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Holland St. business owners raise objections to parking, bike lane changes



The city's current plan for removing parking spaces to make way for protected bike lanes on both sides of Holland St. does not sit well with some area businesses and residents. — Photo by Bobbie Toner

By Jim Clark

A group of business operators located on Holland St. have banded together to oppose and inform the public and other local businesses about the city's plans for removing some 50 parking spots on Holland St., to be replaced by protected bike lanes on both sides of the street.

Earlier this month, Somerville Mayor Katjana Ballantyne said in a public statement, "I have directed City staff to prepare a new plan for Holland Street that includes protected bike lanes from Teele Square to Buena Vista Road that will be implemented this fall. This plan would convert parking on one side of the street to allow for protected bike lanes on both sides."

Members of the group of

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YouthBuild Just A Start helps build and install pieces of traveling 'Evicted' exhibit

On September 16, YouthBuild Just A Start students visited the traveling *Evicted* exhibition, currently on display at Arts at the Armory in Somerville. Weeks prior, in collaboration with the Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS), an organization dedicated to addressing poverty in the Somerville community and the root causes of economic injustice, four students from YouthBuild Just A Start worked to build and install interactive pieces of the exhibit in the form of mini houses.

YouthBuild Just A Start, based in Cambridge, MA, is a high school education, job skills, and leadership development program for young people ages 16-24. The exhibit is a traveling version of the original which debuted in April 2018 at the National Building Museum in Washington DC. The "eye-opening" exhibition exploring

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Students from the YouthBuild Just A Start program assisted in the installation of the EVICTED exhibition at Arts at the Armory in Somerville.

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Please join Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, city staff, and Traffic Commission members for a special meeting of the Traffic Commission to discuss new plans for protected bike lanes on Holland Street on Wednesday, September 21, at 5:30 p.m. At this meeting, the mayor and city staff will present the new design to the Traffic Commission and answer questions. The Traffic Commission will then discuss the plan and hear public comment. Written comments will also be accepted after the meeting. The Commission will then reconvene for a vote in the coming weeks. This new safety plan maintains parking on one side of Holland Street but restricts parking on the other side in order to create protected bike lanes. Loading zones and accessible parking spaces will be increased. The full designs are available on the project website. To learn more and register to attend the meeting, go to somervillema.gov/hollandstreetdesign.

Head on over to the #AERONAUTCannery for their first-ever Tape & Record Swap on September 24. Hosted by Boston's DJ Donuts and featuring performances by local DJs and bands. Plus, they'll have Ginger Spizen with their unique wearable art, Batter & Bloom for sweet treats and fun cards, and eight analog vendors ready to wow with their finest selections for your perusing pleasure. This event is free, but you can check the link to learn more and RSVP: <https://bit.ly/3R6evAU>

***** Continued on page 7

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of September 21 – September 27 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
Wednesday September 21	Partly Cloudy	75°/63°	9%	5%	WSW 11 mph
Thursday September 22	Rain	70°/51°	58%	41%	W 135 mph
Friday September 23	Partly Cloudy	62°/46°	8%	6%	NW 18 mph
Saturday September 24	Sunny	67°/50°	1%	1%	WNW 12 mph
Sunday September 25	Partly Cloudy	70°/57°	9%	5%	WSW 11 mph
Monday September 26	Rain	71°/56°	57%	44%	SSW 12 mph
Tuesday September 27	Partly Cloudy	69°/50°	22%	18%	WSW 11 mph

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com
Comments of the Week

Response to: Obituary: Richard A. 'Dick' Hart

Mike Conroy says:

Deepest condolences to Mary and family on the loss of Dick. With love and best wishes from Mike, Pamela, Catriona, Cole and Eoin. Dublin, Ireland.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

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Western Washington Street mobility
improvements public meeting

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and Ward 2 Councilor J.T. Scott invite you to a virtual community meeting to discuss roadway upgrades and transportation safety improvements on the western portion of Washington Street, from Line Street to Webster Avenue.



The city is planning to reconstruct sidewalks, repave Washington Street, and install changes that will improve street safety and usability, including wider sidewalks at bus stops, raised crosswalks for traffic calming, and protected dedicated bike lanes. Construction is expected to begin in 2023.

At this meeting, city staff will present a proposed design for Washington Street and gather input from attendees. After the meeting, the proposed design will be posted to the project website along with a survey for additional feedback.

The meeting will take place Wednesday, September 28, at 6:00 p.m. Portuguese interpretation will be provided. Visit somervillema.gov/westernwashington to register to attend.

Life in the  by Jimmy Del Ponte

Somerville’s official food



It’s a well-known fact that Marshmallow Fluff was invented in Somerville and everyone has enjoyed a Fluffernutter sandwich. I posted a question on Facebook looking for what people think should be the official food of Somerville. I got so many suggestions that I decided to just list as many as I could. Here are some of Somerville’s favorite treats both past and present.

Lyndell’s Bakery in Ball Square was mentioned several times for their honey comb bread, cupcakes, and my fave, mocha cakes. I worked there when I was in junior high and I made my own gi-normous mocha cakes! I also used to fill my own jelly donuts until they practically exploded.

Some folks mentioned subs from Nan’s sub shop that used to be across from Somerville High School. I almost got clipped by a few cars rushing over there when I was supposed to be in class! (you kids should not try this! Times were different then.) I have to toss Di Tuccis subs and pizza into the mix also. Bobby made a mean sub. We have mentioned Leones many times in this column and again it’s a choice for the best subs.

One long time Somerville guy tells us that he still considers the Somerville High School’s cafeteria’s mashed potatoes, sausages and gravy arranged campfire style as among his favorite meals. I liked the American Chop Suey. Don’t forget The Highlander Café run by the High School’s Culinary Department. Their prime rib is ... prime!

While we are on the subject of delicious

foods, we must throw a shout out to the Mount Vernon restaurant’s twin lobster special and their famous prime rib. Everyone likes the Mount Vernon. When one of my out of state friends come back home to visit, he heads right to Angelina’s Sub Shop in Teele Square for a half Jumbo Italian, and then pops over to Amelia’s Kitchen for some Tiramisu.

Many people remembered Jonnies’ special, which is found only at Thurston Spa. It consists of German bologna with all the fixings. My friend James remembers when they cost 25 cents back in the day. Victor’s Sicilian Pizza, The old Highland Café’s steak tips and the free lunches they used to serve at the playgrounds from Somerville Recreation Commission made our list of favorite Somerville foods.

Apollo Cakes, formerly in Somerville, made the grade as did La Hacienda and its delicious pizza. We can’t mention Victor’s without talking about Mike Moccia’s Ball Square Café next door. Not only is the food and service great, but you can always bet on bumping into an old friend from the ‘Ville when you are there. Melted cheese and a melting pot please! As one person stated, “It’s as ‘Villen as it gets!”

Along with all the new fancy restaurants and menus, we still love our sandwiches in Somerville. Sometimes you will hear them referred to as “sangwiches” for fun. We all loved the old Harold’s Luncheonette (square pattie cheeseburgers) in Ball Square. (My old band The Tools had a song in their jukebox!) We will never forget Butch, Anna and Jeanne.

Do you remember the fruit truck guy? “Strawberries ... raspberries ... CHERRIES! How about the fries at Frank’s sub shop at the corner of Clare-



— Photo by Bobbie Toner


mont and Holland? I can still see Del’s Pizza truck with the bell.

A friend tells us that Yelp, that online restaurant review site, lists Somerville as having 59 pizza joints to Medford’s 43. Close but no...crust. Did I mention Primos (we miss ya!) and Mama Lisa’s? There are also new places like Pini’s that people like. Sessa’s and Mike’s in Davis Square also serve delectable treats. Mike’s has become a fave of college kids as well as us seasoned Somerville pizza lovers. The Venice Cafe, formerly on Holland St., won a poll I did a couple of years ago for the best Somerville pizza ever, past or present.

So it seems that it’s a tossup between subs and pizza as Somerville’s official food.

