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newspaper

# The Somerville Times

www.thesomervilletimes.com



VOL. 9 NO. 30

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 2021

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

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## Community meeting focuses on Winter Hill Plan Implementation



The future of the former Star Market site was a particular topic of discussion at the meeting held by Mark Development.  
— Photo by Bobbie Toner

By Emmanuel Vincent

This past Thursday, Mark Development held an evening meeting centered on the Winter Hill Plan Implementation. This allowed the new team to take a look at 299 Broadway, which was the former Star Market site.

The nearly two-hour meeting consisted of visuals and in-depth analysis. It was also an interactive event, as residents in attendance were able to engage by asking questions and giving input.

The front of Broadway and Temple St. was a focus of the meeting. Those in attendance got a glimpse of the conceptual plan of having retail space front facing the two streets. Also, they were able to see the plan for below level street parking entrance and exit on Temple Street.

The parking concept is currently being envisioned for residential parking only. This would ultimately help with reducing  
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## ONCE Somerville hosting events at Boynton Yards

By Fernando Cervantes Jr.

As restrictions loosen and businesses and venues begin reopening around the Commonwealth, the demand for events and entertainment has been soaring like never before.

One of the venues which has been flourishing recently is ONCE Somerville, a space where various musicians and artists have performed for six years.

According to JJ Gonson, founder and proprietor of ONCE Somerville, their venue is a place where people can gather and enjoy different artistic performances. "It's a place for people to gather and enjoy performances together in a safe and inclusive environment," Gonson said.

From 2015 to 2020, ONCE Somerville Ballroom and Lounge was the physical space where they held performances and shows, but due to the pandemic this place had to close its doors.

"ONCE Somerville hosted a variety of events: music of all kinds, community  
Continued on page 4



ONCE Somerville has found new life for their live events at Boynton Yards while they search for a permanent indoor venue.  
— Photos by Joshua Pickering



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Somerville High Class of 1971 is looking for classmates for their 50th reunion on Saturday, October 23 at Anthony's Function Hall in Malden from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. The price is \$65 per person. Please contact Rosalie DeLucia or Jimmy Del Ponte, or the SHS71 page on Facebook for more information. Wave high your guilded banners as SHS 71 celebrates their 50th!








A town hall meeting focused on the potential impacts of a supervised consumption site (SCS) on neighbors and businesses originally planned for Tuesday, July 27, has been postponed to Thursday, August 12, at 6:00 p.m. Attend the town hall online or by phone: The meeting will be hosted on Zoom, and there will also be an option to call into the meeting from a phone. Visit somervillema.gov/virtualtownhall at the start time of the meeting to join live or get call-in information. Call-in information will also be available on the day of the meeting on GovTV, RCN channel 13 and Comcast channel 22, or by calling 311. All of the town halls will be shown live on GovTV, RCN channel 13 and Comcast channel 22, and at youtube.com/somervillecitytv. They will also be rebroadcast on GovTV and available to watch later on YouTube.

The City of Somerville is seeking four community members to serve on a selection committee for the next Chief of Police of the Somerville Police Department (SPD). The next Chief will lead the department through an important moment in policing in Somerville, as the work of the reimagining policing process – led by the Racial and Social Justice (RSJ) Office under the leadership of RSJ Director Denise Molina Capers – will be in full swing. The police chief selection committee is established in city ordinance and can be found at https://bit.ly/PoliceChiefSelection. Applicants interested in volunteering to serve on the PCSC should send their resume and a statement of interest to policechiefsearch@somervillema.gov by 12:30 p.m. on Friday, July 30.

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# Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of July 28 – August 3 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 <b>Wednesday</b> July 28	Rain	76°/63°	32%	19%	NE 10 mph
 <b>Thursday</b> July 29	Rain	75°/64°	37%	21%	SSW 11 mph
 <b>Friday</b> July 30	Sunny	75°/59°	25%	13%	NW 10 mph
 <b>Saturday</b> July 31	Sunny	76°/64°	10%	7%	NNW 11 mph
 <b>Sunday</b> August 1	Sunny	81°/62°	18%	14%	SW 9 mph
 <b>Monday</b> August 2	Partly Cloudy	80°/60°	25%	18%	W 9 mph
 <b>Tuesday</b> August 3	Sunny	78°/66°	7%	4%	NW 10 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: Lyrical Somerville – July 21

Bridget Seley Galway says:

Exquisite poem of honor and what is and will be treasured always.

Marc Goldfinger says:

“Forever I will yearn” how beautiful. What a wonder! Dianne and Doug Forever.

Robin Stratton says:

Wow! What an amazingly powerful, loving tribute... beautifully done, Julia! Thank you for taking such good care of our dear friend.... xoxox

Susan Tepper says:

The love pouring onto this page is eloquent and profound and intensely painful to read.

Karen Klein says:

The poet’s devoted care shines through every line. I can feel Dianne’s presence, especially in ‘your hands dance in the air’ because Dianne’s hands do. ‘You have aged me’ speaks succinctly to the profound experience of caregiving.

### Response to: Community Design Team turns to residents for Union Square redesign ideas

BenI would love to see that part of Somerville Ave pedestrianized. Bow street would have to become 2-way.

### Response to: Somerville Arts Council brings us: Yart Sale

Ben says:

Why would I need to apply to participate in something that doesn’t take place in/on public property? Conditions: No sidewalks should be blocked; no tables or artwork can be set up on the street. Everything needs to remain on your private property.

Casimir H. Prohosky Jr. says:

Relax. You sign up mainly so that you can be included on the map showing participant’s locations. Sometimes it pays to actually read the article.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

## The Somerville Times

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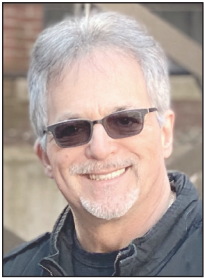


Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

Summers gone by



A family of my friends with small children were heading up to Story Land in New Hampshire. With gas and hotel, that costs a pretty penny. A day at Canobie Lake Park, for a family of 4 without discount coupons, will cost a whopping \$120.00. Toss in the food and some souvenirs and you're coming home with an empty wallet. It's all relative too.

Back in the day, my dad spent a lot of money to take us to Revere Beach, Paragon Park or Norumbega Park for the day. There were always the Foss and Dilboy pools, too. I never went to those

pools because I am too much of a germaphobe (HBF...Human Bacterial Frappe).

I think we went to Wakefield's short lived Pleasure Island amusement park during its ten-year existence. Pleasure Island boasted appearances by Bonanza's Michael Landon and The Three Stooges (with Curly Joe De Rita).

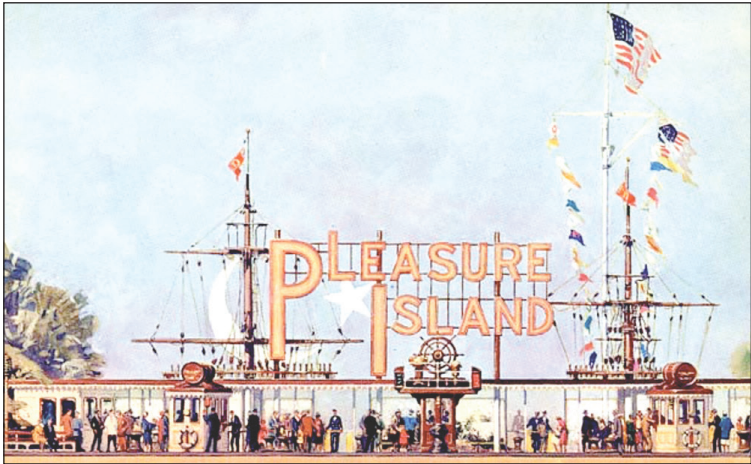
We took a couple of trips into Boston also to ride the swan boats, which was a fun summer activity. There was always the old standby – Revere Beach. We were so lucky to have had this amazing amusement park when we were kids. My friend Charlie's grandfather helped build the wooden Cyclone roller coaster, and we actually worked at the Dodge'Em Cars for a while. Our band, Shadowfax, also played at Hurley's Palm Garden on the boulevard, right up until they

snuffed the beach for condos.

When we became teenagers, I can remember a few places we went to for fun during the summer. One was the Sheepfold area of the Middlesex Fells Reservation in Stoneham. We would arrive there in several carloads with a guitar and a few coolers. We had a lot of fun, but if I remember correctly, there were a couple of run-ins with the authorities as well.

Breakheart Reservation in Saugus and Wakefield was a favorite spot for us also. One year I tried to swim to the "island," only to be rescued by my former girlfriend, who I was trying to impress. I dove in, swam like Hell for three minutes, but somehow had managed to turn myself around halfway to the island. So, I was out of breath and yelling for help. Good thing she was an avid swimmer and former member of the Medford High School swim team. I learned a lesson about showing off.

We popped into Sandy Beach in Medford every once in a while, as well as Wrights Pond. At Wrights I believe you had to have a Medford Resident sticker,



but we still got in. My pal Bob is a Park Ranger up there.

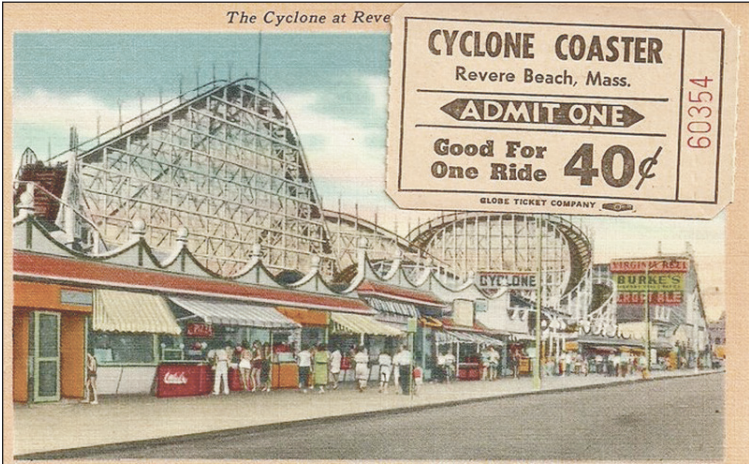
Today, the closest place I have found to Revere Beach is Old Orchard Beach in Maine. We hit that fun spot a few times a year. They have a pier area, a great beach and a decent amusement park. I call it Somerville with water, because I always seem to see a familiar face from the "Ville" up there.

