



## Inside:



Tree hugging

page 3



Redevelopment updates

page 5



Walk this way through Davis Sq.

page 9

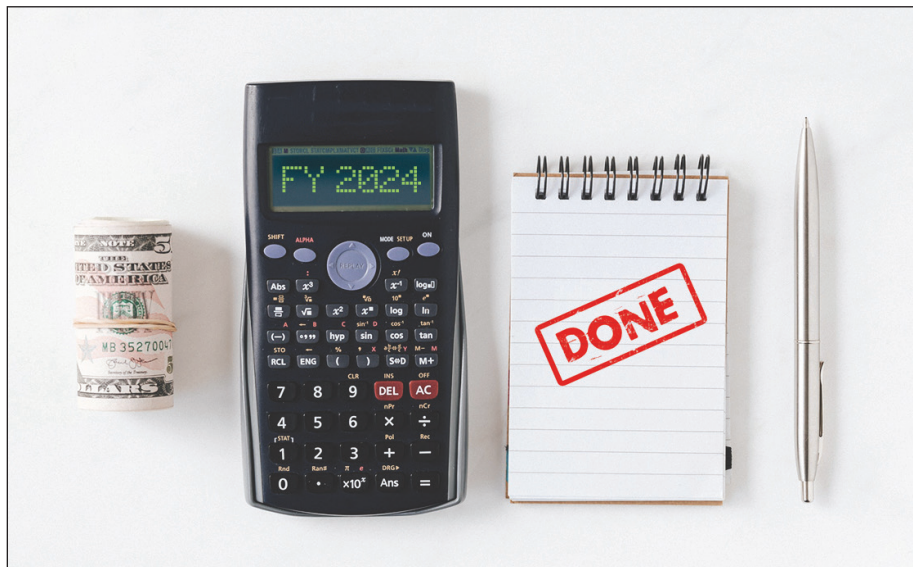
# Final vote budget meeting fails to approve all residents demands

By Beatriz Leite

In the FY 2024 budget final vote on Thursday, June 22, the City Council decided not to approve Councilor At-Large Willie Burnley Jr.'s order that asked the Council to send back the FY2024 budget until it incorporates the demands of residents, including funding for a new Winter Hill School, housing security, and unarmed alternative emergency response outside of the Police Department. The order was placed on file, however, and some smaller resolutions that attack those problems were approved.

At the June 5 meeting of the Finance Committee, Somerville residents were advocating for those items to be included in the city's budget planning. Most participants were parents and educators trying to highlight the importance of

Continued on page 6



Not everyone's budget wishes were fulfilled for FY 2024, as last-minute revisions and allocations were made for the final vote.

# Brickbottom artists come together in summer show

By Maile Blume

For over 35 years, Brickbottom Artists Association (BAA) has created a space for artists to live and work together in a tight-knit community. Chris Mesarch, one of the founding members of the association, said on the importance of art-making for the community, "It's really a way of life...that's the glue that holds us together."

Prior to moving to the Brickbottom Artist Building in 1988, Mesarch and fellow artists had been living in lofts downtown, but were continually displaced when the spaces were renovated. "We wanted permanent housing," said Mesarch. After years of organizing – and with the help from grants and outside organizations – the artists

Continued on page 13



Chris Mesarch with her piece Finally It's Autumn.

— Photos by Maile Blume

Local real estate investors, builders, and developers need commercial mortgage options and best rates. We've got both!

- Residential Apartment Buildings of 5 or More Units
- Mixed Use Properties
- Office/Retail Properties
- Construction & Permanent Financing
- Competitive Rates and Programs

**WINTER HILL BANK**  
CustomServe Lending

617-666-8600 | 1-800-444-4300 | winterhillbank.com

A Mutual Bank Serving the Community Since 1906.

**COMMERCIAL MORTGAGE OPTIONS**

QUICK, LOCAL DECISIONS

SVP/CLO Kevin Gattin  
617-629-3345

VP Richard Brenner  
617-629-3349

**Green & Yellow Cab**

Serving Somerville & Surrounding Areas!

617-628-0600 617-625-5000

Logan reservations our specialty - Call 3 days in advance to book your trip.

OPEN 24-HOURS A DAY!

24 hour GPS automated dispatching system

We'll get you home safely. Please don't drink and drive.

**T.J. SILLARI, INC.**

Over 50 Years Experience

Plumbing • Heating • Gas Fitting • Industrial Work • Water Heater Replacement • Complete Drain Service

Residential - Industrial - Commercial

625-9877

Proud to be a Somerville resident

Master Plmb. Lic. #6106





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.

Get ready for summer fun at the **city and Somerville Arts Council's Fourth of July celebration**. Enjoy live music, food, and of course, a big, bold fireworks display. Head to **Trum Field on Thursday, June 29**, at 6:00 p.m. (rain date June 30). Learn more at <https://somerilleartscouncil.org/fireworks>. Due to large crowds and noise associated with the fireworks, the city recommends that attendees leave pets at home and avoid bringing unnecessary bags or backpacks, all of which are subject to inspection. For more information, call 311 (617-666-3311).

\*\*\*\*\*

The **Reading Frederick Douglass Together** event will be held **Wednesday, June 28**, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. at **Bow Market** (upstairs level, indoors). Celebrate the legacy of Frederick Douglass by reading one of his most famous speeches together. The event will be followed with a discussion led by **Project Scholar, Kyera Singleton**. This event is free and all are encouraged to attend and participate. Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/reading-frederick-douglass-together-at-bow-market-tickets-625603947247>.








\*\*\*\*\*

Happy birthday this week to several locals: This week a lot of local celebrities are celebrating their birthdays. Happy birthday to our former mayor, **Joe Curtatone**. We hope he has a great birthday for himself. We wish **Devon Moos** of East Somerville a very happy birthday. We hope he enjoys his day. Happy Birthday to our friend, **Len Ferrari**, of **Century 21 North East**, who is

Continued on page 7

# Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of June 28 – July 4 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 <b>Wednesday</b> <i>June 28</i>	Thunderstorms	78°/66°	35%	19%	S 14 mph
 <b>Thursday</b> <i>June 29</i>	Thunderstorms	75°/64°	62%	41%	SE 8 mph
 <b>Friday</b> <i>June 30</i>	Thunderstorms	76°/65°	44%	23%	S 10 mph
 <b>Saturday</b> <i>July 1</i>	Thunderstorms	78°/67°	40%	21%	SSE 12 mph
 <b>Sunday</b> <i>July 2</i>	Thunderstorms	74°/65°	60%	44%	SSE 11 mph
 <b>Monday</b> <i>July 3</i>	Thunderstorms	78°/69°	43%	31%	SE 10 mph
 <b>Tuesday</b> <i>July 4</i>	Partly Cloudy	81°/67°	24%	12%	E 7 mph

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

## TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

### Response to: Obituary: Dorothy J. (DiMarzo) Montalto

Anita Diorio says:

A sister-in-law that I'll always remember as kind, loving, beautiful, and so talented in many ways. May you rest in peace my friend. Always in my heart.  
Love, Anita

### Response to: Checking Out the Community PATH

SomervilleTom says:

The very fact that the terms “linear park” and “bike path” are used interchangeably tells us that a serious safety issue is unfolding.  
I predict that by Labor Day we will be hearing of multiple casualties as riders focused on getting to work hit pedestrians and dog-walkers on the tightly-constricted sections of the new “bike path”. Is this a “bike path”? Is it a “trail”? Is it a “linear park”?  
It will become obvious that a ten foot corridor — with cement walls on each side — cannot be safely shared by children, pets, pedestrians, and commuters biking as fast as they can to get to work. A 100+ lb adult traveling on a bike at 20mph will do terrible things to a child or dog-walker who wanders into their path.  
Decades of painful experience with roads and highways show that fast-moving objects — whether automobiles or bicycles — cannot safely mix with pedestrians, children, and pets.  
There is an ENORMOUS demand for bicycle and pedestrian access to safe and comfortable automobile-free routes between Somerville, Cambridge, and Boston. We will quickly learn that this much-awaited asset is the start — not the end — of a painful transition away from our fossil fuel addiction.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

# The Somerville Times

news@thesomervilletimes.com

www.thesomervilletimes.com

Phone: 857-488-5138



@somervilletimes



www.facebook.com/  
thesomervilletimes

Publisher – Somerset Valley Publishing Inc.

