VOL. 10 NO. 22

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2022

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

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page 12

Memorial Day asks every individual to remember



Civic leaders, veterans, and private citizens alike gathered on Memorial Day to pay homage to those who made the ultimate sacrifice in serving for the good of their country. - Photos by Claudia Ferro

By Luda Tang

On Monday, May 30, the City of Somerville hosted the Memorial Day remembrance event at Veterans' Memorial Cemetery to commemorate those who have made the ultimate sacrifice while in service of the United States.

Ted Louis-Jacques, the director of Veterans' Services at the City of Somerville, served as the host of the commemoration. He invited Rev. Alejandro Lopez Cardinali to offer the opening invocation. During the invocation, Cardinali affirmed that freedom is not free saying, "Never let's forget those who pay so terrible a price to ensure that freedom will be our legacy."

Cardinali's speech was followed by the playing of the National Anthem while all Continued on page 4

The First Lady of Iceland comes to Somerville

By Mina Rose Morales

The First Lady of Iceland, Eliza Reid, came to the Somerville Theatre on Thursday, May 26 for a signing of her book Secrets of the Sprakkar.

The event was organized by Christina Pascucci-Ciampa, the founder and owner of All She Wrote Books. Somerville Mayor Katjana Ballantyne gave a speech about women at the event before the interview began. Reid was interviewed live during the event by author and former flight attendant Ann Hood.

Reid's book describes how Iceland's sprakkar women are changing the world. Sprakkar is an ancient Icelandic word meaning extraordinary or outstanding women.

"Can you think of a word in the English language that just pertains to women but Continued on page 4



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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 City of Somerville and Fenway Health invite you to a virtual community forum to discuss a local supervised consumption site (SCS) on Wednesday, June 1, at 6:00 p.m. This forum will discuss what SCSs are, what the need is in Somerville, and ongoing efforts to explore establishing an SCS. This is an opportunity to learn more, ask questions, and share feedback. The meeting will be hosted on Zoom. Registration is required. Questions for the forum may be submitted in advance during registration. The meeting will be recorded and posted online following the event. To learn more and register to attend, go to somervillema.gov/scs.

Kick off the 2022 SomerStreets season at Carnaval. Join the Somerville Arts Council for games, shopping at local vendors, live music and food from your favorite East Somerville restaurants. Carnaval will take place on Sunday, June 5, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. at 151 Broadway, with a rain date of Sunday, June 12. This event is free to attend, with registration encouraged. For more information, visit somervilleartscouncil.org/somerstreets/carnaval.

Celebrating their birthdays this week: Happy birthday to a great guy, former City Councilor At-Large Bill White is celebrating this week. We wish him a very happy birthday. We hope he is enjoying his extra time off. Happy birthday to State Rep. Mike Connolly, who is also celebrating this week, we wish him a great day. Michael Albano is celebrating his birthday. Continued on page 7

The Somerville Times

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The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of June 1 – June 7 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
Wednesday June 1	Rain	66°/57°	36%	31%	E 10 mph
Thursday June 2	Rain	69°/56°	31%	22%	E 11 mph
Friday June 3	Cloudy	71°/54°	25%	17%	N 12 mph
Saturday June 4	Partly Cloudy	71°/55°	25%	18%	NNW 11 mph
Sunday June 5	Partly Cloudy	75°/56°	12%	7%	S 12 mph
Monday June 6	Partly Cloudy	74°/57°	23%	18%	S 13 mph
Tuesday June 7	Partly Cloudy	71°/59°	26%	21%	ENE 12 mph
	Wednesday June 1 Thursday June 2 Friday June 3 Saturday June 4 Sunday June 5 Monday June 6 Tuesday	Wednesday June 1RainThursday June 2RainFriday June 3CloudySaturday June 4Partly CloudySunday June 5Partly CloudyMonday June 6Partly CloudyTuesdayPartly Cloudy	Wednesday June 1Rain66°/57°Thursday June 2Rain69°/56°Friday June 3Cloudy71°/54°Saturday June 4Partly Cloudy71°/55°Sunday June 5Partly Cloudy75°/56°Monday June 6Partly Cloudy74°/57°TuesdayPartly Cloudy71°/59°	Wednesday Rain 66°/57° 36% Thursday Rain 69°/56° 31% Friday Cloudy 71°/54° 25% Saturday Partly Cloudy 71°/55° 25% Sunday Partly Cloudy 75°/56° 12% Monday Partly Cloudy 74°/57° 23% Tuesday Partly Cloudy 71°/59° 26%	Wednesday June 1 Rain 66°/57° 36% 31% Thursday June 2 Rain 69°/56° 31% 22% Friday June 3 Cloudy 71°/54° 25% 17% Saturday June 4 Partly Cloudy 71°/55° 25% 18% Sunday June 5 Partly Cloudy 75°/56° 12% 7% Monday June 6 Partly Cloudy 74°/57° 23% 18% Tuesday Partly Cloudy 71°/59° 26% 21%

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: Old Lechmere station

Steve Keenan says:

Jimmy,

Do you remember the small tunnel that went under the tracks at Lechmere Station? Many years ago I walked through it and saw the outline of a human body on the ground. I don't know if a person was murdered there and they outlined the body per SOP, or if it was put there as a joke. It kind of spooked me!

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

Adopt-A-Tree in Somerville

The city's Adopt-A-Tree program has officially launched. Newly planted trees can be found around Somerville, and now they need your help. Look for the colorful "Adopt Me!" tags and scan the QR code or visit tinyurl.com/somervilletree to find a tree in your neighborhood and go through the steps to adopt it. Name it, water it and even receive an adoption certificate. For more information, visit somervillema. gov/adoptatree.





Life in the VILLE by Jimmy Del Ponte

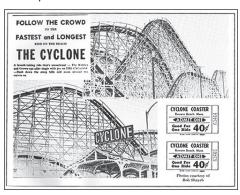
Revere Beach Days



When I was a kid, a trip to Revere Beach meant a day of fun. Mom packed a lunch and off we went. After frolicking in the water, we would eat our baloney and

mustard sandwiches. Mayonnaise was a no-no because it might spoil in the heat. Mom would reapply the Coppertone sun block and we went back to playing in the sand and water.

Revere Beach was approximately a sixmile ride from Somerville. The car would be very hot as we looked out the window



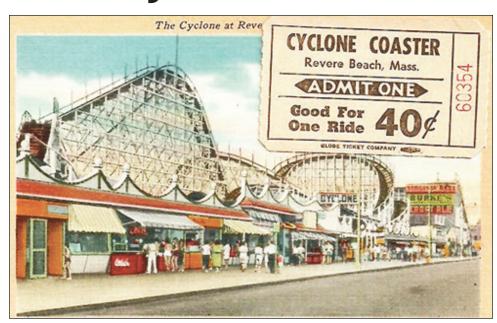
on our ride down Route 16. Of course, that was way before the pink condos arrived.

Dad would be up early with his checklist: cooler, ice, lounge chairs. And it wasn't okay just to go to the beach, we had to leave early to get a primo parking space. Dad liked to be within walking distance between the amusements and a lounge. Our favorite bar/lounge on the beach was the infamous and still present Sammy's Patio.

After getting our fill of waves and sand, we would hit the arcades, games and rides.

I remember playing Shooting Waters. I can still hear the guy saying, "Step right up and play Shooting Waters!" You'd squirt water from pistols and try to be the first one to burst a balloon. I never went on the daunting Cyclone rollercoaster. Here's a cool Somerville/Revere Beach connection: My friend Charlie's grandfather, who was a carpenter, helped build that wooden thrill ride.

