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# The Somerville Times

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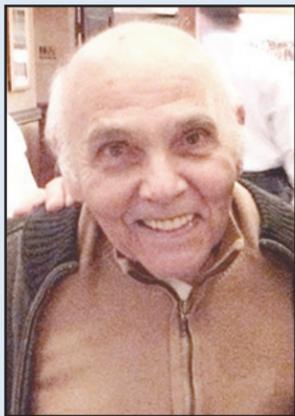


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SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17, 2020

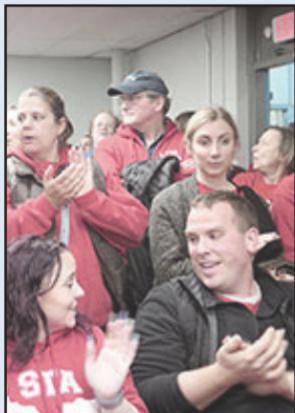
TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

## Inside:



Thinking of our dads this week

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## City to implement a police commission and community police review agency



The City Council affirmed its commitment to creating both administrative and public watchdog groups to aid in regulating police policies and conduct. — Photo by Kevin Carmichael

By Jim Clark

At the latest meeting of the Somerville City Council last week, a resolution was put forward and approved that would call upon the Council to create a police commission and a community police review agency.

The item was but one of many resolutions, orders and pledges of commitment to police reform made at the meeting, partly in response to a petition signed by some 4,000 residents of the city and submitted to the Council and the mayor, calling for firmer regulation of police policies, training, and procedures.

The full text of the resolution reads as follows: WHEREAS, Police violence against Black and Brown Americans is a product of systemic racism including structural failings in the way law enforcement agencies are organized; and

WHEREAS, Even before *Continued on page 4*

## 'Masks of Boston' at The Somerville Museum

By Rachel Berets

Throughout the month of June, The Somerville Museum will present a virtual exhibit, *Masks of Boston* by Boston-based photographer Katherine Taylor. Taylor's *Masks of Boston* project features portraits of Massachusetts residents, including Somerville Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, with masks on against a black background.

Taylor, a photojournalist whose work has appeared in publications such as *The New York Times* and *The Boston Globe*, felt compelled to carry out this project after talking to family and friends about the many and varied experiences of people during the coronavirus epidemic.

"I realized that people were experiencing it really differently ... that there was a lot of emotion, and so the idea was born to create this space to give agency to people specific to what they were going through, but with a format that was replicable," said Taylor.

Taylor's "replicable format" *Continued on page 12*



Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone sporting his face mask for the *Masks of Boston* project.

— Photo by Katherine Taylor

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On **Sunday, June 14**, the City of Somerville recognized **Flag Day** as a day of remembrance and reflection to honor those lost to the COVID-19 virus and those who have been victims of systematic racism. The **mayor** and **City Council** asked that everyone take time to personally acknowledge and reflect on the gravity of these events and to mourn the loss of life associated with them. Residents were encouraged to reclaim our nation's flag as a symbol of hope, welcome, comfort, and progress during these trying times. A joint letter from **Mayor Joseph Curtatone** and **City Councilor At-Large Will Mbah** regarding the unanimously passed City Council resolution to declare this day of remembrance can be read at <https://www.thesomervilletimes.com/archives/100739>.

\*\*\*\*\*

The City of Somerville, Cataldo Ambulance, and Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) formally launch their mobile COVID-19 testing unit in Somerville this week. The mobile unit, designed to lower barriers to testing and offer equitable access, is the next phase of the city's COVID Action Plan to control the spread of the virus via testing, contact tracing, and safe isolation. The mobile testing unit will accept patients by appointment at roaming locations, as well as hold designated testing days for residents of senior housing buildings. This testing is in addition to the Crown St. testing location at Somerville Hospital, where the city and Cambridge Health Alliance have offered free testing to Somerville residents since April. For dates and times visit <https://www.somervillema.gov/mobiletesting>.

\*\*\*\*\*

Celebrating their birthdays this week: Happy birthday to **Steve Mirabella**, who is originally from Magoun Sq. We wish him many more. Happy birthday to one of the famous Winter Hill family members, **Ms. Linda Spinoso**, who celebrates this week. Happy birthday to former Spring Hill – closer to City Hall – resident **Gail Chambers**, who is celebrating this week as well. We hope she and **Bill** got to go out and *Continued on page 7*

## Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of June 17 – June 23 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
<b>Wednesday</b> June 17	Sunny	77°/58°	0%	14%	E 9 mph
<b>Thursday</b> June 18	Sunny	88°/66°	9%	23%	SSW 10 mph
<b>Friday</b> June 19	Sunny	89°/67°	19%	33%	SW 10 mph
<b>Saturday</b> June 20	Sunny	88°/65°	21%	37%	SSW 9 mph
<b>Sunday</b> June 21	Partly Cloudy	88°/66°	11%	20%	SSW 11 mph
<b>Monday</b> June 22	Partly Cloudy	86°/69°	19%	29%	SSW 12 mph
<b>Tuesday</b> June 23	Partly Cloudy	87°/68°	20%	36%	SW 13 mph

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

## TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

### Response to: **Shooting suspect sought in Somerville**

**Villinous** says:

Call me crazy, but this is why the call to abolish police is headed nowhere. There is real crime and it requires policing. I haven't heard anyone step up with a plan for how to handle things after we abolish the police and a pregnant woman gets shot.

**Casimir H. Prohosky Jr.** says:

I call you crazy because you seem to believe that more than the tiniest minority of those advocating for police reform are calling for "abolishing" police departments. Most are seeking demilitarization, adherence to stricter standards of conduct, and the restructuring of funding that benefits the communities that are supposed to be served and protected. I get the idea that you're functioning in some kind of right wing talking points fog. Snap out of it.

**Gaspar Fomento** says:

Right. Like the present fully funded police force had any special ability to prevent this shooting. Have another drink, pal.

**Joe blow** says:

This is the problem when people resort to stupid slogans ("defund police") to describe what is actually a good concept. Stupid people see the stupid slogan and, not bothering to consider what it actually refers to, write a comment like above. Not even the more nitwitty of my fellow liberals is actually proposing getting rid of the police.

### Response to: **Amal Niccoli discusses its reopening**

**Lorrie Langton** says:

Way to go Lori Pino! Not surprised she has gone to great lengths to keep her customers and staff safe, she goes the extra mile for all her customers...always has! Continued success to the entire staff at Amal Niccoli Salon and especially to Lori Pino!

**Arthur Moore** says:

Check cnn where two people with the virus cut hair at Great Clips and not one person caught the virus. It may be helpful to know that the safety measures they used worked.

**Liz Schoeneberger** says:

Lori and her team are professional. Not surprised at all she is doing to keep her customers and team safe and healthy. Wish I could fly in for my appointment. Hoping all goes well. Miss you all

Log onto [TheSomervilleTimes.com](https://www.thesomervilletimes.com) to leave your own comments

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Life in the  by Jimmy Del Ponte

# Our Somerville dads



My dad's favorite saying was, "You tell them your Daddy said...!" My dad was a fierce family man and went to great lengths to protect his kids. He turned

into Superman when he once threatened to "tip a car over" during a minor confrontation. He stuck up for me against bullies and unfair teachers. He became a scoutmaster when my brother and I joined.

The best memory of my dad was when my sister passed away unexpectedly and he became dad and grandpa to his 9-year-

old granddaughter. The best Somerville connection for my dad was blowing the 9:30 curfew whistle from the WR Grace plant in Cambridge. Dad blew the whistle for 38 years until he retired in 1985. Here are some remembrances about other Somerville dads:

— My dad worked many jobs to support our family. My best memory was when he worked for 7 Oaks Dairy. He delivered milk to all the schools back in the mid 50's. Every week we would be treated to a case of chocolate milk in the little cartons.

— My dad was a baseball guru. He knew the game inside and out. I was a 13-year-old assistant coach to his Post 388 team. It was 1973, we were 4 wins 7 loses when he called his team together and said, "Look guys, you are the best team in this league so go out and prove it." I think it was probably the best coaching job I have ever seen because he took a bunch of ragtag ballplayers, kids, misfits, and took them to the finals of the city series. That was my dad ... greatest man I ever met and greatest baseball mind I ever knew. I love you, dad. Happy Father's Day.

