creative teaching techniques like “Oonka Ah” (a singing alternative to counting.) Lunch will be served after the performance, \$5 per person. Please RSVP by calling Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Somerville Arts Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Lockboxes for Seniors – The Free Lockboxes for Seniors Program is intended to provide Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) access to your residence in the event of an emergency where you are unable to open the door. A key to your residence will be stored in a secure metal storage device, like a realtor’s lockbox, at your residence. The access code to the lockbox will only be available to Police, Fire or EMS personnel and used only during an emergency. The program is targeted towards Somerville residents who live alone and are aged 65+, or those who are disabled and/or suffer from major medical issues at any age. Individuals living in apartment complexes or other facilities with maintenance staff are not eligible for this program. For more information, please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Guided Meditation Via Zoom – Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m., June 20 & 27. Join Mary Skinner in a virtual guided meditation class. Practicing meditation can help to build skills to manage stress, increase patience, improve sleep quality and has been shown to decrease your resting blood pressure and heart rate. For the Zoom invitation or for more information, please contact Phelan Howell at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Phelan at phowell@somervillema.gov.

De-Cluttering Support Group – Mondays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. This six-week group is open to residents of Somerville & Cambridge over the age of 60. RSVP to Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317.

Bingo – Tuesdays at the Ralph & Jenny Center starting at 10:00 a.m. June 20 & 27. Lunch available following Bingo. RSVP to Debby Higgins by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Wednesday Bingo – Wednesday, June 28 starting at 10:00 a.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center. Lunch is available following Bingo. Please RSVP to Debby Higgins by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Bingo – Thursdays at our Holland Street Center starting at 10:00 a.m. June 22 & 29. Lunch available following Bingo. RSVP to

Debby Higgins by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Veteran’s Group – Meets the 4th Tuesday of each month, June 27 at the Holland Street Center starting at 11:00 a.m. RSVP to Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321 or email dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Tech Open Hours – Tuesday, June 27, starting at 10:00 a.m. at the Holland Street Center. Bring your phones, computers, and tablets or borrow one from the COA. This is drop-in style individual help to answer your technology questions and frustrations. RSVP to Molly Pagliuca at 781-823-9210 or email Molly at mpagliuca@somervillema.gov.

Movie Day – Friday, June 23, 10:00 a.m. at the Holland Street Center. This month’s film is *Your Place or Mine* – Two long distance best friends change each other’s lives when she decides to pursue a lifelong dream and he volunteers to keep an eye on her teenage son. Rated PG-13, starring Reese Witherspoon & Ashton Kucher. Pizza will be served after the movie; \$2 per person. RSVP to Debby Higgins by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Project Outlook, Low Vision Group - (NEW TIME) Meets the 4th Thursday of each month (June 22) starting at 2:00 p.m. at the Holland Street Center. Project Outlook is a group of residents with low or no vision who enjoy getting together for camaraderie and socialization. Project Outlook has been active for over 30 years. Come join in the conversation, we look forward to meeting you. Please note day and time changes. For more information, please contact Claudia Ferro at 857-237-1801.

Friendly Caller Program - Looking for a way to practice social distancing but remain connected to other people? Look no further than the Somerville Council on Aging's Friendly Phone Caller program. We have many wonderful volunteers who are waiting to give you a call. Whether you are looking to make a new friend or would just like a friendly chat to look forward to every week, this program has you covered. Call Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 to learn more about the program and to sign up.

Off The Shelf CONT. FROM PG 22

a partner. Instead, they engage in power struggles while talking around things. Fulton is very good at capturing the nuances of our thoughts and relationships. The title refers to the piece by Chopin and the hostess, one night, plays it beautifully and the music seems to draw the couple back together. In this story and others, Fulton is able to delve into the sex his characters engage in

in a way that is completely convincing. Here he pairs the sex with the music. The complexity makes for a great short story. Three other stories in the collection are just as good.

Writers of short stories, like poets, can use the form as a means of experimentation, a kind of how about this? So, collections of short stories are always some-

what uneven. Fulton occasionally violates Chekhov’s dictum about firing the gun by the third act. Two stories are sentimental tales of cold fathers and sad sons. One story is all telling and no showing. But, in a short story collection as in a book of poems, we have to judge the author by his best work. For that reason, *The Flounder* is well worth reading.

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