Roller Coasters still scare the hell out of me. Dad wouldn't have let us go on it anyway. He did however come on the merry go round, Ferris Wheel and Wild Mouse or Caterpillar with us. My favorite ride



was the small scale but authentic automobiles. I can still remember the realistic details like chrome and real rubber tires. I can also still taste the cotton candy and smell the pizza.

In the early 70's my friends and I worked on The Dodge'Em Cars for Clement Hurley. The Hurley family were Revere Beach concession pioneers. In his later years when the rides were all gone, Clem and his wife Marge drove an ice cream truck up and down the boulevard.

Fast forward to 1978 and my band Shadowfax landed a gig at Hurley's Palm Garden. Then in the 90's I hosted games At Sammy's Patio when I was with Kiss 108. My pals who played with the band The Dream Machine were the house band at Sammy's for years. This year Sammy's Patio is celebrating 70 years on Revere Beach. I still stay in touch with the family. Sammy was a great guy!

A friend shares the following memory: "Once a year, in the summer of course, my dad would take my brother and I to a night out at Revere Beach. We would head out knowing dad would let us go on any ride and play any game we wanted all night. I thought he must be so rich.

Some of the rides I had to sit on one of my parents' laps because I wasn't tall enough. Oh, how I loved those Dodge'Em Cars and the merry go round. Life was much simpler then and the memories last forever." Thanks for sharing!

Today, a ride to Revere Beach may be to get food at Kelly's Roast Beef or just to drive or walk along the beach. If you decide to eat your sandwich or clams outside, watch out for hungry swooping seagulls. They have been known to dive bomb and fly off with your food bag and all!

Lots of us have fond memories of family fun at Revere Beach, the way it used to be.

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Want to write local Somerville stories? Call 857-488-5138 and speak to the Assignment Editor



Two Bedroom unit available June 1st, 2022. Rent is \$2,205. Section 8 and other housing assistance vouchers accepted. The unit is located in the Park Colony Condominium development at 40 Main St. featuring parking, on site laundry, pool and picnic area & adjacent to Main St. shopping areas. The unit has dish washer, kitchen sink disposal, in wall microwave, in wall A/C unit, new floors and carpet, & fresh paint. Please contact Lisa Quaratiello at the North Reading Housing Authority with questions or to schedule a viewing. First, last, and security required. Please call Lisa Quaratiello at 978-664-2982.

By Jim Clark

Alleged drunk driver in a state of denial

A Somerville Police officer was flagged down by a concerned citizen and informed that a man was passed out in a vehicle that had stopped in the travel lane at Paulina St. in the early hours of last Saturday.

The responding officer advised Somerville Control that he observed a man, later identified as Valentini Bonhomme, of Cambridge, passed out inside the vehicle as reported.

After Bonhomme was came to, he reportedly began rummaging through his belongings in an attempt to locate his registration, as was requested by police.

When asked who the car belonged to, Bonhomme reportedly said that it was his. The officers reported that his speech was slurred and his eyes were glassy.

The officers asked Bonhomme where he was headed and he answered by saying that he lives in Cambridge. When again asked where he was headed, he repeated that he lives in Cambridge and that he was going home.

When asked where he was coming from, Bonhomme said he was driving. The officers reported that Bonhomme's responses to questions were delayed and believed he was under the influence of some substance.

Bonhomme was asked how much he had to drink and he

stated he had not been drinking. When asked if he had consumed any drugs, he stated that he had not done so.

As Bonhomme opened the door to step out of the vehicle, the officers spotted a can of beer in the cup rest of the driver's side door panel.

The officers once again asked Bonhomme if he had been drinking and he again denied it. The officers reported that they could smell an odor consistent with that of an alcoholic beverage emanating from his person.

The officers administered a range of field sobriety tests, in which Bonhomme reportedly did not perform well.

Bonhomme was subsequently placed under arrest on a charge of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor and taken to the police station for booking.

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Muhammed-Faruq Soyege, May 25, 2:48 p.m., arrested at Foley St. on warrant charges of attempt to commit a crime, forgery of check, identity fraud, utter false check, and larceny over \$1200.

Carla Sousa, May 26, 12:21 p.m., arrested at Assembly Row on a charge of shoplifting by

concealing merchandise.

Valentini Bonhomme, of Cambridge, May 27, 3:13 a.m., arrested at Broadway on a charge of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor.

Memorial Day asks every individual to remember CONT. FROM PG 1

attendees remained standing. In order to include more voices from the community, the event also invited the Girl Scouts to say the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne spoke after that. She expressed the highest appreciation of those who died in the defense of freedom. "We are surrounded by the names that truly epitomize heroism and patriotism," said the mayor. She listed a few names, like James, John, and Russell, and referred to them as the "standard bearer of this land of freedom

and home of the brave."

"The meaning of Memorial Day is a commemoration and a celebration of the human spirit that propels us to seek out our greater selves and the greater knowledge of true service and sacrifice," Ballantyne said. At the end of the speech, she called on the people to "Let us always remember and let us never forget."

City Council President and Iraq war veteran Matt Mc-Laughlin shared his thoughts on Memorial Day as well. With the on-going war in Ukraine and his experiences in Iraq, he spoke of people who suffered immensely because of war. That it is not only about the military, but also about civilians who have to live with the consequences of the war. Of remembering the burdens of veterans and the family members associated with those veterans is indeed important, but also remembering the numerous sacrifices and the victims of war.

"I would like people to keep in mind the victims of the war in Afghanistan and Iraq, in the Ukraine, in all wars, at all times," McLaughlin said. "Those memories are the reason why people should always strive to avoid war at all costs and only engage in it when we know that it is a just war."

Somerville resident and wife of US Marine and Vietnam War veteran Leo Mingace, Pina Mingace, read a short poem, Our Gift to the Fallen, by Charlie Greg. After finishing the reading, she referred to the three flags that she held in her hand. The Italian flag stands for her dad, and the

Marine flag is for her husband, Leo. With the American flag, she said she was proud of being an American citizen.

Louis-Jacques said at the end of the event that there are many things we can do to honor fallen heroes that guard our country. We can take care of their families, always keeping in mind the essence of Memorial Day is about gratitude and remembrance. "It is about honoring the men and women who made it possible for us together here today," Jacques said.

The First Lady of Iceland comes to Somerville CONT. FROM PG 1

that doesn't patronize or objectify women?" asked Reid, who wanted an Icelandic word that only belongs to women and reflected the theme of her book. After researching words, she found one, which most Icelanders do not even know exists.

She immigrated to Iceland from Canada after marrying her husband, Guðni Thorlacius Jóhannesson, an Iceland native. He then became the President of Iceland in 2016. Reid checked with a language school to verify the existence and meaning of the word.

"Sprakkar is only for women," said Reid. Anyone who identifies as a man cannot be a Sprakki, according to Reid.

Iceland ranks at the top along

with the other Nordic countries in gender equality. They were the first country to grant equal inheritance rights to both men and women, abortion is not a hot political topic as it is in other countries, revenge porn is criminalized, and they excel in other gender equality topics.

"As a society, we passed the tipping point of debating whether

or not working towards gender equality is a good goal, but instead talk about how we are going to get there," said Reid.

Despite Iceland's ranking in gender equality, women in Iceland are not immune from verbal and physical harassment or assault. The Nordic paradox contradicts claims of gender equality in Nordic countries. There is a coexistence between high levels of intimate partner violence against women and gender equality in Nordic countries.

"Absolutely," said Reid when asked if there are cases of sexual harassment in Iceland. She agreed there is no ideal world for women despite the progress in Iceland.

