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New energy codes for Somerville

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Community members advocate for budget that reflects city's most urgent needs



The urgent reconstruction of the Winter Hill Community Innovation School was the top concern mentioned at the Budget Public Hearing on June 5. — Photo by Maile Blume

By Maile Blume

Somerville residents highlighted three main concerns this budget season: the urgent reconstruction of Winter Hill Community Innovation School, affordable housing, and an alternative emergency response for community members experiencing mental health crises.

A majority of the speakers at the Budget Public Hearing on June 5 were parents or educators, who raised concerns about the urgent need for Winter Hill Community Innovation School to be reconstructed to provide a safe learning environment for students who are currently displaced due to concrete falling in the building on June 2.

Winter Hill Community Innovation School Educator Kristin Stier said, "By allowing

Continued on page 4

Davis Square Farmers Market back for another season

By Beatriz Leite

The Annual Davis Square Farmers Market is officially active. Every Wednesday until November 22, the population of Somerville will have the opportunity to meet local vendors and sample the variety of products they offer. The market happens at 44 Day Street, from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.

The Davis Square Farmers Market is managed by Mass Farmers Markets, a non-profit organization that works to enhance farmers markets and support locally grown food for over forty years. The organization manages markets in Boston and Cambridge, such as the Copley Market and the Central Square Market.

The market managers, Sam

Continued on page 4



The Davis Square Farmers Market will be offering locally grown food every Wednesday through November 22. — Photos by Beatriz Leite

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Want to know what cuts are being made to Somerville’s budget? Tune in **tonight** at 6:00 p.m. for the **FY24 Budget Hearing: Cut Night** and then tune in **Thursday night** at 6:00 p.m. for the **FY24 Budget Final Vote and Year-End Transfers**. You can view both meetings live and find meeting materials at the following link: <https://somervillema.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Enjoy **free outdoor movies, popcorn, candy, and fun** at **The Block at Boynton Yards**, all summer long. **Friday Flicks Outdoor Movie Nights at Boynton Yards** will start at 7:00 p.m. with yard games and fun, followed by candy, popcorn, and movies once the sun sets. Bring a blanket and get ready for a fun-filled evening. **June 23: Guardians of the Galaxy**, **July 14: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles**, **August 11: Raiders of the Lost Ark** and **September 15: The Little Mermaid** (1995 version). Boynton Yards, 110 South Street.

Celebrating their birthdays this week: We wish a very happy birthday to a great person and longtime resident of Somerville, **Paula LeBlanc**. We wish her the very best. Happy birthday to a good guy, **Jonathan Buck**, who celebrates this week. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Gail Chambers, Chris Marshall, Kathi Mullins, Terra Yan, Kenneth Lonergan, Marie Kearns Hugo A Volpe, John O'Rourke, Mark Anthony Anderson** and **Diane Dee-Dee Smith** a happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we *Continued on page 7*

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of June 21 – June 27 as provided by the National Weather Service

| DAY | CONDITIONS | HIGH/LOW | PRECIPITATION | HUMIDITY | WIND |
|------------------------------------|---------------|----------|---------------|----------|------------|
| Wednesday <i>June 21</i> | Partly Cloudy | 70°/56° | 7% | 3% | E 10 mph |
| Thursday <i>June 22</i> | Partly Cloudy | 75°/60° | 19% | 12% | SE 9 mph |
| Friday <i>June 23</i> | Cloudy | 81°/68° | 23% | 16% | S 11 mph |
| Saturday <i>June 24</i> | Thunderstorms | 82°/69° | 35% | 19% | SW 12 mph |
| Sunday <i>June 25</i> | Thunderstorms | 77°/63° | 56% | 44% | SE 11 mph |
| Monday <i>June 26</i> | Thunderstorms | 72°/63° | 55% | 41% | NE 13 mph |
| Tuesday <i>June 27</i> | Thunderstorms | 73°/64° | 54% | 39% | ESE 11 mph |

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

The Somerville Times

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The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday
A proud member of the following newspaper organizations:



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TheSomervilleTimes.com
Comments of the Week

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

Tim K. says:

Thank God a child or teacher wasn’t on the stairwell, they could have been seriously injured— or worse. Still waiting for less talk and more action from this administration.

Response to: Lyrical Somerville – June 14

Bridget Seley Galway says:
Wonderful poem of human layers

Response to: Public Hearing on further development near
Encore Boston Harbor

slaw says:
They should really be required to build the bridge to assembly before building a bridge to a parking lot. The former enables transit access and car free regional connections far beyond the casino while the latter surrenders Broadway as a pedestrian free area and encourages more people to drive.

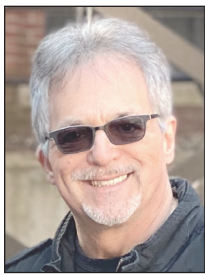
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Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

Roll out the (root beer) barrel



(Originally published on August 16, 2014)

I don't know about everyone, but a lot of people, including myself, have artifacts or mementos from a place they once worked in or frequented. I have a book of matches from BoBo's Chinese Restaurant that used to be in Ball Square. When WR Grace (Dewey and Almy) on Alewife Brook Parkway tore down the buildings that housed the boiler room that my dad worked in for 38 years, he kept two of his favorite steam gauges. Those really neat looking gauges are still in my cellar.

I have a plastic hatchback from the Jumbo Lounge formerly in Teele Square. Two of the original booths from The Coronet restaurant and lounge (last week's story) were on the front porch of the house across the street for over 25 years. They finally succumbed to weather and old age.

Here are some other items friends told me they have: A beer mug from The Blarney Stone Pub that was beneath The Woodbridge Hotel. The booking calendar from Jasper's Music Club (which went on to become Choices). I certainly do not advocate thievery in any way shape or form, but a fellow I know has had a pair of bowling shoes and a bowling bowl from an alley in the Ville for the past 37 years. A young lady I know has a neon Budweiser sign from Deco's Lounge that used to be in Ball Square (it was given to her by the owners when it closed). I saw a photo of a shoehorn with the Zayre Department Store logo on it. A wise guy pal of mine says one of the souvenirs from the places he hung around in Davis Square was his beer belly.

Let's go back to the 60's when my friends' family owned The Coronet, which is now Redbones. My pal Danny (Dapper Dan Kallis) worked at the bar and everyday he would go over to WT Grants five and dime, also in Davis Square, to get himself a frosty mug of Hires Root Beer

for 15 cents. (Hires had a plant right here in Somerville for years.) The huge barrel standing about four feet high, full of delicious root beer sat on the counter hooked up to a compressor to run the two taps. It was a refreshing tradition that my friend looked forward to everyday.

When Grant's was about to close its doors for good, it seems the manager of Grants had accumulated a bar tab at The Coronet of about twenty-five bucks. Danny made a deal with the manager to take the root beer barrel in exchange for the bar tab. That huge root beer barrel has been in Dan's house all these years. He says he is going to get it working again someday, but even if he doesn't, it's a pretty cool thing to have anyway.

It's great to have things that remind of us of days gone by. They are kind of like a song that we hear that takes us back to a certain era in our lives. It's funny how you can merely glance at one of these old items and immediately feel warm inside.

There's really not too much of the old Davis Square left, aside from Johnny D's



and The Rosebud but one thing that's still there that brings me back is the big old clock that's just past Mikes Restaurant. If you want one more visual blast from the past, go check out the sign above Crowley's Liquors in Ball Square. It will probably make you want a delicious Todi's sub to go along with a nice frosty Hires root beer!



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Community members advocate for budget that reflects city's most urgent needs

CONT. FROM PG 1

allowing the status quo we are inevitably telling our students that safety and their right to an education are not valued, and our highest needs students who don't have a choice to go to other buildings that this is what they deserve. We constantly ask our students to meet our high expectations and it's time that the adults in their lives meet theirs."

Director of Community Organizing at Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS) Nicole Eigbrett also joined community members in urging the mayor and members of City Council to make affordable housing a top budget priority. CAAS is an organization whose mission is to help "local families and individuals achieve financial security while working to eliminate the root causes of economic injustice."

Eigbrett said, "The lack of affordable housing is the top barrier faced by the tens of thousands of low-income residents who live in Somerville, and this past year between January and May, our agency distributed more than \$691,000 of direct assistance for housing and utilities, averaging more than \$115,000 per month, which makes sure 91 house-

holds can remain living in the city. Despite this aid, CAAS still has a waitlist of 89 households each month, and the Somerville Homeless Coalition has a waitlist of nearly 100 households."

In the mayor's current proposed budget for fiscal year 2024, \$1,413,992 has been allocated to maintaining housing stability for Somerville residents, while \$12,537,633 has been allocated to maintaining city buildings, including schools. In comparison, Somerville's Police Department has been allocated \$17,742,882.

The City Council had included the reallocation of funds towards an alternative emergency response that is unarmed and separate from the Police Department in its budget recommendation to the mayor last year. However, funding for an alternative emergency response was not included in the mayor's proposed budget for fiscal year 2024.

During the most recent budget hearing on June 15 for Fire, Fire Alarm, Emergency Management, Police, Animal Control, and E-911, the Police Department gave a presentation about their plans for the use of their funds, including adding two new clini-

cians to the Community Outreach, Help, and Recovery group (COHR).

The COHR group was created within the Police Department to respond to behavioral health calls, despite the recommendation by the City Council that the city develop an alternative emergency response outside of the Police Department.

Chief of Police Charles Femino addressed the City Council saying "I'd like you to keep in mind when you deliberate your vote on cut night, whether to accept this budget or not, the rising crime trends that we're seeing in the city over the past two years, as well as the continued growth in the city. These factors, when you think about them, will increase the city's transient and residential population and in turn increase demand on police services."

Members of Defund Somerville Police Department, a local group whose mission is "to build collective power around a vision of abolition, and harness that power to defund and ultimately abolish police and prisons," were also in attendance at the June 15 hearing.

In an interview, Defund



The Somerville City Council will vote on cuts to the proposed budget for fiscal year 2024 this evening, Thursday, June 21.
— Photo by Bobbie Toner

Somerville Police Department member Meg Di Maggio said, "I think a lot of times folks always think about defund in terms of taking money away. But it's not just about defunding. It's also about refunding, and where can that money go instead? Where are there areas of need in our city and folks that could really use that help and assistance?"

Kevin Foster, another member of Defund Somerville Police Department added to the topic of an alternative emergency response, "I think every day there's a risk of someone being seriously

injured or killed by the police because of a 911 call, even if it's well intentioned. And to me that is unacceptable and it's only a matter of time. And so, I really think having these systems in place really helps limit those possibilities from happening."

The City Council will vote on cuts to the proposed 2024 budget on Wednesday, June 21, at 7:30 p.m. The final vote on the budget will take place the following night, Thursday, June 22. The link to the Zoom meeting is posted on the City of Somerville legislative calendar website.

Davis Square Farmers Market back for another season

CONT. FROM PG 1

Sanpietro and PJ Daniels highlight how amazing it is to be part of the Davis Square community, always partnering up with local businesses to benefit the customers and the shops.

"It is at the heart of Davis Square, and we created a loyalty card for the customers to benefit from the local business around," Daniels said.