We have our little trailer in New Hampshire, which is a lot of fun for a summer escape on weekends through October 15.

Some of you people are lucky enough to have a "cottage." They are usually passed down from generation to generation. You kids are lucky! And if it's close to

a lake or pond you are even luckier. We had one in Wareham for a few years, but dad sold it when we stopped going down there. I wish we had it now, that's for sure. My timing was all off. If my kids had already been born, he would never have sold it. Oh well, you can't go back. I am happy with the options I have.

It's fun thinking about the ways we kept cool in those summers of the 60's and 70's. Driving our old clunkers packed with our friends to have a little fun. Sure, we were a bit careless, but somehow most of us made it. I think I still have one of those matchbooks with the discount offer for Paragon Park someplace in the cellar.



City Clerk John Long farewell



Former Somerville Aldermen Bob Mcwatters and Bob Trane stopped by City Hall to wish outgoing City Clerk John Long well wishes on his retirement. John Long received a citation from the city at the last Council meeting, which partly read: "John Long is retiring after more than three decades of dedicated service to the City of Somerville. During his tenure, John served as Clerk of Committees for 7 years, Assistant Clerk of Committees for 3 years and as City Clerk for more than 20 years, serving under 5 Mayors and working with a total of 37 Aldermen/City Councilors."



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OPEN HOUSE

COME MEET THE ADVESA TEAM!

Join the Advesa team for an open house at the proposed marijuana retail store  
690 - 694 Broadway at the corner of Josephine Avenue.

We will be presenting our proposal for an Economic Empowerment  
cannabis retail store and meeting with neighbors so that they can learn about Advesa  
and it's plans for the store, to obtain input from them as to the outside look of the store,  
and, most importantly, to address any concerns that they may have with a cannabis  
retail store in Ball Square. We will provide light refreshments and  
look forward to meeting all of you.

ADVESA OPEN HOUSE HOURS

Saturday, July 31, 2021  
from 11am - 2pm

Join our Zoom Q&A!  
Zoom Somerville Neighbor Q&A  
Thursday, July 29, 2021 at 6:30pm

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84790245195?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84790245195?pwd=VStvakNjSTdQlcvWUM2QlVKUTJoQT09)  
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# Somerville mayoral hopefuls to discuss elder issues at forum

For the first time in 17 years, Somerville seniors will be voting for their next Mayor.

Candidates vying to be the next mayor of Somerville will discuss issues of interest to older adults at a special candidate forum on Thursday, August 5, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the new VNA Senior Living at 186 Highland Avenue (formerly the Little Sisters of the Poor Jeanne Jugan Residence).

The forum is presented jointly by VNA Senior Living Communities and Somerville Cambridge Elder Services (SCES).

The panel discussion will be facilitated by VNA of Eastern Massachusetts CEO Linda Cornell, SCES Board of Directors President Leslie Hergert, and SCES Executive Director Paul Hollings.

Fully vaccinated Somerville residents are invited to attend the forum at VNA Senior Living @Highland (186 Highland Avenue). Masks are mandatory. Seating is limited, please RSVP by emailing [info@vnaem.org](mailto:info@vnaem.org). Call 617-718-2200 for more information. The VNA will offer light refreshments and tours for those who arrive early.

Doors open at 3:00 p.m. for open house tours. Candidate meet-and-greet starts at 4:30 p.m. Q&A with the panel starts at 5:00 p.m.

The forum is also being livestreamed by the Somerville Media Center, and can be watched live through the Somerville Media Center Facebook page or on SCATV Channel 3.

The Mayoral Election is Tuesday, November 2. A Preliminary Election, to narrow the field to two candidates, will be held on Tuesday, September 14. The deadline to register to vote in the Preliminary Election is Wednesday, August 25.

*The VNA of Eastern Massachusetts has been providing affordable housing and services for more than 115 years and provides a full continuum of care in Somerville with Senior Housing, Assisted Living and now Rest Home level of care. Rest Home level of care is an excellent option for those considering a nursing home or currently living in a nursing home. For more information, call Nancy Bergeron at 617-776-7744 or email [info@vnaem.org](mailto:info@vnaem.org) or visit <https://vnaem.org/>.*

*Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) is a non-profit agency that supports the independence and well-being of older adults in Somerville and Cambridge. Contact our Aging Information Center at 617-628-2601 or [info@eldercare.org](mailto:info@eldercare.org) for free advice and guidance or visit us online at [eldercare.org](http://eldercare.org).*



# Community meeting focuses on Winter Hill Plan Implementation

CONT. FROM PG 1

traffic. “We really tried to organize buildings facing Broadway with active ground retail,” said Russell Preston, Founder and Design Director at Principle. “Around a central square which will be a vibrant space.”

Add to this open public space on Sewall St., accompanied by rental units between the retail spaces and Mark Development was able to present a lively

Winter Hill area with their presentation, comparable to Bow Market. This would allow pedestrians to stroll the area and marvel at scenery.

One concern regarding this plan was affordability, as past enhancements in the city have forced some to relocate. “A lot of our city employees are low paying wages, and can’t live in the city, which can increase the high turnover,” said a multi-genera-

tional Ward 4 Resident. “It doesn’t help our environment when they are on I-93 for an hour, hour and a half, because that’s where they can afford to live.”

Another concern for those in attendance was the Walgreens in the area. It was characterized as essential, not just to those in the community, but those in East Somerville as well. It was disclosed that there are no plans to remove the Wal-

greens from the community. Other issues brought up by audience members was the cost of the below parking, as well as the absence of a community center.

This was the first of many meetings relating to the Winter Hill Implementation as the project is still in the infancy stages. The link for this meeting is on the City of Somerville website and can be viewed on YouTube.

# ONCE Somerville hosting events at Boynton Yards

CONT. FROM PG 1



events, nonprofit fundraisers, theater productions, weddings, and so much more. In November of 2020, the ONCE Somerville Ballroom and Lounge was forced to shut its doors due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The loss of a physical space was a hard hit for them, and their lack of space is something that is still afflicting them today. According to Gonson, ONCE Somerville is still looking for a physical space to fill. “There’s not a lot of big rooms in the area and rent is very very expensive. We’re trying to find something that’s big enough and also affordable,” Gonson said.

Although they do not have a space at the moment, ONCE Somerville has been able to partner with Boynton Yards,

which has granted them a location to hold their performances safely and effectively. “Our venue is outside, its entirely outside at a parking lot,” Gonson said, “It’s right in the middle of a development called Boynton Yards, which is right outside of Union Square”

ONCE Somerville has seen success in their summer series at the location in Boynton Yards. According to Gonson, the community has reacted to their music venue positively. “It’s been terrific, it’s been very well received. We’re having a really good time,” Gonson said.

A list of performances and their current location can be found on the ONCE Somerville website: <https://oncesomerville.com>.

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# Demolitions/construction approved at Historic Preservation Commission meeting

By Rachael Hines

The Historic Preservation Commission met on Thursday evening last week to discuss various upcoming construction projects, and voted to allow demolition plans to continue on 25 Appleton Street.

The vote was 5-1, with the only dissent being from commission member Dick Bauer. “The house ought to be preserved,” said Bauer, who expressed minor concerns over the safety of the demolition and the vague wording of the paperwork involved with the construction contract.

The Commission also heard about an upcoming construction project at the Elizabeth Peabody House. The project will reinforce the second story flooring, making the space safe



for larger events. Because the current project will not aesthetically alter the building, it was deemed irrelevant to the commission and will be allowed to continue to move forward.

Various maintenance and minor construction for private residences and properties in Somer-

ville’s Historic District were also discussed and approved. All of the buildings and projects discussed in the meeting are available for public viewing on Somerville’s official city website: <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/historic-preservation>.

## August events at the Somerville Community Growing Center

The Somerville Community Growing Center has announced their in-person free public events for August:

**MOTS: Modular on the Spot**  
**Sunday, August 1, 4:00 – 7:30 p.m.**

Modular on the Spot is a free and inclusive music community focused on offering a home for modular synth enthusiasts to share their performances with the public. Hosted by Richard Tarantino. This event is free and open to all.



**The 11th Annual Teddy Bear’s Picnic**  
**Monday, August 2, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.** (Rescheduled from original date in July due to rain)

Bring a picnic dinner, your little ones, and their beloved bears (or other stuffed creatures) and join us for the annual Teddy Bear Picnic. Families and friends of all ages are invited to attend. If kids want to “come in disguise” (according to the song and wear a costume), we’re sure the bears will appreciate it. This event is free and brought to the community by parent volunteers. Donations to the Growing Center are very much appreciated.

**Yoga in the Garden**  
**Saturday, August 7, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.**

Grab your yoga mat and head on over to the Growing Center on monthly Saturday mornings for a free outdoor yoga session! Enjoy the natural beauty of the garden while reviving your body and soul. Sessions are generously offered by Growing Center friend and favorite Jenn Pici Falk. Yoga in the Garden is free and open to everyone.

**Outdoor Movie Series: Wild Hope and Marion Stoddard: The Work of 1,000**  
**Thursday, August 12, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.** (Opens at 6:30 p.m. for picnicking)

Bring a picnic dinner, and join others in watching two inspirational short films that will excite and energize, provoke conversation, stimulate actions, and connect us to the ways that we can restore nature as we fight climate change for our children’s future. This event is co-hosted by the Mothers Out Front – Massachusetts Healthy Soil, Livable Future Action Group and the Somerville Community Growing Center.

Walk, bike, or carpool if possible, as parking is limited.