Editor – Jim Clark

Assignment Editor – Bobbie Toner

Advertising Director – Bobbie Toner

Arts Editor – Doug Holder

Writers: Jim Clark, Molly Rains, Fernando Cervantes Jr.,  
Ryan DiLellio, Kyle Dante

Contributors: Jimmy Del Ponte, Dorothy Dimarzo,  
Joe Creason, Bob Doherty, Ross Blouin  
Photographer: Claudia Ferro

The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

A proud member of the following newspaper organizations:





Life in the

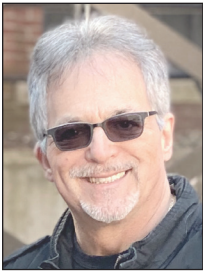
Massachusetts

VILLE

The Spirit of America

by Jimmy Del Ponte

# Tree hugging



I love all kinds of trees. We have a couple of blooming trees in our front yard did get more beautiful every year. But the city is having a problem with trees destroying sidewalks and it's the thought that the trees can't be altered or augmented in anyway. They are protected under some strange rules that forbids messing around with their roots, etc.

There are two spots in the city where I've witnessed the upheaval of sidewalks because of roots. I threw the subject onto social media and comments are in quotes.

"There's one on Berkeley St. On the even side around #36 I think it is. Had been there XL for as long as I can remember."

"Parts of Spencer Ave. and Albion St. and others are impassable."

"Remove the trees from the sidewalks and plant them in the potholes (perfect



**Are You Sitting  
On A Fortune?**

**Call Our Team at CRG To See  
What Your Home Is Worth.**

**617-764-4342**

**699 Broadway Ave, Somerville, MA 02144**



speed bumps for nothing)."

"5 or 6 years ago, my husband had a really bad fall over by the Dragon Star on Broadway because the sidewalk was so bad from a combination of tree roots, broken concrete and pot holes. He was being careful and still fell. We called the city to report it, and all we got was a "Yeah, we know ... click." My husband is not the suing kind, but thinking back, that's exactly what we should have done."

"The trees are good for the environment, they just need help from the city care once a year, trimming from wires and cleaning the area around the roots, replacing sidewalk cement. They'd a great help for our city."

"Everywhere, my neighbor's house foundation is damaged and there are roots in her basement. It's horrible."

The city does all it can to fix sidewalks and keep an eye on those roots.

We have to live side by side with our trees, just watch out for their roots.



**Bunker Hill Community College**

Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) offers six Pathways designed to help you get started on your journey by connecting you to resources that will empower you to design a plan that is right for you. Each Pathway represents a broad area or field of interest in which similar programs of study are grouped, so you don't have to know the exact job, career, or degree that you're seeking to get started.

**Ready to engage and design your pathway journey?**  
**Visit [bhcc.edu/pathways](https://bhcc.edu/pathways) to view all the degrees and programs within each pathway.**

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION and  
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY**

Bunker Hill Community College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, genetic information, maternity leave, and/or national origin in its education programs or employment pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 151B and 151C, Titles VI and VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972; Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Americans with Disabilities Act, and regulations promulgated thereunder, 34 C.F.R. Part 100 (Title VI), Part 106 (Title IX) and Part 104 (Section 504). Inquiries concerning application of the above should be directed to Nahomi Carlisle, Esq., Associate Vice President, Chief Equity and Compliance Officer, Affirmative Action Officer and Section 504/ADA Coordinator, at 250 New Rutherford Avenue, Charlestown Campus, Room A307, Boston, MA 02129, phone: 617-228-3311; email [nahomi.carlisle@bhcc.edu](mailto:nahomi.carlisle@bhcc.edu).

Bunker Hill Community College  
250 New Rutherford Avenue, Boston, MA 02129  
[bhcc.edu](https://bhcc.edu)



# Somerville Prevention partnering with Repair the World to host Narcan distribution events

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and Somerville Prevention, a division of the City of Somerville's Health and Human Services Department (HHS), are announcing four Narcan Distribution Events happening in Somerville throughout the month of July. The city is partnering with the nonprofit Repair the World to host these potentially life-saving events.

Each event is scheduled to take place from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on a Saturday in July, weather permitting\*:

**July 1: Union Square** (in front of the Somerville Media Center, 90 Union Square)

**July 8: East Somerville** (165 Broadway near Project Soup)

**July 15: Davis Square** (Statue Park, next to the Holland Street entrance to the Davis Square T stop)

**July 22: Sylvester Baxter Riverfront Park** (across from the corner of Assembly Row and Great River Road)

*\*In case of foul weather, call 311 at 617-666-3311 for schedule updates before heading out.*

The Narcan Distribution Events are created to meet residents where they are to help increase access to monthly, low-threshold overdose prevention education and harm reduction materials such as Narcan, Fentanyl and Xylazine test strips, CPR face shields, and syringe disposal containers, while supplies last.

Somerville began Narcan Distribution Events in May 2022. Previous distribution locations included Davis Square, Union Square, Winter Hill, Foss Park, and East Somerville including partnerships with the Somerville Public Libraries, Project Soup, and Connexion.

For more information, please contact Prevention Services Manager, Matthew Mitchell, at [mmitchell@somervillema.gov](mailto:mmitchell@somervillema.gov) and/or follow on Instagram: @somervilleprevention.

SAVE THE DATE!

## HEALTH WELLNESS & HEALING FORUM

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

**Don't Miss Out  
Free and Open to Public**

### Events Held Across The RCC Campus!

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

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



Visit and bookmark  
[www.rcc.mass.edu/hwh](http://www.rcc.mass.edu/hwh)  
to learn more.





# Updates of 90 Washington St. and 299 Broadway projects given



Ana Celerier Salcedo

The Somerville Redevelopment Authority met on the evening of Wednesday, June 21, to provide some brief updates regarding two ongoing projects. Phil Ercolini, Ben Demers, Christine Stone, Iwona Bonney, Catherine Lester Salchert, William Gage, Rachel Nadkarni, and Patrick McCormick attended the meeting.

An opportunity for public comment was offered, but no public members in attendance spoke at the time. Following this, the matter of an update from the Civic Advisory Committee's (CAC) review regarding qualification proposals for the 90 Washington Street project was discussed.

Reportedly, the CAC met last week and wrapped up their review of submissions received regarding qualification proposals. The committee hopes to provide guidance

to the authority in the next few meetings regarding the submittal process. Some next steps mentioned were that due to the current legal situation, there is yet to be a definite timeline for moving forward.

Regarding updates on the 299 Broadway Project, Rachel Nadkarni shared with those in attendance that the project has been approved and that the economic situation has been causing complications for the project's finances.

The city recently applied for a Mass Works grant and a Housing Trust grant and hopes to receive updates regarding these grants in a few months.

As of now, the Somerville Redevelopment Authority set the next meeting date as September 20. The authority then entered an executive session regarding the 90 Washington Street litigation discussion and adjourned the meeting shortly after.

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

The City of Somerville and Pathways for Immigrant Workers will host a free immigration legal information session for small employers and lower-wage workers on Wednesday, July 13, 2023, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Connexion located at 149 Broadway.

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

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

Interpretation in Spanish, Portuguese, and Haitian Creole will be available and additional languages may be requested by emailing [somerviva@somervillema.gov](mailto:somerviva@somervillema.gov) or calling 311 at 617-666-3311.



