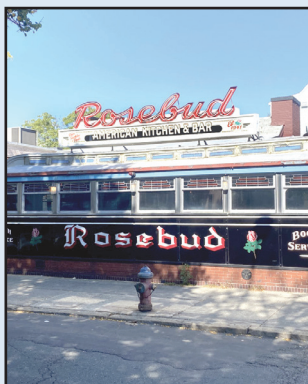




Inside:



Wowie Kazowie!
page 3



**Rosebud closes
for now**
page 17



**Doug Holder
awarded**
page 12

New to Somerville? Start Here



The City of Somerville is making it easier for new arrivals to get settled.

Moving season is here, and the City of Somerville is welcoming new and returning residents with a guide to getting settled, finding city services, and becoming part of the community.

"Somerville is a very special place to call home, so we want to help people not just navigate moving in but feel a part of the community," said Mayor Jake Wilson. "The Year of the Neighbor reminds us that a strong city is built on connection and looking out for one another. I'm excited to see all the ways our new residents will contribute to the community and make Somerville their own."

Your First Stop: Somerville 311

Have a question about city services and aren't sure where to begin? Start with 311.

Somerville 311 is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to answer City-related questions, address service requests, or connect you with the right department. It's also the place to

Continued on page 4

Somerville's longest-running bakery to change locations

By Keith Foster

Somerville's longest-running bakery plans to move the bakery down the street. Lyndell's is currently in its second location since 1953, according to the shop's 4th owner since 2000, Bill Galatis.

The window at the front of the bakery displays holiday décor that will continue at the new location, which will be down the street, in the old convenience store. It will have essentially the same layout; however, everything will be brand new, with all-new technology and windows behind the counter where customers can peek at all the assembly, just like at a Krispy Kreme. But not all the tech will be new. The old ticket taker will be there.

The bakery was founded in 1882 by a Swedish immigrant, Birger C Lindahl.

Continued on page 9



The current Location of Lyndell's bakery, since 1953, at 720 Broadway, Somerville.

— Photos by Keith Foster

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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.

On Friday, August 21, the City of Somerville will celebrate Davis Square’s “summer glow up” with a ribbon-cutting from 4:30 to 5 p.m., directly before the Down in Davis: Alive at Five performance at Statue Park. The event will mark the completion of recent public space improvements in the square, including the activation of the Davis Square Slip Lane and new placemaking art at Statue Park.

The State of Massachusetts will hold its Primary Election on Tuesday, September 1. This election will narrow the candidate pool before the November Election on Tuesday, November 3. Offices on the ballot include: Governor, Senator in Congress, Representative in Congress, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, District Attorney, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor, Councilor, Senator in General Court, Representative in General Court, and Register of Probate. Eligible voters may vote one of three ways: on election day, via early voting, or vote by mail. Deadline to Register to Vote for the Primary Election is Saturday, August 22. More information for the State Primary Election is available at somervillema.gov/elections. You can also call 311 (617-666-3311) with questions.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Birthday to our own Bob “Monty” Doherty, who is celebrating this week. You can enjoy his historical columns in our paper every other week. We wish him the very best. We wish all of our Facebook

Continued on page 7

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of August 19 – August 25 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
Wednesday August 19	Partly Cloudy	85°/66°	23%	15%	WSW 7 mph
Thursday August 20	Rain	83°/63°	32%	21%	W 8 mph
Friday August 21	Partly Cloudy	79°/64°	16%	11%	NE 10 mph
Saturday August 22	Rain	75°/67°	55%	32%	E 10 mph
Sunday August 23	Thunderstorms	77°/64°	56%	34%	SE 11 mph
Monday August 24	Sunny	80°/59°	60%	49%	WSW 12 mph
Tuesday August 25	Sunny	76°/61°	62%	48%	W 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: Democratic Civil War Has Working Class Casualties

Derek says:
Absolutely insufferable

Response to: Lyrical Somerville – August 12

Martha Ellen says:
a ravening sea of soft rain..... ty poet

Susan Tepper says:
Doug Holder you’ve outdone yourself with this one. Tight, specific, horrifying, and will it heal.

Response to: Somerville through the eyes of Denise

anthony m manzelli says:
As usual awesome pictures and I love seeing them!

Response to: Book review: ‘The Strange Case of the Alchemist’s Daughter’

hijab says:
Dennis Fischman’s review highlights how The Strange Case of the Alchemist’s Daughter seamlessly blends Sherlockian detective work with rich character development and sisterhood.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times

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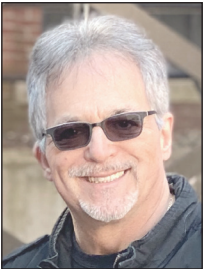
Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

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

Wowie Kazowie! The Bozo Show



Larry Harmon’s Bozo the Clown character originated in 1946 as a read-along kids’ record. Bozo became a part of popular culture and was even the center of a Seinfeld episode. But more importantly, Bozo is a piece of our Somerville/Boston childhood.

My generation is referred to as baby boomers. Many boomers in the area grew up watching locally produced kids’ shows such as Rex Trailer’s *Boomtown* (boomers on Boomtown!), *Big Brother Bob Emery*, *Major Mudd*, *Romper Room*, *Zoom*, and, of course, *The Bozo Show*. These programs gave kids the opportunity to participate in a live TV production of a show they watched religiously and loved.

The late great Frank Avruch, besides his many other important TV accomplishments, played Bozo on Boston’s WHDH TV 5 from 1959-1970. After we would

hear a resounding voice proclaim “Introducing Bozo, the world’s most famous clown,” he would pedal on stage in the Bozo-mobile with two lucky kid guests in the front seat.

A happy, laughing Bozo would sing, “I am such a funny clown. I love to travel round and round. The circus is my home, but I always seem to roam! In a rocket ship I soar, or I enjoy the ocean floor, but you must know I never go unless you come along. Bozo, Bozo, always laughs, never frowns. Bozo, Bozo, Bozo the clown.” I still know it by heart.

Bozo had a cast of characters in costume, including Kookie the Boxing Kangaroo and Mr. Lion, played by Carroll Spinney, who went on to portray Oscar the Grouch and Big Bird on *Sesame Street*. Other characters were Clank the Robot, and a lucky kid got to be “Butch for a Day,” Bozo’s ringmaster assistant. That child got to wear an oversized ringmaster’s hat and coat. There were lots of games where kids could win prizes, but everyone went home



with a goody bag.

When your parents brought you to the TV studio to be on Bozo, it was a bit scary but very special. I was surprised to discover how many of my Somerville friends actually appeared on the Bozo Show live. Here are some of their memories:

“I went in the second

Continued on page 9

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Money Map Tip of the Week

By Vincent Hicks, CPA

Q: I need help with my taxes – but who should I actually call?

A: It depends on what you need. Tax preparers, Enrolled Agents and CPAs who specialize in tax can provide many of the same services, but there are important differences in their credentials and areas of expertise.

♦ **Tax preparer:** A broad category covering professionals who prepare and file tax returns, including those working for national tax preparation companies. For a relatively straightforward return, an experienced tax preparer may be all you need. Training and credentials can vary, so ask about the preparer's experience.

♦ **Enrolled Agent (EA):** A tax professional federally credentialed by the IRS. EAs specialize in taxation and can prepare returns, provide tax planning and have unlimited rights to represent taxpayers before the IRS, including in audits, collections and appeals.

♦ **CPA who specializes in tax:** A state-licensed accounting professional who can prepare tax returns but may also help with the broader financial picture — including tax planning, business accounting, entity decisions and how financial decisions today could affect taxes later. Remember, not every CPA specializes in tax.

For complex tax litigation or matters requiring legal advice, a tax attorney may be

the right professional.

Bottom Line: Don't choose a tax professional based on the initials after someone's name alone. Start with what you need, then find someone whose credentials and experience match it.

Any questions? I'm Vincent Hicks, a CPA based in the Cambridge–Somerville area. Reach out at vincent@hickscpasolutions.com or (859) 553-0788.

Disclaimer: This column provides general financial information and should not be considered legal, investment, or tax advice. Individual situations vary. Always consult a qualified professional for personalized guidance.



New to Somerville? Start here

CONT. FROM PG 1

turn for many moving essentials, including reserving curb space for a moving van, arranging mattress or box-spring pickup, and requesting extra trash collection.

Contact 311 by:

♦ **Calling or texting 3-1-1** from within Somerville or 617-666-3311 from elsewhere or on cellphones

♦ **Emailing 311requests@somerville-ma.gov**

♦ **Visiting [somervillema.gov/311](https://www.somervillema.gov/311)** for online requests and live chat

♦ **Downloading the 311 Somerville app** for iOS or Android

♦ **Messaging on Facebook, Instagram, or Bluesky**

Getting Settled

A little advance planning can help make you a local in no time. Here's where you can get started:

♦ **Parking and moving permits:** Somerville is a dense city where curb space is limited. Visit [somervillema.gov/parking](https://www.somervillema.gov/parking) for information about reserving space for a moving van or container, applying for a resident parking permit, obtaining visitor passes, and understanding street sweeping and snow emergency rules.

♦ **Trash and recycling:** Find your collection day, learn how to dispose of moving boxes and other items, and search the City's Waste Wizard at [somervillema.gov/trash](https://www.somervillema.gov/trash) for info on how to dispose of or recycle just about anything.

♦ **Utilities and City services:** Visit

[somervillema.gov/water](https://www.somervillema.gov/water) for water and sewer information and [somervillema.gov/dpw](https://www.somervillema.gov/dpw) for information about trash, recycling, streets, trees, and other public works services. Visit [somervillema.gov/moving](https://www.somervillema.gov/moving) for information on electricity, gas, and telecom providers.

♦ **Explore your neighborhood:** Find your ward, elected officials, nearby City facilities, and other local information through MySomerville. Residents can also find City Council contact information at [somervillema.gov/citycouncil](https://www.somervillema.gov/citycouncil) and School Committee information at [somerville.k12.ma.us/schoolcommittee](https://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/schoolcommittee). Connect with Mayor Wilson via [somervillema.gov/mayor](https://www.somervillema.gov/mayor).

♦ **Housing support:** The Office of Housing Stability offers information and assistance for renters at [somervillema.gov/OHS](https://www.somervillema.gov/OHS). Residents can contact 311 for help with unsafe housing conditions or questions for Inspectional Services.

♦ **Join the Year of the Neighbor:** Throughout 2026, the City is highlighting programs, events, and simple ways residents can build stronger connections with the people around them. Learn more and get involved at [somervillema.gov/neighbor](https://www.somervillema.gov/neighbor).

"Engaged, diverse, and intelligent people are what make Somerville such an exciting and interesting place to live," said Ward Six Councilor and City Council President Lance Davis. "I love the energy that new

folks bring into the city and I encourage everyone to find their community and get involved."

Stay in the Know about City News + Updates

♦ The easiest way to keep up with everything happening across Somerville is to sign up for City updates.

♦ At [somervillema.gov/subscribe](https://www.somervillema.gov/subscribe), residents can subscribe to the main City newsletter for a weekly overview as well as newsletters focused on topics such as construction, climate action, events, public meetings, and neighborhood news.

