



Venice in the 'Ville page 3



Somerville veteran comes home page 5



# **Teams discussion in Somerville**



ACCESS Drug User Health Program, in conjunction with the cities of Somerville and Everett, held a discussion forum last week focusing reducing drug overdoses. - Photo by Melissa Rosales

#### **By Melissa Rosales**

ACCESS Drug User Health Program partnered with the City of Somerville and Everett to discuss overdose aftercare services, harm reduction and the use of fentanyl strips last Wednesday, June 19 at the Public Safety Building, 220 Washington St. The ACCESS mobile health van was also present for tours to explain how they can assist in reducing overdoses.

ACCESS serves active users and their loved ones with programs and services like education, grief supports, Family Resource Detox Clinics, family safety planning, Narcan kits, Suboxone treatment, Hepatitis C and HIV testing.

"Our mission really is we're reaching out for aftercare to you and your loved ones together to prevent overdoses and keep these people safe. You are the experts in your own lives. You and your loved ones deserve access to care, safety, education, and resources in Continued on page 4

# 2019 Fourth of July celebration

Join Mayor Curtatone for the annual 4th of July Fireworks with live entertainment on Thursday, June 27, from 6:30 to 10:00 p.m., at Trum Field, 541 Broadway, Somerville.

The entertainment lineup for the celebration includes performances by the USO Metropolitan New York Performers and local Disco-Funk band Booty Vortex, leading up to a 20-minute fireworks display beginning at approximately 9:15 p.m.

To ensure public safety and pedestrian access to events, several road closures and bus detours will be in place. Traffic alterations will be as follows: Broadway (in front of Trum Field): No park-

ing 12:00 p.m. – midnight. Street closed from 5:00 p.m. – midnight.

Cedar Street from Morrison Avenue to the Bridge: No parking on either side from 8:00 a.m. - midnight. Traffic restricted to residents only from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. (from Morrison Ave. only). No access to street after 6:00 p.m.



#### A day of summer family fun page 12

Cedar Street from the Bridge to Broadway: No parking on either side from 8:00 a.m. - midnight. Street will be closed Continued on page 17

The 2019 City of Somerville Fourth of July celebration takes place this Thursday, June 27, at Trum Field, beginning at 6:30 p.m., with fireworks scheduled at approximately 9:15 p.m.

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The views and opinions expressed in Newstalk do not necessarily reflect those of The Somerville Times, its publisher or staff. The column has many contributors.

Mayor Joe Curtatone held his re-election event this past Monday. About 80 - most were payroll patriots employees showed up at this campaign kickoff. We heard his campaign even did robo-calls. One of our Newstalkers mentioned that he got a call about the kickoff and couldn't figure out why. He is a registered Republican and has never gone to any of Mayor Joe's fundraisers. The new Dilboy Post is said to hold way over a 100 and something. It must have looked bare, with only 80 people present. One person told us that in his speech he mentioned Donald Trump 19 times. Now, don't you think he should have been talking about development and various projects going on in the city? We couldn't find out why the Personnel Director, who we heard hasn't received a college degree, had her salary shoot up to \$147K. That must piss off some other department heads. Does the DPW Commissioner Stan Koty make that amount?

#### \*\*\*\*\*

**City Councilor At-Large Bill White** held his **re-election event** on Monday night at the **Olde Magoun's Salon** in Magoun Square. Bill had a lot of competition, but he managed to pull out a small but committed crowd. We heard from one of our **Newstalkers** there there were about 20-25 there on Monday night. Maybe it was **the mayor's** time, which was same night and time.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

What is wrong with **the city**? Potholes this late in the year all over, rubbish on the streets in the squares, sidewalks broken. Maybe the city should review the contract with the people who sweep our city? The city infrastructure just hasn't been kept up and we're wondering what are **the councilors** are doing, referring people to 311? Was a time in the past that the not so old Board aldermen would pick up a phone and things got done? Speaking of pot holes, **Aldersey St.** in Ward 3 seems to have more than its fair share of pot holes. Maybe the city councilor representing Ward 3 might want to check it out.



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### TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

#### Response to: Newstalk - June 19

#### Old Taxpayer says:

We have been moving all our scripts to Stop and Shop. Don't want to do CVS. The people at Stop and Shop have been very nice. Also stopped going to Home Depot after they closed the registers.

#### Court says:

the "new" walgreens/rite aid is dindgy. My scripts don't get auto renewed when asked to make sure they do they say they are but they don't. Their a mess! Really miss the old NICE organized crew at walgreens. Bad move, smdh!

#### Bosco says:

The property the winter hill yacht club sits on is owned by the state and it is leased to the club. A very long lease. I believe the club has had lease for at least 100 years. It started at mystic ave and shore drive. The city has no chance in taking over property. At least not in the foreseeable future.

#### TL says:

Maybe the fired pharmacist can start a career as a real estate professional

#### Response to: Joggers and drivers and bikes, oh my!

#### MacGyvers says:

Jimmy, great article. It sounds like what my life is also like on a daily basis. I live next to the Gilman St. GLX construction myself. All this traffic also makes me feel like a prisoner of my own home. I come home from work and lose any desire to go out and about to avoid a constant battle driving/ walking/biking.

They are all dangerous now. I am blessed to have a 6 minute walk to my job, but today still almost managed to get myself hit by a car. I was not on my phone, halfway through the crosswalk, when a car finally came to a rapid stop a mere 6 inches from my leg. I am in my early 40's and still too young to turn into a homebody. I can only play my guitar for so long! Somerville, time to say byee byee.

#### Chris says:

Jimmy, the speed limit in the vast majority of the city is 25 miles per hour. If you're having a hard time stopping for people in crosswalks, I know a great brake guy I can send you to.

#### Theo says:

Sometimes common sense is just not that common.

At 25 miles per hour, the typical stopping distance on a dry surface will be between 60 and 75 feet. There's little margin for safety when a bicyclist or runner comes running out without looking and first becomes visible when a vehicle is 100 feet away or less.

#### **Response to: Third East Somerville Reunion**

#### Bob DiGuardia says:

It was a great night seeing my friends from the old days. My first band practiced in the basement at 201 Pearl St. We played at local dances and out in the streets for Somerfest. I have been blessed with music and also by growing up in East Somerville with friends like Danny Rogavich whom I met in the 5th grade at the Hanscom School and went on to coach little league with him. I truly hope that we get the opportunity to party again with these people.

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#### Neil Gillis says:

Another slam dunk show produced by Danny Rogovitch, Susan Mangherini Griffin, Diane Sylvester Ames, with tons of donated food Leones pizza, and others who brought food and the help with the cleanup Ann Ragucci, of course Susan, Diane Dannys daughters helping out selling the tickets Michelle and Danielle great time it was and it never fails ppl show up to make it happen One Moe Time our own East Somerville band.

# **Response to:** *Howe Gelb is back with a solo album and show at ONCE*

Jay Tarpley says:

Good intro for the show. And it was a great evening. Howe is a treasure.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

# Life in the **VILLE** by Jimmy Del Ponte

# Venice in the 'Ville



This article first appeared in the September 19, 2012, edition of The Somerville Times.

65 Holland St., outside Davis Square is now the site of Orleans, and The Bull Pen before that, and maybe a few others. I can't keep track of all the restaurants that have come and gone. Back in the day it was The Venice Café, where you could get spaghetti and (huge) meatballs, antipasto, veal parmesan, chicken (marsala) dinners, seafood and fantastic pizza, and of course beverages of all kinds. The red wine flowed freely there. The Venice Café is one of those historic old places that a lot of Somerville people remember with a smile. For many of us it was the first real restaurant our parents took us to, especially if you lived near Davis Square.

When you entered, the décor was red and white and it was like walking into a place you would find in Italy. Vividly painted scenes of Venice were done in ornate raised plaster relief around the entire restaurant. It was around three feet by two feet and very detailed. A friend in the masonry business was wondering if any of the plasterwork was saved. But what was saved was all the memories Somerville patrons have of The Venice Café.

Sometimes you would have to go from booth to booth to find one of the table jukeboxes that worked. Remember those table top jukeboxes? There was also a big aquarium in the dining room area.

Here is a personal memory: "My mother and father were there the night I was due. They were having pizza and beer, and the owner picked up their check as congratulations. He then asked them to leave because he didn't want a baby born in his restaurant." Do you remember the red plastic breadbaskets, cokes served in short highball glasses and A Boy Named Sue and Candy Man blaring on the jukebox?



Another friend used to get "all dolled up" with her girlfriends and go there alone when they were in junior high. Someone who was there seems to recall the owner having three Corvettes that he drove in rotation. They were parked out front. On Thursdays the crowd from St. Catherine's bingo would pile in. A friend recalls that the ladies room smelled like cherries.

Popular opinion has the closing date to be around 1983 but I couldn't get that on paper. My sources are my friends, the people of Somerville, and what they can remember. They have vivid memories of a comfortable place to go where you could see familiar faces. Faces like Eddie D, Jimmy P, Fred D, and Nunzi. The Venice's pizza was so good that many a patron burned the roof of their mouths because they couldn't wait to dig in. A survey that I conducted a while back had the

pizza at The Venice as the best all time slice in the 'Ville, ever.

Back when a lot of establishments took your word that you were old enough for a beer, The Venice was busy providing the people of Somerville with some tasty memories. Veteran 'Villens like me may drive by the Orleans restaurant, but it's the vision of The Venice Café that we see. The pleasant images and recollections flow as freely as the red wine used to back in the day.



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# Young shoplifters packing serious blades

Police officers were dispatched to the area of the Kmart store on Middlesex Ave. on reports of three shoplifters at large.

Upon arrival, a Kmart Loss Prevention Officer informed the police that he had attempted to stop three males who had stolen jewelry and watches from the store. The three men had refused to stop for him.

A short time later, an officer observed two males matching the photo that had been supplied by the Loss Prevention Officer of subjects on the Assembly Square train platform. The officer notified dispatch of the situation and approached the suspects.

Due to the fact that the officer was was acting alone and was outnumbered, he placed both of the suspects in handcuffs.

One of the suspects, later identified as a juvenile known to the Commonwealth, tensed up and struggled with the officer for a few seconds while he handcuffed him. The second suspect was later identified as Bayron Lopez, of Chelsea. The officer asked Lopez how old he was, and he replied he was 18. The juvenile did not speak any English. The officer asked Lopez to ask the Juvenile how old he was. He asked the Juvenile in Spanish, then stated that the juvenile said he was 18.

Police pat frisked both of the suspects. A machete, approximately 18" in length, was concealed in the juvenile's pants, and Lopez had a bowie knife, approximately 12" long concealed in his pants, police said.

After a follow up with the

Kmart Loss Prevention Officer, police learned that the juvenile had allegedly placed several items of jewelry in his coat before leaving the store. Police could not locate the jewelry on the juvenile's person. According to the Loss Prevention Officer, Lopez was with the juvenile and the other unknown shoplifter, but did not actively participate in stealing anything.

The Loss Prevention Officer stated that he had no way of knowing what the value of the stolen jewelry was, but estimated it to be around \$100. He reportedly recovered several watches from under cars in the parking lot outside Kmart, which he states were taken by the third shoplifter.

Both subjects were transported to the police station, where it was learned that the juvenile was not an adult, and was released, pending further investigation by juvenile authorities.

Lopez was placed under arrest on a charge of violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon.

# SOMERVILLE POLICE GRIME LOG

#### Arrests:

**Jarrod Lee**, of 46 Prospect St., Brockton, June 18, 2:38 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on a charge of violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon.

**Jose Escobar**, of 15B Hamlet St., June 19, 11:43 p.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on warrant charges of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, not being in possession of license, and no inspection sticker.

**Christopher MacInnes**, of 64 Gibson St., Medford, June 21, 6:28 p.m., arrested at Davis Sq. on warrant charges of possession of a class B drug, shoplifting by concealing merchandise, disorderly conduct subsequent offense, possession of a class E drug, and removal of theft prevention device.

**Bayron Lopez**, of 22 Watts St., Chelsea, June 21, 9:35 p.m.,

arrested at Middlesex Ave. on a charge of violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon.

**Tanya Silva**, June 23, 4:37 p.m., arrested at Memorial Rd. on a charge of trespassing.

Pablo Batista, of 7220 Crane Brook Way, Peabody,

June 23, 5:52 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, marked lanes violation, motor vehicle operator failure to identify self, miscellaneous municipal ordinance violation.

### **Overdose aftercare discussion**

#### CONT. FROM PG 1

your own community," Outreach Manager of ACCESS Kristin Doneski said.

Doneski stressed that there is a misconception that drug users don't care about their health. The community team provides access to Hepatitis C treatment, wound cleaning, and clean supplies like needle exchange. ACCESS also helps connect women to doctors who can prescribe them with Pre-exposure prophylaxis (or PrEP) to prevent HIV.

