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# The Somerville Times

www.thesomervilletimes.com



VOL. 8 NO. 26

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, JULY 1, 2020

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

## Inside:



Down to the  
corner store

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Reduced police  
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Dramatic Red Line  
rescue

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## City holds town hall regarding race and equity in policing



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Manager Nancy Salamoun and Somerville Police Chief David Fallon were among those who participated in Saturday's virtual town hall discussion on race and equity in policing.

By Isabel Sami

The City of Somerville held a virtual town hall discussion on Saturday, June 27, focusing on race and equity in policing. The discussion featured Mayor Joe Curtatone, Cambridge Mayor Sumbul Siddiqui, Somerville Police Chief David Fallon, and Patricia Contente from the city's Community Outreach, Help and Recovery office, and was facilitated by Nancy Salamoun, the city's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Manager.

Community members submitted questions to the group regarding the city's plan to transform the police, the role of police in mental health cases, development of a new policing framework, and the potential to defund the police budget.

Mayor Curtatone, who has recently garnered praise for declaring structural racism a public health crisis in Somerville, agrees with the call to "not just reimagine,"

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## Artbeat explores all things unexpected

By Rachel Berets

In past years, Somerville's ArtBeat festival has filled Davis Square, Elm Street, and beyond with dancing residents, music makers, stilt walkers, and colorful crafts. This year, due to COVID-19, the festival, put on by the Somerville Arts Council, will continue in a different form as a large portion of the events will take place online.

The ArtBeat festival, which is normally scheduled as a one-day event that attracts some 10,000 people, will run this year from Friday, July 10 to Saturday, July 18 and will feature a mix of virtual performances and real life installations around Somerville.

The "Chance" themed festival which "explores all things fluky, unexpected and unplanned," according to the Somerville Arts Council website, will kick off with a virtual dance party on Friday, July 10. Although the format will be different, the goals of the festival remain the same – to share art, engage with the community, and support artists.

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The official ArtBeat 2020 graphic, designed by Paula Champagne, seems appropriate for this year's ArtBeat theme, "Chance."

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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.

We wish everyone a happy **Independence Day**, even though it will be different without any fireworks or celebrations. Whatever you do to celebrate, keep playing it safe by wearing masks when necessary and practicing responsible social distancing whenever possible. Be sure to follow official guidelines if you do want to have any small gatherings.

\*\*\*\*\*

The **ArtBeat Kick-Off Dance Party** at **ONCE VV** featuring **Saucy Lady** takes place on **Friday, July 10**, at 8:00 p.m. To access this event, you can either join on **Zoom** (Meeting ID: 874 5275 2346) or watch on the **ONCE Virtual Venue** on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8E4Qz-vpCgHzBBQhd75XWig>. Dance and celebrate community and art with neighbors in the comfort of your own living room. Turn your cameras on, and decorate your space, decorate your fine selves with a costume, or just come as you are and share your dance moves at the **Somerville Arts Council's** ArtBeat festival's kick zoom dance party. Take a **CHANCE** and bust it with people you've never met before. they have got Saucy Lady spinning records she's found by happenstance during her digs at record shops all around the world. Ranging from funk, soul, boogie, house, disco, jazz funk and beyond, you may hear some tunes you've never come across. Just ride the groove to experience this soulful dance adventure.








\*\*\*\*\*

Happy birthday this week to several locals: This week a lot of local celebrities are celebrating their birthdays. Happy birthday to our own awesome writer and poet **Doug Holder**, a great guy who is always pleasant to talk to. He has many friends here in Somerville and we hope he has a great birthday for himself. Another great guy, **Len Ferrari**, of **Century 21 North East** is celebrating this week. Lenny is a great guy we wish him the best. We know he will be getting a great meal to celebrate his day, either from his wife **Ellen** or he will know the best place in town to visit. Happy Birthday Lenny! Also this week, happy birthday to **Andy Puglia**, a smart man who

Continued on page 7

# Somerville Weather Forecast

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

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 <b>Wednesday</b> July 1	Thunderstorms	76°/65°	79%	40%	S 7 mph
 <b>Thursday</b> July 2	Partly Cloudy	83°/68°	21%	19%	SW 7 mph
 <b>Friday</b> July 3	Rain	71°/60°	41%	36%	NE 11 mph
 <b>Saturday</b> July 4	Partly Cloudy	73°/61°	19%	22%	NE 10 mph
 <b>Sunday</b> July 5	Thunderstorms	83°/66°	29%	38%	SSW 10 mph
 <b>Monday</b> July 6	Thunderstorms	84°/66°	38%	39%	SW 9 mph
 <b>Tuesday</b> July 7	Partly Cloudy	87°/69°	20%	23%	SSW 8 mph

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

## TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

### Response to: Mayor Curtatone presents key initiatives of proposed FY21 budget to City Council

LindaS says:

Let's hope that the residents don't have to foot the bill for the "compassion" the City has shown in deferring bill payments and fees during this time. It's great that people can get a break under unfortunate circumstances, but if they wind up paying more later on, it's hardly a break at all. We understand that things have been bad for everyone, but there have to be other ways to recover than raising the cost of living for those who still will not be able to catch up because of the pandemic.

Sean says:

Joe will not lay off or furlough any workers. He is losing money and will eventually put the cost on the residents of Somerville. I own a business, if you have to lay off employees: it is the worst thing possible but that is what the numbers say!

All new public works trucks, city cars. None of them more than a year old. He spends like a drunk sailor. That's fine just don't come to the taxpayer when you can't pay your bills and it's fine with me.

### Response to: Rep. Barber files bill to close corporate loopholes, raise progressive revenue, and fill budget gaps

Jim says:

"The 2017 federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Act identified this shifted income and taxed a portion of it. Called Global Intangible Low-Taxed Income (GILTI), this provision allows the federal government and states to recoup tax dollars on income that has been shifted offshore."

While I can't stand Donald Trump, there were some really good parts of the Tax Cuts & Jobs Act and this is one of them. The irony here is pretty thick as we have a progressive MA House Rep working to harmonize the MA Tax Code w/ a piece of Trump legislation that all Dems reviled..... until they realized that it increased certain taxes (that should be increased).

### Response to: House calls

Joe LoRusso says:

Jimmy, You forgot Dr. Patalano, corner of Highland Ave, and Lowell Street. I think name is correct!

Jimmy says:

How could I forget Dr Patalano? He took out my appendix! You win the door prize!

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

## The Somerville Times

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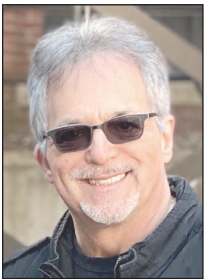


Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

Corner stores



Reprinted from March 9, 2013

Our parents sent us there to get milk and bread. We could walk there. We would get ourselves some penny candy while we were there. It seemed there was a mom and pop store on every corner in Somerville.

This is another one of those “list” articles. I asked my friends to try to remember all the spas, corner, and variety stores in Somerville, past and present. I got so many responses I was overwhelmed. Some are gone, and some are still here, just like everything else in Somerville. I can’t guarantee that the spelling is correct



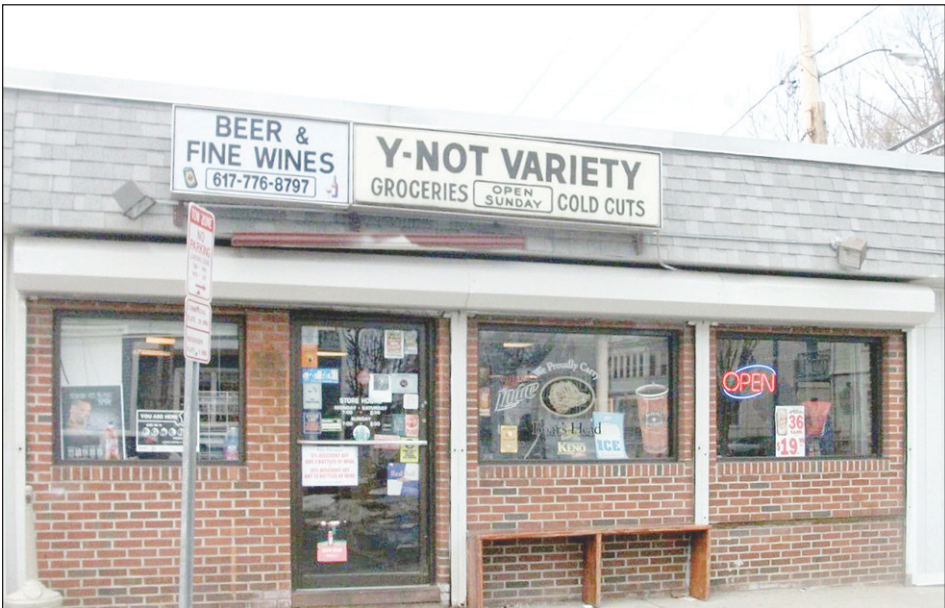
but hang on because, here goes! I’m putting them out there the way I got them. If I repeat one, sorry.

Tony’s (Y-Nots is Tony backwards) on Morrison and Willow (now Neal runs it ). Tony’s (Hodgkin Spa) at Holland and Simpson, formerly Pete’s. Mitchells in Ball Square (Mitchell and his brother George). Dick and Ellen’s on Broadway. Richdale’s on Highland and Willow. May’s, Marion St. Paul’s, corner of Albion and Central (neighborhood kids drove the poor guy crazy).

Bill’s on Conwell Ave., run by Bill Jr. and Raphael. Bill was the guy who owned it before Frank Sr. Joe’s Spa & Florida Fruit Market, Bow St. Union Sq. Johnny’s aka Thurston Spa, corner of Thurston and Medford (Johnny’s special subs!).

Joe Izzy’s Glen Park (he kept his shotgun in sight.) Small’s at Medford and Trull. Maher’s Market, North St. Art and Joe’s, Highland Rd. Teele Square Convenience. 350 Food Mart on Broadway. Midnight Variety, Union Square. Tip Top Market on Pearl St. Pete’s,corner of Dane Ave. and Dane St. Oscar’s (Liberty Market), Liberty and Appelton. Rainbow Spa, on Broadway in East Somerville. Cedar Market, corner of Cedar and Summer.