♦ Residents should also register for City Alerts at [somervillema.gov/alerts](https://www.somervillema.gov/alerts) to receive urgent information about general emergencies, snow emergencies, construction, water interruptions, and other important issues by text, email, or phone. Alerts are available in multiple languages.

♦ To find official city, department, library, and multilingual social media accounts, visit [somervillema.gov/socialmedia](https://www.somervillema.gov/socialmedia). Residents are also encouraged to seek out and support Somerville's independent local news outlets.

"Welcome to Somerville! Our public schools are a place where high-quality education meets a deep commitment to celebrating every unique learner," said School Committee Chair Emily Ackman. "We are thrilled to welcome your family to our public school community, and we hope to see you soon as a student, care-

giver, or volunteer."

Get Involved and Mark Your Calendar

♦ Don't miss Civic Day, Thursday, September 10, 5-7 p.m. at City Hall, 93 Highland Ave.: Learn about your local government and services at this annual science fair meets fun fair style event with City info, family-friendly activities, small giveaways, and food. Tour City Hall, meet elected officials and staff from across City departments, learn about or access services, and enjoy games, activities, food, and small giveaways.

♦ Plan to attend the City Hall Community Meeting in your ward this fall: Sign up for the City newsletter at www.somervillema.gov/subscribe to get the schedule. These are a great way to meet your electeds and neighbors while exploring local projects and issues in a casual walk-about event with free pizza.

♦ Don't just live in Somerville, Be Somerville: Find ways to get involved on the Be Somerville page [somervillema.gov/besomerville](https://www.somervillema.gov/besomerville) and the online City calendar [somervillema.gov/calendar](https://www.somervillema.gov/calendar). There are many ways to be a part of civic life: Join a commission, take a survey, attend a community meeting or discussion, and more.

Whether you need help navigating move-in day, want to learn what's happening on your block, or are ready to get involved in the community, Somerville 311 and [somervillema.gov](https://www.somervillema.gov) are here to help. Welcome to the neighborhood.

Visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com
Facebook at www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1

All K-12 families invited to annual Back to School Fair

Somerville Public Schools (SPS) will welcome students and families back for the start of the new school year with its annual Back to School Fair on Tuesday, August 25, from 4 to 6 p.m. at Somerville High School.

The event will bring together school leaders, district staff, and community organizations to help families prepare for a successful school year. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet principals and district department heads, connect with local community partners, learn about programs and services available to students and families, and receive free school supplies. Free frozen treats will also be provided for students attending the event.

“Starting a new school year is an exciting time for students and families,” said Superintendent Dr. Rubén Carmona. “This event is an opportunity to strengthen connections between our schools, families, and community partners while ensuring everyone has the information and resources they need for a strong start to the year.”

Immediately following the Back to School Fair, Somerville High School will host Welcome to Somerville High from 6 to 8 p.m., a special event specifically for incoming ninth-grade students and students who are new to the high school. The event will provide an introduction to the school community, information about student life and academic programs, and an opportunity for students and families to become familiar with the supports and opportunities available at Somerville High School.

Both events are free and open to all Somerville Public Schools families.

For more information, please contact the Somerville Family Learning Collaborative (SFLC) at (617) 625-6600 x6966.



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COMMENTARY

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

Senator Pat Jehlen endorses Christine Barber for State Senate

State Senator Pat Jehlen has endorsed State Representative Christine Barber in the Democratic primary for the 2nd Middlesex Senate seat, which Jehlen has held for more than twenty years and is leaving at the end of this term.

Jehlen announced the endorsement in a video released by the Barber campaign.

"I don't usually endorse in legislative races, but in this case I think the person who is best prepared and has proven that she is best prepared to carry the fight for affordable housing, affordable health care, and affordable living in general is Christine Barber," Jehlen said.

Barber, a six-term State Representative for the 34th Middlesex District and Chair of the Joint Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, responded to the endorsement:

"Pat Jehlen has spent more than twenty

years showing this district what effective progressive leadership looks like. She rarely endorses in legislative races. She is endorsing this one.

"Pat knows what I know. A value has never stopped a single deportation. A statement does not get a woman the care her doctor recommends. A social media post does not build affordable housing. Only law does that.

"I have spent six terms writing laws and passing them. Driver's licenses for immigrants, regardless of status. An end to copays for insulin and inhalers. ConnectorCare expanded so families up to 500 percent of the poverty line can afford coverage. Higher pay for home care workers. Accessory dwelling units, so people can stay in the communities they built. My Dignity Not Deportations bill, now law, barring ICE from deputizing our local police.

"I am honored to have Pat's support, and I am ready on day one to keep delivering for Medford, Somerville, Winchester, and Cambridge."

The 2nd Middlesex District includes Somerville, Medford, Winchester, and Wards 7, 8, 10, and 11 in Cambridge. The Democratic primary is September 1. Early voting runs August 22 through August 28, and applications for mail ballots are due August 25. Mail ballots must be received by 8:00 p.m. on September 1.

Christine Barber has represented the 34th Middlesex District since 2015 and is the first woman to hold the seat. Before her election she spent eight years as a health policy expert at Community Catalyst and worked on the team that drafted the 2006 Massachusetts health reform law that became the blueprint for the Affordable Care Act. She lives in Somerville.



State Representative Christine Barber

Learn more at christinebarber.org.

— Christine Barber for State Senate Campaign

Erika Uytterhoeven, Democrat for State Senate

Massachusetts will hold its primaries on September 1. One of the few competitive races is the election for the 2nd Middlesex State Senate. As a former constituent of Erika Uytterhoeven and a current one of Christine Barber, I am eager to see a proven ally of public education take this seat: Rep. Erika Uytterhoeven.

In my 17 years teaching history in MA public schools, I have heard many politicians claim to support educators. While sincere, most public officials are absent when we demand fair work-ing conditions and living wages. Erika is the exception. Erika has stood with educators throughout her public life. When my local union made the weighty decision to go on strike, Erika was the only public official who was out there with us on the picket lines. This was politically risky; strikes of public sector workers are a civil offense in MA, and the school system where I teach is not in her district. Yet, Erika understood that voting to strike is an action that is only taken when all offers to negotiate have

been exhausted.

This is why she introduced a bill allowing public sector workers to strike under certain circumstances (Bill H.2078). Of the 2 current legislators in this race - Erika and Christine Barber - Erika is the only one to sponsor this bill. She understands that when workers are legally barred from leveraging their labor, there will always be a power imbalance which favors management, who have little incentive to negotiate. And students are the ones who lose out.

Rep. Uytterhoeven is also the only legislator in the race who sponsored the "Act Relative to Educator Pay" (H.733), which would establish a minimum salary for both teachers and other educational professionals and that periodically adjusts for inflation. Massachusetts is one of the least affordable states in our country; a recent study by SmartAsset estimates that a single adult in the Boston Metro area needs to make at least \$125,000 a year to have basic needs met. Yet, despite

this affordability crisis, the last time our legislature established a minimum educator salary was in the 1980s, when it was set at \$18,000 per year and omitted education support staff.

Affordability encompasses so much more than educator pay, however, and supporting thriving public schools intersects with myriad common good issues. School attendance and performance are negatively impacted when families are afraid of detainment by ICE or are housing insecure. Erika has led the fight against cooperation between our local law enforcement and ICE, publicly challenging Governor Healey for not taking a decisive stance on this issue.

Additionally, Rep. Uytterhoeven is also one of the few legislators in our state to focus on progressive taxation, bringing billions of dollars to our public schools and services by taxing millionaires and billionaires. Erika knows that the middle-class and working-class residents of this state cannot endure more calls for

austerity on our part while billionaires and multimillionaires in our state get tax breaks for their private jets.

Educators are used to hearing from public officials about what can't be done, about how we need to make do with less funding for our schools because of the "hard decisions legislators have to make" that we simply cannot understand. We're tired of being told there is no money when we have billions of dollars in excess Fair Share revenue and a host of legislative options to raise revenue without burdening the middle class. We are one of the wealthiest states in the country. We have the money. We have options. We just lack the political will to work with advocates to deliver real progress. This September 1, vote for someone with fearless will to advocate for the schools and communities we deserve. Join me in voting for Erika Uytterhoeven, Democrat for State Senate.

Colette Berard

Visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

COMMENTARY

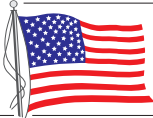
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



City Hall to go purple in support of Overdose Awareness Day and Recovery Month.

Our View Of The Times



This September, purple flags will once again be placed on the front lawn of Somerville City Hall to honor residents whose lives were lost to opioid-related overdose in 2025 and in years past. The annual display is part of the city’s recognition of International Overdose Awareness Day and Recovery Month.

On Thursday, August 27, Mayor Wilson will host an Overdose Remembrance

Event to remember the eleven Somerville residents who passed away from a substance use-related overdose in 2025.

This event will include the planting of eleven purple flags on the Highland Ave. side of City Hall, and one larger flag representing all those lost in prior years. The event will conclude with a moment of silence and candle lighting. City Hall will be lit with purple lights in recognition of Re-

covery Month. The flag and light displays will remain through September.

Somerville Prevention Services staff will host Narcan distribution events and trainings to distribute free overdose prevention information and harm reduction materials. These include the overdose-reversing nasal spray naloxone (often referred to as Narcan), Fentanyl test strips, CPR face shields, and syringe disposal boxes. These

trainings teach people the signs of an overdose, how to respond to an emergency, and how to use Narcan. Supplies will be distributed, including nasal spray naloxone, Fentanyl test strips, CPR face shields, and syringe disposal boxes.

For more information about this and similar events, go to <https://www.somervillema.gov/news/somerville-observe-overdose-awareness-day-and-recovery-month>.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

friends, such as Valerie Mitchell, Lauren DeBrase, Amy Sarro, Pat Lane, Pam Keith, Debbi Hession, and Alicia Marie, 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 Arts & Culture invites community members to apply as panelists for the 2027 LCC Grant cycle. Panelists review grant applications, learn how the local funding process works, and help support artists and cultural projects across our community. Whether you’re an artist, educator, cultural organizer, or communi-

ty member who cares about arts and culture, we’d love to hear from you. Apply by **October 1**. <https://somervilleartscouncil.org/lcc/lcc-panelist-application/>

Orange Line service will be suspended between Oak Grove and Back Bay for infrastructure upgrades from **Thursday, August 20 through Sunday, August 30**. Riders can use shuttles between Oak Grove and North Station, and the Green Line between North Station and Copley/Back Bay. [MBTA.com/OrangetLine](https://www.mbta.com/OrangetLine).

SAC & the Inside-Out gallery (CVS Davis Sq) present the **"Power of Print"**

Viva la Revolution! If you missed its debut during **ArtBeat**, you still have plenty of time to check out this prolific exhibit. This showcase features linoleum relief prints by 64 artists from our local community. To find out more, visit <https://somervilleartscouncil.org/events/power-of-print/>.

