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SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2019

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



A bag of chips on the corner page 3



Award winning development page 5



Celebrating Haiti in the 'Ville pages 12–13

City considers equitable spending on athletic and academic programs



The City Council's newly established Special Committee on Inclusive Equity; Gender, Families & Vulnerable Populations will take under consideration issues involving equitable funding for city programs.

By Jim Clark

While the nation proudly celebrates the monumental achievements of the U.S. Women's Soccer team and their World Cup win this past weekend, the question of equitable pay for women players is taking focus in the wake of their victory.

Likewise, an initiative addressing the issue on the local level has been implemented by the Somerville City Council. At their latest regular meeting, an order was put forward recommending that the Council, in collaboration with the School Committee and the Administration, particularly the Director of Parks and Recreation and City Solicitor, draft a "Local Title IX" ordinance ensuring equal opportunity and spending on the basis of gender identity to athletic and academic programs offered by the City of Somerville.

Continued on page 4

New colorful mural welcomes people to Somerville

By Melissa Rosales

Yellow swings from Chuckie Harris Park, pink triple-decker houses, blue bikes, Old Power House monument, Legoland giraffe at Assembly Row, and a "Welcome to Somerville" sign were painted on the new mural site along Lombardi Underpass last July 7 to create a new colorful welcome to Somerville.

The mural was brought to East Somerville by Federal Realty Investment Trust in collaboration with Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) after the old vinyl mural created by James Weinberg started to strip down due to weather conditions.

Local illustrator and designer, Meagan O'Brien was hired to do the job after her work with East Somerville Main Streets. However, the 250 feet long and 17 feet high site was a new challenge for her. "It was all new to me. I've done small scale murals before that's like five by five foot but I've never done anything Continued on page 8



 $\begin{tabular}{ll} Meagan O'Brien's design and execution of Somerville's latest mural is ready for viewing at the Lombardi Underpass in East Somerville. \\ -- Photo by Melissa Rosales \\ \end{tabular}$

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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.

Mary Marshall, Ward 3 School Committee candidate, is hosting the Somerville Sunsetters at her home, 43 Boston Street, this Thursday, July 11, at 7:00 p.m. Come join her for a great performance and a chance to meet and talk with Mary. ******

Calling all artists, musicians, creatives and supporters: New Alliance Gallery invites you to Meet and Greet in their new Union Square home tucked in the alley between Market Basket and Dane Street tonight, July 10, 7:00 – 11:00 p.m., at New Alliance Gallery, 438R Somerville Ave.

Community Meeting: A Cultural District for East Somerville, at Cross Street Center, 165 Broadway, July 18 at 6:00 p.m. Would East Somerville benefit from a Cultural District designation? Come to the community meeting, learn about what Cultural Districts are and what they can do for the local community.

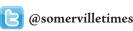
We heard that 10 marijuana shops will be opening in Somerville, some with some well-known names attached to them. One in particular from a political family. Big money in that business, we guess.

Even though the City Council is heading into Summer Recess, Ward 2 Councilor J.T. Scott continues to host his weekly office hours every Friday morning. If you've got a question about city affairs or a concern in the ward, feel free to stop by 269 Washington Street any Friday from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., all year long.

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. Provided by the Somerville Public Schools Food and Nutrition Services Department and by the Somerville Recreation Department. For a list of locations and times where you Continued on page 11

The Somerville Times

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TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: Developer with keen sense of history restores Linden Ave. house

LindaS says:

It's refreshing to see someone actually interested in building real homes in Somerville these days. Single-family homes are an endangered species, judging from the amount of junk mail I get every week from a realtor or developer begging me to sell my home.

All developers usually ever seem interested in is slapping together condos and apartments they can bleed renters dry with, instead of wanting to encourage families and long-term residents to move in and stay. I'm sure most families with children don't want to rent an apartment. They want to own their own home and create their own personal history.

My family was one of the fortunate ones that was able to purchase a home back in 1990 for probably less than half of what it's worth today, and we were by no means wealthy. There's no way we could have even considered buying a home for the prices they are going for now.

On the flip side (no pun intended), this may become the new cash cow in Somerville: restoring or building single-family homes that can be sold for huge profits due to their scarcity. As great as it would be to see more single-family homes, it's likely they will be expensive just due to their location, which may still discourage people from coming here unless they are well-to-do. You certainly are unlikely to see any affordable-housing opportunities on a home here for a low-to-moderate income family to take advantage of.

I guess it's true what they say, what's old is new again. Just more expensive.

Response to: Somerville is ready to fight for public transportation

Ritepride says:

While othr transit operations in NYC, PA, Baltimore, etc. Were raising their rates in the 70s' the college students & yuppies were dictating to freeze the rates here. Plus the management atthe T malfunctioned and never done their job. The 70s' federal monies provided to extend the subway platforms so that there was acccess to all cars. The T never didthe job. Well over twenty years later when the feds inquired and demanded an accounting for the platform funds the construction of those platform extensions started. The connector tunnel for railway between North station & South stations was include in the "Big Dig" project. Washingron DC called for copy of final design pkg for approval. MA never complied with request. Again management malfunction. Notice how they move that lady around to be the spokperson on tv for every fiasco the state has. Then our mayor on tv Wed. Night talking about T fares and how overcrowded our cities are...the guy who is overcrowding his own city.

Response to: A system gravely out of balance

Villenous says:

"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." No, it's like building more housing when there's a dire need for it. The region needs more housing. Somerville should be part of the effort. Assuming everybody else is going to fix it for us while we sit on our hands is magical thinking. I am 100% for increased commercial development. We desperately need and it does help to stabilize housing prices. Looks like we'll be getting a fair amount of it in Union Square if the foot dragging ever stops. Just don't act like more housing isn't a priority. It is. All for more open/green space, but we're never going to hit the current target if we want to achieve balance with housing and commercial development. We should be adding green spaces. We should be building green roofs. Just be realistic about where that gets us. Always thought we should be setting aside a percentage of redevelopable acreage for green space rather than set an arbitrary number no serious person ever thought we could attain.

Victoria Campisi says:

What a wonderful and well-written piece, Mr, Shelton. Sadly, I was already aware of everything in it except for the actual numbers. Now, seeing them makes our circumstances even more disturbing. It seems as complicated a riddle as global warming mitigation does. Perhaps a trick would be to imagine having a magic wand to fix things. What would we do? Maybe merge some cities. Point being, the only way any of these conditions are going to be resolved is going to be some thinking that is way, way out of the box. Sure, Cambridge and Boston and probably Medford are way better off due to having more commercial space and potential commercial space and more green space. There does not seem to be a way to change that. We need to come up with something else that we have and they don't. It's not applicable but the only one that comes to my mind is artists per capita.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments



Life in the Wille by Jimmy Del Ponte

All that and a bag of chips!



Somerville. The year is 1969. Most of my friends are around 16. One or two of the older kids already have their

licenses, so four or five lucky kids at a time went off in their dads' car for the night. The rest of us were left to hang around on the corner of Kidder Ave. and Bay State Ave.

There were usually at least 15-20 boys and girls leaning up against the fence or sitting on the curb. That's where we met, and spent a lot of time. We were listening to Creedence Clearwater Revival, The Beatles, and Led Zeppelin. Our hair was getting long and we wore bellbottom dungarees. Yes, dungarees, not jeans. We also wore army surplus jackets, and desert boots from Thom McCanns. There were no laptops, no Netflix, no cell phones. If idle hands were the hands of the devil, then we were Satan's devious little workers.

Hanging on the corner and smoking cigarettes, singing under the streetlight and goofing around was what we did almost every night. Almost!

One Sunday morning my mom and dad drove by after church and I had to hide a lit cigarette in my pocket for a whole minute. My pocket briefly caught fire but I didn't get "bagged."

We had creative activities to keep us one step ahead of boredom and the cops. They would disperse us from the corner every hour or so but we'd always return.

One of my pals created a game called "running over the roofs of parked cars." He would jump from one parked car to another running up the trunk, onto the roof, then down the hood to the next car. It was purely reckless, idiotic and destructive. But after a few Budweisers it was quite the athletic event. One day, you guessed it, one of the cars was a convertible! It took three of us to pull him out

summer in of the car after he plunged through the ragtop. I hope that guy had insurance. It maybe a little too late but, sorry pal!

> Another dumb game we played was going "sign banging." We'd run from stop sign to stop sign banging it with a stick or preferably a baseball bat. Dumb, but fun and very noisy and annoying. Those poor neighbors.

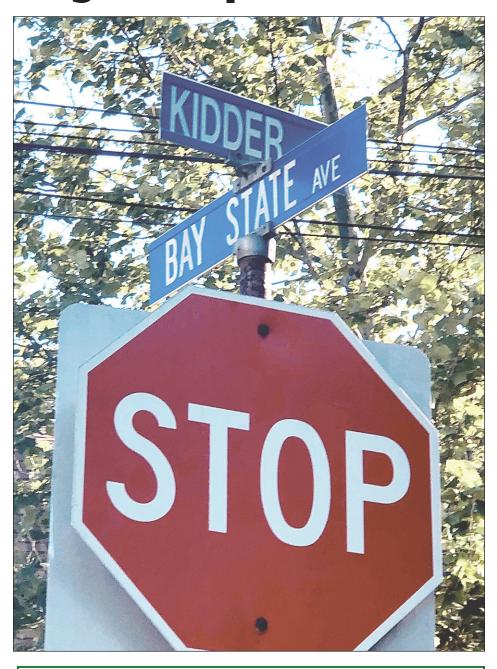
> One of the most creative, messy, enjoyable and crazy things we did was "the Great Potato Chip Incident." My friends' mother used to buy in bulk before it was fashionable to buy in bulk. Fast forward to four very bored teenagers on a warm July afternoon. My buddy comes out of his house with four huge bags of Lays potato chips. We ate our fill out of one bag and emptied the other three bags onto the street at the top of Bay State Ave. It's a pretty decent hill so when the greasy chips were well stomped and ground onto the pavement, it became very slippery. We ran, slipped, fell, and laughed our butts off sliding down the hill on the crushed potato chips. I remember It like it was yesterday. It was definitely a highlight of the summer.

> So sitting on the corner, running over the roofs of cars, sign banging and potato chip sliding kept a bunch of long haired, rock 'n roll listening teenagers busy in the summer of 1969.

> Soon the 70's came along. Somerfest, Somerville's program that brought live music to the streets, kept us busy as our band Shadowfax performed concerts on blocked off streets. Our first cars also happened and we were finally and triumphantly out of high school! Yay! A whole new era of piling into a car and driving around all night was born.

> There was also another activity that the boys took place in. It was basically trying to meet and hook up with girls. It was called "scooping." We'd put on our scooping clothes and we'd go out hoping to meet girls. Sliding down the hill on smooshed potato chips was a lot easier!





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By Jim Clark

A little too self-generous at the self-checkout

While assigned to uniform patrol at Assembly Row last Saturday afternoon, a Somerville Police officer was contacted by a Home Depot loss prevention associate, reporting two shop-lifters fleeing the scene.

The loss prevention associate provided the officer with a partial Massachusetts license plate number, but could not read the rest due to a tinted license plate cover. The two suspects were reported as being one male and one female.

As the officer turned onto Revolution Drive, he observed a vehicle matching the provided description exiting the parking lot and turning toward Grand Union Blvd. The officer activated his lights and siren and stopped the vehicle on Grand Union Blvd behind Home Depot.

The operator, later identified as Larry Banks, of Dorchester, did not possess a license, but identified himself verbally. The front passenger was identified with a driver's license as the registered owner of the vehicle.

The officer informed Banks and the female passenger that he had stopped them on suspicion of larceny from Home Depot, and also for the license plate violation.

Banks reportedly stated that they thought they had paid for two air conditioners, but when confronted, left them at the door.

The loss prevention associate reviewed video footage and observed the female and Banks enter the self-checkout register. The woman reportedly grabbed the scan gun and rang in one case of water for \$3.00. She did not attempt to scan the two air conditioners, valued at \$578.

Immediately following scanning the water, the woman reportedly inserted her credit card in a hurried manner. Meanwhile, Banks reportedly

distracted the employee who is assigned to monitor the self-checkout registers.

The loss prevention associate was standing nearby, and when the woman and Banks attempted to exit the store, the associate identified himself and requested they return to the office. Banks reportedly stated "We're out of here," and left the air conditioners in the vestibule. This area is past all points of purchases.

Banks denied stealing the air conditioners and stated he has plenty of money and flashed approximately \$2,000. A query of Banks' information revealed his license status was revoked due to

lack of child support payments and as a habitual traffic offender. Banks also had an open case for shoplifting. The woman also has a history of shoplifting.

Banks was placed under arrest on charges of violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon, larceny under \$1200, license revoked as HTO. During a pat frisk, a folding knife with a 4-inch blade was located clipped to his right pocket.

The woman will be summonsed for Larceny under \$1,200. Both the woman and Banks were trespassed for three years from Home Depot.

SOMERVILLE POLICE GRIME LOG

Arrests:

Joseph Norman, of 90 Flint St., July 4, 8:17 p.m., arrested at Bonair St. on charges of carrying a firearm without a license, carrying a firearm with ammunition, assault and battery on a police officer, and resisting arrest.

Larry Banks, of 105 Hamilton St., Boston, July 6, 2:32

p.m., arrested at Mystic Ave. on

charges of violation of city ordi-

nance possession of a dangerous weapon, larceny under \$1200, license revoked as HTO.

Jason Collazo, of 688 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, July 7, 1:07 p.m., arrested at Assembly

Row on charges of shoplifting by asportation third offense and removal of theft prevention device, and on warrant charges of larceny under \$1200, trespassing, disturbing the peace, and conspiracy.