— My dad was a lifelong member of the local American Legion. One of his proudest moments was when he was commander in 1972 and led the annual Memorial



Day parade down Highland Avenue. Too bad the city no longer does that.

— I remember my father teaching me to skate. This was either Lincoln park or Trum Field. It was awful bumpy ice, but always fun. My dad taught me so many things, he was my parent, teacher, mentor, inspiration and super hero. I will miss him always.

— I remember coming home from disco clubbing in Boston, then Carols dinner on the way home. Dad was in Davis Square, waiting for a bus to go to work at 3:00 a.m. Us girls would wave and throw dad kisses as we drove by.

Oh, the good ole days.

— My dad went into the service with his dad's signature to the merchant marines. On ships bringing supplies to Europe after the war and then into the Army where he was many things and was one of the first to go to war while he was stationed in Japan. He also was missing in action pinned on a hill. Then he went into the Air Force and was a gunner in the belly of an airplane. He saw many things he would not talk about.

— My memories of my dad are numerous. He always came to my road races. Many of you knew him *Continued on page 12*



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

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

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

**Be safe and stay healthy – The Mount Vernon Restaurant**

## STA paraprofessionals tentative 3-year agreement reached

The Somerville School Committee and the Somerville Teachers Association (STA) Paraprofessionals Unit C reached a tentative agreement last week on a 3-year contract that reflects the city's and district's commitment to equity and the important role that paraprofessionals play in our schools supporting and working with classroom teachers. The tentative agreement reached requires ratification by the Union membership and the School Committee. The final offer came after months of negotiation to reach a fiscally responsible and sustainable agreement acceptable to all parties.

The Somerville School Committee voted on June 2, to make a starting salary offer of \$25,000 to the paraprofessionals unit, with an increase of \$500 per lane and \$300 per step. In addition, the three-year contractual offer also includes a provision for continuity of employment after four or more full years of service as of July 1, provided that new evaluation standards and procedures are ratified by both parties on or before June 30, 2021.

"For many months, School Committee and city officials have publicly stated our support for a paraprofessional wage scale that starts at \$25,000 annually," commented School Committee Chair, Carrie Normand. "The offer reflects the values of the community, the importance of preserving educational programs for students, and the integral part paraprofessionals play in our school system. We are pleased to be able to improve the working conditions of our staff, who go above and beyond for our students every day and will continue to do so throughout the COVID-19 pandemic."

Over the many months of negotiation, the Committee took several steps to address the priorities identified by the paraprofessionals unit. Initially, the School District was unable to fund the \$25,000 starting salary proposal, but in December 2019 the Committee's offer included a proposal to substantially raise salaries by 18%, over three years. Even with that proposal the Committee and the Association were not able to bridge the gap in expectations, so the Committee requested that the State appoint a mediator to assist the parties in seeking a resolution.

The Committee continued to review possible solutions in an effort to bridge the gap and bring the negotiations to a resolution. In mid-March, at an Executive Session the night before a scheduled mediation session, the Committee approved a plan to propose a minimum salary of \$25,000. Unfortunately, the COVID-9 crisis had hit and the next day, before the mediation session began, Governor Charlie Baker ordered schools and businesses closed. The mediation session was then canceled, given the uncertainty of the impact that the school and business closures would have on city and district budgets.

Between mid-March and the next mediation session, on May 13, the Committee and city officials were in regular communication to assess the city's financial circumstances. Economic projections were so dire that the Committee felt compelled to vote at the end of April to notify the Association that it was withdrawing its previous offer of 18% over three years.

In the weeks that followed, the committee and the city, through the Mayor's office and with the assistance of city and district department analysts, were able to identify reserve funds as a source to support the Committee's goal of a \$25,000 starting salary. The agreement reached yesterday will require a substantial infusion of city resources to pay paraprofessionals a raise retroactive to July 1, 2019. Normally, the School Department budgets all collective bargaining expenditures within its Annual Operating Budget.

Fortunately, the city can support the Paraprofessional Agreement and allow the committee to modify its normal practice because of careful financial stewardship over the last several years. The Mayor has committed to supplying more than \$500,000 in reserve funds to the School Department Budget in the first year of a three-year proposal. This action is subject to appropriation by the City Council. The second year (2020-21) will be funded by a combination of city reserves and re-allocation of school budget resources. The third-year costs of the proposal are projected to be incorporated into the Committee's budget through normal procedures.



## City to implement a police commission and community police review agency

CONT. FROM PG 1

the recent killings of George Floyd, Tony McDade, and Breonna Taylor by police officers, two-thirds of Americans believed that Black people are treated less fairly by the police than white people; and

WHEREAS, Only 23% of Americans believe that police "provide fair and accurate information to the public all or most of the time" and only 37% believe police "do a good job protecting people from crime all or most of the time"; and

WHEREAS, Whether people are satisfied with policing depends heavily on whether they're satisfied with police oversight; and

WHEREAS, Chief David Fallon has stated, "having reports of police misconduct investigated by a fellow union member can create the appearance of a conflict of interest. Even when investigations are conducted correctly and without bias, it's understandable that the public might not trust the process"; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Curtatone has stated, "we need to bring new voices and perspectives into the oversight and rank and file of the police department"; and

WHEREAS, Barbara Attard, former President of the National Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement has stated, "as oversight of law enforcement becomes an integral part of government in the United States, the benefits of oversight are being acknowledged. Those in policing are recognizing that allowing independent oversight and community access to this information leads to increased confidence in the process and the law enforcement"; and

WHEREAS, Captain Pamela Seyffert of the Sacramento, California Police Department has stated, "although civilian review can be controversial, there are enough positives presented by the successful models that show it to be an essential tool for the future"; and

WHEREAS, Two of the four recommendations of Repre-

sentative Ayanna Pressley's recent resolution in the House concern oversight:

- "Efforts to improve oversight and independent investigations to hold individual law enforcement officers and police departments accountable,

- "Supporting efforts to establishing all-civilian review boards with the authority to investigate incidents of police misconduct to ensure community-level oversight, accountability, and disciplinary action of police officers"; and

WHEREAS, Representative Pressley's resolution calls for the adoption of sound and unbiased law enforcement policies at all levels of government that reduce the disparate impact of police brutality and use of force on Black and Brown people and other historically marginalized communities, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, That this City Council immediately begin preparing legislation that creates both a Police Commission and

a Community Police Review Agency by ordinance in Somerville, and that the City Solicitor's Office assist in the drafting of language needed to effect the intentions expressed herein; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the Police Commission so established shall have the charge of recommending changes to the Somerville Police Department's ("SPD's") policies and procedures, and that any changes of same sought by any source would be subject to the Commission's approval, and that the Police Commission be invested with subpoena authority, and that review of Police Chief selection such that the Mayor would be required to appoint any new Chief from a list of candidates identified by the Commission, and further that the Commission be empowered to remove a Chief from office for cause; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the members of the Police Commission would serve 3 year terms, with a two-term limit, and must be

Somerville residents, and that no member of either body may be a current police officer, current City employee, former Somerville police officer, or current or former official, employee or representative of a union that represents police officers, and that the Police Commission so established shall have no more than 30% of its standing members be appointed by the Mayor and further that it shall at all times be constituted to contain not less than one Black or Brown person serving as a full Commissioner; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the Community Police Review Agency so established shall have the charge of independently receiving and reviewing complaints of police misconduct, and that it would be required to investigate complaints involving use of force, in-custody deaths, profiling, incidents and public assemblies, and may engage in other investigations as directed by the Police Commission into other police misconduct, *Continued on page 10*

# Proposed water rate increase: what it means for the city

By Alberto Gilman

The Water and Sewer Information Session on Thursday, June 11, brought the public and the Water and Sewer Department together to discuss the fiscal 2021 water rate increases for the city of Somerville.