As our city keeps evolving and growing, we are lucky to have so many diverse cultures offering new and delicious foods. We will also never stop enjoying the foods that we have been eating religiously for decades. It’s great to go into all the new restaurants, sit down and order a fancy meal that you can hardly pronounce, and give your taste buds an international treat. It’s also nice to know that you can still go into one of your favorite pizza and/or sub joints and sink your teeth into a familiar, comforting hunk of deliciousness.

Now I’m hungry for a sub so I could really go for a Jimmy Del Ponte. That’s a small Italian. I’m looking more like a jumbo these days than a small!



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Holland St. business owners raise objections to parking, bike lane changes

CONT. FROM PG 1

concerned Holland St. business owners and administrators – consisting of Conor Brennan, of PJ Ryan's; Steve Stamides of Angelina's Pizzeria; Rob Halpin of Rudy's Café; Ron Draper, CEO of Somerville Municipal Federal Credit Union; and Francillon Dabady of FoodDy's kitchen – spoke with *The Somerville Times* on Monday, September 19, outlining their issues and concerns regarding the city's plans.

Conor Brennan told *The Times*, "We were made aware by the city that on Holland St. we were going to lose 50 parking spots from Teele Square to Davis Square. That was sort of a shock for the small business owners. And we weren't really aware that this was where the city was going, and we're still waiting to get more information from the Director of Mobility, Traffic and Parking, Economic Development. We have a meeting scheduled with the mayor, coming up. But we're really just in an information gathering phase right now. But we feel that there should be a more detailed process and decision making about such a dramatic reduction in parking."

"This process will be continued," Brennan added. "We had a meeting a week ago with some city officials from Mobility and they indicated that the process will continue on Broadway, from Holland onto Broadway to Rte. 16. And we'll lose up to 60 spots fall '23 / fall '24, depending on the city's timeline. So that's a cumulative net loss of 110 spots within a year and a half, within a half mile of our businesses. We're not a central business district. Union, Davis, Assembly Row are serviced by public/private parking lots, T stops, and multiple bus lines. We do not have that infrastructure and we cannot

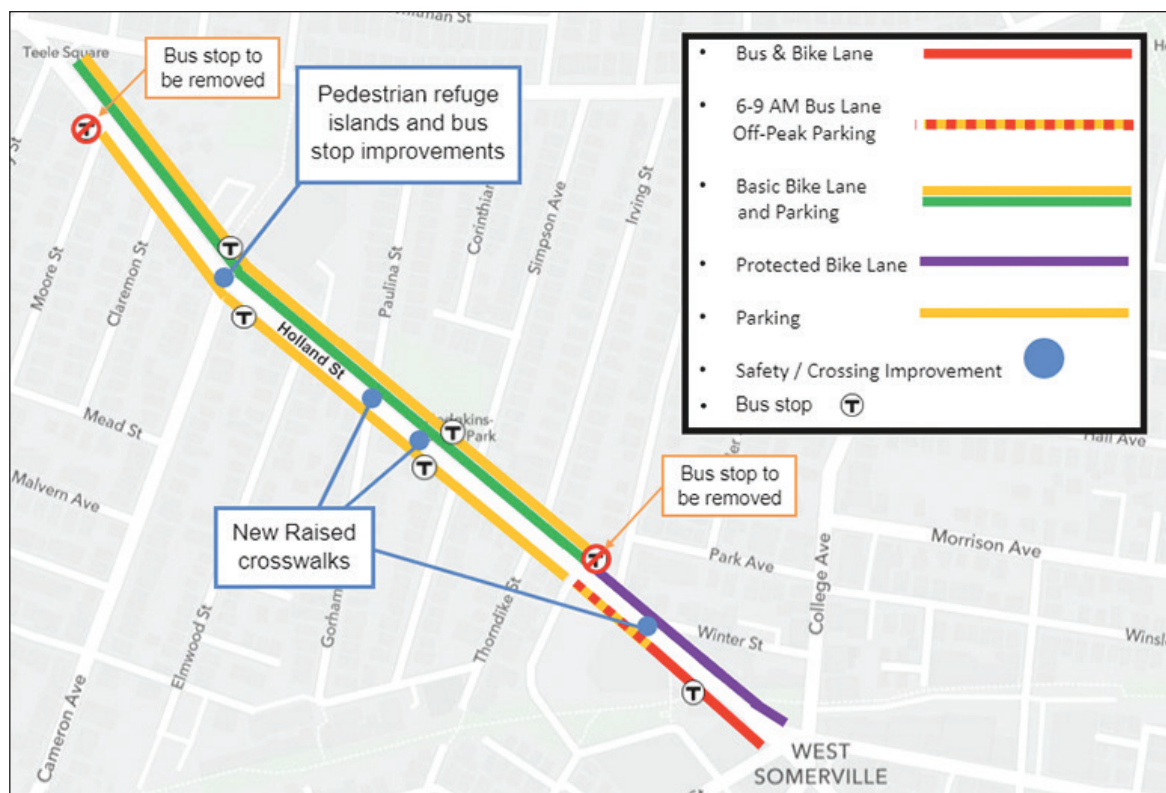
sustain 110 parking spot losses within 16 months."

On Wednesday, September 21, at 5:30 p.m., the city's Traffic Commission will host a special online meeting to discuss the plan. The meeting is open to the public and can be accessed at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87301414724>.

"They are basically going to hear comments from the community," said Brennan. "So, the one thing that we'd like to do is definitely get the word out to residents and businesses in the area. Because again, it's not only affecting our neighborhood, but it's affecting Davis, Teele, it's going to be up on Broadway. They're going to be affected down by Clarendon Towers. I mean, a lot of places where it's going to affect multiple facets of businesses, residents, and the community. So, we'd like to just make sure that people understand and are aware of what's happening out there and be attentive for this meeting, and also to put the word out and have a voice there, to be able to communicate to Mobility and Traffic and Parking, and the politicians that are involved to understand that this is a very drastic change."

Steve Stamides offered, "Basically, what we're trying to say is, we would like A number one be heard. And then have a discussion cumulatively about the pros and cons of what they are trying to impose on the streets with regards to what we feel could be more of a collaborative way than just saying, 'Hey, we're just going to change it.'"

"Some of our points are the width of Holland St. in comparison to other streets where this has been done is definitely not the same," he said. "So, putting up two protected bike lanes and losing over 50 spots from here



A visual representation of the proposed changes along Holland St.

— Courtesy of the City of Somerville

to Davis Square is truly going to affect the small businesses here. Along with people who are residents on the street and on the side streets, because some of the plan is to add more meters on some of the side residential streets."

"We're just looking for inclusivity here with the business owners..."

"We are the primary credit union for the city of Somerville employees and their family members," Ron Draper said. "So right now, and probably for 30 years since we've been in this location, we have had a parking spot out front. And we quite often have a lot of elderly and disabled members of the credit union, coming with wheelchairs and walkers. That's going to be removed in the

grand scheme of the proposed plan. It's going to be done in the name of safety, because it's mentioned in the mayor's letter that a 72-year-old man was killed in a bike lane. And this proposal just further replicates that dangerous situation on the other side of the street."

"What's going to happen is you're going to have the same situation that I believe happened on Broadway to the gentleman that lost his life," Draper continued. "When someone parks adjacent to a bike lane, they can open a door and someone can get hit. I'm just not convinced that this will improve public safety, since the risk of a loss of life still exists. And then there's obviously the whole issue of not getting any notice or proper notice. And the way it's going to impact all the businesses and residents up and down from Teele to Davis Square."

Francillon Dabady said, "I just signed a lease about six months ago, getting ready to open in a

couple of weeks. I'm very concerned with the parking situation. There's hardly any parking out here already. It has impacted me at my other store on Broadway in Somerville with the bike lane and bus lane. And Broadway's a lot bigger than this street here, so it's going to make it almost impossible. A lot of my customers will be online looking for something new and decide to come and there'll be no parking. This is directly impacting the business itself."

"We're just looking for inclusivity here with the business owners," Brennan added. "We haven't seen that. I'm led to believe that the city is pushing for this to happen primarily because they have a contract for currently resurfacing the roads. The original plan was for this to happen on Broadway, and they would have to wait for over a year for it to happen on Broadway. The majority of businesses in the square that I've talked to outside of this group still are not aware of the plan as proposed."