City of Somerville Income-Restricted Rental Opportunity  
Prospect Union Square, 20-50 Prospect Street, Somerville, MA 02143  
[www.ProspectUnionSquareLottery.com](http://www.ProspectUnionSquareLottery.com)

### Ninety (90) Inclusionary Rental Units

# of Units	Unit Size	Square Feet	AMI	Rent*	# of units built out for Mobility Impairments	# of units built out for Visual Impairments and/or Deaf/Hard of Hearing
10	Studio	449-486	50%	\$1,072-\$1,154	1	-
11	1-Bedroom	524-763	50%	\$1,092-\$1,205	3	-
7	2-Bedroom	840-880	50%	\$1,228-\$1,373	2	-
6	3-Bedroom	978-1,191	50%	\$1,359-\$1,536	-	-
9	Studio	405-553	51%-80%	\$1,415-\$1,885	-	-
13	1-Bedroom	524-763	51%-80%	\$1,461-\$1,848	2	-
7	2-Bedroom	840-918	51%-80%	\$1,674-\$2,034	1	-
5	3-Bedroom	978-1,135	51%-80%	\$1,865-\$2,231	-	-
8	Studio	425-453	81%-110%	\$3,130-\$3,212	-	1
8	1-Bedroom	524-763	81%-110%	\$3,062-\$3,175	1	-
3	2-Bedroom	840-954	81%-110%	\$3,757-\$3,902	1	-
3	3-Bedroom	978-1,023	81%-110%	\$4,185	-	-

*\*All utilities paid for by the tenant.*  
*Rents for 110% AMI units are based on household income. Included in chart above are the lowest/highest possible rents based on 1-2 people in a Studio unit, 1-2 people in a 1-Bedroom unit and 2-4 people in a 2-Bedroom unit.*

### Minimum Income Limits for 50% AMI units

Unit Size	AMI	Minimum Household Income
Studio	50%	\$32,160
1-Bedroom	50%	\$32,760
2 Bedroom	50%	\$36,840
3-Bedroom	50%	\$40,770

### Maximum Income Limits (set by the HUD + based on Household Size + AMI)

Household Size	50% AMI	51%-80% AMI	81%-110% AMI
1	\$51,950	\$51,951 - \$82,950	\$82,951 - \$114,268
2	\$59,400	\$59,401 - \$94,800	\$94,801 - \$130,592
3	\$66,800	\$66,801 - \$106,650	\$106,651 - \$146,976
4	\$74,200	\$74,201 - \$118,450	\$118,451 - \$163,240
5	\$80,150	\$80,151 - \$127,950	\$127,951 - \$176,299
6	\$86,100	\$86,101 - \$137,450	\$137,451 - \$189,358

*\* 2023 Area Median Median Incomes for the Boston, Cambridge, Quincy, MA-NH MSA.*  
**Asset Limit:** \$75,000 (excluding restricted assets)  
Applications are available during the application period.  
**Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 — Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**

To complete an online application, visit: [www.ProspectUnionSquareLottery.com](http://www.ProspectUnionSquareLottery.com).  
To have a hard copy of the application mailed to you, please email [ProspectUnionSquare@MaloneyProperties.com](mailto:ProspectUnionSquare@MaloneyProperties.com) or call (617) 639-3064 Ext 785

Hard applications will be available at the entrance of the City Hall Annex located at 50 Evergreen Ave., Somerville; Somerville City Hall located at 93 Highland Ave., Somerville; And all Somerville Public Library branches.

**Fully completed + signed** applications must be submitted online or received (not postmarked) no later than **Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**Mailed to:**  
**Maloney Properties, Inc., Attn: Prospect Lottery, 27 Mica Lane, Wellesley, MA 02481**  
Or emailed to: [ProspectUnionSquare@MaloneyProperties.com](mailto:ProspectUnionSquare@MaloneyProperties.com)

**Information Sessions:**  
Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at 12:00PM – Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:00PM  
**Join Zoom Meeting**  
<https://maloneyproperties.zoom.us/j/89425238407?pwd=dR2d3ExNE1cERRMVJLZVksS0QyQT09>  
Meeting ID: 894 2523 8407 – Passcode: 802113  
One tap mobile +16469313860,,89425238407#,,,\*,802113# US

**Lottery Drawing Date is expected to be held within 1-2 weeks following the application deadline. Below is the Zoom Information for the Lottery Drawing:**  
<https://maloneyproperties.zoom.us/j/81100557552?pwd=RzJxYjJlQ1ZacEhuaWhpYU5JcXh3Zz09>  
Meeting ID: 811 0055 7552 – Passcode: 932926

- Selection by Lottery. Asset, Use & Occupancy Restrictions apply.
- Preference for Households with Mobility Impairments for accessible units

For more information, free language assistance, or to make a request for reasonable accommodations, please call (617) 639-3064 Ext 785 | US Relay 711 or email [ProspectUnionSquare@MaloneyProperties.com](mailto:ProspectUnionSquare@MaloneyProperties.com)



Equal Housing Opportunity





## COMMENTARY

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

## Notes on the FY24 Budget Review



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

As I was listening in on the City Council budget review meetings during June, I paid close attention to the two new procedures, which were added this year and tried to

understand how they influenced the final outcome.

First, in March/April, before the Mayor completed the initial draft budget with her agencies, the council members sent in letters, stating their priorities and recommendations for spending.

Second, in late May, after the Mayor had issued the draft Budget Book but before the Council meetings, council members submitted written questions to the agencies and received back written answers.

These new procedures were intended to allow City Council members to more effectively state their priorities and the needs of their constituents. They were designed to be practical solutions to the problem of limited City Council budget powers.

### The problem of City Council budget powers

Two laws of the Commonwealth – Municipal Law and the Municipal Finance Law – fix the separate budget responsibilities of the Mayor with the agencies and the City Council. The Mayor must calculate all the line-by-line agency requests and then add them up into the total spending, which must balance precisely with the estimate of tax and other revenues.

The City Council then must review all of the agency requests and it has the power to cut the amount on any line – reducing funding for a program or eliminating a staff position. But it does not have the power to add money for any new staff or program expansion.

Last year, in the Charter Review, there was discussion about whether the Council could be given power to add or transfer budget funds by a Charter amendment, Home

Rule petition or a new state law. But the legal and political experts advised that the state legislature would not allow this change, and it was not included in the draft Charter.

The two new procedures were, therefore, a practical compromise, increasing the influence of the Council on agency spending, without being inconsistent with the state laws.

### How did the new procedures work?

In March/April, the city counselors delivered to the Mayor their preliminary budget letters. These were posted on the city website (Legistar) in the March 29, 2023 Finance Committee meeting minutes.

In substance, the letters covered many areas of city administration and services, but they emphasized the priorities of affordable housing, housing stability, and services for children and youth. Councilors urged the mayor to find more money for child care assistance, student mental health and more generous assistance to low-income families, including income vouchers and free passes on public transit. They also asked for more effort to assist people struggling with mental health, addiction and family crises, with corresponding reforms to the systems of emergency response.

When the Mayor's draft budget that appeared in late May, I was pleased to see that it contained many of these policy priorities and recommendations, even though it did not fund the complete list of programs, I would have sought. Nevertheless, the Mayor and agencies appeared to share the priorities of the Council and were committed to expand spending in areas of family and social needs.

Similarly, the new process of trading written questions and answers was effective as a method of public education and a way to streamline the discussions. With clear explanations and relevant data on the computer monitors in front of them, the Council members were able to ask focused, follow-up questions. Their meeting time was efficiently used, and the public could easily follow the points of agreement and disagreement.

### Substantive issues that the process brought to light

It was in this context that the most important disagree-

ments emerged. Council members expressed concern that the budget was adding 40 new city staff positions, but almost all of them were middle management rather than "front line" workers and almost none would be union jobs.

New Deputy Directors and Finance Managers with high salaries were proposed for several agencies, as well as new communications specialists and inter-agency support/coordinator positions. In particular, a new deputy was proposed for the City Administrative Officer (CAO), even though this new official had only been working herself for a few weeks. It seemed premature to add a deputy before the main functions of the office were fully clarified.

By contrast, the Mayor had not proposed to add any new urban planners, despite a backlog of work in the OS-PCD and lack of staff support for the Council Land Use Committee. Also missing was also funding for a specialist for wage theft investigations and labor rules enforcement – a strong priority of Council members. Broadly, the councilors wanted to see more librarians, child care and youth counselors, and funds to raise wages in lower-pay categories that have been difficult to fill – like lifeguards for the city pools.

### Final outcome of the budget review

At the end, the Council members voted to cut from the budget the funding line for the Deputy City Administrator, and they passed three non-binding resolutions, calling for adjustments: (i) to add another planner in OSPCD; (ii) to add an inspector or enforcement officer for wage theft and labor force violations; and (iii) to transfer some free cash (surplus monies) into accounts for housing stability and a modernized city bill payment system – to end delays in making payments to NGO partners and service providers.

The Mayor made these adjustments and, when they took their final votes, several of the council members expressed their satisfaction with this year's budget review. The practical improvements to the process helped to create a streamlined, more focused, and understandable review and had created a budget more responsive to Council priorities and citizen needs.