Director of Water and Sewer John DeLuca presented and proposed a 7.5% water rate increase and 2.5% sewer rate increase with no change to base charges or fees for the 2021 fiscal year, a combined rate adjustment of 4%.

Average billing by the department is conducted tri-annually, every four months. For the average water bill, including base charge in 2020, condominiums pay \$742, a single family home pays \$950, double deckers pay \$1,556 and triple deckers pay \$2,162.

With this rate increase, condominiums will see a \$24 bill increase, single family homes a \$33 increase, double deckers a \$59 increase and triple deckers will see an \$85 increase.

For water, the residential dis-

count tier is still available and water rates continue to be less than a penny per gallon. The tier is also in place for sewer and those rates support both the sanitary and stormwater infrastructure overall.

Already a not-for-profit service, without sufficient revenue, according to DeLuca, service, repairs, and replacement and improvements cannot be done.

“Your city’s infrastructure and assets include 125 miles of water mains. We have over 128 miles of sewer, 29,000 water and sewer connections, over 4,000 manholes and over 1,600 fire hydrants throughout the city,” DeLuca said at the meeting.

The average lifespan of a water main is 50 to 100 years, but those numbers have been exceeded. According to DeLuca, 90% of pipes are over 50 years old and 70% are older than 100 years. Other reasons to replace these pipes include tuberculation, where minerals build up and reduce the diameter inside the pipe itself.

The services provided are clean



water to homes and businesses, sanitary sewer service to over 80,000 plus residents, and sufficient water pressure and volume for firefighting, according to DeLuca.

A majority of water and sewer expenses go to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. 55% from water and 65% from sewer, both annually.

Alex Lessin, Director of Fi-

nance and Administration, concluded the meeting by discussing the AquaHawk Alerting system that is available for residents to be notified about any abnormal water usages.

## Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



### Summer Salad

During the hot summer months, I prefer to eat on the lighter side. Salads are a big part of my lunch menu. I usually have most of the items listed below on hand. Sometimes I have left over grilled chicken, grilled steak, or even roasted vegetables that I like to incorporate into my salads. For additional protein garbanzo beans or edamame beans can be added for texture and color. You can add just about anything for a fun, not so boring and nutritious salad. The sky is the limit!

- 5 oz Container of Mixed Greens
- 2 Cups Tuscan Kale, Cleaned and Julienned
- 1/2 English Cucumber, Chopped
- 2 Tablespoons Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- 1/2 Teaspoon, Kosher Salt
- 1/4 Teaspoon, Freshly Ground Black Pepper
- 2 Medium Tomatoes, Sliced into 1/4"

- Rounds
- 2 Oranges, (Naval or Cara Cara) \*see preparation below
  - 8 oz Mozzarella, Sliced 1/4" Rounds
  - 6 Pieces Precooked Bacon, Chopped
  - 1 Cup Fresh Basil, Julienned
  - 1/8 Cup Balsamic Glaze
  - Finishing Salt, Such as Maldon Flake
  - Sea Salt, optional

In a large bowl, add the mixed greens, kale, cucumber, olive oil, salt, and pepper. Blend well. Place the well-blended greens onto a large serving platter and spread out the mixture evenly.

\*Cut off the top and bottom of the oranges. With a sharp knife, starting at the top of the orange, cut the peel and pith following the contour of the orange down to the bottom. Repeat until the orange is completely peeled. If there is any of the pith left, make sure it is trimmed off so that the fruit will not taste bitter.

Once they are peeled, slice the or-



anges into 1/4" rounds. Each orange will yield 5-6 slices. Pour the orange juice produced by slicing the oranges over the greens. Fan out the orange slices, tomato slices and the mozzarella slices onto the platter. Add the chopped bacon, if using, or substitute garbanzo beans or edamame beans

for a vegetarian option. Add the basil. Drizzle the balsamic glaze over the platter. Add the finishing salt at this time, if using.

Serves 3.

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

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 On Facebook at [www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1](http://www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1)

## 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.

## Updates on the city's response during the COVID-19 crisis

Normally there is an editorial from Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone in this space, but this week the City is instead sharing important information and updates about COVID-19.

### Mobile COVID-19 Testing

The City of Somerville, Cataldo Ambulance, and Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) formally launch their mobile COVID-19 testing unit in Somerville, which will help to lower barriers to testing and offer equitable access. The mobile testing unit will accept patients by appointment at roaming locations, as well as hold designated testing days for residents of senior housing buildings. This testing is in addition to the Crown St. testing location at Somerville Hospital, where the City and Cambridge Health Alliance have offered free testing to Somerville residents since April. Individuals seeking tests at ei-

ther the Somerville Hospital site or the mobile testing site do not need to be symptomatic and do not need insurance or a doctor's referral. Immigration status will not be checked. The only requirement is that individuals must be Somerville residents and MUST CALL 617-665-2928 to set up an appointment. City of Somerville Health and Human Services Department staff will call residents of senior housing ahead of time to schedule on-site appointments.

The schedule for the coming weeks is as follows:

- + Friday, June 19, 1 to 3 p.m.  
- Prospect Hill Academy, 17 Franklin St.,
- + Wednesday, June 24, noon to 2 p.m., Prospect Hill Academy, 17 Franklin St.,
- + Friday, June 26, 1 to 3 p.m.  
- Prospect Hill Academy, 17 Franklin St.,
- + Monday, June 29, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., East Somerville Commu-

nity School, 50 Cross St., at the Glen St. entrance

+ Wednesday, July 1, 10:30 a.m. to noon, East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St., at the Glen St. entrance

Additional testing dates will be posted on [www.somervillema.gov/covid19](http://www.somervillema.gov/covid19) as they are scheduled. Residents can also call 311 for more information.

### Phase II Reopening

The City of Somerville accepted the June 8 reopening date for all included sectors and activities in the State's Phase II category such as outdoor dining, limited indoor shopping, and limited organized sports practices -- with added City-required safety measures to some areas to better protect public health. The measures, which were designed to keep workers and customers safe during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, will affect some reopening dates. The earliest out-

door dining began June 10 due to permitting and safety plan requirements, and a reopening date for playgrounds and splash pads will be announced soon after safety and disinfection protocols are put in place.

Some of the safety measures in Somerville that exceed State guidance include requiring that hotels, motels, sports leagues, and restaurants submit health and safety plans to the City. Additional measures mainly apply to outdoor dining and grew out of a City-organized 40-person working group that included 33 restaurateurs/operators. Key enhancements for outdoor dining include required safety and socially distant layout plans, mandatory staff safety training, and a number of requirements designed to support contact tracing should staff or customers test positive for COVID-19. Information specific to restaurants reopening can be found at

[www.somervillema.gov/RestaurantReopening](http://www.somervillema.gov/RestaurantReopening).

For more information on Phase II reopening in Somerville, visit [www.somervillema.gov/reopeningphase2](http://www.somervillema.gov/reopeningphase2).

### Staying Informed During COVID-19

The City's COVID-19 website, [www.somervillema.gov/covid19](http://www.somervillema.gov/covid19), is updated frequently with public health information as well as resources and supports.

Here are some additional ways you can stay informed:

- + Sign up for City alerts at [www.somervillema.gov/alerts](http://www.somervillema.gov/alerts) or by calling 311. You can choose to get phone, text, and/or email alerts.
- + Tune in to City Cable (RCN channel 13, Comcast channel 22) for information and updates.
- + 311 is available 24/7 to answer questions and provide information.

## Systemic racism evident in substance abuse support

### By Joseph Kertis

Recent events have once again ignited a nation, and our country is witnessing a push for racial equality that is unprecedented. Advocates for justice and Black Lives Matter have always been vigilant, but they are starting to receive sweeping support from organizations that once ignored them. Though the fight is far from over, many feel we have reached the proverbial tipping point for racial injustice.

Now that the needed attention is there, it is imperative that our society examines every aspect of systemic racism, doing so will ensure the changes that occur will be sustained in the future. Police brutality is the focal point of the current unrest, but there are many aspects of society that ignore the needs of the black community. One in particular that needs attention is access to prevention, treatment, and recovery services for substance abuse disorder.