This event opens an opportunity for local businesses to thrive and prosper, with new customers looking for organic, natural, and fresh produce and innovative ideas brought to the city by the vendors.

Ellen Clark, from Sherman & Cherie's Beezy Bees, emphasizes how important it is to support local businesses, not only for the sake of the economy but for

quality and health. "If you want honey, get it from your local beekeeper in a 100-mile radius. That is pure honey," Clark explained, mentioning how industrialized honey is not pure.

"It is at the heart of Davis Square..."

In the Davis Square Farmers Market, shoppers can find produce, baked goods, beverages, and various other specialties. Along with live music every week. Not all vendors are at the market every week. Some will be present biweekly, others monthly,

and others later in the season. On the market website, interested customers can check the vendor's availability and their HIP-approved, and SNAP Match-approved status.

Lee Picard, the only employee at the Table Farm, from Hardwick, showed the four types of cheeses produced in the founders' farm with raw cow milk. Leah Beckett from Herd Supply Co. presented her sheep-made products, from body lotion to wool, highlighting the importance of locally sourced products.

SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) shoppers are valued in the Davis Square Farmers Market. The market offers a dollar-for-dollar SNAP match of up to \$15 per market. SNAP users can



earn additional benefits through the healthy incentives program (HIP) at the market. By spending \$40-\$80 per month (depending on household size) on fruits and vegetables at participating vendors the money will be put

back into their EBT card.

This annual market continues to serve as an economic opportunity for all Greater Boston and Massachusetts vendors and allows more community connection in Davis Square, Somerville.

Somerville Kiwanis Club Bike Safety Day distributes bike helmets to children

On Sunday, June 11, members of the Kiwanis Club of Somerville participated in the East Somerville Main Streets, Carnival celebration.

Nine Somerville Kiwanis members assisted by another six family and friends distributed nearly 250 bicycle helmets to children at the event.

The helmets were donated by the law firm of Breakstone, White and Gluck as part of Project Kid Safe, an initiative that was begun by them in 2013. Since the start of Project Kid Safe, they have donated more than 30,000 helmets to various organizations, including the Kiwanis Club of Somerville.

Club members not only distributed the helmets, but with some assistance from a local bicycle riding expert, the helmets were properly fitted and adjusted to many of the children.

Past President David Blumsack has been the chairman of the Bicycle Safety Day program for more than ten years and this has been one of our most successful community events each year. Other members participating included Immediate Past President Mernaysa Rivera-Bujosa, Distinguished Past President Susan Callahan, Distinguished Past Secretary Bob Nissenbaum, President-elect Dawn Austin, members Eugene Brune, Tom Austin, Adam Portney, Steve Catizone and Steve Coughlin.

Special thanks to Jan Marie of Cyclepolitan for training our members to properly fit and adjust each helmet. Also, thank you to the other family members who volunteered to assist this event.

For more information about the Kiwanis Club of Somerville, or to become a member, please visit our website, www.somervillekiwanis.org or like us on Facebook, Kiwanis Club of Somerville.



SAVE THE DATE!

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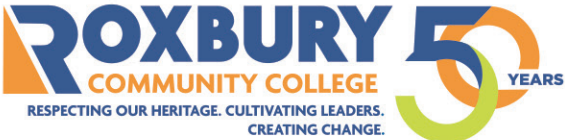
Events Held Across The RCC Campus!

This two-day forum gives our community an opportunity to heal, prioritize wellness, and get moving! Featuring panel discussions, town hall forums, athletic events, and more, friends and supporters of all ages are invited to attend.

More details coming soon – including the full schedule for the Day of Play on September 30, from 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm.



Visit and bookmark
www.rcc.mass.edu/hwh
to learn more.



Beacon Hill Roll Call



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Beacon Hill Roll Call can also be viewed on our website at www.thesomervilletimes.com

THE HOUSE AND SENATE. *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records local senators’ votes on roll calls from the week of June 12-16. There were no roll calls in the House last week.

SENATE APPROVES \$590 MILLION TAX REDUCTION PACKAGE (S 2397)

Senate 39-0, approved a package that provides \$590 million in tax relief. The House has already approved its own tax reduction package and a House-Senate conference committee will hammer out a compromise version.

Key provisions of the Senate package include raising the Earned Income Tax Credit from 30 percent of the federal credit to 40 percent of the federal credit; raising the cap on the rental deduction from \$3,000 to \$4,000; increasing from \$1 million to \$2 million the value of a person’s estate that is exempt from the the state’s estate/death tax that a person is required to pay following their death before distribution to any beneficiary; increasing from \$1,200 to \$2,400 the maximum senior circuit breaker credit; increasing the statewide cap for the Dairy Tax credit from \$6 million to \$8 million; and doubling the credit for lead paint abatement to \$3,000 for full abatement and \$1,000 for partial abatement.

The package also provides that student loan payment assistance offered by employers will not be treated as a taxable salary and gives cities and towns the option to adopt a local property tax exemption for real estate that is rented to a person below a certain area-dependent income level.

“As I have said from the outset, tax relief should go to the workers, families and elderly residents of the commonwealth who need it most,” said Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland). “Massachusetts doesn’t need just any tax relief, we need permanent, progressive, smart and sustainable tax relief. Too many families have been caught between the rising costs of healthcare, housing, education and basic goods.”

“Consistent with the views of the Senate membership, our Senate tax package is forward-looking, fiscally sustainable, comprehensive and progressive,” said Sen. Mike Rodrigues (D-Westport), chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee. “It puts money back into the pockets of our residents, providing permanent tax cuts for low-income workers, families, renters, seniors and persons with disabilities, while focusing on the largest issue that is undercutting our commonwealth’s overall competitiveness – which is the affordability and availability of housing.”

“Working families aren’t leaving the commonwealth because of taxes on day-traders,” said Sen. Susan Moran (D-Falmouth), Senate chair of the Committee on Revenue. “They are leaving because they can’t find housing they

can afford. This package aimed at growing housing will also grow our workforce and the commonwealth’s competitiveness.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the \$590 million tax reduction package.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

25 PERCENT MUST BE AFFORDABLE HOUSING (S 2397)

Senate 9-30, rejected an amendment to a section of the bill that funds the Housing Development Incentive Program (HDIP). The amendment would require that HDIP projects must make 25 percent of their units affordable.

HDIP, according to its state website, “provides Gateway Cities with a tool to develop market rate housing while increasing residential growth, expanding diversity of housing stock, supporting economic development and promoting neighborhood stabilization in designated areas.”

“This amendment ensures that HDIP leads to construction of units for everyone,” said amendment sponsor Sen. Jamie Eldridge (D-Acton). “It ensures that HDIP is not exclusively used for high-rent luxury apartments. And this is not a theoretical concern. An excellent report from the Massachusetts Law Reform Institute explains that [while] HDIP is titled a market rate credit, the rents usually exceed prevailing rents and prices, some by 50 percent to 70 percent with no limit on future increases. Rents in many HDIP subsidized developments are excessively high cost as described in current apartment advertisements.”

“The HDIP program is the primary tool for Gateway Cities to expand housing stock, revitalize downtowns and attract and retain a middle class in cities where low rents do not support new housing development projects,” said Sen. John Cronin (D-Fitchburg) who opposed the amendment. “While affordability requirements may work in some communities, forcing a one-size-fits-all requirement on others will diminish the program’s utility by disincentivizing development—completely contrary to the objective of the program. The Senate got this vote right.”

(A “Yes” vote is for the amendment requiring that 25 percent of the units be affordable. A “No” vote is against the amendment.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

FILE TAXES JOINTLY (S 2387)

Senate 33-5, approved an amendment that would require Massachusetts couples who file income tax returns jointly at the federal level do the same at the state level.

Supporters said this amendment will close a loophole

that allows some married couples to file individually – an action that could be used to minimize or avoid the person’s state tax obligations under the newly approved 4 percent surtax which is in addition to the current flat 5 percent one, on taxpayers’ earnings of more than \$1 million annually.

Opponents said if filers are forced to file jointly at the state level, the 4 percent surtax will apply to many more filers which is not what the voters approved on the November 2022 ballot question imposing the 4 percent surtax.

(A “Yes” vote is for the amendment requiring joint filing. A “No” vote is against the amendment.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

REDUCE SHORT TERM CAPITAL GAINS TAX (S 2397)

Senate 5-32, rejected an amendment that would reduce the short-term capital gains tax from 12 percent to 5 percent.

Amendment supporters said that there are 26 states that currently tax short-term capital gains at a rate of 5 percent or lower, including all of our surrounding states. They noted that both the House and the governor favor the reduction. They asked why the capital gains tax or any tax imposed should be charged at a higher rate than earned income.

Sen. Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester), the sponsor of the amendment, did not respond to repeated requests by *Beacon Hill Roll Call* asking him to comment on his amendment.

Amendment opponents said the state cannot afford the \$117 million loss in revenue that this tax cut would cost this year. They argued the cut would do nothing to help the costs of housing and living.

Senate Ways and Means Chair Sen. Mike Rodrigues (D-Westport) did not respond to repeated requests by *Beacon Hill Roll Call* asking him to comment on his opposition to the amendment.

(A “Yes” vote is for the reduction to 5 percent. A “No” vote is against the reduction.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

INCREASE ESTATE/DEATH TAX EXEMPTION (S 2397)

Senate 5-33, rejected an amendment that would increase from \$1 million to \$5 million the amount of money that is exempt from the value of a person’s

Continued on page X

COMMENTARY

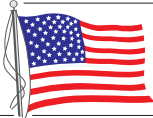
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Summer's here at last - everyone enjoy!

Our View Of The Times



The summer solstice has arrived, and with it the official start of summer.

What is more delicious to the young mind than that savory and unrivaled treat, summer vacation? 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 present younger generation who will be making its 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. Simple day-to-day family activities are valuable, too, in making vacation time a rich and 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 most of it.

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 later.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

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

A big congratulations to lifelong resident of Somerville, **John Baino**, nephew of former Mayor **Gene Brune**, who is being inducted into the **American Football Association Hall of Fame** in Ohio on **Friday, June 23**.

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

Square (Somerville) takes place **June 17 – June 24**.

Join **Mayor Katjana Ballantyne** and the **Somerville Arts Council** for the **Anniversary of 4th of July Fireworks** with live entertainment at **Trum Field** on **Thursday, June 29**, rain date Friday, June 30. Festivities begin at 6:00 p.m., with tunes by **DJ Philip Tan**. Come sing along and dance with live music performance by local funk band, **Midnight Motion**. There will be food vendors like **Nibble Kitchen**, **Italian Wizard** and can't forget the **fried dough**! Mayor Ballantyne will countdown the beginning of the fire-

works at approximately at 9:15 p.m. To ensure public safety and pedestrian access to events, traffic and parking restrictions will be in place, please visit the website for details: <https://somervilleartscouncil.org/fireworks>.

The **Somerville Toy Camera Festival** seeks entries for its **10th annual celebration** of toy camera and lo-fi photography. Images of any subject matter, made with a "toy" camera – any low-tech camera with no or very limited exposure control, such as pinhole, Holga, Diana/Diana clones, Brownie, Ansco, disposable cameras – are eligible. The key

Continued on page 23

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#878

1. Who wrote *Flowers in the Attic*?

2. Who threw baseball's last legal spit-ball?

3. What candy bar is named after a famous baseball player?

4. What singer is nicknamed "The Chairman of the Board"?

5. Which musical group became famous with the 1985 hit song *Take On Me*?

6. Which U.S. president appeared on the cover of *Cosmopolitan*?
7. Jacob Black is a character in what Stephenie Meyer book series?