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Orange Line and Green Line Extension Service resume on schedule

Orange Line and Green Line Union Square service resumed on Monday, September 19.

The MBTA initiated the 30-day full closure of the Orange Line on August 19 to complete five years of improvements in 30 days and bring track and signal infrastructure into a state of good repair, while also addressing safety actions identified by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Orange Line track replacement work addresses FTA Special Directive 22-4 which mandates that the MBTA take actions related to maintenance of way. In Directive 22-4, the FTA noted that defective track conditions had forced the MBTA to implement slow zones where trains had to operate at restricted speeds. By replacing thousands of feet of rail during the Orange Line closure, the MBTA is eliminating the slow zones, and providing riders with faster and more reliable service.

"A tremendous amount of choreography, coordination, and hard work has been accomplished during these 30 days, including over a dozen projects to replace rail, track, signals, rail fasteners, and more that would have taken the T five years of nights and weekends to accomplish," said MBTA General Manager Steve Poflak. "We've also met our goal of eliminating six slow zones along the Orange Line, which creates faster and more reliable commutes for customers, and surpassed our goal for new vehicles with 72 new Orange Line cars ready to serve riders. Thank you to all of our partner municipalities along the Orange Line for collaborating with us throughout the entirety of these 30 days; to the MBTA workforce, contractor crews, shuttle bus operators, Transit Ambassadors, in-station personnel, and more for their dedicated work, skill, and service; and especially to our Orange Line riders – we're excited to welcome you back to a faster, safer, more reliable ride tomorrow on a line

comprised of predominantly new cars."

"The 30-day Orange Line shutdown was a monumental opportunity which allowed the MBTA to conduct critical maintenance operations aggressively to help ensure travel on the MBTA is safe, accessible, smooth, and convenient," said MassDOT Secretary and CEO Jamey Tesler. "This historical undertaking would not have been possible without thorough and thoughtful multi-level coordination and collaboration, and I would like to thank MassDOT's Highway Division for all their support, everyone who worked hard and spent countless hours helping to bring this project to fruition, and members of the public for all of their continued patience."

"The MBTA's Capital Transformation program has successfully applied its experience and lessons learned from previous surges as we brought together multiple other MBTA departments to continue the transformation of the Orange Line," said MBTA Chief of Capital Transformation Angel Peña. "Our work during the Orange Line shutdown was rooted in our devotion to riders and their safety. This devotion will continue to drive our focus on quality, accessibility, modernization, and service for years to come."

Work accomplished during the 30-day Orange Line closure includes:

- Elimination of six slow zones to allow for faster service at Jackson Square and Stony Brook, State and Downtown Crossing, Tufts Medical Center and Back Bay, Community College and North Station, and two slow zones between Assembly and Wellington along Dana Bridge.
- Replacement of 14,000 feet of rail and more than 2,800 rail ties.
- Replaced 3,500 feet of track.
- Installation of 400 rail fasteners called "Cologne Eggs," which dampen vibrations and noise for



a more comfortable ride.

- Upgraded signals at Oak Grove and Malden Center from analog to digital to reduce time and maintenance.
- A total of 48,000 feet of new signal cable laid, including 45,000 feet of signal cable within the Southwest Corridor, which will be activated in 2023 as part of the Signal Upgrades project when the new system is placed in service.
- Repaired and weatherproofed Sullivan Square station's roof and canopy to protect it from the elements and the roadway above.
- Forest Hills station is now fully accessible from both the Washington Street and Banks Place entrances. New granite tiles have also been installed at station entrances along with a new skylight. Additional improvements include the polishing and sealing of the terrazzo, painting lobby ceilings, and completing construction of the redundant lobby elevator.
- Upgraded two Crossovers at Ruggles and Jackson Square so trains can seamlessly move between tracks.
- Updated Oak Grove's accessibility by replacing the roof, doors,

windows, stairs, granite, pavers, terrazzo flooring, and elevators.

- Readied 72 new Orange Line cars, an increase from 30 cars when the Orange Line shutdown first started.

Riders should be aware that slow zones will remain in place for about a week after service resumes. This is because it takes time for the new track and ballast to settle as trains repeatedly run over the areas where the slow zone removal work was done.

The Orange Line provides approximately 101,000 trips each day with ridership approximately 49% of pre-pandemic ridership.

With the reopening of the Orange Line, the CharlieCard Store located within Downtown Crossing will increase its business hours to better serve MBTA customers. On Mondays, the CharlieCard Store will be open by appointment, and Tuesday through Friday it will be open 8:30 AM to 5 PM, serving all transactions.

Commuter Rail Updates Effective September 19

Because many Orange Line riders chose the Commuter Rail during the Orange Line closure, the T will add Oak Grove station to the Haverhill Commuter

Rail Line schedule as a Zone 1A stop to offer riders an additional choice to their daily commute. Nine train stops at Forest Hills station that were added during the Orange Line shutdown will also continue on the Franklin and Providence/Stoughton Commuter Rail Lines, ensuring two trains an hour in the weekday morning inbound peak at that station. Passengers are reminded that regular fare collection will resume for Zones 1A, 1, and 2. Amended schedules can be found online at mbta.com/CR.

Green Line Extension Service

Green Line service between Union Square and Government Center stations will also resume at the start of service tomorrow. The T suspended service last month to facilitate the opening of the Medford Branch of the Green Line Extension in late November 2022 and to allow for continued work at the Government Center Garage project.

Completed work on the Green Line Extension includes:

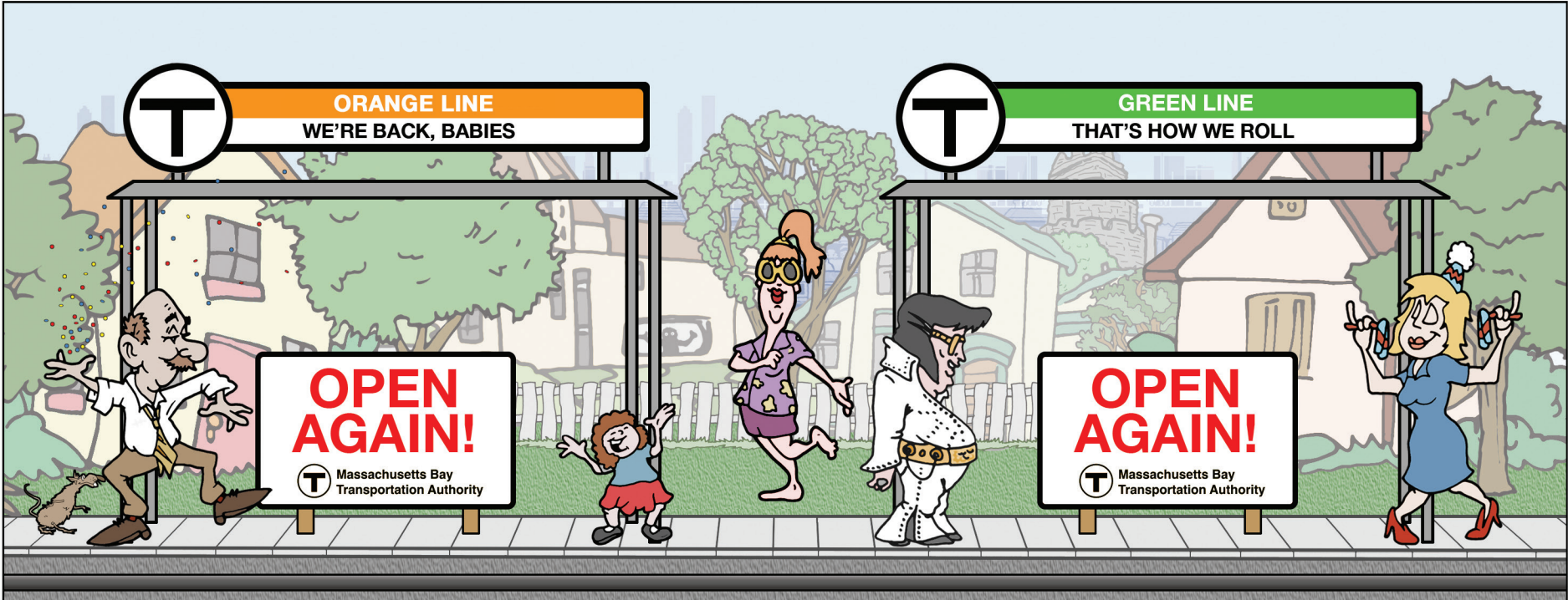
- Adjustments to the overhead wire on the East Cambridge Viaduct that eliminated a temporary slow zone, allowing trolleys to operate at the

Continued on page 15

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



The Orange and Green Lines make a big comeback.