OPENAIR Circus classes return

Somerville's OPENAIR Circus will offer its 39th year of summer classes in circus skills beginning June 27, running through August 7. This year in-person classes will be at Lou Ann David Park on Broadway near Teele Square, in 55-minute time slots Tuesday through Thursday from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. In-person classes will include:









Baton twirling (beginner and intermediate) + Devil sticks (beginner and intermediate) + Hula hoops (beginner and intermediate) + Yo-yo Juggling (beginner and intermediate) + Stilting (beginner, intermediate, and advance) + Tumbling for Two (age 3-7 with adult partner) + Unicycling

Diabolo, poi, and sphereplay will be offered remotely. Beginner students in stilting and unicycling must bring their own spotters. Equipment for all classes is available for loan or purchase. All classes are free, though donations are requested to help pay our teachers. Due to COVID concerns, in-person classes have limited enrollment, and there will not be a final Big Top performance this year. All students, teachers, and organizers will be masked and socially distanced. The schedule and registration forms are at www.openaircircus.org.

Dorothy's Corner by Dorothy DIMARZO



Ricotta & Marmalade Bruschetta

I had some leftover ricotta from another recipe I made this week. I also had some brioche that needed to be used up. Immediately I knew what I would make. I remember this snack from my childhood. My Sicilian uncle made this often and it soon became one of my favorite snacks growing up. Don't skip the black pepper, it really melds the flavors together. Give it a try, you won't be sorry.

2 pieces of brioche

3/4 cup of ricotta, (whole milk)

1/4 teaspoon lemon zest

2 tablespoons orange marmalade, zo2002.wix.

Freshly ground black pepper

Toast the brioche. In a small bowl, mix the ricotta and lemon zest. Split the ricotta mixture between the two slices and spread on the toast. Add the marmalade to each slice of toast. Add about 2-4 turns of freshly ground black pepper to each slice. Serve it with a double espresso and enjoy! You can use whatever bread you want. Ciabatta is a great vessel for the creamy goodness too. You can make smaller bruschetta for snacks or even an addition to your brunch menu. Serves 1-2.

Visit Dorothy's website at http://ddimar-





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COMMENTARY

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

Somerville's housing crisis: How we can achieve housing stability for our community



By State Representative Erika Uyterhoeven

Displacement is an issue our district knows all too well. Uncontrolled rent increases, luxury developments, and commodification and financialization of housing has led to rising rents that are forcing Somervillans to be displaced, and forcing potential first time homeowners to look elsewhere.

This is an issue so close to home. For example, on Summer

and Laurel Street, there is an open case to stop many tenants from being displaced, many of whom have lived over 10 years in their home. After a recent sale of the property, the new landlord is raising rents by nearly 30%, up \$400 per month. To make matters worse, white residents were given lower rent hikes than tenants of color. This is just one example of many renters across Somerville and the Commonwealth who are constantly being unfairly displaced and forced to move.

And this issue is not new. During the spring of 2020, in the midst of the initial emergency lockdown of the COVID-19 pandemic, several tenants at 19 Central Street on Spring Hill received a harrowing notice that their rent would increase by up to 30% or a \$550 rent increase

from \$1950 per month to \$2500 per month. Although tenants organized a tenant association and attempted to negotiate with the property managers for a fair and reasonable rent increase during the pandemic, they forcefully declined. Instead the property managers encouraged tenants to either get a roommate or move at a time nearly a year before vaccines were available when social distancing was the only way to stay safe. Several units were displaced, mainly parents and students. Behind the property management company was – you guessed it – a billionaire and a proud owner of a \$26 million dollar superyacht from Michigan. It's worth noting that 19 Central Street, a 30unit building, was sold for half the price of the superyacht at \$13.275 million.

These predatory landlords are

among the super-rich who are doing well because they can capitalize on vulnerable residents through an unregulated housing market. The pervasive business model is simple; force tenants to make a choice: stay and pay \$550 more in rent or move, which costs 1 month rent in broker's fees, first and last month rent, and a security deposit. For a 1-bedroom that can easily cost \$6000 in cash up front. What if you don't have \$6000 in your bank account during the pandemic? Tough luck, we'll find a new tenant to pay your original rent until next year, when the same \$550 increase is applied at the 2nd year lease signing again.

The threat of displacement not only deeply harms individuals, it is hurting our community. Our city is a vibrant place with dozens of restaurants, local businesses, artists and musicians, and a warm sense of home. But that sense of home and community is becoming increasingly unattainable due to the rampant insecurity renters face in the age of rising rents.

Combatting Displacement: Local Resources

There are several tools in our kit to combat the housing crisis in Somerville. When constituents reach out to me about facing displacement, I immediately refer them to the Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS) and the Somerville City's Office of Housing Security.

CAAS has been an indispensable resource in our community, working to eliminate the root causes of economic injustice in Somerville. Since its inception in 1981, CAAS has expanded opportunities for Somerville residents in Continued on page 13

Rep. Barber's driver's license bill passes in House and Senate

After a historic vote in the House of Representatives in February and state Senate in early May, the Work and Family Mobility Act was just voted for final passage in the House and Senate. The bill, filed by Representative Christine Barber of Somerville and Medford, with Rep. Tricia Farley-Bouvier and Senators Brendan Crighton and Adam Gomez, enables all state residents to apply for a standard Massachusetts driver's license regardless of immigration status.

The passage of the bill comes after a decades-long push from advocates, legislators and the Driving Families Forward Coalition to get this common-sense legislation across the finish line. If enacted, Massachusetts would

join 16 other states who have expanded access to driver's licenses to immigrants without status, including Connecticut, Vermont and New York.

"I am incredibly proud of the tremendous work of my partners on this bill - legislators, advocates, and the Driving Families Forward Coalition," said Representative Christine Barber (D-Somerville and Medford). "Three years ago, Natalicia Tracy of the Brazilian Workers Center and Ben Echevarria of the Welcome Project shared with me the plight of parents who were detained due to driving without a license, and the fear that prospect brought to the entire local immigrant community. They asked me to take a leadership role on this bill, and I

am so honored to have partnered with them to get this bill passed."

From the beginning, the movement to expand access to driver's licenses has been immigrant led and built from the grassroots. Advocacy efforts led by the Driving Family Forward Coalition were based in local immigrant communities and organizations, such as the Brazilian Worker Center and the Welcome Project, along with labor unions statewide. Over the past several years, the Coalition and bill sponsors worked closely together to build a broad range of support - including state and municipal leaders, law enforcement officials, interfaith leaders, local businesses and labor unions, and health care organizations and providers.

The Work and Family Mobility Act will allow all qualified Massachusetts residents, regardless of immigration status, to apply for standard Massachusetts driver's licenses using valid documents. Driving is a key tool of economic mobility, and having a driver's license allows people to safely get to work, drive their kids to school, and participate in their community.

"Passing the Work and Family Mobility Act is one of the most important steps the state can take to improve road safety, and also to ensure all residents feel safe and can access basic needs like groceries and health care," said Representative Christine Barber. "This has been a multi-year long fight for immigrant justice. This



State Rep. Christine Barber.

bill will have an immediate impact on the lives and success of immigrant families in our state."

The bill passed the state House and Senate with a veto-proof majority. It now goes before the Governor.

> — The Office of State Rep. Christine Barber

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark

Here comes summer, Somerville.

Our View Of The Times



After the long winter months and the ups and downs of spring weather, we are clearly running headlong into the bright, sunny days of summer.

For kids, summer vacation is a well-deserved reward for all the hard work and irreplaceable time invested in the previous school year.

As adults, we can look back fondly on those golden days with a warm sense of

nostalgia and a longing to return to the carefree days that linger now only in our memories. And yet, we can live those times again vicariously as we engage with the kids that will be making their own special memories.

Parents need to take as much time as they can to help make the summer break special and meaningful for their kids. Planning and taking a family vacation, even a simple

weekend camping trip, can forge stronger bonds and create everlasting memories that could never be bought or traded with gadgets, games, or videos. Community activities are valuable, too, in making vacation time rewarding experience for all.