It is no secret that drugs have been tearing this country apart for decades. But it wasn't until the recent opioid epidemic that we saw noticeable changes in policy and funding. What many may not realize is that attention to combat the opioid epidemic is primarily focused on white communities. Even though blacks and African Americans are experiencing the highest rate of overdose deaths when compared to other ethnic groups, their needs are largely ignored.

It is important to note that this isn't the first time drugs have devastated the black community. In the 80's and 90's opioids and crack cocaine were wreaking havoc on society, the response to this was "The War on Drugs." Unfortunately, this initiative focused more on criminalizing and incarcerating the black community than actually providing the help necessary to combat drug use. The casualties of this war linger on today.

The severe penalties imposed

to "combat drugs" were primarily enforce on the black community. This filled prisons with individuals of color, tore families apart, and created a lasting mistrust of government services aimed to "help." This lack of confidence in society's ability to provide real help has present time implications.

What we are left with is a demographic that is receiving less attention and resources. Compound this with a reluctance to reach out for help due to past injustices. And, you have a community in a situation where they need the most support but are receiving the least.

The inability to receive proper help with substance abuse bleeds over into other areas. Without appropriate access to support services, an individual plagued by addiction has a higher probability of being arrested. Criminal charges negatively affect someone's opportunities for gainful employment and can lead to poverty. Impoverished communities tend to have weak

educational systems that carry over to the children and adversely affect the opportunities of future generations.

The current system perpetuates itself and leaves the black community at a disadvantage. The thing is, handling only one aspect of systemic racism does nothing. Anything that is not confronted and handled will eventually lead to the undoing of other areas that were. So, the real solution is to handle everything so that change can be sustained.

We may very well see an end to police brutality against African Americans. Still, if we continue to ignore the black communities' needs in other areas, such as substance abuse, it will be hard to sustain growth in equality. It's unfortunate that the starting point for change needs to be the end of cops killing unarmed men. But once the obvious amendments to how our society behaves are accomplished, we need to make modifications to aspects that are mostly unseen.

### Sources

<https://www.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/covid19-behavioral-health-disparities-black-latin-communities.pdf>

[https://store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/SAMHSA\\_Digital\\_Download/PEP20-05-02-001\\_508\\_Final.pdf](https://store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/SAMHSA_Digital_Download/PEP20-05-02-001_508_Final.pdf)

### Author Bio

Joseph Kertis is an experienced healthcare professional turned journalist. His experience in the field of substance abuse and addiction recovery provides a unique insight into one of our Nation's most challenging epidemics. He utilizes this knowledge in his writing to give an expert viewpoint that spreads awareness through education. He is a featured author of the healthcare website [Addicted.org](http://Addicted.org).



Be sure to visit us online at [www.TheSomervilleTimes.com](http://www.TheSomervilleTimes.com)

# COMMENTARY

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Have a happy Father's Day, Somerville!

## Our View Of The Times



For those of us who are fortunate enough to have had a strong, loving father figure in our lives, we have indeed been truly blessed.

They have served as our providers – along with mom, of course – our enablers, our staunch supporters, our coaches, our towers of strength.

Most of us love our dads year-round unconditionally, but we are immediately

reminded of just how much they mean to us whenever Father's Day rolls around in the month of June.

It suddenly becomes a high priority to pick out that perfect gift, to prepare a nice meal, or to just spend some meaningful quality time together.

And as stoic and unconcerned as they may want to appear, you can be sure that these gestures are deeply appreciated. Ev-

eryone likes to feel appreciated, whether giver or receiver.

With the social distancing measures currently in place due to the coronavirus crisis, it may not be the same holiday that it's been in the past. No brunch or dinner at a family favorite restaurant, or a couple of drinks at the neighborhood bar. No bowling, shooting pool, or any number of other indoor activities.

And then there are those who must make the hard choice to remain in quarantine because of COVID-19 risk factors. It's a tough choice to make on such an occasion, but safety comes first, of course.

However we manage to celebrate our fathers this year, let's make sure they know how important and precious they are to us. They'll surely appreciate it.

### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

celebrate. Happy birthday to one of our former writers, Jack Nicas, who is now working for the for *The New York Times* as a reporter. As always, we wish him the best. Happy birthday, Jack, and many more. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as Martin Janet, Pindi Singh, Donna M. Gilberti, Chris Marshall, Kathi Mullins, Terra Yan, Kenneth Lonergan, and Marie Kearns a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**Mini Movers Studio** founder, Jackie Bowden, will lead the whole family in a fun **jazz hop dance class** along with a fun activity or two, that will get everyone moving and smiling together. End the

day with a fun experience for the entire family-beginners are welcome. **June 18, at 6:30 p.m.** More info: <https://www.minimoversstudio.com/events>.

\*\*\*\*\*

**GLX officials** will host a **virtual public meeting, Wednesday, June 24, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** Register and attend this meeting using GoToWebinar: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4131561583760589835>. GLX presentation topics will include: Project Overview and Benefits, Construction Update and Look-Ahead, Work Forecast, Locations, and Hours of Operation

\*\*\*\*\*

**East Somerville Blood Drive**, a partnership between **Holiday Inn** and **East Somerville Main Streets**. Register to donate at the Holiday Inn Boston Bunker Hill area location to help fill urgent needs. **Monday, June 22, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.** Register online: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/east-somerville-blood-drive-tickets-103535214614>.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Learn Online: Helping Business Owners to Thrive during COVID-19.** **Artisan's Asylum** helps business leaders learn how to channel strong emotions to make the necessary creative shifts to sur-

vive and thrive in the new marketplace. **Saturday, June 20, 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.,** <https://artisansasylum.com/classes/learn-online-helping-business-owners-to-thrive-during-covid-19>.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ELA teacher Chris Mitchell** and **Alan Ball** are very pleased and proud to present four magazine issues full of writing from this year's 8th grade students at the **Healey School**. As our community's young teenagers graduate 8th grade and head to the high school, you may wish to celebrate with them by reading their literary representatives. The writing at <https://happeningnoweverywhere.com> is a local sample from the generation that may be the last hope for our world's survival. A comment about any one or more of the published works would be a wonderful boost to the author who receives it. You may send your comment(s) to the author(s) in care of Chris Mitchell ([cmitchell@k12.somerville.ma.us](mailto:cmitchell@k12.somerville.ma.us)). Before you share any of the writing with younger students, please be aware that it may include adult language and themes. You and younger readers may also enjoy **Kid! magazine** at <https://12zine.com>.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Mayor's Summer Jobs Program** is

accepting applications for summer 2020 starting. Through the annual program, up to **100 Somerville teens** will be placed in opportunities with city departments, many of them virtual this year. Eligible students must be Somerville residents, enrolled in high school, and at least 16 years of age. Limited opportunities are available for youth that are at least 14 years of age with the **Department of Recreation**. Applications are due **Friday, June 19, at 12:30 p.m.,** via Google form at <https://bit.ly/SomervilleSummerJobs2020>. Late applications will not be accepted. Interviews for all applicants will occur **through June 22,** and selected youth must complete an orientation prior to the beginning of the program. Summer jobs require approximately 20 hours per week, though actual schedules will vary by employer. If you have any questions or would like additional information, contact **Community Services Manager Jennifer Mancia** at 617-625-6600 ext. 2406 or [jmancia@somervillema.gov](mailto:jmancia@somervillema.gov).

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Somerville Arts Council** presents **ArtBeat Festival 2020, July 10-18,** city-wide. The festival is very much on, albeit in a different form this *Continued on page 11*

# FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

# Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#735

- Who was the first girl to pitch a shut-out in Little League World Series history?
- When did the first televised NFL game take place?
- What is the square root of 81?
- What is the official state appetizer of Rhode Island?
- What artist released the album *Diamonds and Pearls* in 1991?
- Who was the shortest player in NBA history?
- Does sound travel faster in water or air?
- Who portrayed Elvis in the made-for-TV movie *Elvis and the Beauty Queen*?
- What day is the midpoint of the year, in non-leap years?
- Spanakopita is a Greek pie filled with what vegetable?
- Where in Boston was Benjamin Franklin born?
- Which jazz singer was nick named "Lady Day"?