Join **Mayor Jake Wilson** and **Somerville's Council on Aging** for the annual **Mayor's Senior Picnic** at 11 a.m. at **Trum Field** on **September 10**. Call **Connie Lorenti** at 617-625-6600 ext. 2319 for a free ticket by **September 4**. Enjoy good food, music, meeting new people, and catching up

with old friends.

The **Somerville Bicycle Committee's August Streetwise** will be held on **August 19** at 6 p.m. at **Aeronaut Brewing Company**, 14 Tyler St., featuring BCU Labs. From their website: "BCU Labs seeks to draw insight and tell stories from the wealth of biking data in Boston. Our mission is to leverage the power of data through creative experimentation, learn where Boston can improve its infrastructure ... and continue to empower BCU's advocacy one pedal at a time."

Early Bird Registration Continued on page 19

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#1035

1. In tennis, what number is represented by the term love?

2. What is the scoring area of an American football field called?

3. Creator, Friends, and Classic are product lines of which toy?

4. The gong belongs to which section of an orchestra?

5. What is the third book in the *Bridget Jones* series?

6. Which animated movie does the Art Garfunkel song *Bright Eyes* come from?

7. What was Sherlock

Holmes's address?

8. Jason Bateman plays a money laundering Financial Advisor in which TV show?

9. In what decade was the band Aerosmith formed?

10. Who appeared to have leapt off a stadium roof during the 2017 SuperBowl Halftime show?

11. Which comedy duo starred in the 1930s film *The Music Box*?

12. Who wrote the song *I'm a Believer* for the Monkees?

Answers on page 14

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. Octopuses and squid have three hearts.

2. The average person falls asleep in seven minutes.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

FICTIONAL DETECTIVES

- ACROSS
1. Invitation request, acr.

5. Workout unit

8. Prohibit

11. Affirmative response

12. Type of lure, pl.

13. Small silvery fish

15. Seed covering

16. Gumbo vegetable

17. Like Siberian winters

18. "Murder, She Wrote" amateur sleuth

20. Descartes's "therefore"

21. Apparition investigated in a Scooby-Doo cartoon

22. ____ Air in L.A.

23. Arthur Conan Doyle's detective

26. Deposit, in Paris

30. "Wheel of Fortune" purchase (2 words)

31. Always, in Rome

34. "She ____ blue velvet..."

35. From then on

37. Am is to I as ____ is to we

38. Prison-related

39. International Civil Aviation Organization

40. Window-shop

42. "He ____ and drank the precious words..."

43. Announce

45. Agatha Christie's Hercule

47. Ryder Cup participant

48. Fern leaf

50. Charitable contribution

52. "The Pink Panther" Inspector

55. Diver's breathing device

56. Vietnam neighbor

57. Bald eagle's home

59. Bother

60. Highland tongue

61. Get checkmated

62. Cribbage piece

63. Like certain nurse

64. Ginger cookie
- DOWN
1. Shag rug

2. Lord's worker

3. Colorado skiing destination

4. Mucus in lungs

5. Adherents of Sikhism

6. Wading bird

7. Russia's 1917 abdicator

8. Titanic's inanimate foe

9. "The Sun is ____ a Star"

10. Unknown power

12. Humorous

13. Blind followers

14. Raymond Chandler's hardboiled detective

19. Not those

22. Quilting gathering

23. Orthodox Judaism adherent

24. Chilled (2 words)

25. Cancer-treating machine, acr.

26. Carolyn Keene's amateur sleuth

27. Navigational aid

28. Inspiration for poets and musicians

29. Get a new tenant

32. Stud's companion

33. Trained instructor at a country club

36. Peter Falk's Lieutenant

38. Lowly workers

40. Lingerie item

41. Nick to Nora in *The Thin Man* series

44. Analyze

46. Paragons

48. Bell-bottoms bottom

49. Fowl perch

50. Skin problem

51. Miner's black one

52. Ball of yarn

53. Same as eon

54. Major one in the sky

55. Tree juice

58. Casual affirmative

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Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.



STATE PRIMARY
CITY OF SOMERVILLE
OFFICE OF BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

Ordered:
The Board of Elections Commissioners is hereby directed to cause notice to be given in the manner prescribed by law that meetings of the qualified voters of this city will be held in the several polling places which have been designated by said Council for or within the voting precincts in which they respectively are qualified to vote, said polling places are located as follows, namely for;

- WARD ONE**
Precinct 1. A room in the MICHAEL E CAPUANO SCHOOL, 150 Glen Street;
Precinct 2. A room in the MICHAEL E CAPUANO SCHOOL, 150 Glen Street;
Precinct 3. A room in the EAST SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL, Glen Street Entrance directly across from 68 Glen Street;
Precinct 4. room in the EAST SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL, Glen Street Entrance directly across from 68 Glen Street;
Precinct 4A. room in the EAST SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOL, Glen Street Entrance directly across from 68 Glen Street;

- WARD TWO**
Precinct 1. A room in the THE POLICE STATION, 220 Washington Street;
Precinct 1A. A room in the THE POLICE STATION, 220 Washington Street;
Precinct 2. A room in the ARGENZIANO SCHOOL at Lincoln Park, 290 Washington Street;
Precinct 2. A room in the ARGENZIANO SCHOOL at Lincoln Park, 290 Washington Street;
Precinct 4. A room in the ARGENZIANO SCHOOL at Lincoln Park, 290 Washington Street;

- WARD THREE**
Precinct 1. A room in PROPERZI MANOR; 13-25 Warren Avenue;
Precinct 2. A room in the CUMMINGS SCHOOL, 91 School Street;
Precinct 3. Gym at ST. CATHERINE’S CHURCH, 179 Summer Street;
Precinct 4. Gym at ST. CATHERINE’S CHURCH, 179 Summer Street;

- WARD FOUR**
Precinct 1. A room in the MYSTIC ACTIVITY CENTER, 530 Mystic Avenue;
Precinct 2. A room in the PEARL ST PARK BUILDING, 240 Pearl Street;
Precinct 2A. A room in the PEARL ST PARK BUILDING, 240 Pearl Street;
Precinct 3. A room in the BRAZILIAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 212 School Street;
Precinct 4. A room in the HEALEY SCHOOL, 5 Meacham Street;

- WARD FIVE**
Precinct 1. A room in the ARMORY, 191 Highland Avenue;
Precinct 2. A room in the ARMORY, 191 Highland Avenue;
Precinct 3. Gym in the JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL, Sartwell Avenue Entrance directly across from 19 Sartwell Avenue;
Precinct 4. Gym in the JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL, Sartwell Avenue Entrance directly across from 19 Sartwell Avenue;

- WARD SIX**
Precinct 1. A room in the GEORGE DILBOY POST, 351 Summer Street;
Precinct 2. A room in the SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH, 31 College Avenue;
Precinct 3. A room in the WEST BRANCH LIBRARY, 40 College Avenue;
Precinct 3A. A room in the WEST BRANCH LIBRARY, 40 College Avenue;
Precinct 4. A room in the GEORGE DILBOY POST, 351 Summer Street;

- WARD SEVEN**
Precinct 1. A room in the SENIOR CENTER, TAB BUILDING, 167 Holland Street;
Precinct 2. A room in the WEST SOMERVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL, Raymond Ave Entrance- Directly across from 17 Raymond Ave;
Precinct 3. A room in the VNA ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY, 405 Alewife Brook Parkway;
Precinct 4. AA room in the WEST SOMERVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL, Raymond Ave Entrance- Directly across from 17 Raymond Ave;

ON TUESDAY, September 1, 2026

AT SEVEN O’CLOCK IN THE MORNING, when the polls shall open and there and then between that time and the closing of the polls, which shall be at EIGHT O’CLOCK in the evening, the said qualified voters will give their ballots for:

A Candidate for Senator in Congress for the Commonwealth,
A Candidate for Governor in Congress for the Commonwealth,
A Candidate for Lieutenant Governor in Congress for the Commonwealth,
A Candidate for Attorney General in Congress for the Commonwealth,
A Candidate for Secretary of State in Congress for the Commonwealth,
A Candidate for Treasurer in Congress for the Commonwealth,
A Candidate for Auditor in Congress for the Commonwealth,
A Candidate for Representative in Congress for the Seventh Congressional District,
A Candidate for Governor’s Council for the Sixth Councillor District,
A Candidate for Senator in General Court for the Second Middlesex District,
A Candidate for Representative in General Court for the Twenty-Sixth Middlesex District, (To be voted in Ward One Precincts One Through Four and in Ward Two Precinct 1A)
A Candidate for Representative in General Court for the Twenty-Seventh Middlesex District, (To be voted for in Ward One Precinct 4A, Ward Two Precincts One though four, Ward Three Precincts one through four, Ward Four Precinct 2A, Ward Five Precincts One through Four and Ward Six Precincts One, Two, Three and Four)
A Candidate for Representative in General Court for the Thirty-Fourth Middlesex District, (Ward Four Precincts One, Two, Three and Four, Ward Six Precinct 3A and Ward Seven Precincts One through Four)
A Candidate for District Attorney Northern District
A Candidate for Register of Probate for the Middlesex District

Nicholas P. Salerno, Chairman
Austen Brower
Kelly J. Cooper
BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

The City of Somerville does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, age, national origin, sexual preference, disability, or any other protected category in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services or activities. Auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, reasonable modifications in policies and procedures will be provided to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request.

8/19/26 The Somerville Times

Wowie Kazowie! The Bozo Show

CONT. FROM PG 3

grade with my Brownie troop! I won the Treasure Chest. I can still remember everything that was in it. I was so sad my mom missed me on TV because she was at work. My lucky number was 43!”

“My two brothers and I were on Bozo back in 1964. One of my brothers was chosen to tell Bozo a riddle. As a prize, he got a large Tootsie Roll container filled with Tootsie Rolls.”

“I was on Bozo twice! Butch for a day also! Loved that show when I was younger!”

“I was picked to wear the big pants while the other person stuffed balloons in them.”

“Yes. I was on Bozo. All dressed up with patent leather shoes and white gloves!”

“I was on Bozo in 1966. Bozo chose me when we all raised our hands to tell a joke. I said, “What did the big chimney say to the little chimney? You’re too young to smoke.” I was so proud of myself. I think I got a gift for telling a joke. At least it was clean.”

My own kids got introduced to the Bozo experience at Canobie Lake Park in Salem, New Hampshire, in the early 2000’s. The Canobie Bozo was a very kid-friendly and approachable fellow. My oldest son became an instant fan. He appeared on the live outdoor Canobie stage with him a few times, and so did I.

We amassed quite an extensive collection of vintage Bozo memorabilia, some of which can be seen in my son’s music video, The Next Night at Joeydel.

com and YouTube. As Bozo would say, “Whoa Nellie!”

I was never on the old Bozo show as a kid, but my sister and I were on Big Brother, Bob Emery. Many Somerville friends were on the other locally produced shows, especially Rex Trailer’s Boomtown, a story for another day.

You can find nostalgic clips and stories about Bozo online. In the meantime, remember what Bozo says ... “Always keep laughing!”