Likewise, we should encourage our youngsters to seek out those activities, on their own, that keep them engaged and active. Whether it is sports, arts activities, taking up a new hobby, or any number of other options that kids are able to enjoy. They should be made aware of how precious this time is and urged to make the

It may be nearly impossible to convince them of how important this is, but it is still our duty to try to do so nonetheless. They will, without question, thank us for it in the years to come.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

We wish him a happy birthday. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as Helen Mooney, Denise Pereira Barker, Mary Champagne Adamson, Richard DiPinto and Dell E. Fisher 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.

There will be a Memorial for **Stephenson** "Hollywood" Aman on Friday, June 3 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m in the Somerville High School Auditorium.

Join Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the

Somerville Public School Gender and Sexuality Alliances (GSAs) on Wednesday, June 1, at 3:00 p.m. to raise the Pride Flag in honor of LGBTQ+ Pride Month and LGBTQ+ Youth Pride. The ceremony will take place on the City Hall concourse, 93 Highland Avenue.

This week Somerville schools will be holding their graduations in person once again. We want to congratulate all the 2022 graduates! ********

Be prepared and stay informed about

overdose prevention. Somerville Prevention, the Somerville Police Depart-

ment's Community Outreach, Help and Recovery (COHR) team, the Somerville Homeless Coalition and Fenway Health are holding an event on June 7 (previously scheduled for May 31) from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Statue Park in Davis Square. Resources include Narcan, fentanyl test strips, and face shields for rescue breathing. Overdose prevention training will also be available at both events. For more information or to schedule supply pick-up or overdose prevention training outside of these dates, please email Matthew Mitchell at mmitchell@ somervillema.gov.

The city's Adopt-A-Tree program has officially launched. Newly planted trees can be found around Somerville, and now they need your help. Look for the colorful "Adopt Me!" tags and scan the QR code or visit tinyurl.com/somervilletree to find a tree in your neighborhood and go through the steps to adopt it. Name it, water it and even receive an adoption certificate. For more information, visit somervillema.gov/adoptatree. *******

Don't forget to visit Somerville's farmers markets. Every Wednesday through November 23, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. visit the **Davis Square Farmers** Continued on page 9

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous #82

1. On what day is Flag Day celebrated?

mixture, hodgepodge

- 2. What is the meaning of Flag Day?
- 3. What Massachusetts city is known to have the longest running Flag Day Parade?
- 4. Who designed the current United States 50-star flag?
- 5. When did Canada's national flag make its first official appearance?
- 6. What is The Innocence Project?
- 7. How many dogs survived the sinking of

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the Titanic in 1912?

- 8. Which part of a cat is as unique as human fingerprints?
- 9. What part of a dog's body sweats like humans?
- 10. What chemical is used by forensic investigators to detect trace amounts of blood at crime scenes?
- 11. The milk of what animal is used to make Roquefort cheese?
- 12. What movie was written about Mozart's life and death?

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

- 1. It's possible to lead a cow upstai, but not downstairs.
- 2. Pope John Paul II was an honorary Harlem Globetrotter.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD FABRICS

ACROSS

- 1. Ingratiating behavior
- 6. Testing site
- 9. Mix together
- 13. Veranda on Moloka'i
- 14. Lennon's widow
- 15. Pilaff, to some
- 16. Neural transmitters
- 17. Stumblebum
- 18. Renter's paper
- 19. Plaid weave
- 21. Cozy pajama fabric
- 23. Thanksgiving side?
- 24. Sign up
- 25. Francisco
- 28. 100 centavos
- 30. Woven reversible patterned fabric
- 35. Tucked in at night
- 37. Unwelcome mail?
- 39. Italian alternative
- 40. Brazilian indigenous people
- 41. Give out
- 43. Eye part
- 44. Violinist Perlman or violinist Stern
- 46. Toy flyer
- 47. Clickable text
- 48. Lady Hamilton's lover
- 50. Become puddle from icicle
- 52. Hula dancer's necklace
- 53. Bloody
- 55. Cuban dance step
- 57. Popular prom dress choice
- 61. Namesake of a lemon cake
- 65. Approximately 70% of Earth
- 66. Daniel -Lewis
- 68. City in Belgium
- 69. Not slouching
- 70. Khan's honorific
- 71. Viva voce exams
- 72. Expunge
- 73. Actor/director Howard
- 74. Boundary lines

DOWN

- 1. Smelting waste
- 2. Longer than midi
- 3. Any day now, formerly
- 4. Long-limbed

	2	3	4	5		6	7	8			9	10	11	12
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65						66	67			68				
69						70				71				
72						73				74				



- © StatePoint Media
- 5. Unfortunate outcome
- 6. Rumpelstiltskin's weaver
- 7. Saint Anne, or Santa ___
- 8. Resoundingly successful
- 9. Demeanor
- 10. Slovenian ski maker
- 11. Cut with a beam
- 12. Matt Damon/Adam Driver movie
- "The Last ____"
- 15. 2-dimensional
- 20. Single-cell protozoan
- 22. Manhole cover
- 24. Joviality
- 25. "Nights in White ____"
- 26. Bullying, e.g.
- 27. Katmandu country
- 29. Eurasian trade route namesake
- 27. Eurasian trade route i
- 31. Stake driver32. Blacksmith's block
- 33. Part of a play

- 34. Chinos fabric
- 36. "Buenos ____
- 38. Adverse
- 42. Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young: "_
- Your Children"
- 45. Powerfully persuasive
- 49. 1990s negation
- 51. Formerly, formerly
- 54. "M*A*S*H" character
- 56. FlambÈ
- 57. Three-____ sloth
- 58. 0.405 hectare
- 59. Perceive by touch
- 60. A wedding veil covers it
- 61. Blue hue
- 62. Notable achievement
- 63. Eye amorously
- 64. Scotland's famous lake
- 67. Gone by
- Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

City continues to confront Covid-19 issues

By Kyle Dante

According to reports discussed at the latest meeting of the city's Public Health and Safety Committee, there have been several difficulties in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic in Somerville, which is being worked on by city officials.

People are getting vaccinated and continue to adhere to testing protocols. As of May 27, 82.4 percent of the Somerville population is fully vaccinated, with an additional 51.8% boosted. 62,359 Somerville residents are fully vaccinated, with another 72,040 vaccinated at least once.

Regarding Covid-19 testing, Somerville has 19,430 positive cases total; 17,879 are confirmed, with the remainder as probable cause. In April and May 2022, the positive test cases were 1,703 and 1,643, respectively. It is a significant jump from February (784) and March (764), nearly double the number. Of that number, 1,626 are grade-school students since September 2021; 388 for staff members. Currently, as of May 15, only 49 students and 23 staff members tested positive. It has been an up and down slope of cases for students and staff, according to the Covid-19 dash-board for Somerville.

For further information on the testing and vaccination statistics, somervillema.gov will have upto-date information from the start of the pandemic to now. Although the United States is slowly recovering from its downturn, people remain worried. It is due to new Covid-19 strains found by

the CDC and the long-term stay of Covid-19 itself. It is dangerous for those at high risk of infection, especially as mandate restrictions remain loose, if non-existent.

At the same time, it can cause an issue with citizens in public. As of now, Massachusetts has removed its state mask mandate. Regarding Covid-19, newer variants are more contagious than Omicron; it is a high risk for immunocompromised residents.

According to Ward 7 City Councilor Judy Pineada Neufield, one option is reimplementing a one-hour window for the elderly and high-risk citizens to shop. When shopping, customers and employees must wear masks for safety. It is the same standard several businesses, including local grocery stores and pharmacies, did at the start of the pandemic.