Our View Of The Times



As amazing as it may be, the renovations on the MBTA's Orange and Green Lines have actually been completed on time as promised. How often can almost any major construction project boast such a success, especially a government job?

Of course, the heat might have been put under their bottoms by the public outcry from those who were highly inconvenienced by the temporary shutdown. Any

overrun in the timeline would probably have sparked an uprising.

Say what you will, they at least provided bus shuttle service and got most of us where we were going one way or the other. Not ideal perhaps, but it looks like they did the best they could do.

When you think about it, a light rail system in and around a major city is a massively complicated thing to manage and

maintain. Already, just a couple of days after resuming service, one Orange Line train was shut down due to some problem with a door. One tiny piece of the puzzle causing a major muddle. That's how it goes, though. The more complicated any system is, the more apt it is to give way to its vulnerabilities.

But that's another reason to take stock in what this system delivers to its patrons

day in, day out, with relatively few breakdowns, when you look at the big picture.

Of course, we all wish for perfection, however realistic or unrealistic that may be. When things run smoothly we tend to take them for granted. When things go wrong it's easy to howl like monkeys in protest, point fingers and look for blame.

Might as well blame the system – for being so darn complicated.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to a great Somerville person, **Lori Pino**, owner of **Amal Niccolli** in Ball Square. We wish her a very happy birthday. Happy birthday to the now retired Somerville Homeless Coalition Director, **Mark Alston-Follansbee**. We wish him the very best. Happy birthday to **Richard Mangan**. We hope he has a very happy birthday as well. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Ellen Gagliardi**, **Stephen Green**, **Jonathan O'Connell**, **Conor M Brennan**, **Adele Chang**, **Kimberly Barnett**, **John Morabito Jr.**, **Ann Sylvester**, **Julia Gilligan Corsetti**, **Scott Breen** and **Lisa Monaco**

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.

September is **Recovery Month**. Additional **Narcan distributions** will take place **Friday, September 30**, at **Foss Park** from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, resources, or to get involved, email mmitchell@somervillema.gov or visit <https://www.somervillema.gov>.

Join **Somerville Parks and Recreation** for a **Fall Festival**. Kick off the new school year with an afternoon of free fun and en-

tertainment for the whole family, featuring live music, games, bounce houses, face painting, and more. **Saturday, September 24**, 1:00 p.m. and 4:00pm, at **Trum Field**, 541 Broadway.

Come out to **Aeronaut Brewery**, 14 Tyler St. (or Zoom in) for their monthly **Streetwise speaker series**. **September 21** at 6:00 p.m. This month's speakers are **Galen Mook**, Executive Director of **MassBike** and **Kristiana Lachiusa** speaking about how buses and bikes can share the road safely. For Zoom details visit bit.ly/3ORnXHn.

To celebrate Union Square's sizzling food landscape, the **Somerville Arts Council** brings you the **IGNITE Festival**. Expect an evening of international eats, fire throwers, roving entertainment, and a raucous celebration of global culture. In addition to many local food vendors, there will be interactive light installations, numerous illuminated performers and to top it all off, **FIRE!** Local eateries throughout the Square will be featuring Ignite themed specials on **Saturday, October 1**, 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. in **Union Square**.

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's
Olio
#843

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

1. What is the world's longest national anthem?

2. What is the other name of the Sandwich Islands?

3. What is the full form of FOMO?

4. Do sharks have bones in their bodies?

5. Where did the Red Hot Chili Peppers record *Blood Sugar Sex Magik*?

6. What was William Shakespeare's last play?
7. What toy is used to clean wallpapers?

8. What computer accessory's name is also an animal?

9. What planets of our solar system do not have moons?

10. What is the fear of public speaking known as?

11. What island nation is the world's largest producer of vanilla?

12. When did Major League Soccer kick off in the U.S.?

Answers on page 10

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. On average, people fear spiders more than they do death.
2. Junk food is as addictive as drugs.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD
WORLD SERIES

- ACROSS
1. Gumbo pod

5. Old horse

8. "I see!"

11. Like Yankees and Dodgers in 11 World Series

12. Kind of tale

13. Mother-of-pearl

15. Like a pennant in wind above a ball-park

16. Foam-at-the-mouth display

17. Agenda entries

18. League with most World Series wins

20. Oldsmobile founder

21. Two-door car

22. Legal org.

23. 2018 World Series champs famous for Green Monster

26. Dockets

30. Paul is to Simon as ____ is to Garfunkel

31. Household

34. ____-a-whirl fair ride

35. Kills a dragon

37. U.N. labor standards grp.

38. Follows a cut?

39. Certain party garb

40. Closed book

42. Repeated Latin dance step

43. Catch in a trap

45. Not like The Fonz

47. Crème de cassis plus wine

48. Faquir, alt.spelling

50. Only 3 World Series games in history ended in these

52. Play-in game entry

55. Sticker on a jar

56. Rod of a hot rod

57. Sodium hydroxide

59. Falstaffian in body

60. Not quite an adult

61. World's longest river

62. Formal wear, colloquially speaking

63. Put to the test

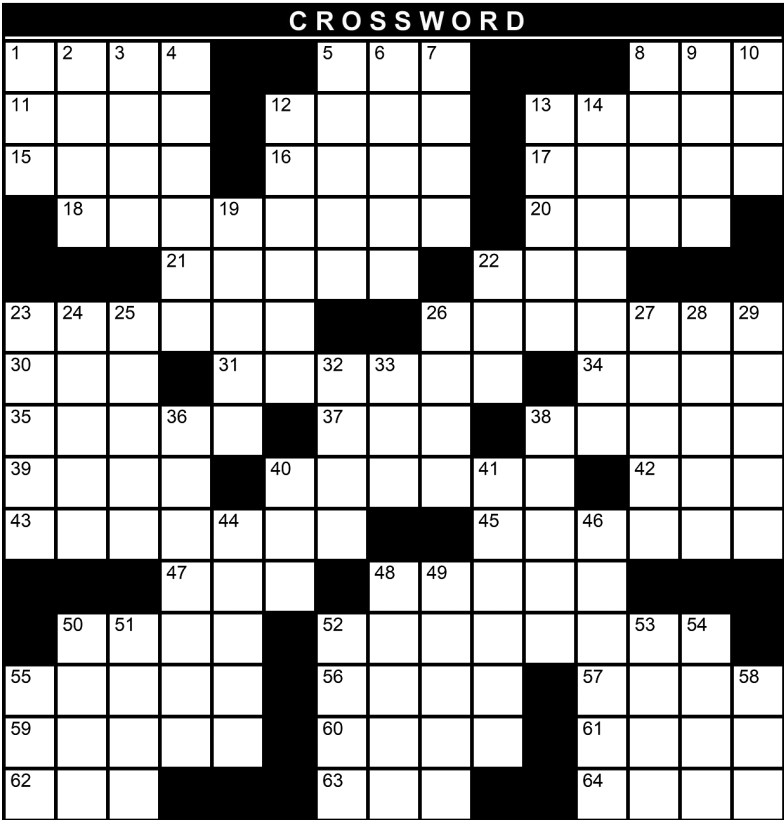
64. Big Bang's original matter

- DOWN
1. Not quite right

2. Caffeine-producing tree

3. Paper unit

4. Characteristic to consider



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Soultion to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

5. W.E.B Du Bois's org.

6. Pool problem, pl.

7. "Rhinstone Cowboy" singer

8. Passed with flying colors

9. Baseball bullpens always need good ones

10. "For ____ a jolly ..."