Walter’s at the corner of Holland and Claremon. Norman’s on the corner of



Elm and Mossland, actually Elm Confectionary. George’s Market on the corner of Grant and Jaques, also called Bengie’s. Don’s at the corner of Medford and Central and Eliot Market at the corner of Medford and Tennyson. Sweet memories! Christy’s across from Trum Field. Kneeland’s, on the corner of Highland and Lowell. Everyone in the neighborhood worked there. Cliff and Lucy’s was further down Highland Ave. going toward the firehouse.

Gatteni’s on Morrison Ave., near Highland Road. JR’s on Cedar St. Skinder’s on Summer Street a couple of doors up from Kelly Park. Sunnyhurst Farms, corner of

Central and Highland. Georges at the corner of Albion and Lowell. Jacks at the corner of Albion & Cedar. Tony’s spa on Somerville Ave. near St. Anthony’s. Store 24 (The Quick Shop), Davis Square.

Silvia’s on the corner of Summer St. and School St. Mac’s Variety on Pearl St. Joe Spa’s on the corner of Summer and Wesley Park. Jack’s on the corner of Summer and Cedar. Georgie’s corner of Cutter and Highland. Arthur’s, corner of Claremon St. Chip’s, at the top of Broadway and Main Sts. Arthurs at Perry Park. Susi’s, Yorktown St. DiNitto’s, corner of Merrriam St. and Somerville Ave. Silvias, Summer and School.

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Our menus and specials are posted on our Facebook page at:  
<https://www.facebook.com/Mount-Vernon-Restaurants-103209019028/>

We ask you to bear with us while we implement these guidelines.  
The safety of our patrons and employees remain our number  
one priority as we continue to operate and maintain our  
small business during this difficult time.

Our hours of operation moving forward will be  
12:00 to 8:00 p.m. until further notice.

Be safe and stay healthy – The Mount Vernon Restaurant

# Somerville named a Tree City USA and Growth Award Winner

The City of Somerville was named a 2019 Tree City USA award winner for the twenty-fifth time by the Arbor Day Foundation in recognition of the city’s commitment to urban forest management. The city also received its fifth Tree City USA Growth Award for showing environmental improvement and a higher level of tree care.

Somerville earned its Tree City USA status by meeting the program’s four requirements: having a tree board or department,

a tree care ordinance, an annual forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

“I’m proud that we’ve continued to invest in both protecting the trees we have and adding to our tree canopy every year,” said Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone. “Trees aren’t only a quality of life issue; they are crucial in our efforts to fight and mitigate climate change.”

In 2019, the city took several steps to expand its existing tree

canopy and protect existing trees including planting 378 trees citywide, completing a new tree inventory, and adopting changes to the tree preservation ordinance including protections for private trees.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation, the U.S. Forest Service, and the National Association of State Foresters. More information about the program is available at [www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA](http://www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA).



## Somerville playgrounds are open

Somerville playgrounds are open with strict rules aimed at minimizing the spread of COVID-19. Caretakers are responsible for assuring children are following social distancing rules and wearing face coverings if over the age of two. If a playground is too crowded for social distancing, users should wait or come back at another time. The Department of Public Works will adhere to CDC recommendations for cleaning the city’s playgrounds on a weekly rotation, weather-permitting. Playgrounds will need to be closed during cleaning. Please be patient.

Courts are open and basketball hoops are unblocked beginning today. No “pick up” games, scrimmages or contact sports are allowed on the courts. The city strongly recommends that you do not play with or share balls, gear, or any other materials with anyone outside your household.

Also beginning on July 1, water play areas will be opened with social distancing rules. In parks where the water play area attracts crowds that fail to observe social distancing measures, the feature may have to be turned off. To avoid the loss of these important and popular cooling and recreation features, the city strongly advises all residents to learn the rules and adhere to them.

Please remember to bring water, sunscreen and hand sanitizer with you when you go out to play.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.somervillema.gov/summer2020>



## City holds town hall regarding race and equity in policing

CONT. FROM PG 1

but dismantle and reconstruct policing into something that truly meets the needs of a just society, and promotes the health and well-being of everyone in the community.” The mayor believes that those most affected by structural racism — specifically black and brown community members — must have their voices amplified as change is made.

When asked how the city planned to reform the police, Mayor Curtatone addressed the creation of Somerville’s Racial and Social Justice Project, a department focused on removing racism from all systems in the community to create a “just and healthy society that is fair and accessible to everyone,” the mayor said.

Chief Fallon spoke about Somerville police officers being “guardians of the community” and creating a culture in the department where officers are devoted to providing help to people in need. When asked about the role of police in response to mental health calls, he emphasized these points and added that officers are taught that arrest is the last option when

getting people mental health assistance.

“This is the beginning of a long road,” Chief Fallon said. “I want to be methodical about change, and I also want to recognize the hard work that the men and women of the Somerville Police Department have brought into a culture that upholds the sanctity of life and looks at themselves as guardians.”

Director of Community Outreach, Help and Recovery (COHR) within the Somerville Police Department, Patricia Contente, shed light on police responses and intervention in regard to mental health related calls, saying that the Somerville PD responds to mental health related calls as professionals who follow protocol and have proper training for these situations. She also noted that the COHR program is looking to promote people of color within their program to create a more diverse setting in the department.

Recently, community members called to defund the police budget by 60 percent, declaring they will not accept a cut of less than 10 percent and asking that the funds be reallocated

to social services. Somerville police have a budget of about \$17 million, 6.6 percent of the city’s total budget, and have the lowest number of officers per capita of the 25 most populated cities in Massachusetts.

While Mayor Curtatone agrees that the city needs to look at reallocating funds to social and human services, he says that a 10 or 60 percent cut will have a detrimental impact on the police force, additionally leading to the youngest and most diverse members of the Somerville PD being cut. He added that cuts will diminish the department’s ability to promptly serve the community and will reduce their efforts to be as flexible and responsive as possible.

“Our prime responsibility is to protect the health and well-being of everyone in the community, and we need to do that while we undertake this important work of reimagining policing,” Mayor Curtatone said.

Both the mayor and the chief of police addressed the Somerville PD’s model progressive policing, especially after the decision to adopt all “8 Can’t Wait” reform policies earlier this

month to make positive changes to the department.

Chief Fallon believes people should be supporting the police as members of the community, calling his officers “well-trained, empathetic, and compassionate.”

Cambridge Mayor Siddiqui weighed in about the Cambridge Police Department’s reform actions and budget changes. Mayor Siddiqui wants community members who grew up in Cambridge to join the police force and its growing cadet program, adding that the new group of Cambridge officers are the most diverse in recent history.

She also emphasized the value of relationships that police have with the community to increase trust and accountability, and spoke about the decision to reallocate \$2.1 million of the police budget, which was slated to receive a \$4.1 million budget increase, to affordable housing and early childhood education on July 1.

The City of Cambridge is looking at alternative public safety response systems, with the goal of decreasing arrests, and creating a task force regarding racism

to find concrete policy actions and goals. Siddiqui said there is always more work to be done around racial justice, and always room for improvement.

Mayor Curtatone stated that the police should be reformed in a way that meets the needs of the community. “Policing, historically, is built on a flawed framework, but we’ve made so much progress here in Somerville. There are lessons learned that speak to the need to continue some of that progress or reinvest in other areas that are going to help reimagine policing. Before we end something, we need something to take its place.”

The city is hosting virtual small-group listening sessions with residents to listen to their experiences and ideas about how the community can combat systemic racism and related issues. More information can be found on the city’s website at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/programs/city-somerville-virtual-events>.

The town hall meeting from June 27 can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TGsqclcC0Y>.

# Somerville residents: Reduce the police budget

By Alberto Gilman

The Somerville Finance Committee meeting hosted a virtual public hearing to discuss the proposed budget for the 2021 fiscal year on Wednesday, June 24.

In the previous week, Mayor Curtatone delivered to the City Council the proposed budget for consideration. This budget would go into effect for the next twelve months if approved by the end of June. If there is no approval, an appropriation would be put into effect.

The purpose of this public hearing was to hear the many concerns residents have in reaction to the budget.

Nearly 400 residents were virtually in attendance. In order to keep the hearing moving along, each speaker would be designed two minutes each to offer their testimony.

For over five hours, Somerville City Council heard hundreds of

testimonies given by the many residents of Somerville.

The first testimony of the night was given by resident Willy Burnley Jr. “I am a black resident of Somerville and I want people to know it’s not easy being black here,” Burnley Jr. said in the meeting. “The police have never made me feel safe here.”

Those who are black or people of color stressed the importance of defunding along with their own personal reactions to policing.

Resident Michael Leonard spoke about his feelings towards the police. “As a black person living in this city, I do not feel safe with the police around,” Leonard said. “I do my best to avoid police whenever possible.”

Teachers, mental health workers, activists, program directors, fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, friends, longtime residents, new homeowners or renters in Somerville, people of color and black people all

brought their concerns to the city council.

Even now with the many protests still taking place across the country, the use of military-style weaponry and other tools to disperse crowds raise major concerns and should be defunded, according to resident David Cruz.

“If the City of Somerville and Somerville Police Department are serious about attempts to adopt de-escalation and to reduce incidences of police brutality, I would ask for this line specifically to be defunded,” Cruz said in the meeting.

Some personal anecdotes given included arrests, beatings, neglect by the police for the homeless or mentally ill, use of foul language, and the idea of systemic racism.

Kimberly Warsett shared her personal anecdote with her encounter with police when responding to a call. “They refused to investigate a crime



that occurred in my home, asking only do you have a mental illness and disregarding me from there,” Warsett said. “One out of four people with a mental health diagnosis are arrested by police, with people who are black and have a diagnosis having an increased rate of being arrested. A low socio-economic status is also associated with arrest.”

All of the testimonies delivered by residents were in favor of defunding the Somerville Police Department. The reduction being called for a decrease to the police budget by 60 percent. Residents also urged councilors to reject any budget that doesn't include a reduction of at least 10 percent by the City of Somerville. This was further echoed by a petition with a claimed 4,000 plus signatures of residents to defund the police.