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City considers equitable spending on athletic and academic programs

CONT. FROM PG 1

Co-sponsor of the order Ward 2 Councilor J.T. Scott spoke in favor of the proposal saying, "As we went through the [FY20] budget process, I am grateful for the efforts of Madame President [Ballantyne, co-sponsor of the order] to get the spending broken down on certain subsets of our Parks and Recreation's programs showing great disparity, not just in terms of the amount of programs offered for women and girls in our system, but also for spending on equipment, spending on facilities."

Scot said that he was was struck that the city's educational and school programs aren't subject to Title IX requirements.

Title IX is a federal civil rights law in the United States of America that was passed as part of the Education Amendments of 1972, stating that "no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the

benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."

Scott pointed out that Title IX covers a very broad set of requirements that cover any institution, and any educational institution that receives federal funding.

"So my proposal here tonight – and I encourage anybody to look into the full text of the order – is to work with the School Committee and work with the administration to draft and implement a local Title IX," said Scott.

"I think we have been urging the city, the administration to equitably spend these funds and equitably allocate these resources, the Ward 2 Councilor added. "And while maybe progress is moving in the right direction, if the way to get this done is to mandate that by law we must have equitable spending across gender identity, then I say let's do it."

According to Scott. "It's something we had to do as a nation. It's something I hope that we can do here. Including protective athletic equipment, uniforms, supplies, allocation of travel benefits, years of compensation and quality of coaches. Let us have equity across the entire system."

Support provided under the proposal would include funding for:

- a) Protective athletic equipment, uniforms and athletic supplies;
- b) Locker rooms and practice/ competition facilities;
- c) Allocation of travel/transportation benefits and resources;
- d) Years of experience, compensation and quality of coaches:
- e) Dining facilities and services:
- f) Nature of publicity, marketing and media services;
- g) Game and practice times



Ward 2 Councilor J.T. Scott is urging the drafting and implementation of a "local Title IX" protocol to equitably fund athletic and educational programs in the city.

and scheduling;

- h) Facilities for and access to athletic training;
- i) Academic tutoring services for student-athletes; and
- j) Institutional support services for athletic programs.

The order was referred to the newly created Special Committee on Inclusive Equity; Gender, Families & Vulnerable Populations, established at the same June 27 meeting by Ward 7 Councilor Katjana Ballantyne in her capacity as President.

With that, Councilor Scott told Ballantyne, "I am happy – I am honored, in fact – to be co-sponsoring with you the very first item for your committee."

Developer earns 2019 Director's Award for 49 Cedar Street

By Marian Berkowitz

Alan Peterson develops properties and loves the challenges posed by older houses. In 2017, he purchased 49 Cedar Street, very close to Porter Square, just when the street was being torn up for significant infrastructure work. This, however, didn't discourage him from restoring this now



Developer Alan Peterson on front steps.

beautiful Queen Anne style house.

With a regular presence on Cedar Street, he became familiar with the owner of the company doing work on the street. One day, Alan noticed that they were removing all of the granite curbing and asked the owner if he could take some to create a garden bed in the front of his property. The owner fully agreed, noting that the curbing material was going to be disposed of anyway, and he even offered to leave a pile in Alan's yard. The following week Alan discovered that the owner left him considerably more granite than he actually needed. Not sure what to do with all of it he decided to ask for advice from his landscape architect, Ruth Webb. She suggested using the material for a walkway and seating in the garden. Alan proudly showed me the result - a beautifully designed mix of plantings and organic materials in the sunny and spacious back yard of the house!

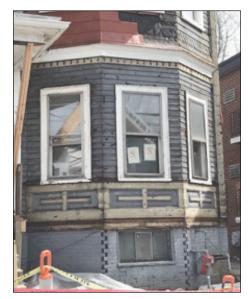
The front of the house has its own story. In the process of removing the asbestos shingling, the house's original architectural character started to reveal itself.

Cedar Street receives heavy traffic from pedestrians on their way to the Kennedy School or the Porter Square T station.

Because the visual contrast in the early stages of the work between the old asbestos shingling and the underlying original clapboard and decorative details was so dramatic many people would stop to look and comment. Therefore, Alan decided once the asbestos shingling was fully removed, he wanted to fully restore the exterior of the house.

He contacted a wood supplier who specializes in historic restoration and asked for help replacing the paneling beneath the bay window and the ornamental dental trim. All of the original soffits near the roofline were removed, stripped and repainted. He preserved the original front door and replaced a dilapidated porch with new cedar wood. Finally, Alan had the house painted a striking Spanish Red with Navajo White trim.

I always complete my interview with a photo of the owner in front of their impressive work. This enables me once again to record the story of one individual's



49 Cedar St. restoration in Progress.

efforts to preserve Somerville's architectural past. Although the property is not a designated historic property he has done an extraordinary job restoring its original charm. The city's Historic Preservation Commission has awarded Alan a 2019 Director's Award and recognized his achievement at their annual Awards Ceremony at the Somerville Armory as part of Preservation Month.

Somerville Community Growing Center Benefit Yard Sale

Please join in for the annual Growing Center Yard Sale Saturday, July 27, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Come on by and help the Growing Center, 22 Vinal Ave, raise funds for the 2019 season. There will be something for everyone. Help support enhancing the quality of life in our community. This event is rain or shine – they have tents. However, in the event of heavy rain on Saturday, the Yard Sale will be held on Sunday, July 28, 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. For more info go to: www.thegrowingcenter.org.

USQ redevelopment project receives key MEPA environmental approval

The Massachusetts Environmental Protection Act (MEPA) office issued a key approval for the USQ redevelopment project in Union Square this past week. The decision followed an extensive review of the project's Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) and examined all major potential environmental impacts associated with the revitalization program.

In her decision Kathleen A. Theoharides, Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for the Commonwealth concluded that "based on a review of the FEIR, comments, letters, and consultation with state agencies, I find that the FEIR adequately and properly complies with MEPA and its implementing regulations." The Secretary went on to state that "No further MEPA review is required."

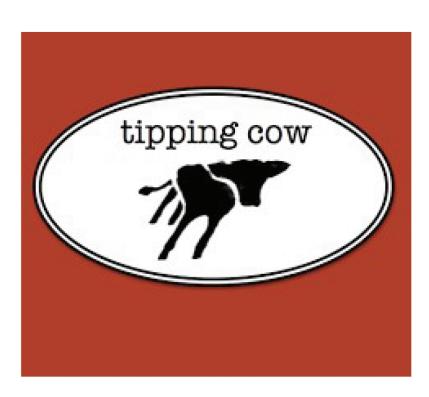
The MEPA certification recognized USQ's commitment to robust public transportation, traffic, sustainability and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction programs that will help to support key transportation improvements undertaken by the city, including the Green Line Extension. It also noted an increase of open and public space in the neighborhood, commitments to refine building plans that minimize energy use and GHG emissions through passive house residential construction.

The decision represents a major milestone in the renewal of Union Square. It affirms that the project complies with Massachusetts' environmental laws and is ready to move forward with related permit approval processes. The MEPA certificate provides state and local permitting agencies with comfort that the project has adequately mitigated its environmental impacts.

Next up for the USQ project is a final public hearing before the Planning Board on Thursday, July 11, for the first project phase.

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Beacon Hill Roll Call



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THE HOUSE AND SENATE: Beacon Hill Roll Call records local senator's votes on roll calls from recent sessions. There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week.

ALLOW UNIONS TO CHARGE NON-UNION MEMBERS FOR SOME COSTS (S 2273) – The

House and Senate approved on a voice vote without a roll call and sent to Gov. Charlie Baker a bill that would allow public sector unions to charge non-members for the cost of some services and representation. The bill was filed as a response to a 2018 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that public employees cannot be forced to pay fees or dues to a union to which he or she does not belong. Freedom of speech advocates hailed the decision while labor advocates said it was an unjust attack on unions.

"The bill levels the playing field for organized labor in the wake of recent Supreme court decisions," said Rep. Paul Brodeur (D-Melrose), a key sponsor of the legislation. "Gov. Baker should sign it without amendments to protect collective bargaining rights and prevent free riding."

"The Legislature sent the governor a bill that puts the interests of union bosses ahead of workers," said Paul Craney, spokesman for the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance which opposes the proposal. "The government has a responsibility to protect its workers and this bill exposes workers to harassment from union bosses and without their consent, provides the personal contact info of state workers to union bosses. The governor would be wise to veto it."

Here are three roll calls from the recent debate on the union bill:

USE OF EMPLOYEE'S E-MAIL (S 2273)

Senate 6-32, rejected an amendment that would require that all union e-mails to public employees are "consistent with any e-mail or information technology usage policies of the employer and consistent with all state and federal laws and regulations."

Amendment supporters said it is important to avoid chaos and ensure that when unions use work e-mail addresses of employees, the union follows the same rules that the employers have instituted.

Amendment opponents said unions should be able to communicate with its members without interference by employers. They noted that nothing in the bill allows e-mail use by unions to violate state or federal laws.

(A "Yes" vote is for the amendment. A "No" vote is against it.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

GIVE PRIOR NOTICE TO USE GOVERNMENT BUILDING (S 2273)

Senate 6-32, rejected an amendment to a section of the bill that allows unions to use government buildings to meet with union members. The amendment would require that the union give reasonable prior notice to the government entity.

Amendment supporters said this will simply make the rules on using these government buildings the same as the rules that currently must be followed for usage of a room at the Statehouse.

Amendment opponents said the amendment is not necessary because the bill already requires that any use not interfere with governmental operations.

(A "Yes" vote is for the amendment. A "No" vote is against it.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

MAKE PROVIDING PERSONAL CONTACT INFO AN OPTION (S 2273)

Senate 6-32, rejected an amendment that would eliminate the requirement that employees give the union their home address, home and cellphone number and personal e-mail address. Instead, the amendment gives new employees the option of providing the union with that personal information. The amendment would leave in place the requirement that the employee must provide his or her work telephone number and work e-mail address.

Amendment supporters said that requiring the employee's personal information is an invasion of privacy. They noted that unions have many other ways to contact new employees without using personal information.

"The amendment ... allows a new hire to decide whether his or her personal information can be disclosed to the unions," said Sen. Dean Tran (R-Leominster), the sponsor of the amendment. "This is an opt-in option for the new employee. "[It is] a common sense amendment simply changing the language within the bill to ensure that personal info, such as an employee's home address, cell phone number and personal e-mail are kept private, while still allowing union representation to access key work-related contact information."

Amendment opponents said laws have to keep up with the technology and the times. They noted that today's communication is done via personal cellphone and personal e-mail address, not old-school home addresses and landline phones.

(Readers: Please read carefully what a "Yes" and a "No" vote mean. On this roll call, the vote can easily be misinterpreted. A "Yes" vote is for deleting the requirement that an employee provide personal information and replacing it with an option for the employee to provide it. A "No" vote is for requiring the employee to provide the personal information.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

ALLOW ONLINE LOTTERY SALES (S 109 and

H 37) – The Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure held a well-attended hearing on legislation that would allow the Lottery to sell tickets to its games including scratch tickets, jackpot draw games and Keno.

Lottery officials have unsuccessfully filed this bill for several years and say it will boost sales and provide more local aid to cities and towns. Retailers across the state oppose the idea and say it would destroy small businesses and threaten the Lottery's success.

State Treasurer Deb Goldberg, the sponsor of the measure, said that the Lottery must respond proactively to the challenges faced today to continue supplying reliable local aid to cities and towns.

"The gaming and entertainment environment have changed significantly since the Lottery's inception in 1972," said Goldberg. "A growing number of states have recognized the shift toward frictionless transactions and the competitive advantage of engaging consumers on multiple platforms, online and in stores. In fact, of the 44 states with their own lotteries, eleven now offer games online. New Hampshire started selling online last September, posting over \$1.3 million in net gaming revenue in just twelve weeks from online sales alone. We know that more states will follow."

"The Retailers Association of Massachusetts believes it should be the default position of state government officials and state public policy to incent consumers to spend their vital dollars in the local economy," said Jon Hurst, President of the Retailers Association of Massachusetts (RAM). "[An] Online lottery doesn't do that. The state Lottery is one of the most successful in the country with record profits. And we must start asking ourselves with [the] Lottery, casinos, and soon online sports betting, just how much gaming is too much."

Executive Director of the Lottery Michael Sweeney compared the current Lottery to an old rotary dial telephone which he held up in front of the committee. "This device still actually does work, if it's properly connected," testified Sweeney. "As you know, obviously it's a landbased device, it's heavy and it's also a little bit clunky. But it was revolutionary in its time, much like the Massachusetts state Lottery was when introduced in the 1970s. Times have rapidly changed and what has now occurred is we have undergone a huge consumer and technology revolution."

Robert Mellion, executive director of the Massachusetts Package Stores Association testified against the bill. "We were earlier in this hearing compared to a telephone, essentially," said Mellion. "That's what brick-and-mortar was compared with and this is what retailers across the state were just compared to. I'll say this about a telephone, it works. It works in a snowstorm, it works when it's sunny out, it works in a hurricane. So it's not necessarily a bad thing."

ALLOW LOTTERY WINNERS TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS (H 299) - The Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure Committee also held a hearing on a bill that would allow Lottery winners to remain anonymous.

Sponsor Rep. Paul McMurtry (D-Dedham) did not respond to repeated e-mails from Beacon Hill Roll Call to comment on his bill.

Supporters say winners should have the option of remaining anonymous to avoid all the visits, phone calls and e-mails from family, friends and strangers seeking some of the money.

Opponents say the publicity for the winner and the Lottery when someone wins a big jackpot helps boost overall Lottery sales.