8. What state is known as the "Badger State"?

9. Which month of the year is National Ice Cream Month?

10. What song did Paul McCartney write for John Lennon's son, Julian?

11. Who is Barbie's little sister?

12. How many legs does a lobster have?
- Answers on page 10

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. There are 336 dimples on a regulation golf ball.
2. Al Capone's business card said he was a used furniture dealer.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
INDEPENDENCE DAY

- ACROSS
1. Kind of illusion

6. Perched

9. Island near Java

13. Old West pack animal

14. False statement

15. Opposite of atonal

16. Hailing from the East

17. Supply with weapons

18. "___ death do us part"

19. Frank

21. Popular celebratory get-together

23. Many, many years

24. Scott Hamilton's "court"

25. Gross National Product

28. Abundant

30. Bantoid language

35. Bakery unit

37. Cutlass maker

39. Two in eighteen

40. Milk's favorite cookie

41. Muslim ruler honorific

43. Hyperbolic sine

44. Iranian money, pl.

46. Nancy Sinatra's boots

47. Fill to satisfaction

48. Certain Doodle

50. Argo's propellers

52. Feather glue

53. Give temporarily

55. Porridge grain

57. Roman firework

60. "The Star-Spangled Banner"

63. Opposite of neo-

64. Glass margin

66. Continental money, pl.

68. Opposite of #17 Across

69. Go for the gold

70. "Silas Marner" author

71. Mexican money

72. Not yang

73. Down and out
- DOWN
1. ___ constrictor, anagram

2. Word on a door

3. Duet plus one

4. Angry

CROSSWORD

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 68 | | | | | | 69 | | | | 70 | | | |
| 71 | | | | | | 72 | | | | 73 | | | |

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Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

5. Large California bird

6. Smelting waste

7. Stuff of inflation

8. Adagio and allegro, e.g.

9. German city on Rhine river

10. Con

11. Not of the cloth

12. Down with a bug

15. ___ someone ___ bed

20. Satirical publication, with The

22. Calligrapher's purchase

24. "From the ___ forest to the Gulf Stream waters"

25. Old ___

26. Waterwheel

27. Hymn of praise

29. Popular decoration

31. "Rockin' in the USA" band

32. Certain church member

33. Yiddish busybody
34. Theater guide

36. Kind of rock

38. Heroic tale

42. B on Mendeleev's table

45. "Where ___ is heard a discouraging word..."

49. Sushi restaurant staple

51. Shiny cotton

54. High-strung

56. Car rack manufacturer

57. Charlie Chaplin's prop

58. "Oh, my!"

59. Agrippina's slayer

60. "I'll second that"

61. Great Lake

62. State of mind

63. One in a litter

65. King George ___

67. Farm structure"
- Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Next Wave graduation

The Next Wave Jr. High School Class of 2022-2023 graduation ceremony took place at SHS Highlander Forum on Wednesday, June 14. Nine students received their diplomas while proud friends and family members witnessed and took part in the celebration. — Photos by Claudia Ferro



Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



Cod Puttanesca

This is a quick and easy dish whether for a weeknight meal, or a nice meal to serve dinner guests. The traditional recipe was invented in Naples, Italy, possibly around the mid 20th century, but possibly earlier. The story told to me was, the women of the evening made this dish between clients because it was quick to prepare. And that it is!

- 2 Tablespoons Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- 2 Anchovies or 1-1/2 Teaspoons Anchovy Paste
- 1/4 - 1/2 Teaspoon red Pepper Flakes

- 2 Garlic Cloves, Sliced
- 1-28oz Can Diced Tomatoes
- 3 Tablespoons Capers, Drained
- 1/2 Cup Sliced Kalamata Olives
- 1-12oz Jar Artichoke Hearts, Drained and Halved
- 2 Tablespoons Fresh Parsley, Garnish
- 4 - 6-8oz Cod Fillets

12 oz Spaghetti, Linguine, Or Bucatini

Preheat oven to 400°. Bring a 6-quart pot of water to a boil. In a 12"-14" skillet, add olive oil, anchovies, garlic, and red pepper flakes, depending on how spicy you like it, anywhere from 1/4

to 1/2 teaspoon. Sauté for 3 minutes, add the tomatoes, capers, olives, and artichoke hearts to the skillet. Bring up to a simmer. Taste the sauce and adjust seasoning if needed. Season the fillets with salt and pepper. Nestle the fillets into the skillet, and place in the preheated oven. Bake for 12 minutes. Cook the pasta according to the package. Once the pasta is drained, take a scoop of sauce and toss the pasta. Divide onto 4 plates. Add the fish fillet and smother in the remaining sauce. Add some fresh parsley for garnish, optional. Serve with a side salad and crusty bread.



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

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

LEGAL NOTICES

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

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

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

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

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

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

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

TERMS OF SALE:

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

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

6/7/23, 6/14/23, 6/21/23 The Somerville Times

Legal Notices can be downloaded from our website: www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

TO PLACE LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE SOMERVILLE TIMES, CONTACT US BY 12 PM MONDAY PHONE: 857-488-5138

LEGAL NOTICE - Vehicle Sale 07/08/2023

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

| Car information | VIN# | Last registered owner | Address |
|---|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2003 Mercedes M-Class | 4JGAB54E73A379915 | Nick McKenna | 301 Ashmont St. Dorchester, MA 02124 |
| Date of Sale 07/08/2023. A 5-day notice to the Waltham Police Department Chief will be provided before sale. Location: Pro Tech Towing, 205 Willow St. Waltham, MA, Phone: 781-894-5058 | | | |
| 6/14/23, 6/21/23 The Somerville Times | | | |



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT
IFB #23-76

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

Fire Hydrants and Related Parts

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at www.bidexpress.com, <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after 06/15/2023. Sealed bids will be received at above office until: 07/10/2023 12:00PM EST. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves 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.

Please contact PCS Department at acaruth@somervillema.gov for more information.

Andrea Caruth
Deputy Chief Procurement Officer
617-625-6600 x3400

6/21/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT
IFB #23-77

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

Water Main Pipe Fittings

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at www.bidexpress.com, <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after 06/15/2023. Sealed bids will be received at above office until: 07/11/2023 1:00PM EST. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves 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.

Please contact PCS Department at acaruth@somervillema.gov for more information.

Andrea Caruth
Deputy Chief Procurement Officer
617-625-6600 x3400

6/21/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP# 23-57

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement & Contract Services Department invites proposals for:

Drupal 9/10 Website Managed Hosting and Development Consultation

The RFP package may be obtained online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement> or from the City of Somerville's BidExpress page at <http://www.somervillema.gov/BidExpress> on or after: Wednesday, June 21st, 2023. Sealed responses will be received at the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via Bid Express until: 2:00 pm, Wednesday, July 12th, 2023.

The City of Somerville reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive any minor informality in the RFP process, and accept the proposal(s) deemed to be in the best interests of the City of Somerville.

Please email tcukhatsang@somervillema.gov for more information.

Thupten Chukhatsang
Senior Procurement Manager
617-625-6600 x3400

6/21/23 The Somerville Times

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Prime Storage - Somerville located at 39R Medford St., Somerville, MA 02143 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storagetreasures.com on 7/12/2023 at 12:00PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Matthew Richey unit #0311; Jose Vega unit #0621. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

6/21/23 The Somerville Times

Ms. Cam's
Olio
Answers

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. V.C. Andrews | 7. Twilight |
| 2. Hall of Famer Burleigh Grimes in 1934 | 8. Wisconsin |
| 3. Baby Ruth | 9. July |
| 4. Frank Sinatra | 10. Hey Jude |
| 5. a-ha | 11. Skipper |
| 6. Gerald Ford | 12. 10 |

Information session held on new Somerville specialized energy codes

By Ana Celerier Salcedo

The Office of Sustainability, Environmental, and Inspectional Services Department of Somerville held an informational meeting for the public regarding the new energy codes. The specialized energy code was recently adopted by the city with the goal of putting in motion a building energy code that would impact energy efficiency and onsite renewable energy requirements for residential and commercial building projects, including new construction, alterations, and renovations.

The purpose of the meeting was for members of the public to learn how the updated code may impact their residential property before it goes into effect on July 1, 2023. Emily Sullivan, the city of Somerville climate change program manager for The Office of Sustainability, Environmental, and inspectional services, attended the meeting. Sullivan was joined by her colleagues Elise Belarge, sustainability planner, and Nick Antanavica, director of inspectional services.

Participants were provided with some key vocabulary to better understand some subjects touched upon during the discussion. The first is HERS, also known as Home Energy Rating System, which goes from 0-100. The closer to 0 the rating is, the more energy efficient the property is.

A mixed-fuel home was defined as any building with any kind of combustion equipment designed for fossil fuel use. Whereas a Net-Zero building was defined as a building that consistently achieves

zero emissions through all electrical appliances or a building that is absent of the use of energy derived from fossil fuels.

According to Sullivan and her team's presentation, some exemptions from the specialized energy code are historic buildings and residential additions of less than 1,000 square feet. Some of the buildings that would be impacted by the new energy code were described as mainly multifamily homes and new 1-2-unit homes

Sullivan described one of the benefits of the code as being that it would support the citywide goal towards net zero emissions and all-electric buildings by 2050 in Somerville. The meeting allowed some time for frequently asked questions as well as inquiries from the public such as when a HERS rating would be required for an addition to a building. The presenter's response is that a HERS rating is required in situations when the total added conditioned floor area is greater than 1,000 square feet or exceeds 100% of the existing dwelling unit. Conditioned floor area was defined by Antanavica as any area where a heated and/ or air-conditioned space was present.

Furthermore, if multiple additions are made to the same dwelling unit, and each is under 1,000 square feet but adds up to over 1,000 square feet, a HERS rating was deemed required. Solar readiness was also required for additions larger than 1,000 square feet. Sullivan provided an informational link here, <https://www.masssave.com/solar>, for residents to learn more about a solar energy route and potential incentives or funding opportunities.



The specialized energy code is scheduled to go into effect on July 1.

At the time for questions from members of the public in attendance, a long-time resident of Somerville, Ron Cavallo, commented that the city's anti-gentrification efforts and efforts to minimize development as a whole have been "the nail in the coffin to small developers." Cavallo stated that he feels as though he sees the vibrancy of the city waning every day and fears that this new building code in place will make it harder and undesirable for developers to proceed with building new projects in the area.

In regards to further informational resources provided for the public, a list was provided below:

Summary of 2023 Stretch Energy Code Update and Municipal Opt-in Specialized Code: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/sum->

[mary-document-explaining-stretch-energycode-and-specialized-opt-in-code-language/download](#)

Mass Save Electrification Incentives Webinar Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ycnYsN55k7g>

DOER Final Code language: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/stretch-energy-code-development-2022#final-code-language-for-stretch-code-update-and-new-specialized-stretch-code-#final-code-language-for-stretch-codeupdate-and-new-specialized-stretch-code>

For further questions or resources, individuals are directed to email the following individuals, esullivan@somervillema.gov and ebelarge@somervillema.gov.