## Somerville Public Library to offer contactless pickup

The Somerville Public Library will be offering contactless pickup for library patrons starting Monday, July 6. Patrons can request Somerville library materials online using their Minuteman account. Library staff will then notify patrons by either email or phone when their items are ready to be picked up. Pickup appointments will be scheduled by using the Library’s online appointment system on [www.somervillepubliclibrary.org](http://www.somervillepubliclibrary.org), or by calling the Somerville Public Library at 617-623-5000.

All borrowed materials will have due dates, but the Library will not be collecting fines on late returns for the foreseeable future. Book drops are open at both the Central and East branch locations for returns. Materials may be returned to West at TAB during pickup hours only.

Pickup hours will be from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 2:15 to 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday at all Library branches, and from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays at the Central and East branches. All patrons must wear a face covering when picking up materials.



## Dorothy’s Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



### Himali’s Chai

During this time of Covid-19, we’re finding getting together with neighbors for tea and even cocktails is a great way to catch up with each other. All while social distancing, of course. We were lucky enough to have this incredible chai made from scratch by our neighbor Himali. I asked if she wouldn’t mind sharing her recipe. To my delight, she agreed!

2 teaspoons – 2 tablespoons freshly grated ginger  
6 mint leaves torn, (if using liquid mint concentrate, 1/2 teaspoon)  
2 teaspoons black tea  
2 pinches ground cardamom, or 1 pod  
2 teaspoons sugar, or sweetener of your choice  
1/2 cup water  
2 cups milk or your choice of non-

dairy substitute  
Pinch of saffron

In a quart sized saucepan, add the ginger, mint, black tea, Cardamom, sugar, and water and stir. Over medium heat, reduce the mixture by 3/4. Be careful not to let it burn. Now add the milk and saffron. Bring to a boil, making sure the pot doesn’t spill over. Turn off heat, strain, pour into mugs and enjoy! If you want to switch it up and have an iced chai, just make the “concentrate” without the milk and saffron. Once the mixture is cooled, add the milk over ice and add 1/2 the concentrate, then add the saffron, if using, and stir. I used oat milk and it came out great! Serves 2.

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



# City of Somerville hosts panel on structural racism

By Shira Laucharoen

The City of Somerville hosted a panel discussion on structural racism on June 23, addressing the question of “where do we go from here, and how can everyone be an ally?” Speakers at the talk included congresswoman Ayanna Pressley, D.A. Rachael Rollins, and Somerville Mayor Joe Curtatone.

The meeting, moderated by WHDH TV 7 News reporter Byron Barnett, focused on how racism impacts health, public safety, education, jobs, housing and other aspects of society and community.

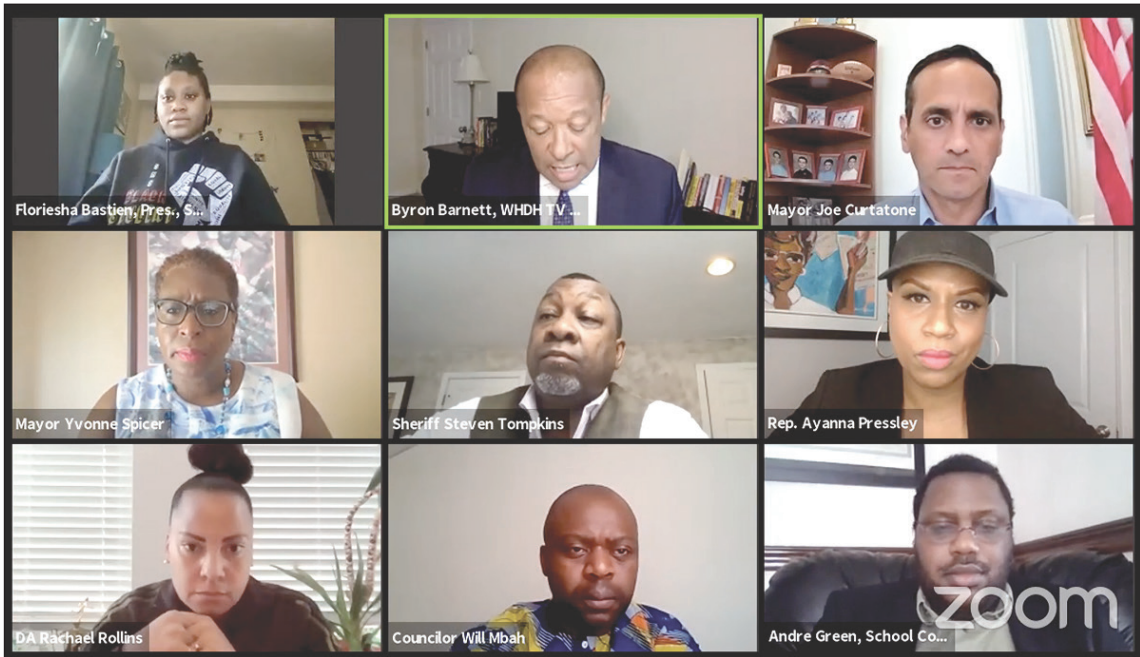
“The fights are not new, but this is a new moment,” said Pressley. “I am so inspired by the young people who are at the fore of what is a multigenerational, multiracial movement and by those who have in the past been allies, who seek to be accomplices in being anti-racist and dismantling structural racism. What do we mean when we say structural racism? How I define it is hate, hurt, and harm that has been legislated and codified by law and is so pervasive, it is so systemic, that you cannot escape it. This is a reckoning.”

Speakers discussed why there

is a need to change the criminal justice system, with Pressley calling for “a radical reimagining of our criminal legal system, but of our nation.” Pressley questioned why police officers are in roles that would be more appropriately filled by other specialists. She challenged the idea of police being called to schools, when social and emotional wellness social workers could handle those cases. Mental health clinicians could be deployed to help those with mental illnesses, rather than officers.

Suffolk County sheriff Steven Tompkins said that problems with the justice system have existed for a long time, with their origins in the enslavement of black people. “When people say the criminal justice system is broken, the criminal justice system isn’t broken. The criminal justice system was built to be punitive and oppressive,” said Tompkins. “When the power structure acts the way it does, it’s because they still see us as their property.”

Panelists addressed how structural racism has permeated all facets of culture and life. Somerville School Committee member Andre Green spoke to how it impacts the educa-



Regional and community leaders spoke during a panel on structural racism on June 23.

— Photo courtesy of the City of Somerville

tion system, with the history of black people not being regularly taught in schools.

Discrimination in housing continues to affect African Americans, said councilor Will Mbah, citing redlining as a problem that traces back to the 1950’s. The spread of the coronavirus has revealed how broken the health system is, said Mbah.

Meanwhile, mayor of Framingham Yvonne Spicer addressed the need of holding police officers accountable for misconduct, describing the problem of qualified immunity, a legal doctrine

that shields officers from civilian lawsuits.

The discussion also shed light on the hope panelists have for the future of the movement. Somerville High School Black Student Union president Floresha Bastien said that for young people taking a stand, silence is not an option.

Curtatone recently became the first mayor in Massachusetts to declare racism a public health and safety emergency, explaining how the impact of pollution and access to health care are often determined by the race of commu-

nities. He concluded by saying that the voices of youth demanding change are ones that we need in the fight against racism.

“We need your ideals,” said Curtatone. “White America is uncomfortable right now. We should be made to be uncomfortable. If we’re really going to be a country that is compassionate, that is civil, diverse, that is equally opportunistic for everyone, no matter what their race is, we need to question our own personal prejudices and our own problematic beliefs. We will be a great nation when that happens.”

## Eight quick tips for saving money

Saving money is a top priority for many Americans, but it becomes even more important during times of economic turmoil. Luckily, there are many simple steps you can take to eliminate wasteful spending in your daily life.

Here are eight easy strategies to start saving more money now:

1. Track your personal expenses in a notebook or spreadsheet for 30 days. Doing this is as easy as writing down what, where, when and how much you spend on every transaction. It is only after you know what you are spending your money on that you can wisely choose where to reduce or cut.
2. Ask for discounts and use coupons when shopping for essentials. When possible, select non-branded products, which are often found at a lower price than name brand goods. But be savvy and check for a trial price or return/refund guarantee.
3. Make major purchases using credit cards that offer product assurance guarantees and make filing disputes easy. If a product is defective or damaged, you may be able to get it repaired or replaced for free.
4. Check your bank and credit card statements or online account information for any automatic charges you are paying for services that you no longer use. A \$5 charge per month for a service that you don’t need is equivalent to throwing away \$60 every year.
5. Contact service providers to confirm there are no other contract options that offer lower monthly service charges. Many companies offer varying service levels and contracts at different prices, but they won’t tell you about them unless you ask. For instance, you could avoid a \$190 cable bill by paying only for the channels you most frequently watch.
6. Learn to say “no,” at least sometimes, to your kids and grandkids. Spending money, mobile phone plans, car insurance, gas money and car payments are a few things you may be supplementing for a child or grandchild that you might consider cutting out or at least reducing.
7. Set up different checking accounts for your non-discretionary and discretionary spending. Arrange for monthly bills to be paid from the first account by a bill-pay service or electronic fund transfer. Conversely, use a debit card for personal spending. With two separate accounts, you can better manage and monitor your discretionary spending.
8. Consider creating a separate savings account at a different financial institution from where you have your checking account(s) so it is harder to transfer money. You can set up a direct deposit or auto-draft from your paycheck to do this each month without any effort on your end.