LEGAL NOTICES

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



City of Somerville
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a virtual public hearing on **Tuesday, September 1, 2026**, at 6:45pm through Zoom.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025, this meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission will be conducted via remote participation. A recording of these proceedings can be found online here: [Agendas, Minutes, & More](#).

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_r5B0mGmVSJ-Ukrwgtanvw

TO CALL IN

Attendees must register for the meeting online in order for a call-in number to be emailed to them by Zoom.

The Historic Preservation Commission will consider the following pursuant to 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.

Alterations to Local Historic District (LHD) Properties

52 Powderhouse Blvd Applicant: Vanita Wagner
Owner: Vanita Wagner
The applicant is requesting the replacement of 6 original wood windows on a Local Historic District (LHD) property.

Determinations of Historic Significance (STEP 1 IN THE DEMO REVIEW PROCESS)

3 Cameron Ave Applicant: Niranjn Gawli
Owner: Cameron Rei LLC
The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases>. Interested persons may provide comments to the Historic Preservation Commission at the hearing or by submitting written comments by email to historic@somervillema.gov. Persons with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (i.e., CART, ASL), written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures in order to access the programs, activities, and meetings of the City of Somerville should contact the ADA Coordinator in advance at 617-625-6600 x 2059 or ADA@somervillema.gov.

8/12/26, 8/19/26 The Somerville Times



SOMERVILLE HOUSINGAUTHORITY
30 Memorial Road, Somerville, Massachusetts 02145
Telephone (617) 625-1152 Fax (617) 628-7057 TDD (617) 628-8889

Invitation to Bid

The **Somerville Housing Authority**, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from contractors for the SHA Job No. 2408: Mystic Development Window Replacement, for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville MA, in accordance with the documents prepared by EHA Design, Inc.

The Project consists of, but is not limited to:
Furnish all labor, materials, equipment, and supervision necessary for the complete replacement of the specified windows at Mystic Development, located on #10-20-30, #40-50-60 & #70-80-90 River Road, and #500 Mystic Avenue, Somerville, MA 02145.

The work is estimated to cost: **\$1,450,000.00**.

All bidding "Requests For Information" (RFI's) shall be forwarded to dsmith@ehadesign.com by Friday, August 28, 2026 for general bids.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149. & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §526 to 27H inclusive and federal wage rates established by the Davis Bacon Wage Act and the Secretary of Labor, under the Provisions of the Code of Federal Regulations, as amended. The higher of the two rates shall be paid. The project is subject to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an online bidder. All bids shall be submitted online at www.biddocsonline.com, by the date and time specified.

General Bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) for the category of General Building Construction, and general bids must be accompanied by a DCAMM Certificate of Eligibility and an Update Statement.

General Bids will be received electronically at www.biddocsonline.com until **2:00 p.m., on Thursday, September 3, 2026**, and publicly opened online, forthwith.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five percent (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (including all alternates) and made payable to the **Somerville Housing Authority**. A one hundred percent (100%) Performance and a one hundred percent (100%) Payment Bond will also be required.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for review at www.biddocsonline.com (may be viewed and downloaded electronically at no cost) or at Nashoba Blue, Inc. at 433 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749 (978-568-1167).

A pre-bid conference / site visit will be held at the rear Modernization Office of the **SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, Massachusetts 02145, on Wednesday, August 26, 2026, at 1:00pm**. It is strongly recommended that prospective bidders attend.

8/12/26, 8/19/26 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, September 3, 2026**, at 6:00pm through Zoom.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025, this meeting of the Planning Board will be conducted via remote participation. A recording of these proceedings can be found online here: [Agendas, Minutes, & More](#).

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_F1z60LZbR065RDKIAIDuow

TO CALL IN

An attendee must register for the meeting online in order for a call-in number to be emailed to them by Zoom.

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

365 Somerville Ave Adam Dash, Esq. on behalf of Somerville Family Dental PC requesting a removal of conditions from Special Permit DRA#2020-0125 in the Mid-Rise 5 (MR5) zoning district.

369 Somerville Ave Adam Dash, Esq. on behalf of Somerville Family Dental PC requesting a removal of conditions from Special Permit DRA#2020-0125 in the Mid-Rise 5 (MR5) zoning district.

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 email to PlanningBoard@somervillema.gov.

Persons with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (i.e., CART, ASL), written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures in order to access the programs, activities, and meetings of the City of Somerville should contact the ADA Coordinator in advance at 617-625-6600 x 2059 or ADA@somervillema.gov.

8/19/26 The Somerville Times

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from our website:
www.TheSomervilleTimes.com



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT
IFB #27-06

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement and Contracting Services Department, invites sealed bids for:

On-Call Fleet Repairs - Commercial/Heavy Duty

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at www.bidexpress.com, <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or from the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **08/19/2026**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **09/02/2026 by 3 PM EST**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please contact Logan Carroll at icarroll@somervillema.gov for more information.

Logan Carroll
Procurement Manager
617-625-6600 x3407

8/19/26 The Somerville Times

Step beyond Somerville and discover
where some of its stories continue

Join the Somerville Museum this Saturday, August 22, for A Somerville Tour of Mount Auburn Cemetery, led by Mount Auburn docent and Somerville resident Robin Hazard Ray.

Explore America’s first garden cemetery while uncovering the stories of notable former Somerville residents, including Tufts University founder Charles Tufts, FDR’s longtime aide Marguerite “Missy” LeHand, composer Henry K. Hadley, and more.

Saturday, August 22
Mount Auburn Cemetery

The route includes some steep hills, so please wear sturdy, comfortable walking shoes.

Come enjoy a beautiful summer walk and discover a fascinating side of Somerville history.

Learn more and register: <https://somervillemuseum.app.neoncrm.com/>

LEGAL NOTICES

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



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, September 2, 2026**, at 6:00pm through Zoom.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025, this meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be conducted via remote participation. A recording of these proceedings can be found online here:
[Agendas, Minutes, & More.](#)

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BKqmcmeRAaJ32V0rPXwfw

TO CALL IN

An attendee must register for the meeting online in order for a call-in number to be emailed to them by Zoom.

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

180 Somerville Ave Seth Anderson seeks to expand the existing formula business into the neighboring vacant storefront, which requires a Special Permit for the expansion of a pre-existing nonconforming formula business.

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 email to ZoningBoard@somervillema.gov. Persons with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication (i.e., CART, ASL), written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures in order to access the programs, activities, and meetings of the City of Somerville should contact the ADA Coordinator in advance at 617-625-6600 x 2059 or ADA@somervillema.gov.

8/19/26 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
JAKE WILSON
MAYOR

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville City Council's **Legislative Matters Committee** will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, September 8, 2026** at 6:00 pm. Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025, this hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

REGISTER ONLINE
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89890502420>

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:

1. Enter the link exactly as it appears into your internet browser. You will then be asked to register for the meeting.
2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may email your comments to publiccomments@somervillema.gov, or send them by US mail to the City Clerk, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143. Your comments must arrive no later than 4:00 PM on the day of the Hearing, in order to be sure they are conveyed to the Council for inclusion with the Hearing testimony.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive public comments concerning the following:

- 89 registered voters submitting a petition requesting a public hearing regarding Police Body-Worn Cameras, pursuant to Section 2-11 of the City Charter.
- Davis Square Neighborhood Council submitting comments re: formal recognition by this Council as a neighborhood council under Chapter 7, Article IX of the Code of Ordinances.
- 74 registered voters submitting a petition requesting a public hearing regarding the proposed ethical procurement ordinance, pursuant to Section 2-11 of the City Charter.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

COURTNEY HENDERSON
CITY CLERK

8/19/26 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT
INVITATION FOR BIDS
REBID IFB #26-71

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement and Contracting Services Department, invites sealed bids for:

Poured-in-Place Surfacing Repairs

An Invitation for Bid (IFB) may be obtained online at www.bidexpress.com, <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or from the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **Wednesday, August 19, 2026**. Sealed bids will be received at above office until: **2:00PM Thursday, September 3, 2026**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves the right to reject any or all bids if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please email Felisa Garate at fgarate@somervillema.gov for more information.

5% Bid Deposit required. Massachusetts Prevailing Wages apply.

Felisa Garate
Senior Procurement Manager
617-625-6600 x3406

8/19/26 The Somerville Times

Massachusetts Trial Court Superior Court

Middlesex County Superior Court
200 Tradecenter Drive, 2nd Floor
Woburn, MA 01801

ORDER OF NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

Docket Number: 2681CV2138

FALL RIVER FIVE CENTS SAVINGS BANK, d/b/a BANK FIVE, PLAINTIFF
V.
MELITTA M. KING, DEFENDANT

TO: Melitta M. King, all in said Commonwealth; and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C App. § 501 et seq.:

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in 89 Gilman Street, Somerville, MA 02145

given by Melitta M. King to Fall River Five Cents Savings Bank d/b/a Bank Five dated 2/27/23,

and recorded in Middlesex South County District Registry of Deeds, in Book 81298, Page 21

has/have filed with this court a Complaint for determination of Defendants/Defendants' Servicemember status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Middlesex 200 Tradecenter Drive, Woburn, MA 01801 on or before 9/21/26 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, Michael D. Ricciub, Esquire, Chief Justice of the Superior Court at Woburn, Massachusetts, this 11th day of August, 2026..

Michael A. Sullivan
Clerk of Courts

Michael A. Sullivan
First Assistant Clerk

8/19/26 The Somerville Times

MAMAS Back-to-School Free Store

It's that time of the year again – stop by the Back-to-School Free Store to shop completely free for clothes, shoes, accessories, diapers, and menstrual products. They have SO many clothes from the community that they can't wait to give away, and everyone is welcome.

It will be on August 22nd (rain date 8/23), from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St., Somerville.

They need community support to make it happen! If you'd like to volunteer, email them at mamasfreestore@gmail.com with any questions!linktr.ee

¡Es esa época del año otra vez! Pasa por la Tienda Gratuita de Regreso a Clases para conseguir ropa, zapatos, accesorios, pañales y productos menstruales completamente gratis. ¡Tienen TANTA ropa de la comunidad que están ansiosos por regalarla, y todos son bienvenidos!

Será el 22 de agosto (fecha alternativa por lluvia el 23/8), de 10 a.m. a 2 p.m. en East Somerville Community School (50 Cross St., Somerville).

¡Necesitan apoyo de la comunidad para que esto sea posible! Si quieres ser voluntario, envíales un correo a masfreestore@gmail.com con cualquier pregunta! linktr.ee



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

Doug Holder receives Červená Barva Press Literary Service Award

Gloria Mindock, editor of Červená Barva Press, presented Doug Holder with the Červená Barva Press Literary Service Award. This award recognizes his extraordinary dedication to writers and the literary community. Through his work in Somerville, Cambridge, Revere, and beyond, he has created opportunities, inspired countless writers, and fostered a vibrant literary culture. His magazine has touched writers across the country, giving them a place to share their voices. The celebration was held at the Little Crepe Café in Cambridge on Sunday.