For example, Committee Chair, At-Large City Councilor Charlotte Kelly, notes the farmer's market model. There is a onehour period for the high-risk citizens to shop without interference in the summer and winter.

There are no plans to reimplement the mask mandate

in Somerville. However, the Somerville City Council will continue to find ways to assist with the Covid-19 data continually consulted.

In the meantime, refer to somervillema.gov for info regarding the ongoing Covid-19 cases in Somerville.

Next Wave and Full Circle Students complete year of service

Next Wave and Full Circle students have been volunteering at the Boston homeless shelter, the Boston Rescue Mission, for many years now. Unable to have volunteers during the height of the pandemic, when the Mission opened back up Next Wave and Full Circle students stepped up to help out. The students made over twenty visits to the shelter this school year. On Friday afternoons, after school ends, these students give up their free time to volunteer at the shelter.

The students are responsible for helping with food prep, wrapping utensils, and cleaning. Their biggest role comes when they serve meals and interact with the guests of the shelter. The students do a wonderful job of making people who are struggling feel welcomed and respected. Their efforts also make it easier for Mission staff to run what is a very busy homeless shelter.

Students who have volunteered this year include Justin Nunez Garcia, Sanay Phils, Bruce Flores-Jiminez, Emily Arevalo Ramirez, Nia Pacheco Da Silva, Mercedes Acosta, Yvette Vargas Cortez, and Tonishae Lewis.



Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Market, across from American Flatbread at 44 Day St. Visit: https://www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis. Every Saturday through Oct 29, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., the Union Square Farmers Market takes place at 66-70 Union Sq. visit: https://www.unionsquaremain.org/2022-fmseason. Every Sunday through November 20, the East Somerville Farmers Market takes place at 115 Broadway, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Visit https://www.eastsomervillemainstreets.org/market. There is a \$15 SNAP match at all Farmers Markets across Somerville.

Join in for a free, outdoor dance party for all LGBTQ individuals and allies on Saturday, June 11 (rain date June 18), 5:30-8:30 p.m., in Union Sq. Plaza. Celebrate Pride Month in Somerville with a dance party in Union Square. Team DJ Live, drag performances by Amanda Playwith and Karisma Geneva Jackson-Tae, photobooth with Cindy Weisbart, LGBTQ+ organizations will be tabling including Respond Incand CHA, LGBTQ+ craft vendors including ART By Omayda, Colectiva Wellbeing and more. This event is free and open to all LGBTQ+ individuals and allies.

The City of Somerville will hold a virtual information session and public hearing on the proposed Fiscal Year 2023

water and sewer rates on Tuesday, June

7. The information session will start at 6:00 p.m. and the public hearing will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. Anyone who would like to testify is welcome to attend and will be heard. Additional Q&A time will be offered following the hearing if attendees have remaining topics of discussion. Written testimony will also be accepted until 6:00 p.m. on Friday, June 10. Written testimony can be emailed to water@somervillema.gov or mailed to: Water and Sewer Department, ATTN: Hearing, 17 Franey Road, Somerville, MA 02145. The information session and hearing will be hosted online, or attendees can call in to the meeting from a phone. Visit somervillema.gov/

fy23rates to join live or get call-in information, or call 311. The information session and public hearing will be recorded and rebroadcast on GovTV (channel 13 on RCN, channel 22 on Comcast) and on the city's YouTube channel youtube. com/SomervilleCityTV. The proposed rates were submitted to the City Council during its meeting on Thursday, May 26, and can be viewed online at somervillema.gov/fy23rates.

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

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVEL-OPMENT KATJANA BALLANTYNE **MAYOR**

GEORGE J. PROAKIS, AICP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a public meeting and public hearings on Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to historic@somervillema.gov.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL:

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8211252215595295500

Webinar ID: 193-747-347

TO CALL IN

Phone Number: 1 (415) 930-5321 Access Code: 362-339-543

> **ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW** HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT

Alterations to Local Historic District (LHD) Properties

HPC.ALT 2022.31 - 139 Central Street

Owner: Devin Griffin

The Applicant seeks a Certificate of Appropriateness to alter an LHD

property by replacing existing windows.

Determinations of Historic Significance (STEP 1 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS)

HPC.DMO 2022.18 - 233 Tremont Street

Applicant: John F. Reilly Owner: John F. Reilly and Liese Reilly, Trustees of the Reilly Trust The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

HPC.DMO 2022.23 - 12 Woodbine Street

Applicant: North America Development LLC, Bruna Rossetti

Owner: 12 Woodbine, LLC

The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

HPC.DMO 2022.24 - 90 School Street

Applicant: Ralph Malin

Owner: 90 School St Realty Trust

The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

<u>HPC.DMO 2022.25 – 156 Albion Street</u>

Applicant: 156 Albion St, LLC

Owner: Same as Applicant

The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

<u>Determinations of Preferably Preserved (STEP 2 IN THE DEMOLITION</u> **REVIEW PROCESS)**

HPC.DMO 2022.17 - 229 Tremont Street

Applicant: John F. Reilly

Owner: John F. Reilly and Liese Reilly, Trustees of the Reilly Trust The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

While City Hall continues to be closed in response to the COVID19 pandemic, case documents reviewed by the HPC are available on the City website at

Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email hiscomervillema.gov to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Note: Written comments due to historic@somervillema.gov NO LATER THAN NOON one week prior to the meeting date. Email historic@somervillema.gov with inquiries.

6/1/22 The Somerville Times



The Massachusetts Department of Transportation invites you to attend a Virtual Public Information Meeting

Somerville I-93 Viaduct Bridge Preservation Construction Update Thursday, June 9, 2022

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

This construction meeting will provide an opportunity for the public to hear an overview of the Somerville I-93 Viaduct Bridge Preservation Project including project overview, schedule, and traffic impacts beginning in June 2022. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and offer comments.

All residents, abutters, local business owners, and interested commuters are invited to attend. All attendees who sign into the meeting and provide an email address will be entered into the project's email database to receive project updates. Prior to the meeting, if you have specific questions or concerns for the project team, please email us: MassD0Tl93SomervilleViaduct@dot.state.ma.us

Note: This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (e.g interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices and alternate material formats), as appropriate. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity & Civil Rights Officer by phone at (857) 368-8580, Relay Service at 7-1-1, fax (857) 368-0602 or by email to

MASSDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us. Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more difficult to arrange services including sign- language, CART or language translation or interpretation, requests should be made at least ten business days before the meeting.

Title VI Notice of Nondiscrimination: MassDOT complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related federal and state statutes and regulations. It is the policy of MassDOT to ensure that no person or group of persons shall on the grounds of Title VI protected categories, including race, color, national origin, or under additional federal and state protected categories including sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, creed, ancestry, veteran's status, or background, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity administered by MassDOT. To request additional information about this commitment, or to file a complaint under Title VI or a related nondiscrimination provision, please contact MassDOT's Title VI Specialist by phone at (857) 368-8580, Relay Service at 7-1-1, fax (857) 368- 0602 or by e-mail at MASSDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us

Caso esta informação seja necessária em outro idioma, favor contar o Especialista em Título VI do MassDOT pelo fone 857-368-8580.

Si necesita información en otro lenguaie, favor contactar al especialista de MassDOT del Título VI al 857-368-8580.

如果需要使用其它语言了解信息·请联系马萨诸塞州交通部

《民权法》第六章专职人员,电话857-368-8580。

如果需要使用其它語言了解信息. 請聯系馬薩諸塞州交通部

《民權法》第六章專職人員, 電話 857-368-8580。

5/25/22, 6/1/22 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the **Somer**ville Licensing Commission on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:00PM, to be held by remote participation, on the Application of a Common Victualler an Entertainment by Devices-Indoors and an Outdoor Public Seating License, for Tatte Holdings LLC, d/b/a Tatte Bakery & Cafe, 305 Assembly Row, Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk's Office.