Answers on page 11

## The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

- A syzygy occurs when three astronomical bodies line up.
- Ninety percent of New York City cabbies are recently arrived immigrants.

### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD COCKTAILS AND MOCKTAILS

#### ACROSS

- Angelou and Rudolph
- Mason's load
- Bobby Pickett's "Monster \_\_\_\_"
- Infection from contaminated water or food
- Formerly Cassius Clay
- Slow, musically speaking
- \_\_\_\_ Ste. Marie, Ontario
- Bonding words
- Like draft beer
- Cognac, orange liqueur, lemon juice
- Tropical cocktail favorite
- Motion of approval
- Home of pisco sour
- Smoker's residue
- Big butte
- It has both white and dark rum
- Popular BBQ side
- Pea houses
- Hold your drink aloft in honor
- "Downton Abbey" countess
- Subject of 17th century Dutch mania
- Cote d'Azur locale
- Teatro alla Scala offering
- Sushi selection
- Kind of jeans fit
- She famously disliked the eponymous drink
- Chesterfield or ulster
- Bro's sib
- Long and lean
- Petting spot
- Negroni and boulevardier ingredient
- Time for the big bowl games
- Unethical loaner's practice
- Designed to guarantee equal rights
- Cooler manufacturer
- #38 Down, pl.
- Atlantic catch
- Musical ensemble
- Rodeo Drive tree
- It's of the beholder
- Rosetta Stone, e.g.

#### DOWN

- Difficult situation
- Antioxidant-rich berry

CROSSWORD													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13					14			15					
16					17			18					
19				20			21	22					
		23				24							
25	26	27		28		29		30	31	32	33	34	
35			36		37		38		39				
40					41			42		43			
44				45		46				47			
48					49		50		51		52		
					53		54		55		56		
57	58	59	60				61				62	63	64
65						66	67			68			
69						70				71			
72						73				74			



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

© StatePoint Media  
 Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.  
 Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

#### Solution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

#### Solution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

## Somerville launches mobile COVID-19 testing unit

The City of Somerville, Cataldo Ambulance, and Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) formally launch their mobile COVID-19 testing unit in Somerville this week. The mobile unit, designed to lower barriers to testing and offer equitable access, is the next phase of the city's COVID Action Plan to control the spread of the virus via testing, contact tracing, and safe isolation. The mobile testing unit will accept patients by appointment at roaming locations, as well as hold designated testing days for residents of senior housing buildings. This testing is in addition to the Crown St. testing location at Somerville Hospital, where the city and Cambridge Health Alliance have offered free testing to Somerville residents since April.

"Throughout this pandemic, we have learned that increased testing and contact tracing are vital in slowing the spread of COVID-19," said Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone. "But if we're going to expand testing effectively and equitably, offering more testing can only be part of the plan. People also need to be able to access the testing site. We're happy to have been able to work with our partners at Cataldo and CHA to bring testing directly to our residents."

Individuals seeking tests at either the Somerville Hospital site or the mobile testing site do not need to be symptomatic and do not need insurance or a doctor's referral. Immigration status will not be checked. The only requirement is that individuals must be Somerville residents and **MUST CALL 617-665-2928** to set up an appointment. City of Somerville Health and Human Services Department staff will call residents of senior housing ahead of time to schedule on-site appointments.

"Mayor Curtatone and the City of Somerville have been incredibly supportive of the COVID-19 testing at our Somerville campus since the beginning of the pandemic," said Assaad Sayah, MD, CEO of Cambridge Health Alliance. "We share their commitment to this public health imperative and are excited to partner with Cataldo Ambulance to use a mobile testing service to provide another avenue for Somerville residents to access this important resource."

Cataldo Ambulance staff will be administering the tests and CHA will process the tests. Everyone who is tested will receive guidance on how to protect themselves and family members while test results are pending. This information is available in multiple languages. For those who test positive, city Public Health nurses will reach out to conduct contact tracing and offer ongoing support as needed to residents to ensure they can recover safely. Those who need guidance, food, counseling, or supplies will be aided in accessing information and support. Individuals who must isolate and need notes for employers will receive them from the Board of Health.

"We are happy to be able to assist some of the city's most vulnerable residents by providing mobile testing. Many residents don't have the means, or desire, to leave their own communities in order to get tested. The city offering the ability to have tests brought directly to them is a great service," said Dan Hoffenberg, Vice President of Cataldo Ambulance Service.

The schedule for the coming weeks is as follows:

- ♦ Wednesday, June 17, noon to 2:00 p.m. - Prospect Hill Academy, 17 Franklin St.
- ♦ Friday, June 19, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. - Prospect Hill Academy, 17 Franklin St.
- ♦ Wednesday, June 24, noon to 2:00 p.m., Prospect Hill Academy, 17 Franklin St.
- ♦ Friday, June 26, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. - Prospect Hill Academy, 17 Franklin St.
- ♦ Monday, June 29, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St., at the Glen St. entrance
- ♦ Wednesday, July 1, 10:30 a.m. to noon, East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St., at the Glen St. entrance

"Fighting COVID-19 requires a multi-prong approach of hand washing and cleaning, face coverings, social distancing, and testing and contact tracing," said Doug Kress, Director of the city's Health and Human Services Department. "This mobile testing unit will allow us to reach more residents and gain a better understanding of the COVID-19 situation in Somerville."

As additional testing dates are scheduled they will be posted on [www.somervillema.gov/covid19](http://www.somervillema.gov/covid19). Residents can also call 311 for more information.



## Rep. Barber leads effort to ensure meal sites for children continue through the summer

Representative Christine P. Barber (D-34th Middlesex) of Somerville and Medford, led an effort along with Hannah Kane (R-11th Worcester) and Jay Livingstone (D-8th Suffolk District) that resulted in the extension of children's meal sites throughout Massachusetts for the entire summer.

Rep. Barber partnered with Project Bread, an anti-hunger organization committed to providing all people with access to nutritious food, to organize her colleagues and request the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) extend the child nutrition program area eligibility waiver through the summer – allowing all meal sites for children to continue to operate after the school year.

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the USDA granted sever-

al waivers to the Child Nutrition Programs, which have allowed school meal sites to expand their reach to more children in the community and to provide meals while complying with social distancing guidelines. These new rules allow meal sites to operate in areas where less than 50% of the student population receives free and reduced-price meals. This is particularly important, as data on household food security can be difficult to document, and current estimates of program need may not reflect the changing needs in many communities.

Without action taken by the USDA, the waiver was set to expire on June 30. As a result, 217 Massachusetts communities with currently operating meal sites would have lost some or all of their meal sites as of July 1. Meal sites in both Somerville

and Medford were also in jeopardy of being impacted by the waiver's expiration.

Representatives Barber, Kane, and Livingstone led a robust effort, resulting in 73 House and 21 Senate member signatures to a letter, sent to USDA, which emphasized the urgency in extending the area eligibility waiver through the summer.

On June 10, the USDA announced that the area eligibility waivers will be extended until August 31. This will allow thousands of children across the Commonwealth to continue to receive healthy meals throughout the summer.

"It is imperative that particularly during this time of crisis, meal sites in Somerville and Medford, and around the state, are able to continue feeding children through the summer,"

said Representative Barber. "These meal sites have been critical in ensuring that children throughout Massachusetts get the food and nutrition they need. Without them, we risk further exacerbating an already alarming increase in food insecurity since the COVID-19 pandemic."

Local meal site operators have also expressed their gratitude for the actions taken by legislators to prompt the USDA to extend the waiver. Debbie Amaral, Chief Executive Officer at the Malden YMCA stated, "The area eligibility waiver is incredibly important for the City of Medford. Without this waiver, the YMCA would be limited as to where we could offer lunches to children in Medford. Thank you, Representative Barber, for your leadership!"



You can find detailed information on student Grab-And-Go meals sites in Somerville listed on the Somerville Public Schools "Food Resources for Students and Families" webpage. Medford Grab-And-Go site locations and operating hours can be found on the City of Medford's "Food Resources in Medford" website.