## Final vote budget meeting fails to approve all residents demands CONT. FROM PG 1

dedicating a part of the budget to rebuilding Winter Hill Community Innovation School after concrete fell in the building on June 2.

In the final budget meeting, the Council approved the transfer of \$12,800 from the Unemployment Compensation Account to the Recreation/Youth Program Salaries and Wages Temporary Account to provide additional staff support for the displaced Winter Hill Community Innovation School

students. The School Building Facilities and Maintenance Special Committee will meet on June 28 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the redesign and construction of Winter Hill Community Innovation School to propose the inclusion of this project in the FY 2024 budget.

Also highlighted at that meeting was the lack of affordable housing. The Community Organizing Director at Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS) spoke of how the

organization has distributed more than \$691,000 in the last 5 months for Somerville's low-income residents in need of utilities and housing assistance, and still was not sufficient for all families in need.

The mayor proposed allocation of \$1,413,992 to maintain housing stability in Somerville in the 2024 budget. The Council, this past Thursday, approved distributing all available Free Cash (\$82,715) to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund,

\$57,000 to line 01-19052, the Housing Stability Professional and Technical Services Account 530000 for contracted legal services for tenants, and adding \$86,594.57 to the Personal Services line in the Economic Development Department to fund a Program Manager for Prevailing Wage, Living Wage, and Wage Theft Ordinance Oversight under a Workforce Development Division.

The last citizen concern was the lack of an unarmed alterna-

tive emergency response. The Police Department and the organization Defund Somerville Police Department both argued their sides, being against and pro an alternative, respectively. In this final budget meeting, the Council approved adding \$1.5 million to the FY 2024 budget for an alternative emergency response program.

For official documents and an agenda, a minute, and a video of the meeting access somervillema.legistar.com.



COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Happy 4th of July, Somerville!

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.

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 sacri-

fices 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.

Be sure to come out for the celebration at Trum Field on Thursday, June 29, for the city's Fourth of July celebration, complete with live entertainment and a spectacular fireworks display. It will help to bring out the true patriot in you!

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

also celebrating this week. We wish him the best. Happy birthday, Lenny. Also this week, happy birthday to **Andy Puglia**. We wish Andy a very happy birthday. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Dave Bertocchi, Peter Tsairidie, Leslie Phelan, Kristina Ann, Suzan Baltozer, John Correia, Suzan Baltozer** and **Rose Nash** a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

\*\*\*\*\*

Join **Arts at the Armory**, 191 Highland Ave., for a three-hour workshop on **Thursday, June 29**, at 7:00 p.m. to learn

about theory and practice of **Forró music and dance**. Their approach will be introductory, active, and open to people of all levels and ages. To participate, just send us an inbox message on Facebook or simply come to the **Armory Cafe** at the indicated time. The investment is \$20 at the door.

\*\*\*\*\*

The **City of Somerville's annual Somer-MovieFest** returns this year with a series of seven family-friendly films being shown in parks around Somerville. Screenings begin at dusk and the next screening will be **Footloose, Thursday, July 6**, 8:58 p.m. at **Lincoln Park** (290 Washington St.).

\*\*\*\*\*

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

\*\*\*\*\*

In partnership with **CAAS Community**

**Action Agency of Somerville**, the city is distributing **500 fully subsidized MBTA passes** to low-income Somerville households. This program aims to fill a critical gap for low-income residents who don't qualify for other transit benefit programs. Learn more and apply at: <https://www.caasomerville.org/transit-program-form>. For assistance by phone, call CAAS at 617-599-4185.

\*\*\*\*\*

As of **Monday, June 26**, contractors will institute an **eastbound traffic detour on Highland Avenue between Central Street and Hamlet Street** to install utilities as part of the

Continued on page 11



FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#879

1. When is National Postal Workers Day?

2. When is National Workaholics Day?

3. When is National Day of Rock 'n' Roll?

4. Which NFL quarterback has passed the most touchdowns?

5. What is Muhammad Ali's real name?

6. In which city is Studio 54 located?

7. In what year did the Spice Girls perform at the Summer Olympics closing ceremony?
8. What are the only birds that can fly backward?

9. What bird cannot move their eyeballs?

10. In 1974, what was the first product scanned by a UPC scanner?

11. Scurvy is caused by a lack of what vitamin?

12. How old has the oldest person lived to be?

Answers on page 11

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. Taco Bell was named after its owner, Glen Bell.
2. Americans spend about 2.5 days a year looking for lost items.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

BIOLOGY 101

- ACROSS
1. Lactuca sativa dish

6. Banned insecticide

9. Doorframe part

13. Group of #3 Down

14. Top seed number

15. Blood \_\_\_\_, diabetic's concern

16. Food poisoning-causing bacterium

17. Galley tool

18. Sushi restaurant staple

19. Giant sequoia, e.g.

21. Measure of energy

23. Auction call

24. Animal coat

25. Tolstoy's first name, in Russian

28. Plural of cecum

30. Fastest growing woody plant

35. Footnote acronym

37. Mosquito net, e.g.

39. Attention-seeking

40. Skier's aid

41. Certain saxes

43. Sheltered, nautically speaking

44. Wive's mother, e.g.

46. "\_\_\_\_ we forget"

47. Christian of haute-couture

48. Based on two

50. Colorado's neighbor

52. European Nuclear Society

53. Beauty salon sound

55. Official language of Laos

57. Dissolving agent

61. C6H12O6

65. Relating to trunk, neck and head

66. Lamb's momma

68. With clear mind

69. Itty-bitty

70. The Weather Girls' "It's Raining \_\_\_\_"

71. Fill with spirits

72. Ceases

73. Get the picture

74. Ascended

- DOWN
1. Design detail

2. Big name in gasoline stations

3. Genus Panthera member

4. Improvise

5. Godlike

6. Point of entry

7. Genetic information carrier, acr.

8. 9 a.m. prayer

9. Saturn's daughter, Roman goddess

10. Petri dish gel

11. The Wise Men

12. French appetizer

15. Scheherazade's listener

20. Swelling of human organs

22. Priestly garb

24. Book cover prototype

25. Fatty acids

26. Piano key material

27. Pancho of Mexican Revolution fame

29. Basic unit of life

31. Fermented honey libation

32. Misrepresent

33. Theater, to Socrates

34. Deed hearings

36. "Wanted!" option

38. Parasite's ride

42. Stable room

45. Sagely

49. Major news network, acr.

51. Cargo carrier

54. Agenda entries

56. Round openings

57. Fill to satisfaction

58. Ox, pl.

59. What Pinocchio did

60. Popular walking shoe brand

61. Basic unit of heredity

62. South American tubers

63. Web location

64. Paradise garden

67. Like Willie Winkie

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

CROSSWORD

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

13 14 15

16 17 18

19 20 21 22

23 24

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34

35 36 37 38 39

40 41 42 43

44 45 46 47

48 49 50 51 52

53 54 55 56

57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64

65 66 67 68

69 70 71

72 73 74

SWITCH & GET \$25

Off First Month of New Service! USE PROMO CODE: GZ590

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR 888-804-0913

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

© StatePoint Media

Soultion to last week's crossword puzzle:

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



# Walk this way:

## Tufts students discuss possible positive impacts of pedestrianize Davis Square

By Beatriz Leite

This past Wednesday, June 21, five aspiring Urban Planners from Tufts University presented a plan, based on their study, to pedestrianize Davis Square on the weekends. Local residents and business owners gathered at Aeronaut Brewing Company to listen to the presenters and share their concerns and questions about this new proposal.