"I just think it's such an important thing right now to be able to give them a little bit of hope and give them information and say, 'Hey, well, you know, when you're ready, this is available. When you're ready, did you know," said Jodi Horton, Overdose Aftercare Specialist and person in recovery. Director of Community Outreach and Harm Reduction at the Somerville Police Department Patty Contente said the public safety sector records overdose calls. The partnership of the public safety and Overdose Aftercare Community Teams allows the teams to check back with the household and provide resources and information in a comfortable space. "Change is hard. We can never force anybody. We strive to be independent. Valuing people's decision making is what harm reduction is all about," Contente said. "It's not 'treatment or nothing.' We want to embrace everyone and offer different kinds of supports throughout the process." Fentanyl Test Strips were passed around



and a brief demonstration was given after. The test strips are used to test for fentanyl in methamphetamine. Fentanyl is a cheap and potent synthetic opiate that is a depressant unlike meth that is a stimulant. Meth users need to test for laced fentanyl in their drugs to avoid accidental overdoses.

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"I think any tools like this really help people stop, pause, and think about how they're using their drugs, which we want everyone to do," Doneski said. "I think it's always important for people to know what's out there as tools."

After the demonstration, the ACCESS program gave a brief tour of their mobile health vans that they drive around to provide resources, support, and education to persons affected with drugs. Narcan kits, clean needles, condoms, abscess warmers, were labelled in blue drawers inside the van. Information on fentanyl and Hepatitis C were also taped to the van's windows. "We've lost so many people because peo-

ple are afraid to talk about drugs," Doneski said."There needs to be an open discussion."

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# The Somerville Times Veteran's recovered remains returned home

#### By Erin Nolan

Last week, Sgt. George R. Schipani was finally returned to his hometown of Somerville for the first time in almost 70 years. Schipani, who was killed in action during the Korean War in early 1951, was buried with full military honors, including a procession led by Massachusetts State Police and the Somerville Police Department, at Veteran's Memorial Cemetery on Saturday, June 22.

"It was an amazing turnout. I never thought it would be like this," said Schipani's aunt, Grace Quatieri. "I never thought it would be like this. I've never been to anything like this. It really was quite an event."

Sgt. Schipani was only a teenager on November 2, 1950 when he was reported missing in action. In 1953, after the war, returning American prisoners stated that Schipani had been captured during the Battle of Unsan, North Korea and marched to Pyoktng, Prisoner of War Camp 5 where nearly half of all prisoners died. The returning prisoners said that he was killed in early 1951. He was a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, according to the U.S. Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA).

In 1954, his remains were recovered by American soldiers in what was known as Operation Glory and buried as an unknown soldier, Unknown X-13448 Op Glory, in the National Memorial of the Pacific, also known as the Punchbowl, alongside other fallen soldiers.

In July 2018, Unknown X-13448 Op Glory was removed from the Punchbowl and sent to a laboratory for analysis. In early 2019, the remains were identified as George Schipani.

"It was a sad moment," Quatieri said about the day she found out that her nephew's remains had finally been identified. "It was 69 years ago. It's hard to conceive, but it does bring a sense of closure."

Numerous members of the community, including Somerville City officials, friends, family members, veterans, and fellow Company members, attended the burial service where they paid their respects to Schipani.

"It was a proud moment to be part of this community. It was really moving," Mayor Joseph Curtatone said. "People from older generations, and from younger generations. They all came together on this hallowed ground to welcome George Schipani home. I think for everyone it is a sense of pride. We may have our political differences and debates, but we know how to honor our servicemen and women, certainly those who made the ultimate sacrifice. I'm proud to be a member of this community."

The Massachusetts Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Francisco Urena, said that he hopes this will bring hope to other military families.

"We are honored to bring Sgt. George Schipani home to his city of Somerville, a city that he loved," Urena said. "Today we finally not only bring him home and bring him to his final resting place, but we provide a light of hope to so many families that wish they were in the same situation as the Schipani extended family is today."

Sgt. Schipani was the 70th Somerville veteran to be interred in the cemetery. He is also the first burial in Veteran's Memorial Cemetery as a result of death during active duty since 1983.

It was a proud moment to be part of this community. It was



Sgt. George R. Schipani was laid to rest at Veteran's Memorial Cemetery on Saturday, June 22, with family members and many local officials in attendance. More photos online at www.thesomervilletimes.com. — *Photos by Erin Nolan* 



really moving. People from older generations, and from younger generations. They all came together on this hallowed ground to welcome George Schipani home. I think for everyone it is a sense of pride. We may have our political differences and debates but we know how to honor our servicemen and women, certainly those who made the ultimate sacrifice. I'm proud to be a member of this community.



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# 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 representatives' votes on two roll calls from the week of June 17-21. There were no roll calls in the Senate last week.

#### **GROWING HEMP (H 3535)**

House 152-0, approved and sent to the Senate a bill that would allow farmers with agricultural deed restrictions on their land to grow hemp. It would also qualify hemp farmers for the property tax breaks currently given to growers of other crops.

The state's Agricultural Preservation Restriction (APR) Program, according to its website, "helps to preserve and protect agricultural land to keep valuable farmland soil from being built on by development companies for non-agricultural purposes that could be detrimental to the environment."

The program pays farmland owners the difference between their farm's fair market value and the lower agricultural use value in exchange for a permanent deed restriction which forbids the property from being used for anything that will have a negative impact on its agricultural viability.

The growing of hemp was legalized along with marijuana in 2016, but farmers that want to grow the industrial-use cannabis plant still can't cultivate the crop if their land falls under the APR.

"Allowing hemp to be grown on APR deed-restricted land is an opportunity for Massachusetts farmers to expand the \$550 million agricultural industry which will benefit the entire commonwealth," said Rep. Smitty Pignatelli (D-Lenox), the sponsor of the proposal. "We are currently importing hemp for various manufacturing products such as clothing, food, paper, and textiles, and tapping into these industries right here in the commonwealth will generate jobs and bring our farmers closer to economic security and success."

(A Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes

#### APPRAISAL MANAGEMENT (H 3904)

House 153-0, approved and sent to the Senate a bill that would establish a system for the state to license and regulate appraisal management companies (AMC). It is estimated that 80 percent of appraisal orders in the Bay State are processed by AMCs. The other 49 states already have AMC registration in place. valuation targets or certain values."

"Appraiser independence is vital to both safety and soundness of financial institutions, and to consumers who regularly rely on the appraisal obtained by the lender to determine if the price they are paying for a house is reasonable," said Rep. Tom Stanley (D-Waltham), the sponsor of the bill. "Missing the ... deadline impacts everyone either looking to buy a home or refinancing a mortgage as AMCs will not be able to operate in the state. There's no opposition to this legislation. It's time to sign this bill into law and comply with the Dodd-Frank Act requirements."

"For many of my constituents, a real estate transaction will be one of the most important financial decisions in their life," said Rep. Jim Murphy (D-Weymouth). "We must ensure that people are receiving an accurate assessment that is free from influence or bias. By regulating the AMC industry, we are taking an important step forward to protect Massachusetts consumers."

(A Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes

#### ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

PAY FINE FOR NOT VOTING (H 653) – The Elections Laws Committee held a hearing on a bill that would require eligible voters to cast a ballot in any November General Election or face a fine of \$15 that would be added to the non-voter's state tax liability for each election missed. The measure also clarifies that the voter does not have to actually vote for anyone and is allowed to leave the ballot blank.

"There are two schools of thought when filing legislation," said the bill's sponsor Rep. Dylan Fernandes (D-Falmouth). "One is filing a bill that is rigorously vetted, that has been combed line by line and that you hope only receives marginal edits through the committee process. The other is filing an idea that you believe is worthy of a robust public debate that will reshape the bill. Although it won't pass this session and may never pass at all, I believe mandatory voting is an idea worth debate and consideration at the Statehouse and by thoughtful citizens across the state because it drives at questions fundamental to our society, which is whether civic parCraney, executive director of the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance. "It should never be considered and always rejected. If politicians were successful in taxing voters because they chose not to vote, their next step would be to increase those taxes if you vote the wrong way."

SAME DAY VOTER REGISTRATION (H 636) – The Election Laws Committee hearing also included a bill that would allow Massachusetts qualified voters to register and vote on Election Day. Under current law, voters must be registered at least 20 days before an election in order to be eligible to vote in it.

"In Massachusetts, we know that 15 percent of people who are eligible to vote can't vote because they aren't registered," said Attorney General Maura Healey. "That's over 780,000 voting-age adults in our state whose voices aren't counted, aren't heard on Election Day. The result is unmistakable: fewer people of color, lower-income residents, renters and younger people are participating in the process."

"It has never been more important to protect and strengthen our democratic institutions," said Pam Wilmot, executive director of Common Cause Massachusetts. "Election Day Registration is a simple and common sense reform that will increase voter participation and ensure that every eligible voter can cast a ballot. It has been working well in 21 other states and will do so here in Massachusetts."

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 17-21, the House met for a total of six hours while the Senate met for a total of two hours and four minutes.

"AMC registration is a nationwide licensing requirement with an August 2019 deadline," writes Allan Cohen in the New England Real Estate Journal. "AMC registration comes right out of the federal Dodd-Frank law enacted by the U.S. Congress in 2010."

"Specific in its language about firewalls, Dodd-Frank gave impetus to the use of AMCs acting as an intermediary between lenders and appraisers," continued Cohen. "The goal is to protect consumers and avoid having financial institutions fall back into poor lending practices. Using an AMC as a firewall reduces the frequency of relational lending and influencing appraisers to meet ticipation in democracy is a duty or a right. I filed this bill to spark that debate."

"Only in Massachusetts could a blatantly unconstitutional reverse-poll tax seem like a good idea," said Chip Ford, executive director of Citizens for Limited Taxation. "Such craziness is pushing the saying that 'In Massachusetts everything that is not forbidden is mandatory' to a third-world extreme. What would follow, ordering voters who they must vote for under penalty of prison?"

"I am in full support of compulsory voting," said Cheryl Clyburn Crawford, the executive director of Mass-VOTE. "I just want to make sure it does not disproportionately affect communities of color, low income and new citizens. Maybe consider a sliding scale." Thurs. June 20

"It's a really bad idea and unconstitutional," said Paul Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

Mon. June 17

House 11:02 a.m. to 11:13 a.m. Senate 11:08 a.m. to 12:22 p.m.

> No House session No Senate session

House 11:03 a.m. to 3:57 p.m. No Senate session

House 11:01 a.m. to 11:56 a.m. Senate 11:09 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.

> No House session No Senate session

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# COMMENTARY

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## A system gravely out of balance

#### By William C. Shelton

Somerville is in the midst of a deepening crisis. The Mayor and others have named it a "housing crisis." But the crisis is *systemic*, and our shrinking stock of affordable housing is only one aspect.

#### Somerville as a system

For most of us, systems thinking does not come easily. We are schooled in classes that separate the world into different subjects, and we work in organizations and polities that compartmentalize it into separate functions and jurisdictions.

So we make plans that do not capture how our city – or organization, or planet – is composed of many interacting elements that influence and transform each other over time, forming a whole qualitatively different from the sum of those parts.

As I write this, two Somerville groups are making such plans. The City Council is conducting its budget review, which is the quantification of an annual plan. The intrinsic nature of their one-year horizon, limited scope of information, and episodic and discontinuous decision making necessarily constrain their ability to plan systemically, as many Councilors would wish to do.

Separately, a committee of which I am a member is working to update SomerVision 2030, the city's comprehensive plan. Adopted only seven years ago, it determined that planning decisions would be guided by many worthy principles, and by separate numerical objectives for new jobs, housing units, open-space acreage, and trips by modes other than cars.

Simplifying planning considerations to these numbers and principles afforded a certain degree of elegance. But SomerVision 2030 did not go very far in understanding how these separate objectives connect – supporting, constraining, and transforming each other as part of a larger system. Or, that that system extends beyond the city.

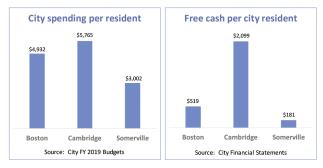
And SomerVision 2040 committee members are still obligated to plan their respective subject areas separately, although we are promised that there will be one or more "reconciliation sessions."

I want to make the systemic connections that public planning processes in Somerville have not thus far made. Many newcomers to the city who displaced long-term residents over the last ten or more years by bidding up housing prices are now frightened that they will be similarly displaced. Accordingly, affordable housing has become Somerville's hottest policy issue. So I will attempt to use it as a narrative thread around which to weave other systemic local and regional forces.

#### Fiscal Health

The most important reason for these differences is simply that those cities have more money. Even though Boston's median household income is only two-thirds Somerville's, Boston spends 39% more per resident. Cambridge spends 48% more, while its residential property tax rate is only 55% that of Somerville's. At the same time, residential properties produce twice the municipal costs that commercial properties produce.

One measure of a city's fiscal strength is its free cash. Boston has almost three times Somerville's free cash per resident; Cambridge, twelve times.



#### Commercial development

Boston and Cambridge have more money because they have more commercial property. Only 17% of Somerville's real estate tax base is commercial. It generates 24% of the City's real estate tax revenue because the commercial tax rate is 38% higher than the residential rate.

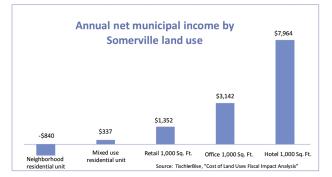
Because Boston's and Cambridge's residential-to-commercial property ratio is more balanced, their commercial real estate tax revenues per resident are 4 and 4.7 times that of Somerville's.



#### Jobs vs. workers

So the ratio between Somerville residents and jobs is also extremely unbalanced. Boston and Cambridge employ our residents. Only 15% of Somerville residents with jobs work in Somerville; more than half work in Boston and Cambridge.