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## The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



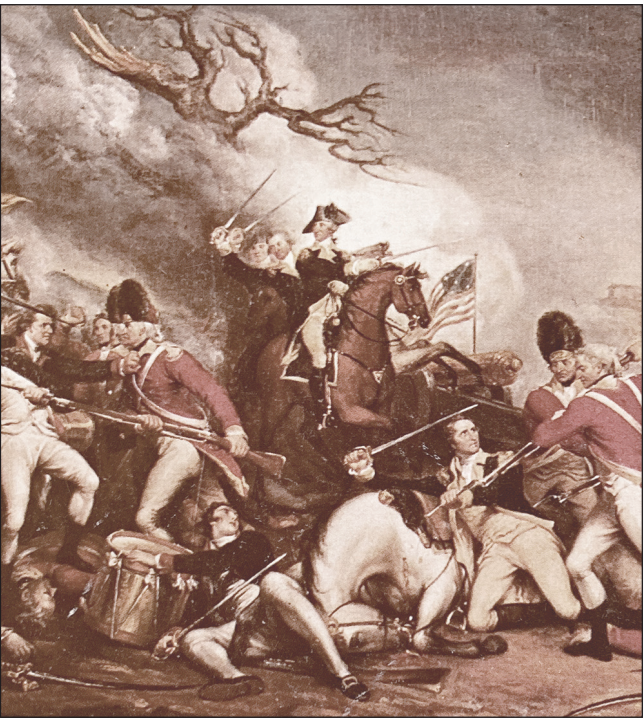
Eagle feathers #234

### The Battle of Winter Hill

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

On September 1, 1774, residents of Winter Hill witnessed 260 of King George’s British troops disembark from the Mystic River and march over the hill to attack the Powder House.

This was the first hostile aggression of the Revolutionary War. It preceded the Battle of Lexington and Concord by nine months. The residents of this area witnessed or were part of



- ♦ The British chase of Paul Revere
- ♦ The Battle of Lexington and Concord that ended in Somerville and Winter Hill
- ♦ The Battle of Bunker Hill that ended in Somerville
- ♦ The Siege of Boston
- ♦ An American Revolutionary War training camp
- ♦ A German/Hessian prisoner of war camp
- ♦ A British prisoner of war camp



For over half of the eight-year war, Winter Hill residents suffered greatly. For the rest of the revolution, they were not called upon, but they chose to serve nevertheless. On June 17, 1775, New England’s volunteer patriots fought toe-to-toe at Bunker Hill against the best-trained troops in the world. After opposing three assaults and inflicting terrible losses on the enemy, the Americans ran out of gunpowder and were forced to withdraw to today’s East Somerville and Winter Hill.

At that time, news traveled slowly. General Washington was making his final preparations for departure from Philadelphia to take command of the newly-formed Continental Army around Boston. He was leery

Continued on page 11



Beacon Hill Roll Call



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**THE HOUSE AND SENATE.** *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records the votes of local representatives and senators from the week of July 19-23.

**LEGALIZE SPORTS BETTING IN THE BAY STATE (H 3977)**

House 156-3, approved and sent to the Senate a bill that would legalize sports betting on professional and college sports for Massachusetts residents over 21 years old. The betting would be regulated by the Gaming Commission, the same commission that regulates the state’s casino gambling. The commission would award in-person licenses at casinos, racetracks and simulcast racing facilities as well as mobile licenses to allow companies to accept bets online. The measure includes a 12.5 percent tax on in-person wagering and a 15 percent tax on mobile wagering. The measure includes an amendment sponsored by Rep. Paul McMurtry (D-Dedham), House chair of the Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs, that would permit the commission to grant licenses that would allow some veterans’ organizations to operate up to five slot machines.

Supporters said legalization will generate up to an estimated \$60 million annually in tax revenue as well as up to \$70 million to \$80 million in initial licensing fees that are required to be renewed every five years. They noted the revenue will be distributed to cities and towns, and used for economic, workforce, education and public health programs.

“Massachusetts residents are passionate about their sports,” said Rep. Jerry Parisella (D-Beverly), the House chair of the Committee on Economic Development and Emerging Technologies. “This bill will allow residents to bet on their favorite teams but do so in a regulated manner that promotes responsible gaming, while bringing in revenue to the commonwealth that is currently going to our neighboring states or to illegal online operators and bookies. This legislation was drafted after reviewing laws in other states, speaking with experts in the industry and takes the best practices and incorporates them into this legislation.”

“I voted no on legalizing sports betting because this bill largely benefits near-monopolistic corporations that run online gambling platforms, such as Draft Kings, by further increasing their profits,” said Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven (D-Somerville). “This bill is another example of the state Legislature prioritizing the interest of corporate lobbyists over the needs of their constituents. With all the struggles the constituents of Massachusetts are facing 16 months into the pandemic, it’s absurd that this bill was a priority for the Legislature this summer.”

“Massachusetts has the opportunity to generate job opportunities and bring millions of tax dollars annually by legalizing an industry that already exists, but in the black market and other states,” said Speaker of the House Ron Mariano (D-Quincy). “The House of Representatives has passed legislation that would make our state competitive in this industry in which dozens of states have already gotten a head start.”

“I see the value in bringing sports wagering out of the shadows, but one of the goals of the bill before us is to drive customers to casinos like the one next door in Everett – and the Somerville and Cambridge district I represent voted to oppose casinos – so I think more needs to be done to address these impacts,” said Rep. Mike Connolly (D-Cambridge) who voted against the bill. “Moreover, this bill will generate billions in corporate revenues from gambling on college athletics—and this needs a closer examination given the ongoing exploita-

tion of college athletes. Legalized sports betting is probably inevitable in Massachusetts, but as this bill moves to the Senate, I’m hoping more will be done to address these and other concerns.”

(A “Yes” vote is for legalized sports betting. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	No
Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven	No

**\$261.6 MILLION FISCAL 2021 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET (H 3973)**

Senate 40-0, approved and House, on a voice vote without a roll call, approved and sent to Gov. Charlie Baker a \$261.6 million fiscal 2021 supplemental budget to begin to close out the books on the fiscal year that ended on June 30, 2021. A key provision extends until December 15, 2021, the practice of voting early by mail that was implemented during the 2020 election held in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Other provisions in the bill include \$12.5 million to cover costs related to the implementation of last year’s law making major changes in the state’s policing system; \$27.9 million for one-time payments, ranging from \$525 to \$580 per child, to families that receive Transitional Aid to Families with Dependent Children benefits; \$13 million for National Guard activations, including COVID-19-related activations; \$7.8 million for home health aide rate increases; \$5.4 million for the Chelsea and Holyoke Soldiers’ Homes for pandemic-related expenses; and the establishment of a new MBTA Board of Directors which replaces the current Fiscal Management and Control Board.

“This budget allows us to pay our bills and address time sensitive needs, while meeting the immediate challenges facing our commonwealth by investing in our early educator workforce, helping vulnerable families and fulfilling our funding obligations to ensure timely implementation of the police reform law,” said Senate Ways and Means chair Sen. Mike Rodrigues (D-Westport).

“The voting provisions put forward in the supplemental budget will allow cities and towns to offer safe, accessible election options this fall while we continue to work on their permanency,” said Rep. Dan Ryan, House Chair of the Committee on Election Laws (D-Charlestown).

The measure was approved in the House during an informal session at which there can be no roll calls, but where it only takes one member to stop the proceedings if he or she disagrees with anything. Any representative who was against the voting by mail extension or any other part of the bill could have objected to taking up the measure and postpone its consideration until a formal session when there could be a roll call vote. But no one did. Although no legislators spoke against the extension or the entire bill on the floor, there were critics following the House vote. The Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance said that “important policies that fundamentally change the way Massachusetts holds elections should go through the scrutiny of the normal legislative vetting process and not be bundled into an unrelated bill with little public transparency.”

“Even without the pandemic related vote by mail program, the regular law in place allows any voter who cannot vote in person on Election Day to request an absentee ballot and vote,” added the group’s spokesman Paul Craney. “Massachusetts also continues to have several

weeks of early voting available. There’s simply no reason to put potentially millions of ballots in the mail, expanding room for error. As the Legislature continues to keep the Statehouse locked down and play games with the process to change the way elections are held, they will continue to erode trust in our election system.”

“Rather than make the Democrats come in and actually have to vote on this legislation, [GOP House Minority Leader] Rep. Brad Jones, as he has done time and time again, stood by and did nothing,” said Massachusetts Republican Party Chairman Jim Lyons. “The GOP has to stand up and be an effective opposition party. Anyone with even minor concerns about mail-in voting should be outraged by this maneuver. Election integrity is one of the most important issues in America right now and based upon our experience with Boston election officials massively undercounting votes in 2020, our concerns are 100 percent valid.”

“Chairman Lyons seems to have forgotten or been distracted by the referral of his campaign finance activities to the attorney general for investigation to recognize that on June 10, the entire House Republican Caucus voted unanimously to oppose an amendment to make mail-in voting permanent in Massachusetts,” responded Rep. Jones. “Introducing such a significant change to our election laws will have far-reaching implications and therefore deserves to be vigorously debated and vetted by the House and Senate. The final language contained in the supplemental budget is very narrow in scope and simply responds to concerns raised by multiple communities to provide for a temporary extension through December 15 so they can have more flexibility in conducting municipal elections this fall on the same basis as communities with elections on June 30 or prior.”

**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 19-23, the House met for a total of nine hours and 58 minutes while the Senate met for a total of one hour and ten minutes.