LIMIT FEE FOR CASHING CHECKS (H 277)

– The Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure is considering legislation that would set a cap on the fees check-cashing stores and outlets are allowed to charge. The maximum charge would be 5 percent of the value of a personal check or \$5, whichever is greater, plus a \$1 service charge; 1.5 percent of a government check plus a \$1 service charge; Continued on page 17

Rebalancing the system



By William C. Shelton

Considered as a system, Somerville is drastically out of balance. Severe imbalances exist between workers and jobs, residential and commercial property, open space and population, affordable and unaffordable housing, foreseeable city expenses and sustainable revenues, and within age and income distributions.

Every part of a system connects with and influences every other part. But the extent of each part's influence varies greatly.

The part that has the most power to rebalance the Somerville system is building more commercial property, thereby bringing jobs, supporting local small businesses, and boosting the net tax revenues that are the primary way that city government pays for what we need.

Although we are New England's densest city, our problem is not density, or at least not yet. Density creates opportunities for social connections, reduces per-capita-energy consumption, and can provide a market for a rich array of goods and services, often within walking distance. New York City is 47% denser than Somerville, but it has more open space per resident.

While developers are forcing outsized housing projects on residential neighbors, Somerville still has ample underdeveloped land in Assembly Square, Boynton Yards, Brickbottom, and Inner Belt. In my view, the sky is the limit on allowable building heights in these "transformative" districts, leaving room for open space and, in the case of commercial buildings, helping to pay for it.

Nor can we simply stop building housing. Those districts will require a modest measure of housing to ensure a 24-hour human presence, thereby increasing security, and reducing infrastructure requirements by sharing parking between daytime and evening users.

Our challenge is balance, which at present is like a residential elephant and a commercial mouse sitting on opposite ends of a seesaw, while the elephant is being force-fed more unaffordable housing. So here are some idea starters for reestablishing balance.

Develop Boynton Yards as an emerging biotech cluster

Firms that must innovate to succeed can thrive when they locate in geographical clusters near relevant research institutions, skilled workers, capital sources, supporting industries, and com-

The planet's leading biotech cluster is located one mile south of Boynton Yards, where workspace demand is so high that companies are signing leases that won't begin for four years. Emerging and medium-sized firms cannot pay Kendall Square's skyrocketing rents and are looking for nearby locations.

Biotech provides jobs across a broad range of skill levels, most with upward mobility. And lab space produces the highest level of net property tax income to the city, except for hotel space during up economic cycles.

Today the most important location criterion for tech companies is to be where their talent wants to work. Boynton Yards lies between Union Square and Inman Square, the amenities of which are viewed by the younger talent as more attractive than Kendall Square's. And developing Boynton Yards as an ecodistrict would make it even more appealing.

this economic cycle, it's worth calculation. His alderman-

noting that biotech is relatively insulated from economy-wide volatility. The New England portfolio manager for the world's second-largest biotech developer told me, "Until death is cured, there will always be public and private investment in the life sciences."

Somerville should plan and zone Boynton Yards as a biotech cluster for emerging and mid-sized companies. Biotech companies are looking for lab space with floor plates of at least 30,000 square feet, and every parcel in the district that can accommodate such dimensions should be so developed.

But other companies that provide the industry with supplies and services need space too and cannot pay Kendall Square rents. On smaller parcels, clever developers could build for, and lease to, for those companies. DLJ is already pioneering biotech in Boynton yards with 358,000 square feet of lab and office space, and underground parking.

Only the city can produce a plan for an entire district. A visionary plan would draw developers, increase property values, boost city revenues, and justify prescriptive zoning.

Immediately adopt the MMUR

SomerVision 2030 called for a ratio of 60% commercial development to 40% residential development in transformative districts. But there has never been an enforcement mechanism, and the residential elephant has continued to binge. Moreover, the 60% commercial designation included nonprofit uses which produce no taxes, and retail, which produce low net revenues.

City Councilor Bill White sought to remedy this situation. He submitted a Man-Mixed-Use (MMUR) zoning amendment ic colleagues bid the required percentage up to 68%.

It has now been 30 months since Bill first submitted the amendment, and it remains in limbo. The city recently retained consultants RKG Associates to perform a series of analyses and make recommendations on the ratio. Meanwhile, largely unaffordable residential development has continued to absorb more land.

The City Council should adopt immediately amendment. If RKG subsequently offers persuasive recommendations, the MMUR can be amended and integrated into the zoning overhaul.

Keep commercial corridors commercial

People who study such things tell us that residents are willing to walk substantially farther to a transit node than employers are willing to site workplaces from one. Increasingly employers also want to locate near the amenities provided by a commercial district. And Somerville's languishing small businesses need the daytime population.

But in the current and foreseeable real estate market, even developers with minimal talent and risk tolerance are able to profitably build housing. The speculative land rush is usurping sites that, developed commercially, could help rebalance the system.

Somerville enjoys a number of pedestrian-friendly commercial corridors, including in the Squares and on lower Broadway. Properties on these main streets that are within easy walking distance of existing and planned T stops should be zoned commercial only. Side streets that are already residential should remain so, preserving neighborhood integrity.

Consider a ratio-based mora-

SomerVision set a goal of cre-As we approach the end of that excluded retail from the ating 30,000 new jobs by 2030, which would be required to es-

tablish balance between working residents and jobs. The goal was also a proxy for balancing residential and commercial properties and the net tax revenues they produce. But as noted, there have been no means to enforce this goal, and residential development continues to outpace commercial.

The city could institute a moratorium on the development of unaffordable housing - affordability being defined by the range of HUD affordability guidelines - based on a fraction of how much new commercial property is developed.

Permitting of affordable housing would be expedited. Developers of unaffordable housing would have to queue up. Then, say for every 300,000 or 400,000 square feet of new commercial space permitted, the city would issue permits for 100,000 sq. ft. of unaffordable residential space.

Court rulings have thus far been ambiguous as to whether this would constitute a taking of property as prohibited by the Fifth Amendment. But such a policy does not appear to meet the established tests for such a judgment. It is not an exaction, is not a permanent physical invasion, nor is it a total deprivation of all economically beneficial use. Affordable housing

Of all Somerville's imbalances, the most wrenching is that of housing prices, and in turn, economic diversity. Many thousands of individuals and families – often those who made the city so attractive in first place - have been dispossessed. And increased commercial development, as well as the Green Line, will further increase housing market pressure.

The only way to maintain some measure of diversity is to permanently remove a portion of our housing stock from the inflationary market. This is the subject of the last column in

Pedestrian path at former PHCS to close for four months

New green, open space to be added as part of ongoing mixed-use development project at 1060 Broadway.

As part of the ongoing reconstruction of the former Powder House Community School, located at 1060 Broadway, the pedestrian walkway connecting Broadway and Holland St. will need to be closed for approximately four months as the project team begins work on the new green space adjacent to the building. The walkway is expected to close in mid- to late July, and remain closed through approximately November. During the closure, pedestrians may access Holland St. by heading west on Broadway to Teele Square, or east on Broadway to Paulina St.

If you have any questions, please contact Dan Sibor at dan@sebastianmariscal. com, or 617-395-1210 x102. For more information about the project, visit www. somervillema.gov/phcspark.



CONT. FROM PG 1

New colorful mural welcomes people to Somerville

that's 250 feet long," O'Brien said. She hired four more local artists to tackle the project. The artists lived so close to the site that they biked over to work.

The team also coordinated with Somerville Main Streets to organize a community mural day last June 21. Around 20 overjoyed volunteers, including a seven-year-old girl painted bushes, bricks and a sailboat that day.

"It was really important to me to have the community involved in the murals where they could pass this mural and be able to say, 'Hey, I painted those bricks on the wall at Assembly' or 'I helped paint in the sailboat that's in the middle," O'Brien said. "This has been a really great experience to work with the community, and have that come together and let people be a part of it."

The process of creating a design ended up being personal to O'Brien. She brought the culture of brightly colored houses from her travels in Central America to the mural because she wanted to brighten up

Somerville, especially during long winters. She also depicts her favorite events and places she's experienced in Somerville.

"There are triple-decker houses which I lived in throughout Somerville for about 10 years," O'Brien said. "So they're very near and dear to me, and I think to a lot of people. Then it also shows the Armory, which is the art center, and I've done and gone to a lot of events there."

The Lombardi Underpass has a stoplight at the end of the road which allows well over 150 people in their cars to show their support to the team. O'Brien said it was the best part in the whole process. People roll down their windows, honk their horns, give a thumbs up, or have a quick conversation with her about the great work being done for the community.

"It's really important to me to use bright colors, to be as fun as possible," O'Brien said "I just want people to smile when they see it and really feel this sense of community and diversity that exists in the mural."









Dorothy's Corner By Dorothy DIMARZO



Bok Choy

This type of Chinese cabbage, which is similar to mustard greens, is a rich source of nutrients, vitamins and minerals. It has a sweet and slightly bitter flavor that is complimented with the sweet ginger and garlic. The soy and Sambal Oelek add a slightly salted and spicy element to the dish, topped with a nice toasted flavor provided by the sesame oil. You can even add some toasted sesame seeds for garnish. This side dish can be prepared, cooked and served in all about 15 minutes.

- 1 lb. Bok Choy, Soaked, Rinsed and
- 2 Tablespoons Safflower Oil

- 2 Teaspoons Fresh Ginger, Grated 2 Garlic Cloves, Sliced
- 2 Teaspoons Sambal Oelek, or 1 Teaspoon for less spicy
- 2 Teaspoons Tamari Soy
- 1 Teaspoon Toasted Sesame Oil

After the bok choy is soaked, rinsed and dried, cut in half or quarters for larger ones. Over medium heat, add safflower oil to a wok or large sauté pan. Add the ginger and garlic to the oil and sauté until fragrant, about 2 minutes. Add the bok choy and toss, coating it with the oil, garlic and ginger. Cook for 3 minutes, constantly tossing the bok choy for even cooking. Add the soy sauce and Sambal Oelek, toss to coat. Cook for additional 2



minutes. They should be bright green and still have a crunchy texture. Take off the heat, add the sesame oil, toss, then plate. Serve right away. Serves about 3-4 people.

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

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COMMENTARY

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Somerville residents will benefit when Planning **Board acts on Union Square revitalization**

By Greg Karczewski **US2** President

As we prepare for Thursday's Planning Board meeting, I wanted to take the opportunity to sincerely thank the Union Square community for creating a vision for the future of Union Square and working together to realize it.

As the master developer selected by the city for the revitalization, we knew this project could only be successful if it was a collaborative process with a wide variety of folks from across industries and backgrounds. We have listened to all of your feedback, taken it seriously and look forward to continuing the process in order to ensure Union Square welcomes new residents and ensures longtime residents and businesses have a place to stay and grow.

For example, we listened when the community shared that it wanted to see more green and open space in our plans. As a result, we refined our plans for the D2 block, significantly increasing the amount of open space and better helping to meet the goals for open space laid out in SomerVision. The new plans increase open space to 33,000 square feet, create a new neighborhood park, allow for better north-south and east-west connections, make the new MBTA stop more accessible and offer the potential for even more affordable housing and open space in Union Square.

In total, the D2 block will now feature 33,000 square feet of total civic space, which is an increase of more than 11,000 square feet from what was initially proposed, and open space now accounts for 35 percent of the site.

We are extremely grateful to the City of Somerville and its residents for its enthusiasm when it comes to feedback on this project thus far, especially when it comes to open space, and we are proud that these new plans have been well-received by members of the community. The community has also been enthusiastic about other project benefits, including:

• 200+ units of affordable housing across income levels, the single largest delivery of inclusionary affordable housing in Somerville's history

- + 4,300 construction jobs and 5,000 permanent jobs
- + \$5.8 million toward the Green Line extension
- + \$10.9 million in housing linkage payments for the full project contributing to Somerville's Affordable Housing Trust
- \$4.0 million for other local community benefit priorities

Over the past year, we have been meeting with representatives of the Union Square Neighborhood Council to draft a community benefits agreement that further addresses community concerns, such as the production of affordable housing, job training, sustainability and more. We remain committed to that process and are hopeful that we will come to an agreement in the very near future.

We look forward to continuing our work with the community and encourage all who are interested to attend the Planning Board meeting on Thursday July 11, in order to urge the board to move forward with the revitalization of Union Square. Not only will the project hugely benefit all of Union Square's residents and visitors, but the entire City of Somerville will benefit. New funds are required for a number of citywide projects, including the new high school, the renovation of Union Square plaza, a new municipal public safety complex and more Green Line extension funding. The approval of USQ will be a vital determinant in the funding of these crucial projects.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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Dear sir,

Unintended consequences of new anti-short term rental **B&B** ordinance

The city needs more affordable housing, maybe fewer 'luxury condos' and also some short term rental. Pre-Airbnb short term rentals (STRs) were the domain of hotels and B&Bs. Somerville has never had too many hotels nor B&Bs, a problem that we share with Boston itself.

According to city data there are some 33,642 residential units in Somerville and 267 (.08%) are STRs. Currently a minor fraction.

The purpose of the new ordinance, we are told, is to reduce the trend of converting affordable rentals into STRs. A noble endeavor. Especially targeting commercial entities that seek to do this for quick profit and in so

doing reduce available affordable units. But there is an issue that seemingly has not been fully thought out.

Take the instance where a couple of long term Somervillians, who are now seniors, need to augment their Social Security and meagre savings by allowing visitors a short term rental in the property in which they have lived for many years. And several years ago (before the issues was even in the imagination of the city council) they invested in such a property. They engaged legal advice, and ensured conformity to building codes through inspectional services and complied with zoning. Their savings were invested in such a move after their due diligence.

Then the city changes the rules, meaning that the investment made cannot be leveraged to enable a pay-back and an income augmenting profit. What are the options? There is no grandfather clause in the new ordinance that will enable these long term residents, who followed all the rules to continue. They did everything right and were100% legal. What is the probable impact?

a) The long term residents who now have less arable discretionary money and higher costs may be forced to sell and move. I have had this fear expressed to me directly.

b) A developer buys the property and turns it into 'Luxury Condos' with no affordability content anyway because the property would be under the minimum inclusionary threshold.