A Certified Financial Planner professional can also help you audit and discover expenses that can be reduced or eliminated. To find a CFP professional near you, visit [letsmakeaplan.org](https://letsmakeaplan.org). These simple steps may seem small, but they can add up to big savings for you and your family. (StatePoint)

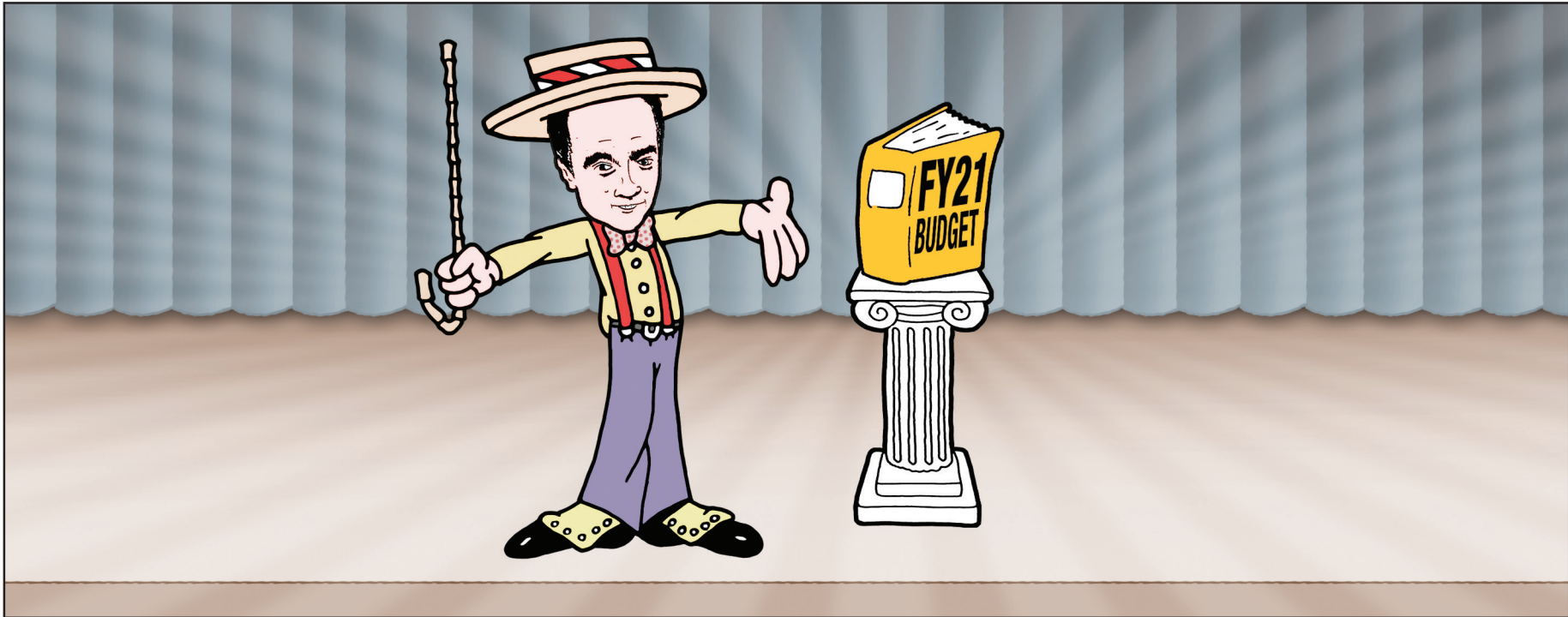


— Photo © David-Prado / iStock via Getty Images Plus

COMMENTARY

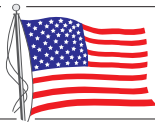
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



There’s a lot at stake with this year’s municipal budget negotiations.

Our View Of The Times



Well, it’s that time again. City officials must work together to hammer out a budget for the fiscal year 2021, one that comes as close as possible to serving the wants and needs of as many of us as is practical and doable.

Naturally, a lot of debate and negotiation will take place as diverse interests push and pull their way into and back out of the strident stances each player will assume as the process moves forward.

Special attention is being given to issues involving the handling of the COVID-19 crisis and police department funding.

Additionally, general government, public safety, culture and recreation, pensions, debt service, schools, overlay reserve, state assessments, and other miscellaneous expenditures are all part of the big picture.

Serious issues face the city, and how we manage the financial resources we have is as important now as it ever was before. There are ongoing problems to be confronted and public safety issues to be carefully considered. How do we best allocate these funds for the public good? For health and education? What about the affordable housing issue?

It’s a massive, complicated job, seeking out the big picture, seeing it clearly and then applying good sense in whatever final plans may come from it. No simple task in the least. The average citizen should get into the process too. Watch the meetings, offer your input and let your views be known.

You can view the proposed FY2021 budget here: <https://stories.opengov.com/somervillema/published/eOB-zlvXVg>.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

knows Somerville like the back of his hand. We wish Andy a very happy birthday. Happy birthday to **James “Brian” Roche**, from a great family here in Somerville. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **John Correia, Suzan Baltozer, Carlton SooHoo,,Rose Nash,Tamara McAllister,Holly Downd Kristina Ann, Maureen Pirone and John Hughes** a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

\*\*\*\*\*

The coronavirus has meant that local and statewide campaigns have been pretty quiet. **Rep. Provost** announced in January that she was stepping down from representing the Middlesex 27th District. On the very same day, **Erika Uytterhoeven** updated her voting registration to an address in the district. The voter registration change came two months after the 12-month time period began in which candidates have to show residency in the district to be eligible to run. The campaign of Uytterhoeven's opponent, seven-year Somerville resident **Catia Sharp**, filed a challenge with the state's **Ballot Law Commission**. The residency spat was put into further confusion because Uytterhoeven voted in Cambridge during the time period she said she lived in Somerville, and she made contributions to two other political campaigns using her mother's Newton address. The Ballot Commission ruled last week that both candidates will appear on the primary ballot. In her defense, Uytterhoeven stated that she didn't update her voter registration to Somerville, so she fulfilled her "civic duty" by voting in Cambridge. She added that, "No one would be asking about this if I was white." Uytterhoeven is the child of a father from the Netherlands and mother from Japan. Now that these residency issues have shaken out, it looks like it will be a lively campaign for both candidates.

\*\*\*\*\*

A **Virtual Bike Talk Social Hour** hosted by the **Somerville Bicycle Committee** takes place on **Wednesday, July 8, 6:30 – 7:45 p.m.** The Bike Talk Social Hour continues as a virtual event featuring a July talk by the co-founders of the amazing bike advocacy group, **Somerville Bike Safety (SBS)**. **George Schneeloch** and **Arah Schuur** will talk about the founding of SBS and all the advocacy this group does to keep us all safe and to push the city ever forward. This is a zoom call: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81092527199?pwd=cU82cjgreFBlaWdINlgyNEEx2eXNZZz09>

\*\*\*\*\*

The **Somerville Mobile COVID-19 Testing Unit** free service will augment the existing test site at **Somerville Hospital**. The **City of Somerville, Cataldo Ambulance, and Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA)** formally launch their mobile COVID-19 testing unit in Somerville this week. The mobile unit, designed to lower barriers to testing and offer equitable access, is the next phase of the city's **COVID Action Plan** to control the spread of the virus via testing, contact tracing, and safe isolation. The mobile testing unit will accept patients by appointment at roaming locations, as well as hold designated testing days for residents of senior housing buildings. This testing is in addition to the Crown St. testing location at Somerville Hospital, where the city and Cambridge Health Alliance have offered free testing to Somerville residents since April. Individuals seeking tests at either the Somerville Hospital site or the mobile testing site do not need to be symptomatic and do not need insurance or a doctor's referral. Immigration status will not be checked. The only requirement is that individuals must be Somerville residents and must call ahead to set up an appointment. Residents can call 617-665-2928 to set up an appointment at Somerville Hospital, or 617-398-7770 for mobile testing appointments. **City of Somerville Health and Human Services Department** staff will call residents of senior housing ahead of time to schedule on-site appointments. **Wednesday, July 1, 10:30 a.m. to noon, East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St., at the Glen St. entrance.** As additional testing dates are scheduled they will be posted on [www.somerville-ma.gov/covid19](http://www.somerville-ma.gov/covid19). Residents can also call 311 for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

Somerville residents are invited to participate in **virtual small-group listening sessions** with **Mayor Curtatone** to share their experiences and ideas on systemic racism in Somerville and how we can work to dismantle it. Listening sessions will be jointly facilitated by the mayor and interested members of the community. **City staff** will also help document the conversations so that anonymized ideas and comments

Continued on page 11

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#737

1. What state became the first to declare Independence Day as a holiday?

2. Who was the last to sign the declaration of Independence?

3. Where is the oldest July 4th parade held?

4. What state has the largest 4th of July fireworks celebration?

5. What other country celebrates the 4th of July?

6. How many U.S. presidents died on July 4?

7. Who said, "Give me Liberty or give me death"?

8. How did the Liberty Bell crack?

9. What U.S. president was the first to bring barbecuing to the White House?

10. When was the United Nations established?

11. What flower can remove toxins from contaminated soil?

12. What was the coldest Super bowl played outdoors?

Answers on page 15

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. Apples, potatoes, and onions all taste the same when eaten with your nose plugged.

2. Camels have three eyelids to protect themselves from blowing sand.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD  
HUMAN BODY

- ACROSS
1. It's often breaking

5. Pilgrimage to Mecca

8. Bog deposit

12. Mine entrance

13. Blood fluids

14. Sinbad the Sailor's home

15. Delhi dress

16. Ball of yarn

17. On the radio

18. Brain's "fear factory"

20. Gulf War missile

21. Monkeys, in Spain

22. "\_\_\_\_ Elise"

23. Capital of Tasmania

26. Unlike Pinocchio

29. Be mistaken

30. Meteorologist's line

33. Radiant light

35. Popular horse breed, pl.

37. VIII predecessor

38. Lit test format

39. Prima donna

40. Like meters and kilograms

42. Step on it

43. a.k.a. association football

45. \_\_\_\_ Hood and Christopher \_\_\_\_

47. Result of UV exposure

48. Southern chicken stew

50. Staff leader

52. The smallest bones

56. Social media button

57. Mange carrier

58. Plumber's sealant

59. Fuzzy fruit, pl.

60. a.k.a. The Islamic State

61. Antioxidants-rich berry

62. Tolstoy's Karenina

63. Grazing spot

64. Country singer-songwriter Loretta

- DOWN
1. "For the Benefit of All" org.