As municipalities, Boston and Cambridge make money on the commercial properties in which Somerville residents work, while we house their workers and lose money on the residential properties in which they live. building were excluded, as was debt service on the new high school, that was also excluded from the Proposition 2½ limit. Costs of new water and sewer infrastructure were underestimated.



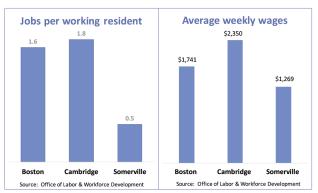
Therefore, net-income amounts for each of the graph's land uses are, in reality, lower. Few residential properties break even, and most produce deep losses.

"Mixed-Use Residential" housing is the units in Assembly Square and that are planned for Union Square. The difference between them and most Somerville housing is that the "Neighborhood Residential" category assumes one school-age child per dwelling unit, and Mixed-Use Residential assumes one child per twelve units. So to break even, or produce only small losses, housing has to exclude families.

Lab space, which did not appear in the analysis, would conservatively generate \$5,000 per year per 1,000 square feet because lab equipment is taxable. Hotel net income is high because revenues include substantial excise taxes. But hotel occupancy can be volatile.

#### Jobs and wages

Somerville's severe scarcity of commercial property produces a severe imbalance between jobs and workers, and between work sectors. Average weekly wages here reflect this imbalance. In Somerville, they are \$472 and \$1,081 less than in Boston and Cambridge, respectively.

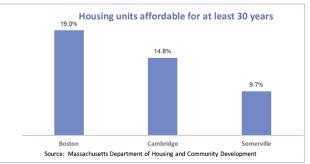


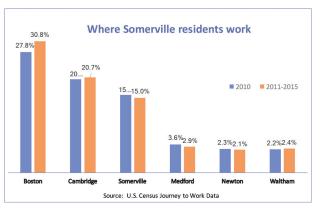
That's because jobs in Somerville are concentrated in lower-wage sectors and underrepresented in higher-wage sectors. And that's because we lack properties in which to house higher-wage sectors. The industrial sectors in the "Percentage of total jobs" graph are arrayed from lowest-wage to highest, left to right.

#### Affordable housing

Few, if any other, Massachusetts cities have stretched more to preserve some measure of affordable housing. We have instituted transfer fee legislation, a Community Preservation Act, 100-Homes Program, Condominium Conversion Ordinance, Affordable Housing Trust Fund, Office of Housing Sustainability, Community Land Trust, the highest inclusionary zoning requirements, and numerous other housing programs.

Yet Boston has, proportionately, twice as much housing that is affordable permanently, or for at least 30 years. Cambridge has half again as much.

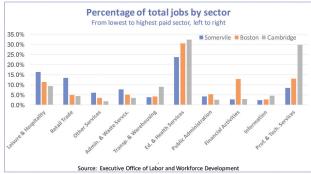




Land uses

The figures shown in the net-municipal-income-byland-use graph represent tax revenue generated by different property types, minus the cost of providing city services to them. But they are not quite accurate.

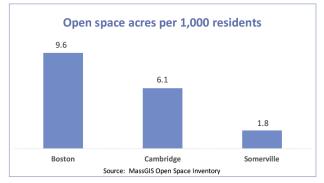
When Carson Bise performed this analysis, he was told to assume that the city would not build any more municipal buildings. So costs of the planned Public Safety



#### Open space

Pursuit of SomerVision's housing-units objective, in turn, systemically affects the open-space objective. The more new housing that we build, the greater is our need for green space, and the more we absorb land that could be used for it – or for income-generating commercial properties – while we further erode our capacity to pay for green space. *Continued on page 8* 

### A system gravely out of balance CONT. FROM PG 7



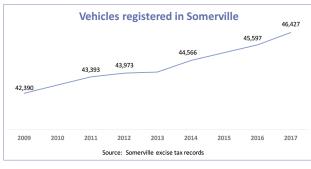
In the last two decades there has been an explosion in clinical research demonstrating the breathtaking impacts of the presence and absence of green space on human mental and physical health. Somerville has the worst proportion of usable open space per resident in the Commonwealth. Low-income households suffer most from this deficit because they don't have the means to visit greener settings.

Already the densest city in New England, Somerville continues to sacrifice the wellbeing of its citizens, while other cities do not.



#### Trips, traffic and congestion

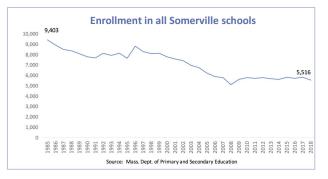
We are performing well on the SomerVision 2030 objective of shifting new trips onto transit, bike, and walking modes. Yet vehicles registered here, and traffic and parking congestion, continue to increase. This is because we keep building more unaffordable housing, and because more affluent people with cars displace lower-income people without cars in existing housing.



#### **Community fabric**

Somerville was once renowned for its tight community fabric. But the long-term residents who have been priced out were disproportionately those who coached little league, looked in on elderly neighbors, participated in voluntary associations, and wove the community fabric. In their absence, the fabric has unraveled.

It's hard to find quantitative measures for community. But we know that relationship density, participation in voluntary associations, civic engagement, and other measures of social capital are strongly correlated with the presence of families. They are becoming ever scarcer in our city as they are priced out by more affluent, childless transients. And developers are building few units that can accommodate families. So our age distribution is acutely out of balance as well.



#### Affordable housing consequences

If we examine Somerville as part of a system, we discover that the greatest obstacle to housing affordability is insufficient commercial development. The scarcity of living-wage jobs prevents low- and moderate-income people from paying for market-rate housing, while our residential-dominant tax base produces insufficient income to fully fund permanently affordable housing efforts.

Meanwhile, rising residential taxes and fees burden homeowners and renters. And when homeowners on fixed incomes are forced to sell out, they understandably do so at top dollar. Buyers increase rents to service their mortgages, and tenants who cannot pay are evicted. These trends increasingly outpace all our affordable housing interventions.

No amount of new housing that we could build in Somerville would equilibrate supply and demand at a lower price point because the housing market is regional. But some city officials argue that we need to build more housing to set an example for other cities and towns. This is like insisting that a trauma victim who has lost half of his or her blood should inspire blood donors by giving another pint.

#### This is not sustainable.

One-time residential building permit fees, condominium conversions, and maximizing the 2½ limit have masked the fiscal imbalances in our system. Some will remember the Planning Board's refusal to hold Federal Realty to a 20% affordable-housing requirement because loss of \$3 million in building permit fees would produce a gaping budget deficit and force extensive staff layoffs.

Extreme imbalances are not sustainable in any system. Masked as they are, our current imbalances could continue for years, while our underlying structural deficit grows ever deeper, and we grow ever more unbalanced. But, as with a crystal meth addict, the longer that the run continues, the more devastating will be the crash, and the more tortuous the recovery.

Recognizing this, our city's leaders could now institute policies to rebalance the system. I'll examine some of those in my next column.



Of course, I had to do an internet 1 Bag Frozen Petite Peas (16 oz. = 4 search to find out more information Cups)

search to find out more information about this traditional staple. Imagine my surprise when I found out that the type of pea used was called a marrowfat pea. What is a marrowfat pea? To all my vegetarian friends, not to worry, there is neither marrow or fat in these peas. They are a mature pea left on the plant to dry out prior to harvesting. They are larger than a traditional pea and contain a high amount of starch. See the following articles explaining the origin and the preparation of these starchy nuggets: https://www.pulsesuk.co.uk/thestory-of-marrowfat-peas-hellip/ and this one https://h2g2.com/entry/ A87795904.

3 Tablespoons Unsalted Butter 1 Large Shallot, Minced 1/4 Cup Light Cream 1/4 Cup Mint Leaves 1-1/2 Teaspoons Kosher Salt

Empty the frozen peas into a medium sized bowl and cover with cold water. In a 2-quart saucepan, melt the butter and add the minced shallot. Cook on medium/low heat to sweat the shallots about 5-6 minutes, do not brown them. Turn off the heat, add the cream, mint leaves and salt to the saucepan and let sit for 5-10 minutes, allowing for the mint to steep. Drain the water from the peas and



add 2-1/2 cups to the saucepan. Using an immersion blender, blend the liquid and the peas until it's a creamy consistency. Then add the remaining peas and mash with a potato masher. The texture should be creamy with chunks of peas. At this point you can transfer them to a container and refrigerate for later use.

If you plan on using a portion or all of it now, just turn the heat on low and constantly stir the peas, making sure not to scorch and certainly not to overcook the peas. You want to keep the vibrant green color. I found these peas are so tender that there is no need to precook prior to reheating. Feel free to cut the recipe in half. Serve with fish and chips or a traditional meat pie. However, they go well with just about anything. Serves 8.

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

# The SomervilleTimes Union Squar

# Union Square developer unveils new plan for open space

#### By Marshall Collins

At the June 13 Planning Board meeting, the developers behind the revitalization of Union Square shared their updated vision for open space, which was refined based on feedback from the community over the rigorous 18-month community process.

During the presentation, Greg Karczewski, president of US2, the master developer selected for this project, shared the plans for Union Square's D2 Block, which were made to significantly increase the amount of open space. Karczewski shared that the changes were responsive to community feedback, and will help Somerville to advance the goals set out in Somervision.

Karczewski stated that the updated plans do the following on the D2 Block:

• Increase open space to 33,000 square feet Add a new neighborhood park

Allow for better north-south

and east-west connections • Make the new MBTA stop more accessible

• Offer the potential for even more affordable housing and open space in Union Square

The D2 Block will now feature 33,000 square feet of total Civic Space, an increase of more than 11,000 square feet from what was initially proposed. With these changes, open space now accounts for 35 percent of the site. Karczewski stated that throughout the year and a half long community process, more green space was a consistent community desire. His team returned to the drawing board to understand how they might achieve this objective while still achieving the other project goals to deliver new housing, lab and office space. They determined that by making strategic building footprint reductions they could make proposed open spaces larger while also introducing new open area into the plan. In combination, the resulting streetscapes would exceed area standards and a neighborhood park would be added to the plan, together delivering better connections to the neighborhood.

Karczewski noted that these changes will be key to helping the city realize the goals laid out in Somervision. That plan called for creating and programming a network of vibrant public open spaces and shared use paths throughout the city. The Union Square project will feature landscaped pedestrian plazas, pocket parks, community gardens, new neighborhood parks and more to not only promote healthy living but also foster community recreation and cultural opportunities.

The community had also provided feedback wanting the new MBTA station to be easily accessible. Karczewski stated that these changes he presented help to create a strong connection between Union Square Plaza and the MBTA station. Beyond that, he shared that they plan to create a second neighborhood park away from Prospect Street, responding to community concerns about moving green space away from traffic, and also connecting the MBTA Station to the neighborhood to the east. He noted that an adjacent piece of land to the new park - currently being used by the MBTA for construction - could become an additional 62,000 square feet of open space, with the potential to become fields, which is another community priority.

The reconfiguration of the site may also allow for more flexibility to achieve community goals, such as affordable housing, Karczeski said. His team is discussing the possibility of using a now freed-up parcel to create additional affordable units with Preservation of Affordable Housing, Somerville Community Corporation, and Cambridge Health Alliance.

The updated plans appeared to

be well received by the audience and community, and signal that the project is gaining momentum, with the amount of open space and connections to the MBTA being some of the final pieces of feedback from the community that the developers have now addressed. The updated plans followed a recent Planning Board meeting where the City's fiscal expert Barry Abramson concluded that moving parking underground was not a viable option, and pushing for it could put the entire project in jeopardy. The developers and the Union Square Neighborhood Council recently gave an update on the community benefits package, noting that the two groups are close to reaching an agreement.

The project is awaiting a certificate from the state's environmental protection agency and a transfer of a key parcel of land from the city of Somerville to move forward, both of which could come this summer.



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**Be Somerville** 



#### By Joseph A. Curtatone

A monthly look at ways to get involved with your city: Don't just live in Somerville, be Somerville!

#### Join a Board or Commission

Joining a City board or commission is a great way to get more involved with issues that you care deeply about and right now several have openings for new members. The Planning Board, Somerville Redevelopment Authority, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Somerville Historic Preservation Commission are currently accepting applications for new members. Each of these groups deals with important issues around construction and development - both on a large scale and on a smaller scale, like home renovations. You can learn more about what each board or commission does, what is involved in being a member, and how to apply at www.somervillema. gov/besomerville. And don't forget to check back for future opportunities to serve on boards and commissions related to other issues.

#### Share Your Thoughts on Powder House Boulevard Design

As we consider options for bicycle safety features on Powder House Boulevard, we want to hear from you. Each option involves tradeoffs and some would require the removal of some on-street parking. We've put up a short survey at www.somervillema.gov/powderhouseboulevard. There will be a meeting this summer to continue the discussion. A great way to stay updated on upcoming meetings is by subscribing to the City's newsletter at www.somervillema.gov/enews.