— Photos by Bobbie Toner



Somerville’s longest-running bakery to change locations

CONT. FROM PG 1

The bakery has always been known for all things cake. They also specialize in donuts, Danishes, cupcakes, and Half Moons. An interesting fact about the Half Moons is that up until Galatis took over, there was only one type of Half Moon. After he took over, they offered them with chocolate cake and all vanilla and all chocolate.

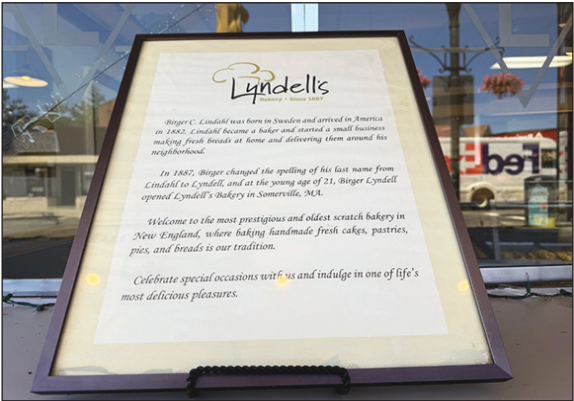
"We are moving sometime in November, and we want to be in our new location for the holiday season," says Galatis. Once they move, they will happily look forward to countless years in their third location.



The location will have the same layout, with windows in the back to peek into the assembly.



A piece from a bygone error will continue at the new location.



A plaque out front that tells the history of the bakery.



The new location at 285 Boston Ave., Medford, a former convenience store.

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #361

This article first appeared in the July 26, 2017, edition of The Somerville Times.

Weaving the Web

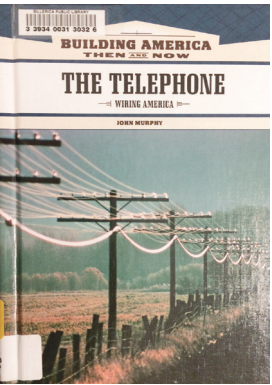
By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Alexander Graham Bell was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, on Somerville’s fifth birthday, March 3, 1847. Thirty years later, after moving to America, he became the recipient of the United States Patent #174465. This is often considered the most valuable patent ever granted. It acknowledged him as the inventor of the telephone and father of its industry.



The creation of this incomparable device took place in the Boston electrical shop of Charles Williams, Jr. of Somerville. His shop was an incubator for electrical pioneers, and Williams was liberal in sharing his knowledge and equipment. He had experience in creating burglar alarms and fire telegraph systems. The earliest inventions of Bell and Thomas Edison occurred there.

The first outside test of Bell’s telephone was sent over a three-mile phone line. It stretched from Williams’ shop at 109 Court Street in Boston to his dwelling at



One Arlington Street in Somerville. The conversation was between Charles and his wife, and he told her that he was coming home shortly. Bell assigned William’s home telephone number as #1, and his Boston shop telephone number as #2.

The next telephone line went to the Downer residence at 170 Central Street on Winter Hill. Roswell Downer was one of Bell’s closest friends. He asked Roswell’s father, Cutler Downer, who was a Boston Banker and Winter Hill land developer, to invest in the enterprise. Cutler declined, calling the telephone an amusing toy.

Despite this, both his sons, Ross and Frank, invested and were given telephone numbers #3

Continued on page 21

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Answers

1. 0 points

2. End Zone

3. Lego

4. Percussion

5. Mad About the Boy

6. Watership Down

7. 221b Baker Street, London

8. Ozark

9. 1970s

10. Lady Gaga

11. Laurel and Hardy

12. Neil Diamond

Runway 27 at Logan Airport to be closed for enhancements

By Ewan Henrie

The City of Somerville hosted a virtual meeting on August 12 to discuss changes being made to Runway 27 at Boston's Logan Airport. This is the first enhancement to the runway in over 30 years and is mandated by the FAA.

Sarah Dennechuk spoke about what the changes to Runway 27 would bring. She said that the biggest change will be the installation of an Engineered Materials Arresting System, otherwise known as EMAS. The EMAS is designed to stop overrun aircraft without any human injuries and the least amount of damage to the plane. This will be in addition to two EMASes that have already been installed at Logan Airport.

Dennechuk added that the enhance-

ments made to the runway "will not change the operational capacity of the runway in any way." It will extend the runway safety area to 650 by 350 feet. She then announced that Runway 27 will be closed starting on August 31 and is expected to be shut down for about 75 days.

The Q&A session followed. Steve Sulprizio took a question about how many more flights would fly over the city of Somerville during construction of the runway. Steve answered that "There will be a decrease in activity during the closure for construction of the runway." Dennechuk also answered a question about whether or not the safety project was for arrivals or departures, answering that it would be "for both directions." Sulprizio also announced there would be a slight reduction in traffic in South Boston during the construction.



Enhancements to Logan Airport's Runway 27 will be made over the course of several months.

Vote-by-mail ballots on their way to Somerville voters for the State Primary Election

The City of Somerville Election Department has begun mailing Vote-by-Mail ballots to voters for the September 1 State Primary Election.

Ballots will continue to be mailed regularly as applications are received and processed. Voters are encouraged to return their completed ballots as soon as possible. Returning your ballot early allows the Election Department time to review the ballot envelope for completeness and contact you, if necessary, should any issue arise that could affect whether your ballot is eligible to be counted.

For added convenience, the city has 10 Official Election Drop Boxes located throughout Somerville. Voters are encouraged to use these secure drop boxes to return their signed and sealed Vote-by-Mail ballots, helping to ensure timely delivery while reducing demands on the postal system. The drop boxes may also be used for all Election Department correspondence.

Remember before returning your ballot:

- Complete your ballot.
- Place it in the ballot envelope.
- Sign the voter's affidavit on the orange ballot envelope
- Return it as early as possible using an Official Election Drop Box or by mail.

The Somerville Election Department appreciates your participation in the democratic process and encourages all eligible voters to make a plan to vote in the September 1 State Primary by voting early by mail, early in person at City Hall, or in person at your polling location on Election Day.

Official Election Drop Box locations for the City of Somerville

- City Hall Concourse – 93 Highland Avenue • East Somerville Community School (Glen Street entrance) – Across from 66 Glen Street • Argenziano School – 290 Washington Street • SHA Mystic Activity Center (rear) – 530 Mystic Avenue • St. Catherine of Genoa Church parish parking lot – Near 182 Summer Street (corner of Spring Street) • Somerville Armory – 191 Highland Avenue • Somerville Community Baptist Church – 31 College Avenue • Dilboy Post – Near 351 Summer Street • Tufts Administrative Building – 167 Holland Street • West Somerville Neighborhood School – 177 Powder House Boulevard •



COMMENTARY

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

If Somerville Is Serious About Ending Segregation, It Must Include Disabled Students

"If we are serious about ending segregation in our schools, that requires changing how our schools function."

Somerville School Committee member Andre Green reportedly made that observation last week as the Committee considered the future of the Winter Hill and Brown Schools.

He's right.

And if we mean it, we need to be willing to apply that principle to a form of segregation public education has normalized for generations: the separation of students with disabilities.

Disability segregation is not "the new segregation." It is old. What is overdue is our willingness to recognize it as part of the same fundamental question Green identified: How do the structures and practices of our schools determine which children learn together, which children are separated, and which children are treated as full members of their school communities?

We have learned to recognize that simply putting children in the same building does not necessarily integrate them. We understand that equity cannot be measured by architecture alone. We increasingly recognize that school boundaries, programs, opportunities, and institutional decision-making can determine who belongs with whom and who receives access to what.

Those principles should apply just as seriously to students with disabilities.

A substantially separate classroom located inside a general education school can still be profoundly separate.

A disabled child can enter through the same front door as their nondisabled peers and spend much of the school day apart from them.

Their classroom can sit twenty feet from another classroom while the children inside experience different access to grade-level curriculum, electives, lunch, recess, assemblies, extracurricular activities, friendships, and the ordinary social life of their school.

And a district can describe itself as inclusive while individual families are left asking a much more basic question:

Who decided how separated my child

needed to be- and was that decision actually individualized to my child?

That distinction matters.

Special education is not a separate school system operating alongside public education. Students with disabilities are public school students first and foremost. Special education provides individualized instruction, services, supports, and protections to eligible students so they can access their public education. It should not create a separate class of students whose education is treated as the exclusive concern of a special education department.

Nor are all disabled students receiving special education.

Some Section 504 plans. Some receive interventions through general education. Some struggle while waiting for evaluation. Some have disabilities that have not yet been identified at all.

This is why disability inclusion cannot be confined to a special education department, a parent advisory council, or a single School Committee liaison.

Disability inclusion is a whole-school-system responsibility.

An accessible building is not necessarily an inclusive school.

Somerville is currently considering what may be one of its most consequential educational investments in decades: a new school at 115 Sycamore Street.

Conceptual designs presented to the School Committee include special education spaces situated within grade-level neighborhoods. The possible incorporation of the Brown School has also brought its physical accessibility limitations into the public discussion.

Those are important considerations, and we should build schools that are physically accessible and intentionally designed to facilitate inclusion.

But we should be careful not to confuse the architecture of inclusion with inclusion itself.

A floor plan cannot tell us whether a disabled second grader will actually learn alongside nondisabled second graders.

It cannot tell us whether that child has meaningful access to grade-level curriculum.

It cannot tell us whether separation is being used only to the extent necessary for

that individual student.

It cannot tell us whether students in specialized programs meaningfully participate in the academic, extracurricular, and social life of their schools.

And it cannot tell us whether families were meaningful participants in the decisions that determined where and how their children would be educated.

Those questions are about exactly what Green identified: how our schools function.

The problem isn't specialization. It's separation by default.

This part of the conversation requires some precision.

Not every substantially separate program is inherently inappropriate. Not every student needs the same educational environment. Some children require intensive specialized instruction or highly structured environments. Some students thrive in specialized programs, and some families actively seek them.

"Individualization" means different children will need different things.

The problem is not "difference." The problem is "default" – the problem arises when separation becomes a characteristic of a system rather than the result of careful individualized decision-making.

It arises when administrative structures begin determining children's educational experiences.

It arises when the existence of a specialized program starts answering the question of where a child belongs before that child's individual needs and circumstances do.

And it arises when we become so accustomed to grouping disabled children together that we stop asking whether each child's degree of separation remains necessary, or whether the system has simply made separation easier for them to administer than inclusion.

"Least Restrictive Environment" cannot meaningfully be reduced to the address of the building where a child receives services.

Being inside a general education school is not the same thing as belonging to its educational community.

Parent participation matters even when parents agree

There is another part of this conver-

sation that receives far less public attention: who gets to participate in making these decisions.

Meaningful parent participation is not a procedural protection reserved for parents who disagree with their school district.

A parent who ultimately says, "Yes, this is exactly what my child needs," was still entitled to participate meaningfully in getting there. Family enthusiasm about an educational outcome does not answer whether the process used to reach that outcome was appropriately individualized.

And one family's satisfaction cannot substitute for another family's participation.

This matters beyond any particular program because individualized decision-making is one of the safeguards against systems turning categories of children into categories of placements.