> For the Commission Christopher Allen Joseph P. Lynch Jr. Jacques Thomas Jr.

Attest: Lori Batzek Administrative Assistant

6/1/22 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS **KATJANA BALLANTYNE** MAYOR

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville City Council's Land Use Committee and the Somerville Planning Board will hold a joint public hearing on **Thursday**, **June 16**, 2022 at 6:30 pm. Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

REGISTER ONLINE

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2045118438886556172

The purpose of this hearing is to receive public comments concerning the following:

- City Councilor-At-Large Wilson Proposing an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances, Section 3.1.6.d, Residence District, to permit the Backyard Cottage accessory building type by right.
- Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 82-84 Prospect Street from MR5 to UR.

Vivaldo Meneses Sr. requesting the adoption of an amendment to the

- Three owners requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 129R Highland Ave from UR to NR.
- Mayor Ballantyne Requesting a text amendment to the Somerville Zoning Ordinance to repeal all references to a Certificate of Zoning Compliance and replace with a requirement for the Building Official to conduct a zoning compliance review and maintain a public record of such reviews for all development.
- Thomas J. Cooke requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 14 White Street Place from NR to MR4

Zoning amendments may be viewed online by searching the Somerville City Council's online meeting calendar for the address or item number.

Final language of the above amendments may be modified by the City Council during the legislative process. Persons unable to attend the hearing may provide comments by email to planning@somervillema.gov.

6/1/22 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement and Services Department invites sealed bids for:

Poured in Place Surfacing

The bid package and updates as they become available can be downloaded from: https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement or http://www.somervillema.gov/BidExpress on or after: Thursday, June 2, 2022. Sealed bids will be received at the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via Bid Express until: Thursday, June 16, 2022, 11:00 AM

The City of Somerville may cancel this solicitation or reject in whole or in part any and all bids, if the City determines that cancellation or rejection serves the best interests of the City.

Massachusetts Prevailing Wage rates apply. 5% bid deposit required.

Please email <u>iremy@somervillema.gov</u> for more information

Jordan Remy **Procurement Analyst** 617-625-6600 x3409

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PLANNING BOARD

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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville Planning Board (PB) will hold a virtual public hearing on Thursday, June 16, 2022, at 6:00pm through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the Planning Board will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: https://attendee.goto vebinar.com/register/1057527199605395983

282-944-011 Webinar ID:

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (213) 929-4212 166-696-450 Access code:

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

16 & 20 Medford Street Somerville Living, LLC proposes to develop a four (4)-story LEED Platinum general building and establish a Household Living principle use for 41 dwelling units in the Mid-Rise 4 (MR4) zoning district. This proposal requires Site Plan Approval and one (1) Special Permit.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at

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

6/1/22 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:00PM, to be held by remote participation, on the Application of a Change of Officers/ Directors and a Change of Stock, for The House of Kebab Inc., d/b/a The House of Kebab, 719 Broadway, Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk's Office.

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the Somer-

ville Licensing Commission on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:00PM, to be held by remote participation, on the Application of a Change of LLC Managers and a Change of Ownership Interest, for Jai Gitanjali LLC, d/b/a Get N Go, 152 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. For instructions on

testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at

www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk's Office.

For the Commission Christopher Allen Joseph P. Lynch Jr. Jacques Thomas Jr.

Attest: Lori Batzek

For the Commission Christopher Allen

Joseph P. Lynch Jr.

Attest: Lori Batzek

Administrative Assista

6/1/22 The Somerville Times

6/1/22 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL COMMITTEE 8 BONAIR STREET SOMERVILLE, MA 02145 RFP# S2023-05

The School Committee of the City of Somerville invites sealed bids for:

A PROGRAM PARTNER FOR STEM OUT-OF-SCHOOL TIME CLASSES FOR STUDENTS IN PRE-K. PRIMARY AND SECONDARY GRADES

Each Proposal shall be submitted in two separate sealed envelopes clearly marked "Price Proposal for "Program Services for STEM Out-Of-School Time Classes" and a "Non-Price Proposal for "STEM Out-Of-School Time Classes" in accordance with the Request for Proposal and Contract Documents which may be obtained at the Finance Office (Room 321), Somerville School Department, 8 Bonair Street, Somerville, MA 02145 on or after Tuesday, May 24, 2022 Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

All Proposals shall be filed no later than 4:00 p.m. on <u>Wednesday, June</u> 15, 2022 at the Finance Office, Somerville School Department, 8 Bonair Street, Somerville, MA 02145. There will be a Proposal review including possible interviews with the finalists

Please contact Leah Arredondo (larredondo@k12.somerville.ma.us) or call 617-629-5218 to receive the proposal and register as a proposal

The School Committee of the City of Somerville reserves the right to reject any or all bids or any part or parts thereof, waive any minor in-formality in the Bid process and to award the Contract that is deemed to be in the best interests of the City of Somerville School Department.

> Francis Gorski Chief Financial Officer Somerville Public Schools

5/25/22, 6/1/22 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the **Somer**ville Licensing Commission on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:00PM, to be held by remote participation, on the Application of an All Forms 7 Day Restaurant – Assembly Row, a Common Victualler, an Entertainment by Devices and Performers-Indoors and Outdoors, a Sunday Hours and a Outdoor Private Patio License, for Civility Inc., d/b/a Civility Social House, 490 Foley St., Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk's Office.

> For the Commission Christopher Allen Joseph P. Lynch Jr. Jacques Thomas Jr.

Attest: Lori Batzek

6/1/22 The Somerville Times

Somerville Community Growing Center Spring Programs

The Somerville Community Growing Center invites you to enjoy meditation, learning about garden bugs, going on a pollinator safari, and much more this spring.

Learn more about these and other fun and creative spring programs at the Somerville Community Growing Center: https://drive.google.com/ file/d/1-SWkG5gcmpt8XLHbr7WYQr3MV1re-

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:00PM, to be held by remote participation, on the Application of an Entertainment by Performers – Indoors License, for Rincon Mexicano Inc., d/b/a Rincon Mexicano, 99 Broadway, Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk's Office.

> For the Commission Christopher Allen Joseph P. Lynch Jr. Jacques Thomas Jr.

Attest: Lori Batzek **Administrative Assistant**

6/1/22 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:00PM, to be held by remote participation, on the Application of a Common Victualler and Entertainment by Devices – Indoors License, for Joelito's LLC., d/b/a Gaya Pizzeria, 8 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk's Office.

> For the Commission Christopher Allen Joseph P. Lynch Jr. Jacques Thomas Jr.

Attest: Lori Batzek Administrative Assistant

6/1/22 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 6:00PM, to be held by remote participation, on the Application of an Alteration of Premises, an Entertainment by Devices-Outdoors, Entertainment by Performers-Indoors and Outdoors and a Termination of Management Agreement, for Bow Market Entertainment, LLC., d/b/a Bow Market, 30 Bow St., Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying at this public hearing go to the calendar at <u>www.somervillema.gov</u> or contact the City

> For the Commission Christopher Allen Joseph P. Lynch Jr. Jacques Thomas Jr.

Attest: Lori Batzek Administrative Assistant

6/1/22 The Somerville Times

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1. June 14

wrongly convicted through DNA testing

2. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14,

7 Three

8. Their nose print

9. Their paw pads

3. Quincy

10. Luminol

4. Robert G. Heft

11. Sheep

5. February 15, 1965

12. Amadeus

6. Exonerates the

To advertise in The Somerville Times call **Bobbie Toner: 857-488-5138**

Somerville's Memorial Day Ceremony

The City of Somerville held a ceremony of remembrance to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice while in service to our country. The ceremony took place on Monday at Veterans' Memorial Cemetery. Featured speakers included Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, City Council President Matthew McLaughlin, Director of Veterans' Services Ted Louis-Jacques, and several members of the local veterans community. Go to www.thesomervilletimes.com for more photos — Photos by Claudia Ferro





















Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



Why do golfers take an extra pair of socks with them golfing? In case they get a hole in one.