12. Three in one

13. She turned to stone, mythology

14. Hometown of last year's World Series champs

19. Hotel's offering, pl.

22. It shows over time

23. Moistern a turkey

24. Acrylic fiber

25. Bambi and Rudolph

26. Bug-eyed

27. '70s music genre

28. Poetic although

29. Objectionable action encouraged on a diamond
32. Number of players in the field

33. Baba of "One Thousand and One Nights"

36. 1949-1953 World Series winners

38. Go to pieces

40. Be off base

41. a.k.a. Shenyang

44. Bridal path

46. Nook's partner

48. ____-upper, as in house

49. Bradley Cooper's 2021 movie "Nightmare ____"

50. Taboo, alt. spelling

51. Wild goat

52. Light bulb unit

53. Train track

54. Dish out

55. Parking surface

58. Skirt bottom
- Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Somerville Museum debuts timely 'Sanctuary City' exhibit

By Ryan DiLello

Only a day after the Republican governor of Florida, Ron DeSantis, chartered a plane to fly migrants to Martha's Vineyard, the Somerville Museum debuted its latest exhibit, *Sanctuary City*, curated by Julia Cseko.

Cseko's exhibit explores the concept of sanctuaries, and in particular, the supremacist tendencies that necessitate them. In a curatorial statement, Cseko outlined the ways in which the wide-ranging art would motivate understanding and awareness to "create more welcoming and safe environments for immigrant and refugee populations."

What is a sanctuary city? As

cited in Cseko's curatorial statement, the term refers to "municipal jurisdictions, typically in North America, that limit their cooperation with the national government's effort to enforce immigration law."

Massachusetts has eight such cities: Amherst, Boston, Cambridge, Concord, Newton, Chelsea, Northampton, and Somerville. While still operating legally, these cities sometimes refuse to share information with the federal government or detain migrants, in order to "reduce fear of deportation and possible family break-up among people who are in the country illegally, so that such people will be more willing to report crimes, use health and



City officials, along with other local patrons of the arts, recently gathered for the opening of the *Sanctuary City* exhibit at the Somerville Museum. — Photos by Ryan DiLello



social services, and enroll their children in school."

The curatorial statement clarifies that sanctuary cities do not have higher crime rates, and Cseko argues law enforcement resources can be "prioritized for better purposes."

As a whole, the exhibit confronts assumptions about the experiences of immigrants and refugees by showcasing artists' stories of love and family as well as trauma and violence.

The exhibit featured works from twelve emerging and

mid-career artists across a variety of media, from film to cartoon. The exhibit will remain open until November 19, 2022.

The Somerville Museum is located at One Westwood Road, Somerville, MA. <https://www.somervillmuseum.org>.

Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



Apple Compote

After making the apple pies, apple crisp or baked apples, you probably still have apples left from your recent apple picking adventure. I know I do. One other thing I like to do with extra apples is make apple compote. The compote can be used for a multitude of dishes, like a topping for pancakes, waffles, steel cut oats, yogurt and even goes well with a pork roast, chops or tenderloin. Or, just by itself!

2 Medium Apples, any will do
1/8 Cup Apple Cider or Orange Juice
1/2 Teaspoon Cinnamon or Apple Pie Spice

3 Tablespoons Brown Sugar
Pinch of Salt
1/4 Cup Raisins or Dried Cranberries (optional)

Peel the apples and cut into quarters. Cut out the core and slice the apples about 1/8" thick. Place the apple slices, cider or orange juice, cinnamon or apple pie spice, brown sugar, pinch of salt and the raisins or dried cranberries in a 2-quart pot.

Blend well and turn the heat on to medium and cook for 10-12 minutes. Serves 4.

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



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

GEORGE J. PROAKIS, AICP
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Thursday, October 6, 2022** at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

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

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2993302085248371983>

Webinar ID: 768-463-083

TO CALL IN

Phone Number: 1 (415) 930-5321

Access Code: 646-509-394

ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT

Alterations to Local Historic District (LHD) Properties

HPC.ALT 2022.51 – 50 Bow Street

Applicant: Rob Leavell
Owner: Urbanica 50 Condominium Trust
The Applicant seeks a Certificate of Appropriateness to alter an LHD property by removing and rebuilding two chimneys.

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

HPC.DMO 2022.28 – 234 Willow Avenue - Garage

Applicant: Joseph Fodera
Owner: Joseph & Melanie Fodera
The Applicant seeks to demolish an accessory structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

HPC.DMO 2022.35 – 635 Somerville Avenue

Applicant: Mai Luo
Owner: 635 Somerville Avenue, LLC
The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

HPC.DMO 2022.29 – 76 Curtis Street

Applicant: Anthony Seretakis
Owner: Same as Applicant
The Applicant seeks to demolish both a principal and accessory structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

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

HPC.DMO 2022.23 – 12 Woodbine Street

Applicant: North America Development LLC, Bruna Rossetti
Owner: 12 Woodbine, LLC
The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

While City Hall continues to be closed in response to the COVID19 pandemic, case documents reviewed by the HPC are available on the City website at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases>. Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email historic@somervillema.gov to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. **Note:** Written comments due to historic@somervillema.gov **NO LATER THAN NOON** one week prior to the meeting date. Email historic@somervillema.gov with inquiries.

9/21/22 The Somerville Times



BID ADVERTISEMENT

The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites e-bids from DCAM Certified General Contractor in Waterproofing for Building Envelope Concrete Repairs at the (200-2) Mystic River Apartments Development, 30 Memorial Road in Somerville, Massachusetts, DHCD No. 274134, in accordance with the documents prepared by SOCOTEC AE Consulting Inc. of Boston, Massachusetts.

The Project consists of: Concrete repairs to existing Precast Concrete Modular Addition Structures; including but not limited to window sealants replacements, patching of delaminated and spalled concrete, crack repair, and painting and coating of the precast concrete elevations.

The work is estimated to cost \$ 230,000.00.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §26 to 27H inclusive.

General bidders must be certified by DCAMM pursuant to M.G.L.c. 149 Section 44D. The General Bidder must be certified eligible in the DCAMM Prime/General category of **WATERPROOFING**.

Filed sub-bidders must be certified by DCAMM pursuant to M.G.L.c. 149 Section 44D. The Filed sub-Bidder must be certified eligible in the DCAMM Filed Sub-Bid category of **PAINTING**.

General bids and Filed sub-bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternates) and made payable to the **Somerville Housing Authority**.

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 electronic bidder. The bids are to be prepared and submitted at www.biddocsonline.com. Tutorials and instruction on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online (click on the "Tutorial" tab at the bottom footer of the website).

General Bids will be received until **2:00 PM, Thursday October 13, 2022**, and publicly opened online forthwith. Filed Sub-Bids will be received until **2:00 PM, Thursday October 6, 2022**. All Bids will be submitted online at www.biddocsonline.com and received no later than the date and time specified above. Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for pick-up at www.biddocsonline.com (may be viewed electronically and hardcopy requested) or at Nashoba Blue, Inc. at 433 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749 (978-568-1167).

There is a plan deposit of \$ 50 per set (maximum of 2 sets) payable to **BidDocs ONLINE Inc.** Plan deposits may be electronically paid or by check. The deposit will be refunded for up to two sets for general bidders and for one set for sub-bidders upon the return of the sets in good condition within thirty (30) days of receipt of general bids. Otherwise, the deposit shall be the property of the Awarding Authority. Additional sets may be purchased for \$50.00. Bidders requesting Contract Documents to be mailed to them shall include a separate check for **\$40.00** per set for UPS Ground (or \$65 per set for UPS overnight), payable to **BidDocs ONLINE, Inc.**, to cover mail handling costs.

General bidders must agree to contract with minority and women business enterprises as certified by the Supplier Diversity Office (SDO), formerly known as SOMWBA. The combined participation goal reserved for such enterprises shall not be less than 10.4% of the final contract price including accepted alternates. **See Contract Documents - Article 3 of the Instructions to Bidders.**

The site will be available for inspection at **10:00 AM on Thursday, September 29, 2022**. Please meet at Mystic River Apartments, Facilities Office, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145.