The effect is dramatic and contra to the goal of the ordinance. No new affordable housing is developed. Long term residents have to leave their city. More 'Luxury condos' in the mix.

What is the gain to the city?

It would seem to make sense that given these unforeseen consequences have such a damaging impact on some of our fellow citizens that a grandfather clause for long term residents to continue as they have been doing, could be appended to the ordinance. To limit the number of days a STR could be provided annually does not make sense. A grandfather clause would make sense and the ordinance would have a better chance to meet its (stated) goals. That this was not considered is somewhat sad given that many of those who now suffer the impact were not (it would seem) fully engaged by city lawmakers in the process. But it is not too late. Please city councilors, fix this one.

Alan Bingham Somerville

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Data Download with Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone



By Joseph A. Curtatone

Taking a closer look at notable city data—and interesting numbers. Last summer, the City's first Community Food System Assessment was released and it looked at food access in Somerville and areas where improvements were needed. Recently, the assessment was followed up by the Somerville Food Action Plan, which details ways we can help Somerville's food system work for all residents.

55%: About 55% of Somerville residents live within a 10-minute walk of a full-service supermarket. Fortunately there are many

small, neighborhood markets that help fill in the gaps for people who live farther away from full-service markets, but they don't always carry everything a family needs. Distance itself isn't the only barrier that can make it difficult to get to a grocery store. Having to cross a busy, wide road like McGrath Highway or trek up one of Somerville's many hills makes it much harder to go shopping. And for a person with mobility impairments or a parent pushing a stroller, that 10 minute walk can be much longer.

1,117,500 meals: The Somerville Public Schools serve more than 1.1 million meals each year. The schools make up an important part of the City's food system, especially for the more than 40% of students who are eligible to receive free or reduced meals. The breakfasts and lunches students are able to get at school can help stretch a family's food bud-

get. And the schools aren't just making sure Somerville kids are getting nutritious meals when class is in session. During the summer the Food and Nutrition Services Department visits parks around Somerville to provide free meals to anyone 19 and younger. For a schedule of where and when meals are served, visit www.somerville.k12.ma.us.

98 action steps: The Somerville Food Action Plan includes 11 goals, 22 recommendations, and 98 actions steps to help increase equitable access to affordable food, strengthen Somerville's food system, and support those who work in food-related industries. Action steps range from working with the MBTA to better accommodate riders carrying groceries to making sure there are safe routes to grocery stores to finding more ways to ensure young people have access to meals outside of school time. To read the full plan and background on its development, visit bit.ly/FoodActionPlan.

15 weekends: The annual Somerville Mobile Farmers' Market is one way we're trying to make fresh, healthy food available across Somerville. Starting July 12, the Mobile Market will set up shop on Fridays and Saturdays to bring affordable produce into different neighborhoods. Residents who live in Mystic or North Street housing or who show a SNAP, MassHealth, WIC, or senior coupon get a 50% discount and customers paying full price at the market help make that discount possible. You can find the Mobile Market schedule and see what fruits and vegetables are in stock each week at www. somervillemobilefarmersmarket.wordpress.com.

13,900 pounds: Mobile Mar-

ket customers bought 13,900 pounds of produce during the 2017 season, including 1,700 pounds of sometimes difficult to find, but culturally-relevant items like callaloo, cranberry beans, and jiló. Since it opened in 2014, we've seen the Mobile Market grow in popularity and sales – there was a 54% increase in net sales at the market between the 2016 and 2017 season.

Data-based decision making is at the core of how the City of Somerville develops policy and sets priorities. Every day we check the latest 311 stats, and throughout the week we meet for in-depth review of departmental data and city trends. The Data Download column shares some of the data we've been reviewing recently, as well as interesting updates. To see more Somerville Data, visit the online Somerville Data Farm at www. somervillema.gov/datafarm.

Housing: A common challenge in need of a collaborative solution



By State Rep. Christine P. Barber

Signs of the housing crisis in our communities of Somerville and Medford are everywhere. Most of us know a family who has been displaced due to high rents and moved to another community, or we ourselves are unable to afford rent or buy the type of housing we need. Housing near good jobs and transportation is getting more and more out of reach for middle-income families. And for people with low-incomes or disabilities, it can be nearly impossible to find appropriate housing.

Housing access and affordability are issues that I hear most consistently as a burden to families' wallets and minds. It's a common thread, one that impacts all types of people – families with children, seniors, people with disabilities, young people, and others.

But what is being done to address housing affordability?

Somerville and Medford are taking bold action, including passing transfer fee legislation (Somerville) that would charge 1% of the sale of a home for people who are not owner-occupants, and raising the inclusionary zoning percentage (Medford) to up to 15% to ensure that new developments include a proportion of affordable units. Changes like these are critical steps to address our housing challenges locally.

But Somerville and Medford can't tackle this massive challenge alone. The entire region needs to take action to address

the housing crisis. We need a statewide approach.

As a member of the Joint Committee on Housing in the State House, I am working with colleagues in the House and Senate to put forward needed updates to our state housing rules. One is the Governor's "Housing Choices" plan, which takes only one small steps toward a housing solution by making it easier for communities to make local zoning changes. We need a broader solution, and there are a few bills that I sponsored that take bolder steps to help individuals and families secure affordable and accessible housing:

• Incentivizing Multi-family Housing: In many communities, local planning barriers to building any multi-family housing have made the areas off-limits to working families and those with low- and moderate incomes. I introduced a bill that would create housing for people with a range of incomes by requiring

at least one district where multifamily housing can be built in cities and towns that have public transit access like subways, buses and commuter rails.

Banning "Exclusionary"
Zoning: I filed a bill that would update state fair housing and civil rights laws to add protections for affordable housing, and make it illegal for communities to make housing decisions that discriminate against new affordable housing. Many communities find ways to limit affordable housing purely because it's serving people with low-incomes.

• Accessory Dwelling Units: The affordability crisis is particularly severe for people with disabilities, who have more limited options due to accessibility needs. Accessory dwelling units (ADUs) are independent living spaces built as part of or directly adjacent to single-family homes. I filed a bill to allow ADUs, a good option for elders and people with disabilities to have their

own accessible space but live near others to provide support and care.

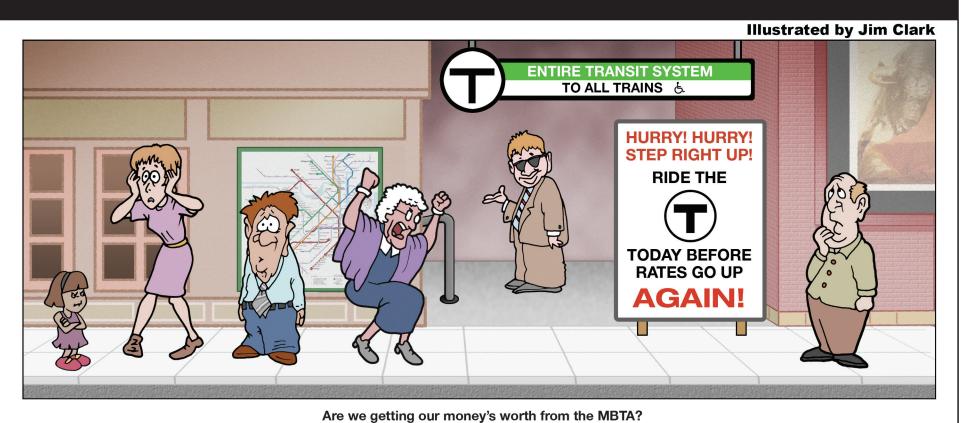
• Updating our Accessibility Requirements: Working with local advocates, I filed a bill to ensure that people with disabilities have options for accessible housing. This bill would align our state building codes with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act and close loopholes that create barriers to housing and employment for people with disabilities in Massachusetts.

I am working to move each of these bills through the legislative process quickly, because I know that time cannot be wasted. Every day, families are struggling to find housing or to stay in their homes. Families are being forced to choose between housing and medication, housing and food, or housing and school supplies. I believe that these bills are integral parts of the statewide solution, and I hope that you will join me in supporting them.

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COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



Our View Of The Times



Sure, everybody complains about the price of everything, but nobody does anything about it. Or do they? Or can they?

Take the case of the recent MBTA fare hikes. Plenty of people complained about the raised rates, but with no effect. The one thing that was accomplished was increasing awareness of the many problems that the transit system is dealing with: mechanical failures, interruptions in service, and overall quality concerns.

This rising awareness is likely to become a factor as the system moves forward operationally in years to come, as increasingly more riders and public officials focus their attention on these issues.

And several public officials stepped up to question or oppose the fare increases. Mayor Curtatone lobbied heavily for a freeze in rate hikes until the perceived broken system could be improved, as did Boston Mayor Marty Walsh.

The Somerville City Council passed a resolution ahead of the scheduled July 1 fare increase date opposing the action, citing issues of equity, access, affordability, oversight, and reliability of the transit service.

Still, the increase went into effect at the designated date, despite the hew and cry from those who were against it. Groups and movements like #UnFairHikes did their best to put a stop to it, but in the end it was business as usual, in favor of

the rate increases.

Some are still putting up a fight, urging those who can manage it to utilize alternative means of transport, such as Uber, Lyft, bicycling, etc., as a means of protest.

As a David and Goliath type of situation, it looks as though Goliath prevailed. For the time being anyway. What can be done is to keep raising awareness of what could and should be done to improve what we're getting for our money.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

can enjoy a nutritious meal this summer visit the Somerville Public Schools website http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/

Our sincere condolences to Gene Brune, whose sister, Josephine M. (Brune) Ciavattone, of Norwood, passed away surrounded by her family on July 4, 2019, at the age of 85.

Get ready for monthly Movie Nights in the Park this summer, July through September. International Movie Nights in the Park are brought to you by East Somerville Main Streets in collaboration with the Arlington International Film Festival. Enjoy the summer evening as Chuckie Harris Park is turned into an outdoor movie theater. This year's films include: Heart of Sky, Heart of Earth on Friday, July 12. The film follows six young Maya in Guatemala and Chiapas through their daily and ceremonial life, revealing their determination to resist the destruction of their culture and environment. Pre-film discussion panel at 7:30 p.m., followed by the film at sundown (around 8:30 p.m.); New Immigrant & Refugee Vision Films on Friday, August 9. This is a collection of documentary films by and about new

immigrants. The stories produced provide a unique insider perspective on the integration challenges faced by immigrants and the contributions they make to our culture, economy and social fabric. Pre-film discussion panel at 7:30 p.m., followed by the film at sundown (around 8:30 p.m.); Arlington International Film Festival Youth Shorts on Friday, September 6. The festival was founded in 2010. its mission being "to foster appreciation for different cultures by exploring the lives of people around the globe through independent film — to nurture the next generation of filmmakers." AIFF is a jury festival welcoming submissions of feature length and short films. ******

Join the City of Somerville, City Councilors Jesse Clingan, Ben Ewen-Campen, and Matt McLaughlin, and the Gilman Square Neighborhood Association for a community meeting on Monday, July 15, to discuss the implementation of the Gilman Square Neighborhood Plan. The meeting will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Winter Hill Community Innovation School, 115 Sycamore Street. For more info and to view the plan, visit www.

somervillebydesign.com. If you have any questions about the meeting, contact **Sue Thomas** at SThomas@somervillema.gov, or 617-625-6600 ext. 2561.

The annual SomerMovie Fest is back with free, family-friendly films starting just after sunset. Showings are scheduled every Thursday evening at dusk from July 11 to August 29. Screenings will take place at different locations around the city, and you can see the full schedule on the city's website www. somervillema.gov.

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, Ward 2 City Councilor J.T. Scott, and Ward 3 City Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen invite you to a public meeting for an update on the Somerville Ave. Utilities and Streetscape Improvements project and ongoing construction in the Union Square area. The meeting will be held Thursday, July 18, at 6:00 p.m. in the Academy Room at the Somerville Public Safety Building, 220 Washington St. Project staff will outline progress of construction thus far and the planned sequence of work through the rest of the year. For more

information about this project, please visit somervilleMA.gov/SomervilleAve, email construction@SomervilleMA.gov, or call the Engineering Department at 617-625-6600 ext. 5400.

****** Looking for a job as a real estate professional here in the Greater Boston area and Somerville? Contact Century 21 North East - Norton Group RE, 699 Broadway Somerville Ball Square. Phone 617-623-6600 or email donaldfnorton@gmail.com. Century 21 North East has over 45 offices here in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire and Maine. It's the fastest growing company around, headed by Jimmy D'Amico, originally from Chelsea. Find out why so far, since January 1 of this year, over 100 agents – both new and existing - have joined with C21 North East's more than 800 agents. It's all about family and good business sense. A grand opening will be coming up sometime soon.

The Somerville City Club manager Donny Johnson is looking all the time for new members to join the club, if you think you'd be Continued on page 16

Celebrating 'Haiti in the 'Ville!'

By SC

The Somerville Arts Council and the local non-profit organization Haitians United celebrated Somerville's Haitian community by putting together *Haiti in the 'Ville!*, an event full of art, music, dance, and food at the Center for Arts at the Armory on Saturday, July 6.

Jhenny Saint-Surin who was one of the main speakers throughout the event, gave a speech in which she said, "We do not discriminate. If you were born here or in Haiti, if your parents are Haitian, or if you're only a third generation Haitian, to us, you are still Haitian and that is enough to welcome you to celebrate our culture."

She also said that this community is a family for those who did not get to see their family again, back in Haiti.

Charlot Lucien, a world-renowned painter and the founder of the Haitian Artists Assembly of Massachusetts, presented works from different artists, one of whom was Ivequiel Valentin, who has been painting for 10 years and has always tried to bring ordinary scenarios to life by painting them with vibrant colors.