The "Original" All Types Vent Cleaning

Restaurant Hood Cleaning
Dryer Vent/ HVAC Cleaning

Power Washing

Licensed and Insured in Massachusetts

We travel all over Massachusetts

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857-488-5138

On This Day in History June 1

1533 – Anne Boleyn, Henry VIII's new queen, is crowned.

1774 - The British government orders the port of Boston closed.

1812 – American navy captain James Lawrence, mortally wounded in a naval engagement with the British, tells the crew of the Chesapeake, "Don't give up the ship!"

1862 – General Robert E. Lee assumes command of the Confederate army outside Richmond after General Joe Johnston is injured at Seven Pines.

1877 - U.S. troops are authorized to pursue bandits into Mexico.

1915 - Germany conducts the first zeppelin air raid over England.

1939 - The Douglas DC-4 makes its first passenger flight from Chicago to New York.

1958 – Charles de Gaulle becomes premier of France.

1963 – Governor George Wallace vows to defy an injunction ordering integration of the University of Alabama.

1978 - The U.S. reports finding wiretaps in the American embassy in Moscow.

SCAP shares the fruits of their work over the past year

By Luda Tang

Somerville Cares About Prevention (SCAP) held its 18th Annual Meeting virtually on May 26. Lovelee Heller-Botarri, the program director about SCAP, introduced the meeting as a celebration of the work they have done over the past year.

During the meeting, Matthew Mitchell, the Prevention Service Manager with the city of Somerville Health and Human Services Department, presented some of the achievements they accomplished over the past year, including four grants and several programs. Youths from Somerville Positive Forces (SPF) Jr. and 100 also shared their experiences and activities on substance abuse prevention.

The four grants included Mass-CALL3, Overdose Data to Action (OD2A), Massachusetts Tobacco Cessation Program (MTCP), and Office of the Attorney General's Cultural Humility. The first two grants were developed in cooperation with Institute for Community Health (ICH).

Researchers and evaluation project managers from ICH, Julia Curbera and Jeff Demarais, presented an impact address for what they, along with the city of Somerville, accomplished. The goal of MassCALL3 is to prevent the initiation of first substance misuse of youth. The team has already been collecting data and made an assessment based on racial equity to reach a diverse group of people.

It is also important because it makes our community a better and safer place to live in

During the process, they reached out to around 50 Somerville youth and adult caregivers. After the information had been gathered, Curbera said they are in the process of analyzing it and developing effective strategies based on this analysis to better

inform the public about prevention of substance misuse.

For the OD2A, its aims are to provide overdose prevention training to unhoused individuals. The team has reached 176 individuals since July 2020 to provide training on educating about the risk of overdose and helping them to know on how to respond to overdoses. They will also share the results with the community to get their feedback and adjust the training contents. The next step will be to increase outreach to the business community, which can give them more information about overdose prevention.

Among the programs, social media education and outreach also achieved some success in educating the community with substance misuse prevention content. The meeting provided a few numbers to demonstrate this. From July 2021 to June 2020, the @somervilleprevention Instagram account had 916 followers and created content interactions with more than 4,629, which effectively did the job of educating



community members while they were on their phones.

An important part of SCAP's program is Somerville Positive Forces (SPF) Jr. and 100. Youth from these two teams introduced their mission and vision and the activities they have done to support that.

They strive to reduce underage alcohol and drug use for youth in Somerville and address community issues related to underage drinking, drug use, and bullying. To do that, they developed numerous activities and events, like The 84 & Spark Share Summits on Racial Equity, Student Health Trivia & Community Conversation, and Mindfulness Practices and Training to reduce students'

anxieties and stress.

Through their work, they discovered that issues like anxiety and depression, bullying, alcohol use, and body issues are concerns to youths in the community. The results deserve the public's attention in order to launch some policies dealing with this. Leaders from SPFJR and SPF100 believe their work is important.

Havilah Nimako, one leader from SPFJR, shared her thoughts during the presentation, "This work is important to me because I want to tell people that doing drugs and smoking is bad and that it makes you sick. It is also important because it makes our community a better and safer place to live in."

Somerville's housing crisis: How we can achieve housing stability for our community CONT. FROM PG 6

education, employment, health, neighborhood community, and housing. They are the federally designated anti-poverty agency serving our community and provide excellent support, resources, and community organizing for tenants facing housing insecurity. I am proud to have worked with Senator Pat Jehlen to secure funding for CAAS both in the state's ARPA funds, as well as additional funding in the State House budget.

I am also proud to support and door to door canvass with the Greater Boston Tenants Union, who have been working hard to organize tenants including the LaCourt Tenants Union and Alpha Tenants Union. Through organizing, they have delivered tangible gains for fellow tenants who are facing horrific conditions. You can volunteer for GBTU here.

Combatting Displacement: Policy Tools

But we must go further to stabilize our community and make housing a right, not a commodity or investment vehicle. One of many tools we should be implementing is rent stabilization or rent control (they are both terms for an umbrella of policies with slightly different branding), which would prevent absurd rent hikes and provide more stability for renters from year to year.

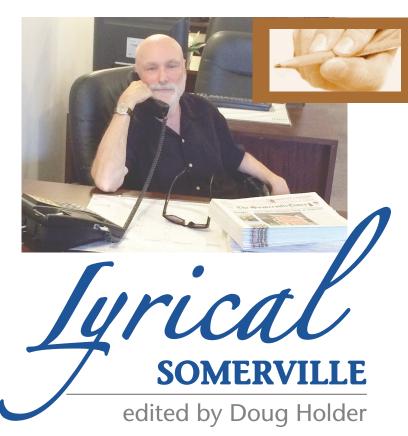
With every such policy Somerville has put forth, there has always been significant effort to protect residents who are part of building our vibrant community. We are united against corporate real estate lobbyists in the State House who are only interested in investing and profiting off of our basic human rights to housing. They have consistently tried to block any policy that touches their bottom line, whether it be inclusionary zoning with more affordable housing or net zero building codes for sustainable housing construction. We simply cannot cater to them anymore.

Beyond this, though, we must also level the playing field for tenants. That means ensuring the right to counsel and adequate legal protections for everyone who is facing an eviction. We must also increase supply and focus housing development — specifically affordable housing — near transit. As the GLX project brings the Green Line through the district, we should be ensuring that those who most need access to public transit have affordable housing options nearby. Finally, we must enact a Housing First model to end homelessness in Massachusetts.

And for those who are seeking to permanently reside in Somerville, we must implement policies necessary to level the playing field for first time homebuyers to be able to settle in our community. Too often, we hear of potential first-time homeowners turning to other cities for housing because it's impossible to compete with cash offers with no conditions from developers and corporate real estate investors. This is one of the many reasons why I am enthusiastically advocating for Somerville's transfer fee and Tenants Opportunity to Purchase (or TOPA).

At the end of the day, we must treat housing as a human right and not a financial investment vehicle. Without stable housing, people cannot begin to meet any other of their basic needs, including healthcare, education, or employment. Our community can thrive when people's basic needs are met.

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While living at the Shim Gwang Sa (Mind Light Temple) from 2005-2021, Zen Master Sebastian Rizzon had the unique experience of living with and learning directly from enlightened Zen Master Chang Sik Kim for over 16 years. Currently working as a visual artist and writer while finishing editing his upcom-



ing book, Into the Mind, a poetic exploration of the Zen practice. He is a Zen Sword and Martial Arts Master in the art of Shim Gum Do (Mind Sword Way) and Shin Boep (Body Dharma) and the founder of the Zen Art Center at the Joy Street Studios in Somerville, teaching students how to use meditation to find inspiration and enhance the art of life.

