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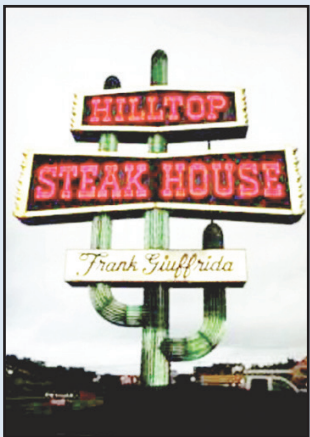


VOL. 8 NO. 39

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2020

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

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A well-preserved
family home

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Winter Hill Urban Renewal Plan clears first hurdle



The State of Massachusetts empowered the SRA to characterize the "project area" as a "decadent area" and to prepare an Urban Renewal Plan for its redevelopment. The current parcels will be acquired, either by private sale or eminent domain.

— Photo courtesy of Google

By Denise Keniston

tw:@denisekeniston

The Winter Hill Urban Renewal Plan, which includes the vacant 31,000 sq. ft. Star Market, has been approved by the Somerville Redevelopment Authority (SRA). Since closing in 2007, Star Market's two-acre lot, located at 275 Broadway, has been a "blight" on the neighborhood and fallen into a "decadent" state.

The plan has six main objectives that include "creating green and open gathering spaces" and "ensuring a pedestrian- and bike-friendly experience." George Proakis, Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development says, "We want to bring the vibrancy back into this corner by providing affordable housing and green open space." He adds, "This site has been a challenge for a very long time and we believe

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Challenging times and legal gridlock at The Jungle

By Rachel Berets

In June, the City of Somerville worked quickly to get restaurants up and running outdoors. They streamlined licensing processes, waived fees, and repurposed public space to help restaurants weather the COVID-19 crisis.

So naturally, Sam Epstein, the owner of The Jungle Community Music Club, a restaurant and independent music venue in Somerville, expected the city to do their best for performance halls as well.

But while The Jungle has been able to reopen outdoors as a restaurant, Epstein has had to fight against a ban on outdoor music at restaurants, which has limited The Jungle in what they can do to stay afloat and has financially damaged The Jungle's local musicians and performers.

"The city was really impressive with the way that they talked with all of the restaurants and planned out ahead of time a process that would be efficient and reasonable,"

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The operators of The Jungle Community Music Club have taken their act outdoors as a restaurant, but eagerly await approval to offer live entertainment as well.

— Photo courtesy of The Jungle

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Urban Axes and Brooklyn Boulders are now open in a limited capacity. We wish them luck and encourage all who have enjoyed them in the past, as well as newcomers, to take part in their reopening and let them know you are standing behind them. They can use the businesses and you could use the fun diversions they are offering after this long period of relative inactivity most of us have undergone.








The Somerville Arts Council has launched a new grant program to support the local BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) community with a special emphasis on serving the Black community and celebrating Black culture. This grant program is designed to serve individual BIPOC artists, as well as build organizational capacity to provide leadership in arts presenting, programming and instruction that predominantly serves BIPOC culture. This new BIPOC Support grant program, and SAC’s new COVID Relief grant program, have a total of \$120,000 to distribute. The submission deadline is Monday, October 12 at 11:59 p.m. For more information visit <https://somervilleartscouncil.org/bipoc>.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to one of Somerville's nicest ladies, Joan O’Meara. We wish her a special birthday to celebrate all week long. Happy birthday to another great Somerville person, Lori Pino, owner of Amal Niccoli in Ball Square. We are happy see her salon open and back in business. We wish her a very happy birthday. Happy birthday to the now retired Somerville Homeless Coalition director who is always around the city, Mark Alston-Follansbee. A nice guy and we wish him the very best. Happy birthday to Richard Mangan. We wish him a very happy birthday as well. Happy birthday to Frank Ricardo, an old friend and a good guy. This week we remember our former publisher and friend Bob Publicover, who would have been celebrating. We hope he’s doing that up in heaven. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as Kimberly Barnett,

Continued on page 7

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of September 23 – September 29 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday September 23	Sunny	77°/54°	0%	7%	NW 15 mph
 Thursday September 24	Sunny	77°/56°	9%	11%	W 8 mph
 Friday September 25	Sunny	74°/55°	10%	14%	ENE 10 mph
 Saturday September 26	Partly Cloudy	73°/56°	11%	20%	SE 8 mph
 Sunday September 27	Rain	72°/60°	39%	26%	SE 12 mph
 Monday September 28	Rain	70°/60°	48%	28%	S 10 mph
 Tuesday September 29	Rain	69°/57°	27%	27%	SSW 13 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: Somerville installing bike lanes on Wellington Bridge

Kevin Donovan says:

Ha ha! Yes, bring on the flexposts and the grumpy grandpas! This is a critical gap in the network and it won’t worsen traffic in this already clogged area one iota. Now if they could just cut out those massive concrete walls separating the sidewalk from the bridge’s roadway and widen the actual sidewalk...

Grumpy Pa says:

This bridge is actually a pain in the ass to cross by foot / bike. Not enough room for both bikers and pedestrians in that little space, and as a biker you feel like you’re riding on a highway if you stay on the road. So I’m in favor of this, as long as they don’t reduce the number of lanes for cars (since they’re like 99.9999999% of the users of the bridge). I’m happy to squish a bit when I’m driving. Cute that they mentioned social distancing, since it’s so not a risk on that bridge. Your risk of getting enough of the bug from quick, passing encounters on the street is minimal, and that bridge is such a wind tunnel you could walk 2” from someone and be ok.