There is another accessibility issue embedded here, too:

Parents themselves must be able to access the processes through which their children's education is governed.

Meaningful participation must account for parents who have disabilities themselves, parents who require language access, and families who require accessible forms of communication or other accommodations to participate effectively.

A participation right that exists on paper but cannot meaningfully be used by the person holding it isn't particularly meaningful.

Individual stories can become systemic questions

Families frequently enter special education believing that every problem is unique to their child. Sometimes it is.

But when families begin independently describing similar barriers- difficulty obtaining records, inaccessible participation, inadequate intervention, questions about individualized decision-making, inconsistent explanations of program structures, concerns about curriculum access or inclusion- the governing question changes.

At some point, individual experiences become data.

At some point, repeated procedural problems become questions about systems.

At some point, elected officials must ask whether they are looking

Continued on page X

Rosebud Bar and Kitchen has closed temporarily

By Christa Lee

Rosebud Bar and Kitchen, 381 Summer Street in Davis Square, was closed abruptly approximately two months ago by owner Babu Koganti. At the July public Licensing Commission meeting, Koganti said the closure was done to have "some of the floor re-done" and that he is "in the process of negotiating a building purchase from the landlord." They are "already in legal negotiations," and if Koganti does not buy the building, then the plan may be to have the owner find a new tenant.

He estimated it would be resolved within two to three weeks back in July. For the time being, Koganti's license is down to zero hours until negotiations are finished. This means Rosebud will be closed for an indeterminate amount of time.

It was reported in May that, in addition to floors being replaced, a new HVAC system is being installed, and the menu is being updated. It was also reported that Koganti is involved with other restaurants, such as Madras Dosa Co., Godavari, and Don't Tell Aunty.

Babu Koganti could not be reached for comment.



Owner Babu Koganti is continuing negotiations in hopes of reopening the Rosebud in the near future,

Somerville Fire Department to conduct annual hydrant inspections, August 17-29

The Somerville Fire Department will begin its annual inspection and testing of all fire hydrants citywide on Monday, August 17, concluding on or around Saturday, August 29. This important annual maintenance program keeps the community safe by helping to ensure hydrants will work properly when needed to put out a fire.

Citywide inspections and testing will take approximately two weeks to complete. Work will be conducted Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. and if necessary, in the evening, from 6:15 p.m. until 8:15 p.m.

As part of the process, firefighters will look for any physical damage to each hydrant, remove the caps from each outlet and lubricate the threading, and open and briefly flow the hydrant.

These steps allow firefighters to check the mechanical operation of each hydrant, as well as evaluate the water flow and pressure to make sure it will be adequate when needed in the event of a fire.

In most cases, community members will not notice any changes to their water service while hydrant inspections take place nearby.

However, in some cases you may experience a temporary, slight drop in water pressure and/or discolored water:



Though the water may be discolored, it is safe to drink.

If discoloration occurs, you can open the cold tap nearest the water meter—such as a basement sink or a ground-floor sink—to full flow until the water runs clear. In some situations, this may take 5 to 10 minutes.

Until the water runs clear, it is advisable to avoid washing laundry, especially white fabrics.

If you happen to wash laundry while the water is discolored and notice rust stains on wet laundry, those items should not be dried, and you can call 311 (617-666-3311) for a free bottle of rust remover.

The Water Department also conducts additional year-round maintenance and annual water main flushing. The flushing program is currently ongoing and typically concludes in late October. Visit somervillema.gov/hydrantflushing to see flushing schedules by street (updated weekly)

Hydrant inspection and flushing schedules are subject to change based on weather and other factors. Anyone with questions about hydrant maintenance can call 311 (617-666-3311).

Visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com
Facebook at www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1

PICK UP! Somerville Museum calling – A cocktail fund-raver

The phone rang and the world changed.

That call, made in 1877 to the home of Charles Williams Jr in East Somerville was the world's first phone call to a residence.

This year, that "first" is the inspiration for the Somerville Museum's annual fundraiser PICK UP! on Thursday, September 10 from 6 to 8 pm at the Crystal Ballroom in Davis Square.

Somerville's own Jimmy Tingle (pun intended!) will entertain and emcee the evening, Brazilian Dance Ensemble, Sambaviva, will dance to a series of telephone "numbers", and TJ the DJ will keep the lines open with music throughout the evening. Enjoy cocktails, appetizers, interactive telephone exhibits, and lots of opportunities to connect with old friends and make some new.

Proceeds will support the Somerville Museum, the city's non-profit, membership-supported museum located on Central Street at Westwood Rd. The museum highlights the city's art, history, people and neighborhoods with a year-round program of workshops, exhibitions and special events. The Museum's annual fundraiser celebrates the work of the past year using the telephone to highlight our connection to the past and present, culminating in "Let Freedom Ring," a public art project featuring Somerville stories of freedom across 250 years of American history.

To learn more about the museum, its ongoing events, and to buy tickets please go to the website somerwillmuseum.org.

Pick up your phone to invite your friends to join you for a fun evening to support an important Somerville institution!



Somerville man pleads guilty to possessing hundreds of ghost guns

During a search of a Somerville residence in August 2025, law enforcement located and seized this horde of privately made firearms (PMFs), more commonly known as 3D-printed "ghost guns," including machine guns and firearm silencers, as well as a 3D printer and ammunition in varying calibers. The suspect was arrested and charged by criminal complaint in August 2025, indicted by a federal grand jury in September 2025, and convicted upon a guilty plea this month (August 2026).

From Chief Benford: "This conviction is the result of a diligent, thorough investigation by everyone involved and demonstrates the outstanding impact of agencies working together to prevent crimes. The ghost guns that were seized presented an unquestionable risk to the safety of our community, and we are proud to have helped ensure they are no longer available to cause harm."

A Somerville, Mass. man pleaded guilty in federal court in Boston to being a felon in possession of firearms and ammunition. The defendant possessed more than 100 privately made firearms (PMFs), more commonly known as, "ghost guns," at his residence – including machine guns and firearm silencers, as well as a 3D printer and ammunition in varying calibers.

Robert Butland, 39, pleaded guilty to being a felon in possession of a firearm before U.S. Senior District Court Judge Nathaniel M. Gorton who scheduled sentencing for Nov. 10, 2026. Butland was arrested and charged by criminal complaint in August 2025 and subsequently indicted by a federal grand jury in September 2025. The defendant remains in federal custody.

During an August 2025 search of Butland's residence, a locked closet inside his bedroom was found to contain numerous PMFs as well as numerous solvent traps commonly used as illegal firearm suppressors. Additional ghost guns were found in nightstands, backpacks and coffee table drawers throughout the bedroom. Multiple 3D printers, firearm parts and accessories purchased from companies across the country, filament, a workbench and tools consistent with the assembly and manufacture of firearms were also recovered from the residence. Ammunition in multiple calibers – including 9mm Luger, 5.56 Hornady Frontier and 7.62x39mm rounds – were also seized.

Butland is prohibited from possessing firearms due to prior state convictions in Lawrence District Court for assault and battery on a police officer, resisting arrest and wanton destruction of property. According to court documents Butland also has state convictions for negligent operation of a motor vehicle, possession of a Class B controlled substance and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

The charge of possession of a firearm or ammunition by a felon provides for a sentence of up to 10 years in prison, three years of supervised release and a fine of up to \$250,000. Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based upon the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and statutes which govern the determination of a sentence in a criminal case.



Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

for SHC’s Somerville 5k is still open. Every step taken on **October 3** supports the community’s most vulnerable, helping raise the critical funds needed to tackle housing and food insecurity. Lock in the early bird price for SHC’s 31st annual 5k Road Race by **midnight on 8/31**. Register today to run and claim your race t-shirt. For more information, visit <https://somervillehomelesscoalition.org/>.

Somerville Citizenship Day 2026 is offering free legal help for Green Card holders. On **Saturday, August 22**, 149 Broadway from 1 to 4 p.m., the **Somerville Office of Immigrant Affairs (SOIA)** and **Project Citizenship** will host Somerville Citizenship Day 2026. The Project Citizenship team will provide free legal assistance to eligible Green Card holders who are ready to apply for U.S. citizenship. Appointments are strongly recommended, as there will be limited availability for walk-ins. 617-694-5949.

ESMS’s biggest fundraising event of the year is almost here. **East Somerville’s Foodie Crawl 2026, Tuesday, September 15** (rain date: September 16), 6 – 8:30 p.m. Join them for an evening of delicious food, local discoveries, live music, and community connection while supporting the work of East Somerville Main Streets. For more information, visit: <https://www.eastsomervillmainstreets.org/foodie-crawl-2026>.

This fall, **Somerville Recreation** is offering all that and more. Residents can explore youth sports and enrichment programs, adult fitness classes, aquatics and swim lessons, seasonal special events, community celebrations, and much more, including a range of new programs. www.somervillerec.com.

In recognition of **Overdose Awareness Day and Recovery Month**, the **City of Somerville** invites community members to a **candlelight vigil and flag planting** on **Thursday, August 27**, from 6 to 7 p.m. at **City Hall** (93 Highland Ave.) in memory of residents whose lives were lost to opioid-related overdose in 2025 and years prior. **Somerville Prevention Services staff** will host events and trainings to distribute free overdose prevention information and harm reduction materials such as nasal spray naloxone (Narcan), Fentanyl test strips, CPR face shields, and syringe disposal boxes. To register for an

in-person training, visit the SPL website <https://somervillepubliclibrary.org/>. For more information on the vigil and flag planting, visit somervillema.gov/news.

Design the next **SomerStreets: Monster Mash festival poster!** Monster Mash is Somerville’s annual family-friendly Halloween celebration, featuring live music, family activities, local food vendors, and our beloved **Community Halloween Parade** led by the **School of Honk**. The **Somerville Arts Council** is looking for an artist who can create a fun, creative, and spooky design that welcomes Halloween lovers of all ages. Apply by **Sunday, August 23** at 11:59 p.m. For more information, visit <https://somervilleartscouncil.org/somerstreets/monster-mash-poster/>

Stop by **Sally O’Brien’s**, 335 Somerville Ave., **Saturday, August 22** between 1 – 4 p.m. to check out the **Kilt & Clover Celtic pop-up shop**.

New England Poetry Club board member Doug Holder will host a special evening celebrating **Ibbetson Street Press** at **Chocolaffee Coffee Studio**. Enjoy featured poets and writers, an open mic, poetry readings, creative conversation, and the chance to connect with fellow lovers of literature. **Friday, August 21**, 6 – 8 p.m., Chocolaffee Coffee Studio, 7 Dehon St., Revere. The event is free and open to all. Whether you’re a writer, reader, or simply curious about the local poetry scene, be part of an inspiring evening.

Eat Your Way Around the World at Nibble Kitchen this summer. The City of Somerville’s Nibble Kitchen is serving up a rotating lineup of Peruvian, Guatemalan, and Ethiopian cuisine this summer at Bow Market in Union Square. The tiny space offers big rewards for diners – and chefs. For more information and the complete schedule, visit nibblesomerville.com.