The Walk this Way project is based on a collaboration between Somerville Alliance for Safe Streets (SASS) and Tufts to study the safety and practicality of pedestrianization on Davis Square. The study started in February with research of analogous pedestrianization schemes and their impacts on cities throughout the United States, along with fieldwork on Davis Square analysis of traffic violations from both drivers and pedestrians. From the literature review, the group of students assumed that pedestrianization increases safety, and can improve economic performance. However, the outcomes can vary due to the circumstance and setting, for in-



Urban Planners from Tufts University recently discussed the pros and cons of pedestrianization of Davis Square with the public.

stance the type of corridor, the pedestrian volume, and business sentiment. During the research based on data from Cambridge, MA, they realized that a more viable, safe, and effective option was to pedestrianize only during the weekends, not to affect rush hour traffic and the main streets. In the field research, there was concern over the potentially dangerous merging in the square along with constant jaywalking at all crossings due to inconsistent traffic signs with over a minute wait. The researchers also ex-

pressed concern over red-light violations on College Avenue. The group mapped safe and unsafe locations, and the number of inconvenient and unsafe locations was almost double the number of safe and convenient options. The mapping was done based on interviews conducted in March and April with volunteers and their opinions about the area. They expressed how parking nearby has become harder, how dark the streets are at night, how the College Avenue crosswalk seems misplaced, and how the delivery and loading/unloading system causes congestion.

The survey guided the researchers to conclude that most come to Davis Square for recreation or to run errands, and most do not take cars, even in the colder months, when the research was conducted.

The talk ended with questions from the participants, most residents or business owners in the Davis Square area. No vote or decision regarding the pedestrianization of Davis Square was made.



# The Somerville Times

## Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #282

### Our French Connection

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

In 1689 France and England began fighting a succession of wars for domination in the new world. The last of these encounters was fought in America and known as the French and Indian War. Early on, outnumbered forest-trained French troops and their Indian allies had the advantage of knowing wilderness fighting.



The British then learned to copy these guerrilla-warfare techniques by changing their red uniforms to subdued green and using the natural terrain by hiding behind rocks, walls and trees for protection. Thus, the slaughter of the early western New England settlers then ceased. This war began in 1755, endured for nine years and ended in a British victory.

A decade later, this type of French and Indian combat won the day for our Minutemen at the Battle of Lexington and Concord. This was the start of a local influence which helped win our War of Independence. Frenchmen, who were new colonists to this country in its early days, had a great share in forging the history of our nation.

Early on, French pilgrims formed a frontier settlement in Oxford, Massachusetts, near Worcester; but after suffering vicious Indian attacks, it unfortunately failed. One of the retreating French settlers was Jean Mallet who fled to what is today's Somerville. On arrival here, he applied what he knew by building our historic

Continued on page 11

Follow us on Twitter  
@somervilletimes





LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notices can also be viewed on our website at [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com)



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING  
& COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
KATJANA BALLANTYNE  
MAYOR

THOMAS F. GALLIGANI, JR.  
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, July 18, 2023** at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov).

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL:  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3338042967213693016>

Webinar ID: 257-512-131

TO CALL IN

Phone Number: 1 (213) 929-4212

Access Code: 389-960-161

ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT

Alterations to Local Historic District (LHD) Properties

HPC.ALT 2023.32 – 77 Perkins Street

Applicant: Shane and Ryan Sullivan  
Owner: Same as Applicant  
*The Applicant seeks a Certificate of Appropriateness to replace wood windows.*

Determinations of Preferably Preserved (STEP 2 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS)

HPC.DMO 2023.10 – 25 Warwick Street

Applicant: Alec Charles Peralta Scheerer  
Owner: Alec Charles Peralta Scheerer & Ann WC Peralta  
*The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.*

HPC.DMO 2023.11 – 246 Broadway

Applicant: Amineni Construction LLC  
Owner: Same as Applicant  
*The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.*

Case documents reviewed by the HPC are available on the City website at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases>. Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. **Note:** Written comments due to [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) **NO LATER THAN NOON** one week prior to the meeting date. Email [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov) with inquiries.

6/28/23 The Somerville Times

Notice of Self Storage Sale

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

6/21/23, 6/28/23 The Somerville Times



SOMERVILLE CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEARING

There will be a Public Hearing before the City Council's **Committee on Licenses and Permits** on **Wednesday, July 12, 2023** at 6:00 PM, on a petition for a New Garage License.

New England Collision Center Inc, 224 Somerville Ave, 10 cars inside, 4 cars outside for mechanical repairs, autobody work, spray painting, and washing vehicles, Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm, Sat: 8am-2pm, and Sun: closed.

This meeting will be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the Zoom platform.

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. To attend and be heard, enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser before the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84413540340>. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.

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

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

KIMBERLY M. WELLS, CITY CLERK  
93 HIGHLAND AVE SOMERVILLE, MA 02143  
[CITYCLERK@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV](mailto:CITYCLERK@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV)

6/28/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
IFB# 23-73

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

Lead Service Line Replacement Program – Phase 3

The IFB package may be obtained online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement> or from the City of Somerville's BidExpress page at <http://www.somervillema.gov/BidExpress> on or after: **Wednesday, June 28, 2023**. Sealed responses will be received at the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via Bid Express until: **2:00 pm, Wednesday, July 26, 2023**.

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

Please email [jremy@somervillema.gov](mailto:jremy@somervillema.gov) for more information.

Jordan Remy  
Senior Procurement Manager  
617-625-6600 x3400

6/28/23 The Somerville Times

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court

MIDDLESEX Division Docket No. MI23P3127EA

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Estate of: 

Glenn	Thomas	Hughes
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name

Also Known As: Glen Hughes

Date of Death: May 09, 20023

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of  
Petitioner Scarlet K. Ryane of Somerville MA  
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

☒ a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

☒ Scarlet K. Ryane of Somerville MA  
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

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

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

6/28/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS  
IFB# 23-70

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

Citywide Holiday Plants and Flowers

The IFB package may be obtained online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement> or from the City of Somerville's BidExpress page at <http://www.somervillema.gov/BidExpress> on or after: **Monday, June 26, 2023**. Sealed responses will be received at the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via Bid Express until: **2:00 pm, Wednesday, July 12, 2023**.

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

Please email [jremy@somervillema.gov](mailto:jremy@somervillema.gov) for more information.

Jordan Remy  
Senior Procurement Manager  
617-625-6600 x3400

6/28/23 The Somerville Times

Legal Notices can be downloaded from our website:  
[www.TheSomervilleTimes.com](http://www.TheSomervilleTimes.com)

LEGAL NOTICE - Vehicle Sale 07/08/2023

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

Car information	VIN#	Last registered owner	Address
2003 Mercedes M-Class	4JGAB54E73A379915	Nick McKenna	301 Ashmont St. Dorchester, MA 02124
Date of Sale <b>07/08/2023</b> . A 5-day notice to the Waltham Police Department Chief will be provided before sale. Location: Pro Tech Towing, 205 Willow St. Waltham, MA, Phone: 781-894-5058			
6/14/23, 6/21/23, 6/28/23 The Somerville Times			

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



LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notices can also be viewed on our website at [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com)



S.H.A. Job No. P-SEC8INSPECT

The **Somerville Housing Authority** is seeking competitive sealed Request for Responses (RFR) for Section 8 Housing Choice Home Inspection Services, **SHA Job No. P-SEC8INSPECT** in accordance with the specifications prepared by the SHA Purchasing Department.

The Term is for One (1) year with a Two (1) year options at the SHA's sole discretion.

Documents will be posted at **11:00 A.M., June 28, 2023.**

Responses will be received until **11:00 A.M., July 14, 2023.**

The work is estimated to cost **\$86,00.00** for 3 years.

Download of RFR Documents will be available for download on SHA's Web site, [www.sha-web.org](http://www.sha-web.org), under our Bid opportunities tab at **11:00 a.m., June 28, 2023.** If bidding, you must contact Anthony Crespo by email at [Tonymc@sha-web.org](mailto:Tonymc@sha-web.org) and register/leave contact information including an email. You will receive a reply that your email has been received. Proposers are responsible for ensuring that their email and bids are received. Addendum's will be posted on the website and shall be the bidder's responsibility to include in bid.

6/28/23 The Somerville Times

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

Ms. Cam's  
*Olio*  
Answers

From on page 8

- |                                |                                            |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1. July 1                      | 7. New York City                           |
| 2. July 5                      | 8. Hummingbirds                            |
| 3. July 7                      | 9. Owl                                     |
| 4. Tom Brady                   | 10. Wrigley's chewing gum                  |
| 5. Cassius Marcellus Clay, Jr. | 11. Vitamin C                              |
| 6. New York City               | 12. 122 years and 164 days, Jeanne Calment |

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 9

Powder House. Mallet Street honors him and brings to mind his spirit. This 320-year-old creation shines as our city's official seal.