2. Cheese in red casing

3. Lean like an athlete

4. Bad rep

CROSSWORD

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

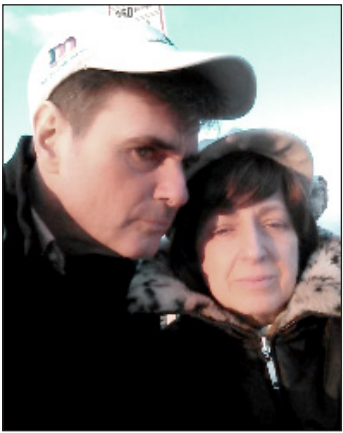
1	7	2	6	4	3	5	9	8
8	3	6	5	2	9	4	7	1
9	5	4	7	8	1	3	2	6
2	9	5	4	6	8	7	1	3
4	8	3	9	1	7	2	6	5
6	1	7	2	3	5	9	8	4
7	6	9	8	5	4	1	3	2
3	4	8	1	7	2	6	5	9
5	2	1	3	9	6	8	4	7

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

OBITUARY

Grace S. Faraci



**GRACE S. FARACI**, born March 30, 1954, to Concetta B. (Turko) and Peter J. Faraci, passed away on June 17, 2019 at 1:44 a.m. at the Boston Brigham and Women's Hospital after a long illness. She was born and grew up primarily in Somerville and in close proximity to Medford. She was a member of Saint Polycarp, baptized and received her Holy Sacraments at Saint Francis Assisi as were her parents.

Grace was one of three siblings of the Faraci family (Joseph P., Jane C., and Grace S.) who are second generation Americans born of Sicilian immigrants. Her grandparents (Giuseppe P. and Grace, along with their three children Grace, Angelina, and Peter J. Faraci) and parents were all proud American citizens, with Peter J. Faraci serving in the Army during WWII, and Joseph P. Faraci serving in the Army as SP4 in the Vietnam era.

Grace graduated Somerville High School in 1973, to continue her education at Bun-

ker Hill Community College. She had ambitions in realty, entrepreneurship, along with modeling and entertainment. She exercised her managerial interests through marketing, production, and distributing pastries long enough to be known in Arlington as, 'the COOKIE GIRL', for having the best f'ing cookies.

Much like one character of her mentor's writings: (Audrey Landers' "Happiness is like a butterfly, Which when pursued is, Always beyond our grasp. But if you sit quietly ... It will land on you"), Grace had a diverse employment history ranging primarily from office work at Shaffts, Hood, Welch and Forbes, Abraham Moskows, and entertainment at Arlington's nursing home. She even distributed the Boston Globe. Due to illness Grace had an early retirement.

On her departure, Grace leaves her (fiancé), long companion of 17 years, David Carnes, who eagerly awaits to rejoice with her in Heaven. Her loss is felt in many ways. She was well disciplined, thorough, ambitious, dedicated, reliable, clean, and one of the most honest people I have ever known. She was truly meek with a repentance. I have never known a more caring and loving person in my life. Upon her deceasing days Grace said, "You will always be in my heart." Grace S. Faraci, was buried in the Oak Grove Cemetery.

# Somerville delivery driver injured in crash

By Jim Clark

On Monday of this week, a delivery driver for Mr. B's Pizza Restaurant in Somerville was hit by a vehicle that crashed into the front of the building.

According to reports, a pickup truck struck the victim, who was

waiting for an order outside of the restaurant. Witnesses said that the man saw the vehicle coming and tried to get inside the building, but he was injured in the crash nonetheless.

The driver of the truck reportedly got out of the vehicle and staggered a few blocks away before he

collapsed. He was later transported to the hospital by ambulance.

An Uber Eats driver who was also waiting to pick up an order suffered minor injuries in the incident.

It is not yet known if the driver of the truck will be charged in the incident.



## Teen from Somerville charged with setting off fireworks from car

Police on Monday responded to reports of fireworks being set off from a moving vehicle in the Port area of Cambridge.

After stopping the car, the alleged offender, an unidentified 18-year-old, was relieved of the fireworks, which are illegal to possess, sell or use in Massachusetts.

The teen has been issued a summons to appear in court at a later date.



**Want to write local Somerville stories?**  
**Call 617-666-4010**  
**and speak to the Assignment Editor**

## Corner stores

CONT. FROM PG 3

Aggie's, corner of Pearl and Franklin. Mitrano's and Sons, Broadway, across from the old Capital Theater. Tip Top Market Pear l and Walnut. T&C, Laurel and Somerville Ave. Pioneer was on Washington Street next to Perry Park. Millers Market, corner or Pearl and Cross. J&S, Cross St. Bain's, Berkeley and Central. Rainbow Spa on Broadway near Indiana Avenue.

Mary Soglieros on Cutter St. (penny candy and dirty jokes!). De Young's Variety, Cameron and Mead in the 1930's. Albertini's Spa Somerville Ave. Dick's, Dimick and Waldo. Tom's, corner of Beacon and Calvin. Al's, Marion and Concord. Jessie's, Concord and Springfield. Steve's on Pearl.

Dick and Ellen's on Broadway and Corinthian. John's on Broadway near Wallace St. Temple's on Temple St.

Al's on Cross St. Irvings, corner of Lowell and Albion. Paul's, Central and Albion. D & J outlet, Albion and Lowell. Pat's Variety, Somerville Ave near Bradlees. Steve's on Pearl Street. J&A Superette (Jessie's), Springfield and Concord. Phil's on Dane St. Ma's Market, North and Conwell. Hilda's, Washington St. Al's, Washington St. Charlie's, Linden and Summer. Harry's, Prospect and Concord. Duke's in Teele Sq. Mystic Farms, Ryan's Variety, and Buster's (sites unknown!).

They let our parents run tabs, and they gave us kids cigarettes

to bring home. I know there are some we forgot, but this was truly a gallant effort. Thanks to everyone who helped out.

When my brother Joe, sister Christine and cousin Carol were kids our grandparents lived on Elmwood St. and we walked to "Jake's" on Cameron Ave. We used to sing, "Going down Jake's, gonna get a belly ache!" Good memories of good times.


Late additions:

Bessies' on Jacques St, Charlie's on Cleveland St, Stacks on Atherton St, Bills Variety, Minor and Vernon St. Louie Funi's one cent candy store, Corner of Beacon St and Park St, in the Doda-kin's building, Charlies Variety Store on Edgar Ave. Red's across from Aggies, Temples Variety.



LEGAL NOTICES

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



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE**

Pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. c. 131 § 40, the SOMERVILLE CONSERVATION COMMISSION will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, July 14th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.** to review the Notice of Intent by submitted by Warner Larson on behalf of applicant City of Somerville for the Dilboy Field & Stadium Improvements. This project involves two areas within the Dilboy Athletic complex. At the Stadium site the existing running track will be re-surfaced and the synthetic turf field will be replaced with a new synthetic turf carpet. At the Auxiliary ball fields the skinned infield will be rebuilt and the natural grass outfield will be regraded and an underdrain system installed. Athletic field lights and an irrigation system will be added to these ball fields. Copies of the application can be viewed at the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA. Contact Malik Drayton, Conservation Agent, at 617-625-6600 x2514, or send an email to [mdayton@somervillema.gov](mailto:mdayton@somervillema.gov) for more information


Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, **this public meeting will be conducted via remote participation.**

**TO USE A COMPUTER**  
**Webinar ID**  
302-609-699

**Registration URL**  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4187051737045058828>

**TO CALL IN**  
**UNITED STATES**  
+1 (631) 992-3221  
Access code: 224-603-441

7/1/20 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
CITY COUNCIL**

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be held before the Somerville City Council's Committee on Licenses and Permits on **Wednesday, July 8, 2020, at 5:00 PM**, on the petition of Car Zone Inc. for a Garage License at 486 Columbia Street, for mechanical repairs only, storing 2 vehicles inside and 2 vehicles outside, Monday through Friday from 7:30 AM to 5:30 PM, Saturday from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM, and closed on Sunday.

Because of Governor Baker's and Mayor Curtatone's recent orders limiting the number of people that may gather in one place, **this meeting will be conducted via remote participation, online in a webinar hosted on the GoToWebinar platform.**

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. To attend and be heard, enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6394419186414671376>. You can also find this link on the City website's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.
2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may send written comments by US mail to the City Clerk at the address below, or by email to [cityclerk@somervillema.gov](mailto:cityclerk@somervillema.gov). Your comments must arrive no later than 12 Noon on the day of the Hearing, in order to be sure they are conveyed to the Committee.

**THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.**

**JOHN J. LONG**  
CITY CLERK

7/1/20 The Somerville Times

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

**Estado de Massachusetts  
El Tribunal de Primera Instancia  
Corte de Testamento y Familia**

**División MIDDLESEX      NÚM. DE EXPEDIENTE: MI20W0643WD**

**Citación Por Publicación**

Anyi R. Alvarado Duran, Demandante

V.

Manuel A. Bonilla, Demandado

Al Demandado nombrado arriba:

Una queja ha sido presentada ante este tribunal por la demandante, solicitando Custodia / Apoyo / Tiempo de crianza.

Usted está obligado a servirle su respuesta a la abogada del demandante Rachel Rado, Esq. cuya dirección es 100 State Street, Boston, MA 02109, a más tardar el 4 de agosto de 2020. Si no lo hace, el tribunal procederá a realizar la audiencia y a la resolución de la presente acción. También está obligado a presentar una copia de su respuesta a la Oficina del Registro de este Tribunal en Cambridge.

Testigo, **Hon. Maureen H. Monks**, Abogada, Primera Juez de dicha Corte en Cambridge, este veintitrés de junio del 2020.

**Tara E. De Cristofaro**  
Register of Probate

7/1/20 The Somerville Times

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PH: 617.666.4010  
FAX: 617.628.0422**

Measuring the impact of elder services during COVID-19

**By Nathan Lamb**

As a mission-driven non-profit, Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) is proud to provide essential services that help more than 4,800 older adults Age in Place. This has continued throughout the Coronavirus pandemic, and our data from March through May does a lot to illustrate the impact of elder services during COVID-19:

- Referrals to Meals on Wheels increased by 23%. We are providing approximately 1,200 meals per day and delivered 8,500 frozen and shelf-stable backup meals for at-risk older adults.
- Our Case Managers conducted 9,238 telephonic check-ins with clients, to assess well-being, provide emotional support, and adjust service plans to meet new needs.
- Our Home Care program worked closely with our vendors to provide more than 175,000 hours of Home Care Aide Services for 2,902 clients. Home Care aides assist clients with bathing, dressing, eating, ambulating, and other essential needs.
- Our Aging Information Center assisted 966 callers. In many cases, they connected old-

er adults with food, masks, and other essential resources.