— Office of Rep. Christine P. Barber

LEGAL NOTICES

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ADVERTISEMENT

The **Somerville Housing Authority**, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids for the conversion of five (5) auxiliary corridor spaces to second bedrooms for existing apartment dwelling units at Weston Manor Apartments at 15 Weston Avenue in Somerville, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by **PR Design**.

The Project consists of: **Conversion of five (6) auxiliary corridor spaces to second bedrooms for existing apartment dwelling units in Somerville, MA.**

The work is estimated to cost **ninety thousand (\$90,000.00) dollars.**

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

This project is being Electronically Bid. Hard copy bids will not be accepted by the Awarding Authority.

Bids must be submitted electronically at [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com). Obtain all documents online via the job specific project number. Tutorials, instructions and videos on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online as well as in the instructions to bidders. Call Projectdog, Inc at 978-499-9014 for assistance (M - F 9AM - 5PM).

General Bids will be received until **2:00PM Wednesday July 15, 2020 and publicly opened online forthwith.**

All Bids shall be submitted electronically online at [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com) no later than the date and time specified above. Bid forms and contract documents will be available at [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com) or reviewed at Projectdog, Inc. 18 Graf Road, Suite 8, Newburyport, MA (978-499-9014).

There is a plan deposit of \$50 per set (maximum of 2 sets) payable to Projectdog, Inc.

Refundable deposits must be a certified or cashier's check. This deposit will be refunded upon return of all documentation in good condition within ten (10) days of receipt of general bids. Otherwise the deposit shall be the property of Projectdog.

Bidders requesting Contract Documents to be mailed to them shall include a separate check for \$35 for next day delivery, payable to the Projectdog, Inc., to cover mail handling costs.

There will be pre-bid conference at the site at 9:00 AM on Wednesday July 8th. There will be no site visits by appointment other than the pre-bid conference.

The Contract Documents may be seen in person or electronically at [www.Projectdog.com](http://www.Projectdog.com):

Projectdog, Inc  
18 Graf Road, Suite 8  
Newburyport, MA 01950  
(978) 499-9014

6/17/20 The Somerville Times



City of Somerville  
PLANNING BOARD

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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville Planning Board (PB) will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, June 25, 2020 at 6:00pm.** Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

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

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6213733141602116363>  
Webinar ID: 472-537-403

TO CALL IN

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

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

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

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

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

6/10/20, 6/17/20 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
CITY COUNCIL

There will be a Public Hearing before the City Council's Committee on Finance on **Wednesday, June 24, 2020, at 6:00 PM**, on the Order of Finance Committee Chairman J.T. Scott, for public input on the proposed FY 2021 municipal budget.

Because of Governor Baker's and Mayor Curtatone's recent orders limiting the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting will be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the GoToWebinar platform.

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. To attend and be heard, enter the link exactly as it appears below into your internet browser at any time before the meeting. You will then be asked to register for the meeting. After registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar when it starts. Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4460010996014138895>.

2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may send written comments by US mail to the City Clerk, 93 Highland Avenue, 02143, or by email to [cityclerk@somervillema.gov](mailto:cityclerk@somervillema.gov). Your comments must arrive no later than 12 Noon on the day of the Hearing, in order to be sure they are conveyed to the Council.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

**JOHN J. LONG**  
CITY CLERK

6/17/20 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT  
IFB#20-74: City Hall Fire Escape Construction

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

City Hall Fire Escape Construction

An Invitation for bids (IFB) and specifications may be obtained online at <http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/> bids or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **06/17/2020**.

Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **07/01/2020 at 1.00PM.** The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Prevailing wages apply.

Please contact Prajka Waditwar, [pwaditwar@somervillema.gov](mailto:pwaditwar@somervillema.gov) for further information.

**Prajka Waditwar**  
Construction Procurement Manager  
617-625-6600 x. 3407

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Shooting suspect sought in Somerville

An investigation is underway and a suspect sought in connection with a shooting that took place Saturday evening in Somerville.

According to reports, a pregnant woman was shot at around 11:30 p.m. and later taken to the hospital.

Video surveillance images captured the shooter targeting a vehicle in the area of Mystic Ave.

The Somerville Police Department is requesting that anyone with information related to the incident contact them by calling 617-625-1212.



City to implement a police commission and community police review agency CONT. FROM PG 4

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon completing its investigation of a complaint, the Community Police Review Agency would be required to submit its findings and proposed discipline to the Police Commission and the Chief of Police, at which point the Chief would accept the recommenda-

tion or be required to submit separate findings and discipline to the Commission. Final decision on the discipline would in that case be made by a committee of Commission members, and any officer so disciplined would have an opportunity to appeal by filing a grievance in addition to any other remedies

allowed by law, AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Review Agency and Police Commission so established be allocated enough money and resources so that they can perform their required functions and duties, including at minimum an Agency Director and at least one Agency

Investigator for every 80 Somerville Police Department employees. Further, that the City would also be required to allocate enough money for outside counsel to provide independent legal advice to both the Commission and Agency. No current City of Somerville employee could serve simultaneously as staff to the

Commission and Agency while serving in any other capacity in the city's employ, nor could any current or former official, employee or representative of a union that represents police officers serve as staff for the Commission or Agency. The resolution was passed unanimously.

# SHS Drive Up Graduation

Somerville High School students had an opportunity to individually walk across the stage and pick up their diploma in a series of three hour events – two each day – scheduled by House in a series of “drive-up” graduation events at the Dilboy Stadium parking lot over the course of two days. Graduating students and family members were invited to Dilboy on either June 10 or June 11. Over the course of a three-hour period, each graduate will individually walk across the stage, receive their diploma, and have their photo taken. Pictured here are graduates from the June 10 ceremony. — Photos by Claudia Ferro



## Double your SNAP and P-EBT dollars up to \$50 through June

\$50 SNAP and P-EBT Match at Union Square Farmers Market

SNAP shoppers and P-EBT recipients can now leverage a dollar-for-dollar SNAP Match up to \$50 dollars per market through June 27. SNAP and P-EBT customers will have significantly increased access to healthy food sourced from local food producers thanks to the generous support of the Somerville Job Creation and Retention Trust.

How to get your match at the market: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1pMKw8gvJQw&lc=Ugzvr8ES6N7-7PFO9A94AaABAg>

For a list of Farmers Market vendors who accept SNAP, visit : <https://www.unionsquaremain.org/vendors>



### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

year – over the course of eight days, they’ll have some virtual performances as well as some safe real-life happenings, such as art installations popping up and poetry hitting the streets. This year the festival theme is “Chance,” which explores all things fluky, unexpected and unplanned. Look for a detailed lineup within a week or so, until then, mark your calendars.

\*\*\*\*\*

Healthy, local food is important. The **Farmers Markets** are open again in **Davis Square** ([www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis](http://www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis)) and **Union Square** ([www.unionsquaremain.org/2020-season](http://www.unionsquaremain.org/2020-season)). But this year they will be different. Both markets will encourage only one person per household to do the shopping, incorporate social distancing guidelines and allow a limited amount of shoppers in the space. Please sign up for a shopping spot in advance at the market websites. SNAP and HIP benefits are accessible for shoppers in both markets. No

gathering or socializing is allowed in the markets. See you there and remember that we are in this together ... from a responsible 6 ft. distance, of course.

\*\*\*\*\*

**East Somerville Safe Pick-up Market** takes place **Sunday, June 21**. Pre-order from the list of participating businesses and pick-up your order safely on **Sunday** between 10:00 a.m. and noon. For more information, visit <https://www.eastsomervillemainstreets.org/market>.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

Ms. Cam’s

From page 8

# Olivo

Answers

- |   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Mo’ne Davis  | 7. Water           |
| 2. October 1939 on NBC – Philadelphia Eagles vs. Brooklyn Dodgers | 8. Don Johnson     |
| 3. 9  | 9. July 2          |
| 4. Calamari   | 10. Spinach        |
| 5. Prince   | 11. Milk St.       |
| 6. Muggsy Bogues  | 12. Billie Holiday |

Our Somerville dads CONT. FROM PG 3

from the courthouse in the 80's, so I don't need to tell you what a great person he was.