Mon. July 19	House 11:04 a.m. to 11:28 a.m. Senate 11:10 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.
Tues. July 20	No House session No Senate session
Wed. July 21	House 11:01 a.m. to 1:13 p.m. Senate 12:12 p.m. to 1:14 p.m.
Thurs. July 22	House 11:00 a.m. to 6:22 p.m. Senate 12:19 p.m. to 12:22 p.m.
Fri. July 23	No House session No Senate session

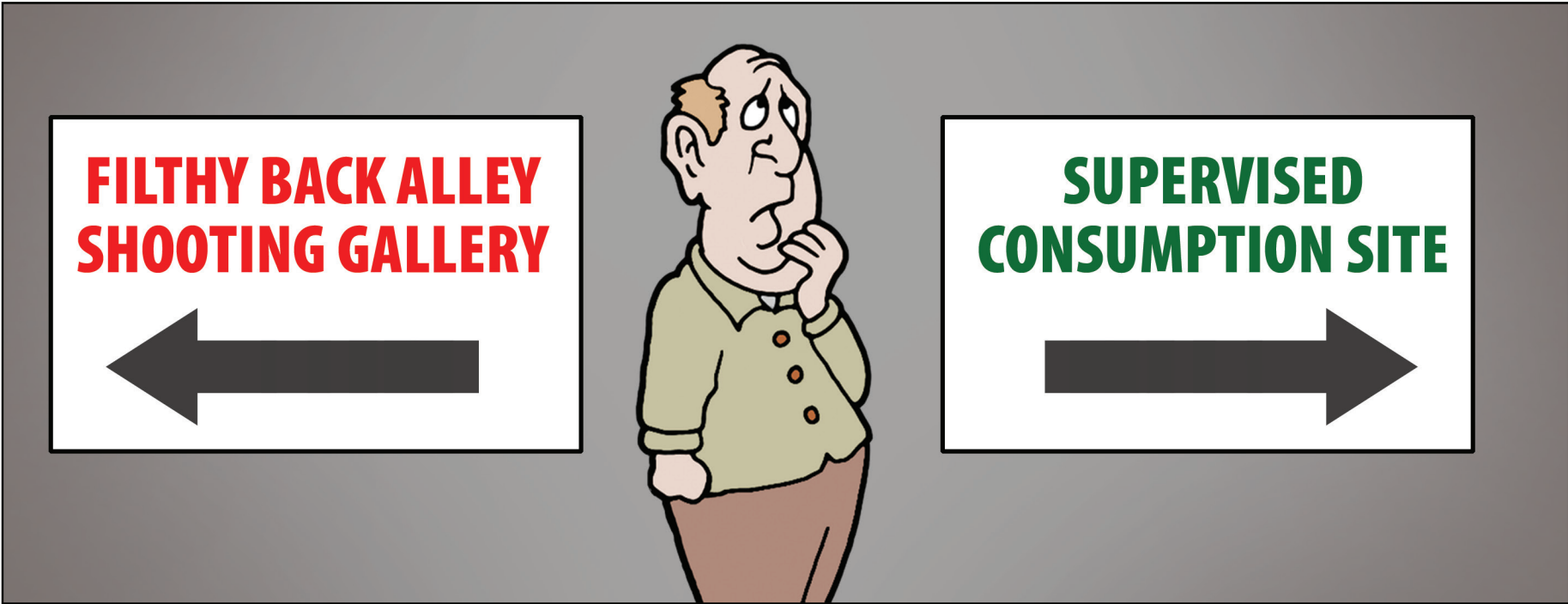
Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at [bob@beaconhillrollcall.com](mailto:bob@beaconhillrollcall.com)



COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Hmmm...decisions, decisions.

Our View Of The Times



The city has been exploring the idea of operating a "supervised consumption site" in the city, to help lower the instances of death and serious injuries to those who use hard drugs, such as opioids and other substances that are injected intravenously. The idea is to provide a safe, clean place where users can inject their drugs under medical supervision, without fear of interference by law enforcement personnel. Certain health care professionals have been promoting the idea for some time, but the high-profile involvement of the mayor and City Council has brought the matter into sharper focus by the general public. The apparent resolve to actually make this happen, rather than just give lip service to the idea, has also shed much light on the issue over the past several weeks, as a number of virtual town halls concentrating on the issue has brought it into sharper focus in the public eye. There are so many unknowns and fine details to be considered in a matter such as this. Promoting and planning for such a facility is one thing, while actually pulling it off is another. All of us wish for an end to the misery and tragedy that opioid addiction has brought to our society. Perhaps the creation of such a facility would bring us a step or two closer to solving this troubling issue. It is also hoped that with effective counseling by the facility staff, those who are struggling with addiction can more easily access tools and support systems that will eventually free them from reliance on these dangerous drugs. That would be the best possible result of all.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to **Corey Norton**. We wish him a happy birthday and hope he has a great day. Happy birthday our own special and fun guy here in Somerville, the great **Jimmy Del Ponte**, who is celebrating. We wish him the very best! Happy birthday to **Ward 5 Councilor Mark Niedergang**, who is also celebrating this week. We hope he has a great birthday. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Gail Stoico, Paul Wood, Michael Delicato, Robert Carnes, Laura Pitone, Daniel M. Kimmel, Cathy Driscoll-Kinnon, Nancy O'Meara Pino, Anthony Cataldo, Karen D'Amato, Sharon Breen, Jason Banning, Mike Morrison, Ron Newman, and Tori Antonino** 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.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Somerville residents** have a few more free opportunities to learn gardening basics. After a successful pilot earlier this summer, the city's **Health and Human Services Department** will host additional **Growing Gardeners workshops** for residents who are brand new to gardening in **July and October**. Growing Gardeners participants will learn how to plant, assemble, and maintain their own portable milk crate garden that will work well in any small outdoor space. Crates may include a variety of vegetables, herbs, and flowers. All supplies will be provided. Participants should have no previous experience – this class is designed to grow a new group of gardeners in the city. Sign up to attend one workshop either **Friday, July 30**, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., or **Saturday, July 31**, from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the City Hall Annex, 50 Evergreen Avenue. Registration is required. Visit [somervillema.gov/GrowingGardeners](http://somervillema.gov/GrowingGardeners) to reserve a spot.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Groundwork Somerville** is excited to announce their **2021 South St. Farm Open Hours**. Stop by **any Saturday between July and September**, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., 138 South St., and check out Somerville's very own urban farm. This time is set aside for our community to tour the farm, enjoy the green space, volunteer, or have a picnic. No registration is required, just come by. <http://www.groundworksomerville.org>.

\*\*\*\*\*

Did your children make tons of macaroni artwork during quarantine? Did you find the post card collections from your great, great, great grandparents in your basement? Or are you an artist making lots of artwork and need to sell or exhibit? Bring your quarantine artwork outdoors. **Yart Sale** is an opportunity for you to showcase or sell from the comfort of your yards, driveways and porch. Think of a yard sale but with art. Visit <https://somervilleartscouncil.org/> for more information. Deadline to sign up is **August 8**.

\*\*\*\*\*

All **city buildings** are now open, with limited staffing. Both visitors to city buildings as well as staff will be required to wear face coverings while inside the buildings. Staff will be available on a walk-in basis in all departments for quick transactions like paying a bill or picking up a document. For matters that will take longer, residents will need to schedule an appointment with city staff. Many city services are also available online and, whenever possible, residents are encouraged to continue to use online services.

\*\*\*\*\*

The **Somerville Flea** will kick off their 10th year in **Davis Sq.** on **Sunday, August 1**, at 10:00 a.m., 56 Holland St. The best local vintage purveyors and artisans are back. Come out and support them after a year-long hiatus. Shop local!

\*\*\*\*\*

Enjoy **Live Music Fridays at Assembly Row at Assembly Square**. Join them on the new green space, located between **Night Shift's Owl's Nest** and **PKL Boston**, for free, live performances on select Friday nights. The next show will be on **July 30** with **The Cast Irons** from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

**7ate9's National Cheesecake Day Festival** is back. 7ate9's National Cheesecake Day Festival will take place **July 31** from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at **7ate9 Bakery**, 199C Highland Ave., Somerville. There will be cheesecake sampling, temporary tattoo station, games, raffles and more. This year's theme is "Things You Worry About in High School." Contestants will be judged far more on how they pitch their cake than on the quality of their decorating. At 2:30 p.m. they will hold a cheesecake eating competition, five minutes, as much as you can eat. Here is the link to sign-up for the cheesecake eating competition and cake decorating

Continued on page X



*Ms. Cam's*

*Olío*

# #789

- Answers on page 11

1. Right handed people live, on average, nine years longer than left-handed people.
2. Buckingham Palace in England has over six hundred rooms.

## HAPPY HOUR

1. Sail support
5. Percentage of alcohol, acr.
8. Cheesy sandwich
12. Oil, in Italy
13. What refugees do
14. Noble one
15. Moscow \_\_\_\_
16. Wrinkly fruit
17. Cereal killer
18. Non-alcoholic cocktail
20. Elementary particle
21. Old and feeble
22. American cuckoo
23. \_\_\_\_ tunnel
26. Create a misnomer
30. Tap choice
31. Tooth cover
34. A wedge in golf, e.g.
35. Wesley Snipes' 1998 movie
37. Notable time
38. Fancy neckwear
39. Denim innovator
40. Beer \_\_\_\_, or biergarten
42. Before, archaic
43. Particular marking on a butterfly
45. Neuter in language, e.g.
47. Red Cross bed
48. Éle de la Cité river
50. Lump of stuff
52. 18th Amendment, a.k.a. \_\_\_\_ A
55. Assemblage of members
56. D'Artagnan's weapon
57. Freight horse cart
59. "It's Always \_\_\_\_ in Philadelphia"
60. Wooden pegs
61. Margarita garnish
62. Lend a hand
63. Not sweet
64. Sun rising direction

**DOWN**

1. May honoree
2. Homecoming guest
3. Farmer's storage type

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NETWORK PARTNER

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4. Steel on a work boot
  5. Relating to aquarium scum
  6. Misrepresent
  7. Bride screen
  8. Often served dirty, pl.
  9. Cogito \_\_\_\_ su
  10. Rumpelstiltskin's weaver
  11. Half whiskey, half absinthe cocktail
  13. Pointless
  14. Chili con carne legumes
  19. Between 10 and Queen
  22. Breathing matter
  23. C in CNN
  24. Stray cat's home
  25. Plunder
  26. Fermented honey and water
  27. Formed a curve
  28. "Fahrenheit 9/11" director
  29. Go in
  32. Straight from the bottle
  33. Make a blunder
  36. One appeal of happy hour
  38. About or concerning, archaic
  40. " \_\_\_\_ Milk?"
  41. Knights' breastplates
  44. Dorothy's sleeping aid
  46. Conifer attribute
  48. Deep sleep
  49. Lament for the dead
  50. \_\_\_\_hub food takeout service
  51. Solitary
  52. Hawk or peddle
  53. Toreador Song from "Carmen," e.g.
  54. River obstructions
  55. Geological Society of America
  58. Thus far
- Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times*

*Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.*

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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.**

*Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.*

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# Urban development progresses in Union Square area

By Joe Creason

The Somerville Redevelopment Authority held a meeting on July 21 to discuss ongoing plans for urban renewal and to offer the public an opportunity to comment on upcoming development projects.

A ground-breaking ceremony for the Union Square development celebrated the start of construction for the D-2 parcel located from 10 to 50 Prospect St on July 21.

“I think it was a great event, it was well attended and there was lots of enthusiasm. The Redevelopment Authority itself got a lot of accolades for its role in getting this project going,” said Redevelopment Authority Chair Philip Ercolini.