Dreams in the Sky

Prayer and Gratitude

The blue-eyed grass gaze into the sky imagining heaven above the clouds beyond the violent weather of the world in a galaxy of eternal peace: growing with the meadow to the rhythm of the seasons reaching out for love with one mind; meditating on the mantra of the sun, chanting in unison while praying for water. The gracious air listens gathering the strength of the clouds, wielding the power of thunder to rain with compassion as the teary-eyed grass bow in gratitude until the storm passes. At night the flowers sleep and the unfettered mist rises planting our dreams in the sky with the millions of stars, appearing in the darkness like shiny silver coins cast into a well, wishing to persuade the will of the universe. While the sparkling seeds illuminate the heavens with inspiration the eye's mind becomes a clear mirror in the emptiness,

— Zen Master Sebastian Rizzon

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reaching the full bloom of enlightenment

as a reflection blossoms in an explosion of beauty.

OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

'The Invisible Borders of Time'

The Invisible Borders of Time Edited by Nidia Hernández (Arrowsmith Press) \$24.

Review by Hecmely Ferreiras

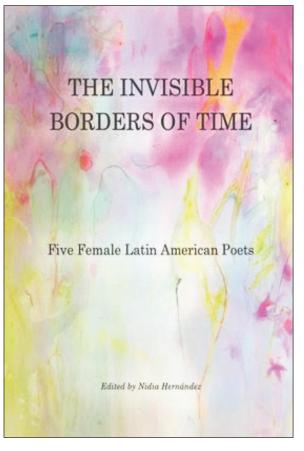
In an anthology of emotionally captivating poems, I was introduced to five female Latin American poets. These poets have carefully, yet effortlessly captured similar themes of motherhood, dreams, and quiet sadness. I enjoyed reading the Spanish versions of each poem and comparing how the English translations somehow miss out on a bit of the passion and intensity that the Spanish tongue offers. I chose two poems from each author to analyze and digest the depths of each line.

The first poet featured in this book is Cristina Peri Rossi. Peri Rossi is a Uruguayan poet whose romantic tone transports you into the scene of her words. As she said, "poetry is a perception, a state of mind." Her poems offer a journey to a state of mind that she sets up in each line. In an untitled poem, the speaker recounts an unrequited love in which their partner is no longer with them. The last few lines spoke to me; "Excuse me, the literature killed me, but you looked so much like it." This line brought a sense of reality as if the speaker was aware that their memories and desires are just words in a poem, and it killed them because those words reminded them of their lover.

The next poem by Cristina Peri Rossi was difficult for me to understand. It wasn't until the final line that I understood that the poem *Auto-da-fe* was leading to "I love you." The lines describe mostly negative things mixed with beauty like "with destroyed palaces whose magnificent ruin we admire." Peri Rossi sends the message that love is complex and lacks simplicity.

Piedad Bonnett is a Columbian poet that writes poems to express herself in that very moment. I agree with her that "there are things that only poetry can say." You can hear the sorrow in her poems along with her strength. I can only imagine that poetry must have been a comfortable source after Bonnett lost her son in 2013. The poem *Guarding* spoke to me in many ways. I interpreted it that the speaker has put a guard up to protect themselves, whether they realize it or not. The poem has a sad but also a hopeful tone. The speaker realizes that they have put up a wall and is aware that they are sad, but still remain fierce.

The next poem I looked at by Piedad Bonnett is called *Kitchen*. The poem was dedicated to Maria Victoria. The poem centers on two mothers who talk "as if there were children asleep upstairs" but in reality, there was no one. It seems as if the two mothers were reminiscing about a time when kids were running around and playing music. The two mothers



comfort each other with their losses. This poem in particular reminds me of the mothers with angels in my life. I recall a time when my family was gathered for Christmas and each woman in the room shared a story of the child they lost. Similar to Bonnett's poem, their loss provided "a bridge that united them, their hands holding on to the emptiness."

Yolanda Pantin is a distinguished poet of Venezuela. Her dreamy poems offer an escape from reality and into the descriptive scenery Pantin displays. The poem Déjà vu speaks about a dream in which the speaker was writing in a notebook. The speaker asks, "what were you for me, then, poetry?" In the dream, the speaker was a horse searching for the answers and found them in a notebook that said: "a, e, i,." The last line reminded me of elementary Spanish class where I would recite the vowels "a, e, i, o, u." At first glance, the reader may think, how are three letters the answer they've been looking for? It is because poetry is like vowels. You cannot live without it or speak without it. It flows naturally and there is no way to force a sentence without vowels. It made sense to me that poetry is like life support as vowels are to a complete sentence.

The poem *Guerrero* is a short poem about the soul of a house. The English version of this poem confused me because at first, but after reading it in Spanish I interpret it as the soul of the house is protected and protective of others. This poem reminds me of the comfort of an ancient house.

Carmen Boullosa is a Mexican author and poet. When reading her poems, I noticed the amount of description that delicately puzzles Continued on page 15

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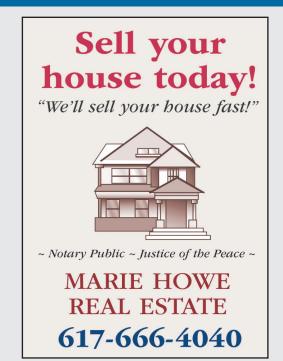
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Off The Shelf CONT. FROM PG 14

together into an image in your mind. In an untitled poem, Boullosa described the night as an "unmoved, peaceful skein of sound, large impenetrable serenity." The soft tone sets a calming mood that is homey and comfortable. In the last line, the speaker says that the night covers them "in the presence of clarity without borders."

As someone who loves her country, I can only imagine that Boullosa writes about the Mexican night sky that is tranquil and silent. It reminds me of the nights in the Dominican Republic that are so rich in stars, incomparable to the smog-filled city in America that is always alive in the nighttime. This poem gave me sweet nostalgia and for a brief moment, I was in the presence of the unmoved night. When I first read the poem, *Vein*, I instantly had the thought that it was alluding to the destruction of the earth. The "wound, incision, cut" to me relates to all the times we have hurt the earth. The last line sets a negative tone with the words "viscous, rotten, permanent, poi-

soned" to describe the open wound. It may not allude to the tarnished earth, but it resonated with the impeding planet we remain on and continue to harm.

Rossella Di Paolo is a Peruvian poet and teacher. I agree with Di Paolo when she states that "poetry gives shape (language and music) to the chaos that we all are and because of that we feel less perplexed, less alone." The poem Fifteen Hundred includes descriptive words of a goat climbing uphill. My favorite line is "a thorny sun that scratches my eyes. Like a lightning bolt of dust, I grow." The impressive play on words brings me a sense of joy. The last poem I looked at is called leave if you can II. This poem personifies poetry in a way that I can relate to. There are times when you are in love with poetry but other times when you want to remove yourself from the endless thoughts, lines, and rhymes cluttering your head. I love the line "I surrender always because I live in the house of poetry." Poetry is always something I come back to. It is

always in my head when I feel intense emotions or when I tune into the lyrical genius of my favorite rappers. Poetry is a fantasy and an inescapable reality. It can be overwhelming at times, but I am always drawn to it.

Ultimately these poems have shown me that poetry comes in all shapes, sizes, and lengths. The featured poets in this book have reminded me of myself, my culture, and my connection to poetry. I am glad I am not the only one that thinks of poetry as a companion that we can confide in to express our emotions or just lay out our thoughts.



Hecmely Ferreiras is an undergraduate writer at Endicott College

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