— Running the Somerville road race in 1989 with my smoker dad! He beat me while smoking, but it was one of the best memories EVER! Miss you every day, dad.

— My dad was an amazing father. He was in the Navy during WW II. He and my mom had 12 children. He worked for the Navy Yard in Charlestown and also held a part time job at Star Market for many many years. Every July we vacationed down the Cape or in Hampton

Beach for a week. He was an amazing dad. Love and miss him.

— My Dad had the red three row seat-er station wagon and he would load all the kids from our street into the car and take us to Buttrick's in Arlington for ice cream. He worked three jobs but always shared whatever he had.

— Standing in line every Thanksgiving and Christmas outside of Lyndells to get pies and, of course, raspberry turnovers.

— He was the kindest, most generous, most unassuming, gracious man God

ever created ... our dad! A lifelong Somerville resident!

— Buying popsicles for all the kids in the neighborhood. Treating everyone to Chinese food from BoBo's, going to the Venice and Hacienda for dinner.

— Simple, my dad did whatever it took to put food on the table, clothes on our backs and a roof over our head. He made us breakfast every Sunday, bought us all the toys and games he was deprived of because growing up, his family was poor. He was always there for us and committed

100% of his life to his family. And with all that on his back, he is the funniest person in the world ... always a joke and always positive. He just turned 82 and the role model he was for me ... is the same I am for my boys.

— Son of immigrants, went to church every Sunday, World War II vet. Came home, went to college on the GI bill, bought a three decker on Winter Hill, and the rest is history.

Happy Father's Day and God bless all our Somerville dads!



'Masks of Boston' at The Somerville Museum CONT. FROM PG 1

includes a black background and a three question interview, asking all participants to name a challenging aspect of COVID-19, an unexpected positive, and to express why they wear a mask. The answers vary. They are sometimes brief, sometimes longer, sometimes personal, and sometimes political. Taylor does not censor anything. "I

feel like my job is to give people a voice," said Taylor.

The interview answers are almost as varied as the face coverings themselves. For Taylor, the masks provided an interesting creative challenge. "At first there was like this great relief because as a photographer, I'm always wanting something that's not a super posed

smile," said Taylor. "I think that this has required that it's a lot more emotive, body language, and it's challenged me to push the images and push myself with my photography."

One of Taylor's youngest participants proved to her that portraits can convey emotion, with or without a mask. "I photographed an almost four

month old baby and I smiled at her with my mask on and she just beamed up in a smile" said Taylor. "There is still so much emotion that is shown through people's eyes."

Ultimately, Taylor aims to give participants in the project a sense of agency and foster empathy. "I think at the most I want to help embody a little bit more

empathy for each other," said Taylor. "We've seen that there's been particular groups that have been more heavily affected. The pandemic has not hit everybody equally, but to have this more subtle empathy for what this person is going through, what they are feeling, what they are thinking, how their social responsibility fits into it."

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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On This Day in History

June 17

- 1579 – Sir Francis Drake claims San Francisco Bay for England.
- 1775 – The British take Bunker Hill outside of Boston, after a costly battle.
- 1856 – The Republican Party opens its first national convention in Philadelphia.
- 1931 – British authorities in China arrest Indochinese Communist leader Ho Chi Minh.
- 1950 – Surgeon Richard Lawler performs the first kidney transplant operation in Chicago.
- 1963 – The U.S. Supreme Court bans the required reading of the Lord's prayer and Bible in public schools.
- 1972 – Five men are arrested for burglarizing Democratic Party headquarters at the Watergate complex in Washington, D.C.
- 1994 – Millions of Americans watch former football player O.J. Simpson drive his Ford Bronco through Los Angeles, followed by police.

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# SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

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

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Wednesday, June 17		Friday, June 19		Sunday, June 21		Tuesday, June 23	
12:00am	Free Speech TV	12:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	12:00am	Flotilla	12:00am	Public Safety/Homeland Security Hearing
6:00am	NASA TV	1:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	1:00am	NASA TV	6:00am	NASA TV
7:00am	Community Bulletin Board	1:30am	SCATV Secret Stash	1:30am	NASA TV	7:00am	NASA TV
7:30am	DW In Good Shape	2:00am	Free Speech TV	2:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00am	Democracy Now!
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:00am	NASA TV	3:00am	Bate Papo com Shirley	9:00am	The Chef's Table Series
9:00am	DW Global 3000	7:00am	The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)	6:00am	Nossa Gente e Costumes	10:00am	Strata
9:30am	DW Conflict Zone	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:00am	Heavy Leather Music Video Show	11:00am	Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals
10:00am	Both Sides of the Bars	9:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00am	VOX POP: Somerville Connects	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show
10:30am	Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer	9:30am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:00am	DW Tomorrow Today	1:00pm	Revolution Awakening at VOX POP
11:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News	10:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:30pm	Emergency Preparedness	2:00pm	Somerville Overcoming Addiction
11:30am	SNN Neighborhood Update	10:30am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	Dead Air Live	3:00pm	Democracy Now!
12:00pm	From My Heart to Yours	11:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:30pm	Tele Magazine	4:00pm	SMC Youth Media
12:30pm	The Thom Hartman Show			11:00pm	Community Lens: Somerville SK Detour	4:30pm	Going Postal
1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News			11:30pm	TUTV	5:00pm	LIVE - Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer
1:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News				SCATV Secret Stash	5:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?
2:00pm	Colores Latinos					6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)					6:30pm	From My Heart to Yours
4:00pm	DW Conflict Zone					7:00pm	The Somerville Labor Show
4:30pm	Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library					7:30pm	LIVE - Greater Somerville
5:00pm	Hello Neighbor					8:00pm	LIVE - Dead Air Live
5:30pm	From My Heart to Yours					9:00pm	The World Fusion Show
6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News					10:00pm	Totally Working Out
6:30pm	VOX POP: Somerville Connects					11:00pm	Box House Productions Presents
7:00pm	"The Cask of Amontillado" at VOX POP					11:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash
7:30pm	Sidewalks Entertainment						
8:00pm	LIVE - Somerville Pundits						
8:30pm	DW Euromaxx						
9:00pm	Revolution Awakening at VOX POP						
10:00pm	LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party						
11:00pm	Flotilla						

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

Wednesday, June 17		Friday, June 19		Sunday, June 21		Tuesday, June 23	
7:00am	Middlesex Update w/Marian Ryan	8:00pm	School Committee Meeting 6.15.20	4:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	4:30pm	Cooking w/Ellen: Mac & Cheese 6.2.20
7:30am	Chair Yoga w/Janine	11:00pm	City Council Spotlight: Katjana Ballantyne	4:30pm	CC-Legislative Matters 6.4.20	4:38pm	Cooking w/Ellen: Pudding Cake
8:00am	Water & Sewer Rates Info Session 6.11.20	11:30pm	SPD Mask-Wearing Enforcement Discussion	6:30pm	Water & Sewer Rates Info Session 6.11.20	5:00pm	Chair Yoga w/Janine
9:00am	Raising Families			7:30pm	School Committee Meeting 6.15.20	5:30pm	The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism
9:30am	CC-Finance Committee Meeting 6.10.20			10:00pm	Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone	7:00pm	Water & Sewer Rates Info Session 6.11.20
11:00am	Fit 4 Life 2020 #3					8:00pm	CC-Finance Committee Meeting 6.10.20
11:30am	City Council Spotlight: Katjana Ballantyne					9:30pm	School Committee Meeting 6.15.20
12:00pm	Public Health & Public Safety Committee						
4:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #2						
4:30pm	Water & Sewer Rates Info Session 6.11.20						
5:30pm	CC-Finance Committee Meeting 6.10.20						
7:00pm	School Committee Meeting 6.8.20						
10:00pm	Youth Mental Health During COVID-19						
10:16pm	Memorial Day Remembrance 2020						
10:31pm	Cooking w/Ellen: Mac & Cheese 6.2.20						
10:39pm	Cooking w/Ellen: Pudding Cake						
11:00pm	Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz						
11:45pm	Memorial Day Remembrance 2020						

# Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, June 17		Friday, June 19		Sunday, June 21		Tuesday, June 23	
8:00am	SPL Storytime with Miss Alison [5/26]	8:30pm	ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony	6:00pm	SHS Drive Up Graduation	3:30pm	SHS Drive Up Graduation
8:30am	Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime	11:00pm	Healey School Moving Forward Ceremony	7:30pm	SHS Drive Up Graduation	5:00pm	WHCS Virtual Moving Forward Ceremony
9:00am	SHS Drive Up Graduation			9:00pm	SCALE Virtual Graduation 6.17.20	6:28pm	Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #4
10:30am	SHS Drive Up Graduation			11:00pm	Healey School Moving Forward Ceremony	7:00pm	SHS Boys Soccer vs Chelsea
12:00pm	Next Wave Virtual Graduation 2020					9:00pm	SHS Girls Soccer vs Haverhill
1:00pm	Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020					10:30pm	Healey School Moving Forward Ceremony
2:30pm	ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony						
5:00pm	Healey School Moving Forward Ceremony						
6:30pm	Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #3						
7:00pm	SHS Drive Up Graduation						
8:30pm	SHS Drive Up Graduation						
10:00pm	Next Wave Virtual Graduation 2020						
11:00pm	Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020						

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# OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

## Somerville's David Thorne Scott brings a modern edge to the Great American Songbook

# Lyrical

## SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

I spoke with Somerville's David Thorne Scott about his music and his life as an artist. Here is a bio that Scott sent me: "David Thorne Scott is an entertainer whose beautiful voice and creativity have thrilled audiences in venues large and small. His passion for bringing a modern edge to the classics of the Great American Songbook, as well as his original songs, earned his album *Shade* a 'Top 5 CD of the Year' by the Jazz Education Journal. *Cadence Magazine* said, 'He phrases like a saxophone player and is as slippery and hip as the young Mel Tormé.' Herb Wong, one of the west coast's leading jazz experts, wrote, 'I haven't been this moved by a performance of *For All We Know* since Carmen McRae.' David has sung with the Boston Pops, the Capital Jazz Orchestra, the New England Wind Symphony, and the Melrose Symphony, the Bill Elliott Swing Orchestra and the Thinkin' Big Band."



Mahon on drums (performs with Jerry Bergonzi, Kate McGarry).

**Doug Holder:** What is your connection to Somerville?

**David Thorne Scott:** I have lived in Somerville for over 20 years in the Union Square area. I am a newly elected member of the Union Square Neighborhood Council.

**DH:** What makes this city unique?

**DTS:** When I volunteered with the Somerville Arts Council as a panelist for the grant program I got to see the amazing range of musicians doing exciting work. Jazz venues in the area are suffering because of gentrification. We lost Johnny D's, Ryles, Third Life Studio, and 186 Outpost in quick succession. The EMF building and Jamsport are gone too. However, there are still great places near me hosting certain types of music.

**DH:** What are you working on now?

**DTS:** Since COVID I've been mixing and editing my new album, *Thornewood*. Thank god I got all the recording and overdubs finished before the lockdown! I recorded the album partly at Q Division in Somerville. The *Thornewood* album mixes and matches elements of jazz and Americana: Cole Porter and Harold Arlen right next to John Denver and Townes Van Zandt. Both bebop trumpet and lap steel guitar. Even a little scat singing and Jordanaire-inspired background vocals.

Special guests on the album: Grammy-award winning singer Paula Cole; Peter Eldridge, internationally-renowned jazz singer and member of New York Voices; Trumpeter Jason Palmer, one of the most in-demand musicians of his generation; Saxophonist Walter Smith III, whose new album features Christian McBride and Joshua Redman; Violinist Sara Caswell, a 2018 Grammy nominee; Bluesy R&B powerhouse Thaddeus Hogarth on harmonica. The rhythm section is: Kevin Barry on guitars (tours with Rosanne Cash, Mary Chapin Carpenter, and Ray Lamontagne); Mark Shilansky on piano (has performed with Luciana Souza and Kim Nazarian); Marty Ballou on basses (tours with Peter Wolf and Duke Robillard); Austin Mc-

**DH:** What projects do you envision for the future?

**DTS:** My summer/fall composition project is an attempt to my varied musical skills – a cappella singing, piano, electric bass, trumpet, melodica, vocal improvisation, whistling, beat boxing, body percussion, and digital looper – into a focused artistic statement. I will be writing songs for solo a cappella performance, songs to be self-accompanied on electric bass, songs to be self-accompanied on piano and synthesizer, and songs employing multiple instruments with digital looper.

**DH:** Is your work now influenced by the virus?

**DTS:** My COVID-era performance projects are on YouTube: [https://youtu.be/b\\_Zoe90b4yw](https://youtu.be/b_Zoe90b4yw) and <https://youtu.be/t3EtemX7BZE> ... and a congratulatory video for my Berklee students: <https://youtu.be/ELvT-EhzDdM>. A few other remote collaborations, including jazz and classical singing, are in the works.

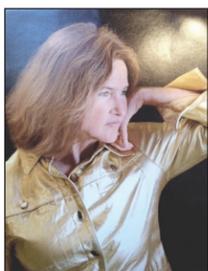
**DH:** Do you think it will be in the future?

**DTS:** I'm sure that things will be different, but I hope we can get back to gathering for musical experiences together. Luckily my composing project, which I've been planning since November of last year, is a solitary pursuit and doesn't require in-person collaboration.

**DH:** It is hard to make a living as an artist – period, how has this situation affected you?

**DTS:** I am a professor in the voice department at Berklee college of music. We had to start teaching remotely at spring break, which has been a challenge, but I'm grateful that I still have a job when so many are out of work. My virtual lessons and classes are with students in Massachusetts, Connecticut, California, Puerto Rico, Turkey, Georgia (both the country and the state), and China. I'm the executive VP of the Berklee Faculty Union, which is fighting hard for job security for our faculty. My performing gigs were all cancelled. These included out-of-town shows with my band the Vintage Vocal Quartet, as well as my local residency playing piano and singing jazz standards at the Avery Bar at the Ritz-Carlton. In March I was literally on the way to the rental car place in Assembly Row to get a vehicle for a tour to Pennsylvania when everything stopped.

C.D. Collins is the author of three books, a collection of short stories, *Blue Land* (Polyho Press), a poetry collection (Ibbetson Street Press) and a novel, *Afterheat* (Empty City Press). Her fiction has appeared in numerous literary magazines including *StoryQuarterly*, *Phoebe*, *Salamander* and *The Pennsylvania Review*. Ms. Collins has received grants and awards from the Massachusetts College of Art, the Somerville Arts Council, the St. Botolph Club, The Kentucky Foundation for Women, the Cambridge Arts Council, the Malden Arts Council and Women Waging Peace.



### We're Still Here

Hold my gaze as we slow time,  
In a shimmering globe of light,  
We join hands and take our place  
In leaves and vines and noble grapes,  
**Ready for the fight, some go left and some go right**  
**Ready for the cause, ready or I thought I was**  
Open flower in my pride  
Form intact, but burst inside.  
Climb the darkling gabbro hill  
Wing into the wintry chill

Arrow from the archer's bow  
Where it strikes we cannot know,  
Will my candle light the way?  
When we'll rise, we cannot say.  
**Ready for the fight, some go left and some go right**  
**Ready for the cause, ready or I thought I was**  
Let my heart become a rose.  
Let my mind become a coin  
Tumbling through the evening sky.  
Let my eyes become the stars.

**Ready for the fight, some go left and some go right**  
**Ready for the cause, ready or I thought I was.**  
If the rose begins to fade  
Give her drink and offer shade  
When the rose begins to fall  
Gather petals for us all.

Do all this on summer nights  
Fireflies calling with their light  
The Moon is new but oceans pull  
The darkest moon will soon grow full

**Ready for the fight, some go left and some go right.**  
**Ready to set sail, we'll brave the storm and we'll prevail.**

— C.D. Collins

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