According to Ercolini, Mayor Curtatone and several others who were in attendance emphasized the importance of this project to the residents of Union Square. It will be a major point of economic and pedestrian activity for Somerville, especially considering in five months when the new green line station is built

and operating, Ercolini says. “Hopefully there will be a groundbreaking event for the new green line station as the Redevelopment Authority was very much a part of this last ceremony,” said Redevelopment Authority Special Counsel Eileen McGettigan.

Two upcoming neighborhood meetings will be addressing projects in the Union Square area by developer US2, located on the corner of Webster and Prospect St., and at 600 Windsor Pl. These two projects flank either side of Royal Hospitality, a commercial laundry service building.

“One of the most outstanding concerns that I have, and that many in the community share is that there are currently hundreds of residents employed by Royal Hospitality and the fate of those jobs is unclear if and when this project moves forward,” said Ward 3 City Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen.

Ewen-Campen says he hopes to have an update on the status of the project at the next redevelopment authority meeting, highlighting the point that the goal of this development un-



Among other matters, planning for the properties flanking the site of Royal Hospitality are being addressed by the Somerville Redevelopment Authority.

dertaking is to create high paying community-based jobs. He believes city officials should be mindful that there are already several hundred unionized within walking distance jobs, largely held by Somerville residents at Royal Hospitality.

Approval for the Winter Hill project plan was received much sooner than anticipated, with

initial expectations for this review process taking between 60 to 90 days from the Department of Housing and Community Development. The Winter Hill project plan was reviewed and approved within 30 days.

“It’s exciting and a testament to how thoroughly it was written and also the clear consensus that action is needed at that site,”

said Rachel Nadkarni from the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development.

SweetGreen has become Assembly Square’s newest tenant. The casual health and salad chain restaurant opened its doors on July 20.

The next meeting for the Redevelopment Authority meeting is on August 18.

## Rally planned in solidarity with Tufts Dining workers

The Tufts Labor Coalition will be organizing a rally in front of Dewick Macphie Dining Hall on Tufts University campus on Friday, July 30 at 3:00 p.m. Attending the rally will be Tufts Dining workers, Somerville and Medford community members and organizations, Tufts students, and local elected officials.

Speakers will include workers, students, and community members. The rally will serve as a way to stand in solidarity with Tufts Dining workers as they demand that the Tufts administration either pay them during Summer 2021 or allow them to collect unemployment insurance until the Fall Semester.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the usual summer work for Dining staff at Tufts is severely limited – over 130 Dining workers have not been given the opportunity to work this summer. The workers who rely on this summer income were not given warning. Many of them have sought to collect unemployment insurance over the summer, but their claims have been contested by the University, preventing them from collecting. They have been left with no paycheck for over two months.

“So that means catering had to close, that means retail closed, that means central kitchen closed. And the bakery department closed – which is always open in the summertime – the bakers have been working there for 40 years ... and they have no job for them,” said Tricia O’Brien, a Tufts Dining worker and shop steward for UNITE HERE Local 26.

About the Tufts Labor Coalition: TLC is a Tufts student organization that promotes community and solidarity between students and campus workers. We believe that anybody contributing to Tufts should be respected and treated as a member of the community, and we advocate for dignified treatment of the individuals who make our Tufts experience what it is.



### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The views and opinions expressed in the commentaries and letters to the Editor of *The Somerville Times* do not reflect the views and opinions of *The Somerville Times*, its publishers or staff. Readers are invited to send letters to the editor to *The Somerville Times*. Please email your letters to [News@TheSomervilleTimes.com](mailto:News@TheSomervilleTimes.com) or mail them to 699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144. *The Somerville Times* Reserves the right to edit letters for style, grammar and length. All letters must include an name and contact information. Contact information will not be shared with the public. We look forward to hearing from you.

#### Whole Foods should eliminate plastic packaging

Several years ago, I made a choice to switch to reusable grocery bags. But when I go to the Whole Foods on Beacon Street, I am cornered into filling those cloth bags to the brim with single-use plastic. From the plastic bags I use to hold my fruits and vegetables to the plastic containers

that carry my soups and salads, I always seem to leave the store with my arms full of pollution.

All of that plastic is going to waste in our land and waterways, where it will take thousands of years to degrade. Or worse, where it will break down into tiny fibers that seep into the food chain. In fact, humans already ingest about a credit card’s worth of plastic every week.

It’s time for companies to step up and provide consumers with more environmentally friendly options, starting with Whole Foods. Whole Foods brands itself as a sustainable grocery store, and its customers are willing to pay a premium price to feel like they are being conscious consumers. But the company is lagging behind when it comes to plastic waste.


Next time I go grocery shopping, I want to know that the products I am buying won’t hurt the planet for centuries to come. Whole Foods should put the planet over plastic by eliminating their single-use plastic packaging.

Sincerely,  
Brynn Furey  
Somerville



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**JOSEPH A. CURTATONE**  
**MAYOR**

**GEORGE J. PROAKIS, AICP**  
*EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR*

**LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)**

The **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at 6:45pm** on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to [historic@somervillema.gov](mailto:historic@somervillema.gov).

**TO USE A COMPUTER**

Registration URL:  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/606923138542819085>

Webinar ID: 958-676-707

**TO CALL IN**

Phone Number: 1 (415) 655-0052

Access Code: 917-068-120

**ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT**

**DETERMINATIONS OF APPROPRIATENESS (LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT PROPERTIES)**

**HPC.ALT 2021.44 – 22 Porter Street**  
Applicant: Melissa Gomez, Great Sky Solar  
Owner: Daniel Mikesh  
*Installation of solar panels*


**DETERMINATIONS OF PREFERABLY PRESERVED (STEP 2 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS)**

**HPC.DMO 2021.15 – 108–110 Prospect Street**  
Applicant: 108-110 Prospect Street, LLC  
Owner: Same as applicant  
*Demolish principal structure*

**HPC.DMO 2021.17 – 383 Broadway**  
Applicant: Broadway Somerville Apartments, LLC  
Owner: Same as applicant  
*Demolish garage*

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

7/28/21 The Somerville Times



**City of Somerville**  
**PLANNING BOARD**  
City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The **Somerville Planning Board (PB)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Thursday, August 5, 2021, at 6:00pm** through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Planning Board will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov).

**TO USE A COMPUTER**

Link:  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4598558266051648270>

Webinar ID: 353-400-291

**TO CALL IN**

Phone number: 1 (415) 655-0052

Access code: 586-303-845


The Planning Board will consider the following pursuant to M.G.L. 40A and the Somerville Zoning Ordinance:

<b>73 Summer Street</b>	First Summer 73 LLC proposes to construct a 3-story LEED Gold apartment building and establish a Household Living principle use in the MR3 zoning district. This proposal requires Site Plan Approval and a Special Permit.
<b>67 Broadway</b>	Revolutionary Clinics II, Inc., proposes to modify a 3-story commercial building in the Mid Rise 4 district which requires Site Plan Approval and to establish a Cannabis Retail Sales use which requires a Special Permit.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions>.

Interested persons may provide comments to the Planning Board at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to Planning & Zoning Division, 3rd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; or by email to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov).

7/21/21, 7/28/21 The Somerville Times



**City of Somerville**  
**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**  
City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

**PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

The **Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Wednesday, August 4, 2021, at 6:00pm** through GoToWebinar.

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov).

**TO USE A COMPUTER**

Link:  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8746674789045895950>

Webinar ID: 511-194-899

**TO CALL IN**

Phone number: 1 (415) 655-0060

Access code: 324-727-931

The Zoning Board will consider the following pursuant to M.G.L. 40A and the Somerville Zoning Ordinance:

<b>13 Alpine Street</b>	Apres Ski LLC proposes a Major Amendment to previously approved plans which required a Special Permit (ZBA 2016-75).
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Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions>.

Interested persons may provide comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to Planning & Zoning Division, 3rd Floor City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; or by email to [planning@somervillema.gov](mailto:planning@somervillema.gov).

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Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

competition. <https://mailchi.mp/1674b907.../7ate9-national-cheese-cake-day>.

\*\*\*\*\*

Visit the **East Somerville Market** this **Sunday, August 1**, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at **Deano's Pasta parking lot**, 15 Garfield Ave. Shop local small businesses, pre-ordering is available. For a full list of participating vendors visit <https://www.eastsomerville-mainstreets.org>.

\*\*\*\*\*

The **City of Somerville's** annual **SomerMovie Fest** returns this year with a series of seven family-friendly films being shown in parks around Somerville. Screenings begin at sun-down and the remaining schedule is as follows: **Thursday, July 29, The Sandlot**, Lincoln Park; **Thursday, August 5, Coco**, East Somerville Community School; **Thursday, August 12, Black Panther**, Baxter State Park; **Thursday, August 19, Guardians of the Galaxy**, Seven Hills Park. While attendees are not required to wear masks, anyone who is not fully vaccinated is advised to wear one whenever they are in a crowd.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Walk-in vaccinations** are available at multiple locations: You now can get a COVID-19 vaccination without having to pre-register or make an appointment. There are walk-in vaccination sites all around Somerville, and just outside it as well. **Cambridge Health Alliance vaccine clinics** have larger supplies of doses and can vaccinate kids ages 12 – 17. You do not need to be a CHA patient to use these clinics. They are free and open to all. **Local CVS pharmacies** and the **Stop & Shop** on McGrath Hwy. are also offering walk-in vaccines. **Local Walgreens pharmacies** require a brief pre-registration, but can process people quickly if they have open slots and you walk in. Here are the CHA walk-in sites: **CHA Somerville Vaccine Center** at 176 Somerville Avenue in Somerville, Mon. – Thurs. 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. **Tufts University Gantcher Center** at 161 College Ave. in Medford, Wed – Thurs. 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Encore Boston Harbor at 1 Broadway Center** in Everett, Mon. – Thurs. 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Fri. 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Individuals younger than 18** will need **parental or guardian consent** to receive the **COVID-19 vaccine**. A parent or guardian can either accompany a minor age 16 or 17 to their vaccine appointment, or fill out a consent form that the minor can then bring with them to the appointment. Consent forms in multiple languages are available at the state's website. Parents must accompany children ages 12 – 15 to their vaccine appointments.