Somerville workers and small employers invited to attend employment-based residency information session

The City of Somerville and Pathways for Immigrant Workers will host a free immigration legal information session for small employers and lower-wage workers on Wednesday, July 13, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Connexion, located at 149 Broadway.

The information session will share how small employers can sponsor lower-wage workers for employment-based permanent residency. Employers and workers will be invited to schedule an individual assessment with Pathways for Immigrant Workers to determine eligibility to receive pro-bono legal representation for qualifying workers.

To find out more, and register in advance, email info@myimmigrantpathway.org. Registration is not required to attend the workshop, and walk-ins are welcome.

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Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 6

estate from the state's estate/death tax that a person is required to pay following their death before distribution to any beneficiary. The increase to \$5 million would be implemented over ten years.

Most Republicans are against any such tax and coined the name "death tax" to imply that the government taxes you even after you die. Most Democrats support the tax and call it an "estate tax" to imply that this tax is only paid by the wealthy.

"You work hard and earn money, it's taxed," said amendment sponsor Sen. Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton). "You save and invest your money, it's taxed. You spend your money, it's taxed. You own property, it's taxed. Only in Massachusetts and Oregon, after working your whole life, do you get taxed at the highest rate in the country after your death. My amendment sought to shed the 'Taxachusetts' mentality ... Our residents should want to spend their golden years in Massachusetts, but our tax policy makes it unaffordable to die in Massachusetts. Middle and upper-middle-class families should not have to worry about the government taking what they have worked so hard for future generations of their family."

Amendment opponents said the proposed bill already raises the exemption from \$1 million to \$2 million and noted that will cost \$185 million. They said a hike to \$5 million is excessive and unaffordable and will cost hundreds of millions of dollars more. They noted that lowering the estate tax is not the only way to help seniors and their families and noted there are many other initiatives that help seniors.

Senate Ways and Means Chair Sen. Mike Rodrigues (D-Westport) did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call asking him to comment on his opposition to the amendment.

(A "Yes" vote is for increasing the exemption to \$5 million. A "No" vote is against raising it.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

DON'T MISS THIS "MEET THE MEDIA" EVENT

- Join MASSterList and the State House News Service for a discussion with leading local journalists about the Massachusetts political and policy landscape at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, June 29 at Massachusetts Continuing Legal Education (MCLE) at 10 Winter Place (Downtown Crossing) in Boston. Topics will include competitive pressures, transparency in state and local government and developing relationships with government sources and communications professionals. Tickets/more info: <https://massterlist.com/meet-the-media/>

The All-Star Panel includes:

Matt Stout, Reporter, the *Boston Globe*

Azita Ghahramani, Senior Editor for *Politics*, WGBH News

James "Jimmy" Hills, host, *Java With Jimmy*

Jennifer Smith, Staff Reporter, *Commonwealth Magazine*

Steph Solis, Reporter, *Axios Boston*

Colin Young, Reporter, *State House News Service*

Moderator: Adam Reilly, Reporter, *WGBH News*

SALES TAX HOLIDAY ON AUGUST 12 AND 13 -

The House and Senate set Saturday, August 12 and Sunday, August 13 as this year's Sales Tax Holiday. This will allow consumers to buy most products that cost under \$2,500 on those two days without paying the state's 6.25 percent sales tax. This annual sales-tax-free weekend was made permanent in 2018 and gives the Legislature the authority to set the dates by June 15 each year.

Supporters of the holiday say it has been in effect for many years, would boost retail sales and noted that consumers would save millions of dollars. They argue that the state's sales tax revenue loss would be offset by increased revenue from the meals and gas tax revenue generated by shoppers on those two days.

Opponents of the bill say the state cannot afford the up to \$30 million estimated revenue loss and argued the holiday actually generates little additional revenue for stores because consumers typically buy the products even without the tax-free days. They say that the Legislature should be looking at broader, deeper tax relief for individuals and businesses and not a tiny tax-free holiday.

PROHIBIT REQUIRING PROOF OF COVID-19 VACCINATION (H 734) -

The Emergency Preparedness and Management Committee held a hearing on legislation that would prohibit the state, cities and towns from requiring proof of vaccination against COVID-19 as a condition of entry to any public buildings including state and local government buildings, all public and private schools and colleges and private businesses.

"We put the bill forward to prevent public entities from requiring vaccination for entry into public buildings," said Sponsor Rep. Peter Durant (R-Spencer). "This includes schools of any types. We have heard from a number of concerned parents that their children were not being allowed to attend college or other schools unless they were vaccinated. This created a devastating situation in which students and parents had to make a choice between getting something they may not have wanted and getting an education that they need. We believe that this creates a problem within the 14th amendment Privileges and Immunity Clause, as well as the Commerce Clause of the US Constitution.

ALLOW ALCOHOL SALES ON THANKSGIVING (H 353) -

The Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee held a hearing on a proposal that would allow for the sale of alcohol on Thanksgiving.

"Currently, 33 states already allow Thanksgiving alcohol sales including Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York and New Jersey," said sponsor Rep. David Linsky (D-Natick). "Prohibiting the sale of alcohol on Thanks-

giving likely dates back to colonial times when drinking alcohol on holidays was considered 'unholy.' [The bill] would not require that a liquor store be open on Thanksgiving, but rather would give them that option. Notably, a majority of liquor stores that are open in states which do allow sales on Thanksgiving are closed by mid-day. This gives last minute shoppers the opportunity to purchase alcohol as they would any other item at the grocery store, while still allowing employees to celebrate Thanksgiving."

FINANCIAL SCAMS AGAINST SENIORS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (H 613) -

The Elder Affairs Committee held a hearing on a measure that would impose an additional \$2,500 fine on anyone who is convicted of perpetrating a financial or other fraud against a person if the person is a senior or disabled individual. The bill would also create a special account to distribute educational materials to seniors and people with disabilities on how to be on the lookout for frauds or scams and would fund seminars people to better inform them of their rights as a consumer.

"I filed this bill after hearing from many constituents over the years who were concerned with deceptive actions being perpetrated against seniors or people with disabilities," said sponsor Rep. Bruce Ayers (D-Quincy). "Those who perpetrate fraud against seniors and disabled individuals are constantly changing their methods to try and find new ways of committing fraud. We need to adjust our efforts for prevention to be proactive in protecting our vulnerable residents from scams and financial abuse."

LOAN REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR HUMAN SERVICE WORKERS (H 214) -

The Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities Committee held a hearing on legislation that would provide financial assistance to some human service workers to repay their student loans. Under the program, human service workers who work 12 consecutive months for a minimum of 35 hours per week and who have an individual income of no more than \$50,000 can qualify for loan repayment of up to \$150 per month for up to 48 months.

"Human service workers perform an extremely difficult job for woefully low wages," said Rep. Jeff Roy (D-Franklin). "Assisting with repayment of student loans could help alleviate some of the financial burdens that new graduates face when choosing to work in their field of study. Given the cost of living in Massachusetts and the value added by ensuring that those who are in need receive the best care the commonwealth can give them, [this bill] seems a small step to show our human service workers that we value their important contributions."

SHOOTING AT A HOUSE OR APARTMENT (H 1681) -

The Judiciary Committee held a hearing on a proposal that would impose up to a five-year prison sentence and/or \$10,000 fine on anyone who discharges an assault weapon, firearm, large capacity weapon, machine gun, rifle, sawed-off shotgun or shotgun into a dwelling. Under current law this crime is a misdemeanor punishable by up to a 30-day jail sentence

Continued on page 18

The Commission for Persons With Disabilities addresses changes to by-laws and current disability issues

By Cassidy Beek

The Somerville Commission for Persons With Disabilities (SCPD) had six items to review at their monthly meeting on Tuesday, June 13. They voted to abide by the city’s Code of Conduct, discussed a variance request from Tufts University and proposed a community-wide trip to the annual Red Sox disability pride celebration game.

The group’s mission is to preserve the protections of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by ensuring that all Somerville residents are provided with equal access to all services and programs within the city.

Also on the agenda was a change to the by-laws, increasing the number of members on the commission. A motion was passed to amend the by-laws to have 13 seats on the commission, as opposed to its original nine. This will strengthen the group’s mission by bringing in a diverse array of experiences and interests.

Holly Simone, the Commission Chair, motioned to adopt the city’s Code of Conduct for the Commission. The Code of Conduct is a part of the city’s ordinances, requiring the Commission to include it in their by-laws.

Additionally, the Commission reviewed a variance request sent from Tufts University regarding

the accessibility of one of its dorm halls. A new residence hall design includes a type of elevator called The LULA Lift, which will only provide access to the lower levels excluding the third floor, as it is 25ft and unable to cover the height of the building. The third floor itself is being designed as accessible however will not be provided with an accessible route. The LULA Lift has a lower cost of maintenance and installation compared to a conventional elevator which would also require additional over-run space above the roof.

In the variance, Tufts University said, “As there are accessible sleeping rooms, bathing rooms, and an accessible common space at the lower three floors, the cost of providing an elevator and extending its reach to the upper floor does not provide substantial benefit to occupants beyond the proposed conditions.”

Deborah Haber, a commissioner, outlined a form of social segregation within the plan that limits disabled residents on the lower floors from engaging with residents on the third floor.

Agreeing with Haber, another commissioner, Harriotte Ranvig, said, “Every student who lives in that dorm needs to have access to all three floors, otherwise, it’s discriminatory in my view.”

The Commission voted against supporting the variance as the



alternative lift excludes access to the top floor of the residence hall.

Simione proposed an organized trip to the Red Sox’s annual disability pride celebration game on July 26 in honor of the ADA anniversary to support the disabled community within Somerville. The commission motioned to allocate \$5,000 of their funds toward tickets and transportation to the game for anyone interested within Somerville.

The Commission also discussed the need to form sub-committees focused on educational concerns within the

city, training with police and fire and accessibility concerns regarding the community garden. The sub-committees will work outside of the monthly meetings on specific tasks, later reporting back to the commission.

Adrienne Pomeroy, the ADA Coordinator, discussed the ADA Community Survey, which aims to gain a comprehensive understanding of Somerville’s experiences with accessibility. Improvements are being made to the city’s ADA Transition Plan through this survey, which closes on Friday, June 30.

Two representatives from the Department of Racial and Social Justice (RSJ) will be at the West Branch Library on Wednesday, June 21, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. to talk to the community and encourage engagement with the survey. Representatives will also be at Diesel Cafe in Davis Sq. on Friday, June 23, from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Responses can be submitted by email at rsj@somervillema.gov, online on the RSJ website at <https://www.somervillema.gov/rsj> and via city and RSJ social media feeds.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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Massachusetts is a tough state to make ends meet. That’s why I started driving for Uber and Lyft. Now my financial livelihood could be destroyed by labor-backed bills seeking to rewrite the rules for rideshare and delivery drivers like me. I balance caring for my ailing mother while working as an in-

dependent contractor between her medical appointments. Some people want jobs with rigid 40-hour schedules but being an “employee” does not work for everyone.