At that time, another French Oxford refugee was Ann Faneuil, mother of Peter Faneuil who built, paid for and donated the first marketplace and meeting hall in Boston. Just three miles from Somerville, this Cradle of Liberty was built in 1742, one hundred years before our town received its independence from Charlestown in 1842.

Paul Revere's father, Apollos, changed his French name to appease the English vernacular and subsequently passed his name and his silversmith shop on to his eldest son, the patriot Paul Revere.

Since 1845, Central Hill has been the thirty-eight-acre location of City Hall, three churches, four schools, two libraries, a firehouse and the city's first public park. It was first brought to importance in June, 1775. After retreating from

the Battle of Bunker Hill, Americans dug trenches and built protective breastworks from Prospect Hill to Winter Hill. Within the center, a protected place of refuge designed and called a French redoubt was erected. It was built as a last resort for protection from future assaults. Fortunately, these attacks never materialized.

Statesman Benjamin Franklin grew up three miles from Charlestown/Somerville. He invented the lightning rod, one of which protects our Powder House, and designed and delivered our Union Flag to General Washington at Prospect Hill. As America's first diplomat to France, he won that country's sympathy and help for the American cause.

To America, Marquis de Lafayette was a soldier, statesman and hero. To France, he was a soldier, statesman and citizen. To General Washington, he was the son he never had and one of his best generals.

He was an ambassador who was significant in acquiring French military and financial aid which helped us win the war. Fifty years after the Revolution, he came to Boston to lay the cornerstone of the Bunker Hill Monument.

During the past few decades, some say that Davis Square has evolved from the Brooklyn of Boston into the Paris of New England. Paris, France, has been known as The City of Love, the City of Lights and the City of Art. The Parisian influence arrived in Davis Square in 1984 with the opening of the MBTA's Red Line Station. With the new station came an abundance of historic artwork located above, below and around the square. The area resurged when its theatre, restaurants, cafes and musical honk festivals abounded. George Gershwin wrote the famous jazz piece An American in Paris. Davis Square brings a little bit of Paris to America ... *Vive la France!*

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

ongoing **Spring Hill Sewer Separation project**. For more information, visit: <https://voice.somervillema.gov/springhillsewer>.

There has been a concerning **short-fall in blood donations** in recent weeks. The **Red Cross** is looking for **donors** of all blood types, especially those with type B negative or O negative blood as well as platelet donors. By scheduling and keeping appointments right now, donors can help ensure patients relying on blood donations also get to enjoy their summer. To schedule an appointment to donate, download the **Red Cross Blood Donor App**, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Join **Somerville Prevention and Repair the World** at an upcoming **Narcan distribution** event. Each will take place from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. over four Saturdays in July. Available resources include Narcan, fentanyl test strips, CPR face shields for rescue breathing, and syringe disposal containers. A brief overdose prevention training will also be available. For a list of places visit [\[lema.gov/\]\(http://lema.gov/\). This week's will be held in \*\*Union Sq. Plaza\*\* in front of the \*\*Somerville Media Center\*\*.](https://www.somerville-</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

**East Somerville Main Streets** will be hosting a **Summer Carnival Block Party Series**. The first block party takes place **July 23** from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. These block parties will take place at **115 Broadway (East Somerville Public Library)** and on **Illinois Ave.** on Sunday evenings once a month. Enjoy live music, food, and activities for the whole family.

With hot summer days ahead the **Somerville Homeless Coalition** is looking for essential supplies to help keep those without a home safe and cool. Whether it's sunscreen or juice boxes, they have compiled an Amazon wish list with key summer items for clients. If you are interested in donating you can do so through the link provided or by dropping items off at their **Engagement Center** located at 1 Davis Square **between Monday and Friday** from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. for lunch). [https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2S0DQDB857065?ref=wl\\_share&fbclid=IwAR1ZHX-](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2S0DQDB857065?ref=wl_share&fbclid=IwAR1ZHX-)

[C1YJnbbt36ZicxPnsR7pAEJ-4dP1rODG5sNovyNzGE68py-31ENo](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2S0DQDB857065?ref=wl_share&fbclid=IwAR1ZHX-C1YJnbbt36ZicxPnsR7pAEJ-4dP1rODG5sNovyNzGE68py-31ENo)

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

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



## OBITUARY

## Dorothy J. (DiMarzo) Montalto



November 23, 1935 – June 19, 2023

**Dorothy J. (DiMarzo) Montalto**, of Somerville, passed away on June 19, 2023, she was 87. Born and raised in East Boston, she was the daughter of the late Catherine (Giardullo) and Romolo DiMarzo. The beloved wife of the late WWII United States Navy Veteran Peter N. Montalto, she was the devoted mother of Joseph P. Montalto and his wife Nancy of Framingham. A cherished "Auntie to All," she was especially close to her nieces: Dorothy DiMarzo and her wife Lynne Lenoir of Somerville, Karen Chase and her partner James Forde of Billerica and her late husband Michael Chase, and Susan Haley and her husband Shon of Litchfield, New Hampshire. She is the loving "Grandmother" to Alyssa and Kayla Chase, Justin and Matthew Haley. Dorothy is survived by her sister-in-law, best friend, and devoted caregiver, Roberta DiMarzo of Somerville as well as many more nieces and

nephews, who she loved dearly. She was the dear sister of the late Anna Salsgiver, Ida Storniolo, Catherine Bardaro and Nicholas DiMarzo.

Dorothy enjoyed cooking for her large extended family, taking care of her grandchildren as they grew up, attending their school concerts and annual music competitions, and reading and writing in her journal daily. Auntie was an expert in cooking and her many Christmas Eve dishes have been passed down from generations, so when she asked for seconds, it was her stamp of approval. She could be found enjoying breakfast everyday with her family and friends at Kelly's Diner in Somerville or the Donut Villa in Malden. She loved listening to Johnny Mathis and all her Boston sports teams, especially the Red Sox. She was a master of the "poker face" playing cards or bingo and was the official Pac-Man Champion and Centipede expert in the family. Above all she delighted in time spent with her family. They are comforted by her own words in her journal, "It seems I saw you holding my hand" in one of her final journal entries talking about how much she cherished her family. Auntie has touched so many of the lives around her through her love and acceptance of all and infectious laugh and her presence will be missed.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Dorothy's memory can be made to via check to Circle Camps, PO Box 782, Watertown, WI 53094 or online via <https://support.circlecamps.org>.

## Notice of Death

We record with deep sorrow the death of our beloved **GLENN THOMAS HUGHES**, aged 57 years in this city on the 9th of May, peacefully at home. He is survived by his wife, Scarlet and his mother, Katherine.

## OBITUARY

## Mrs. Joan M. Merritt



**Mrs. Joan M. Merritt**, 84, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, June 20th, 2023 at Beverly Hospital. Born in Wellesley, she was the daughter of the late Willard H. and Sadie (Doyle) Bennett. She was the beloved wife of Travis M. Merritt, with whom she celebrated 64 years of marriage. Joan was raised and educated in Somerville, and graduate from Somerville High School. After graduation she met the love of her life, Travis, and they married in 1966. Having a caring nature, Joan went on to become a healthcare worker at the Kennedy Day School at Franciscan Children's in Boston for 22 years. Later in life she worked for Carmelite Gift Shop in the Northshore Mall for 12 years, and most recently in Market Basket in Rowley.

Her greatest achievement in life was motherhood and raising her family. Joan was a communicant of St. Rose of Lima Parish in Topsfield, where she was also a member of their prayer group. She was also a parishioner at Saint Mary's in

Danvers, where she served as a lector. In her leisure, Joan enjoyed cooking, baking, and doing crafts. She also loved spending her time in nature, canoeing in the Ipswich River and the Magalloway River in Maine and spending time at the beach with her children.

Joan will be remembered for her faith, and love of family, for her kindness, compassion and generosity to not only family, friends, but strangers also.

In addition to her beloved husband, Travis, Joan is survived by her sons; Ronald Spilman and his wife Joanne of Saugus, Kenneth Spilman and his wife Sharon of Derry, NH, and Shawn Merritt and his wife Whitney of Ayer, along with grandchildren; Melissa, Rene, Hannah, and Zachary, and great-grandchildren; Joshua, Andrew, Ryan, Blake, and Aisley. Joan is preceded in death by her son T.J. Merritt, and her siblings; Joseph Bennett, Robert Bennett, and Richard Bennett, and her beloved pup Snoots.