AR says:

Exciting! The narrower lanes hopefully will also help with the rampant speeding on that stroad.

Sloppytoot says:

Well done Somerville! On a run yesterday to the Everett Costco at the Gateway Plaza, I noticed what an excellent job they did on the Revere Beach Parkway bridge over the Malden River, and I noticed tons of people using it. Many many moons ago, I did the same walk on the old bridge and narrow sidewalk. It was treacherous and I think I was the only person on the whole stretch. It’s amazing what a difference it has made!

Yet another poster says:

I hear you, Sloppy! If you think running across that bridge laden with 12 packs of chili, detergent and paper towels from your trip to Costco is easier now, imagine how much easier it is for me, running back across that bridge from Home Depot with 2×12’s, cinder blocks and mulch. I literally had to back all the way up every time someone came waking the other direction!

Response to: SPD dispels rumors of pet mutilation

Steve-o says:

I followed this with great amusement. People were just getting ready with their pitchforks to find whoever did this horrible thing to the cat, only to find that it died the way most animals do in the wild. Then they all went home and enjoyed their factory farmed hamburgers.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times

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Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

Plastic cows and a neon cactus



Growing up in Somerville over the last few decades gave us lots of delicious dining memories. We had a lot of very good local restaurants. I remember those Friday nights at The Continental on Somerville Ave. for pizza and orange tonic. There was also Frascatis and The Venice in Davis Square. The Paddock and The Mount Vernon were great places also, among many others.

Every once in a while, for a special treat we packed up the car and headed up

Route 1 North. There were two extremely delectable restaurants namely Valle's and Hilltop Steakhouses. Valle's was in business from 1933 to 2000, and Hilltop, 1961 to 2013. Hilltop was the best. I remember how excited we were to see that huge neon cactus and brightly colored plastic cows in front. We knew we were in for a delicious feast.

Here are some more memories, in quotes, from my Somerville friends:

"When I was a little kid...nothing in the world I loved more than going to the Hilltop with my parents/family because it was special. I loved loved loved the Hilltop. It was a treat. It was 'cause my dad worked hard to take us. And most of all ... It was delicious. The salad and the steak unbelievable. Thanks dad."

Another friend tells us, "We went to Hilltop for special occasions. Usually it was Friday afternoon and we would go just after school got out. Two-hour wait and boy was it worth it. My Mom was smart ... ordered five salads, three without dressing so, we could take them home. We always got at least two meals out of one. I loved the half chicken. Those were the days."

"Loved that Lobster Pie. It was so huge at the Hilltop. What a treat it was going there."

"My mom saved pennies in a plastic



poodles and we went to Valle's once a year!"

"I remember the Hilltop Steakhouse. It was the best steak and salad anywhere. We went there many times. Couldn't get over the girls carrying those big trays."

In the waiting area we would be waiting to hear "Six for Sioux City" over the public address system. The dining rooms at The Hilltop had different western type names. You would wait to hear your destination called and head for Sioux

City or Kansas City.

Speaking strictly local, we have some great family memories from the aforementioned Mount Vernon, Continental, The Venice, and more recently Redbones. Let's not forget Memory Lane, La Hacienda and Dapper Dan's and too many more to mention.

The only thing that made a trip to Hilltop Steakhouse better were a couple of rounds of miniature golf where the big orange dinosaur was.



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

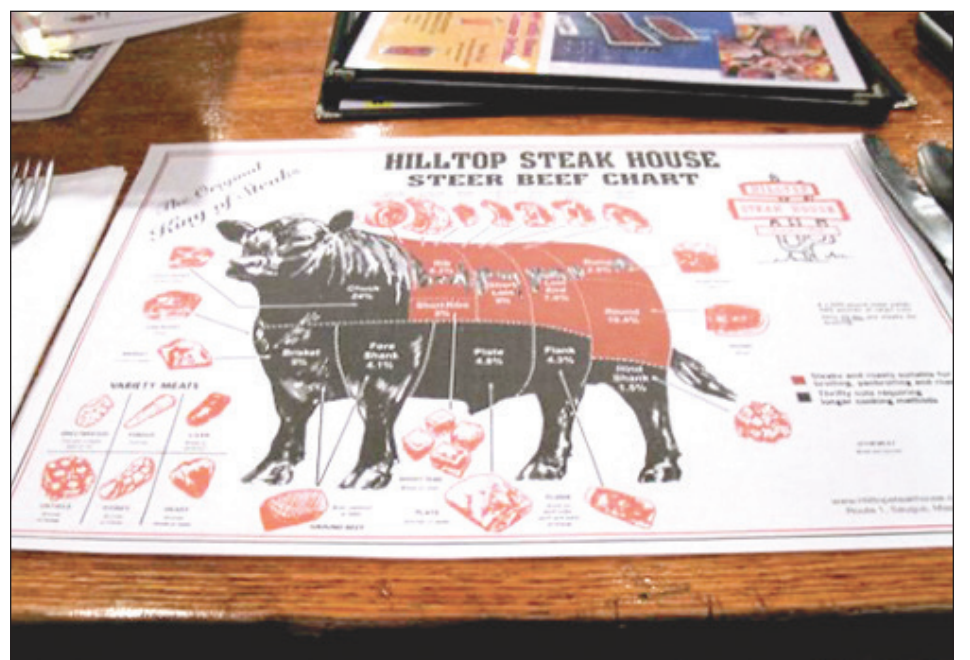
We ask you to bear with us while we follow established guidelines. The safety of our patrons and employees remain our number one priority as we continue to operate and maintain our small business during this difficult time.