Somerville Housing Authority
SEPTEMBER 2022

9/21/22 The Somerville Times

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Prime Storage - Somerville located at 39R Medford St., Somerville, MA 02143 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storage-treasures.com on **10/12/2022 at 12:00 PM**. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Michael Moynihan unit #366MZ. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

9/21/22 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
KATJANA BALLANTYNE
MAYOR

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville City Council's Land Use Committee and the Somerville Planning Board will hold a joint public hearing on **October 6 at 2022** at 6:30 pm. Per Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

REGISTER ONLINE

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8275482388804745488>
Webinar ID: 129-964-395
Attend via Phone: +1 (562) 247-8422

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

- Mayor Ballantyne requesting ordainment of an amendment to the Somerville Zoning Ordinance Article 3, Residence Districts and Article 9, Use Provisions, to permit the adaptive reuse of commercial building types in the NR and UR zoning districts.
- Mayor Ballantyne requesting ordainment of an amendment to the Somerville Zoning Ordinance Articles 4 (Mid Rise Districts), 5 (High Rise Districts), 6 (Commercial Districts), 8 (Overlay Districts), and 9 (Use Provisions) to permit additional uses for any ground story commercial space fronting a Pedestrian Street.
- Boynton Yards LandCo LLC requesting approval of a Land Conveyance petition for portions of Earle Street in the Boynton Yards neighborhood.
- Anthony Pasquale requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 34 Allen Street from Neighborhood Residential (NR) to Small Business (SB) Overlay.

Zoning amendments may be viewed online by searching the Somerville City Council's online meeting calendar for the address or item number.

Final language of the above amendments may be modified by the City Council during the legislative process. Persons unable to attend the hearing may provide comments by email to planning@somervillema.gov.

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www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

Ms. Cam's
Olio
Answers

From on page 8

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Greece, with 158 stanzas | 6. The Tempest |
| 2. Hawaiian Islands | 7. Play dough |
| 3. Fear of Missing Out | 8. Mouse |
| 4. No | 9. Mercury and Venus |
| 5. The mansion owned by music producer Rick Rubin | 10. Glossophobia |
| | 11. Madagascar |
| | 12. 1996 |

Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

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LEGAL NOTICE

City of Somerville
Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD)
WFD-23.1

The City of Somerville, Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) invites sealed proposals for the Industry Specific Training Program, and Contextualized Education for Adults and English Language Learners and the Job Training Scholarship Fund:

Workforce Development Grant Programs

Workforce Development Grant Programs. Proposals must be for programs that assist in the creation and maintenance of employment and career opportunities for low- and moderate-income residents of the City of Somerville. Funds for the Industry Specific Training Program, Contextualized Education for Adults and English Language Learners and the Job Training Scholarship Fund are provided by the Job Creation and Retention Trust.
Bid Number WFD-23.1

Request for Proposal packages for both programs will be posted and available for download on the City of Somerville website beginning at **10:00AM, Wednesday September 21, 2022** at www.somervillema.gov/wfd.

Print copies available upon request to William Blackmer at email WFD@somervillema.gov.

An electronic PDF file should be emailed to WFD@somervillema.gov and proposal packages must be submitted no later than **12:00 PM, Friday October 21, 2022** for responses to WFD-23.1.

Please contact the City of Somerville's Workforce Development staff, by email at WFD@somervillema.gov, for information and proposal packages.

Thomas Galligani, Acting Executive Director
617- 625-6600, x 2500

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE
DEPARTMENT OF PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES
RFA#23-15

Somerville's DPW, through the Procurement Department, is seeking contractors to provide snow plowing services for the city:

SNOW PLOWING November 2022-June 2024

Interested vendors may obtain a Request for Application (RFA) packet from the Procurement Department by downloading from our webpage: procurement@somervillema.gov or request by email: procurement@somervillema.gov

RFA packets will be available on or after
Wednesday September 21st, 2022.

Vendors must return their completed RFA packet by Wednesday, October 5th, 2022, at 4:00 pm for early contract offers

9/21/22 The Somerville Times

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

Money Management helps
navigate challenges of vision loss

Lewis "Doc" West has been happy to call Cambridge home since the late '90s. But when he started losing his vision to glaucoma, he needed to make some changes.

As a musician, the biggest was re-learning how to play the guitar. More recently it was finding an apartment within walking distance of vital services. West, who is legally blind, began the process of looking for affordable housing a few years ago, and he was glad to have some assistance from a Money Management volunteer through Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES).

"Judith [Rosen] was a great help when it came to moving and for filling out the applications for housing," said West. "She really goes above and beyond."

Rosen has worked with West as a Money Management volunteer for just over two years. They typically meet once per month to go through his mail, ensure the bills are paid, and confirm that his accounts are in order.

Rosen described her role as providing support where needed, saying they sometimes met more frequently to complete paperwork when West was looking for housing. She also helped with typing materials that may become future lyrics for his songwriting.

"Lewis had a friend who sent him some poems that were handwritten," said Rosen. "Though he has a reader for documents, handwritten notes can be hard for it to read, so I typed them up for him."

Music is mostly a hobby for West these days. He loves playing guitar and bass, and still writes songs and does the occasional performance. He previously played in groups and is no stranger to the recording studio.

West described his vision loss as a gradual process that took years. He eventually connected with SCES to receive in-home services, such as taxi rides and homemaker services, and learned about the Money Management program that way.



Lewis "Doc" West reviews documents with Money Management volunteer Judith Rosen, in one of their monthly meetings at his Cambridge home. The Money Management program at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services helps roughly 80 older adults maintain independence by helping with mail reading, bill paying, and financial errands.

In July, West finally got the apartment he wanted, which is across the street from a drug store, supermarket and other essentials. Overall, he said it's a much better fit for his current lifestyle.

"I try to be as independent as possible," said West. "Having honest people to help when I need it has been a blessing."

The SCES Money Management program helps roughly 80 eligible older adults maintain their independence by providing assistance with tasks such as bill paying, budgeting, and bank errands. In some cases, it also provides a Rep Payee program to help older adults manage their social security benefits.

Rosen has been a Money Management volunteer since 2016 and joined the SCES Board of Directors in 2020. Her favorite part of Money Management is helping clients meet their financial and life goals.

"You really do get to know each other, and it's nice to make a difference in someone's life, because it makes a difference in your life, too," said Rosen. "I'm happy to see Lewis in his new home, and I think he'll thrive there."

The Money Management program at

Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services helps eligible older adults maintain independence by providing assistance for financial tasks and/or managing Social Security benefits.

SCES is dedicated to helping older adults maintain independence and dignity, but we rely on community support to ensure that Money Management meets the growing demand for this service.

SCES is thrilled to announce that East Cambridge Savings Bank is once again supporting our annual fundraising drive for Money Management, by matching the first \$5,000 of donations to the program this September.

By making a tax-deductible gift to Money Management, you can provide support where it is needed most, helping neighbors like Lewis maintain independence, in their own homes.

Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services is a non-profit agency that supports the independence and well-being of older adults in Somerville and Cambridge. For free advice and guidance on questions of aging, caregiving or disability, contact our Aging Information Center at 617-628-2601, email info@eldercare.org, or visit our website eldercare.org.

Want to write local Somerville stories?
Call 857-488-5138 and speak to the Assignment Editor

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Our deepest condolences to the family of **Elissa R. Haley** who passed away last week. She had many friends here in the city and will be missed. Her full obituary can be viewed on www.the-somervilletimes.com and www.cotafuneralhomes.com.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and **Ward 2 Councilor J.T. Scott** invite you to a virtual community meeting to discuss **roadway upgrades and transportation safety improvements on the western portion of Washington Street**, from Line Street to Webster Avenue. The city is planning to reconstruct sidewalks, repave Washington Street, and install changes that will improve street safety and usability, including wider sidewalks at bus stops, raised crosswalks for traffic calming, and protected dedicated bike lanes. Construction is expected to begin in 2023. At this meeting, city staff will present a proposed design for Washington Street and gather input from attendees. After the meeting, the proposed design will be posted to the project website along with a survey for additional feedback. The meeting will take place **Wednesday, September 28**, at 6:00 p.m. Visit somervillema.gov/western-washington to register to attend.