- Our Elder Protective Services program continued to investigate reports of elder abuse. We received 163 reports, leading to 70 investigations. Fully 75% of our completed investigations helped elders impacted by abuse, exploitation, or neglect.
- Adult Family Care (AFC) provided compensation and telephonic case management for our 240 family caregivers. The people served by AFC cannot live alone and many would otherwise be facing nursing home placements.

Numbers are one way to tell the story. But our work is about people. Here are a few of our stories:

Corinne Lofchie is an Elder Care Advisor in our Aging Information Center. She recently worked with a local man who was facing food insecurity and arranged for him to receive Meals on Wheels. He was recovering from a recent surgery and having trouble getting support from friends and family due to COVID-19. He was low on food, with limited means, and very much appreciated the help. “He said ‘God bless you’ multiple times and stated how much of a difference this

would make for him to be able to have a meal delivered every day,” said Lofchie.

Megan Krey is a Community Care Coordinator, who recently responded to a request for help from a woman who is in her late 70s and lives alone. The woman, who is extremely hard of hearing and has no family in the area, was referred by a concerned neighbor.

Krey soon found the woman qualified for MassHealth and helped her sign up for benefits. She hadn’t seen a medical professional in more than three years, so Krey scheduled appointments, arranged transportation, and provided reminders. Krey also arranged for Meals on Wheels and amplifying devices.

“It is hard to know where she would be if we hadn’t connected,” said Krey. “But what I do know is that without SCES she would be very isolated, would not have any medical care, she would not have regular meals or any connection to the outside world, since her family is not involved.”

Nathaniel Meyer is a Social Worker for our Adult Family Care program. He recently provided guidance and support for a family to bring about a transfer of their mother home



Meals on Wheels is one of several SCES programs that has provided vital assistance for local older adults throughout the Coronavirus pandemic. Referrals to the program rose by 23% from March to May.

from a nursing home, where she was unhappy and in poor health. The family now receives support and education from SCES as they provide care for her at home. The mother has mid-stage dementia, but with her caregiver receiving training from a dementia specialist and ongoing support from AFC, she is thriving at home, enjoying dancing, hairstyling, and other activities with her family.

“This is a model home in terms of the quality of care, and a strong example of improved care and health when someone goes from a nursing care center to a home setting,” said Meyer.

Want to learn more about how Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services can provide assistance with challenges of aging, caregiving, and disability? Contact our Aging Information Center at 617-628-2601, email [info@eldercare.org](mailto:info@eldercare.org), or visit [eldercare.org](http://eldercare.org).

# Applications available for fiscal year 2021 Community Preservation Act funding

Applications for this coming fiscal year’s Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds and the fiscal year 2021 Community Preservation Plan, which sets the funding allocations and priorities for the year, are now available. An estimated \$630,000 is available for projects that preserve Somerville’s historic resources and/or expand and improve our parks and recreation land.

**Determining Project Eligibility**  
The city invites residents, organizations, and businesses to submit eligibility determination forms to see if projects they want to propose qualify for the funding. The forms and additional information are available on the CPA website at [www.somervillema.gov/cpa](http://www.somervillema.gov/cpa) under the “Apply for CPA Funding” tab. Eligibility Determination Forms are due on Wednesday, July 17, by 4:30 p.m. and should be emailed to the CPA Manager Judith Tumusiime at [jtumusiime@somervillema.gov](mailto:jtumusiime@somervillema.gov). Applicants who are unsure of their proposal’s eligibility or have other

questions may contact her via email or by phone at 617-625-6600 ext. 2111.

This year funding allocations remained the same as those of FY19 and FY20 and are:

- Affordable housing = 50% minimum, estimated \$781,595.
- Historic resources = 15% minimum, estimated \$200,550.
- Open space and recreational land = 20% minimum, estimated \$232,358.

An additional 10% (estimated \$219,219) is available in flexible funding. These monies go toward projects based on demand. For example, due to the large number of requests for open space/recreational land funds in FY18, 100% of the flexible funds were allocated to open space projects. The remaining 5% (\$109,609) of CPA revenue goes towards the administration of the program.

Some affordable housing and historic resources funding has been allocated to support the debt service payments on properties bought as part of the 100 Homes affordable housing project and the historic rehabilitation of the West Branch

Library. The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) has also recommended \$206,080 in FY21 open space/recreational land funds be awarded to an emergency request for the reconstruction of the Central Hill Playground, which is currently under consideration by the City Council.

Two virtual application workshops are being offered this year and prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to attend in order to learn more about the application process. The workshops are scheduled for Thursday, July 2, at 6:30 p.m. and Friday, July 3, at 1 p.m. Both will be held on GoToMeeting at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/792438397> or by calling in to (646) 749-3122 and using access code 792-438-397.

A video of the workshop will be posted online for those who are not able to attend.

**Blended Projects**  
The CPC encourages blended projects that combine two or more of the CPA focus areas (affordable housing, historic



preservation, and open space and recreation). Applicants with blended projects that include a community housing component must apply to the Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Fund, which administers the portion of CPA funds allotted to housing, for funding for the community housing component and use the process outlined above to apply for funding for the historic/open space por-

tion of their project.

**Submit Funding Application**  
The Committee will contact applicants later in July to let them know whether their proposal is eligible for CPA funding and can enter the full application process.

The Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Fund will release the application materials for affordable housing projects later this year.

## Artbeat explores all things unexpected

CONT. FROM PG 1

“I think we feel it’s more important than ever to bring culture into the streets. It’s a way to bring the community together and show hope, address mental health issues and financially support artists,” said Rachel Strutt, the Cultural Director of the Somerville Arts Council.

While residents will be able to see some art in-person, including a floral installation and an art piece in the Inside-Out Gallery, located in the CVS Window in Davis Square, some musical performances, a puppet show, a poetry reading, and a dance party will be featured online.

A number of the musical performances have been pre-recorded in Somerville’s

music venues, including ONCE Ballroom. “We wanted to support the local club scene because I think music venues almost more than any other type of business are going to be the hardest hit. It’s going to be so long before you can have a lot of people in a crowded rock club,” said Strutt.

While a virtual festival may not be able to replace the hustle and bustle of an in-person experience, Strutt and Somerville Arts Council Office Manager Heather Balchunas see a few unexpected positives. “Usually, ArtBeat is concentrated in a specific area. This has been an opportunity to allow us to engage the community in different

ways,” said Balchunas. “Instead of a Davis Square event, this is a city wide event, and it becomes even more of a people’s festival.”

Strutt admits that the half-virtual, half in-person festival may not be as well attended as previous years, but she hopes the festival can bring art to the people and promote change nonetheless. “I think we are all so tired of the internet,” said Strutt. “But on the other hand I think if we didn’t have the internet it would be that much harder to share arts and culture, so I think we are very lucky.”

For more information or a full schedule of events, visit <http://somervilleartscouncil.org/artbeat/2020>.



### Newstalk

CONT. FROM PG 7

can be shared with the community. Residents interested in participating in a listening session can sign up online at [somervillema.gov/ListeningSessions](http://somervillema.gov/ListeningSessions) or call (781)-797-0748 to register. Residents can sign up with a group of up to 10 people or register as an individual to be matched with a group. Participants can also volunteer to serve as a community liaison for their group, which could in-

clude helping with facilitation, note-taking, and reviewing write-ups of the meeting. Interpretation can be provided in Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, Nepali, and American Sign Language.

\*\*\*\*\*

Healthy, local food is important. **The Farmers Markets** are open again in **Davis Square** ([www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis](http://www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis)) and **Union Square** ([www.unionsquaremain.org/2020-season](http://www.unionsquaremain.org/2020-season)).

But this year they will be different. Both markets will encourage only one person per household to do the shopping, incorporate social distancing guidelines and allow a limited amount of shoppers in the space. Please sign up for a shopping spot in advance at the market websites. SNAP and HIP benefits are accessible for shoppers in both markets. No gath-

ering or socializing is allowed in the markets. See you there and remember that we are in this together.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

# Person struck, trapped by Red Line train in Davis Sq.

On Monday, June 29, at 10:44 a.m., the Somerville Fire Department responded to the Davis Square Red Line T Station for a Technical Rescue involving a person struck by a train.

Upon arrival, companies found the victim significantly pinned underneath the wheels of the subway car, suffering life threatening injuries.

Members faced the daunting task of having to jack up the car while positioned underneath it. After an hour long extraordinary effort by the SFD, the MBTA, and Cataldo Ambulance Service, the victim was extricated alive.

Everyone involved hopes for a positive outcome for the victim.



— Photo courtesy of Somerville Firefighters Local 76

## Community Preservation Act Application Workshop

Interested in learning more about the Community Preservation Act Application process? Have an idea for an open space/recreational land or historic resources project? Join in via GoToMeeting at <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/792438397> or by calling in to 646-749-2133 and using access code 792-438-397. Thursday, July 2, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

## BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



Why is it impossible to starve in the desert?  
Because of all of the sand which is there

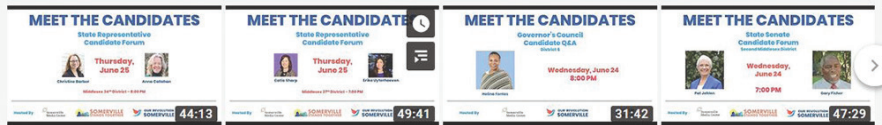
# What's new at Somerville Media Center

This July, Somerville Media Center celebrates collaboration with its community partners. SMC is proud to debut a media project with the Somerville Museum plus State Primary candidate forums produced with Just Us Somerville, Somerville Stands Together and Our Revolution Somerville. They are very excited to be one of several Somerville organizations involved in the SomerCamp program, providing all school-age youth with virtual camp activities for free.



## Reading Frederick Douglass Together

In collaboration with the Somerville Museum, SMC co-produced a video with members of the community reading sections of the Frederick Douglass' famous speech *What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?* The video will debut live on a Zoom event and Facebook Live on Thursday, July 2 at 6:30 p.m., followed by a discussion led by Keidrick Roy, project scholar. The video will cablecast on SCATV throughout the July 4 weekend and throughout the month.