It’s the **Year of the Neighbor** in Somerville, a reminder that looking out for one another is what makes our community stronger. If you see someone who appears to be in distress, needs support, or may be at risk of harming themselves or others, knowing how to respond can make a difference. Learn more at somerville-ma.gov/howtohelp.

Visit the **Arts at the Armory**, 191 Highland Ave., on **Tuesday, August 25**, for a

The Moth StorySLAM with doors at 6:30 p.m. Listen to true stories or share your own at this open-mic storytelling competition. More info and tickets here: <https://www.themoth.org/tickets/serendipity-7>. This month’s topic is **SERENDIPITY**: Prepare a five-minute story about the time an accident felt like fate. A wrong turn lands you at your new best friend’s doorstep. The botched job interview that led you to your true calling. Losing your wallet – only for it to be found by a long-lost cousin. Coffee spilled on the shirt of your future soulmate. Happy accidents. Meet-cutes. Windfalls. Fortuitous flukes. Is it magic? Is it kismet? No ... it’s pure serendipity.

Somerville Flea is back. Stop by **Sundays through October**, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., 52 Holland St. Discover the area’s best collection of artisan makers and vintage vendors. With 13 Sundays running **from August through October**, there’ll always be something new to explore. Support local businesses, shop one-of-a-kind finds, and uncover that treasure you never knew you needed or even existed.

Somerville’s **Elm-Beacon Connector Project** is underway. After over a year spent engaging community members, analyzing traffic patterns and signal options, testing emergency and public transit operations, and finalizing plans, the city has begun the Elm-Beacon Connector project to implement a new, safer street design. Installation should be mostly complete by November. Regular updates on installation progress will be available on the project webpage at somervillema.gov/elmbeacon, or get even more details by signing up for the city’s Construction e-newsletter at somervillema.gov/subscribe.

Somerville’s annual **Water System Flushing Program** continues **through late October**. This program consists of flushing pipes at high velocities to clean water mains and maintain the highest possible water quality. Temporary drops in water pressure and/or discolored water can occur. In these cases, though the water may be discolored, it is safe to drink. Until the water runs clear, it is advisable to avoid washing laundry, especially white fabrics. To find out when your neighborhood will be affected and to learn more: www.somervillema.gov/hydrantflushing.

With the hot weather here to stay for a

while, community members are encouraged to review ways to **stay cool, healthy, and safe**. Tips are available in multiple languages at www.somervillema.gov/keepcool.

Raise a glass to Union Square as **What the Fluff? turns 21!** This year’s theme – **Legally Fluff: A Toast to Union Square** – is an ode to 21 years of fluff-filled fun for all ages. Put on the party hats, blow up the balloons, grab a bubbly bev, and celebrate Somerville’s signature sweet spread in style. The 21st Annual What the Fluff? Festival, **Saturday, September 19**, 1 – 5 p.m. in Union Square.

The **Powder House, Milk Row Cemetery** and **Prospect Hill Tower** will be open to the public on select dates and times **through October**, as part of *History on the Line*, a series of exhibitions and programs organized by the **Somerville Museum** and funded by the **Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism’s MA250 initiative** and the **City of Somerville**. History unlocked: Drop-in chat on **select Thursdays**, 6 – 8 p.m., and **select Saturdays**, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. For dates and more information, visit <https://www.somervillmuseum.org/>.

Join **Union Square Main Streets** and 60+ of your favorite local food producers for the **22nd Annual Union Square Farmers Market**. Shop local **Saturdays through October 31**, except July 4 and September 19, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the **Union Square Plaza**. They continue to offer our SNAP matches. Check the market webpage for the latest info and to see which vendors accept SNAP. To get the latest updates about the Union Square Farmers Market, visit www.unionsquare-main.org/2026-season.

Friendly Caller Program. The **Somerville Council on Aging** has many wonderful volunteers who are waiting to give you a call. Whether you are looking to make a new friend or would just like a friendly chat to look forward to every week, this program has you covered. Call **Natasha Naim** at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317, to learn more about the program and to sign up.

The **Somerville Mobile Farmers Market** has returned for the 2026 season. The market brings fresh, affordable, local produce to four city



Somerville Fair Housing Commission
Question of the week

Q: I'm moving out of town. What kinds of discrimination are illegal everywhere in the U.S.?

A: Discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, and disability is illegal in Somerville and wherever you go

The Somerville Fair Housing Commission generally meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 3 p.m. online. Call 617-625-6600 ext. 2578 for the login information.



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Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Consequences of overthinking... — Photo by Denise Provost

On This Day in History
August 12

1493 – Maximilian succeeds his father Frederick III as Holy Roman Emperor.

1692 – Five women are hanged in Salem, Massachusetts after being convicted of the crime of witchcraft.

1812 – The USS Constitution earns the nickname “Old Ironsides” during the battle off Nova Scotia that saw her defeat the HMS Guerriere.

1934 – 38 million Germans vote to make Adolf Hitler the official successor to President von Hindenburg.

1944 – In an effort to prevent a communist uprising in Paris, Charles De Gaulle begins attacking German forces all around the city.

1976 – Gerald R Ford wins Republican Party’s presidential nomination

2004 – Google Inc. stock begins selling on the Nasdaq Stock Market, with an initial price of \$85

2005 – Toronto Supercell: A series of thunderstorms spawn several tornadoes and cause flash floods in Southern Ontario.

If Somerville Is Serious About Ending Segregation, It Must Include Disabled Students

CONT. FROM PG 16

at a collection of unrelated disputes or at patterns involving policy, implementation, resources, oversight, or leadership.

That matters because families cannot perpetually be referred back into the same administrative structure when the question they are raising is whether that structure itself is functioning properly.

This is especially important in special education because institutional silos can make systemic problems remarkably difficult to see.

A Child Find problem may look like one child’s delayed identification.

An inadequate intervention system may look like another child’s academic or behavioral struggle.

A placement problem may look like a disagreement between one family and one Team.

An inaccessible communication practice may look like one “difficult” parent.

A restrictive program structure may look like a collection of individual placement decisions.

Seen separately, every tree can be explained.

Governance requires occasionally looking at the forest.

Disabled students are not somebody else’s students

Perhaps the most important cultural shift Somerville can make is also the simplest:

Students with disabilities belong to the entire school district.

They do not belong exclusively to Special Education.

They do not belong exclusively to Student Services.

They do not belong exclusively to a SEPAC or to the School Committee member assigned as its liaison.

They belong to their classrooms.

Their schools.

Their PTAs.

Their district.

Their city.

And therefore the quality, accessibility, restrictiveness, inclusiveness, and educational adequacy of their education are matters of public-school governance.

That does not mean School Committee members should interfere with individual IEP Teams or adjudicate individual disputes.

It means they should be willing to ask systemic questions when the evidence warrants systemic questions.

That is what governing bodies are for.

What kind of system are we building?

Somerville now has an extraordinary

opportunity.

We are discussing a school that may serve generations of children. We can build ramps and elevators. We can design accessible entrances. We can place specialized classrooms near grade-level classrooms. We can create shared spaces intentionally designed to bring children together.

We should do all of those things.

We should also confront racial and socioeconomic segregation and examine how neighborhood patterns, school assignment, resources, and institutional decisions reproduce inequality. Disability does not compete with those conversations. Disabled children exist across every racial, ethnic, linguistic, religious, and socioeconomic community in this city.

But if we want this new school to represent something genuinely different, we need to ask more than where its walls will go:

Who will learn together inside them?

Who gets grade-level curriculum?

Who participates in music, art, lunch, recess, field trips, assemblies, clubs, and the thousand ordinary experiences through which children come to understand that they belong somewhere?

When a child is separated, who determined that separation was necessary?

Was it individualized?

Was the family meaningfully included?

Is it continually reevaluated?

And are we willing to change the system when the answers aren’t good enough?

Andre Green’s observation about segregation deserves to outlive a single School Committee meeting:

"If we are serious about ending segregation in our schools, that requires changing how our schools function."

Thirty years from now, I hope Somerville isn’t still having this conversation either.

But getting there requires more than constructing an accessible building.

It requires building an accessible system.

And if we truly believe that ending segregation requires changing how our schools function, then we should be willing to ask that question about every child our schools separate- and every system that decides where they belong.

Jessica Adams

Jessica Adams is a Somerville parent, disability and special education advocate, and Somerville SEPAC officer.

She writes in her individual capacity.

Historical Fact

CONT. FROM PG 13

and #4. This second call was from Bell, telling Downer to send a note by messenger to Bell’s girlfriend in Cambridge. Until more telephone lines were laid across the city, a Winter Hill phone-messenger service was created and flourished. It was lo-

cated at the intersection of Temple Street and Broadway.

While he and his crew were laying more lines, Williams became the first person to receive payment for a telephone service. He was also the sole manufacturer of these

early telephones until the demand exceeded the little shop’s capabilities.

Bell’s patents were secured by 1877. Thanks to him, today billions of telephones, cell phones, iPhones and satellites help keep the pulse of our lives

going. It began 140 years ago with the three-mile wire strung from 109 Court Street in Boston to One Arlington Street in Somerville. Today, it has woven itself into ... “THE WORLD WIDE WEB.”

Newstalk

CONT. FROM PG 19

locations **Thursdays through Saturdays** and runs **through October 31**. All produce is sourced from local farms and priced affordably to make healthy, fresh food accessible to all. The mobile market accepts cash, debit and credit cards, SNAP, Fresh Connect, WIC Farmers Market Coupons, and Senior Farmers Market Coupons. All are welcome. For the full schedule, weekly produce updates, and more information about programs and events, visit the market's website at somerwillemobilefarmers-market.org.

Assembly Row Farmers Market is being held at **375 Assembly Row**, Somerville, on Fridays, 3 – 7 p.m. The market will run

from June 12 to October 9. Each week, you’ll be able to find goods from nearly 30 New England-based farmers and producers. Expect a great mix of seasonal produce, baked goods, dairy and eggs, meats and seafood, honey, jams, specialty foods, and more. It’s the perfect place to stock up for the weekend, discover local favorites, or simply enjoy a fresh Friday visit to Assembly Row. <https://marketspread.com/market/37299/assembly-row-farmers-market/>.

The **Davis Square Market** has opened for the **2026 Season**. The market will run **every Wednesday** from 12 noon to 6 p.m., through November 25, at **44 Day**

St., Somerville. This long-running market features over two dozen Massachusetts farmers and food producers offering a vibrant selection of delicious produce, protein, baked goods, and ready-to-eat meals, alongside a host of other locally made products. The market accepts cash, credit/debit cards, WIC/Senior coupons, and EBT cards and offers a weekly \$15 SNAP Match. Visit <https://www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis>.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our **Arts Editor, Doug Holder**, for setting up a **GoFundMe campaign** for *The Somerville Times*. With the cost of printing going up and a lack of businesses

having the resources to advertise, free papers feel the effect. We sincerely thank all who have already contributed and thank any future contributors. If you are interested in helping, please visit <https://www.gofundme.com/f/support-the-somerville-times>. Or if anyone is interested in advertising, please contact Bobbietoner@aol.com. We offer great discounts to help our advertisers be able to advertise. Thank you all so much for your support!