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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Asleep at the wheel for good reason

Somerville Police officers were dispatched to the Union Sq. area last Sunday on reports of a woman behind the wheel in the middle of the road.

Upon arrival, the officers spotted an SUV stopped in the middle of Union Sq. in the travel lane. The vehicle was running and the woman inside was unresponsive, but the officers could tell she was breathing due to her chest rise.

An officer was able to reach inside the vehicle and turn it off, and they then began trying to wake to woman, who was later identified as Jerrica Ruiz-Cribbs.

EMS was called due to her condition, and the officers were eventually able to wake her up.

Ruiz-Cribbs was reportedly incoherent and could not produce words, just mumbles. Earlier when an officer reached inside the vehicle, he noticed an empty 200ml bottle of Hennessy on the backseat floor.

Once EMS arrived, Ruiz-Cribbs was alert and able to speak. The officers told her how she was found and she reportedly stated that it was not true.

The officers suggested that she should be checked out due to the condition she was found in, but she refused. They asked if she had any illness or disease that would cause her to become unresponsive and she stated that she, "Maybe had too much to drink."

Ruiz-Cribbs also reportedly said she did the right thing by pulling over to the side. The officers then explained to her that she was in the middle of a travel lane.

Ruiz-Cribbs was asked if she would be willing to take a field sobriety test. She ignored this and said that they were being mean. They asked again if she would take a field sobriety test and she again ignored them, began to cry and told them they were being mean.

The officers asked a third time if she would take a field sobriety test, and this time she answered and said she could not because she would fail.

Police allowed Ruiz-Cribbs to make a phone call so someone could take possession of her vehicle instead of it being towed. Her boyfriend agreed and arrived later to retrieve the vehicle.

At this time the police told Ruiz-Cribbs that they were placing her under arrest for operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor and having an open container of alcohol. She was placed into handcuffs without incident and transported to the station by the mobile detention unit.

During the booking process, Ruiz-Cribbs reportedly told the booking officer that she could not do the breathalyzer test because she knew that she would fail. The booking officer also said they could smell a strong odor of alcohol coming from Ruiz-Cribbs.

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:	stolen property under \$1200.	ber 18, 2:44 p.m., arrested at Broadway on a charge of malicious wanton defacement of property.	rested at Paulina St. on charges of disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, and assault and battery on a police officer.	tember 20, 4:11 a.m., arrested at Union Sq. on charges of alcohol from open container and operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor.
David Blake , of Roxbury, September 15, 11:35 a.m., arrested at Mystic Ave. on a warrant charge of receiving	Michael Mara , September 15, 12:20 p.m., arrested at Washington St. on a warrant charge of larceny over \$1200.	Timothy Shughrue , September 19, 11:28 p.m., ar-	Jerrica Ruiz-Cribbs , Sep-	

Winter Hill Urban Renewal Plan clears first hurdle

CONT. FROM PG 1

the addition of residential housing, including affordable housing units, will help mitigate Somerville's lack of affordable housing and provide green, open space, along with underground parking."

A sore point for residents and city urban developers

The old Star Market is a touchy subject for residents and city urban developers who, for years, have watched private attempts at redeveloping the area fail. The proposed "project area" will become one site, consisting of five parcels and a private right of way known as Temple Square. This includes the vacant Star Market building, two decrepit lots on Sewall Street, a private right of way called Sewall Court, the existing Walgreens building, and two buildings at the corner of 9 Temple St. and 313 Broadway. Once acquired the area will be redrawn into three parcels D1, D2, and D3.

Many residents have submitted comments to the city in favor of the plan. Aaron Weber, of 32 Summit Ave. says, "The empty Star Market lot has been a blight on the community for far too long, and the neighborhood badly needs the open space, businesses, and homes that the new plan provides." He adds, "I am especially encouraged by the

George Lopez operates Elegancia Barber Shop at 9 Temple St., which will be part of D3 in the "project area". His landlord, attorney Phil Privitera, says legal action is a possibility. Lopez and others will be entitled to relocation benefits as mandated by the state.

— Photo by Rianm Keniston-Hale

The "project area" will be redrawn into D1, D2, and D3. It will include residential housing with affordable units, green and open space, and mixed use. An estimated 60% of the surface area of the area is currently pavement.

city's engagement with neighborhood groups, which has led to the open space and the emphasis on creating moderately priced and subsidized homes to counterbalance the increased demand brought on by the Green Line Extension."

Brendan Boyd of Prescott St. says, "I would like to reach out to indicate my support of Somerville's plan for urban renewal in Winter Hill on the old Star Market lot. I think the initiative of developing the abandoned lot to provide affordable housing and retail business potential is worth the investment and cost to relocate affected businesses and the two residences."

The use of eminent domain could ignite a legal battle

George Lopez operates the Elegancia Barber Shop on the ground level of 9 Temple Street, a three-story, mixed-zone building including two apartments. Lopez could unwittingly find himself in the middle of a legal battle between the building owner and the city should the city try to acquire the property through eminent domain. But for now, Elegancia benefits from a "great location" at the corner of Temple and Broadway. "I get good traffic and visibility here and I love this location," says Lopez. "I was told by a city official 'not to worry about it' and I was told the 'process will take at least 4-5 years,' so I'm not really worried about it right now, but I will miss this location if I have to relocate."