#### A Quick, Easy Way to be a Part of SomerVision 2040

SomerVision 2030 - a community-developed comprehensive plan for the City – has shaped a lot of the work we've done since it was adopted. But a lot has changed in the past decade and we want to make sure we keep our goals updated and in sync with the needs of the community. The ongoing SomerVision 2040 process is a chance to look at the original SomerVision plan and make updates and changes when appropriate. To make sure we hear from as many people as possible there will be many opportunities to get involved and not all of them will be meetings. Right now there is a survey up at www.somervision2040.com/ participate where you can give feedback about what you love about Somerville, what you think should change in the City, and what issues you feel are priorities. It takes just a few minutes to fill out and is available in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Haitian Creole. While you're there, you can also sign up for the SomerVision 2040 mailing list to get updates on the process and learn about new ways to get involved.

#### Remove Invasive Species and Help Spread the Word

Black swallow-wort (BSW) is an aggressive and invasive weed that can be found throughout Somerville. It poses a threat to native plants, monarch butterflies, birds, and other animals. We're partnering with the Somerville Garden Club to raise awareness about BSW and en-

#### courage residents to remove it from their yards. There are two ways we're asking for help: Visit www.somervillema.gov/BSW to learn more about the weed, including what it looks like, so you can remove it if you find it growing in your yard. We're also working on distributing door hangers throughout the City with more information. If you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact Community Engagement Specialist Taylor Ko at tko@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2620.

#### Volunteers Always Welcome

Somerville is full of creative, talented, and passionate people and we're grateful any time residents share their skills with us. We're always happy to work with people willing to volunteer with the City to find a good fit. If you're interested in volunteering this summer (or anytime), please contact Community Services Manager Christopher Hosman at chosman@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2406.

#### Catch a City Meeting or Event Online or on TV

You can watch City meetings, events, and other community

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shows on the City's cable channel (channel 13 or 613 for RCN subscribers and 22 for Comcast subscribers) and on Educational Channel 15 you can watch school sports, school events, and educational programming. If you're not a cable subscriber, you can also find City programming at www.somervillema.gov/ TV and YouTube.com/SomervilleCityTV, and videos from City Council meetings at www. somervillema.gov/boa.

#### **City Alerts**

Get important City notifications for snow emergencies, construction, detours, and other public safety matters delivered to your phone (voice and text) and/or your email. Sign up for alerts at www.somervillema.gov/alerts.

#### **City Newsletter**

For weekly updates on city cultural and civic events, City services, job openings, and more, sign up for the City e-newsletter at www.somervillema.gov/ newsletter.

#### **City Calendar**

Look up city events and meetings (as well as agendas and minutes) 24/7 on the City calendar at www.somervillema.gov.

#### By Stephen Mackey, president/CEO of the Somerville Chamber of Commerce

The City of Somerville faces unprecedented financial pressure as it heads into 2020. Big bills are coming due at City Hall for a number of substantial capi-

and other miscellaneous costs that every city faces. Somerville has always operated as one of the leanest municipalities of any urban core city in the Commonwealth. However, capital needs are continuing to grow as the city seeks to address its need to upgrade facilities and infrastructure. The high school was recent-

ly warned by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges that a failure to advance renovations would jeopardize the school's accreditation. A new campus featuring a stateof-the-art learning environment is far more preferable than a facility with a failing exterior, outdated steam heating system and improper insulation. Since 1985, the Somerville Police Department has operated from a location that wasn't designed to function as a public safety headquarters (the building originally served as a car barn for the MBTA). The building recently experienced severe flooding that displaced some of the department's essential services.

Somerville's capital budget is roughly \$750 million, which is substantial for a community of its size, and far greater than anything Somerville has faced before. City officials have worked

Bills Come D

diligently to increase the city's commercial tax base, which has the dual effect of reducing the tax burden on residential tax payers and increasing available revenue for capital investment. If the city's efforts to broaden the commercial base stall, the burden to pay for capital projects will fall upon residential property owners, who - in the most recent fiscal year - paid 76 percent of Somerville's overall taxes. By comparison, business property taxes accounted for less than 17 percent of municipal revenue. It's easy to demonize the commercial sector, but communities that balance their tax base more efficiently have the opportunity to minimize the financial strain on homeowners, while generating sufficient revenue for services that residents want and deserve.

Look no further than Cambridge, where the business sector pays more than 60 percent of the total tax burden. Cambridge has substantially more commercial properties than Somerville, because it has long pursued commercial development to support its budgetary needs.

Since the turn of the century, Somerville has adopted a similar approach, with Assembly Row as the most prominent example of growth that benefitted the city budget. Assembly Row has surpassed all of its projections and produced millions in new commercial tax revenue for the city. Somerville's next opportunity to broaden its commercial base awaits in Union Square, where Union Square Associates (US2), the master developer selected to revitalize Union Square is moving toward approval for the first phase of its development. The first phase, which includes a 175,000 square foot lab and office building, will generate tens of millions of dollars in land acquisitions fees, permitting fees,

linkage payments and new tax revenue. Those payments, will only be realized, however, if the city's Planning Board approves the project and the City Council transfers a small parcel of property that the SRA has already agreed to convey to the developer.

Recent reports indicate that the Union Square Neighborhood Council and US2 are close to an agreement on a community benefits package, though it appears a sticking point may lie in the Neighborhood Council's demand that US2 enter into a project labor agreement, which could stop the development due to fiscal impacts. In December, one Union Square resident told The Boston Globe that his "greatest fear is that in seeking to get everything, we get nothing. When is good enough good enough?" For City Hall and residential tax payers, an influx of millions of dollars to defray the rising cost of capital projects could be plenty good. Time will tell if that's good enough for Union Square.

tal projects. For example:

+ \$257 million is due for Somerville's new high school, which is under construction and due to be completed in Spring 2020

+ At least \$50 million will be needed for a new municipal public safety complex, according to the most recent City of Somerville Capital Investment Plan (CIP), with costs anticipated to rise by at least 5 percent annually, suggesting the final cost could be as high as \$80 million

+ Another \$50 million must be paid to MassDOT for the Green Line Extension

Of course, on top of all of that, there's the usual maintenance water and sewer infrastructure

# COMMENTARY

# SIGNS OF THE TIMES



# **Our View Of The Times**

The Fourth of July holds a special significance in the hearts of truly patriotic Americans. Not only is it a time to celebrate the birth of our nation, but it also happens to fall at the best time of year to make good times happen, summer.

Who among us doesn't enjoy the occasion? Who can resist the warm glow of good fellowship between friends, neighbors and families as the "birthday" of our nation comes around? Great memories for the future are made each year as we attend a patriotic gathering, watch some fireworks, or just take a quiet look around and realize that America is still the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave. There's nothing corny about these ideas. They are concepts that live and breathe as vitally today as they ever have.

We must never take these freedoms for granted, nor minimize their importance

in assuring that we Americans enjoy one of the finest standards of living among all nations of the world.

Yes, we have our challenges and burdens to bear, and a number of political and philosophical differences between us. But we also seem to push through successfully as we strive to solve our many difficult issues, and to soothe the afflicted among us. For whatever exists momentarily that

may divide us, there are important times

like these when we can unite together in the spirit of true patriotism and national pride to celebrate the great gift of being Americans, and commemorate the sacrifices of our forebears in bringing this nation to life. We owe it to their memories to take the time to pause and reflect on what their efforts mean to us today.

Enjoy the day and remember what it stands for. That's the most important thing of all.

#### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Last week, Wednesday, June 19, at Healey School on Meacham St., the city held a meeting to discuss the old Star Market site. About a hundred people showed up to listen to basically nothing. They handed out sheets with three options on it, one of which was "wait and see what happens." It appears that the developer they had for the place totally backed out of the project. It's been a long time and it is now the city's sore spot. Mayor Curtatone and Ward 4 Councilor Jesse Clingan both should be working day and night to get something going and fast. People are getting upset. and now Somerville has to go to Wellington to get a shuttle to the casino or walk from East Somerville over the bridge. Hopefully, something will be done and soon. We can't get there from here, but why?

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What happened at the Winter Hill Bakery? It seems like that nice lady who was always smiling and helpful to **local councilor** and asked why the traffic lights at **Broadway and Boston Ave**. are not blinking. It seems pretty stupid to have two transit cops sitting there playing on their phones, with signs everywhere and several huge trucks parked in front of the bridge. That councilor wrote us back and forwarded a letter with an explanation as to why it's the way it is. We can't print the reason why this week. as well, Cheryl Taylor, of ERA Keys Realty. Happy birthday to Katherine Cremins this week as well. We wish her the very best and that all her wishes come true and soon. Happy birthday to a former writer here at *The Times* who has moved on, **Beecher Tuttle**. Finally, a happy birthday to **Joe Grafton**, who is celebrating this week. To those that are celebrating this week, and we didn't post,

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The Encore casino grand opening was this past Sunday. Thousands stood in line from all over to get in, but a few Somerville residents wondered why Somerville doesn't have a shuttle? It appears that Everett, Medford, Malden, New Hampshire, South Shore and even Boston at various points have direct shuttles to the casino, but not Somerville. Why? Somerville is closer to the casino than even Chelsea. Assembly Square sits right across the channel from the casino, but no shuttle! Who pissed off Wynn? Someone has, the customers during the week has been exiled to only Weekends. Anyone who has gone in to the bakery for the various breads they sell knows who we are talking about.

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More new faces are showing up behind the prescription counter at **the former Rite Aid** now **Walgreens in Winter Hill**. It appears that the old staff has been fired. The other current Rite Aid stores are very anxiously waiting to see what happens to them. Will they just be thrown out like the pharmacist on Winter Hill or will they keep their jobs? One thing we can say is that many of them do not want that manager from Winter Hill to come down to their stores!

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Last week we told you that we called a

but it sounds like the **men and women** at the GLX are still raking in the money!

Celebrating their birthdays this week: Happy birthday to a good guy, Jonathan Buck, who celebrates this week. Jonathan is the General Manager at Mirak Motors in Arlington. He currently lives in Winter Hill and is well known. Happy birthday to **Rod Laurenz**, a great guy and generous with his time and energy. We wish him a very happy birthday this week. Happy birthday to the nicest Somerville lady - and we mean lady here in the city her whole life and is still here. She's paralegal at Attorney Sean O'Donovan's Law Office. She's committed to doing her work every day and her love for her family, happy birthday Paula! Happy birthday to a good friend again we wish you the best of birthdays.

The retirement party for Ricky Willette (DPW) was last night at the Olde Magoun's Salon. We're sure it was packed. He's a popular guy and we wish him well. Of course, we wish Ricky the best of luck in whatever he does.

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We heard that the **DPW Commissioner** is staying on until **December 31** of this year. We guess so **Joe** can have him run his campaign again. Hopefully, Joe has others co-running it, because although **Stan** was good in his day, now it's like he is in a Twilight Zone. We're concerned here at **Newstalk** that he can't handle both jobs at the same time. Some are already questioning the decision, but he trusts everyone now, doesn't he? Continued on page 17

over the Mystic River.







# Another 'Summertime in Somerville'

#### By Jennifer Grimes

Saturday June 22 was the perfect day for Somerville's summertime event, which was held from 12 p.m.- 4 p.m. The sun brightened stretches of grass on Trum Field, the breeze was gentle, and the clouds ceased to threaten rain.

Summertime in Somerville, operated by Somerville's Parks and Recreation team, treated hundreds of families to a day of family friendly activities, pony rides, and a free BBQ. The annual family fun day was thoughtfully put together and run by community members who chose to volunteer their time for a relaxing, family-filled day.

The weather lent itself to the public and gave families a day to spend with their kids. Families enjoyed playing catch, sitting at a picnic table enjoying a burger, and lounging in the sun-soaked grass. Many children joyously lined up to take their turn climbing on top of a quarter horse for a quick stroll up and down the field. There was not a frown in sight on the faces of children or their parents. Kids of all ages grouped together for games of soccer, frisbee, and football while teenage volunteers coached the activities.

Firefighters and police officers also donated their services to the event. Firemen hoisted kids up onto their trucks and let them peer inside to see what a day in the life of a firefighter truly looked like. Police officers opened their cruisers as well and hoped to inspire the next generation to sit in the driver's seat.

Summertime in Somerville has been running for a few years, originally hosted by the yard's council, and every year the event has a fantastic turn out. The streets were lined with parked vehicles and blocked off dutifully so that parents and children could walk safely to the field. Children's faces were shimmering with face paint and laughing with joy as they jumped on the mattress of the bouncy houses that the community supplied. The day at Trum Field was definitely not one to be missed.













### The Somerville Times

# **Encore Boston Harbor opens**

The \$2.6 billion Encore Boston Harbor opened its doors at 10 a.m. on Sunday, June 23. Thousands lined up to take part in the opening day festivities, which included a pyrotechnics display

Encore Boston Harbor features 210,000 square feet of gaming space with more than 3,100 state-of-the-art slot machines and 231 table games. The two-level casino also offers private gaming rooms with secluded terraces, as well as an 88-table Poker Room.















Photos courtesy of Encore Boston Harbor and Bobbie Tone





# **5 tips for helping family** caregivers manage medications

#### By Angela Clary

dence?

occur?

fear of?

7. What did Charles

As we know, caregiving is a fulltime job that often requires coordinating many moving pieces. Medication is usually a key part of that picture, and it often falls on caregivers to ensure that things stay on track.

Roughly 83 percent of Americans take at least one medication daily, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-

more than one million emergency room visits each year.