Art collector Renaudin, who has been collecting for more than 9 years, said that he started because he loved the idea that each one of the paintings he collected could tell a story about what life is like in Haiti. "Art is fundamental for our culture because you can connect with somebody else's perspective, and having a connection with other people is what a community is about," he said.

The Haitians United Folklore group gave a performance and a dance class in which they invited people from the audience to join in to learn the basic techniques of "folklo," which is a traditional Haitian dance.

One more dance class that the event also offered was by a duo of professional dancers who go by the name "Noche Latina," and as the event was coming to an end the duo made sure that no one left before everybody got up on their feet to dance modern konpa.

The music was provided by DJ YV Mix and a percussion band named Blem sou Blem, while the food was served by a local Haitian restaurant known as Pikliz International Kitchen.











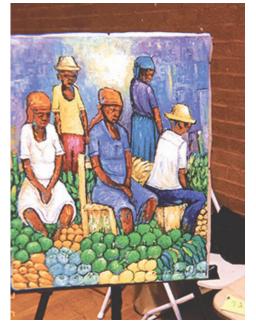


























COMMENTARY

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.

Worried about traffic in Somerville? Then you should be advocating for more protected bike lanes

By Arah Schuur

With the bridge closures, detours, and overall increase in people trying to get around Somerville, most drivers, cyclists, pedestrians and transit users can agree on one thing – traffic is terrible! The solution? Add more protected bike lanes.

According to studies from Europe and the U.S., making room for protected bike lanes decreases congestion and improves travel time for drivers.

In New York City, one of the most congested cities in America, an analysis of over seven miles of streets with protected bike lanes showed that not only has safety improved for all users but that travel times for vehicles has improved even as car travel lanes and parking lanes have been reduced. In a similar study of a pro-bike lane policy in Graz, Austria similar results were seen: a 30% reduction in traffic jams. The 2019 Traffic Index confirms that commuters are spending more time in traffic in cities across the United States however two cities - Salt Lake City and Portland, Oregon - have decreased their car travel times even as their population has increased. They have achieved this by investing in



transit, bike sharing and protected bike infrastructure.

The results are in: more protected bike lanes lead to less traffic congestion. Why does this happen?

1. Multi-modal roads can carry more people. A road with three car travel lanes and two parking lanes can carry about 12,000 people per hour. The same road with one dedicated bus lane, a two-way protected bike lane and one car travel lane can carry over 30,000 people per hour.

2. When cycling feels safe, more people bike and fewer people drive, reducing the number of cars on the street. Both attitudinal surveys and before/after counts have demonstrated that protected bike lanes are (and

feel) safer, so more people ride bikes in them. This means fewer cars competing on our streets and smoother traffic flow.

3. When bikes and cars are separated, both move more smoothly. Unlike painted bike lanes or "sharrows," protected bike lanes physically separate cyclists and motorists and give everyone their own space to operate. No more cars piled up behind a cyclist climbing a hill in the middle of the auto lane, and no more cyclists having to squeeze past backed-up cars waiting at an intersection. Adding separated facilities for cyclists makes city streets work more smoothly for everybody.

There are many reasons why more protected cycling infra-

structure is good for Somerville, including safer streets for all users (as required by the city's Vision Zero commitment), environmental justice (reducing pollution from cars in high-traffic areas) and transit mode shifting (as called out in Somer-Vision 2030 and Somerville Climate Forward.)

In addition, years of data and research from other cities shows that more protected bike lanes will help traffic. So if you are frustrated by what seems like ever-worsening congestion and you would like to move more smoothly through our city, you should be supporting the effort to add more protected cycling infrastructure throughout Somerville.

Ms. Cam's Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous #687

1. What Broadway musical is centered around gamblers and illegal crap games?

mixture, hodgepodge

- 2. What *Happy Days* character had a phobia for eating liver?
- 3. What is Alektorophobia a fear of?
- 4. What does a milliner do?
- 5. What is the capital of Novia Scotia?
- 6. What is Coulrophobia a fear of?

- 7. What nut is used to make Texas Pralines?
- 8. Who had the 80's hit song *Hip to be Square?*
- 9. What kind of waterspout moves over water or moves land to water?
- 10. Who painted *The Starry Night?*
- 11. In what film would you find the band Wyld Stallyns?
- 12. Joy to the World?

Answers on page 23

www.somervillema.com www.medfordma.com

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Maple Ave. dumpster fire



Somerville Fire Department responded to a dumpster fire between two houses at 21 Maple Ave. in Somerville on Wednesday, July 3. The fire melted the vinyl siding of the home.

The Somerville Times

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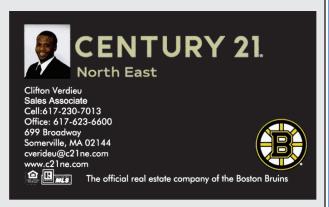
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CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

GEORGE J. PROAKIS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue.

*** Cases are sometimes postponed to later dates. Check the ZBA agendas online 48 hours prior to the hearing start time to check the status of the case in which you are interested.***

117 Summer Street (ZBA 2019-65): Applicant and Owner, Riverside Community Care, seeks a Special Permit under §4.4.1 of the SZO to increase the non-conforming FAR and a Variance for parking relief. RA and RB zones. Ward 3.

25 Ivaloo Street (ZBA 2019-66): Applicants and Owners, Tuesday Thomas & Can Keskin seek a Special Permit under §4.4.1 of the SZO to substantially alter a non-conforming structure by razing the structure and rebuilding a single-family residence. *The Applicants/Owners received ZBA approval for this project in 2017 under project number ZBA 2016-145. The special permits have since expired and the Applicants/Owners seek to re-activate those special permits. RB zone. Ward 2.

20-24 Rush Street (ZBA 2016-140-R1-5/19): Applicant and Owner, Jonathan Lee/Buck Lee Real Estate Development, seeks relief under §5.3.8 of the SZO to revise a previously-granted Special Permit. RB zone. Ward 1.

36 Summer Street (ZBA 2019-56): Applicant, MF Dulock, Inc., and Owners, Michael F. Dulock and Maureen E. Gaffney, seek a special permit under SZO §4.5.1 to change from one nonconforming use (a laundromat) into another nonconforming use (butcher shop). Parking relief under Article 9 is also required. RB Zone. Ward 3.

54 Myrtle Street (ZBA 2019-53): Applicants and Owners, Christiane Bode-Boezio and Alessandro Boezio, seek a special permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by construction a two-story addition within the left side yard. RB Zone. Ward 1.

<u>7 Oak Street (ZBA 2019-01)</u>: Applicant, Dalfior Development, Inc., and Owner, Joseph Trofimow, Trustee of the Trofimow Family Realty Trust, seeks a special permit with site plan review under SZO §7.2 to erect a second principal structure on the lot. The existing structure is proposed to become a single family dwelling and the proposed structure is proposed to be a two-family dwelling. A special permit under SZO §9.13 for parking relief is also required. RB Zone. Ward 2.

11 Rossmore Street (ZBA 2019-41): Applicant / Owner, The Rossmore LLC, seeks a special permit with site plan review under SZO §7.2 to erect a second principal structure on the lot. The proposal is to demolish the existing structure and build a new single family dwelling and a two-family dwelling. A special permit under SZO §9.13 for parking relief is also required. RB Zone. Ward 2.

Submittals may be viewed in-person in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30pm www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning.

As cases may be continued to later dates, please check the agenda on the City's website or call before attending a meeting. **Continued cases will not be re-advertised.** Interested persons may provide comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to OSPCD, Planning Division, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; by fax to 617-625-0722; or by email to <u>planning@somervillema.gov.</u>

Attest: Sarah Lewis, Planning Director As published in The Somerville Times on 7/3/19 $\&\,7/10/19$

7/3/19, 7/10/19 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 Wednesday June 19th. Sealed proposals will be received at the above office until Friday July 19th at 11:00am. 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, 7/10/19 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT REBID IFB 19-88

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

Fall Trips for Council on Aging

Invitations for Bid (IFB) may be obtained online at https://www.somer-villema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after Wednesday, July 3rd, 2019. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: Wednesday, July 24th, 2019 by 2:00 p.m.. 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, Council on Aging (COA), seeks qualified contractors to provide overnight trips inclusive of complete chartered bus services.

Please contact Thupten Chukhatsang at <u>tchukhatsang@somerville-</u>ma.gov for more information.

Thupten Chukhatsang Procurement Analyst 617-625-6600 x. 3412

7/10/19 The Somerville Times

 $\label{lem:lemma:com} \textbf{Legal Notices can be downloaded from our website: } \textbf{www.TheSomervilleTimes.com}$

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Stephen Stenson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Sallie Mae Home Loans, Inc., dated May 16, 2006, and recorded in Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 47461, at Page 79, as affected by Loan Modification Agreement, dated May 18, 2018, and recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Book 71239, at Page 459, of which mortgage Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC is the present holder, by Assignment of Mortgage from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Sallie Mae Home Loans, Inc. to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, dated February 25, 2015, and recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Book 65008, at Page 89, as further assigned by JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC by Assignment of Mortgage dated July 1, 2016 and recorded in said Registry of Deeds in Book 67657, at Page 336, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 12:00 o'clock P.M. on the 30th day of July, 2019 on the mortgaged premises located at 170 Walnut Street, Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Somerville, Middlesex County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, with the buildings thereon situated, being known and numbered 170-R Walnut Street, being Lot 6 on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Somerville, Massachusetts, T. Corcoran, Civil Engineer, dated January 9, 1952," and recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds, Book 7853, Page 547; being a resubdivision of land as shown on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Somerville, Massachusetts, belonging to the Estate of Albert E. Kenneson" dated June 3, 1935, John Falvey, C.E., duly recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds, Book 5943, Page 293, and more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point where Lot 5 adjoins Lot 6 on said plan, eighty-

one and 17/100 (81.17) feet; THENCE Northwesterly of the Northeasterly side of said Walnut Street;

THENCE Northwesterly by Lot 7 on said plan, fifty-three and 73/100

(53.73) feet; THENCE Southwesterly by land of owners unknown, forty-two and

45/100 (42.45) feet;
THENCE Southeasterly by land now or formerly of Anna White and/or

Margaret A. Johnson, fiffy-six and 52/100 (56.52) feet; THENCE Northeasterly by Lot 5 on said plan forty-two and 90/100

(42.90) feet to the point and place of BEGINNING.
Containing two thousand three hundred forty-nine (2,349) square feet of land, more or less, according to said plan and numbered 170-R Wal-

nut Street. For title see Deed recorded in B. 42100, P. 243

In the event of any typographical error and/or discrepancy between the legal description set forth herein in the legal description of the premises, the description as set forth and contained in the mortgage shall control by reference.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date.

Said premises will be sold subject to and with the benefit of all restrictions, easements, improvements, outstanding tax titles, mortgages, liens, rights of tenants and parties in possession, unpaid taxes, municipal liens, and other public taxes, assessments or liens, having priority over the mortgage described herein, if any, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed or otherwise noticed at the sale.

In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by Foreclosure Deed to the second highest bidder provided that the second highest bidder shall deposit with the Mortgagee's attorneys, O'Connell, Attmore & Morris, LLC, the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder and title shall be conveyed to said second highest bidder within twenty (20) days of said written notice.

Terms of sale: A deposit of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at the law office of O'Connell, Attmore & Morris, LLC, 1500 Main Street, Suite 1710, P.O. Box 15309, Springfield, MA 01115 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC, Present holder of said mortgage its Attorneys, O'Connell, Attmore & Morris, LLC 1500 Main Street, Suite 1710 P.O. Box 15309 Springfield, MA 01115

7/3/19, 7/10/19 The Somerville Times

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

interested give him a call at 617-623-9340. It's a great local club for the residents of Somerville, and has been around now for over 40 years, their location on Innerbelt Road. Plenty of parking and a very nice hall for rent, some say the best deal in Somerville. Call and ask for details at 617-623-9340.a call at

617-623-9340.

The **Somerville Garden Club**, celebrating its 25th anniversary, is sponsoring a **garden contest** to find the greenest gardens in all of Somerville. These gardens beautify our community and brighten the lives of all those who see them. Our

gardens range from a collection of potted plants, to beds of vegetables, to flower beds. They may be on a balcony, in the back yard, on a porch, or at a storefront. If you are a Somervillian gardener, you have a chance to be recognized as a champion gardener and win a prize. You can run in one of these four categories

until **July 14:** garden in general (decorative); vegetables, fruits, herbs; balcony, porch, terrace; storefront or restaurant front. More info at: somervillegardenclub.org. Go here for the entry form: https://www.somervillegardenclub.org/2019/06/garden-contest-greening-somerville/.

LEGAL NOTICES

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



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT RFO 20-01

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

Poplar Street Pump Station Design Services

Bid packages for may be obtained online at https://www.somerville-ma.gov/departments/finance/purchasing or may be picked up at the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, First Floor, Somerville, MA 02143 beginning on **Wednesday July 10th**, 2019

Sealed proposals will be received until **Wednesday August 7th, 2019** at 2:00pm. Late proposals will not be considered. 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.

Please contact Michael Richards at 617-625-6600 x 3403, or email mrichards@somervillema.gov for information and the bid package.

Michael Richards
Assistant Purchasing Director

7/10/19 The Somerville Times

Kids' Summer Reading list



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 http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/sites/default/files/CIA_Summer%20Reading%20 2019%20Packet.pdf.

Mon. July 1

Beacon Hill Roll Call

continued from page 6

3 percent of a payroll check of \$100 or less; 2.25 percent of a payroll check of more than \$100; and 3 percent of all other checks including traveler's check, cashier's check and certified check plus a \$1 service charge.