Continued on page 13

Eric Lemus awarded Bonney Family Scholarship

City plans for school reopenings

The Bonney Family is proud to announce that Eric Lemus is the 2020 recipient of the Bonney Family Scholarship in memory of Brandy Bonney. Eric graduated from Somerville High School with a 3.33 cumulative GPA. Here is what his College and Career Counselor, Melanie Banks, had to say about him:

"Eric is a hardworking student both inside and outside the classroom. He has consistently challenged himself academically at Somerville High by taking honors-level courses and actively engaging himself in classes. Outside of school, Eric has been a leader. He has maintained a part-time job working and helping with family responsibilities while attending school. Eric is confident about his desire to pursue higher education and become a college graduate. He is a first-generation student with an immense passion for success. Eric has a great attitude and a sense of maturity. He is driven by his goals to do well for himself and his family. Eric is very proud of his achievements and the adversity that he has overcome in his life. It is with great pleasure that I recommend Eric Lemus for this scholarship."



The 2020 Bonney Family Scholarship recipient Eric Lemus.

"We will continue your good deeds for others in your name," said SHA Chair Ronald Bonney (brother of Brandy Bonney). This scholarship is awarded to a SHA Tennant annually.

The annual Bonney Family Scholarship was established in memory of Brandy Rae Bonney, and is awarded to an honors graduate of Somerville High School who was an active member of the high school community.

Lemus will join the 2020 fall semester at Bunker Hill Community College as the Brandy Bonney Scholar with all tuition and fees paid. He can renew the scholarship for an additional year to graduate in 2022.

By Emmanuel Vincent

On Monday of this week a virtual town hall meeting was held concerning the reopening of public schools in the city. Several presenters and advisors participated. There was also a panel for a Q&A segment, where parents were able to voice their concerns and receive clarification.

During this process of easing into the reopening up schools, the City of Somerville has put an emphasis on keeping students' and teachers' best interests in mind from a health and safety standpoint. This has been the approach since the early stages of the pandemic.

"We had no pandemic response plan here in the city of Somerville, like every other community in this country," said Mayor Joe Curtatone. "While the national government has failed miserably in responding to COVID-19 and Massachusetts has been trying to keep up, Somerville has acted with its values in mind and that of our community, their health and wellbeing."

Once the School year starts, students will observe regular school hours which adhere to the district

school calendar. The students will be receiving a combination of live online instruction and connected independent work.

With technology being more valuable than ever during these times, the school system is working diligently to see that every student is supplied with a device, as well as an internet connection so they can learn remotely.

"But just like wearing a bike helmet, that became the norm"

Also, free breakfast and lunch meals will be available every day at all elementary schools from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. window.

Social distancing will continue to be a focus once the schools reopen, with desks and chairs being six feet apart. Each classroom will have a sink or sanitizing station available as well. There is also a plan for deep cleaning and sanitizing.

The schools are doing their part. They would like to encourage parents to help continue with decreasing the chances of spreading the virus, while acknowledging that the task is te-

dious. "I realize that this can be a challenge sometimes, especially for some of our younger ones," admits Doug Kress, Director of Health and Human Services for the city. "But just like wearing a bike helmet, that became the norm. We need to think about that again as well as look at this in our community as well."

December 1 will be the earliest students will be able to enter classrooms for hybrid learning.

Realizing how problematic COVID-19 can be during the flu season, the city, along with Somerville Public Schools, will be hosting free seasonal flu vaccine clinics. They also encourage the use of resources such as their medical provider or local pharmacy.

In addition, there is a plan in place to provide students, staff and close contacts with accessible COVID-19 testing on a regularly basis. If a student tests positive, the Health and Human Services/Public Health Nurse will initiate contact tracing in coordination with the school nurse. If a staff member tests positive, the state protocol for contact tracing will be followed.

The full meeting is available to view on Somerville City TV's YouTube page.

Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



Chicken Pot Pie

One of my favorite make ahead meals is chicken pot pie. Although this isn't technically a "pot pie," it does comprise of the same ingredients except for the flaky pie crust. I really consider this dish a deconstructed pot pie. Once the filling made, I top it with a pre baked square of puff pastry. By serving it this way it allows for the filling to be gently reheated on the stovetop if you plan on serving it later on that day or even the next. Another benefit is putting the filling in a decorative dish of your choice for individual servings or into a casserole dish with the pre baked puff pastry placed on top.

- 8 Chicken thighs, season with salt and pepper
- 6 Tablespoons butter
- 6 Tablespoons flour
- 32 Oz Chicken stock
- 3 Teaspoons chicken base/bouillon
- 1-1/2 Teaspoons black pepper, freshly ground
- 1/2 Teaspoon salt
- 1/8 Teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)
- 2-1/2 Tablespoons dried tarragon
- 1 Tablespoon olive oil
- 6 Carrots, chopped into 1/2" pieces
- 3 Celery stalks, chopped into 1/2" pieces
- 2 Cups frozen peas
- 2 Cups pearl onions
- 3/4 Cup heavy cream or half & half
- 1 Box puff pastry

Salt & pepper to taste
Fresh parsley, optional

Preheat the oven to 350°. Place the chicken thighs on a prepared sheet pan. Season on both sides with salt and pepper. Bake until the chicken is just cooked through 25-35 minutes. Set aside and let cool. Increase the oven temperature to 400°. Puff pastry usually comes frozen and with two individually wrapped sheets. Defrost according to box instructions. On a lightly floured surface, unroll the dough, cut it into 6 equal sized squares and place onto the sheet pan spaced about an inch apart. Bake according to box instructions, about 12-15 minutes.