Allergic reactions, unexpected side effects and human error are common factors behind adverse reactions, so as a caregiver it's important to be aware of the potential pitfalls, and to ensure prescriptions are taken properly.

The following is a quick set of tips to help family caregivers manage medications: Know your medicines Ms. Cam's Olio #685 Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge Osborne have from 1894-1. What words are hand written on the back of the 1991? Declaration of Indepen-8. What is the distance of the Breeders' Cup turf? 2. Which president was the first to hold a Fourth 9. What was often spoof July celebration at the ken by Lurch on TV's The White House? Addams Family? 3. On what day did the 10. Who invented the 2019 summer solstice process for making sweetened condensed milk? 4. On what day is Na-11. In 2017, what singer tional Ice Cream Day? did the Chinese government ban from perform-5. Where is the Salvador ing in China because of his behavior? Dalí Museum located? 6. What is Frigophobia a 12. What is the name

of Celine Dion's family's piano bar? Answers on page 23 why they are taking it, and the possible side effects. Many medications have the potential for side effects, but are prescribed because the benefits likely outweigh the risk - so it's important to know the signs of trouble. Make sure you understand the instructions and only use as directed.

#### List your medicines

Maintaining a comprehensive list of medications, with dosage and schedule, is helpful on several levels. It relieves the burden of trying to remember everything. It's also a good idea to have this information handy if there is a hospitalization or another emergency. Don't forget to list overthe-counter medications as well. **Reconcile medications** 

The interaction between some medicines can produce potentially life-threatening side effects, so it's important for medical personnel to be aware of the big picture. Have an extra copy of the medication list, so you can provide it when a hospitalization occurs. Be sure to take note if anything new is added over the course of a hospital stay. Ask questions if you are concerned about how the new prescriptions might interact.

#### Dispose of meds properly

Nothing good comes of having a medicine cabinet filled with medications that are no longer necessary. Many medicines can be flushed down the toilet. Meds can also be thrown away, but it's best to mix them with something unappealing, such as coffee grounds. Be sure to put the mix-



Licensed clinical social worker and outreach specialist for Adult Family Care Angela Clarv.

ture in a sealed container, before putting it in the trash. Many communities also host drug takeback days. An easy way to find out about those is through the Drug Enforcement Administration website, DEA.gov. Seek professional advice

Your doctor and pharmacist are important resources. Don't be afraid to ask them questions, especially if you don't understand something. Some caregiver support programs can also be helpful. Our program, Adult Family Care, helps caregivers follow the best practices on medication management, and also provides regular training on the topic.

Those are the basics of medication management, and hopefully you now feel a little more empowered to take charge of this often daunting aspect of caregiving. While the vast majority of caregivers have no formal background in medicine, it's important to recognize that a little preparation and mindfulness can go a long way toward helping a loved one successfully manage medications.

Angela Clary is a licensed clinical social worker and outreach specialist for Adult Family Care (AFC), an Adult Foster Care provider that serves the Greater Boston, North Shore, and Merrimack Valley areas. For more information, email aclary@eldercare.org, call 617-628-2601 or visit adultfamilycare.org.

# Summer programs in Somerville and surrounding area

Starting July 1, 2019 enjoy free breakfast and lunch prepared by Somerville's award-winning Food and Nutrition Services Department, available all summer for youth under the age of 19. The meals are provided by Somerville Public Schools Food and Nutrition Services Department and by the Somerville Recreation Department. Here's a list of dates, times, and locations where you can enjoy a nutritious meal this summer: www.somerville.k12.ma.us/summer-meals-program. Also, take a look at the 2019 Fresh and Fun flyer to learn more about other free meal and reduced cost food options available in our community.



www.somervillema.com www.medfordma.com

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Somerville Public Schools' Reading Specialists have created a Summer Reading list of outstanding children's literature chosen for students entering grades 1-8. These are suggestions, but children may select any title that matches their interests and their reading level, including books written in their native language. The suggested summer reading list as well as Somerville Public Library hours and locations can be found at this link.

Visit the Somerville Family Learning Collaborative website (www.somerville.k12.ma.us/families) and the Somerville Hub (www.somervillehub.org) for resources for families on summer camps, summer programs, and recreational opportunities across the City. And check out the Somerville Recreation Department's many summer program and activity options for kids and adults at http://www.somervillerec.com/info/activities/default.aspx?type=activities.

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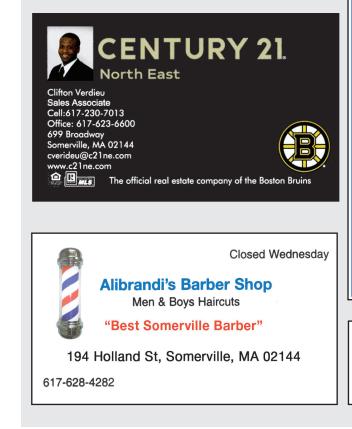
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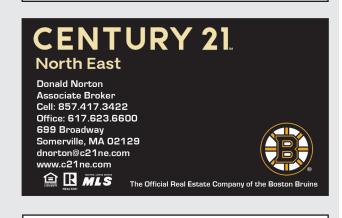
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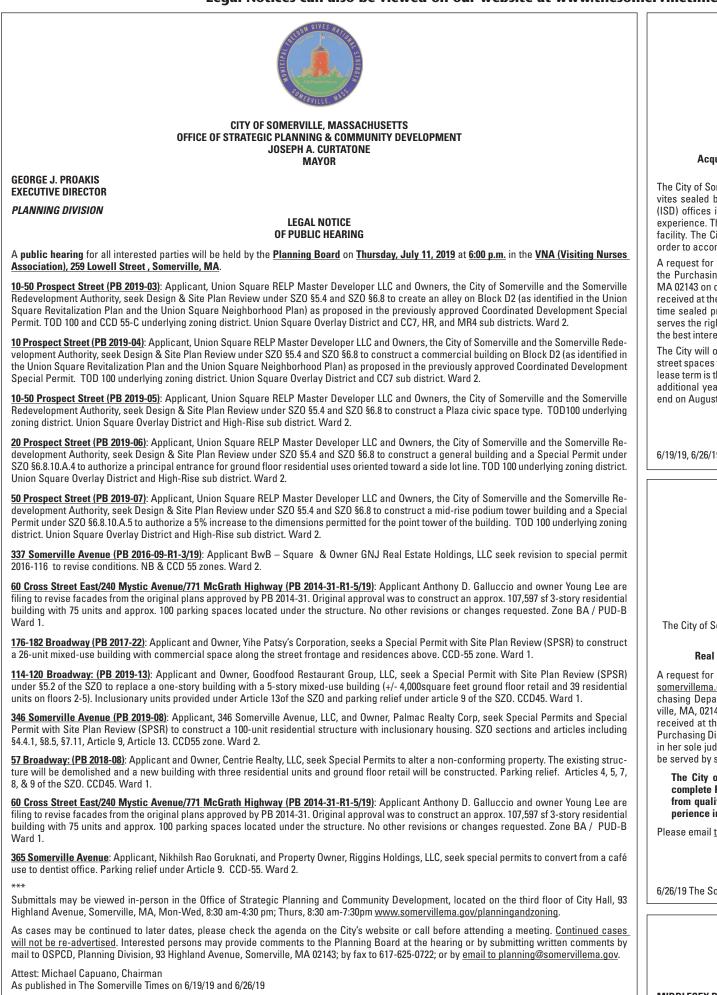
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### **LEGAL NOTICES**

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



6/19/19, 6/26/19 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT RFP # 19-87

Acquisition of Commercial Office Space by Lease for Inspectional Services Department

The City of Somerville, acting through the Purchasing Department invites sealed bids to relocate the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) offices in an effort to improve operations and the constituent experience. The proposal may offer an entire facility or a portion of a facility. The City is seeking a minimum of 7,000 square foot space in order to accommodate the Inspectional Services Department offices.

A request for proposals (RFP) and specifications may be obtained at the Purchasing Department, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143 on or after <u>Wednesday June 19th</u>. Sealed proposals will be received at the above office until <u>Friday July 19th at 11:00am</u>. at which time sealed proposals will be opened. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The City will only consider facilities that provide a minimum of 35 off street spaces for 35 vehicles within the City of Somerville. The desired lease term is three years plus options to extend the lease for up to two additional years. Lease start date shall be September 1st, 2019 and end on August 31st, 2029.

> Angela M. Allen Purchasing Director 617-625-6600 x. 3400

6/19/19, 6/26/19 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT RFP 19-89

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

Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Bill Service

A request for proposals (RFP) may be obtained online at <u>http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing</u> or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after <u>June 26th, 2019</u>. Sealed proposals will be received at the above office until: <u>July 17th, 2019 at 2:00 pm ET</u>. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The City of Somerville is soliciting proposals to provide a complete Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Bill Service from qualified, full-service providers with demonstrable experience in the municipal area.

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

<u>Thupten Chukhatsang</u> Procurement Analyst 617-625-6600 x. 3400

6/26/19 The Somerville Times

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Department 208 Cambridge Street Cambridge, MA 02141

MIDDLESEX Division Docket No. MI 19W-0750WD SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

James A. Cabral, Plaintiff

Notice of Self Storage Sale TO PLACE LEGAL 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 oc-ADVERTISMENTS IN THE cur as an online auction via www.storagetreasures.com on 7/8/2019 at 12:00 PM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Nadia Washington unit #0591; SOMERVILLE TIMES, Mike Vendetti unit #281B; Jane Arruda unit #292B. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be with-MA 01945 drawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. CONTACT US See manager for details. 6/19/19, 6/26/19 The Somerville Times BY 12 PM MONDAY Legal Notices can be downloaded PH: 617.666.4010 from our website: FAX: 617.628.0422 www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

Jasmyne R. Coffin, Defendant

To the above named Defendant:

A Complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_seeking <u>Custody/Support/Parenting Time</u>\_\_\_\_\_\_

You are required to serve upon Alessandra Donovan

attorney for plantiff - whose address is <u>P.O. Box 1314, Marblehead,</u> <u>MA 01945</u>

your answer on or before <u>July 22, 2019</u>. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Register of this Court at <u>Cambridge</u>.

Witness, <u>Hon. Maureen H. Monks</u>, Esquire, First Justice of said Court at **Cambridge**, this <u>7th</u> day of <u>June</u>, <u>2019</u>

> Tara E. De Christofaro Register of Probate

6/26/19 The Somerville Times

Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/thesomervilletimes

# Removing black swallow-wort and spreading the word about invasive plants

The City of Somerville is partnering with the Somerville Garden Club again in 2019 to raise awareness about (BSW), a very aggressive and invasive, non-native weed that can be found throughout Somerville. It displaces native plants and habitats, threatens butterflies and songbirds, and is toxic to deer and livestock. BSW is especially harmful to the monarch butterfly population as BSW resembles milkweed, where monarchs lay their eggs, and once the monarch larvae hatch they die from eating the toxic BSW leaves.

BSW pods have already started to appear in Somerville this season, and the City and the Garden Club are asking community members to remove BSW when they see it. Volunteers are also being sought to help distribute informational door hangers in their neighborhoods about BSW, how to identify it, how to and remove it.

Anyone interested in seeing what BSW looks like and learning the best practices for removing it may visit the City website at somervillema.gov/BSW, which also includes information on other invasive plants.

The BSW plant has shiny, green leaves that come in pairs along winding vines that are often found around fences and shrubs. It also has slim, green pods that appear in June, which are imperative to remove before they turn brown and disperse wind-borne seeds. BSW also has small, dark purple flowers that grow in clusters with five petals and a green center. Whenever possible BSW should be uprooted completely and the pods should be removed. To dispose of the plant, be sure to place all of it in a sealed trash bag. Do not compost or place BSW in paper or yard waste bags, they will resprout.

To sign up to help distribute door hangers now through mid-July (see sample at www.somervillema.gov/BSW), please contact City of Somerville Community Engagement Specialist, Taylor Ko (tko@somervillema.gov, 617-625-6600 x2620).





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## Fourth of July CONT. FROM PG 1

from 4:00 p.m. - midnight. Traffic restricted to residents only from 4:00 -6:00: p.m. (from Morrison Ave. only). No access to street after 6:00 p.m.

Franey Road: No Parking on either side from 2:00 p.m. - midnight. Street will be closed from 3:00 p.m. - midnight. Restricted area authorized personnel only.

Charles E. Ryan Road: No parking on street on either side from 8:00 a.m. midnight. Access restricted to residents from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. No access to street from 6:00 p.m. - midnight.

#### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

To ensure public safety and pedestrian access to events, several road closures and bus detours will be in place for both events. Traffic alterations will be as follows:

Broadway (in front of Trum Field: No parking 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.)

Due to the large crowds and loud noise of the Fireworks the City recommends that attendees leave pets at home and not bring unnecessary bags or backpacks. All bags and backpacks are subject to inspection. For more information, please call 311, or visit www.somervillema.gov.