## State Primary Forums

Somerville Media Center joined with Just Us Somerville, Our Revolution Somerville, Somerville Stands Together to co-produce a series of virtual question-and-answer forums with local candidates running for State Senate (2nd Middlesex District race), State Representative (27th and 34th District races) and the candidate for Governor's Council in District 6. Watch them all at the link below or on SCATV in the weeks leading up to the September 1 primary.

Go to SMC's YouTube channel to view them all: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0HOSLzNYaoAI24GOoDCog>

# On This Day in History July 1

- 0069 – Vespasian, a Roman army leader, is hailed as a Roman emperor by the Egyptian legions.
- 1777 – British troops depart from their base at the Bouquet River to head toward Ticonderoga, New York.
- 1838 – Charles Darwin presents a paper on his theory of evolution to the Linnean Society in London.
- 1898 – American troops take San Juan Hill and El Caney, Cuba, from the Spaniards.
- 1945 – The New York State Commission Against Discrimination is established--the first such agency in the United States.
- 1950 – American ground troops arrive in South Korea to halt the advancing North Korean army.
- 1963 – The U.S. postmaster introduces the ZIP code.

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SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

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Wednesday, July 1

12:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am NASA TV

7:00am Community Bulletin Board

7:30am DW In Good Shape

8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00am DW Global 3000

9:30am Both Sides of the Bars

10:00am Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer

10:30am Somerville Neighborhood News

11:00am SNN Neighborhood Update

11:30am From My Heart to Yours

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News

1:30pm Somerville Neighborhood News

2:00pm Colores Latinos

3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

4:00pm DW Conflict Zone

4:30pm Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library

5:00pm Hello Neighbor

5:30pm From My Heart to Yours

6:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News

6:30pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects

7:00pm "The Cask of Amontillado" at VOX POP

7:30pm Sidewalks Entertainment

8:00pm LIVE - Somerville Pundits

8:30pm DW Euromaxx

9:00pm Revolution Awakening at VOX POP

10:00pm LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

11:00pm Flotilla

Thursday, July 2

12:30am SCATV Secret Stash

1:00am Free Speech TV

1:30am Free Speech TV

2:00am Free Speech TV

3:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am Bate Papo com Shirley

7:00am DW Conflict Zone

7:30am DW Euromaxx

8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00am DW Tomorrow Today

9:30am Hello Neighbor

10:00am The Chef's Table Series

10:30am The Chef's Table Series

11:00am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals

11:30am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm The Somerville Line

1:30pm The Somerville Line

Friday, July 3

12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

1:00am SCATV Secret Stash

1:30am SCATV Secret Stash

2:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am NASA TV

7:00am The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)

8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00am DW Euromaxx

9:30am Strata

10:00am NASA TV

11:00am SOM ARTS

11:30am Cambridge Calendar

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm Community Benefits Agreement

2:00pm Somerville Pundits

2:30pm Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library

3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

4:00pm Gay USA

5:00pm DW Global 3000

5:30pm What's New Massachusetts?

6:00pm Grandstanders

7:00pm Emergency Preparedness

7:30pm The Somerville Labor Show

8:00pm LIVE - Greater Somerville

8:30pm Greater Somerville

9:00pm Fur, Fins and Feathers

10:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

11:00pm Heavy Leather Music Video Show

Saturday, July 4

12:00am VOX POP Comedy Night

1:00am Free Speech TV

2:00am Free Speech TV

3:00am Free Speech TV

5:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am DW Focus on Europe

7:00am Effort Pour Christ

8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00am SMC Youth Media

9:30am Science 360

10:00am Dead Air Live

11:00am TeleGalaxie

12:00pm Somerville Storytellers

1:00pm Tele Magazine

2:00pm Reeling Review

3:00pm MA House of Representatives Formal Session

4:00pm Tele Kreyol

5:00pm Henry Parker Presents

5:30pm Henry Parker Presents

6:00pm Somerville Pundits

6:30pm The Somerville Labor Show

7:00pm BLOWW Show a Go Go

7:30pm Somerville Neighborhood News

8:00pm #AFAD

9:00pm Nossa Gente e Costumes

10:00pm Heavy Leather Music Video Show

11:00pm SCATV Secret Stash

11:30pm Queer Cats

Sunday, July 5

12:00am Flotilla

1:00am NASA TV

1:30am NASA TV

2:00am NASA TV

3:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am Bate Papo com Shirley

7:00am Nossa Gentes e Costumes

8:00am Effort Pour Christ

9:00am NASA TV

10:00am Tele Kreyol

11:00am House of Representatives Formal Session

12:00pm Sidewalks Entertainment

1:00pm SOM ARTS

1:30pm SNN Neighborhood Update

2:00pm Chico and B-Man

3:00pm African Television Network

4:00pm Dedilhando a Saudade

5:00pm Gay USA

6:00pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects

6:30pm DW Tomorrow Today

7:00pm Emergency Preparedness

8:00pm Dead Air Live

9:00pm Tele Magazine

10:00pm Community Lens: Somerville 5K Detour

11:00pm TUTV

11:30pm SCATV Secret Stash

Monday, July 6

12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

5:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am NASA TV

7:00am Somerville Storytellers

7:30am Going Postal

8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00am Science 360

10:00am Somerville Neighborhood News

11:00am Our View

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm SOM ARTS

1:30pm Somerville Storytellers

2:00pm NASA TV

3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

4:00pm African Television Network

5:00pm Community Lens: SHC 5K Race

6:00pm LIVE from VOX POP

6:30pm Fur, Fins and Feathers

7:00pm Tele Galaxie

8:00pm LIVE -Somerville Overcoming Addiction

9:00pm Dedilhando au Saudade

10:00pm Colores Latinos

11:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

Tuesday, July 7

12:00am Public Safety/Homeland Security Hearing

6:00am NASA TV

7:00am NASA TV

8:00am Democracy Now!

9:00am The Chef's Table Series

10:00am Strata

11:00am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm Revolution Awakening at VOX POP

2:00pm Somerville Overcoming Addiction

3:00pm Democracy Now!

4:00pm SMC Youth Media

4:30pm Going Postal

5:00pm LIVE - Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer

5:30pm What's New Massachusetts?

6:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News

6:30pm From My Heart to Yours

7:00pm The Somerville Labor Show

7:30pm LIVE - Greater Somerville

8:00pm LIVE - Dead Air Live

9:00pm The World Fusion Show

10:00pm Totally Working Out

11:00pm Box House Productions Presents

11:30pm SCATV Secret Stash

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

Wednesday, July 1

6:30am Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone

8:40am Youth Mental Health During COVID-19

9:00am Town Hall on Race and Equity in Policing

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #1

11:30am Raising Families

12:00pm Finance Committee of the Whole 6.29.20

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #2

4:30pm Chair Yoga w/Janine

6:00pm Finance Committee Meeting - LIVE

Thursday, July 2

12:00am Structural Racism Panel 6.23.20

1:30am Old Powder House Docent Tour

2:00am City Council Spotlight: Katjana Ballantyne

7:00am Raising Families

7:30am Cooking w/Ellen: Mac & Cheese 6.2.20

7:45am Memorial Day Remembrance 2020

8:00am Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

9:00am Structural Racism Panel 6.23.20

11:00am Fit-4-Life #4 2017

11:30am Memorial Day Remembrance 2020

12:00pm City Council Special Meeting 6.30.20

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #3

4:30pm Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

6:00pm CC-Finance Committee Meeting - LIVE

Friday, July 3

12:00am Finance Committee Meeting 7.1.20

6:30am City Council Meeting 6.25.20

9:00am SomerViva em Português - Mental Health

10:00am City Council Spotlight: Katjana Ballantyne

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #1

11:30am Finance Committee Meeting 7.1.20

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #2

4:30pm SomerViva em Português - Mental Health

6:00pm Raising Families

6:30pm Senior Circuit "Mental Health" June 2020

7:00pm Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

7:50pm Pride Flag Raising 2020

8:00pm Serenading Seniors at Brady Towers

9:00pm Town Hall on Race and Equity in Policing

10:30pm The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism

Saturday, July 4

12:00am School Committee Meeting 6.22.20

2:40am East Somerville Walking Tour - 6.16.19

5:00am Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks

7:00am Structural Racism Panel 6.23.20

8:30am Raising Families

9:00am Water & Sewer Rates Info Session 6.11.20

10:00am Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #1

11:30am Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #3

4:30pm Senior Circuit "Mental Health" June 2020

5:00pm Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone

6:40pm SomerViva em Português - Mental Health

7:30pm Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks

9:30pm Serenading Seniors at Brady Towers

10:30pm Structural Racism Panel 6.23.20

Sunday, July 5

12:00am Finance Committee Meeting 7.1.20

7:00am Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone

9:03am Structural Racism Panel 6.23.20

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #3

11:30am Memorial Day Remembrance 2020

12:00pm Senior Circuit "Mental Health" June 2020

12:30pm SomerViva em Português - Mental Health

1:30pm Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

2:30pm East Somerville Walking Tour - 6.16.19

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #1

4:30pm Serenading Seniors at Brady Towers

6:00pm Senior Circuit "Mental Health" June 2020

6:30pm CC-Finance Committee Meeting 7.2.20

Monday, July 6

12:00am Senior Circuit "Mental Health" June 2020

12:30am Structural Racism Panel 6.23.20

2:00am Water & Sewer Rates Info Session 6.11.20

6:30am Middlesex Update w/Marian Ryan

7:00am Town Hall on Race and Equity in Policing

8:20am Pride Flag Raising 2020

8:30am City Council Spotlight: Katjana Ballantyne

9:00am SomerViva em Português - Mental Health

10:00am City Council Spotlight: Katjana Ballantyne

11:00am Fit-4-Life #6

11:30am CC-Finance Committee Meeting 7.2.20

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #3

6:00pm CC-Finance Committee Meeting - LIVE

Tuesday, July 7

12:00am SomerViva em Português - Mental Health

1:00am Water & Sewer Rates Info Session 6.11.20

1:40am Youth Mental Health During COVID-19

2:00am Cooking w/Ellen: Mac & Cheese 6.2.20

2:08am Cooking w/Ellen: Pudding Cake

2:16am Memorial Day Remembrance 2020

6:30am Virtual Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone

8:01am Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

8:50am Pride Flag Raising 2020

9:00am Structural Racism Panel 6.23.20

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #3

11:30am Senior Circuit "Mental Health" June 2020

12:00pm City Council Meeting 6.25.20

2:30pm SomerViva em Português - Mental Health

3:30pm Memorial Day Remembrance 2020

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #1

4:30pm The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism

6:00pm CC-Finance Committee of the Whole - LIVE

Wednesday, July 8

12:00am Senior Circuit "Mental Health" June 2020

12:30am CC-Finance Committee Meeting 7.6.20

Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, July 1

8:00am Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

8:30am SHS Boys Basketball vs Cambridge [1.19.10]