Melt the butter in a 6-quart stock pot, add the flour and stir until incorporated. Cook for about 2 minutes while constantly stirring. You know have a roux. Over medium heat, add the chicken stock slowly while whisking. You may need to turn the heat up to bring the mixture to a slight boil, this will thicken the sauce. Now add the chicken base/bouillon, pepper, salt, cayenne pepper, and dried tarragon and stir until blended. Cook for about 3-5 minutes. Taste mixture and adjust seasoning if needed. Turn off the heat and set aside.

In a sauté pan, add the oil, carrots and celery. Sauté until tender, about 10-12 minutes. In the meantime, debone and remove the skin from the chicken and cut into bite size pieces and add to the roux. Add the sautéed vegetables to the roux along with the peas and pearl onions, and cream.



Stir until completely blended over low heat. Taste and adjust seasoning. At this point, you can either serve right away or let cool and refrigerate. To reheat, place in a saucepan over low heat and heat through, about 10 minutes. Place in a bowl. Place a piece of puff pastry over the top and garnish with parsley, optional of course. This recipe will serve 6 people generously.

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

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.

Closing Corporate Loopholes:
A Solution to COVID-19 Economic Crises

We need bold ideas – and new revenue – to respond to this moment



By State Rep. Christine P. Barber

Recent months have been incredibly challenging for our cities, our Commonwealth, and our nation. I consistently hear from constituents in Somerville and Medford who have been out of work for months, have trouble paying rent, have fears about their children’s education or have concerns about their future. COVID-19 has created a significant public health threat and laid bare ever-present inequalities that continue to grow in our communities.

At the same time, the econom-

ic consequences of this global pandemic have caused Massachusetts’s revenues to decline by \$5 to \$7 billion. Because the state is required to balance our budget each year, declines in revenue means less funding for local communities, education, child care, climate readiness, public transit, housing assistance and many other critical programs. While at the federal level, the White House and Republican-led Senate continue to abdicate their responsibilities, it remains unclear when or if we will receive the federal aid necessary to fill these holes and meet our communities’ needs. As we address the state budget for this fiscal year, we must find creative ways to respond to the challenges before us. A bill I filed is one solution.

I recently filed H.D.5132, An Act to close corporate loopholes and create progressive revenue. This bill would close a corporate loophole that cur-

rently allows large corporations to shift income generated in the United States to offshore subsidiary companies – to avoid paying their fair share of taxes to support our communities. Progressive revenue means that when new revenue is raised, it is not put on the backs of low- and middle-class families, who are already experiencing financial uncertainty. The wealthy who continue to profit can and should support our recovery.

Federal law identifies what’s called Global Intangible Low-Taxed Income (GILTI) and taxes a portion of that to recoup tax dollars that have been shifted offshore. However, Massachusetts still allows businesses to exclude nearly all of GILTI income from taxes – breaking with the federal rules and allowing these businesses to continue taking advantage of a costly loophole.

My bill, H.D.5132, would allow Massachusetts to tax the

GILTI provision, bringing in as much as \$400 million in revenue for state programs. GILTI is only earned by large, multinational, and highly profitable corporations with offshore holdings – not our local small businesses.

Revenue from closing this corporate tax loophole is needed to fund our recovery – our response to COVID-19’s dire health and economic effects, and support our schools, fund social services, and meet our communities’ basic needs. Massachusetts voters agree--a recent poll conducted by Raise Up Massachusetts found that eight in every ten voters (84 percent) support closing the “loophole that corporations use to lower their taxes by hiding assets offshore.”

As your State Representative, I’ve spent the past 7 months connecting families and seniors with unemployment assistance, food programs, and health coverage. I’ve fielded calls from es-

sential workers in need of basic protections and families struggling to find child care. These conversations have made it more clear than ever that investment, not austerity, is the answer to these challenging times. To meet the immense needs in our communities and prevent cuts to existing programs, local aid, and education, we must create new and progressive revenue streams.

As we navigate our COVID-19 recovery and anticipate continued economic challenges, raising progressive revenue is the only way to solve our budget crisis. Rather than asking our communities to make cuts that will throw more people into crisis, we all need to come together to ensure that our communities’ needs are met. I hope you will join me in supporting An Act to close corporate loopholes and create progressive revenue to support our communities and demonstrate how we respond to this crisis together.

Davis in distress



By Jack Connolly
Jackconnolly422@gmail.com

Whether you’re new to Davis Square or a lifetime long-timer, it is obvious something is not right. On-street parking on Elm St. gone, restaurant tables and chairs in the street, Dunkin’ Donuts closed, empty storefronts on Elm St., the Somerville Theatre closed, most due to the scourge of the COVID-19 virus.

More obvious to most is the presence of a rude, loud obnoxious, non-mask wearing crew who have taken up residence and established a 24 hour base of operations opposite the Davis Sq. Redline entrance outside of the 7-11 (formerly Tedeschi’s and originally the Store 24).

If you around Davis Sq. at all,

you are likely nodding your head now, and know that most of the encamped folks have ‘issues’ such as alcohol and drug abuse, mental health problems, many are homeless, some sleeping on the edge of the walkway From Holland St. T stop entrance between Somerville Theater and Seven Hills Park. Some Davis area residents refer to the crew as the triple D’s, aka the Davis Drunks, & Druggies.