**ARRANGEMENT:** Relatives and friends are invited to her funeral service which will be held at St. Rose of Lima Parish, 12 Park St, Topsfield, MA on Friday, June 30th at 11 A.M. Visiting hours will be at O'Donnell Cremations – Funerals – Celebrations, 167 Maple St., (Rte. 62) Danvers on Thursday, June 29th from 4 to 7 P.M. Burial in Pine Grove Cemetery, Topsfield. Expressions of sympathy may be made in Joan's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis TN 38105, or Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758516, Topeka KS 66675. To share a memory or offer a condolence, please visit [www.odonnellfuneralservice.com](http://www.odonnellfuneralservice.com).

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

## SomerMovieFest 2023

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne invites the Somerville community to kick back and enjoy free outdoor movies this summer. The City of Somerville's annual SomerMovieFest returns this year with a series of seven family-friendly films being shown in parks around Somerville.

Screenings begin at dusk and the schedule is as follows:

**Footloose, Thursday, July 6**, 8:58 p.m., Lincoln Park (290 Washington St.); **Minions: The Rise of Gru, Thursday, July 13**, 8:55 p.m., Lincoln Park (290 Washington St.); **Vivo, Thursday, July 20**, 8:49 p.m., Lincoln Park (290 Washington St.); **Willy Wonka & The Chocolate Factory, Thursday, July 27**, 8:42 p.m., Seven Hills Park (Somerville Community Path and Buena Vista Rd.); **Top Gun: Maverick, Thursday, August 3**, 8:33 p.m., Seven Hills Park (Somerville Community Path and Buena Vista Rd.); **Strange World, Thursday, August 10**, 8:24 p.m., Seven Hills Park (Somerville Community Path and Buena Vista Rd.); **Clueless, Thursday, August 17**, 8:13 p.m., Seven Hills Park (Somerville Community Path and Buena Vista Rd.).



# Brickbottom artists come together in summer show

CONT. FROM PG 1

were able to purchase two semi-abandoned buildings, which were once used as a cannery and a bakery.

When Mesarch first moved into the Brickbottom Artist Building, she practiced the art of Japanese fan-making. About 15 years later, she became a painter. Now, she is currently working on a graphic novel and writing a blog.

“It doesn’t end,” said resident and artist Charlotte Kaplan on the practice of creating art. Kaplan was working in architecture when she came across the opportunity to buy a condo in the building. “It was just serendipity,” she said. Over the years, Kaplan became a full-time artist and teacher.

Kaplan creates art through a political lens, and is interested in the possibilities of different materials. “I’ve made a lot of work with eggs,” said Kaplan. “This is a good example of, you know, the result of living here. There was a woman who used to live here who was Czech, and she started making an exhibit of painted eggs...if I didn’t live here and she hadn’t done that and said, ‘Oh, Charlotte, why don’t you do something,’ you know, who knows what would have happened.”

Martha Podren, a founding member of BAA, said, “There is something that kind of magnifies and intensifies work when there are other people working around you, and so I think we have been able to give each other that atmosphere.”

Podren is interested in using lines to express herself and said, “I think line and strokes are so evocative of feelings in a way that sometimes paint doesn’t even do.” She seeks to allow her authentic self to emerge in her art, and like Kaplan, seeks to push the possibilities of the materials she works with.

Like many artists in the Brickbottom Artist Building, Podren worries about the amount of development happening around the area, and how it will affect traffic and the lives of residents. She also said that rising real estate prices have made it difficult for artists to live in Somerville. “You know, we were lucky enough to purchase the units at below market rates, but people now coming to Somerville, artists who are in the same position that we were in, could not afford this,” said Podren.

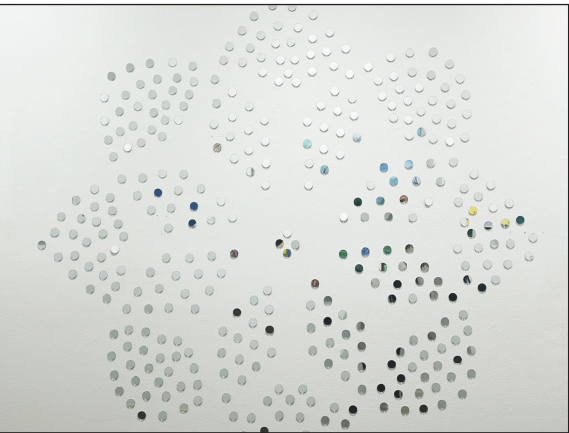
Jack Energy joined BAA last year. “It’s a treasure,” he said of the longstanding community. Energy added, “[There’s] a lot of new, cutting-edge art and craft science here too because you have some really science-based, inventor-type artists, so you see some really interesting works.” Energy, whose work often plays with angularity and textures, said that he is excited to integrate robotics, soundscapes, and interactivity into his future work.

Like Energy, artist Lauren O’Neal also recently became involved with BAA. O’Neal enjoys creating works with mirrors and said, “I particularly like mirrors that are not whole because our identities are certainly always in motion and always shifting, and they shift depending on how our bodies shift, where we turn, and what we pay attention to.”

O’Neal added that the Brickbottom Artist Building has created a steady way for artists to interact with one another. “You know you are going to run into people just every day getting your mail or going to the gallery or going out into the courtyard and I think that connective tissue for a community is really lovely,” said O’Neal.

Gallery curator Alexandra Rozenman, whose art blends “the styles and symbols of folk art, Russian Underground Conceptualism, illustration, and Jewish art” according to her website, said that she hopes that the summer show “Carnival” will bring a sense of relaxation to the gallery visitors. She said that she was inspired to create a show based on the carnival theme in order to do something different from what is going on in the world.

“It’s a good quilt of good images and absolutely different ideas and approaches to the theme,” said Rozenman, who encourages people to visit the Brickbottom Artist Building at 1 Fitchburg Street. The exhibit will be running until July 29, and the gallery will be open Thursday through Saturday, from noon to 5:00 p.m.



Procession (The People Make the Party) by Lauren O’Neal.



Comic Strips: Blue Hair by Martha Podren.



The Laundry Day by Alexandra Rozenman.



Charlotte Kaplan with her piece The Scrambler.



Wild Soda by Jack Energy.



Patsea Cobb with her piece Blue Jay.

## Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Solstice sunset, Prospect Hill ...

— Photo by Denise Provost



## The Somerville Times BUSINESS DIRECTORY

To advertise in our Business Directory, call 857-488-5138.

**T. J. SILLARI, INC.**

Over 50 Years Experience  
Proud to be a Somerville Business Resident



- Plumbing • Heating
- Gas Fitting • Industrial Work
- Water Heater Replacement
- Complete Drain Service

Residential - Industrial - Commercial

Master Plmb. Lic. #6106

**625-9877**

**The Law Offices of  
Richard G. Di Girolamo**

**Richard G. Di Girolamo, Esquire**  
**Anne M. Vigorito, Esquire**  
**Breanna L. Rolland, Esquire**

**ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW**

**Real Estate Law**  
**Zoning**  
**Civil Litigation**  
**Criminal Defense**  
**Family Law**  
**Personal Injury**

**TELEPHONE: (617) 666-8200**

**FAX: (617) 776-5435**

**EMAIL: digirolamolegal@verizon.net**

**424 BROADWAY, SOMERVILLE, MA 02145**



**NINASABLE**  
sell with sable

**508.733.8935**

Email: [Nina.Sable@raveis.com](mailto:Nina.Sable@raveis.com)

Web: [NinaSable.raveis.com](http://NinaSable.raveis.com)

15 West Central St. | Natick | MA 01760



*Devon Moos*

Justice of the Peace, Photographer,  
Notary Public, Public Servant, & Neighbor

Justice of the Peace specializing in elopements & hyper local  
Somerville Weddings

Available for weddings in Somerville, Cambridge, and Boston

Photography also available for a reasonable fee for small weddings

Pro bono or discount fees available for weddings, if necessary

617-455-2267

[devonmoosphotos@gmail.com](mailto:devonmoosphotos@gmail.com)

[devonmoos.com](http://devonmoos.com)



**M**  
**MESSINA**  
REALTY COLLECTIVE

**Bobbie Toner – Real Estate Consultant**  
**Bobbietoner@aol.com 857 488 5138**

Telephone:  
(617) 625-2244  
(617) 625-4344

Fax:  
(617) 625-4350

**EDWIN J. SMITH**  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
**RUMERY & SMITH**

403 HIGHLAND AVENUE  
SOMERVILLE, MA 02144

[edsmithlaw@gmail.com](mailto:edsmithlaw@gmail.com)

WINTER HILL  
**HOMES**

**Josue Velney**  
Director of Acquisitions

**WE BUY HOUSES**

ANY CONDITION CASH & FAST

617-684-5363

[Josue@WinterHillHomes.com](mailto:Josue@WinterHillHomes.com)

[www.WinterHillHomes.com](http://www.WinterHillHomes.com)

**BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER**

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



Why did the employee get fired from the banana  
factory? For throwing away the bent ones.