I enjoy my work. The best part is the flexibility to load an app, and drive when I am available. There are many full-time

driver openings with the MBTA and UPS. They offer sign-on bonuses, a structured employment model, and benefits. Finding drivers, however, is a challenge for them. Maybe it’s the work, or perhaps the schedule.

There are bills at the State House to pro-

tect flexibility and it’s time for lawmakers, unions, and companies to reach an agreement that puts drivers first. Livelihoods depend on it.

Oscar Rendon
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Massachusetts Department of Public Health offers summer safety guidance

With summer approaching, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) reminds residents to take recommended common-sense precautions to keep everyone, especially young children, safe this summer.

Prevent Tick Bites

Certain kinds of ticks can bite and make you sick with diseases such as Lyme disease and Powassan virus. Ticks are most commonly found in damp, grassy, brushy, or wooded areas, including your own backyard. Ticks only attach when you come into direct contact with them — they cannot jump or fly. Follow these steps to help protect yourself from tick bites: Check yourself for ticks once a day – it’s the single most important thing you can do. Use repellents with an EPA-registered active ingredient; always follow the directions on the label. Weather permitting, wear long-sleeved, light-colored shirts and long pants tucked into socks. This will help keep ticks away from your skin and make it easier to spot ticks on your clothing. After spending time outdoors, a shower can help rinse off a tick before it becomes attached and putting your clothes in the dryer on high heat for 10 minutes can help kill ticks. Pets that spend time outdoors are exposed to ticks, too, and may bring ticks back inside. Talk to your veterinarian about the best ways to protect your animals from ticks and tick-borne disease.

Prevent Mosquito Bites

Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and West Nile virus (WNV) are two mosquito-borne diseases that occur in Massachusetts. While there were no cases of EEE in Massachusetts last year, there were eight people with WNV. Mosquito surveillance is essential to monitor activity as the summer unfolds. DPH posts updates about activity throughout the season on the Massachusetts Arbovirus Update page. While the risk for human infection of EEE or WNV won’t occur until mid to late summer, people have an important role to play in protecting themselves from these illnesses which can be very serious. To prepare for mosquito season:

- Drain standing water in and around your house or yard to prevent mosquito breeding.
- Repair window and door screens to keep mosquitoes out of your home.
- Use a mosquito repellent with an EPA-registered ingredient according to the directions.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and socks to reduce exposed skin when weather permits.

Water and Pool Safety

Drowning is a leading cause of death among young children, nationally and in Massachusetts, with backyard pools posing the highest risk for children under age 5. To help prevent water-related injury and drowning:

- Supervise children in and around water at all times.
- Whenever infants and toddlers are in or around water, including the bathtub, an adult should be within an arm’s length at all times providing “touch supervision.”
- Teach young children to always ask for permission before going near the water.
- Do not dive headfirst into the water.
- Do not swim during a storm or when there is lightning.
- Completely separate the house and play area of the yard from the pool area with a fence. Consider automatic door locks or alarms to prevent access.
- Remove floats, balls, and other toys from the pool after use so that children are not tempted to reach for them. After children are done swimming, secure the pool so they cannot get back in.
- Keep rescue equipment (such as a shepherd’s hook or life preserver) and a phone near the pool.
- For children who cannot swim, use a properly fitted U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket. DPH, in cooperation with the USCG, has created a fit test video that can assist with proper fit testing of life jackets: <https://youtu.be/1I3VZf-NqPc>.
- Do not use toys such as “water wings” or “noodles” in place of life jackets. These are not designed to keep swimmers safe.

In public swimming areas:

- Select swimming sites that have lifeguards whenever possible, and swim only in designated swimming areas.
- Always swim with a buddy.
- Look for signage at beaches. DPH collects beach water quality data and notifies the public about bacteria levels to minimize swimming-associated illness and injury.
- Know the limits of your swimming skills. Through the Learn to Swim program, the state will provide free swimming lessons to children at select pools across the Commonwealth starting in July 2023.
- Consider becoming a lifeguard: the Commonwealth is recruiting lifeguards at its inland and coastal beaches, as well as swimming pools. This year, the Healey-Driscoll Administration raised the hourly pay for pool and waterfront staff to between \$22 to \$27. Qualified applicants can receive up to \$1,000 in signing bonuses.

Window Safety

Falls are the leading cause of injury to children. Falls from windows involving young children are especially serious – and preventable. Screens are not strong enough to protect children from falling out of windows. To prevent window falls, parents and caregivers should:

- Keep furniture – and anything a child can climb on – away from windows.
- Open windows from the top, not the bottom, when possible and lock all unopened doors and windows.
- Be sure children are always supervised.
- Install quick-release window guards which can be found in most hardware stores.

Car Safety

Leaving children and animals inside of a vehicle can be very dangerous. In the summer months in New England, the temperature in a closed car can rise quickly, and the vehicle can become a deadly place for a child or animal left, even for just a moment. To keep young children and animals safe in and around cars:

- Never leave children or animals alone in a parked vehicle, even when they are asleep or restrained, and even if the windows are open.
- Always check inside the vehicle – front and back – before locking the door and walking away.
- If a child is missing, check your vehicle first, including the trunk.
- Do things to remind yourself that a child or animal is in the vehicle, such as placing your purse or briefcase in the back seat so you will check there when you leave the vehicle.
- Always lock your car and keep the keys out of children’s reach.

(Continued on page 20)



SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

Upcoming events:

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

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

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

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

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

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

Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

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

Bingo – Thursdays at our Holland Street Center starting at 10:00 a.m. June 22 & 29. Lunch available following Bingo. RSVP to Debby Higgins by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

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

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

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

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

Game Hour – Mondays from 11:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center. June 26. Please join us as we play a wide variety of board and card games. Please RSVP to Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 or email Maureen at mbastardi@somervillema.gov.

Coffee & Conversation – Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. – At the Ralph & Jenny Center. This month we are meeting on June 26. Join us as we discuss a range of

topics. No books – no test – just friendly conversation. Please contact Maureen Bastardi at mabastardi@Somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 to RSVP.

Brown Bag Supplemental Food Program – PICK UP Thursday, June 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street. For an application contact Natasha Naim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317.

General Nutrition Classes – Monday, June 26 via Zoom from 11:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. and in-person, at 12:30 p.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center. Wednesdays, June 14th & 28th at 10:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. New and returning members are welcome! To RSVP, please call Mary Marshall at 617-625-6600, ext. 2316 or email her at headtofitness10@yahoo.com.

Bowling - FlatbreadCompany/Sacco Bowl Haven in Davis Square. Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. RSVP to Debby Higgins by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Fit-4-Life Exercise Classes – at the Ralph & Jenny Center – Monday, June 26 starting at 2:30 p.m. RSVP to Phelan Howell at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Phelan at phowell@somervillema.gov.

In-person Fit-4-Life Exercise Classes at the Holland Street Center – Monday, June 26 at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and Wednesday, June 28 at 9:00 a.m. Please RSVP to Phelan Howell at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Phelan at phowell@somervillema.gov.

Fit-4-Life Exercise Class (NEW DAY) – Friday, June 30 starting at 11:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Please RSVP to Phelan Howell at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Phelan at phowell@somervillema.gov.

Walking Club – Thursday, June 29 at 9:00 a.m. Meets at the Holland Street Center. Weather permitting. For more information contact Phelan Howell at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Phelan at phowell@somervillema.gov.

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

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.

Checking Out the Community PATH



By Will Mbah
Candidate for Somerville
City Councilor at Large
willmbah.com

This week I took an hour to try out the new stretch of the Community PATH that heads through Gilman Square, East Somerville and Brickbottom to the final points

at North Point Park. It was a smooth and enjoyable ride on a sunny late Friday afternoon. How satisfying to move quickly over the bridges and look down on the backed-up cars on McGrath and Washington Streets! What fun to pick up a bit of speed down the roller coaster ride from the highest point next to Brickbottom down to Lechmere!

This little fast joy ride was okay because there were not many folks out biking and walking last week. The city and MBTA wisely made the decision to open the PATH quietly, delaying the ceremonies and ribbon cutting for a couple of weeks. This has given them the ability to fix any final problems that may come to light as use gradually increases.

I can report one important problem – a lack of direction signs and crossing controls. This seems to be a particular problem at three places. First, at the junction with the East Somerville T-stop, the PATH divides for the down ramps to Washington Street. While I watched, several bikers took the wrong fork in the road. They only realized their mistake when they were halfway down and had to turn and pedal back up.

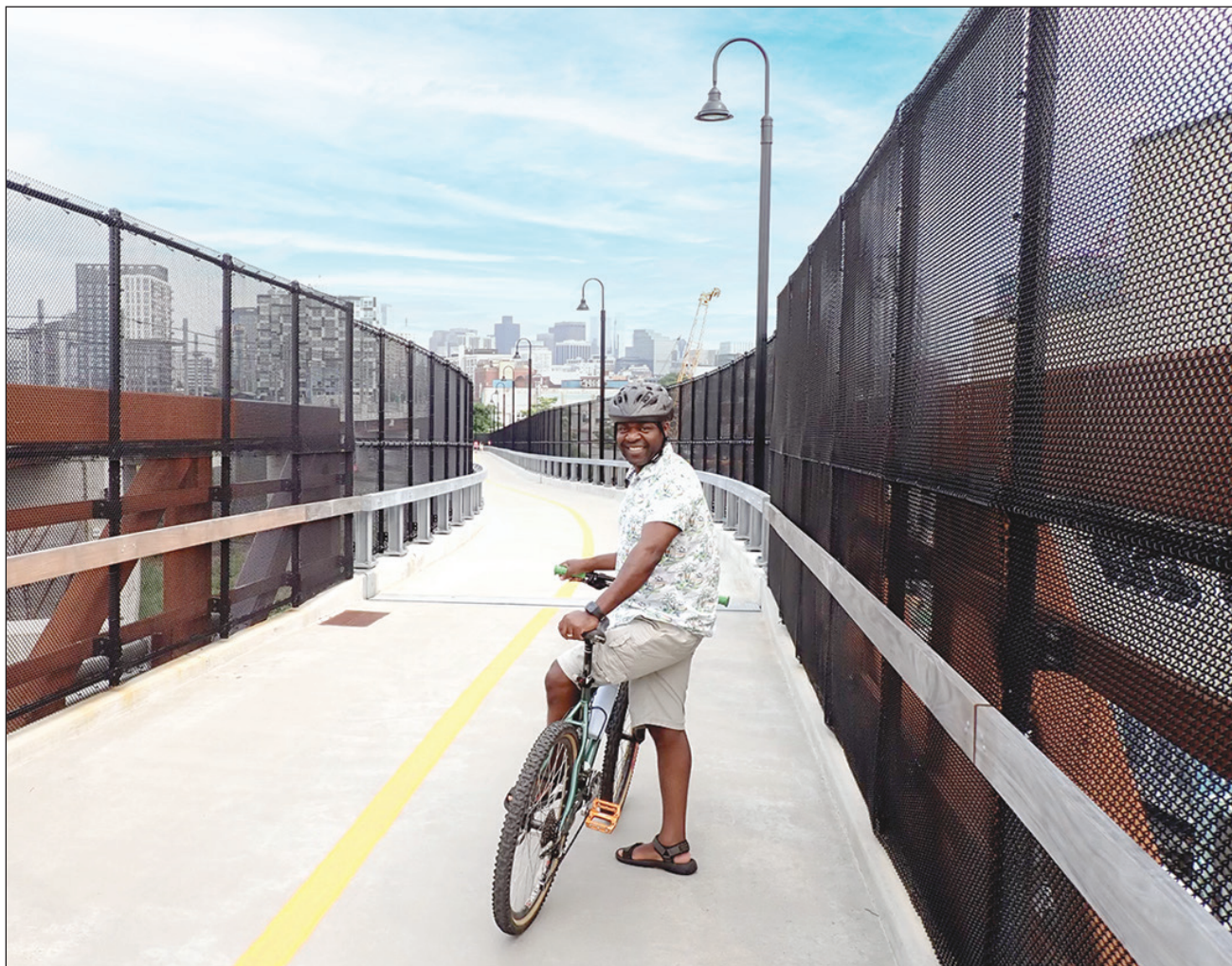
Second, where the PATH crosses Central Street and Sycamore Street at grade, a better warning to drivers and bikers alike seems necessary to avoid accidents.