Supporters said of the 34 states that regulate check cashing, Massachusetts is one of eight that do not regulate the fees that may be charged. They argued these check-cashing "stores" are often located in low-income neighborhoods and take advantage of vulnerable residents.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Kay Khan (D-Newton) said the proposal will provide protections for the "unbanked" -- people who do not have a checking, savings or money market account anywhere. "As a consequence of not participating in mainstream banking institutions, such consumers rely heavily on alternative financial services and are charged exorbitant fees that substantially reduce their net annual income in the long-term," said Khan.

FREE LIMITED SMARTPHONES TO FOSTER

CHILDREN (H 91) – The Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities Committee's hearing included legislation that would give a smartphone, without Internet browsing capability, to every child over age six in the state's foster care system. Each phone would be limited to four pre-programmed phone numbers, including 911 and the number of the foster child's caseworker. The phone would include an application which allows the child to have a face-to-face video discussion with his or her caseworker.

Supporters say that the phones are intended to provide additional oversight and protection to foster children and is not a substitute for services and care currently rendered by the state.

Rep. David Biele (D-South Boston) who filed the bill at the request of a constituent, did not respond to repeated e-mails from Beacon Hill Roll Call to comment on the bill and to put us in touch with the sponsor.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Good morning to everyone except for Gov. Baker and everyone in the Massachusetts Legislature who has resisted raising the money we need to have a functioning transit system." — Facebook post by Progressive Massachu-

setts, an organization that promotes progressive issues and candidates in Massachusetts.

"All of our children should be protected equally. I'm just pleading that this doesn't happen to more children." — Marquita Kelley testifying before the Education Committee in favor of a bill that would impose health and safety standards for license-exempt private child care programs. Kelley's 10-week-old son died in April 2017 after he was left alone sleeping on his stomach at a church daycare center.

"Now the public has the opportunity to grapple with some of the complex issues we have considered as we continue working together to build a safer, more equitable, and more effective industry in Massachusetts." — Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) chairman Steve Hoffman announcing public hearings on August 14 and 15 on proposed rules authorizing social or public use of marijuana and home delivery of non-medical marijuana. Details are at https://mass-cannabis-control.com/notice-of-public-hearings-7_2_19/

"For the past 20 years, we've known about the maintenance backlog, we've known about the funding issues with the MBTA, and I'm sorry to say, friends, but Republicans and, I will admit, Democrats have had the chance to do something and it hasn't happened. Change needs to start now." — Rep. Mike Connolly (D-Cambridge) at an event protesting fare hikes for the MBTA's rail and ferry services that recently went into effect.

"Late budgets are a sign of governance weakness which, in extreme cases, can be negative for state credit quality. Late budgets can also expose local governments and other downstream entities to an interruption in state payments." — Moody's Investor Services criticizing Massachusetts and six other states for not yet having a final fiscal 2020 budget in place.

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 July 1-5, the House met for a total of eight hours and 42 minutes while the Senate met for a total of nine hours and 23 minutes.

House 10:59 a.m. to 4:02 p.m.

No Senate session

Senate 11:09 a.m. to 4:24 p.m.

Tues. July 2

House 11:00 a.m. to 12:59 p.m.
Senate 11:05 a.m. to 1:33 p.m.

Wed. July 3

House 11:04 a.m. to 12:44 p.m.
Senate 11:07 a.m. to 12:47 p.m.

Thurs. July 4

No House session

Fri.July 5 No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

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• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH Wednesday July 10

East Branch Library

Howl at the Moon with a Wild Thing Tune!

11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.|115 Broadway

Central Library

Healthy Eating Storytime 3 p.m.- 4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

VOX Pop

Pajama Storytime! at VOX Pop 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.| 431 Artisan Way

Thursday July 11

Central Library

Preschool Storytime for 3 to 5-yearolds

10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

TELL (Teen Library Leaders) Meeting 12 p.m.-2 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library

Stuffed Animal Story Time & Sleepover!

3 p.m.- 4 p.m.|115 Broadway

Read to Josie the Pup! 4 p.m.-5 p.m.|167 Holland St, 2nd

Friday July 12

Central Library

Preschool Storytime for 2-year-olds 10:30 a.m-11 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library

Stuffed Animal Sleep Over Pick-up! 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

Saturday July 13

Central Library

Magic the Gathering Charity Chal-

12 p.m. – 4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Tuesday July 16

Somerville Community Baptist

Preschool Storytime: Touch a Truck! 11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.| 31 College Ave 1:00PM-3:00PM

Central Library

Stuffed Animal Sleepover at Central

1 p.m. – 3 p.m. |79 Highland Ave

Wednesday July 17

Central Library

Stuffed Animal Sleepover - Pickup &

10 a.m.- 12 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

MUSIC ARTS

Wednesday July 10

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-

The Burren

Front Room: Americana Session with: Grain Thief 9 p.m.

Backroom: Miss Christine & Eric Paul, Tom Appleman w/ Special Guest Avi Wisnia|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

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road

Bearly Dead - Wednesday Night

8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville

Stacey Kelleher

Sam Mulligan, Sarah Donner 6 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Highland Kitchen

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Thursday|July 11

Sunsetters Clarendon Hill Towers|6:30 p.m.

Sally O'Brien's

Tad Overbaugh, Shawn Byrne, Speedfossil

8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room: Americana Session with Matt Borrello, Mike Verge & Company |7 p.m.

Back Room: Dayna Kurtz, Amy Fairchild|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

Proxima Parada with special guests Little Bird and Melt The Band 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville

Nicole Dollanganger SEED, Kira McSpice 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Chris Rivelli Group 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Sunsetters

43 Boston Street 7 p.m.

Friday July 12

Sally O'Brien's

Jim Coyle & Sneaky Pint|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: The Delorean Sisters, The Revenants 7 p.m. Jimmys Down 10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Once Somerville

Spanish Love Songs Rebuilder, Sorry, Secret Spirit 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 Mythical Beasts

10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

DI McRiddleton

Joshua Tree

256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Casev's

Entertainment every Friday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road

The Young Americans – David Bowie Tribute Night

8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Brass Friday: Desperate Measures Street Band|6:30 p.m. Brass Friday: The Scruffy Aristocrats|9

14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory

Youth Moose with Elodie and Havins 7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Union Tavern

Tall Boys / Rockwood / Runnerup 9 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

Saturday July 13

Sally O'Brien's

Hayride! Duke joins Jimmy & gang|6 p.m.

Motel Black Dori Cameron & The Invisible Monsters, Graneros, Vic Firecracker - \$5 cover|9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room:Bluegrass Session|2 p.m.Hunter Americana|5 p.m.|Irish Session|2 p.m.

Back Room: T1EK, JanaeSound|7p.m. Spitting Vinnies 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

Casev's

Entertainment every Saturday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road

Northeast Traffic with special guests Leon Trout and Phil Adams Group 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville

Backwards Dancer, BHORN & more 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Singer-Songwriter Summer Saturday Series Kickoff: Sarah Donner 2 p.m. Skybear | 8 p.m. 14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory

Rick and Friends 10 a.m.|Café

Mike Massé in Boston s 7 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

The Rockwell

Kerplunk|11 a.m. 255 Elm St

Sunday|July 14

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Roundtable Acoustic Series: Betty & The Bellhops 1 p.m.

The Natural Wonders 4:30 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. Back Room: Holly Auna & Joshua, Spats Riley 7:30 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub

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

Americana Sundays with Amy Kucharik and Tiger Moan 7 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville

Metal Yoga with Black Widow Yoga|11 a.m. Cayucas 8 p.m.

Cape Francis, Danny Godwin

156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Pumpkin Bread 2 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Monday July 15

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Shawn Carter's Cheapshots Come-Marley Monday with The Duppy

Conquerors reggae|10 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

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.

Bull McCabe's Pub

Jimmy James Trivia 8:30 p.m. 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Thunder Road

379 Somerville Ave **Once Somerville**

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

Lincoln Park (basketball courts)|7 p.m.

Tuesday July 16 Sally O'Brien's Bar

Christian McNeill & Tim Gearan 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Sunsetters

Front Room: Jason Anick & The Swingers | 8:30 p.m. Back Room: Mia Michelle, Frances Forever, Moxie, Mark Bloodworth|7 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub Ghetto People Band

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

10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-

The fun starts at 10:00p.m. 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

PJ Ryan's

Egoart.

440-6045

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

8200 **Thunder Road**

Once Somerville

Sanctuary (playing Refuge Denied in it's entirety), Ghost Ship Octavius,

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

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Ghost Ship Octavius, Seax

Wednesday July 17

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:

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

247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bearly Dead - Wednesday Night Residency

8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Sacred Paws

Prior Panic, Banana

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

That One Eved Kid

CLASSES AND GROUPS

Drop in Knitting and Needlecraft

Ciampa Manor

6 p.m.-8 p.m.|27 College Ave **Central Library**

7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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).

Central Library Indivisible Mystic Valley

Saturday July 13

Central Library

Union Square Farmers Market

Bagel Bards weekly to discuss their work 9 a.m.-12 p.m Au Bon Pain | 18-48

Sunday July 14 Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon

7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street Unity Church of God Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement

Central Library Fairy Garden in a Book Workshop

Tuesday July 16

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

Books & Brews Book Club 6:15 p.m.-7:15 p.m.|14 Tyler St

Davis Square Farmers Market

12 p.m.-6 p.m.|Day & Herbert Streets

Thunder Road

Once Somerville

8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Highland Kitchen

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

141 Hudson Street | 7 p.m.

12 p.m.-2 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

First Church Somerville

Friday July 12

10 a.m.-12 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Magic the Gathering Charity Chal-

12 p.m.-4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Somerville Writers and Poets meet

East Branch Library Learn English at the Library!

5 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Central Library

Aeronaut Brewing Company

12 p.m.-2 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Bull McCabe's Pub

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Wednesday July 17 **Central Library** Drop in Knitting and Needlecraft

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street Sunsetters

Wednesday July 10

Central Library

Thursday|July 11

Learn English with the Library!

Cooking Workshop with JJ Gonson

For more info call: 781-762-6629

lenge

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

Holland St

Monday July 15

Family Groups

6 p.m.-8 p.m.|115 Broadway

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

CENTER LOCATIONS, TIMES & SCHEDULES

Holland Street Senior Center: located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square)
Monday through Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Fridays: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Fridays: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.r 617-625-6600, ext. 2300

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

Mondays & Tuesdays – 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Thursdays – 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Fridays – 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 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 & Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 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

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 – Holland Street 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

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

Movie Day Monday – July 15 starting at 10:30 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Instant Family starring Mark Wahlberg. Lunch and Bingo to follow. Please call Josie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to reserve your spot.

Lowell Spinners – Monday, July 15 - \$35 includes transportation, seating and an all you can eat BBQ. Game time is 7:05 p.m. Check in at Holland Street at 3:30 p.m. with an approximate return time of 10:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Afternoon at the Reagle 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.

Granite State Chocolate & Wine Tour – Tuesday, July 23. \$89 per person. Includes luxury coach transportation, Sanborn Fine Candies in Hampton Beach, Warren's Lobster House for a full course luncheon and The Flag Hill Winery for a wine tasting. Lunch options are crab crusted salmon, top sirloin steak, ritzy filet of haddock or seafood casserole. Check in time is 8:00 a.m. at Ralph & Jenny with an approximate return time of 5:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Arts & Crafts with Judy – Wednesday, July 24 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.

Foxwoods Casino – Monday, July 29 - \$25 per person includes roundtrip transportation and a yet to be determined bonus package. Check in time is 7:00 a.m. at Holland Street and 7:30 a.m. at Ralph & Jenny with an approximate return time of 7:00 p.m. Sign up with

Connie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Summer Sizzle Super Bingo – Wednesday, July 31 at our Holland Street Center. 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. \$12 includes lunch, coffee, dessert, cards and prizes. Sign up with Connie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

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.

Essex, Gloucester & Rockport – Wednesday, August 14 - \$55 per person includes motorcoach transportation, lunch and shopping on your own. Lunch at Village Restaurant. Lunch choices are steak tips, seafood medley or oven roasted chicken, Space is limited. Check in time is 10:00 a.m. at Holland Street with an approximate return time of 4:00 p.m. For more information or to sign up please call Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Afternoon at the Theatre – La Cage Aux Folles – Thursday, August 15 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.

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.

Twin Rivers Casino – Monday, August 26 - \$25 per person includes roundtrip transportation and a yet to be determined bonus package. Check in time is 9:00 a.m. at Holland Street and 9:30 a.m. at Ralph & Jenny with an approximate return time of 6:00 p.m. For more information or to sign up please call Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Music and Movement with Steve Gintz – August 26, September 30 and October 28 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. Steve Gintz is a board certified music therapist and mental health clinician. He will inspire those with and without memory decline to connect with one another as we move and groove to music. For more information or to RSVP please call Ashley at 617-625-6600, ext. 2318.

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.

LGBTQ EVENTS

LBT Women Fit-4-Life at Holland Street Center 167 Holland Street - 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 information, please contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2315.

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 – 11:00 a.m. (C) Fit-4-Life Group C - 1:00 p.m. (H)

Tuesday:

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

Wednesdays:

Fit-4-Life Group B (exercise) – 8:45 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life Group B (exercise) - 10:00 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life Group C (exercise) - 1:00 p.m. (H)

Thursdays:

Yoga - 9:00 a.m. (H)

Fit-4-Life - 11:00 a.m. (C) Healthy Steps – 12:30 p.m. (H) Nutrition Class – 3:00 p.m. (H) LBT Fit-4-Life, 6:00 p.m. (H)

Fridays:

Fit-4-Life Group A – 8:45 a.m. (H) Fit-4-Life Group B - 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 at the Central Branch of the Somerville Library. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information 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, spouse 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.