\*\*\*\*\*

Help **support your neighbors** through the **Somerville Cares Fund**. If you're lucky enough to have some extra money, please consider a donation to the Somerville Cares Fund. This donation-based fund provides direct assistance to Somerville residents, workers, and parents of school children so that they can cover basic expenses like housing, food, and utility bills. If you're unable to donate you can still help by sharing information about the Somerville Cares Fund with your friends and family.

\*\*\*\*\*

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# Supervised consumption site meetings continue

By Camille Andersen

The second virtual town hall discussing a supervised consumption site, held on Thursday, July 22, focused on the impact opioids have on family members and loved ones. The panel was moderated by Doug Kress, Director of Health and Human Services for Somerville. It featured Brian Sink and Mark McLaughlin, both harm reduction specialists, and local community member Bonny Carroll.

The town hall began with presentations of several videos that featured family members who have lost loved ones to fatal overdoses. “If they’re alive there’s always a chance for recovery. If the overdose prevention sites are manned with the appropriate staff, I believe that the compassion and the love is enough to bring up their self-esteem, develop relationships,

and be open to wrap-around services,” said Lynn Wencus, a Somerville resident who lost her son to an overdose.

Bonny Carroll also shared her story about her son’s experience with addiction. She reflected on the past 30 years he has spent in and out of rehab, prison, and the hospital. “For him to see enough care and love to have a place to go where people would be treating him as a human being who deserves respect would make all the difference,” Carroll said in reference to a safe consumption site.

Mark McLaughlin and Brian Sink shared insight into the proposed site as a tool for harm reduction. Brian emphasized that the site will not draw in new people to start using, and shared that in other countries 70 percent of people who access these sites eventually go into treatment. “A person can’t

get help if they’re not alive,” said Sink.

The town hall opened to audience questions for the panelists. Participants asked about the variety of services that would be offered at this site. The panel responded that these services would be based on what has worked in the countries with open sites and would include recovery resources, counseling, basic medical care, linkage to outside care, food provision, and case management. In addition to providing a safe space to use drugs, it will also act as an entry point to a multitude of other services in addition to recovery resources.

In response to concern that a supervised consumption site would not be a solution for substance use, Mark McLaughlin and TJ Thompson explained that the site would be a person’s first introduction to services.



The site would start at the base level of keeping people safe and alive. As people using the site begin to build trust in the staff caring for them, they may be more inclined to utilize the other services being offered. At the 120 sites across the world there have been zero deaths.

Somerville’s supervised consumption site would be the first legally opened site in the United States. Local legislators are cur-

rently discussing this topic for Massachusetts, so it’s unclear what legal challenges will arise as this process moves forward.

Kress said the next steps are designing a proposal and choosing a location for the site. For more information and to read the full report, visit <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/programs/somerville-supervised-consumption-site-report>.

## Somerville’s new firefighters



Congratulations to LT Andrew Guralnick, LT Barry Hamilton, Capt Timothy Bakey, and LT Brendan Noonan on officially being sworn in as Somerville’s newest firefighters. Well-deserved, gentlemen!

## ‘Spirit of Life’ Scholarship winner



Josephine Rizzo recently received the Joe Carr “Spirit of Life” Scholarship from the Medford Rotary Club. Josephine is the daughter of Joseph Rizzo, an employee in the Information Technology Department for the City of Somerville. Pictured here is Joseph and Josephine with Mayor Brianna Lungo. Other scholarship recipients are: Leo McCabe Memorial Scholarship – Ruby Piscatelli; John C. Kirwan Memorial Scholarship – Jack Benoit and Rian Benoit; Medford Rotary Leadership Award – Amy Orcutt, Mark Egitto; “Service Above Self” Scholarship – Talia Ritchie, Charles; Oxnard Citizenship Award – Tyler Lam; and Joseph Mahoney Scholarship – Elizabeth Lazzaro.

## Historical Fact

CONT. FROM PG 5

of leading the Colonials, believing that Lexington and Concord were only skirmishes. Then, upon hearing of the appalling losses the New England militia inflicted on the English, 1,054 British losses versus 441 American losses, he proudly determined that he would lead these men. The message which first alerted General Washington came from Captain Elijah Hide of Lebanon, New Hampshire, who was a spectator on Winter Hill during the entire action. His account, the first to reach General Washington, follows and was printed in many newspapers including the New York Gazette on June 26, 1775. “The American forces retreated

across the cause-ways to Winter Hill, sustaining their principal loss in passing the causeway. The enemy pursued our troops to Winter Hill, where the provincials, being reinforced by General Putnam renewed the battle with great spirit, repulsed the enemy with great slaughter and pursued them till they got under cover of their cannon from their shipping, when the enemy retreated to Bunker’s Hill and the provincials to Winter Hill where, after entrenching and erecting batteries, they on Monday began to fire upon the regulars on Bunker’s Hill and on the ships and floating batteries in the harbor.” Sir Robert Temple was a Roy-

alist. During the battle, possession of his Temple Mansion at Ten Hills see-sawed back and forth. In the end, the Americans won Winter Hill back. With the carnage at Bunker Hill, the bloodiest battle of the Revolutionary War, the actions at the battle of Winter Hill were reduced to a footnote.



Ms. Cam’s

From page 8

Olio

Answers

1. Claude Monet	6. India
2. Who was the first African American actor to win the Academy Award for Best Actor	7. Red
3. Family Jewels	8. Joan Crawford
4. Antelope	9. Ace of spades
5. Robert Mapplethorpe	10. Tyra Banks
	11. Jughead
	12. Twin masks



# Somerville Museum offers free docent tour of Old Powder House

By Bella Levavi

Public parks serve many purposes. They can be a place for public gatherings, for jazz concerts, public theater, food festivals, quarries, pickle fermentation, grain mills, gunpowder storage, WPA projects made out of old train stations, and parking pass offices. Well, not all parks, but Powderhouse Park has a unique history that has been used for all of these and more throughout its tenure in Somerville.

The Somerville Museum, in partnership with the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission, gives free docent tours July through October on various Thursdays and Saturdays in Prospect Hill Tower, Old Powder House, and Milk Row Cemetery. I had the pleasure of attending the first docent tour of the season last Saturday at the Old Powder House.

As I sat on a bench, I watched as an unusual theater troupe gathered on the green warming up to practice Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. Then a woman in Victorian garb, wearing a KN95 mask, and holding a basket filled with

historical books and some sort of animal horn walked past me. I knew she was the person who I was going to spend my Saturday morning with.

I quickly learned that Mary Mangan was her name. She grew up in Lowell, Massachusetts, and received this volunteer job while working as a park ranger in Lowell. While she participates in many reenactments, and clearly has a knack for history, she was originally a scientist. She had sewn together her entire outfit from scratch, and was very proud of the bonnet which she just finished making during the pandemic.

*"This tower used to hold pickles! I read it in a book"*

A half hour before her show began, Mangan showed me around the park. Powderhouse Park has a spiral walking path with bronze statues every 100 feet commemorating its history. She pointed out bronze sheep to remember when the park used to be a farm, a bronze turtle giving a land acknowledgment, and a bronze pick and axe commemorating when the land was used as a quarry. All of these artifacts were leading up to the main story she was excited about, the 1774 Powder Alarm.

"This was the Colonial gunpowder storage facility. One day General Gage decided it was not a good idea to have the powder outside of Boston. He sent troops out to get the pow-

der," Mangan explained to Kathy and Jeff Tappert, a couple from Kenosha, Wisconsin visiting their son who were the first people to happen upon the Saturday docent tour. "The colonists in the countryside heard fake news that terrible things had happened here. In reality, the men had a key, it was their powder," Mangan continued. "The general takes his powder back and goes away, but the folks in the countryside come streaming into the city. After that, the colonists realized they had a terrible communication system, so they set up horses and riders after this."

Next, Mathew Pasch, a five-year Somerville resident who works outside the city as a mechanical engineer, wandered up to the tower sipping an iced coffee. Mangan jumped at the opportunity to tell him the story, and gave him the same spiel as he slowly took AirPods out of his ears.

Before she told the story over and over again to passersby, we waited for a man from the Somerville Public Works. He had the key to unlock the tower so park attendees could see inside, a special privilege that only happens during these docent tours. When he finally came, he pushed the door hard because two years-worth of dust and dirt lined the floors. The docent tours did not take place last summer due to the pandemic.

"Echo echo," two children yell while running in circles in the tower. One runs out and tells us. "This tower used to hold pickles! I read it in a book," she explains to us. Before she came, Mangan told me that children in



Old Powder House tour docent Mary Mangan welcomed and informed visitors to the site last Saturday. — Photos by Bella Levavi

Somerville schools all get an education of the many uses of the tower, and love to tell her what happened there. She then runs through the field with her arms stretched out, "I'm flying." Her younger sister several paces behind goes next, "I'm flying."

People notice that Mangan draws parallels to current national politics when she talks about the 1774 Powder Alarm. "There are a number of things you want to contextualize for people, and I think fake news is one thing that people do recognize."

Local politics was also discussed by tour attendees. Eli Gerzon, a two-year Somerville resident and landscaper/social media consultant, exclaimed, "They had better public transportation back then, than we do now," when Mangan explained that the park house building was built from the stones of a train station that was destroyed in the 1930s. Gerzon went on to express their excitement about the socialist candidates for City Council, and a need to have lo-

cal plants at the base of the oak trees around the park.

As I left the park at 11:00 a.m., it was filled with dogs, hammockers, and groups of friends sitting on blankets enjoying the good weather. While walking away, Mangan was in the middle of explaining the history of the tower when a fire truck with horns blasting went by on the street and she stopped her story to let the alarms subside. "That's what you get at an urban park," she said.

More information on the docent tours in Somerville's parks can be found on the city website: <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation>.



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*On This Day in History*

**July 28**

1615 – French explorer Samuel de Champlain discovers Lake Huron on his seventh voyage to the New World.

1794 – Robespierre is beheaded in France.

1868 – The 14th Amendment to the Constitution, which guarantees citizenship to all those born or naturalized in the United States, is adopted.

1920 – Pancho Villa surrenders to the Mexican government.

1932 – The Bonus Army of impoverished World War I veterans is violently pushed out of Washington, D.C.

1945 – A B-25 bomber crashes into the Empire State Building in New York City, killing 13 people.

1990 – A fire at an electrical substation causes a blackout in Chicago. Some 40,000 people were without power for up to three days.