Third, on the long slope, pedaling up to the high point at Brickbottom, the right of way is only ten feet wide. If this stretch becomes congested, folks who are regular bike and pedestrian commuters, will certainly work out some “rules of the road” so faster riders can pass safely. But if more occasional recreational users join the crowd, there will likely be some accidents and many near misses. Signs showing how to pass safely may be needed.

Speaking of signs, I did stop at the East Somerville T-stop juncture to read the commemorative plaque that the MBTA has installed. It honors all the engineers, planners and construction workers who built the GLX and PATH. They rightly deserve our praise and thanks. It is a solid, safe and enjoyable way to travel through the city.

What's next on the agenda?

Now that the PATH and the Green Line are operating side by side, the city and MBTA planners should be able to track the numbers and types of travelers who are using



them. It is important to recall how they had to formulate a new theory of urban and transport planning to justify the federal grants and state budgets for this part of the PATH.

In the past, the “rails-to-trails” bike and pedestrian network projects were justified with a cost-benefit analysis that defined their purposes as recreational and cultural. The planners’ model would identify the benefits of people walking and biking the half-mile or mile from their homes to a neighborhood center as well as other recreational visitors. The dollar amounts of their better health, recreational enjoyment and added local spending would be balanced against the public costs of acquiring abandoned rail lines, paving and improving the landscape.

Somerville’s planners obviously could not use the traditional “rails to trails” model for the Community PATH. It has cut through an industrial and transport corridor and has been squeezed alongside a rail line that was expanding, not being abandoned.

The planners, therefore, formulated a new cost-benefit model that rests on the idea of a linkage of the PATH and the T-stations. Folks who live or work within half-a mile of the PATH are projected to use it as pedestrians to get to the T for their daily commute and other errands. Folks who live within a half-mile to three miles are also expected

to bike along the PATH either hooking up at a T station bike garage, or heading through the Charles River or Boston waterfront network get to work.

Using this model, the planners have predicted that the PATH will significantly change the patterns of morning and evening commuting. The transportation planners call this the “modal split” – that is, the percentages of people who drive, walk, bicycle or take buses and the T. Back in 2013, the regional planners at MAPC did the studies and found that 72% of people were using their cars for the short trips of half a mile to three miles. Bike use and walking were in the 5% range.

The new model has predicted that the PATH could shift the modal split, cutting the 72% percent number by half or more and pushing cycling and walking to the T into a higher percentage. This should lead to less traffic and congestion, better health and increased ridership and revenue for the T. The values of these benefits, calculated back in 2013, have justified the \$39 million of federal grants and state spending that the PATH required.

The planners now have the opportunity to collect the data and test whether their theory and model will prove correct. This will be the type of data-driven planning and city management that is our ideal.

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Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Catalpa tree in bloom, with storm clouds...
— Photo by Denise Provost

Somerville Rotary Club holds semi-annual food drive



With the wonderful generosity of Porter Square Star Market on Saturday, June 10, the Somerville Rotary Club held its semi-annual food drive, along with Somerville Rescue Allies Animal Food Pantry. Proceeds of the food drive benefit Somerville non-profits Project Soup, Respond, and St Patrick’s Women’s shelter. Rotary is a worldwide service organization whose purpose is to provide humanitarian assistance, encourage ethical standards and promote peace. Somerville Rotary is currently involved in many community projects along with food drives, ongoing support for local food pantries, homeless and domestic abuse shelters and its strong commitment to eliminate Polio worldwide.

Rotary members shown from left to right: Nancy Kavanagh, Gilda Nogueira, Gene Brune, Ann Kirby, Sylvia Walker, and Morgan Redman from the Somerville Animal Food Pantry.

Rotary would like to thank each and all who donated and participated.

Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 12

and/or \$100 fine.

Supporters also said that under current law the punishment is disproportionate to the severity of this type of incident. They noted this crime, primarily committed by gang members, is often used as an intimidation tactic without regard for the innocent people in the home.

"Random and intentional gun shots into homes can cause grave physical and mental consequences to homeowners and their families," said the bill's sponsor Rep. Rady Mom (D-Lowell). "It also creates an unsafe environment and heightens public distrust in the neighborhood where it occurs. This bill will give law enforcement officers the necessary tools to keep our cities safe."

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Recently, multiple news articles, op-eds, and think tank reports have asserted that Massachusetts is suffering an exodus of households, particularly high-income households, fleeing to states with lower taxes. A closely related claim is that outmigrants are taking billions of dollars out of the Massachusetts economy when they leave. These claims about income migration are both overblown and based on a fundamental misunderstanding of the avail-

able data." — *From a report by the Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center.*

"The MassTrails Grant program enables the Healey ... Administration and our partners to grow our trails system and, ultimately, reduce transportation emissions. We know our residents want to get outside and enjoy their commute and their communities, but don't always have an accessible, safe way to get around. MassTrails makes that possible through collaboration and connection." — *Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, Secretary Rebecca Tepper announcing \$11.6 million in funding through the MassTrails Grant Program to support 68 trail improvement projects across the Bay State.*

HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION?

Beacon Hill Roll Call tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of the Legislature's job and that a lot of important work is done outside of the House and Senate chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that

have been filed. They note that the infrequency and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late-night sessions and a mad rush to act on dozens of bills in the days immediately preceding the end of an annual session.

During the week of June 12-16, the House met for a total of 35 minutes while the Senate met for a total of 09 hours and 51 minutes.

| Day | House Session | Senate Session |
|----------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Mon. June 12 | House 11:00 a.m. to 11:17 a.m. | Senate 11:09 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. |
| Tues. June 13 | No House session | No Senate session |
| Wed. June 14 | No House session | No Senate session |
| Thurs. June 15 | House 11:00 a.m. to 11:18 a.m. | Senate 11:26 a.m. to 9:06 p.m. |
| Fri. June 16 | No House session | No Senate session |

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

GovTV – Xfinity 22/Astound 13/613

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|
| WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21 | | 12:30 AM | Jane's Walk: Boynton Yards | 5:00 PM | Spring Hill Walking Tour 2023 | Washington | |
| 7:00 AM | Chair Yoga w/ Janine Duffy | 2:00 AM | Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony 2023 | 6:30 PM | City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo | 10:31 AM | Porchfest 2023 |
| 7:30 AM | Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony 2023 | 7:00 AM | Finance Committee of the Whole | 7:00 PM | Ward 4 Spring Community Meeting | 11:30 AM | School Committee Update: Laura Pitone |
| 8:30 AM | Pride Flag Raising 2023 | 6-15-23 | | 5-16-23 | | 12:01 PM | City Council Meeting 6-22-23 |
| 9:00 AM | Juneteenth Flag Raising | 9:00 AM | Spanish All Ward Spring Community Meeting | 10:00 PM | Somerville Museum: Sanctuary City | 4:30 PM | Haitian Flag Day 2023 |
| 10:00 AM | Ward 4 Spring Community Meeting | 11:00 AM | AMSPS Superintendent's FY 2024 Budget Presentation | 10:15 PM | SPD Ride Along | 5:00 PM | School Committee Update: Laura Pitone |
| 5-16-23 | | 12:30 PM | School Committee Update: Laura Pitone | 10:30 PM | COHR and SPD: Discussion Panel | 7:00 PM | School Committee Meeting - LIVE |
| 12:00 PM | Juneteenth Flag Raising | 1:01 PM | Green New Deal w/ Senator Markey | SUNDAY, JUNE 25 | | | |
| 1:00 PM | An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington | 2:01 PM | Porchfest 2023 | 12:00 AM | Finance Committee of the Whole | TUESDAY, JUNE 27 | |
| 2:31 PM | City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo | 3:00 PM | Ward 5 Spring Community Meeting | 6-21-23 | | 12:00 AM | Healey Schoolyard Ribbon Cutting |
| 3:00 PM | Finance Committee of the Whole | 4-26-23 | | 7:00 AM | Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice III | 1:00 AM | Juneteenth Flag Raising |
| 6-15-23 | | 5:00 PM | Jane's Walk: Boynton Yards | 8:00 AM | Juneteenth Flag Raising | 1:51 AM | Ward 6 Spring Community Meeting |
| 5:00 PM | ECSA Park Ribbon Cutting | 5-15-23 | Ward 2 Spring Community Meeting | 9:00 AM | City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis | 5-4-23 | |
| 5:15 PM | SPD Ride Along | 8:40 PM | ECSA Park Ribbon Cutting | 9:30 AM | Pride Flag Raising 2023 | 6:30 AM | Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV |
| 5:30 PM | Senior Circuit - Climate Change | 9:00 PM | Porchfest 2023 | 10:00 AM | Ward 5 Spring Community Meeting | 7:30 AM | COHR and SPD: Discussion Panel |
| 6:30 PM | Finance Committee of the Whole | 10:00 PM | An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington | 4-26-23 | | 8:45 AM | SPD Ride Along |
| 6-21-23 | | 11:31 PM | Pride Flag Raising 2023 | 12:00 PM | Senior Circuit - Climate Change | 9:00 AM | Connecting Communities - Accessibility |
| 11:00 PM | City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis | SATURDAY, JUNE 24 | | 12:30 PM | City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis | 9:30 AM | City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo |
| 11:30 PM | Pride Flag Raising 2023 | 12:00 AM | Juneteenth Flag Raising | 1:00 PM | Green New Deal w/ Senator Markey | 10:00 AM | Ward 4 Spring Community Meeting |
| THURSDAY, JUNE 22 | | 1:00 AM | SPS Superintendent's FY 2024 Budget Presentation | 2:00 PM | An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington | 5-16-23 | |
| 12:00 AM | Senior Circuit - Climate Change | 7:00 AM | Spanish All Ward Spring Community Meeting | 4:00 PM | Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan #2 | 12:00 PM | Senior Circuit - Climate Change |
| 12:30 AM | Ward 6 Spring Community Meeting | 9:00 AM | Haitian Flag Day 2023 | 4:30 PM | Spanish All Ward Spring Community Meeting | 12:30 PM | Spanish All Ward Spring Community Meeting |
| 5-4-23 | | 9:30 AM | Ward 1 Spring Community Meeting | 6:30 PM | Juneteenth Flag Raising | 2:30 PM | SPS Superintendent's FY 2024 Budget Presentation |
| 6:30 AM | An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington | 12:00 PM | Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony 2023 | 7:30 PM | City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis | 4:00 PM | Jane's Walk: Boynton Yards |
| 8:01 AM | City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo | 1:00 PM | Finance Committee of the Whole | 8:00 PM | City Council Meeting 6-22-23 | 5:30 PM | Senior Circuit - Climate Change |
| 8:30 AM | Haitian Flag Day 2023 | 6-21-23 | | MONDAY, JUNE 26 | | | |
| 9:00 AM | Charter Review - Committee of the Whole | 4:30 PM | Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan #1 | 12:30 AM | Senior Circuit - Climate Change | 6:00 PM | Pride Flag Raising 2023 |
| 5-24-23 | | | | 1:00 AM | Spring Hill Walking Tour 2023 | 6:30 PM | City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis |
| 1:06 PM | Juneteenth Flag Raising | | | 2:30 AM | City Council Spotlight: Kristen Strezo | 7:00 PM | An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington |
| 2:00 PM | Ward 1 Spring Community Meeting | | | 6:30 AM | Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice I | 8:31 PM | School Committee Meeting 6-26-23 |
| 5-9-23 | | | | 7:05 AM | ECSA Park Ribbon Cutting | 11:00 PM | Porchfest 2023 |
| 7:00 PM | City Council Meeting - LIVE | | | 7:30 AM | Juneteenth Flag Raising | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28 | |
| FRIDAY, JUNE 23 | | | | 8:30 AM | City Council Spotlight: Lance Davis | 12:00 AM | City Council Meeting 6-22-23 |
| | | | | 9:00 AM | An Afternoon with General and Mrs. Washington | | |