10:00am El Sistema Spring Concert

11:00am WSNS Moving On Ceremony 2020

12:15pm MIAA Playoff: SHS Boys Soccer v Revere

2:02pm Girls Intramural Basketball Championship

3:00pm Boys Intramural Basketball Championship

4:00pm Girls' Middle School Intramural Soccer

5:00pm Boys' Middle School Intramural Soccer

6:00pm Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

6:30pm SHS Girls Basketball Highlights 2016-17

7:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Cambridge [1.19.10]

8:30pm Argenziano School Moving On Ceremony

10:00pm MIAA Playoff: SHS Boys Soccer v Revere

Thursday, July 2

12:00am SHS Drive Up Graduation [Beacon & Elm]

1:30am SHS Drive Up Graduation [Highland & Broadway]

8:00am Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

8:30am Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

9:00am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts

10:30am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts

12:00pm Brown School Moving On Ceremony 2020

1:00pm SCALE Virtual Graduation 6.17.20

2:00pm Healey School Moving Forward Ceremony

3:00pm ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony

6:00pm Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #3

6:30pm Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime

7:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts

8:30pm Brown School Moving On Ceremony 2020

10:00pm WSNS Moving On Ceremony 2020

10:00am SCALE Virtual Graduation 6.17.20

11:00am Healey School Moving Forward Ceremony

12:00pm Next Wave Virtual Graduation 2020

1:00pm ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony

3:30pm SHS Drive Up Graduation [Beacon & Elm]

5:00pm SHS Drive Up Graduation [Highland & Broadway]

7:00pm Brown School Moving On Ceremony 2020

8:00pm WSNS Moving On Ceremony 2020

9:00pm SCALE Virtual Graduation 6.17.20

10:00pm Healey School Moving Forward Ceremony

11:00pm Next Wave Virtual Graduation 2020

Saturday, July 4

12:00am SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett

1:30am Public Domain Theater

3:30am Public Domain Theater

8:00am ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony

10:30am SHS Drive Up Graduation [Beacon & Elm]

12:00pm SHS Drive Up Graduation [Highland & Broadway]

2:00pm WSNS Moving On Ceremony 2020

3:00pm Healey School Moving Forward Ceremony

4:00pm WHCS Virtual Moving Forward Ceremony

11:00pm Healey School Moving Forward Ceremony

Sunday, July 5

12:00am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts

1:30am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Medford @ Tufts

3:00am Public Domain Theater [6.19]

8:00am SHS Drive Up Graduation [Beacon & Elm]

9:30am SHS Drive Up Graduation [Highland & Broadway]

11:01am Boys' Middle School Intramural Soccer

12:00pm Girls' Middle School Intramural Soccer

1:00pm Outdoor Track GBL Invitational 2014

3:00pm 98th Annual All City Track Meet 2019

4:30pm 93rd All City Track Meet 2014

6:00pm SHS Drive Up Graduation [Beacon & Elm]

7:30pm SHS Drive Up Graduation [Highland & Broadway]

9:01pm Boys' Middle School Intramural Soccer

10:00pm Girls' Middle School Intramural Soccer

11:00pm Outdoor Track GBL Invitational 2014

Monday, July 6

1:00am 98th Annual All City Track Meet 2019

2:30am 93rd All City Track Meet 2014

8:00am SPL Storytime with Miss Alison [5/26]

9:00am SHS Graduation 2014

11:00am SHS Graduation 2015

1:00pm SHS Graduation 2017

3:00pm SHS Class of '18 Graduation

5:00pm SHS Graduation 2019

7:00pm SHS Drive Up Graduation [Beacon & Elm]

8:30pm SHS Drive Up Graduation [Highland & Broadway]

10:01pm Healey School Moving Forward Ceremony

11:01pm Brown School Moving On Ceremony 2020

Tuesday, July 7

12:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Cambridge

1:30am SHS Football vs Cambridge

8:00am Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #4

9:00am Full Circle Virtual Graduation 2020

10:30am WHCS Virtual Moving Forward Ceremony

12:00pm ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony

2:22pm SHS Drive Up Graduation [Beacon & Elm]

3:53pm SHS Drive Up Graduation [Highland & Broadway]

5:24pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Lynn Classical

7:00pm SHS FOOTBALL 2019 Highlights

8:00pm WHCS Virtual Moving Forward Ceremony

9:30pm ESCS Virtual Moving On Ceremony

12:00am SHS Girls' Basketball @ Wilmington

1:30am SHS Boys' Basketball @ Billerica

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Interview with Somerville's

Stephanie Scherpf

Executive Director of the

Center for Arts at the Armory

I was lucky to catch up with Stephanie Scherpf, the director of the Center for Arts at the Armory on Highland in Somerville. I have attended many events there, ranging from theatre, music, and poetry. A good friend of mine, Gloria Mindock, founder of the Cervena Barva Press, has a small studio there where she sells books, conducts workshops, and hosts readings. Timothy Gager and I held some of our *Somerville News Writers Festival* events there a decade ago. It has been a vibrant center for the arts here, in the Paris of New England for years now.

How has the armory adjusted to the new social distancing culture?

COVID-19 has impacted the Center for Arts at the Armory in every way. Events in our main hall and café came to a halt as of March 13, 2020. Our café stopped operating and we had to furlough event and café staff. Administrative staff have been working from home during this period. Only our Operations Manager, Joe Botsch, goes into the building on a regular basis. Our Board has taken up weekly Zoom meetings and we also conduct staff meetings either by phone or video chat. There are a few other tenants in the Armory building who have continued to use their spaces during this period but many have remained closed. Admittedly, the current situation is challenging for us as social distancing is the antithesis of what the Armory is all about as an inclusive and accessible public space for people to commune through the arts, culture and community. Donation to Arts at the Armory can be made here: <https://artsatthearmory.org/donate/>.

On your website you have a statement about the killing of George Floyd. What role does the arts have in fighting racism?

The arts have the power to illuminate social justice issues, to make visible the invisible, to communicate our stories and to bring diverse peoples together to reflect on shared concerns about race, culture, identity, equity and justice. The arts are also our hope, our weapon and our medicine. The type of arts, cultural and community programming found at the Armory promotes an exchange of ideas, information, art, language and other aspects of culture in order to foster understanding, admiration and support. This type of programming can combat racism, homophobia, sexism, anti-immigrant hostility and xenophobia, and ultimately build a sense of global community by giving voice to diverse artistic and cultural expression.

What programs have you recently presented? Do you find Zoom an adequate medium for presentation?

So far we presented "Saturday at the Armory" on May 30 from 10:0 to 5:00 p.m., which was a free event livestreamed on Instagram. The concept behind this was to feature programming that one might find on a typical Saturday at the Armory. A lot of the presenters were part of groups that use our café space for events like New England Poetry Club and Somerville Songwriter Sessions.

We're also getting ready to do a virtual fundrais-



ing gala on July 30. So far we have only used Zoom for our internal meetings.

Have you opened the physical space at the Armory yet?

We are planning to open our café back up in early-mid July. We are rebooting with a new concept, *ROOTED: Armory Cafe & Farmstand*. *ROOTED* will build on relationships we have with local farms and vendors that participate in our Somerville Winter Farmers Market. Our mission will be to source locally as much as possible, supporting our local farms and businesses and also providing our community with access to farm fresh produce and gourmet grocery products. We will also accept SNAP (food stamps) payments and offer outdoor seating for up to 20 people in accordance with our zoning. *ROOTED* will offer a new menu, initially available for takeout and online ordering, featuring our locally sourced products.

Opening up the main hall is more complex. First Somerville needs to reach Phase 3 of MA's Reopening Plan. Then we need to see what's possible to do inside the hall in such a way that follows guidelines and is also financially viable. We provide the space, we don't host our own events so it will be a question of whether or not the groups and individuals who book us think it is worth it to do an in person event and run the risk of whether or not people will feel comfortable enough to attend.

Do you think your mission statement has changed?

Interesting question! I started in my role in September. A few months in, I realized that our operative mission statement does not adequately represent what we do. Thus I have proposed the following mission statement, which needs to be adopted by our Board, ideally through some type of strategic planning process: The mission of Arts at the Armory is to provide free and affordably-priced space for arts, cultural and community events and programming, and thereby bring diverse audiences together, enrich and transform lives, and promote the creative economy. I don't think that mission statement has changed because of COVID-19. We remain committed to being able to reopen when it is safe to do so as an accessible space for arts, cultural and community events and programming, and to bringing diverse audiences together, enriching and transforming lives, and promoting the creative economy. *ROOTED* is focused more on the community and creative economy aspects of our mission, and it will allow us to generate much-needed revenue so that we can operate in the short-term.

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Zvi A. Sesling is the Poet Laureate of Brookline and a member of Somerville's Bagel Bards.



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— Zvi A. Sesling

To have your work considered for the Lyrical send it to: Doug Holder, 25 School St.;  
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Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Massachusetts  | 7. Patrick Henry  |
| 2. Thomas McKean  | 8. The bell first cracked<br>when it arrived and it was<br>being tested |
| 3. Bristol, Rhode Island,<br>held since 1785                  | 9. Thomas Jefferson   |
| 4. New York   | 10. 1945  |
| 5. The Philippines, its Re-<br>public Day                     | 11. Sunflowers  |
| 6. Three – John Adams,<br>Thomas Jefferson and<br>James Moore | 12. Super Bowl 6, Tulane<br>Stadium in New Orleans,<br>1972             |

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