2005 – The Irish Republican Army (IRA) announces an end to its 30-year armed campaign in Northern Ireland.



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## Ward 7 Dems host Ward 7 School Committee candidate forum August 2

The Democratic Ward Committee in Ward 7 Somerville is proud to host a debate over Zoom Monday, August 2, at 7:00 p.m. for our candidates for School Committee representing Somerville Ward 7: Greg Nadeau and Sara Dion. Underscoring our commitment to diversity and inclusion, both candidates who qualified for the ballot were invited and accepted our invitation to participate.

The event will be moderated by Ward 7 Committee member and Co-President of Clarendon Residents United Letissia Scott.

Both candidates will have the opportunity to answer questions about our schools and education policy impacting residents of Somerville Ward 7 and to respond to each other's answers: all questions will use neutral wording and be presented to both candidates. This is a great opportunity to learn more about our local races and competing visions for Somerville's future. The event is open to the public; sign-up here: <https://www.mobilize.us/massachusettsdemocrats2ndmiddlesex/event/402386/>

Zoom/dial-in details will be emailed to all registered attendees before the forum. Following the candidate forum, elected members of the Democratic Ward Committee will hold an endorsement vote for Ward 7 School Committee representative. Both candidates will appear on the general election ballot Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Come join us Monday, August 2, at 7:00 p.m.

— Somerville Ward 7 Democratic Ward Committee



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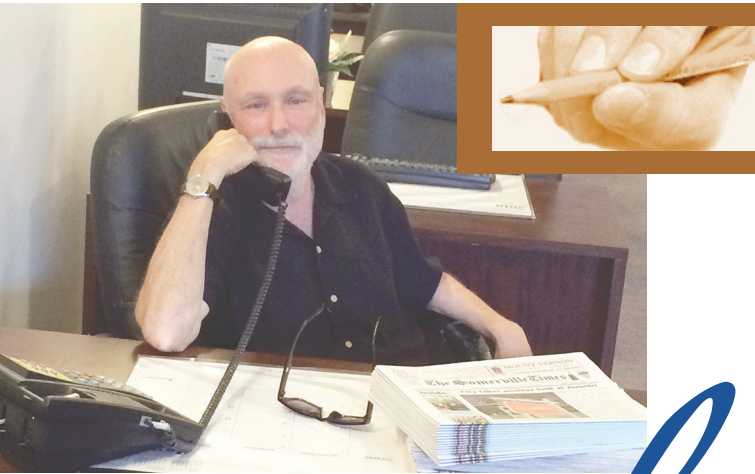
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<b>Wednesday, July 28</b>		20:30pm Congressional Update- Pressley		6:30pm Lead Paint Safe Somerville PSA		6:00am SPL Gardening 4-23-21	
6:00am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice I	21:00pm	SPL Gardening 4-23-21	7:20pm	Mental Health Resources	6:30am	Chair Yoga w Chris
6:35am	Mental Health Resources	21:30pm	Memorial Day 2021	7:30pm	Climate Forward Presentations	7:00am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV
7:00am	Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks	<b>Friday, July 30</b>		9:30pm	Congressional Update- Pressley	7:45am	Mental Health Resources
7:30am	Art Beat 2021	12:00am	Senior Circuit - Shape Up Somerville	10:00pm	COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA	8:00am	Three Paths to Italy
9:00am	Senior Circuit - Shape Up Somerville	12:30am	Virtual Town Hall en Español 7-2-21	10:45pm	SPD Ride Along	9:00am	Climate Forward Presentations
9:30am	Chair Yoga w Chris	2:01am	Lead Paint Safe Somerville PSA	11:00pm	Pride Flag Raising 2021	11:00am	Fit-4-Life Video #4
10:00am	Three Paths to Italy	6:00am	Virtual Town Hall en Español 7-2-21	11:30pm	School Committee Update - Ellenor Barish	11:30am	Finance Committee Meeting 6-16-21
11:00am	Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #6 2021	7:31am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II	<b>Sunday, August 1</b>		4:02pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #2
11:30am	Virtual Town Hall en Español 7-2-21	8:30am	School Committee Update - Ellenor Barish	12:00am	Mayor's Business Town Hall 5-27-21	4:30pm	Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks
1:01pm	Finance Committee Meeting 6-8-21	9:00am	School Committee Meeting 6-21-21	1:00am	Climate Webinar Climate Resilience & Health	5:00pm	SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake
5:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #3	11:00am	Fit-4-Life Video #5 2020	2:00am	COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA	5:30pm	City Council Spotlight: Ewen-Campen
5:30pm	Memorial Day 2021	11:30am	City Council Spotlight: Ewen-Campen	6:00am	SPL Gardening 4-23-21	6:00pm	Climate Forward Presentations
6:00pm	Lead Paint Safe Somerville PSA	12:00pm	Climate Forward Transportation Solutions	6:30am	Virtual Town Hall en Español 7-2-21	8:00pm	Finance Meeting 6-22-21
7:00pm	Climate Forward Presentations	1:10pm	Mental Health Resources	8:01am	Memorial Day 2021	<b>Tuesday, August 3</b>	
9:00pm	COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA	1:30pm	Finance Committee Meeting 6-16-21	8:30am	City Council Spotlight: Ewen-Campen	12:00am	Lead Paint Safe Somerville PSA
9:45pm	Mental Health Resources	6:02pm	Memorial Day 2021	9:00am	Chair Yoga w Chris	1:00am	Reunion Informativa Vacuna COVID-19
10:00pm	Virtual Town Hall en Español 7-2-21	6:30pm	Mystic McGrath Rally	9:30am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II	2:00am	Climate Forward Transportation Solutions
11:31pm	School Committee Update - Ellenor Barish	7:35pm	SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake	10:30am	SPD Ride Along	6:00am	Three Paths to Italy
<b>Thursday, July 29</b>		8:00pm	Climate Forward Presentations	11:00am	Fit-4-Life Video #4	7:00am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice III
12:00am	Finance Committee Meeting 6-23-21	10:00pm	Mayor's Business Town Hall 5-27-21	12:00pm	Senior Circuit - Shape Up Somerville	8:00am	Lead Paint Safe Somerville PSA
6:30am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice IV	10:45pm	SPD Ride Along	12:25pm	Mabel And Jerry - Senior Story	9:00am	Virtual Town Hall en Español 7-2-21
7:30am	Memorial Day 2021	11:00pm	Lead Paint Safe Somerville PSA	1:00pm	Congressional Update- Pressley	10:31am	Mental Health Resources
8:00am	Three Paths to Italy	11:45pm	SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake	1:30pm	Mayor's Business Town Hall 5-27-21	11:00am	Chair Yoga w Chris
9:00am	Lead Paint Safe Somerville PSA	<b>Saturday, July 31</b>		2:30pm	Reunion Informativa Vacuna COVID-19	11:30am	Fit 4 Life 2020 #1
9:45am	Mental Health Resources	12:00am	Finance Meeting 6-22-21	3:30pm	City Council Spotlight: Ewen-Campen	12:00pm	Senior Circuit - Shape Up Somerville
10:00am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice III	6:30am	Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice II	4:00pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #2	12:25pm	Mabel And Jerry - Senior Story
11:00am	Fit 4 Life 2020 #1	7:30am	Chair Yoga w Chris	4:30pm	Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks	1:00pm	Art Beat 2021
11:30am	Congressional Update- Pressley	8:00am	Virtual Town Hall en Español 7-2-21	5:00pm	Climate Forward Presentations	2:30pm	Congressional Update- Pressley
12:00pm	Senior Circuit - Shape Up Somerville	9:31am	Climate Webinar Climate Resilience & Health	7:00pm	Senior Circuit - Shape Up Somerville	3:00pm	COVID Vaccine Portuguese Dr Kris CHA
12:30pm	Pride Flag Raising 2021	10:45am	SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake	7:30pm	Art Beat 2021	4:00pm	Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #6 2021
1:00pm	Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks	11:00am	Fit-4-Life Video #4	9:00pm	School Committee Meeting 6-21-21	4:30pm	Climate Forward Transportation Solutions
1:30pm	School Committee Meeting 6-21-21	11:30am	Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks	10:35pm	Conway Park Groundbreaking 5-6-21	6:00pm	Lead Paint Safe Somerville PSA
3:05pm	School Committee Update - Ellenor Barish	12:00pm	Art Beat 2021	11:00pm	Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks	6:45pm	SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake
4:00pm	Fit-4-Life Video #4	1:30pm	Three Paths to Italy	11:25pm	Mabel And Jerry - Senior Story	7:00pm	Senior Circuit - Shape Up Somerville
4:30pm	Climate Webinar Climate Resilience & Health	2:30pm	School Committee Meeting 6-21-21	<b>Monday, August 2</b>		7:30pm	City Council Spotlight: Ewen-Campen
5:30pm	City Council Meeting 7-8-21	4:05pm	Fit 4 Life 2020 #3	12:00am	Senior Circuit - Shape Up Somerville	8:00pm	Finance Committee Meeting 6-8-21
9:50pm	Mental Health Resources	5:00pm	Mystic McGrath Rally	12:30am	Finance Committee Meeting 6-17-21	11:50pm	Mental Health Resources
10:00pm	Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks	6:05pm	Senior Circuit - Shape Up Somerville				