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| | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|--|--|---------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21 | | | 10:00 PM | WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising 2023 | 5:31 PM | SCALE Graduation & Awards Night | 12:30 PM | WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising 2023 | | |
| 7:00 AM | WSNS K-8 Spring Concert | 11:00 PM | Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023 | 6:34 PM | WSNS K-8 Spring Concert | 6:30 PM | WSNS K-8 Spring Concert | 1:21 PM | Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023 | |
| 8:30 AM | WSNS Moving On Ceremony | FRIDAY, JUNE 23 | | 8:00 PM | SHS Baseball vs Marblehead | 10:20 PM | Kennedy 4-8 Spring Concert | 2:08 PM | Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship | |
| 9:30 AM | WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising 2023 | 12:00 AM | Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert | 11:07 PM | Spring String Fling | 11:30 PM | WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising 2023 | 3:00 PM | SHS Chamber Concert | |
| 10:30 AM | Kennedy 4-8 Spring Concert | 12:30 AM | Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert | 11:30 PM | WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising 2023 | SUNDAY, JUNE 25 | | | | |
| 11:30 AM | WHCIS K-3 Spring Concert | 1:00 AM | WSNS K-8 Spring Concert | 12:00 AM | WSNS Moving On Ceremony | 12:00 AM | WSNS Moving On Ceremony | 4:00 PM | Healey 5-8 Spring Concert 6-1-23 | |
| 12:00 PM | WSNS Moving On Ceremony | 2:30 AM | Healey 5-8 Spring Concert 6-1-23 | 1:00 AM | SHS Boys' LAX vs Salem | 1:00 AM | SHS Boys' LAX vs Salem | 4:30 PM | Kennedy 4-8 Spring Concert | |
| 1:00 PM | Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert | 7:00 AM | WSNS Moving On Ceremony | 2:30 AM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | 2:30 AM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | 5:30 PM | Kennedy K-3 Spring Concert | |
| 1:30 PM | SCALE Graduation & Awards Night | 8:00 AM | El Sistema Somerville June Concert | 8:00 AM | SHS Chamber Concert | 6:00 PM | ESCS Moving On Ceremony | 6:00 PM | ESCS Moving On Ceremony | |
| 3:00 PM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | 9:00 AM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | 9:00 AM | WHCIS Chamber Concert | 7:30 PM | El Sistema Somerville June Concert | 7:30 PM | El Sistema Somerville June Concert | |
| 5:00 PM | Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship | 11:00 AM | SHS Class Day 2023 | 9:00 AM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | 8:00 PM | SCALE Graduation & Awards Night | 8:00 PM | SCALE Graduation & Awards Night | |
| 6:00 PM | Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023 | 12:30 PM | SHS 2023 Graduation | 10:01 AM | SCALE Graduation & Awards Night | 9:02 PM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | 9:02 PM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | |
| 7:00 PM | SHS Baseball vs Marblehead | 2:00 PM | Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert | 11:04 AM | Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship | 10:04 PM | WSNS Moving On Ceremony | 10:04 PM | WSNS Moving On Ceremony | |
| 9:30 PM | Kennedy 4-8 Spring Concert | 2:30 PM | Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert | 12:00 PM | Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023 | 11:00 PM | WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising 2023 | 11:00 PM | WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising 2023 | |
| 10:30 PM | WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising 2023 | 3:00 PM | SHS Chamber Concert | 12:00 PM | Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023 | TUESDAY, JUNE 27 | | | | |
| 11:00 PM | Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert | 4:00 PM | Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023 | 1:00 PM | Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert | 12:00 AM | Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship | 12:00 AM | Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship | |
| THURSDAY, JUNE 22 | | | 5:00 PM | Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship | 1:30 PM | Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert | 1:00 AM | SHS Chamber Concert | 1:00 AM | SHS Chamber Concert |
| 12:00 AM | Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert | 6:00 PM | El Sistema Somerville June Concert | 2:00 PM | Healey Schoolyard Ribbon Cutting | 2:00 AM | Healey 5-8 Spring Concert 6-1-23 | 2:00 AM | Healey 5-8 Spring Concert 6-1-23 | |
| 12:30 AM | SHS 2023 Graduation | 6:30 PM | Next Wave Graduation 2023 | 3:00 PM | WSNS K-8 Spring Concert | 2:30 AM | Kennedy K-3 Spring Concert | 2:30 AM | Kennedy K-3 Spring Concert | |
| 2:00 AM | Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship | 8:01 PM | SCALE Graduation & Awards Night | 4:30 PM | El Sistema Somerville June Concert | 7:30 AM | ESCS Moving On Ceremony | 7:30 AM | ESCS Moving On Ceremony | |
| 3:00 AM | Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023 | 9:04 PM | SHS Class Day 2023 | 5:00 PM | SHS Chamber Concert | 8:31 AM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | 8:31 AM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | |
| 8:00 AM | SHS Chamber Concert | 10:31 PM | SHS 2023 Graduation | 6:00 PM | Next Wave Graduation 2023 | 10:00 AM | SHS 2023 Graduation | 10:00 AM | SHS 2023 Graduation | |
| 9:00 AM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | SATURDAY, JUNE 24 | | 7:00 PM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | 11:15 AM | WSNS K-8 Spring Concert | 11:15 AM | WSNS K-8 Spring Concert | |
| 10:01 AM | SCALE Graduation & Awards Night | 12:00 AM | Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert | 8:01 PM | SCALE Graduation & Awards Night | 1:00 PM | Kennedy K-3 Spring Concert | 1:00 PM | Kennedy K-3 Spring Concert | |
| 11:15 AM | WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising 2023 | 12:30 AM | Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert | 9:04 PM | SHS Class Day 2023 | 1:30 PM | Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert | 1:30 PM | Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert | |
| 12:00 PM | Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023 | 1:00 AM | SHS Chamber Concert | 10:31 PM | SHS 2023 Graduation | 2:00 PM | Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert | 2:00 PM | Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert | |
| 1:00 PM | Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert | 2:00 AM | Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023 | MONDAY, JUNE 26 | | 2:30 PM | SHS Chamber Concert | 2:30 PM | SHS Chamber Concert | |
| 1:30 PM | Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert | 3:00 AM | Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship | 12:00 AM | Healey Schoolyard Ribbon Cutting | 3:00 PM | SCALE Graduation & Awards Night | 3:00 PM | SCALE Graduation & Awards Night | |
| 2:00 PM | Healey Schoolyard Ribbon Cutting | 6:30 AM | SHS Softball vs Chelsea 5-25-23 | 5:00 PM | SHS Chamber Concert | 5:00 PM | Healey 5-8 Spring Concert 6-1-23 | 5:00 PM | Healey 5-8 Spring Concert 6-1-23 | |
| 3:00 PM | WSNS K-8 Spring Concert | 8:00 AM | WSNS K-8 Spring Concert | 6:00 PM | Next Wave Graduation 2023 | 5:30 PM | WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising 2023 | 5:30 PM | WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising 2023 | |
| 5:00 PM | SHS 2023 Graduation | 9:30 AM | SHS Baseball vs Marblehead | 7:00 PM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | 6:00 PM | Next Wave Graduation 2023 | 6:00 PM | Next Wave Graduation 2023 | |
| 6:30 PM | Healey 5-8 Spring Concert 6-1-23 | 12:00 PM | Kennedy 4-8 Spring Concert | 8:01 PM | SCALE Graduation & Awards Night | 7:00 PM | WSNS Moving On Ceremony | 7:00 PM | WSNS Moving On Ceremony | |
| 7:00 PM | SHS Chamber Concert | 1:00 PM | Spring String Fling | 9:05 PM | Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship | 8:00 PM | SHS 2023 Graduation | 8:00 PM | SHS 2023 Graduation | |
| 8:00 PM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | 1:30 PM | SHS Softball vs Chelsea 5-25-23 | 10:00 PM | Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023 | 9:15 PM | School Committee Meeting 6-26-23 | 9:15 PM | School Committee Meeting 6-26-23 | |
| 9:01 PM | Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship 2023 | 3:00 PM | SHS Boys' LAX vs Salem | 11:00 PM | Argenziano pre K-4 Spring Concert | WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28 | | | | |
| | | 4:30 PM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | 11:30 PM | Argenziano 5-8 Spring Concert | 12:00 AM | SHS Girls' LAX vs Malignon | 12:00 AM | SHS Girls' LAX vs Malignon | |
| | | | | MONDAY, JUNE 26 | | 1:30 AM | Next Wave Graduation 2023 | 1:30 AM | Next Wave Graduation 2023 | |
| | | | | 12:00 AM | Healey Schoolyard Ribbon Cutting | 2:30 AM | School Committee Update: Laura Pitone | 2:30 AM | School Committee Update: Laura Pitone | |
| | | | | 1:00 AM | WSNS K-8 Spring Concert | | | | | |
| | | | | 2:30 AM | El Sistema Somerville June Concert | | | | | |
| | | | | 8:00 AM | ESCS Moving On Ceremony | | | | | |
| | | | | 9:30 AM | El Sistema Somerville June Concert | | | | | |
| | | | | 10:00 AM | SCALE Graduation & Awards Night | | | | | |
| | | | | 11:02 AM | WHCIS Moving On Ceremony | | | | | |
| | | | | 12:04 PM | Pride Flag Raising 2023 | | | | | |

Ward 1 Democratic City Committee Somerville notice of 2023 Caucus

The Ward 1 Democratic City Committee will hold its 2023 Virtual Caucus to elect Delegates to the 2023 Democratic State Convention on Saturday, June 24, at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom (Meeting ID: 862 7676 329; passcode = 762019) at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86276763290?pwd=L2pRaDYrakhaOWw2M3NjMXgrYVR1dz09>.