#### \*LOCAL DAIRY, MEAT AND EGGS

#### **\*BULK STAPLES AND SPICES**

#### \*PANTRY ESSENTIALS

#### \*FRESH BREAD, DONUTS AND COFFEE

MONDAY 8AM-8PM TUESDAY CLOSED WEDNESDAY 8AM-8PM THURSDAY 8AM-8PM TRIDAY 8AM-8PM SATURDAY 9AM-7PM COM SUNDAY 9AM-7PM The campaign for School Committee in Ward 3 is already very active. We heard from Mary Marshall that she and her followers are planning on canvasing the ward several times. We know one person in Ward 3 who met her recently and was impressed with her credentials. Now, we don't want to say the other two aren't working hard. We haven't heard from anyone in Ward 3 that says they are or not.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

It's getting worse. The **city streets** are getting smaller because of **bikes**, that some don't even pay attention to **the rules**. We say charge them a **license fee** for bike excise tax.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

There appears to be a **rush on applications** from home owners and developers to turn multifamily homes into condos before the new law takes effect. It appears the condo review board is earning their money and more. When and if this law happens, you can thank the city councilors for the prices drop here in Somerville – like a rock. Many homeowners with two, three and more families will see a significant drop in prices. Guess the city council doesn't get it. We are a city of less than four square miles (fifth smallest in the country, and first in New England).

#### \*\*\*\*\*

After trying out some other donut places, we keep coming back to **Demet's** in Medford on Mystic Avenue. They are made on location and fresh daily, and most of all they taste so much better than most.

415 MEDFORD STREET 617-702-2811 NBRHOODPRODUCE.COM

### •••• VILLENS ON THE TOWN ••••

#### CHILDREN AND YOUTH Wednesday|June 26

East Branch Library Preschool Storytime 11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

Davis Square Farmers Market Farmers Market Fun! 12 p.m.-1:30 p.m.| Day & Herbert Streets

#### Thursday| June 27

Central Library Preschool Storytime for 3 to 5-year-olds 10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m. TELL (Teen Library Leaders) Meeting 3:45 p.m.-5:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library East Branch Summer Reading KICK-OFF with Ed the Wizard! 3 p.m.-4 p.m.|115 Broadway

#### Friday|June 28

Central Library Preschool Storytime for 2-yearolds 10:30 a.m.-11 a.m. |79 Highland Ave

#### Saturday|June 29

**East Branch Library** Somerville Boxing Club on the lawn at the East Branch 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. 115 Broadway

**Tuesday|July 2** Somerville Community Baptist Church Preschool Storytime 11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.| 31 College Ave

Wednesday | July 3 East Branch Library Preschool Storytime 11 a.m.-11:30 a.m. | 115 Broadway

#### MUSIC|ARTS Wednesday|June 26

Sally O'Brien's Bar Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room:Americana Session with: Grain Thief|9 p.m. Backroom: Tommy Sands|7:30 p.m.

Comedy Night with Arty P.|10 p.m.

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar** 65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's Pub The Nephrok Allstars 10 p.m.|366A Somerville The Burren Front Room:Americana Session with Matt Borrello, Mike Verge & Company |7 p.m. Matt Nakoa,Ilyaimy|7 p.m.

Scattershots|10 p.m. Orleans Restaurant and Bar 65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's Krush Faktory(Dub Down) 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road Good Trees River Band with special guests MacGuffin, Offbrand 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville Helenor| 6p.m. Thin Lear Killian Whall Second Chance Dance|8 p.m. 156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Ken Clark Organ Trio 8 p.m./14 Tyler Street

**The Rockwell** Shit-faced Shakespeare®: Macbeth 7 p.m.|255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory The Loop 7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

#### **Friday|June 28** Sally O'Brien's

Tom Hagerty Acoustic Band|6 p.m. Hear Now Live / Tiny Oak present - \$10 cover |9pm 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room: Irish Session|9:30 p.m. Backroom: An evening with Kevin So|7 p.m. Pop Disaster| 10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Once Somerville As The Sparrow Old Fox Verdegree Hope & Things 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar DJ starting at 10 p.m. 65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's The Silks 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Joshua Tree DJ McRiddleton 256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Casey's Entertainment every Friday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road

#### The Burren

Front Room:Bluegrass Session|2 p.m.Hunter Americana|5 p.m.|Irish Session|2 p.m. Back Room: An evening with Bill Janovitz & Friends|7p.m. Cover Up|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar** Karaoke 65 Holland St

**Bull McCabe's** 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Casey's Entertainment every Saturday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road Band Together: featuring Not Today, Toast, Karma, Yardsale, and Friday Life|2 p.m. BALRFest: featuring The Skirts, blindspot, The Dirty Dottys, and Analog Heart

8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave Once Somerville Beat Surrender|6 p.m.

Grendel|9 p.m. Striplicker, Esoterik, Glass Apple Bonzai 156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Copilot 8 p.m./14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory Rick and Friends 10 a.m.|Café Contemplation Jazz 3 p.m.|Cafe Synth Bop: Inclusive Community Dance Party 6:30 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

**The Rockwell** Shit-faced Shakespeare®: Macbeth 7 p.m.|255 Elm St

Union Tavern Terminal 51 / jeannie / The Roughs 9 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

#### Sunday|June 30

Sally O'Brien's Bar Cambridge-Somerville All-Stars|6 p.m. African Night, SambaLolo and guests|10 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren** Front Room: John Gannon & Friends|2 p.m., Alan Kaufman & Friends|6 p.m., Los Goutos|9 p.m.

Backroom: Hana Kahn Tour Launch with Kerrin Connolly & Special Guest George Woods 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub

Arts at the Armory Cara Foster Karim Exhibit: Closing Reception 2 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Monday|July 1

Sally O'Brien's Bar Shawn Carter's Cheapshots Comedy|7 p.m. Marley Monday with The Duppy Conquerors reggae|10 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room: Bur-Run|6:45 p.m., Run, Helena Delaney & Friends|9:30 p.m. Back Room: Irish Session with Frank Horrigan|6 p.m. Stump Trivia|8:30 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub Jimmy James Trivia|8:30 p.m. 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road 379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville Comrades Formerly Bodies Deathbreaker

8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Board Game Bonanza 6:30 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory Queer Tango 6:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

**Tuesday|July 2** Sally O'Brien's Bar Christian McNeill & Tim Gearan 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room: Jason Anick & The Swingers|8:30 p.m. Back Room:

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896 Bull McCabe's Pub Ghetto People Band 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling Bee Night hosted by Victor and Nicole of Egoart.

The fun starts at 10:00p.m. 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131 **Pl Rvan's** 

Pub Quiz 10 p.m.|239 Holland St.|617-625-8200

**Thunder Road** 379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville 156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co

Thunder Road 379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville Heterofobia Cremalleras Dame St. Ripper Loretta 7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave Highland Kitchen 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Open Mic with Mike Morrissey 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

CLASSES AND GROUPS

Wednesday|June 26 Central Library Drop in Knitting and Needlecraft 12 p.m.-2 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday|June 27

**Ciampa Manor** Learn English with the Library! 6 p.m.-8 p.m.|27 College Avenue

East Branch Library Family Game Night 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

West at TAB Books-to-Movies Club 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.| 167 Holland St, 2nd floor

First Church Somerville Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor). For more info call: 781-762-6629

#### Friday|June 28

**East Branch Library** East Branch Book Group 11 a.m.\_ 2 p.m.|115 Broadway

#### Saturday|June 29

Central Library June Gallery @ SPL Reception: Mountains (and where they come from) 12:30 p.m.-3:30p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Union Square Farmers Market 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.|Union Square Plaza

**Bagel Bards** 

Somerville Writers and Poets meet weekly to discuss their work 9 a.m.-12 p.m Au Bon Pain| 18-48 Holland St

#### Sunday|June 30

Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon Family Groups 7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street Unity Church of God Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement

Ave|617-440-6045

#### Thunder Road

Bearly Dead – Wednesday Night Residency 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

#### **Once Somerville**

Cabaret Witch Punk 7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

#### Highland Kitchen

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

#### Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Last Wednesday Residency: Strangled Darlings 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

#### Thursday|June 27

#### Sally O'Brien's BT ALC Big Band 7pm - \$10 cover 7 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

379 Somerville Ave

#### Aeronaut Brewing Co. John Williams Jam Band 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

#### The Rockwell

Shit-faced Shakespeare®: Macbeth|7 p.m. ClueProv|9 p.m. 255 Elm St

#### Arts at the Armory

Cambridge Symphony Orchestra Chamber Players 7:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

#### Saturday|June 29

Sally O'Brien's Tim Gearan Band|6 p.m. The Very, The All Mighty Cowboys, The Spearmint Sea - \$10 cover|9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589 Dub Apocalypse 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen Sunday Brunch Live Country & Bluegrass Sunday Night Live Music 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Orleans Restaurant and Bar Game Night 65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Thunder Road 379 Somerville Ave

#### Once Somerville Cate Le Bon Moon Diagrams 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Last Sunday BYOP Residency: The Late Risers| 2 p.m. 14 Tyler Street Indie Trivia 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

#### Wednesday|July 3

Sally O'Brien's Bar Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

#### The Burren

Front Room:Americana Session with: Grain Thief|9 p.m. Backroom: Roland Pearsall, Mike Hastings Band|7 p.m. Comedy Night with Arty P.|10 p.m.

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar 65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's Pub The Nephrok Allstars 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

#### Monday|July 1

East Branch Library Learn English at the Library! 6 p.m.-8 p.m.|115 Broadway

#### **Central Library**

Chess Night 7 p.m.-8:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

#### Tuesday|July 2

East Branch Library GOOD CRAFTernoon! 3 p.m.-4 p.m.|115 Broadway

#### **Central Library**

Learn English with the Library! 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

#### Wednesday|July 3

**Central Library** 

Drop in Knitting and Needlecraft 12 p.m.-2 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

# PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

## SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

#### **CENTER LOCATIONS, TIMES & SCHEDULES**

Holland Street Senior Center: located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square) Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Fridays: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300

**Cross Street Center:** located at 165 Broadway (East Somerville)

Mondays & Tuesdays - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Thursdays - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 617-625-6600, Ext. 2335 Fax: 617-625-1414

Ralph and Jenny Center: located at 9 New Washington

Street (behind the Holiday Inn) Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. 617- 666-5223

Main Office: located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square.) Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300 Fax: 617-625-0688 TTY: 866-808-4851

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteers needed for the Engage for Brain Health Study – Are you starting to have problems with your memory or have trouble climbing stairs? Engage B might be right for you! 24 week study for people 60 to 89 years of age. Call Chris at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email him at ckowaleski@Somervillema.gov for questions and additional information.

**Fit-4-Life Nutrition Classes** – Thursday afternoons from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. with our Nutritionist Caitlin McAfee. Learn about our new and upcoming nutrition programs including, Cooking with Caitlin, Fit-4-Life Nutrition Class, Meal in a Mug and more. For more information call Caitlin at 617-625-6600, ext. 2316.

Healthy Steps – Thursdays – Ralph & Jenny Center from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Healthy Steps is a therapeutic, gentle, movement class for anyone who needs to get moving, particularly anyone recovering from surgery, frail elders or those living with chronic fatigue or arthritis. Class is free. For additional information or questions to call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

**Monthly Book Club Selections** – Meets the 3rd Friday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

**Country Western Line Dancing** – The 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month- Holland Street Center. \$3 per class – no experience needed. For additional information or questions call at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

**Movie Day Wednesday** – June 26 starting at 10:30 a.m. Book Club starring Jane Fonda. Lunch and Bingo to follow. Please call Josie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to reserve your spot.

Afternoon at the Theatre – The Sound of Music – Thursday, July 18 at 2:00 p.m. \$33 per person. First come – first serve, space is limited, no refunds. Check in time is 12:30 p.m. at Holland Street with an approximate return time of 5:00 p.m. Payment due at time of reservation. Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 for more information.

Arts & Crafts with Judy – Wednesday, July 24 from 9:30

**BBQ at the Ralph & Jenny Center** – Thursday, August 22 starting at 10:00 a.m. 9 New Washington Street. Join us for a BBQ of hot dogs and hamburgers and Bingo too. Please call Josie or Vivian at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to RSVP.

Atlantic City Boys – Wednesday, September 18 at the Davensport Yacht Club. \$69 per person includes transportation, lunch, show, taxes and gratuity. Meal choice of stuffed breast of chicken or baked scrod.Time to be determined.If you require additional information, have any questions or want to reserve your spot please call at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

**Blood Pressure Screening** – Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Upcoming Dates: June 13. If you require additional information please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email dhiggins@somervillema.gov

#### LGBTQ EVENTS

LBT Women Fit-4-Life - Fitness Class is Thursday evenings starting at 6:00 P.M. \$10 a month fee - scholarships available & it just might be covered under your insurance. We have available slots and would love to have you. If you have any questions or require additional info, please contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2315.