Coping with COVID has been a struggle for our Davis Sq. businesses, and the worry of restaurants keeping open with outside dining And limited takeout as cold weather approaches Is their primary concern. Having customers harassed and heckled approaching or leaving shops on the plaza and throughout the Square is not what they, or what Davis Sq. needs now, or ever.

Where are the cops?
Not wanted there apparently, The Somerville Police budget was cut dramatically by Somerville city councilors, many who prefer to have a City of Somerville health or human service staffer deal with these miscre-

ants, rather than a uniformed police officer who possess weapons.

How well do you think that is working out?

Seems to me that the familiar and effective ‘Somerville Police’s prior ‘park, walk, and talk’ and bike patrol programs have been suspended for the time being. What to do?

Call/text, email, tweet, or post to Somerville Mayor and City Councilors, especially Ward Six Councilor Lance Davis and the Somerville Councilors at Large (see official contact info below).

MAYOR Joseph A. Curtatone 130 Ten Hills Road, 02145 (617) 776-5159 MAYOR@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV; CITYCOUNCILATLARGE: Wilfred N. Mbah 65 Woods Avenue, 02144 (508) 718-8126 ALDERMANMBAH@GMAIL.COM; AT LARGE: Mary Jo Rossetti, Vice President 80 Electric Avenue, 02144 (617) 623-0092 MJROSSETTI@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV; AT LARGE: Kristen E. Strezo 333 Great River Road #361, 02145 (617) 209-9915 STRE-

ZOATLARGE@GMAIL.COM; AT LARGE: William A. White, Jr. 3 Elm Street #1, 02143 (617) 625-9110 COUNCILORWHITE@GMAIL.COM; WARD 1: Matthew McLaughlin, President 28 Mt. Vernon Street #2, 02145 (617) 999-0924 MATTFORWARD1@GMAIL.COM; WARD 2: Jefferson Thomas (“J.T.”) Scott 269 Washington Street, 02143 (857) 615-1532 JTSOTT@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV; WARD 3: Ben Ewen-Campen 16 Aldersey Street, 02143 (617) 702-2613 BENFORWARD3@GMAIL.COM; WARD 4: Jesse Clingan 33 Puritan Road, 02145 (617) 290-1904 ALDERMANCLINGAN@GMAIL.COM; WARD 5: Mark Niedergang 29 Conwell Street, 02143 (617) 629-8033 MNIEDERGANG@SOMERVILLEMA.GOV; WARD 6: Lance L. Davis 356 Highland Avenue, 02144 (857) 261-1909 LANCEDAVISWARD6@GMAIL.COM; WARD 7: Katjana Ballantyne 49 Russell Road, 02144 (857) 928-6852 KATJANA@KAT-

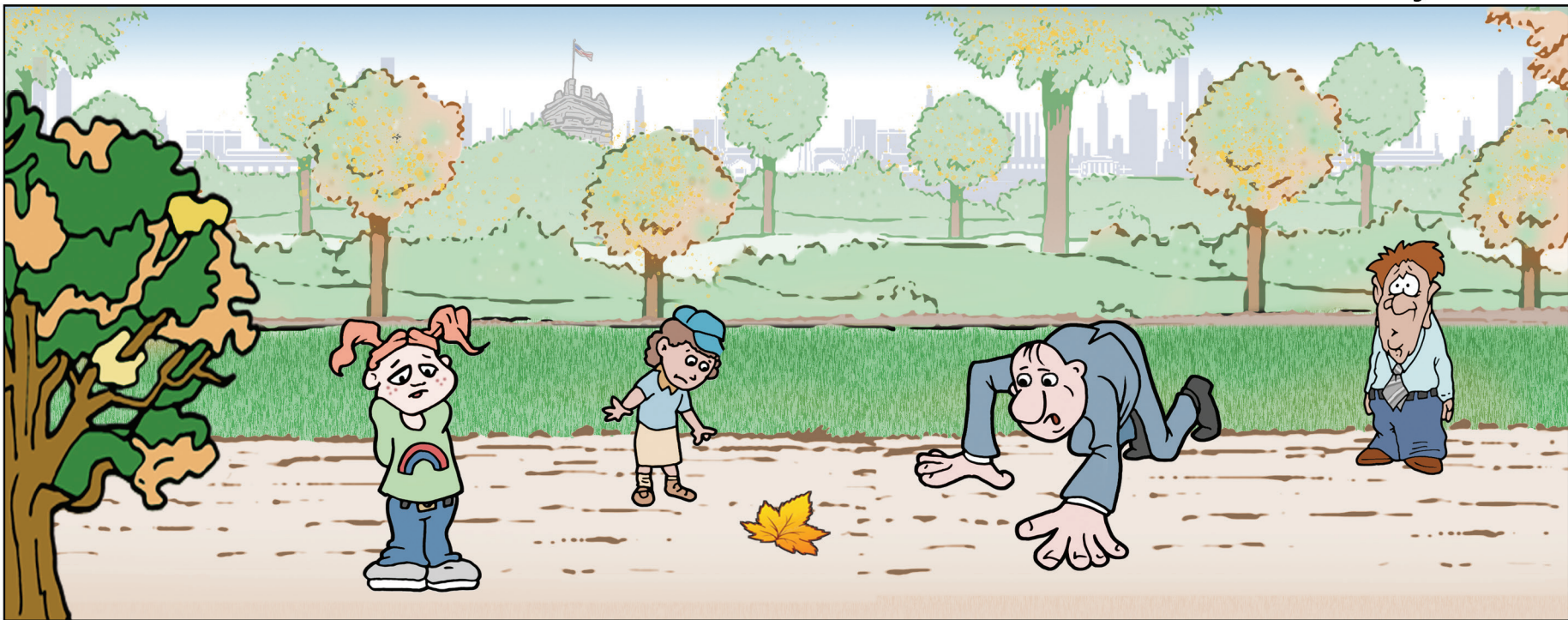
JANA.ORG
Let your elected officials know that something needs to be done about this new encampment to assist Davis sq. area residents, businessowners, merchants, who are already bearing the burden of the Covid-19 restrictions, the infrastructure decay (see DavisNow.org) and the major reduction in foot traffic to Davis Square.
Tell them to help the Davis sq. homeless, enforce the noise and disturbing the peace ordinances, dissuade drinking beer and wine on public property, with whatever City services available: Might be a good idea to include the Somerville Police, who are on-duty 24/7.
I wonder how many health and human service staff are working night and weekends?
Tell your elected officials not to let the decades of work and the never-ending quest of elected officials, dozens of activists, local residents, citizens, and small business owners (all who joined forces monthly as the Davis Sq. Task Force) and lobbied to plan, build, and