**The "Original"**  
**All Types Vent Cleaning**  
**Restaurant Hood Cleaning**  
**Dryer Vent/ HVAC Cleaning**  
**Power Washing**  
**Licensed and Insured**  
**in Massachusetts**  
**We travel all over**  
**Massachusetts**  
**Call today to find out**  
**our weekly specials!**  
**Call Jimmy 857-366-3761**

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

*On This Day in History*

**June 28**

0363 – Roman Emperor Julian dies, ending the Pagan Revival.

1541 – Former followers murder Francisco Pizarro, the Spanish Conqueror of Peru.

1804 – The Lewis and Clark Expedition reaches the mouth of the Kansas River after completing a westward trek of nearly 400 river miles.

1900 – The United States announces it will send troops to fight against the Boxer Rebellion in China.

1907 – Russia's nobility demands drastic measures be taken against revolutionaries.

1917 – General Pershing arrives in France with the American Expeditionary Force.

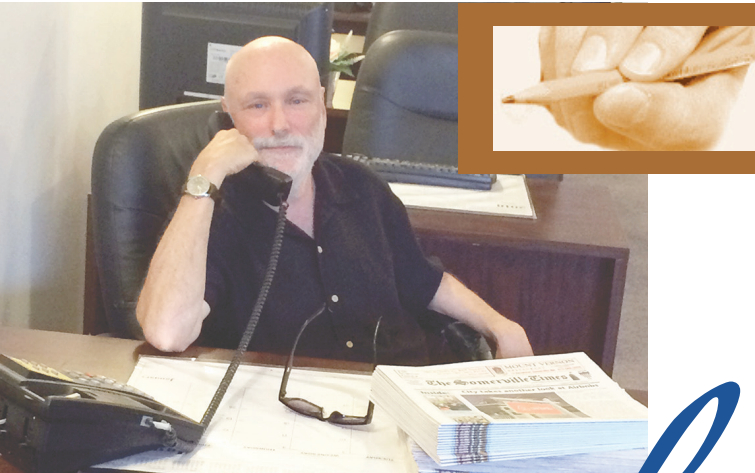
1945 – The U.N. Charter is signed by 50 nations in San Francisco, California.

1963 – President John Kennedy announces "Ich bin ein Berliner" at the Berlin Wall.

1971 – The U.S. Justice Department issues a warrant for Daniel Ellsberg, accusing him of giving away the Pentagon Papers.

1975 – Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi is convicted of election fraud.





OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Somerville Poet Harris Gardner wins the Sam Cornish Award

Longfellow House, Cambridge, MA

On June 25, poet Harris Gardner, along with Ruth Lepson, were given The Sam Cornish Award by the New England Poetry Club at the famed Longfellow House in Cambridge, MA. The award celebrates their longtime commitment to community service in the literary community as well as their own poetic works.

Harris Gardner has been the Poetry Editor of *Ibbetson Street* since 2010. He has authored four poetry collections: *Chalice of Eros*, co-authored with Lainie Senechal; *Lest They Become*; *Among Us*; and *No Time for Death*. His numerous publication credits include *The Harvard Review*, *A Poet's Siddur*, *Midstream*, *Cool Plums*, *Rosebud*, *Fulcrum*, and many others. He co-founded, with Lainie Senechal, *Tapestry of Voices* and the Boston National Poetry Month Festival; he also co-founded, with Doug Holder, *Breaking Bagels with the Bards*. Gardner was Poet-in-Residence at Endicott College from 2002-2005. He founded and hosted many poetry venues over the past 22 years, including Boston Borders, Poetry in The Chapel Series (Forest Hills Cemetery), and Mad Poets Café (Pawtucket, RI). In 2015, Gardner received a Life Time Achievement Award from Ibbetson Street Press and a Citation from the Massachusetts House of Representatives. He is currently a member of the Academy of American Poets.

Ruth Lepson recently retired after 25 years from the New England Conservatory of Music, and is now poet-in-residence emerita. Her books are *Dreaming in Color*, *Morphology* and *I Went Looking for You, ask anyone, and on the way: new and selected poems*. Her anthology, *Poetry from Sojourner:*



Harris Gardner and Ruth Lepson.  
— Photo courtesy of the New England Poetry Club

*A Feminist Anthology*, was published by the University of Illinois Press. Her poems have appeared in many periodicals, such as *Let the Bucket Down*, *Ploughshares*, *Agni*, *Ping Pong*, *Ecopoetics*, *spoKe*, *The Brooklyn Rail*, and *New American Poetry* and other anthologies. Lepson has taught at Boston College, The School of the Museum of Fine Arts, The Kennedy School, Bentley College, Northeastern, and other Boston-area colleges. Lepson is most proud of volunteering for Oxfam America for 14 years, for which she set up poetry readings to raise money for famine relief. She has collaborated with musicians in all sorts of ways and performed in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Boston. She lives in Cambridge.

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Richard Wilhelm is a painter and poet who was a founding member of the Ibbetson Street Press and one of the co-editors of the 2000 anthology *City of Poets: 18 Boston Voices*. His poems have appeared in *Spare Change News*, *The Somerville Times*, *Ibbetson Street*, and several other journals and anthologies.



SEATTLE

Seattle waterfront, September rain,  
traffic steady on the ramp  
from Alaskan Highway—  
I walk by the Cost Plus Market  
down Western Avenue  
to Maximilien, upstairs bar,  
where, looking out the window,  
glass of absinthe in hand,  
I wonder:  
--We are asked to choose  
from a tray of myths,  
what is required, what will suffice—  
quietly flow or must one shoot  
across the sky, brightly burn then blow away?  
--Somebody washing dishes in the back,  
song on stereo not quite audible  
but Kurt haunts this city  
like Vincent haunts Arles.

— Richard Wilhelm

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

Call for Entry: Somerville Toy Camera Fest

Celebrate the flaws, the quirks, the accidental genius that lousy lenses can create! Images of any subject matter, made with a “toy” camera (or any low-tech camera with no or very limited exposure control, such as pinhole, Holga, Diana/Diana clones, Brownie, Ansco, disposable cameras) are eligible. Key criteria are plastic lenses and lack of reliable exposure control. Straight Polaroid-type images, or images made with cell phones or cameras with full automatic or manual exposure control (such as the Lomo LC series) will not be considered. It should go without saying, but we’ll say it: AI-generated images are not eligible.

New for 2023: Images made with extremely primitive digital devices, such as the Gameboy camera (1998-2002), may be eligible; please contact us to ask about specific digital devices prior to submitting.

Locations: Nave Gallery, Brickbottom Gallery and Washington Street Gallery

For more information visit: <http://www.somervilletoycamera.org/call-for-entries>





Commercial Mortgage

# OPTIONS

Local real estate investors, builders, and developers  
need commercial mortgage options and best rates.  
We've got both!

- Residential Apartment Buildings of 5 or More Units
- Mixed Use Properties
- Office/Retail Properties
- Construction & Permanent Financing
- Competitive Rates and Programs

*Quick, local decisions*

*Sr. VP/CLO Kevin Gatlin 617-629-3345*

*VP Richard Brenner 617-629-3349*

**WINTER HILL BANK®**

617-666-8600 | 1-800-444-4300 | [winterhillbank.com](http://winterhillbank.com)

*A Mutual Bank Serving the Community Since 1906*