#### LGBTQ lunches will be on hiatus until the fall.

#### WEEKLY EXERCISE AND NUTRITION CLASS SCHED-

ULE (Please cut out and save)

Monday:

Keep Moving Walking Club\*\* - 9:00 a.m. (H) Tai Chi – 11:30 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life Group C - 1:00 p.m. (H) **Tuesday:** 

Strengthening - 9:00 a.m. (H) \$3 per class (H) Fit-4-Life - 11:00 a.m. (C) Bike Club – 12:15 p.m. (H)

#### Wednesdays:

Fit-4-Life Group A (exercise) - 9:00 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life Group B (nutrition) - 9 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life Group B (exercise) - 10:00 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life Group C (nutrition) - noon (H) Fit-4-Life Group C (exercise) - 1:00 p.m. (H) Zumba 4 All - 5:15 p.m. - \$3/class (H)

#### Thursdays:

Yoga - 9:00 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life - 11:15 a.m. (C) LBT Fit-4-Life, 6:00 p.m. (H)

#### Fridays:

Fit-4-Life Group A - 9:00 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life Group B - 10:00 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life Group A (nutrition) 10:00 a.m. (H)

#### Adventure Group – Please call for details

\*All Fit-4-Life classes are \$10 per month and require pre-registration

#### HOLLAND STREET GROUP INFORMATION

**Book Club** – Meets the third Friday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This group self-facilitates. Group members choose both fiction and non-fiction titles on a quarterly basis. Books are available on reserve

#### sha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

**Current Events Group** – Meets every Thursday at 9:30 a.m. Our Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Join a group of your peers to discuss current events. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

**De-cluttering support group** - If you have concerns around your clutter, this group may be for you. This closed group meets both in spring and fall for 6-8 weeks. This group is co-facilitated by Natasha Naim and Marina Colonas. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

**Gardening Club** – Meets the second Monday of each month starting at 9:00 a.m. and running for an hour most times. Vilma Sullivan, facilitates this group. A different topic each month ranging from gardening tips & secrets to inexpensive greenhouses. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

Low Vision Support Group – Meets the second Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Do you know someone who has trouble seeing? Do you have low vision? Join our Low Vision Support Group for educational and informative information and peer support in a confidential environment. Lunch and transportation may be available on request. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

**Memory Café** – Meets the second Thursday of every month from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Mt. Vernon. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. A welcoming place for people with forgetfulness and their family and friends to share a meal and create new memories. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

**Mens Group** – Meets the first Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This group is facilitated by our volunteer, Norbert DeAmato. Are you recently retired? Looking to connect with other men in the community? Join our men's group where you can connect with old friends and make new ones. All men 55 and over are welcome. If you are interested please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

**Signing with Bryan** – Meets Mondays at the Holland Street Center 167 Holland Street from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. For more information or to join the fun call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

**Veterans Group** – Meets the third Monday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Our volunteer, Norbert DeAmato, facilitates this group. Are you a veteran? The Veterans Group is the perfect opportunity to socialize, have solidarity, to reminisce and to meet other veterans. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

#### **CROSS STREET GROUP INFORMATION**

**Lunch is served** – every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 for sign up.

a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Bingo and lunch will follow. Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 for more information or to sign up.

**BBQ at the Cross Street Center** – Tuesday, August 6 starting at 10:00 a.m. 165 Broadway. Join us for a BBQ of hot dogs and hamburgers and Bingo too. Please call Maureen to RSVP at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

Afternoon at the Theatre – La Cage Aux Folles – Thursday, August 15th at 2:00 p.m. \$33 per person. First come – first serve, space is limited, no refunds. Check in time is 12:30 p.m. at Holland Street with an approximate return time of 5:00 p.m. Payment due at time of reservation. Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 for more information.

**Movie Day Tuesday** – August 20 starting at 10:30 a.m. Sister Act starring Whoopi Goldberg. Lunch and Bingo to follow. Please call Josie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to reserve your spot.

Arts & Crafts with Judy – Wednesday, August 21 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Bingo and lunch will follow. Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 for more information or to sign up. at the Central Branch of the Somerville Library. If interested please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

**Caregiver Support Group** – Meets the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Are you caring for a parent, relative, s pouse or close friend? Feeling isolated or overwhelmed? You are not alone! Come share your experience and practical support. Open to all and new members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

**Cribbage Club** – Meets every Monday from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This group is facilitated by volunteer Nortbert DeAmato. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Josie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

**Conversations of the Heart** – Meets bi-monthly on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:00 P.M. at our Holland Street Center. Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Nata**Coffee & Conversation** – Meets every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator and Sandy Francis, Cross Street Center Volunteer, work together to facilitate this group. Come meet people from all over the world and join in the discussion of a different topic every day. Conversation is followed by the Fit-4-Life exercise program and then lunch. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

**Game Hour** – Every Tuesday from noon to 1:00 p.m. at our Cross Street Center. Join us for lunch and activities. Immediately following lunch we will have a "Game Hour." Yahtzee, Sorry, Jenga, Cards, Scrabble, Checkers, Clue, Qwirkle, Dominoes, Uno & Connect 4 are available to play. Community Cooks provides us with a family style lunch on the 1st & 3rd Tuesdays and Food Services provides us with lunch on the off days. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

# **Kiwanis Club school** supply drive



Once again, the Somerville Kiwanis Club is implementing a school supply drive program to help less fortunate children and families to be ready for the new school year starting in September.

In conjunction with the Parent Information Center and Somerville local schools, the Somerville Kiwanis Club has a goal of distributing 200 backpacks filled with necessary school supplies to children and families in need by early August. This year, we are focusing our efforts on serving students in grades 7-12. It has come to our attention that it is the older kids who truly need our help.

Supply wish list: 17"- 19" backpacks; pencil cases (soft); pencils, pens, highlighters, colored pencils; pencil sharpeners; sharpies; erasers; plastic folders; loose-leaf paper; spiral notebook or pad; pads of paper; rulers; 3-ring binders; section tabs for 3 ring binders.

To donate supplies or support this effort financially, please drop off your donations at one of the following local locations between July 1 to July 30:

East Cambridge Savings Bank, 285 Highland Ave.

Winter Hill Bank, 342 Broadway

Winter Hill Bank, 5 Cutter Ave.

Berkshire Hathaway Real Estate, 205 Holland St.

Or, make a check payable to:

The Somerville Kiwanis Club SSD Mail to: Pauline D'Aurora, Treasurer Kiwanis Club of Somerville c/o Winter Hill Bank 342 Broadway Somerville, MA 02145

### Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner



### **Draw Night at VOX POP**



Join Somerville Media Center on Saturday, June 29, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., at what they hope will become a monthly gathering of creators who love to draw first, then drink afterwards.

Comics artist and SMC Programming Coordinator Dave Ortega will host this chill-vibes event where folks get together and draw in the same space, working on whatever they choose, then go out to Riverbar afterwards for a post-draw share.

Simple supplies like paper, pens, pencils, erasers, and markers will be provided if you are in need. Work on your own stuff or use one of our prompts. They will have prompts. They are also happy to give you points in the right direction if you want to learn to draw.

### **Somerville Community Growing Center reopening**



The Somerville Community Growing Center celebrated its reopening last Saturday morning with a crowd of friends, neighbors, and volunteers.

The first stage of the renovation of this unique urban garden/park was made possible with funds provided by the residents of Somerville through the city's Community Preservation Act funds.

For twenty-five years, people have come to enjoy a variety of events and nature-based programs in this little oasis near Union Square. The Friends of the Growing Center look forward to raising more funds to restore many of the plants that had to be cleared during the process.

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To find out all that's happening at the SCGC check out the website at thegrow-— Photo by Mark Hoffman ingcenter.org.

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1:00pm 2:00pm

3:00pm

,	5
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9:00am	The Stephanie Miller Show
10:00am	Both Sides of the Bars
10:30am	SOM Arts
11:00am	Art Seen at SMC
11:30am	DW Conflict Zone
12:00pm Th	e Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)
1:00pm	The Kamla Show
1:30pm	DW Global 3000
2:00pm	NASA TV Silicon Valley Live
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm	DW Euromaxx
4:30pm	Legacies
5:00pm	TeleGalaxie
6:00pm	Going Postal
6:30pm	The Last Sip
7:00pm	LIVE - The Yellow Jacket Lady
7:30pm	Henry Parker Presents
8:00pm	LIVE - Somerville Overcoming Addiction
9:00pm	Dedillhando au Saudade
10:00pm	Duck Village Stage Sessions
11:00pm	Boston Come Through
Tuesday, Ju	ly 2
12:00am	Free Speech TV
6:00am	Community Bulletin Board

7:00am

7:30am

8:00am

9:00am

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DW Euromaxx Esoteric Science Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) The Chef's Table Series Road to Recovery Graphic Content DW In Good Shape The Thom Hartman Show Words on Film with Dan Burke Somerville Overcoming Addiction Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) SMC Youth Media Henry Parker Presents LIVE - Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer What's New Massachusetts? Community Lens Art & Ideas Art Seen at SMC LIVE - Greater Somerville LIVE - Dead Air Live The Somerville Line TUTV Public Access Bovz Box House Productions Presents Ojo Rojo

Tele Magazine The Beantown Beatdown Democracy Now! New England Pride TV What's New Massachusetts? **Reeling Review** Both Sides of the Bars The World Fusion Show The Literati Scene Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer SOM ARTS Special SCATV Programming Henry Parker Presents Nossa Gente e Costumes **DIWHY The Show** SCATV Secret Stash TUTV Flotilla SCATV Secret Stash

#### SCATV Secret Stash Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party Free Speech TV Community Bulletin Board Nossa Gentes e Costumes Effort Pour Christ Tele Kreyol Evangelista Camillo Fodera The Chef's Table Series Gentle Belly Dancing Off the Shelf DW Conflict Zone Startup TV Boston African Television Network Dedilhando a Saudade Gay USA The Grandstanders Teen Empowerment Cinema Somerville Somerville Neighborhood News Tele Magazine The Boston Medium Box House Productions Presents SCATV Secret Stash

Free Speech TV

Going Postal

Evangelista Camillo Fodera

Community Bulletin Board

Perils for Pedestrians

The Chatman Booth 4:00pm TUTV 4:30pm DIWHY The show 5:00pm riday, June 28 5:30pm 6:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party 6:30pm SCATV Secret Stash 7:00pm SCATV Secret Stash 7:30pm Free Speech TV 8:00pm SCATV Community Bulletin Board 8:30pm The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV) 9:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) 10:0<sup>0</sup>pm Esoteric Science 11:00pm Cambridge Calendar 11:30pm NASA TV SOM ARTS Sunday, June 30 DW Tomorrow Today The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV) 12:00am 1:00am The Yellow Jacket Lady 1:30am Speak Up! Somerville The Kamla Show 2:00am 3:00am SMC Youth Media 6:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) Gay USA 7:00am 8:00am The Chatman Booth 9:00am What's New Massachusetts? 10:00am LIVE - Fallon's Daily Toast 11:00am SOM ARTS 12:00pm Art Seen at SMC The Grandstanders 1:00pm 1:30pm Greater Somerville 2:00pm The Boston Medium 3:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party 4:00pm Totally Working Out 5:00pm 6:00pm 6:30pm Saturday, June 29 DIWHY The Show 7:00pm Boston Come Through 8:30pm 9:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party Free Speech TV 10:00pm Effort Pour Christ 11:00pm SCATV Community Bulletin Board 11:30pm Road to Recovery Monday, July 1 Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) SMC Youth Media 12:00am Somerville Storytellers 5:00am Dead Áir Live 6:00am Haitian Poetry in 3 Languages 7:00am

LIVE - The Boston Medium

The Beantown Beatdown

Startup TV Boston

Wednesday, June 26         7:00pm           12:00am         Free Speech TV           6:00am         SCATV Community Bulletin Board           7:30am         DW In Good Shape           8:00am         Democracy Nowl (Free Speech TV)           9:00am         Democracy Nowl (Free Speech TV)           9:00am         Democracy Nowl (Free Speech TV)           9:00am         Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer           10:00am         Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer           10:00am         Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer           10:00am         LIVE - Fallon'S Daily Roast           12:00pm         The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)           1:00pm         Art Seen at SMC           2:00pm         Science 360           9:00pm         Speak Up! Somerville           1:00pm         The Literati Scene           1:00pm         Heillo Neighbor           5:30pm         Women2Women Today           6:00pm         Speak Up! Somerville           7:00pm         Haitian Poetry in 3 Languages           8:30pm         ScATV Secret Stash           8:30pm         SCATV Secret Stash           1:00am         Free Speech TV           6:00am         Scomerville Pundits           8:30pm			
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	6:30pm	Somerville Pundits	12.00pm