Continued on page 13

COMMENTARY

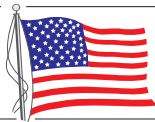
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Fall has fallen.

Our View Of The Times



Most change leads to a new beginning. That's what they say anyway. It's been a tough, arduous grind through 2020, and here we are with autumn on our doorstep, bringing with it who knows what?

We've slogged our way through the pandemic with its isolation and deprivation, an incomparably divisive political climate, and who knows whether or not the worst is yet to come?

But as we bid farewell to summer, some are looking forward with hope in their hearts while others harbor fear and trepidation. It isn't difficult to understand either side of it. Both the COVID-19 crisis and the political prospects could go either way. Ultimately, it's up to us to affect the outcomes of these issues.

We have expert guidance on how to control the spread of the virus, and hopefully an effective vaccine will be developed and distributed relatively soon, even though experts warn that it could take as long as a year or so to get it out to everyone. Still, we know how to keep ourselves and others as safe as possible, even though fatigue from such measures is strong. All one has to do, however, is consider the alternative.

The political dust will settle too. Whatever preferences one has, we are nearing a completion of the process. Not everyone will get their way, but we can all hope for the best in the long term.

So, a change of season can represent a moving forward, taking the next step and shaking off the troubles of the past. It's also a reminder that we are all children of nature and should take stock in the beauty and wonder of life itself. Again, consider the alternative.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

John Morabito Jr., Ann Sylvester, Julia Gilligan Corsetti, Scott Breen, Lisa Monaco, Joell Johns, Roy Carreiro, Laureen Marie, Joseph Leblanc, Debbie Price King and Linda Malone 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.

Come on out to East Somerville on **September 24** at 6:30 p.m. and enjoy free dance instruction and music at **Chuckie Harris Park**. This program is supported in part by a grant from the **Somerville Arts Council** a local agency supported by the **Mass Cultural Council**. Featuring salsa dance instruction from **Salsa y Control Dance Studio**. Salsa is a Latin dance associated with the music genre of the same name. Different regions of Latin America and the United States have distinct salsa styles of their own. Salsa y Control is Boston's premier and one of the most beloved dance companies in the area. They offer top quality and easy to follow instruction to get you on the dance floor in no time. Their class will provide a fun and welcoming environment for everyone of all levels.

This is a time of year when we get a lot of new residents. You can find a comprehensive **guide for new residents** at somervillema.gov/moving. You can also stay on top of our local COVID-19 information at somervillema.gov/covid19. Don't forget to sign up for city alerts at somervillema.gov/alerts.

East Somerville Main Streets is presenting **Meal of Fortune Week** from **September 28 to October 4**. Support East Somerville restaurants. For more information and to purchase tickets visit <https://www.eastsomervillmainstreets.org/fortune-meal-week>.

Like everything else, this year will look a little different. The **25th Annual Somerville 5K Road Race** will be held over the long weekend of **Friday, October 9 – Monday, October 12** with a virtual twist, you choose your exercise. Run, walk, bike or hike, you've got it covered. Choose your preferred method and go alone or gather your family or even your dog. Feel good and do good together. For the course, the world is your oyster and the choice is yours. Need to be inspired? Routes will be communicated soon! To register for the race, follow this link: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Somerville/Somerville5KDetourRace>.

If you are not registered to vote, or need to update your address or party affiliation, you have until **Saturday, October 24**, to do so. Visit the city website at www.somervillema.gov/elections or the state website at www.sec.state.ma.us/e/e/e/eleivf/howreg.htm to learn more about your options for registering. **October 28** is the last day for your vote by mail application to be received by the **Elections Office**.

The **2020-2021 skating season** is about to begin. **Bay State Skating School** is one of Greater Boston's most established and popular skating programs. They have taught **Learn-To-Skate** classes to children ages 4-18 in the Greater Boston area for over 50 years. **Bay State Skating School** is compliant with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Covid-19 guidelines. The number of students allowed on the ice will be limited. Professional Instructors teach Recreational, Figure and Hockey Skating Skills to the beginner, intermediate and advanced skaters. Students can wear either figure, recreational or hockey skates. For more information and to registration, visit www.BayStateSkatingSchool.org or call Bay State Skating School at (781) 890-8480.