Ward 1 has been allotted 7 delegates and 4 alternates for this year’s State Convention, which will be held in Lowell on Saturday, September 23. Delegates will be assigned as follows:

Automatic Delegate (Chair) 0; Male or Non-binary Delegates 3 or 4; Female or Non-binary Delegates 3 or 4; Alternates (2 male or non-binary, 2 female or non-binary) 4

I encourage anyone who cares about our democracy and making this country a better place for everyone to run as a Delegate! Make your voice heard. Let’s reinvigorate Ward 1! Please feel free to contact me.

For more information, please visit <https://massdems.org/massdems-convention/>

Expectantly,
Miriam Schwartz, Acting Chair
617-308-6941 – kadima@rcn.com



Massachusetts Department of Public Health offers summer safety guidance

(Continued from page 15)

- Ensure adequate supervision when children are playing in areas near parked motor vehicles.

If you see a child or animal alone in a hot vehicle, call the police. If they are in distress due to heat, get them out as quickly as possible and call 911 immediately. Remember, all children ages 12 and under should ride in the back seat, properly restrained, even during quick errand trips. Infants and toddlers should remain in rear-facing car seats until they reach the highest weight or height allowed by their car safety seat manufacturer. At a minimum, children should ride rear facing until they are at least 1 year old and weigh at least 20 pounds. You can find more information on child passenger safety on the DPH website.

Preventing Rabies Exposures

All mammals (animals with fur) can get rabies and there are usually more than 100 rabid animals found every year in Massachusetts. Most of these cases occur in wild animals like raccoons, skunks, bats, woodchucks, and foxes, but some pets (especially cats) and farm animals also get rabies. People can be exposed to the rabies virus when an infected animal bites them, or when the animal’s saliva gets into a scratch or the person’s eyes, nose, or mouth. People who are bitten or scratched by an animal, or who find a bat in a room where someone was sleeping, or with a young child or pet, should call their local board of health or the DPH Division of Epidemiology at 617-983-6800 for advice. Other rabies prevention steps include:

- Teach children never to approach animals they don’t know – even if they appear friendly.
- Report any animal that seems sick or injured to the local animal control official.
- Enjoy wild animals from a distance and do not keep wild animals as pets.

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By Bobbygeorge Potaris

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On This Day in History

June 21

1675 – Christopher Wren begins work on rebuilding St. Paul’s Cathedral in London after the Great Fire.

1834 – C. H. McCormick patents the first practical reaper.

1900 – Gen. John “Black Jack” Pershing offers amnesty to Filipinos rebelling against American rule.

1915 – Germany uses poison gas for the first time in warfare in the Argonne Forest.

1939 – Baseball legend Lou Gehrig is forced to quit baseball because of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis—a disease which wastes muscles.

1945 – Japanese forces on Okinawa surrender to American troops.

1948 – Dr. Peter Goldmark demonstrates his “long-playing” record.

1964 – Three civil rights workers disappear in Meridian, Mississippi.

1982– John Hinckley Jr. is found not guilty by reason of insanity for attempting to assassinate President Ronald Reagan.

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Somerville's Daniel Coughlin: An Artist with a Basketball Jones

At a recent Open Studio Event in Somerville, I came across an interesting artist, Daniel Coughlin. What struck me at first was his work with old basketballs. Coughlin is much more than a basketball artist, and works with many different objects in his practice.

Doug Holder: How has Somerville been for you as an artist? What has your experience been like at the Joy Street Studios?

Daniel Coughlin: Moving to Somerville represented a significant step forward on my path as an artist. Prior to finding a space at Joy Street I was living in Western Massachusetts where I kept a small home studio. It was isolating on many levels. After a short residency in Berlin (Germany) where I was exposed to a thriving creative community, I realized interaction with other artists was vital to the artistic process. Since then, my work has greatly benefited from access to the larger Somerville arts community, epitomized by my neighbors here at Joy Street. It's all support. At a time of rapid development in Somerville and the greater Boston area, I hope these communities and art spaces can continue to thrive.

DH: You studied with Cambridge sculptor, Peter DeCamp Haines, and he introduced you to the lost wax bronze casting process. Can you tell us about the process, and how has it manifested itself in your work?

DC: Peter provided my first introduction to a professional art practice. He shared his creative process and taught me the importance of developing your own voice as an artist. He has worked with bronze for decades and during that time created a language that allows viewers to immediately recognize and connect with his art. The lost wax process specifically, allows an artist a high level of control and accuracy in re-creating a wax form in bronze. I have created a number of small bronze works that were an extension of what I learned while working at Peter's studio in Cambridge. I look forward to creating a series of new bronze pieces sometime in the future.

DH: I am particularly interested in your work with basketballs.

DC: The basketball series represents the search



for my own artistic process. I've spent years finding, collecting and organizing a library of diverse items that reflect my day-to-day built environment. Using recognizable materials to fabricate structural forms gives viewers immediate access to my process. Additionally, each basketball's unique patina – the weathering of the leather surface – conjures the time, place and histories of these objects. The moment where form and the context of each object or material meet, is the layer where I hope to create and exist as an artist moving forward.

DH: Does your job as an architect inform your work as a sculptor?

DC: Yes, absolutely. My understanding of form, scale and material, and the constraints of factors such as site and space, is a direct result of my architectural training. These elements show up in most of my work.

DH: Why should we view your work?

DC: My work explores the built environment we encounter each day. A new life for a found object, a new use for everyday materials, makes us reconsider our experience in the built world. I hope my work gives viewers a new way to interpret their everyday realities.

and I confess succumbing to the carport arbor's lure
when twining vines balloon their grapes and sail
an august fragrance to seduce my nose.

And always I allow a littered wind to autograph my

back
as cunning strips of sunlight seam between facades
of aging stores
and shadow me home.

— Barbara Reynolds

Lyrical SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Barbara Reynolds is a poet and an adjunct professor of mathematics at Lesley University. She has lived in Somerville, Massachusetts for over thirty years and frequently takes walks on Somerville Avenue, picking up poems along the way. Her poems have appeared in *Pangyrus*, *Avocet*, *Indolent Books: What Rough Beast*, *Muddy River Poetry Review*, *The Somerville Times*, *Willowdown Books* anthology *Poems from The Lockdown*, *Riddled with Arrows*, and *Somerville Poetry Open 2021: Together In Poetry*. *Maybe I Can Dream a Title* was nominated for publication in *Best of the Net Anthology* by *Riddled with Arrows Literary Journal*.



Where Some See Blight

Sometimes along this thoroughfare while on a daily walk,
I spy a winter's hawk, a twilight almond breasted white,
treed high against a skirtless sky

or see in spring amid a drift of French fry fumes
and gasoline, a cagey sparrow's nest bridged
behind a café's neon sign.

Below a rusted iron fence along the railroad tracks
communes a patch of common mullein that stretch their necks
to groom their fruited caps,

and there is a place where evergreens, dwarfed and backed by
sooty bricks
spread their wings to touch my offered fingertips
and tickle summer's naked knees like saucy petticoats.

I hail the heedless brass of cottontails
snatching blades of grass beside the cemetery gates,
ignoring blasts of buses caterwauling by

Somerville’s annual fireworks display planned for June 29

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the City of Somerville will host a Fourth of July fireworks celebration at Trum Field on Thursday, June 29 (rain date: Friday, June 30). Festivities start at 6:00 p.m. with DJ Philip Tan playing pop, soul, funk, and other classic tunes, followed by a live performance by local funk band Midnight Motion. Grab a bite from local food vendors like Nibble Kitchen, Italian Wizard, and more. Fireworks will begin at approximately 9:15 p.m. Please expect parking restrictions and road closures in the surrounding area. Due to noise and large crowds expected, attendees are advised to leave pets and unnecessary bags or backpacks at home. All bags and backpacks are subject to inspection. For more information, please call 311 (617-666-3311) or visit [somervilleartscouncil.org/fireworks](https://www.somervilleartscouncil.org/fireworks). Persons with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (i.e., CART, ASL), written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures in order to access the programs, activities, and meetings of the City of Somerville should please contact Adrienne Pomeroy at 617-625-6600 ext. 2059 or ADA@somervillema.gov.



Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

criteria are plastic lenses and a lack of reliable exposure control. Straight Polaroid-type images, or images made with cell phones, digital cameras, or film cameras with full exposure control (such as the Lomo LC series), will not be considered. Submit your toy and lo-fi camera photos by **June 27**. Juror Ann Jastrab will review all submitted photos in early July. Artists whose work is selected for the exhibition will be sent info on where to ship (or when to drop off) their framed pieces. Selected work will be hung in one of our three participating Somerville galleries by Festival organizers. Juror’s decisions will be emailed around **July 24**. Selected work will be due at galleries by **August 30**. Visit navegallery.org.

Take a **Docent Tour of Old Powder House, Saturday, June 24, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** Inclement weather cancels the event. Call 311 (617-666-3311) for updates and check the city’s calendar: <https://www.somervillema.gov/events> Sponsored by the **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission** and the **Somerville Museum**. www.somervillema.gov/historicpreservation and <http://www.somervillemuseum.org>.

With hot summer days ahead the **Somerville Homeless Coalition** is looking for essential supplies to help keep those without a home safe and cool. Whether it’s sunscreen or juice boxes, they have compiled an Amazon wish list with key summer items for clients. If you are interested in donating you can do so through the link provided or by dropping items off at their **Engagement Center** located at 1 Davis Square between **Monday and Friday** from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. for lunch). https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2S-0DQDB857065?ref_=wl_share&fb-clid=IwAR1ZHXC1YJnbbt36Zicx-PnsR7pAEJ4dP1rODG5sNovyNzGE-68py31ENo.

The Curated Fridge Spring 2023 Closing Party takes place **Saturday, June 24**, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. You can also bring your prints for the summer 2023 call. Deadline is approaching. More info here: <https://www.thecuratedfridge.com/Call-for-Entree>.

Don’t forget to visit **Somerville’s farmers markets. Every Wednesday through November 22, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m.** visit the **Davis Square Farmers Market**, across from **American Flatbread** at 44 Day St. Visit: www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis. **Every Saturday through October 28, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**, the **Union Square Farmers Market** takes place at 66-70 Union Sq. visit: www.unionsquaremain.org/2023fmseason.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the **City of Somerville Housing Division** are pleased to announce **four affordable homeownership opportunities** to income-eligible, first-time homebuyers through the city’s **Inclusionary Housing Program** at **The Parkway 395** (395 Alewife Brook Parkway). Two 2-bedroom units with dens are available to households with an annual gross income at or below 80% Area Median Income (AMI) at price tier P1. One 1-bedroom unit with a den and one 2-bedroom unit are available to households with an annual gross income between 81% AMI and 110% AMI at price tier P2. Applications are due by **Friday, July 14, at noon**. Learn more and apply at: [somervillema.gov/inclusionaryhousing](http://www.somervillema.gov/inclusionaryhousing).

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

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

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

contact the **Water Department** at water@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 5850.

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

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

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