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

TeleGalaxie

7:30am

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12:00pm       Senior Circuit - June 2019       9:03am       Connecting Communities - June 2019       8:30pm       City Council Meeting - 6.27.19       5:00pm       Conway Park & PIP Plan Info :         12:30pm       Finance Committee - FY20 Budget       9:03am       Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest - 6.15.19       Monday, July 1       6:30pm       SomerViva em Portugues - June 2019       SomerViva em Porugues - June 2019       SomerViva em Portugues - June 20		5	8:46am	Pride Flag Raising	8:00pm	SomerViva em Portugues - June 2019		Historic Preservation Awards
12:30pm       Finance Committee - FY20 Budget       9:30am       Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest - 6.15.19       Monday, July 1       5:50pm       Somerviva em Portugués - Jun         7:00pm       City Council Meeting - 6.27.19       11:00am       City Council Spotlight - Ben Ewen Campen       12:30am       Senior Circuit - June 2019       7:00pm       Senior Circuit - June 2019       7:30pm       POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony         Friday, June 28       12:31pm       Senior Circuit - June 2019       1:35am       City Council Meeting - 6.27.19       8:30pm       Roll Call of Heroes 2019			9:03am	Connecting Communities - June 2019	8:30pm	City Council Meeting - 6.27.19		Conway Park & PIP Plan Info Session
7:00pm       City Council Meeting - 6.27.19       11:00am       City Council Spotlight - Ben Ewen Campen 11:31am       12:30am       Senior Circuit - June 2019       Senior Circuit - June 2019       7:30pm       POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony 1:00am         Friday, June 28       12:31pm       Senior Circuit - June 2019       1:35am       City Council Meeting - 6.27.19       POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony 1:35am       City Council Meeting - 6.27.19       POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony 1:35am       City Council Meeting - 6.27.19       POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony 8:30pm       Roll Call of Heroes 2019		,	9:30am	Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest - 6.15.19	Monday.	luly 1		<b>u</b>
Friday, June 28       11:31am       POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony       1:00am       Roll Call of Heroes 2019       8:30pm       Roll Call of Heroes 2019         12:31pm       Senior Circuit - June 2019       1:35am       City Council Meeting - 6.27.19       0.05cm       Council Meeting - 6.27.19       0.05cm		5	11:00am	City Council Spotlight - Ben Ewen Campen				Senior Circuit - June 2019
12:31pm Senior Circuit - June 2019 1:35am City Council Meeting - 6.27.19 8:30pm Robit Call of Heroe		, 5	11:31am	POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony				
			12:31pm	Senior Circuit - June 2019				
12.00pm Finance Committee - FY20 Budget 7.20pm Middlesey Under Duor	12:00am	Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest - 6.15.19	1:00pm	Finance Committee - FY20 Budget			9:05pm	SCAP Annual Meeting 2019
1:00am     East Somerville Walking Tour - 6.16.19     5     7:30am     Middlesex Opdate W/Marian Ryan     10:33pm     Copp's Hill Burying Copp's Hill Buryi	1:00am	East Somerville Walking Tour - 6.16.19				indereses opude Withundri Kyun	10:33pm	Copp's Hill Burying Ground

# **Educational TV 15 Schedule**

Wednesday, June 26		9:00pm	Healey School Spring Concert	6:30pm	Rec All City Track Meet	11:00am	SCALE Graduation 2019
9:00am	WSNS Science Fair Winners	9:30pm	SHS Baseball vs Pope John	8:00pm	El Sistema Year End Concert	12:30pm	El Sistema Year End Concert
10:00am	Argenziano School Spring Concert	11:00pm	Rec All City Track Meet	8:30pm	WSNS Moving On Ceremony - 6.10.19	1:00pm	Boys Intramural Basketball Championship
11:00am	Rec All City Track Meet	Friday, Ju	ne 28	9:06pm	Argenziano School Spring Concert	2:00pm	Girls Intramural Basketball Championship
1:00pm	WSNS Moving On Ceremony - 6.10.19	12:30am	El Sistema Year End Concert	10:00pm	Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert	3:00pm	SHS Graduation 2019
2:00pm	WHCIS Moving On Ceremony - 6.7.19	9:00am	Rec All City Track Meet	11:00pm	WSNS Science Fair Winners	5:00pm	Rec All City Track Meet
3:00pm	Kennedy School 4-8 Spring Concert	11:00am	SCALE Graduation 2019	Sunday,	une 30	7:00pm	SCALE Graduation 2019
4:00pm	Kennedy School 4-8 Spring Concert	12:30pm	El Sistema Year End Concert	12:00am	WHCIS Moving On Ceremony - 6.7.19	8:30pm	El Sistema Year End Concert
5:00pm	WSNS Science Fair Winners	1:00pm	Boys Intramural Basketball Championship	1:00am	Rec All City Track Meet	9:00pm	Boys Intramural Basketball Championship
6:00pm	Argenziano School Spring Concert	2:00pm	Girls Intramural Basketball Championship	3:00am	Public Domain Theater [6/19]	10:00pm	Girls Intramural Basketball Championship
7:00pm	Rec All City Track Meet	3:00pm	SHS Graduation 2019	9:00am	An Evening of Song	11:00pm	SHS Graduation 2019
9:00pm	WSNS Moving On Ceremony - 6.10.19	5:00pm	Rec All City Track Meet	10:00am	Argenziano School Memorial Day Concert	Tuesday,	July 2
10:00pm	WHCIS Moving On Ceremony - 6.7.19	7:00pm	SCALE Graduation 2019	10:30am	Brown School Spring Concert	1:00am	Class Day 2019
11:00pm	Kennedy School 4-8 Spring Concert	8:30pm	El Sistema Year End Concert	12:00pm	WSNS Spring Concert	9:00am	WSNS Science Fair Winners
Thursday	y, June 27	9:00pm	Boys Intramural Basketball Championship	1:00pm	Healey School Spring Concert	10:00am	Argenziano School Spring Concert
12:00am	Kennedy School 4-8 Spring Concert	10:00pm	Girls Intramural Basketball Championship	1:30pm	SHS Baseball vs Pope John	11:00am	Rec All City Track Meet
1:00am	SHS Boys Tennis vs Wakefield	11:00pm	SHS Graduation 2019	3:00pm	Rec All City Track Meet	12:30pm	SCALE Graduation 2019
9:00am	An Evening of Song	Saturday	, June 29	4:30pm	El Sistema Year End Concert	2:00pm	El Sistema Year End Concert
10:00am	5 5	1:00am	WSNS Science Fair Winners	5:00pm	An Evening of Song	3:00pm	Student of the Qtr Argenziano School
10:30am	Brown School Spring Concert	2:00am	Public Domain Theater [6/19]	6:00pm	Argenziano School Memorial Day Concert	3:30pm	Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert
12:00pm	WSNS Spring Concert	9:00am	SCALE Graduation 2019	6:30pm	Brown School Spring Concert	4:00pm	WHCIS Moving On Ceremony - 6.7.19
1:00pm	Healey School Spring Concert	10:30am	Rec All City Track Meet	8:00pm	WSNS Spring Concert	5:00pm	WSNS Science Fair Winners
1:30pm	SHS Baseball vs Pope John	12:00pm	El Sistema Year End Concert	9:00pm	Healey School Spring Concert	6:00pm	Argenziano School Spring Concert
3:00pm	Rec All City Track Meet	12:30pm	WSNS Moving On Ceremony - 6.10.19	9:30pm	SHS Baseball vs Pope John	7:00pm	Rec All City Track Meet
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5:00pm	An Evening of Song	2:00pm	Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert	Monday,	July 1	10:00pm	El Sistema Year End Concert
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6:30pm	Brown School Spring Concert	4:00pm	WHCIS Moving On Ceremony - 6.7.19	1:35am	WSNS Spring Concert	11:30pm	Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert
8:00pm	WSNS Spring Concert	5:00pm	SCALE Graduation 2019	9:00am	Rec All City Track Meet	12:00am 1:00am	WHCIS Moving On Ceremony - 6.7.19 SHS Boys Tennis vs Wakefield

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lyrica **SOMERVILLE** edited by Doug Holder

Krikor Der Hohannesian lives in Medford, MA. His poems have appeared in over 150 literary journals including The Evansville Review, The South Carolina Review, Atlanta Review, Louisiana Literature, Connecticut Review and Natural Bridge. He is a three-time Pushcart Prize nominee and the author of two chapbooks, Ghosts and Whispers (Finish-



ing Line Press, 2010) and Refuge in the Shadows (Cervena Barva Press, 2013). Ghosts and Whispers was a finalist for the Mass Book awards poetry category in 2011.

#### WAKE

Ifeanyi Mankiti, in memorium

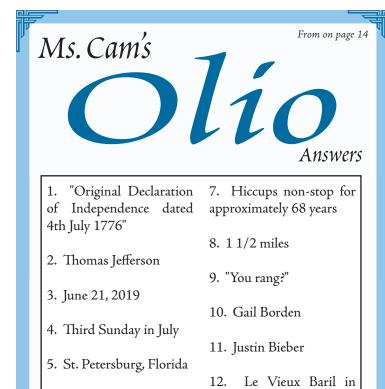
How absolute, permanent the stillness of death...

I stood beside your casket willing to stay as long as it took to see your chest rise and fall again, wishing your eyes to open, your lips to part in speech, signature smile at the corners, waiting to see your hand reach out as if to reassure us all.

I wanted to break with decorum, extend my hand to touch you as you touched so many, solemnity be damned!

— Krikor Der Hohannesian

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



Charlemagne, Quebec

# OFF THE SHEL by Doug Holder

# **Interview with Philosopher** /Poet Ifeanyi Menkiti

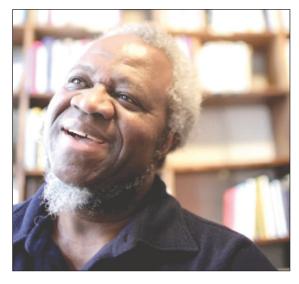
Longtime Somerville resident, college professor, poet, and philosopher Ifeanyi Menkiti passed away at the age of 78 this month. Menkiti is noted for saving the famed Grolier Poetry Book Shop in Harvard Square, when he took over ownership. I am grateful for him for many things, his warm welcoming presence, his poetry, his generosity, and his humanity. I am also grateful that he bought the Bloc 11 Cafe building on Bow Street in Union Square years ago. He told me over lunch there that he wanted a cafe that would be a meeting place for writers, intellectuals, entrepreneurs, and others. As we looked across the crowded cafe, I realized his vision had been met. Below you will find a poem in honor of Menkiti by his friend Tomas O'Leary. The interview included was conducted years ago.

#### **Bells for Ifeanyi**

Death did not toll for Ifeanyi. The bells of Saint Paul were solemn but joyful, an upbeat mystery to us this afternoon. What's that all about, we wondered, being neighbors of the church. We'd not yet heard the news. But now it's as clear as those bells that he's changed locations. We're not prepared to allow this, the suddenness shocks us, we love Ifeanyi, we favor him living forever. May the Great God grant him rest, but with balanced measure of play, and all such twinkling mischief as a man steeped in grace and honor loves to shed on those he loves.

— Tomas O'Leary

Ifeanyi Menkiti came to this country from Nigeria to study in the 1960's. Years after, he earned a PhD in Philosophy from Harvard University and has since taught at Wellesley College for more than thirty years. He has penned three books of poetry, Affirmations, The Jubilation of Falling Bodies, and most recently Of Altair: The Bright Light. His poetry has appeared in journals like Ploughshares, New Directions, and the Massachusetts Review. Menkiti is a recipient of an award by the National Endowment of the Arts, and his poetry has been aired on NPR, and other radio stations. I talked with Menkiti on my Somerville Community Access TV show Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer.



in developing this goal in your work?

IM: Being born in Africa, I had a very strong sense of my own being. I felt comfortable taking on the world. When I came to this country I was with kids from Asia, Sweden, all over, and it was good. I enjoyed it. I like the global community. We tend to think we can only do the "local thing." If you really want to protect the local state, you really have to look what's going on in the rest of the world.

It's not only Americans trying to open their own minds, it's other people trying to see behind what's at the surface. Americans are real human beings struggling to make sense of their lives. They have a lot of sorrow, and yet they keep on moving. In the book Altair... I am trying to bring this sense of mutuality together.

DH: In your poem from Altair..., They Will Rise, you write, "... the body of Europe,/ but an elongation/ of the body of Africa.... Some deep mystery sprung/ from the soil of this Africa/ & the mystery is not done." Do you believe Africa will rise from a third world continent to a major player in world affairs? What's its mystery?

IM: I believe Africa has ancient wisdom. It's an elder continent. I don't see the buffoonery of Idi Amin, but I see the Africa of Mandela. There is another side of the continent that has to do with its rich culture, not just its suffering. There is a sense that we all carry that DNA from Eve who walked the grounds of Africa. The body of Europe is then an elongation of Africa.

DH: You like to play with words. In your poem Hubble... you describe neutrinos like they are funnily shaped pasta in alphabet soup, or the fact that "white instruments," often search for "Black Holes."

6. Becoming too cold

Doug Holder: You are trained as a philosopher. Is there poetry in philosophy and is there philosophy in poetry? Are they a good fit?

Ifeanyi Menkiti: I don't think we have to make such a rigorous separation between the two. I think there is a connection between the two. There was an interesting observation by this poet who taught physics. He said, "I teach physics to make a living, I write poetry to live." I don't know if I would quite put it that way, but it is a sort of a philosophy of mine. Poetry deals with the meaning of life, the meaning of meaning, just like philosophy.

DH: In a press release that concerns your work as a poet, it reads: "... the poet looks deeply into the psyche of individuals, and urges us to look for references beyond our local prejudices, and thereby discover a sense of our shared humanity." Did your experience coming from Nigeria to the United States have a role

IM: I am fascinated by the immensity of the night sky. All these wars, they are little, petty battles, like little chickens battling in the backyard, in comparison. I am fascinated by the mystery of the universe the mystery of matter. Nature is so strange and mysterious that it becomes an inspiration for my work. DH: In any good work there is a musicality, a particular cadence, inherent in it. Where does yours come from?

IM: My mother used to sing to me as a child. I think as you grow up, you pick these things up. The music of the African languages comes through. Each language has its own music. It is the sound of humanity. It is good to know music in language is not encased in locality, but has huge worldwide content. DH: In your own experience have you experienced poetry as a cohesive or healing force in society?

IM: I believe it has the power to do that. Poetry should not be used to beat up on the other guy, but to explore our common humanity. It comes from our common connection.



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