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 Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317.

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.

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 the 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.

CROSS STREET GROUP INFORMATION

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

Coffee & Conversation – Meets every Monday, Tuesday & 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.

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

ArtBeat 2019 this weekend



Join the City of Somerville and the Somerville Arts Council for the annual ArtBeat Festival on July13, 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., throughout Davis Square, including Seven Hills Park, Elm Street, and Holland Street (streets closed to traffic).

This year the Arts Council is teaming up with the city's Office of Sustainability and Environment to investigate how artists and climate activists can collaborate in ways that encourage all of us to consume less, affect positive change, and have fun along the way. Also, expect the usual barrage of bands, art, dance, food, a parade – and much more. Suggested donation: \$3.

B.Y.O.W.B.

They are asking all festival goers to bring their own water bottles. You can fill up your bottles at the Quench Buggy, provided by the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, for a festival free of plastic water bottles.



Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



What concert costs 45 cents? 50 Cent with Nickelback

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Upcoming VOX POP events

Celebrating Immigrants in Somerville & Beyond: A Mini-Film Fest

Wednesday, July 17, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Register at: https://scatvsomerville.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=f-666d0ca2473e6d81ef0dc44f&id=573ad9cc94&e=3387f03abe

You are invited to celebrate the stories, lives and impact of our immigrant communities at this mini-film festival and community discussion. There will be community organizations tabling at the event sharing resources and information for the community as well.



Mini Short Film Festival Lineup:

- "SCATV Youth Documentary: Ebi Sushi | Produced by Karla Cortez & Karen Miranda (5mins)
- "Pathways to Success: Told by Somerville Immigrant Youth" (15mins)
- "Back of the House" Documentary | Produced by Lia Kornmehl (22mins)
- "La Lucha" | Produced by Tessa Tracy & Sophia Santos (11mins)

6:30 - 7:00 p.m.: Nonprofit Tabling and Outreach

7:00 - 8:00 p.m.: Film Festival Screening

8:00 - 8:30 p.m.

This event is co-sponsored by SomerViva: Office of Immigrant Affairs, Somerville Media Center, The Welcome Project and Arlington International Film Festival. More sponsors to come.

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SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

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|----------|--|------------|--|--------------|-----------------------------------|------------|--|
| Wednesd | ay, July 10 | 7:00pm | LIVE - The Boston Medium | 1:00pm | Tele Magazine | 8:00am | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) |
| 12:00am | Free Speech TV | 8:00pm | Startup TV Boston | 2:00pm | The Beantown Beatdown | 9:00am | The Stephanie Miller Show |
| | ' | 9:00pm | The Beantown Beatdown | 3:00pm | Democracy Now! | 10:00am | Both Sides of the Bars |
| 6:00am | SCATV Community Bulletin Board | 10:00pm | The Chatman Booth | 4:00pm | New England Pride TV | 10:30am | SOM Arts |
| 7:00am | Esoteric Science | 10:30pm | TUTV | 4:30pm | What's New Massachusetts? | 11:00am | Art Seen at SMC |
| 7:30am | DW In Good Shape | 11:00pm | DIWHY The show | 5:00pm | Reeling Review | 11:30am | DW Conflict Zone |
| 8:00am | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) | Friday, Ju | ılv 12 | 5:30pm | Both Sides of the Bars | 12:00pm T | he Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV) |
| 9:00am | DW Global 3000 | 12:00am | Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party | 6:00pm | The World Fusion Show | 1:00pm | The Kamla Show |
| 9:30am | Both Sides of the Bars | 1:00am | SCATV Secret Stash | 6:30pm | The Literati Scene | 1:30pm | DW Global 3000 |
| 10:00am | Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer | 1:30am | SCATV Secret Stash | 7:00pm | Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer | 2:00pm | NASA TV Silicon Valley Live |
| 10:30am | Somerville Storytellers | 2:00am | Free Speech TV | 7:30pm | SOM ARTS | 3:00pm | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) |
| 11:00am | LIVE - Fallon's Daily Roast | 6:00am | SCATV Community Bulletin Board | 8:00pm | Special SCATV Programming | 4:00pm | DW Euromaxx |
| 12:00pm | The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV) | 7:00am | The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV) | 8:30pm | Henry Parker Presents | 4:30pm | Legacies |
| 1:00pm | Health is Wealth | 8:00am | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) | 9:00pm | Nossa Gente e Costumes | 5:00pm | TeleGalaxie |
| 1:30pm | Art Seen at SMC | 9:00am | Esoteric Science | 10:00pm | DIWHY The Show | 6:00pm | Going Postal |
| 2:00pm | Science 360 | 9:30am | Cambridge Calendar | 11:00pm | SCATV Secret Stash | 6:30pm | The Last Sip |
| 3:00pm | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) | 10:00am | NASA TV | 11:30pm | TUTV | 7:00pm | LIVE - The Yellow Jacket Lady |
| 4:00pm | Speak Up! Somerville | 11:00am | SOM ARTS | Sunday, July | 14 | 7:30pm | Henry Parker Presents |
| 4:30pm | The Literati Scene | 11:30am | DW Tomorrow Today | 12:00am | Flotilla | 8:00pm | LIVE - Somerville Overcoming Addiction |
| 5:00pm | Hello Neighbor | 12:00pm | The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV) | 1:00am | SCATV Secret Stash | 9:00pm | Dedillhando au Saudade |
| 5:30pm | Women2Women Today | 1:00pm | The Yellow Jacket Lady | 1:30am | SCATV Secret Stash | 10:00pm | Duck Village Stage Sessions |
| 6:00pm | Speak Up! Somerville | 1:30pm | Speak Up! Somerville | 2:00am | Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party | 11:00pm | Boston Come Through |
| 6:30pm | Off the Shelf | 2:00pm | The Kamla Show | 3:00am | Free Speech TV | ' | 3 |
| 7:00pm | Haitian Poetry in 3 Languages | 2:30pm | SMC Youth Media | 6:00am | Community Bulletin Board | Tuesday, J | |
| 8:00pm | LIVE - Somerville Pundits | 3:00pm | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) | 7:00am | Nossa Gentes e Costumes | 12:00am | Free Speech TV |
| 8:30pm | Speak Up! Somerville | 4:00pm | Gay USA | 8:00am | Effort Pour Christ | 6:00am | Community Bulletin Board |
| 9:00pm | Boston Come Through | 5:00pm | The Chatman Booth | 9:00am | Tele Kreyol | 7:00am | DW Euromaxx |
| 10:00pm | LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party | 5:30pm | What's New Massachusetts? | 10:00am | Evangelista Camillo Fodera | 7:30am | Esoteric Science |
| 11:00pm | Flotilla | 6:00pm | LIVE - Fallon's Daily Toast | 11:00am | The Chef's Table Series | 8:00am | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) |
| Thursday | , July 11 | 7:00pm | SOM ARTS | 12:00pm | Gentle Belly Dancing | 9:00am | The Chef's Table Series |
| 12:00am | SCATV Secret Stash | 7:30pm | Art Seen at SMC | 1:00pm | Off the Shelf | 10:00am | Road to Recovery |
| 12:30am | SCATV Secret Stash | 8:00pm | The Grandstanders | 1:30pm | DW Conflict Zone | 11:00am | Graphic Content |
| 1:00am | Free Speech TV | 8:30pm | Greater Somerville | 2:00pm | Startup TV Boston | 11:30am | DW In Good Shape |
| 6:00am | SCATV Community Bulletin Board | 9:00pm | The Boston Medium | 3:00pm | African Television Network | 12:00pm | The Thom Hartman Show |
| 7:00am | Perils for Pedestrians | 10:00pm | Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party | 4:00pm | Dedilhando a Saudade | 1:00pm | Words on Film with Dan Burke |
| 7:30am | DW Focus on Europe | 11:00pm | Totally Working Out | 5:00pm | Gay USA | 2:00pm | Somerville Overcoming Addiction |
| 8:00am | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) | | , , | 6:00pm | The Grandstanders | 3:00pm | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) |
| 9:00am | DW Tomorrow Today | Saturday | | 6:30pm | Teen Empowerment | 4:00pm | SMC Youth Media |
| 9:30am | Hello Neighbor | 12:00am | DIWHY The Show | 7:00pm | Cinema Somerville | 4:30pm | Henry Parker Presents |
| 10:00am | Legacies | 1:00am | Boston Come Through | 8:30pm | Somerville Neighborhood News | 5:00pm | LIVE - Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer |
| 10:30am | Somerville Pundits | 2:00am | Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party | 9:00pm | Tele Magazine | 5:30pm | What's New Massachusetts? |
| 11:00am | Teen Empowerment | 3:00am | Free Speech TV | 10:00pm | The Boston Medium | 6:00pm | Community Lens |
| 11:30am | Art & Ideas | 5:00am | Effort Pour Christ | 11:00pm | Box House Productions Presents | 6:30pm | Art & Ideas |
| 12:00pm | The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV) | 6:00am | SCATV Community Bulletin Board | 11:30pm | SCATV Secret Stash | 7:00pm | Art Seen at SMC |
| 1:00pm | The Somerville Line | 7:00am | Road to Recovery | · | | 7:30pm | LIVE - Greater Somerville |
| 3:00pm | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) | 8:00am | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) | Monday, July | | 8:00pm | LIVE - Dead Air Live |
| 4:00pm | Hello Neighbor! | 9:00am | SMC Youth Media | 12:00am | Free Speech TV | 9:00pm | The Somerville Line |
| 4:30pm | The Struggle | 9:30am | Somerville Storytellers | 5:00am | Evangelista Camillo Fodera | 10:00pm | TUTV |
| 5:00pm | Words on Film with Dan Burke | 10:00am | Dead Air Live | 6:00am | Community Bulletin Board | 10:30pm | Public Access Boyz |
| 6:00nm | Community Lone | 11:00am | Haitian Poetry in 3 Languages | 7:00am | Perils for Pedestrians | 11:00pm | Box House Productions Presents |

(RCN) Schedule (Comcast)

7:30am

Wednesday, July 10 7:30am POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony 8:00am Connecting Communities - June 2019 8:30am Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks Jane's Walk 2019 11:00am City Council Meeting - 6.27.19 1:00pm SCAP Annual Meeting 2019 6:30pm 8:00pm SomerViva em Português 8:31pm Powder House Blvd Community Meeting 10:30pm Pride Flag Raising Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest - 6.15.19 10:46pm Thursday, July 11 12:00am Conway Park & PIP Plan Info Session 1:38am Pride Flag Raising

6:00pm

6:30pm

CC Finance Committee - FY20 Budget 2:00am 7:30am Letters of World War II at Council on Aging 8:43am Pride Flag Raising POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony 9:00am 9:30am Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest - 6.15.19 11:00am City Council Spotlight - Ben Ewen Campen 11:31am Talking Business "Bow Market" 12:00pm Senior Circuit - June 2019 12:30pm Independence Day Celebrations 2:30pm Historic Preservation Awards 4:00pm Upcoming Meeting Schedule City Council Meeting - 7.11.19 7:00pm

Friday, July 12 Senior Circuit - June 2019 12:30am Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest - 6.15.19 CC Finance Committee - FY20 Budget 1:30am

The Firstamerican Flag Sit & Be Fit Allamerican Workout 9:30am SomerViva em Português 11:00am POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony 11:30am Memorial on the Mystic 2019 1:05pm Talking Business "Bow Market' Independence Day Celebration 1:30pm 3:30pm SomerViva en Espanol 6:00pm Letters of World War II at Council on Aging 7:13pm Pride Flag Raising 7:30pm SomerViva em Português 8:01pm POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony 8:30pm White Nationalism Community Response 10:30pm SomerVision 2040 - Development 101 Saturday, July 13 Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest - 6.15.19 Connecting Communities - June 2019 CC Finance Committee - FY20 Budget

Haitian Poetry in 3 Languages

TeleGalaxie

12:00pm

9:00am

Community Lens

Somerville Pundits

12:00am 1:00am 1:30am Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking' 7:30am 8:00am Independence Day Celebration 11:00am East Somerville Walking Tour - 6.16.19 12:30pm Copp's Hill Burying Ground 1:30pm Connecting Communities - June 2019 CC Finance Committee - FY20 Budget 2:00pm 6:00pm Raising Families "Special Needs Education" 6:30pm SomerViva en Espanol POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony 7:00pm Independence Day Celebration Roll Call of Heroes 2019 9:30pm Memorial on the Mystic 2019 10:05pm Sunday, July 14

12:00am SomerViva em Português Própria 12:31am East Somerville Walking Tour - 6.16.19 CC Finance Committee - FY20 Budget 2:00am 8:00am Middlesex Update w/Marian Ryan 8:30am SomerViva en Espanol 9:00am Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest - 6.15.19 11:00am Connecting Communities - June 2019 SomerViva em Português 11:30am Senior Circuit - June 2019 12:01pm East Somerville Walking Tour - 6.16.19 Copp's Hill Burying Ground 12:30pm 2:00pm 2:46pm Jane's Walk 2019 4:30pm Talking Business "Bow Market" Pride Flag Raising 6:00pm 6:30pm Haiti in the 'Ville Senior Circuit - June 2019 7:00pm 7:30pm SomerVision 2040: Parameters - 4.5.19 Pride Flag Raising 8:11pm 8:30pm City Council Meeting - 7.11.19

Going Postal

11:00pm

11:30pm

Monday, July 15 12:00am Senior Circuit - June 2019 12:30am SomerVision 2040 1:31am Porchfest '19 SomerViva en Espanol 2:30am 3:00am White Nationalism Community Response 8:00am Fit-4-Life #3 8:30am Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking' 9:00am SomerVision 2040 10:01am Haiti in the 'Ville Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest - 6.15.19 11:00am City Council Meeting - 7.11.19