Ward-based Community Meetings, formerly called the ResiStat program, are back this October. Hear from **Mayor Katjana Ballantyne** and city staff to find

out what's happening in your neighborhood, learn how to get involved, and ask questions about issues that are important to you. All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and can be attended in person or online. First up is **Ward 5 on Monday, October 3**, at the **Kennedy School**. A meet-and-greet with refreshments will begin at 6:00 p.m. Interpretation and accessibility assistance is available. For the full schedule and to learn more, visit somervillema.gov/communitymeetings.

HONK! call for volunteers: After over two years of programming with maintaining a distance in mind for safety reasons, **HONK!** is returning to its in-person all outdoor format. Given that, the festival cannot happen without all the musicians, artists, organizers, activists, friends, participants, and fans. The weekend's tasks are varied and plentiful, and there are many ways in which **HONK!** can use help to make the 2022 festival run smoothly. Even a one-hour shift of passing the bucket or working the merchantable helps enormously. Plus, it is a great way to be totally immersed in the vibrant **HONK!** scene: honkfest.org/help.

Call to artists for the **Dark Tales, Familiars and Object of Divination Inside-Out Gallery Exhibit** with guest curator, **Boriana Kantcheva**. Submission deadline is **October 6**. To apply, go to <https://somervilleartscouncil.org/resources/>

calls. To celebrate the fall and the spookiest and most mysterious month of all, October, the **Somerville Arts Council's Inside Out Gallery** at Davis Square invites Somerville based artists, Somerville residents or artists maintaining work spaces in Somerville to submit work for a group exhibit that brings together familiars of all kinds and narrates stories filled with darkness and magic. If ghosts and goblins, witches and fortune tellers, Tarot cards and tea leaf readings are part of your work, they want to see it.

The **SHS Class of 1982 40th Reunion** will be held at the **Sons of Italy**, 117 Swanton St, Winchester, MA on **November 15**, 6:30 – 11:30pm. Cost: \$40 per person, dinner included, cash bar. (\$50 after November 4). Payment methods: include Paypal: mbmbrennan44@gmail.com, Venmo: SHS Class of 1982 @shsclassof1982, Check: made out to SHS Class of 1982 mailed to **Marybeth Caturello**, 85 MacArthur Road Stoneham, MA 02180. For any other questions, please email **Marybeth Brennan** at mbmbrennan@comcast.net or call **Marybeth Caturello** at 617-851-2519.

The **988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline** is now available 24/7, 365 days a year in Massachusetts and across the country. 988 is a direct three-digit phone line to trained **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** call takers. If you need suicide,

substance use, or mental health crisis support, or if you are worried about someone else, you can call or text 988 or use the chatline at 988lifeline.org to access compassionate care and support.

Mark your calendars: students in grades 9-12 and their families won't want to miss the in-person **College Fair** on **October 18** from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the **SHS Cafeteria**.

The **Somerville Mobile Farmers Market** is open for the season, selling fresh, local produce **through October 15**. The market schedule is as follows: **Fridays**: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the **Council on Aging/SCALE** (167 Holland St.); 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.: **East Somerville Community School** (50 Cross St.) **Saturdays**: 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.: **North Street Housing** (24 North St.); 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.: **Mystic Housing** (Playground between 15B and 25B Memorial Rd.). The market accepts cash, debit, credit, SNAP, WIC Farmers Market Coupons, and Senior Farmers Market Coupons, and it offers an unlimited 50% discount for anyone who needs it. To learn more, visit: somervillema.gov/farmersmarket.

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

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



What do you get from a pampered cow?
Spoiled milk!

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All Types Vent Cleaning
Restaurant Hood Cleaning
Dryer Vent/ HVAC Cleaning
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On This Day in History
September 21

- 1327 – Edward II of England is murdered by order of his wife.
- 1520 – Suleiman (the Magnificent) becomes Ottoman sultan in Constantinople.
- 1673 – James Needham returns to Virginia after exploring the land to the west, which would become Tennessee.
- 1863 – Union troops defeated at Chickamauga seek refuge in Chattanooga, Tennessee, which is then besieged by Confederate troops.
- 1904 – Exiled Nez Perce leader Chief Joseph dies of a "broken heart."
- 1915 – Stonehenge is sold by auction for \$11,500 to a Mr. Chubb, who buys it as a present for his wife. He presents it to the British nation three years later.
- 1937 – J.R.R. Tolkien's fantasy novel *The Hobbit* is published.
- 1978 – Two Soviet cosmonauts set a space endurance record after 96 days in space.
- 1981 – Belize granted full independence from the United Kingdom.
- 1993 – The Russian constitutional crisis of 1993 begins when Russian President Boris Yeltsin suspends parliament and invalidates the existing constitution.

What the Fluff? festival wows once again

What the Fluff? A Tribute to Innovation is a multi-day madcap festival took place September 22-26, honoring the invention of Marshmallow Fluff in Union Square. This festival celebrated Somerville’s proud tradition of innovation with live music by Samba Lolo, Mona Veli, DJ Mixtress and The Fluff Freaks. SMC’s Executive Director, Kat Powers was presented with the Mayor Joe Flufftastic Innovation for Impact Award. Saturday’s event had a great turn out with lots of fluffalicious feasts, games, zany happenings, and much more. Go to www.thesomervilletimes.com for more photos from the event.

— Photos by Bobbie Toner





OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Somerville artist Iku Oseki: A painter who likes her work to talk

If you view the paintings of Somerville artist Iku Oseki you may find them talking to you. And indeed, you are not losing it. But her work has a strong sense of narrative – a storyline, one might say. I caught up with the artist before she was off to south of the border – Mexico to be exact.

Doug Holder: How has Somerville been for you as a working artist?

Iku Oseki: I have been here since the year the Red Line opened up farther from Harvard Sq. My husband and I moved to Porter Sq. right at the time of the station opening, and I was thrilled! The whole place changed dramatically after that. The convenience, the youthful energy with lots of college students, and the artists community here all contribute to my creativity.

DH: You were born in Japan. But you have a great interest in Mexico and its culture. What whet your appetite for this country and its people?

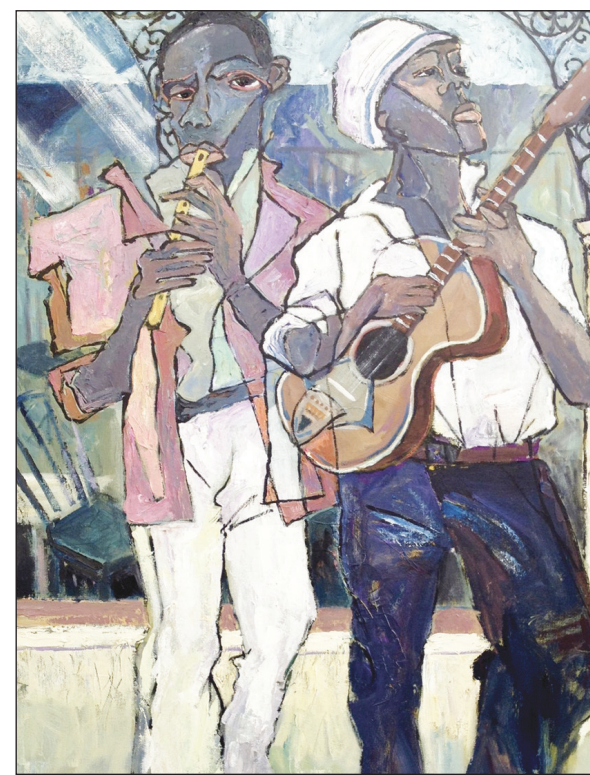
IO: In the early 90's, we discovered a small (now big!) town in the central highland called San Miguel de Allende which was known for Institute de Allende, an art school with tremendous offerings of art classes. There is another art institution called Bellas Artes with art, music, and dance galore. Both of us being artists, immediately we fell in love with this place and kept coming back almost every summer with our daughter, who could participate in children's art and crafts camps. As the town grew, and now has been known as one of the best retiring communities for foreigners, we've made many friends, expats and Mexicans, and have continued to visit and enjoy the culture, arts (now they host a international chamber music festival and independent film festival during each summer), food, and the relaxed lifestyle.