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Review of 'Conversations with Michael S. Harper'

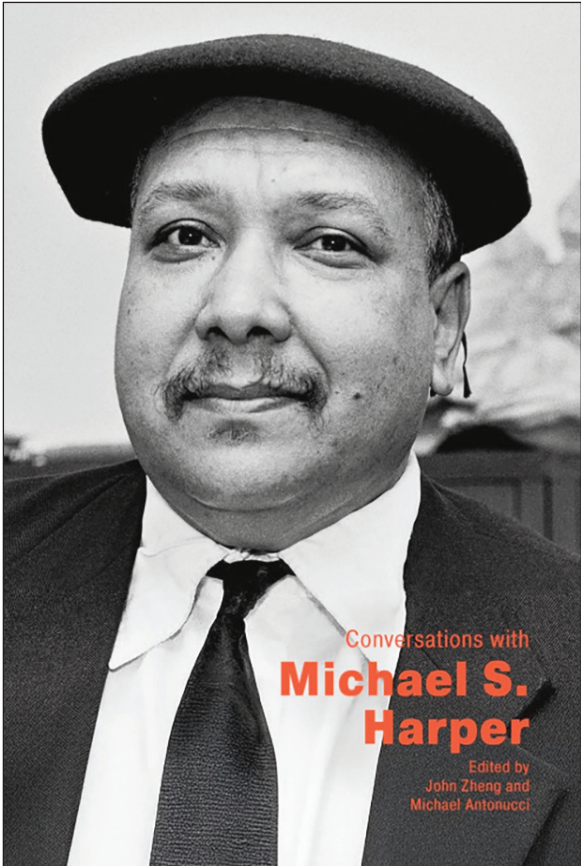
Conversations with Michael S. Harper
Edited by John Zheng and Michael Antonucci

Reviewed by Rishabh Kumar and Vivek Singh

There's a moment, decades into this book, where Michael S. Harper stops explaining himself and just says it plainly, "to survive as an artist in America is always an endurance contest, particularly if you are Black." By then you believe him as you've watched him prove it, interview after interview, for almost forty years.

Conversations with Michael S. Harper, edited by John Zheng and Michael Antonucci, gathers fourteen of those conversations, from a wary young poet talking to John O'Brien in 1972 to the professor of Literary Arts at Brown University looking back in 2016, months before his death.

What holds the book together isn't argument so much as accumulation, the same voice, tested against a new stranger every few years, circling the same handful of convictions until they harden into something like philosophy, that jazz is "not programmatic and not abstract" but a way of thinking, that history "is your own heartbeat," not a fact in a textbook, that a poem, done right, comes from "a human, intuitive feeling for the language" rather than a formula. Read straight through, it stops feeling like a reference book



and starts feeling like something closer to a portrait sat for, session after session, over half a century, by a man the volume's own editors remember as "a remarkable poet, an inspiring teacher" *Continued on page 23*

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Marilyn Jurich is a poet, author, and Associate Professor Emerita of English at Suffolk University in Boston, Massachusetts. During her long academic career at the university, she specialized in a diverse range of subjects, including fantasy and folklore, speculative literature, children's literature, and modern British poetry

Covering

Raw earth and rubble will not be recalled once the road is paved; irregularities in nature and contours invented by machine, covered smooth.

Sandor was a tailor,
the "old-fashioned" kind who cut out clothes, designed so breasts sulking
to the waist, sang out high and clear, curving spines rose as one swift line.
In Austria where he'd been a custom tailor Sandor created the perfect man and woman
through covering flawed nature or a nature failed.
Then came Dachau how many years?

Once in America, Sandor mostly altered or improved.
I met him months after Joscelyn was born a matter of needing someone to subtract that extra space from cloth where growing life had burgeoned, and transforming style to single body's needs.

He might be mounting. Alps in Austria on picture cards he'd pasted
on the front wall of his shop.
Lace doilies, dolls in Alpine costume designed the window.
Behind the counter garments swirled at different elevations, as a mobile, and magazines on a mosaic table were layered in gradations.

Sandor shook your hand as if you were a guest.
Children he considered "wunderkin," kissed their cheeks and hands,

extended cookies under fingers he would fold. Each child was the spurt of life
Sandor had retained, had wrenched from Dachau.
Perhaps his own children had died at Dachau.

His wife remained.
Behind the curtain dividing store
from workplace, she sometimes sat, mending.
Her clothes could not conceal a dwindling slope, the separate body parts dissolved
through loss of will.

This curtain cannot keep out the sound--the steam roller smooths the hot asphalt. There is something underneath
I cannot find. I have searched
in closets, fingering the flecks of tweed, groping deep in pockets.

After we moved away, maternity detached from cloth had been a fact for several years, I heard what happened--
parts of the story we already knew.

Sandor's wife had died and while he still bustled, glazed cheeks were less healthy and more feverish,
eyes more grey than blue, mustache less whimsical.
Then he rallied.
A "pacemaker" restored his health and confidence; a new wife (fifty thereabouts), a distant cousin who also had survived.
People said she was "a manager." Together they worked well; you felt affection which included you.
The window of the store had curtains now, lavender, green tassels,
she -- his new wife -- had sewn.

The rest is news report. One late Saturday Sandor carrying the weekly profits home was intercepted, beaten, killed.
Police suspected a customer who knew Sandor, knew his habits; could fit the parts together, cover them.

— Marilyn Jurich

Off The Shelf

CONT. FROM PG 22

and a kind human being."

In terms of structure, the book justifies its subtitle as a "conversation" rather than a mere document. The editors describe the interviews as "separated by three decades, these comments take their place among the interlocking discursive pathways" that together produce "a high-relief portrait of the poet," and the chronological arrangement bears this out. Recurring preoccupations, history, modality, myth, race, teaching, accumulate depth as Harper returns to them with different interlocutors across different decades, rather than repeating himself.

The opening interview, conducted by John O'Brien in 1972, sets the terms for much of what follows. O'Brien's headnote credits Harper with "complete mastery over the tools of his language" and locates his early poetry's power in its ability to draw on Black speech and jazz structures.

In the conversation itself, Harper immediately complicates a frequently quoted description of his verse as "rhythmic rather than metric," clarifying that his interest lies not in mimicking musical form but in cultivating "a human, intuitive feeling for the language." Asked about Coltrane's influence, Harper offers what becomes the book's central theoretical concept, modality. Jazz and blues, he explains, are "open-ended forms, not programmatic and not abstract," modal, not fixed. What he means by modal, he explains, is a way of hearing the world that assumes "man is basically spiritual" and that the universe is a "wholistic" whole rather than a fragmented. This means "the universe is not fragmented, that man has a place in it, that man is a reflection of the environment, and the environment is the reflection of man." Thus, humanity, art, and environment reflect one another rather than standing apart. This idea is elaborated further in the 1973 Chapman interview ("modality is always about relationships ... modality is always about unity"). Modality, in other words, is never simply a musical technique borrowed for poetry, it's a whole way of understanding experience, and Coltrane is its clearest example, not its source.

The four interviews from the 1980s, with James Randall, David Lloyd, James R. Keegan, and Reginald Martin, turn toward Harper's sense of vocation and responsibility. To Randall, he insists that a Black writer must develop the stamina to be "optimistic in attitude" while expecting the worst, treating race as "a metaphor and a challenge of assertion" rather than a limitation to escape. To Lloyd, Harper is blunt about the American relationship to the past, Americans, as he says, are simply "not very good historians," people whose sense of the past collapses into "topicality but not towards continuity."

For Harper, as a poet, real history isn't something filed away and consulted at "the local libraries," but something lived out in ordinary speech, in which "these events are reflected in the lives of the people who live there and utter these place names that are named for somebody else" without ever learning the story attached to them. The past, on this account, survives everywhere in language and geography and almost nowhere in memory, an inheritance nobody bothered to explain to the people still living inside it.

The 1990s interviews, with Charles H. Rowell, Edward Hirsch, and Michael Antonucci, deepen the volume's engagement with Harper's literary genealogy and his sometimes-unsparing critical judgments. To Hirsch, Harper distinguishes poetry's "own laws" from music's, framing his interest in improvisation as a way of keeping tradition alive rather than repeating it, and offers a candid, mixed assessment of Langston Hughes, whose work he found lacking in the "complexity" he himself pursued. To Antonucci, Harper describes his cultural touchstones, Sterling Brown, Robert Hayden, Ralph Ellison, Coltrane, as "models, not to be copied, but to be instructed by," a formulation that neatly encapsulates his lifelong resistance to imitation.

The final four interviews, from 2003 to 2016, shift register. Graham Lock's two 2003 conversations dwell on Harper's editorial stewardship of Sterling Brown's Collected Poems and his early years in Los Angeles under Coltrane's influence. Sascha Feinstein's 2007 interview functions almost as a memoir, tracing Harper's path from Brooklyn through integration and segregation to his teaching career. Heather Treseler's 2009 interview, paired with her own warm personal essay about studying under Harper at Brown, revisits his difficult years at Iowa and extends the conversation into the Iraq War and contemporary racial politics. The book closes fittingly with the editors' own 2016 interview with Harper, conducted for a special journal issue that, poignantly, was published only after the poet's death that year.

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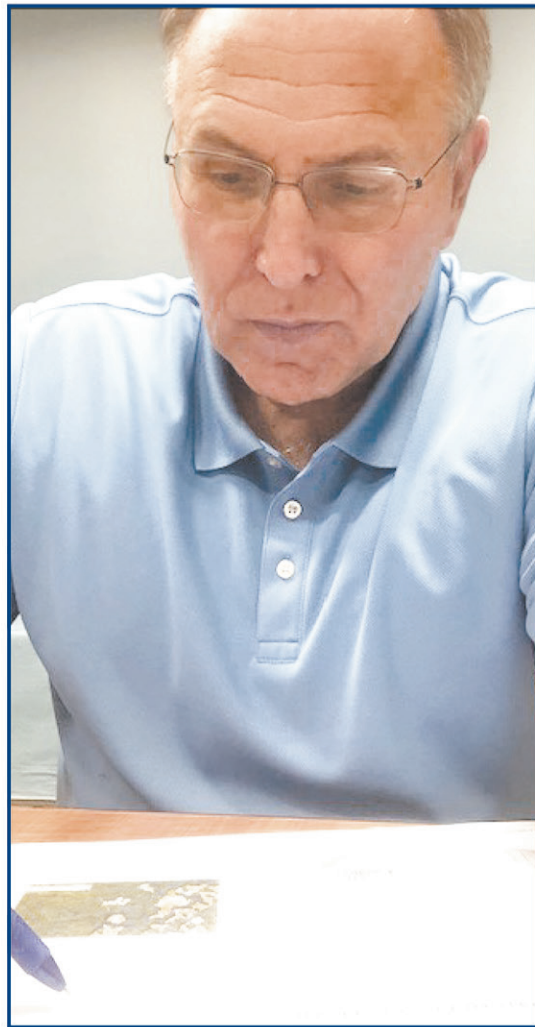
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