City Council Spotlight - Ben Ewen Campen 4:00pm SomerVision 2040: Values & Equity 2019 6:00pm 6:30pm POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony Copp's Hill Burying Ground 7:00pm 8:00pm Pride Flag Raising 8:16pm CC Finance Committee - FY20 Budget Tuesday, July 16 1:30am

Box House Productions Presents

Connecting Communities - June 2019 2:00am SomerVision 2040 - Development 101 3:08am Pride Flag Raising SomerViva en Espano 8:00am POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony 8:30am Milk Row Cemetery Tour - 5.23.19 Talking Business "Bow Market" 11:30am 12:00pm Senior Circuit - June 2019 Haiti in the 'Ville 12:30pm 1:00pm Copp's Hill Burying Ground SomerViva em Português SomerVision 2040 - Development 101 2:00pm 2:31pm Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking" 6:30pm 7:00pm

Senior Circuit - June 2019 Haiti in the 'Ville SomerViva en Espanol Independence Day Celebration East Somerville Walking Tour - 6.16.19

Wednesday, July 17

7:30pm

8:00pm

8:30pm

10:30pm

1:00am

2:00am

5:00am

9:00am

10:00am

11:00am

12:30pm

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3:30pm

5:00pm

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7:00pm

8:30pm

10:00pm

10:30pm

11:00pm

12:00am

12:00am Senior Circuit - June 2019 12:30am Haiti in the 'Ville POW Veterans' Cemetery Ceremony 1:00am 1:30am City Council Meeting - 7.11.19

Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, July 10 9:00am SHS Baseball vs Medford Boys Intramural Basketball Championship 11:00am 12:00pm Girls Intramural Basketball Championship SHS Boys Tennis vs Wakefield 1:00pm 3:30pm Rec All City Track Meet 5:00pm SHS Baseball vs Medford 7:00pm Boys Intramural Basketball Championship 8:00pm Girls Intramural Basketball Championship 9:00pm SHS Boys Tennis vs Wakefield 11:30pm Rec All City Track Meet Thursday, July 11 1:00am WSNS Science Fair Winners WHCIS Moving On Ceremony 1:45am 9:00am WSNS Moving On Ceremony WHCIS Moving On Ceremony 10:00am Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert 11:00am 11:30am El Sistema Year End Concert 12:00pm Argenziano School Memorial Day Concert 1:00pm Argenziano School Spring Concert 2:00pm Kennedy School 4-8 Spring Concert

3:00pm

4:05pm

5:30pm 6:00pm

7:00pm

8:00pm

8:30pm

9:00pm

10:00pm

11:00pm

ESCS Spring Concert

Rec All City Track Meet

Healey School Spring Concert WSNS Moving On Ceremony

WHCIS Moving On Ceremony

El Sistema Year End Concert

Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert

Argenziano School Spring Concert

Kennedy School 4-8 Spring Concert

Argenziano School Memorial Day Concert

Friday, July 12 Healey School Spring Concert SHS Baseball vs Pope John 12:00am 12:30am Public Domain Theater 2:00am Boys Intramural Basketball Championship 9:00am 10:00am Girls Intramural Basketball Championship 11:00am WHCS Spring Concert 12:00pm SHS Volleyball vs Greater Lowell Tech HIGHLANDER FOOTBALL 2018 1:00pm 1:30pm SHS Chamber Concert 2:30pm 3:00pm Student of the Otr. - Kennedy School All-City Middle School Spring Concert WSNS Science Fair Winners 4:00pm 5:00pm Boys Intramural Basketball Championship 6:00pm 7:00pm Girls Intramural Basketball Championship WHCS Spring Concert SHS Volleyball vs Greater Lowell Tech 8:00pm HIGHLANDER FOOTBALL 2018 9:00pm 9:30pm SHS Chamber Concert Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School 10:30pm 11:00pm All-City Middle School Spring Concert Saturday, July 13

12:00am Rec All City Track Meet 1:30am SHS Graduation 2019 Public Domain Theater 3:30am WSNS Science Fair Winners 9:00am 10:00am Argenziano School Spring Concert 11:00am Rec All City Track Meet 12:30pm El Sistema Year End Concert 1:00pm SCALE Graduation 2019 Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert

3:00pm **ESCS Spring Concert** Healey School Spring Concert 4:30pm WSNS Science Fair Winners 5:00pm 6:00pm Argenziano School Spring Concert 7:00pm Rec All City Track Meet 8:30pm El Sistema Year End Concert 9:00pm 10:30pm SCALE Graduation 2019 Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert 11:00pm **ESCS Spring Concert** Sunday, July 14

HIGHLANDER FOOTBALL 2018 12:02am SHS CTE Awards Night 2019 - 5.8.19 12:30am WSNS Science Fair Winners 9:00am Argenziano School Spring Concert 10:00am 11:00am Rec All City Track Meet 12:30pm SCALE Graduation 2019 2:00pm El Sistema Year End Concert Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School 2:30pm 3:00pm Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert 3:30pm 5:00pm WHCIS Moving On Ceremony WSNS Science Fair Winners 6:00pm Argenziano School Spring Concert Rec All City Track Meet 7:00pm 8:30pm SCALE Graduation 2019 10:00pm El Sistema Year End Concert 10:30pm Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School 11:00pm Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert

Monday, July 15 12:00am WSNS Science Fair Winners 9:00am SHS Baseball vs Medford 11:00am Boys Intramural Basketball Championship

12:00pm Girls Intramural Basketball Championship 1:00pm SHS Boys Tennis vs Wakefield 3:30pm Rec All City Track Meet 5:00pm SHS Baseball vs Medford Boys Intramural Basketball Championship 7:00pm Girls Intramural Basketball Championship 8:00pm 9:00pm SHS Boys Tennis vs Wakefield Rec All City Track Meet 11:30pm

Tuesday, July 16 WSNS Moving On Ceremony Kennedy School 4-8 Spring Concert Public Domain Theater **WSNS Science Fair Winners** Argenziano School Spring Concert Rec All City Track Meet SCALE Graduation 2019 El Sistema Year End Concert Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert WHCIS Moving On Ceremony WSNS Science Fair Winners Argenziano School Spring Concert Rec All City Track Meet SCALE Graduation 2019 El Sistema Year End Concert Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School Kennedy School K-3 Spring Concert WSNS Moving On Ceremony **ESCS Spring Concert**

A COMERVILLE edited by Doug Holder

Toni Bee is a poet, educator, and advocate. Raised in Dorchester and educated in Roxbury, where she grew her daughter up on the other side of the bridge and became the elected 2011 Poet Populist of Cambridge, the first woman to grace that position. Bee was also the 2016 Inaugural Cambridge Poetry Ambassador. Toni has worked with youth for years and extensively with the City Spotlight teens of The Wang Theatre.



Poet Toni Bee at the Bloc 11 Cafe in Somerville.

Dear Twilight

Sum perfect five a.m., and lo birds a'twerp Hollering for food, beholding to the Lord Loving the sun awake with song (as I scream my free inside) A tall, decades old doze awakens in me

A tall, decades old doze awakens in me and still

Tree of poets - my ears seek you always Artists' scape - your colors, total family black, intonate me I have too feigned for art-light, your gift is

My private peek at brilliant spark of God Sparkle, shine

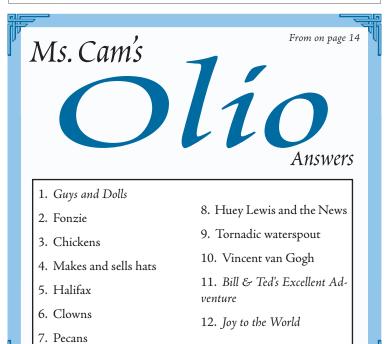
may I grab onto your windswept features, nibble the gift He gave you, share with others

while I still have a

chance

— Toni Bee

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



OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

'Greatest Hits: twelve years of compost magazine'

Greatest Hits: twelve years of compost magazine Edited by Kevin Gallagher and Margaret Bezucha Preface by Rosanna Warren Zephyr Press 50 Kenwood St., Brookline, Ma. 02446

50 Kenwood St., Brookline, Ma. 02446 http://www.zephyrpress.org

Some years ago, 23 to be exact, I remember Richard Wilhelm (my trusted arts/consultant at Ibbetson Street), his wife Elisa, my wife Dianne and I, picking up the late Diana Der-Hovanessian (president of the New England Poetry Club) at her house in order to go to a COMPOST reading both Der-Hovanessian and I were participating in. We were contributors to the new issue of COMPOST, (that was based in the Jamaica Plain section of Boston) titled *The Hub of the Universe: Celebrating Boston.* Some of the cream of the crop of the Boston poetry scene were in this issue, such as Robert Pinsky, Sam Cornish, Rosanna Warren, Joe De Roche, Fred Marchant, Jack Powers, Kevin Bowen, and Richard Moore, to name a few.

In the early 90's, in the "low rent mecca" of Jamaica Plain, Boston, a haven for many artists, musicians, etc., COMPOST magazine was founded. Perhaps the germ of the idea was born in the Brendan Behan Pub, a gathering place for the young bohemian crowd of the area. Kevin Gallagher and Margaret Bezucha, founders of COMPOST, wrote in their introduction: "This group of emerging artists saw the Boston (and national) area poetry scene as a lull. To us, the long standing clan of university-based magazines seemed to have an iron curtain that blocked out innovation and all our submissions." So they did what any self-respecting poets would do – they started their own magazine.

It was a unique magazine that placed poetry in the context of visual art, theatre and discussions of society at large. According to the founders it was an "attempt to re-internationalize poetry in the United States – showcase Boston area artists alongside emerging and established artists across the United States and the globe."

COMPOST featured not only local poets, but poets from Haiti, Vietnam, India, China, Armenia, Ireland, etc. They also had a wonderful interview series with folks such as Alan Dugan, Rosanna Warren, Ed Bullins, and Eavan Boland.

Eventually real life reared its head and the artists decided to pay more attention to their individual work, to their families, their professions and eventually the magazine folded. But they left quite a legacy.

I am happy to report that Cris Mattison of the Zephyr Press published it with excellent results, both in production values and of course content.

There is so much in this year's anthology. So I can only give you a small sampler. And since I am first and foremost a poet, I'll lay a couple of poems on you. In *Memory*, by the Chinese poet Bei Ling (translated by Tony Barnstone and Xi

Earth Like the World'

edited by Kevin Gallagher
& Margaret Bezucha

COMMONDOST

12 years of art, literature & ideas

Chuan), the poet characterizes the pained persistence of the past:

"You hear the sound of it peeling off,
The sound of its fall to earth
Its old eyes are astigmatic
Reluctant to leave quietly
Like a solitary river
It makes these small noises.

It's always behind us Walking us forward on our feet Ready to give us pain."

And in the *Hub of the Universe*: Celebrating Boston, issue, Victor Howes has a sharp-as-a-tack take on an ill-fated young love affair, where neither party plays fair:

"Eddie and Juliet"

"She vows, "I'll never speak to him again"
He only wanted one thing, as Mama
warned her, but breathless, she breathes, "When?"
when he suggests they meet. She is so far
gone in the tragic love that turns to grief
now that he dropped her. Meeting now, he says
"So long. Let's keep it brief.
I'm heading off to college in six days."
He wants them to be friends, old friends. Just that.
He wants his frat pin back, and all those notes
he passed to her in math. "You are a rat."

Ah! Ain't love grand!

This is a fine collection of one the independent lit mags that made its mark on our vibrant arts scene.

she moans thru tears, hating him with a hate

she says, "I'm pregnant," just to watch his face."

that will not die. Her turn to play her ace:

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Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month: MLS# **Address** Description **DOM List Price Sale Price** /2464/55 56 Line Street U:1 8 room, 3 bed, 3f bath \$1,085,000 \$1,200,000 7 room, 4 bed, 3f bath 27 72448116 \$1,099,900 \$1,085,000 40 Harvard St U:2 72403300 7 room, 4 bed, 2f bath \$1,145,000 \$1,100,000 12 Columbus Ave U:12 199 6 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath \$1,148,000 72485889 35 Woodbine Street U:35 7 \$1,155,000 72476091 5 Elmwood Street U:1 6 room, 2 bed, 3f bath 7 \$1,175,000 \$1,195,000 33 Bay State Ave U:2 72458234 7 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath 29 \$1,190,000 \$1,141,500 72418896 9-11 Sherman Ct U:9 7 room, 4 bed, 3f 1h bath 159 \$1,299,900 \$1,250,000 7 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath

| Recent Multi-Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month: | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--|-----|-------------|-------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| MLS# | Address | Description | DOM | List Price | Sale Price | | | | | | |
| 72322821 | 46-48 High Street | 11 total rooms, 5 total bedrooms 2 Family | 368 | \$1,250,000 | \$1,100,000 | | | | | | |
| 72476211 | 78 Morrison Avenue | 12 total rooms, 3 total bedrooms 3 Family | 15 | \$1,350,000 | \$1,400,000 | | | | | | |
| 72452986 | 30-32 Whitman St | 14 total rooms, 6 total bedrooms 2 Family | 51 | \$1,374,900 | \$1,342,500 | | | | | | |
| 72487492 | 94 Albion Street | 10 total rooms, 5 total bedrooms 2 Family | 20 | \$1,398,000 | \$1,400,000 | | | | | | |
| 72497854 | 11 Preston Rd | 17 total rooms, 7 total bedrooms 3 Family | 9 | \$1,500,000 | \$1,500,000 | | | | | | |
| 72469003 | 242 Broadway | 21 total rooms, 9 total bedrooms 4 Family | 31 | \$1,649,999 | \$1,560,000 | | | | | | |
| 72463745 | 65-69 Adams Street | 36 total rooms, 18 total bedrooms 5-9 Family | 21 | \$3,650,000 | \$3,200,000 | | | | | | |