<b>Wednesday, July 28</b>	9:00pm SHS Spring Concert 2021	5:30pm Video Tribute to Paul Barringer	12:30pm Argenziano School Moving On 2021
7:00am Highlander History - Moriera & Smith	10:00pm GBL Track Championship 2021	6:00pm GBL Track Championship 2021	1:30pm SHS Graduation 2021
7:30am SHS Football 2013	<b>Friday, July 30</b>	8:00pm SHS Boys LAX vs Malden 6-1-21	3:30pm Kennedy School Moving On 2021
8:00am SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett 3-26-21	12:00am Kennedy School Moving On 2021	10:00pm SHS Baseball vs Everett 5-27-21	4:00pm WSNS Moving On 2021
9:30am Gardening at SPL 7-16-20	12:30am SHS Softball vs Medford 6-9-21	<b>Sunday, August 1</b>	5:00pm SHS Football 2013
10:00am Highlander History - Melillo & Che	7:00am Highlander History - Bonhomme & Knight	12:00am Middle School Girls Indoor Soccer Final	5:30pm SHS Highlander Football 2011
11:00am SHS Girls Basketball vs Revere 3-22-21	7:30am Argenziano School Chorus 6-10-21	1:00am SHS Boys VB vs Revere 6-10-21	6:00pm SCALE Graduation 2021
12:30pm SHS Hockey vs Medford 3-23-21	8:00am SHS Boys V-Ball vs Malden 6-2-21	2:00am SHS Hockey vs Medford 4-10-21	7:00pm Full Circle Graduation 2021
2:00pm SCALE Graduation 2021	9:05am MIAA prelim SHS Baseball vs Winchester	3:30am SHS Football vs Lawrence 11-11-01	8:00pm ESCS Moving Up 2021
3:00pm SHS Graduation 2020 - Beacon and Elm	10:31am Argenziano School Moving On 2021	7:00am Highlander History - Bonhomme & Knight	9:30pm Brown School Moving On 2021
4:30pm SHS Graduation 2020 - Highland and Bway	11:30am SHS Boys VB vs Revere 6-10-21	7:30am SHS Girls Basketball vs Lawrence	10:30pm WHCIS Moving On 2021
6:01pm Highlander History - Moriera & Smith	12:30pm SHS Graduation 2021	9:10am SPL Cooking - Simple Chocolate Cake	11:30pm Argenziano School Moving On 2021
6:30pm SHS Football 2013	2:30pm GBL Semi: SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 5-10-21	9:30am Argenziano School Music K-3	<b>Tuesday, August 3</b>
7:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett 3-26-21	4:05pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 5-7-21	12:00pm Highlander History - Bonhomme & Knight	12:30am SHS Football 2013
8:30pm Gardening at SPL 7-16-20	6:00pm Highlander History - Bonhomme & Knight	12:30pm SHS Spring Concert 2021	1:00am SHS Highlander Football 2011
9:00pm Highlander History - Melillo & Che	6:30pm Argenziano School Chorus 6-10-21	1:05pm SHS Graduation 2021	1:30am Kennedy School Moving On 2021
10:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Revere 3-22-21	7:00pm SHS Boys V-Ball vs Malden 6-2-21	2:00pm ESCS Moving Up 2021	2:00am WSNS Moving On 2021
11:30pm SHS Hockey vs Medford 3-23-21	8:05pm MIAA prelim SHS Baseball vs Winchester	4:30pm Argenziano School Moving On 2021	7:00am SHS Spring Concert 2021
<b>Thursday, July 29</b>	9:31pm Argenziano School Moving On 2021	Gardening at SPL 7-16-20	8:00am All City Middle School Spring Concert 2021
1:00am SHS Graduation 2020 - Beacon and Elm	10:30pm SHS Boys VB vs Revere 6-10-21	6:00pm SHS Football vs Chelsea 5-7-21	8:30am SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 5-7-21
2:30am SHS Graduation 2020 - Highland and Bway	11:30pm SHS Graduation 2021	8:00pm SHS Class Day 2015	10:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs Chelsea 4-22-21
7:00am SPS Music and Jessye Norman	<b>Saturday, July 31</b>	10:10pm SPS Music and Jessye Norman	12:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden 4-24-21
7:32am Argenziano School Music K-3	1:30am GBL Semi: SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 5-10-21	11:00pm CTEambassador Presentation 2021	2:00pm GBL Track Championship 2021
10:00am SHS Spring Concert 2021	3:05am SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 5-7-21	<b>Monday, August 2</b>	4:00pm Highlander History - Bonhomme & Knight
11:00am GBL Track Championship 2021	7:00am GBL Track Championship 2021	12:00am SHS Football vs Everett 10-13-01	4:30pm Highlander History - KGarrry KEduoard 2
1:00pm Kennedy School Moving On 2021	9:00am SHS Boys LAX vs Malden 6-1-21	2:06am SHS Boys Basketball vs Algonquin 1-25-20	5:00pm SHS Boys VB vs Revere 6-10-21
1:30pm Video Tribute to Paul Barringer	11:00am SHS Baseball vs Everett 5-27-21	7:00am SCALE Graduation 2021	6:00pm SHS Spring Concert 2021
2:00pm SHS Spring Concert 2021	1:00pm GBL Semi: SHS Girls Soccer vs LC 5-10-21	8:00am Full Circle Graduation 2021	7:00pm All City Middle School Spring Concert 2021
3:00pm WHCIS Moving On 2021	2:35pm SHS Boys VB vs Revere 6-10-21	9:00am ESCS Moving Up 2021	7:30pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford 5-7-21
6:00pm SPS Music and Jessye Norman	3:30pm SHS Hockey vs Medford 4-10-21	Brown School Moving On 2021	9:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Chelsea 4-24-21
6:32pm Argenziano School Music K-3	5:00pm Highlander History - O'Rourke and Dickerson	11:30am WHCIS Moving On 2021	11:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden 4-22-21

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Joshua Sariñana: Promotes  
photography and poetry  
'Through These Realities'

I caught up with the multi-faceted Joshua Sariñana to talk about his new project with the Somerville Arts Council, titled *Through These Realities*, that will seek six local poets and photographers of color, who will create a series of images, inspired by prompt-guided poetry from poets.

The project centers around racial social justice, poetry, and photography. The works will be judged by a panel, and winners will receive cash prizes. The works will be exhibited and appear on an on-line magazine.

According to his website, "Joshua Sariñana, PhD, took an interest in photography as his passion in the brain and mind started to develop. As he studied neuroscience at UCLA, MIT and as a Harvard research fellow, Sariñana began to switch his focus to the practice and theoretical study of photography."

**Doug Holder:** A James Baldwin quote is used as a prompt for your project. Why?

**Joshua Sariñana:** The quote comes as a result from the protests that were sparked by the killing of George Floyd. For me, the protests stirred up the suppressed emotions that were built over a lifetime in viewing the violence onto Black and Brown people. Such violence is physiologically and emotionally detrimental.

To help make sense of the way I felt I started to read more of James Baldwin's essays. I found his critique of American culture to resonate with my own experiences. His ability to create cultural con-

tent by the way of novels and plays, his critical writing, his essays, and his experiences with civil rights leaders are all powerfully interwoven. My collaborator and I wanted to work on a project combining our interests in poetry and photography. We felt that Baldwin's work could offer a bridge between these distinct mediums.

**DH:** This project is exclusively for people of color. Is this because they are not adequately exposed in the arts?

**JS:** There's lack of diversity in publishing and photography. As a result, readers are unable to witness the voices of these poets, writers, and photographers. I've been to many photography exhibitions and openings; I am often the only person of color. The use of photography in popular media is often used in a way that misrepresents people of color. This project gives people of color the opportunity to create a narrative from their perspective.

**DH:** What kind of poetry are you looking for, any genre or theme? And photography?

**JS:** All poetry is acceptable, except for concrete (shape) poetry. All photo-based work is eligible be it film, digital, tintype, camera-less, etc.

**DH:** The Somerville Arts Council is helping with this project. How?

**JS:** Our project is supported by a local cultural council grant received from the Somerville Arts Council.

Find out more at: <https://www.throughreality.com/>

Call for Submissions

Through These Realities

Local Poets of Color

(Preference given to Somerville based artists)

Participate in a public art installation centered on racial social justice and the media

\$100 for each selected poet



throughreality.com  
Free to Enter  
Submit Jul 1 - Aug 15



Somerville's Mobile Farmers Market

The Somerville Mobile Farmers Market began its 2021 season on July 9. On Fridays and Saturdays until October 16, customers can buy fresh, local produce in neighborhoods around Somerville.

- Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. - Council on Aging/SCALE, 167 Holland Street
- Fridays from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. - East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross Street
- Saturdays from 10 a.m. to noon - North Street Housing Development, 24 North Street
- Saturdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. - Mystic Housing Development, near playground between 15B and 25B Memorial Road

The Mobile Market offers a 50% discount for any customers that need it and accepts cash, debit, credit, SNAP, P-EBT, WIC farmers market coupons, and senior farmers market coupons for payment. Any customers who shop and pay full price help the Mobile Market offer the discount to those who need it.

For more information and to see what's in stock each week, visit the market website at [bit.ly/tsmfm](http://bit.ly/tsmfm).

B. Lynne Zika's poetry has appeared in numerous literary publications: *Poetry East*, *Exquisite Corpse*, *The Anthology of American Poets*, etc. She has written for newspaper and radio and for trade and consumer magazines. In addition to editing poetry and nonfiction, she worked as a closed-captioning editor for the deaf and hard-of-hearing. She received a Pacificus Foundation Literary Award in short fiction, and her photography has received the Celebrity Award and the 2020 Choice Award from *Viewbug*.

A Time Comes

Meet my body.  
Her name is Gertrude.  
She sits at a green Formica table  
amidst Lucky Strikes,  
a plate of petrified scrambled eggs,  
four bobby pins, a book of Kenyon poems,  
her 1937 marriage certificate  
ringed with coffee stains,  
a half-filled bottle of High Life,  
one butt floating in disintegrating foam.

Gertrude rises from the table,  
considers the Lucky Strikes,  
too settled in the tableaux to disturb.  
She leaves by the kitchen door,  
left ajar behind her,  
cherry-red curtains rippling  
in a sudden gust of breeze.

Gertrude follows the decline of Second Avenue  
until the wood-frame houses  
give way to fields  
and the poor man's conservatory  
of black-eyed Susans and Queen Anne's lace.  
She mounts a red tractor  
a noontime farmer has left waiting in his field.  
From such a throne  
Gertrude can see the woods edged in muscadine,  
the chinaberry tree shading the kitchen el  
where the farmer and his wife  
bend to the task of cornbread  
and vinegared greens.  
Gertrude starts the engine,  
fiddles with levers and gears,  
clamps a sneakered foot to pedal  
and drives away.

Probably they'll find her  
stalled in a ditch somewhere,  
wheels spinning toward blue sky,  
and if she isn't dead  
haul her down to the sheriff's  
for possession of stolen property  
and endangerment of public safety;  
but lying in her cell that night,  
the clink of the sheriff's hardware  
punctuating the dark,  
she'll think how an ugly old woman  
roared to freedom  
and of the power of the noonday sun.

— B. Lynne Zika

To have your work considered for the *Lyrical* send it to:  
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