DH: You describe your paintings as abstracts with narratives. Is it hard to combine the two?

IO: Not at all! We artists know that simple (not mixed media) paintings consist of brush marks (or applied paint with some kind of tools). Period! I create my brush marks in pretty free-forming, unconscious-driven manners, letting accidental happenings thrive all the time. Yet, I always have a goal of telling some story, and my paintings to be "talkative."

DH: Vivid color plays a big role in your work. Explain.

IO: I am very particular about color. One of the main lessons I got in the art school days was about color, and I learned to use mainly two opposite colors in the color wheel. My favorite combo is yellow ochre and purple. I do paint a lot in Mexico, and its color has affected me very much. But I also consciously think of the color theme when I paint about different countries, for example. I was in Croatia in 2018,



and that country has its own color. We were mainly in the coastal area, and the color of the Adriatic Sea was dominant. But I also picked navy blue for Croatia because its lean toward conservatism and slight "heaviness" from the effect of the war still felt there.

DH: In your Covid 19 series of paintings you have some work that portrays city scenes. It seems that you are viewing them from a distorted lens, something is askew. I assume that this is a metaphor for a world out of whack.

IO: Of course! Also, as you've noticed, I like painting people. But, Covid forced me not to paint people, but empty landscapes (I usually paint landscapes with people in the normal time) and nature.

DH: Reading about your process, I found many parallels between yours and my process as a poet. Have you ever thought about the intersection of poetry and art?

IO: Definitely! As I said before, I'd like my paintings to be "talkative," and it means that I want them to speak to you, the viewer, to have a chat, or a serious conversation. Going back to the previous question, a poem is just an arrangement of words in the same manner a painting is a bunch of brush marks, both in a sense "abstract." Yet, when it is done consciously with specific themes or goals, with careful emphasis here and there, it becomes descriptive of something.

DH: Did you formally study art?

IO: Yes, I went to Mass Art. I loved that school! I was there for four years in the 80's, not really aiming for a degree since I already had a BA. I focused on painting and printmaking. But I also studied graphic design. In Mexico, I learned to do ceramics. *Continued on page 15*

Lyrical SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Gloria Mindock is editor of Červená Barva Press. She is an award-winning author of 6 poetry collections, 3 chapbooks and a children's book. Her poems have been published and translated into eleven languages. Her recent book, *Ash*, was translated into Serbian by Milutin Durickovic and published by Alma Press in Belgrade in 2022. *Ash*, published by Glass Lyre Press (2021), won six books awards, one being in Smederevo, Serbia. Gloria was the Poet Laureate in Somerville, MA in 2017 and 2018. For more information about Gloria Mindock, visit her website at: www.gloriamindock.com



Putin

A golden room to sit in.

What sort of others sit there?

In chairs so soft, they drown in the cushions.

Only their heads sticking out.

A David Lynch image, dissolving into
the floor, melting words harsh and cold like
the marble floor they land on.

Once Man roamed the earth
looking for worms.

Putin ate them so Man could not find any.

After years, Man finally gave up.

Moved on to looking for ants.

There were so many.

Man would collect and sneak
them back into the offices of Putin
to watch them all squirm.

It was Man's way of fighting back
quietly, yet disarming.

— Gloria Mindock

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

Parks and Recreation Fall Festival at Trum Field

Come join Somerville Parks and Recreation for a Fall Festival on Saturday, September 24, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Trum Field.

Kick off the new school year with an afternoon of free fun and entertainment for the whole family, featuring live music, games, bounce houses, face painting, and more.

Families can also register for upcoming Parks and Rec programming. Learn more at somervillerec.com.



YouthBuild Just A Start helps build and install pieces of traveling 'Evicted' exhibit

CONT. FROM PG 1

the causes and impacts of eviction is based on Matthew Desmond’s award-winning book *Evicted* and aligned deeply with the mission of Just A Start, the organization under which YouthBuild Just A Start is affiliated – to promote equity by creating access to stable housing and building pathways to economic opportunity. Just A Start currently assists over 600 people with rental assistance, housing stabilization, homeless prevention and home improvement and preserves and maintains affordable apartments that are home to 1,500 residents.

Over the course of a week and a half, four students constructed the exhibit with two students, Kendall Joslin and Jaiden Williams taking on construction site leadership roles. The overall project work was conducted with the supervision of YouthBuild Construction Site Supervisor, Charlie Parker and Vocational Instructor, Dan Madri. The mini houses required the application of various skills, including plan reading, dealing with irregularities presented by work sites, troubleshooting audio visual components, and working together as a team to meet a deadline.

“Everyday, we work with our students to impart to them the skills and experience to enter the workforce and the importance of community service and leadership. When CAAS approached us about having our students build an exhibit to shed light on the lives of families and individuals impacted by eviction, it was such a great mission match for us. We couldn’t be more proud of our student work crew for the learning, planning, and execution of this important exhibit,” said Nate Bae Kupel, YouthBuild Just A Start’s Director.

The traveling version of *Evicted* offers an opportunity to bring the exhibition away from the center of Washington politics and advocacy to address new audiences. Both children and adults who did not know about the issue will have the opportunity to learn about housing instability and how it is affecting their own communities. At each venue, new people can join in a national conversation about the eviction epidemic. The exhibition presents sobering statistics and personal stories, challenging adults and youth to face the enormity of a difficult subject, while providing context and a call to action.

“We were absolutely thrilled that YouthBuild Just A Start was willing to help us in bringing this important exhibit to life” said Sinead O’Hara, CAAS’ Project Manager for the *Evicted* Exhibit. “As a significant portion of the exhibit focuses on the impact of evictions on Somerville and Greater Boston, it was important for us to treat every aspect of the exhibit as a community project. YouthBuild’s mission was a perfect alignment, and the student work crew did an outstanding job planning and executing the build.”

Somerville is thrilled to have the opportunity to host the exhibit at The Armory in Somerville. The exhibit will be free to the public and will run from September 10 to November 4.

About YouthBuild Just A Start

YouthBuild Just A Start is a full-time comprehensive youth development program that helps young people reclaim their education, gain job skills, and become leaders in their communities. The program serves students aged 16 to 24, offering youth the opportunity to earn their high school credential and build employment skills in their choice of Construction or Retail. YouthBuild students are also eligible to earn stipends of up to \$300 bi-weekly as they pursue their education and work experience. For more information, please visit <https://justastart.org/youth-programs/>.

Off The Shelf

CONT. FROM PG 14

DH: Why should we view and purchase your work?

IO: Phew! Nobody ever has asked me that question so bluntly! You buy art because you like it so much that you feel you cannot part from it. You have to feel that you have to live with it. I hope that is how people would purchase my work.

In terms of viewing, we artists see how people come to our shows and just zip through quickly when the work doesn’t get you involved right away. There is nothing you can do about that. We hope that once in a while someone notices the “chatter,” the “Hey! Come talk to me!” and stops and listens. Also, we are lucky to be surrounded by original paintings in our house, and it is absolutely different to have an original painting from having a print or a copy. It is expensive to own an original. But it is well worth it, and my paintings would keep you company like old friends.

For more information go to: <https://www.ikuoseki.com/home>

Orange Line and Green Line Extension Service resume on schedule

CONT. FROM PG 6

system’s designed speed of 25 mph on a permanent basis.

- Final testing and integration of track switches, power lines, signal equipment, and digital communications between the Green Line’s Union Branch, the soon-to-be-operational Medford Branch.
- Installation of the last remaining sound wall panels along the Union Branch and additional work items along the Union and Medford Branches’ including track, stations, and rights of way.

As with the Orange Line, Green Line riders should note that slow zones will continue to be in place temporarily for about one week where the work was performed.

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