#WearAMask to protect your friends and family. Wear one for the people in your community you don't know you're connected to: the friend of a friend, the elderly neighbor, the person with an underlying condition who shops at your grocery store.

Reminder: **city buildings** are still closed to the public. Although city buildings remain closed to the public, a number of city services are still available online or by calling 311. Check the "City Service Status" tab on the city's COVID-19 page for more information.

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.

Support your neighbors through the **Somerville Cares Fund** (or apply for assistance); Now that

Continued on page 13

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#749

1. How many dots are there on two dice?

2. Big Kenny is the lead singer for what group?

3. What US city was Al Capone crime king of during Prohibition?

4. What kind of fruit is a Pamplemousses?

5. Who was the first athlete to rap at a Pro Bowl musical gala in 1995?

6. What NFL player served as an Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court?

7. Which US store chain is named after the chief mate in the novel *Moby Dick*?

8. Who coined the term "Biochemistry"?

9. Which US state capital's name ends in "x"?

10. What do you call a group of butterflies?

11. Clean, jerk, and snatch are terms used in which activity?

12. In which country would one find 8 of the world's 10 highest mountains?

Answers on page 13

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. It is illegal to frown at cows in Bladworth, Saskatchewan.

2. The Declaration of Independence was written on hemp paper.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

OKTOBERFEST

ACROSS

1. Worry

6. Fleur-de-_____

9. One of Egyptian christians

13. Nary a soul

14. Dot-com address

15. Pretend, two words

16. Flogger's tool

17. Romanian money

18. Dostoyevsky's masterpiece, with The

19. Royal Brewery in Munich, a.k.a. _____ München

21. Original Oktoberfest location

23. Tree juice

24. Cathedral part

25. Lysergic acid derivative, acr.

28. Children's author Roald

30. Bivouac

35. Heroic poem

37. Taro or cocoyam, technically

39. Relish tastebuds' sensation

40. Russian governmental agency

41. Musketeers' weapons

43. Presidential "No!"

44. Make corrections

46. Kind of palm

47. A in B.A.

48. Indian Ocean's saltwater inlet

50. Carvey or Plato

52. "Sesame Street" watcher

53. One-horse carriage

55. Sunday newspaper inserts

57. Kind of Oktoberfest band

60. Salty snack

64. Meltable abode

65. Go wrong

67. Sore spot

68. African prairie

69. "Wheel of Fortune" vowel request

70. All-season ones, on a car

71. Affirmatives

72. Beaver's construction

73. Noise of contempt

DOWN

3. Mistake

4. Spurns

5. Between triad and pentad

6. Comic strip Moppet

7. Anger management issue

8. Economic crisis

9. Ghana monetary unit

10. Ear-related

11. Tubby little cubby

12. Ted Turner's TV acronym

15. Bedding and towels

20. Lickety-split

22. Wear and tear

24. "So soon?"

25. _____hosen

26. Sea foam

27. Like United States Capitol

29. Flower used in beer-making

31. Spanish sparkling wine

32. Deflect

33. "O'zapft is!" or "It's tapped!"

34. Cheers!

36. Without, ≠ Paris

38. Start of something big?

42. Echo sounder

45. Joseph Stalin was one

49. "Eureka!"

51. Experts

54. In the lead

56. Beer garden mug

57. Curved molding

58. Paella pot

59. '60s British teenagers

60. "Hunger Games" sister

61. Goose egg

62. Second to last word in a fairytale

63. Just in case

64. Woody creeper

66. Biochemistry acr.

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

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

© StatePoint Media

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

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14				15			
16						17				18			
19					20			21	22				
			23				24						
25	26	27		28		29			30		31	32	33
35			36		37			38		39			
40					41				42		43		
44				45		46					47		
48					49		50			51		52	
				53		54			55		56		
	57	58	59					60				61	62
64						65	66			67			
68						69				70			
71						72				73			

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Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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


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LEGAL NOTICES

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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 public hearing on **Wednesday, September 30, 2020 at 6:00pm**. Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

The meeting will be held using GoToWebinar. TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/974464579993810188>
Webinar ID: 678-897-291

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (213) 929-4212
Access code: 301-132-975


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

15 McGrath Hwy 15 McGrath Hwy Owner, LLC, proposes to construct a lab building in the High Rise District. The proposal requires hardship variances: primary front setback, a driveway in a frontage area, a building not parallel to the front lot line, and forward upper story projection.

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

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

9/16/20, 9/23/20 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
CITY COUNCIL

There will be two Public Hearings before the City Council's Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works, on **Wednesday, September 30, 2020, at 6:00 PM**, on the Order of Councilor Jesse Clingan, Chair of the Committee, for public testimony on ensuring that all conditions of a Special Permit are met prior to the final signoff by the Inspectional Services Department and the issuance of a certificate of occupancy (#210595), and for public testimony on developers' compliance with the conditions of Special Permits and the Inspectional Services Department's enforcement of those conditions (#210596).

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

You have two ways to be heard at this meeting:


1. To attend and be heard, enter this link exactly as it appears into your internet browser anytime before the meeting: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/509751592465163023>. You can also find this link on the City website's calendar. You will then be asked to register, and after registering, you will receive an email with instructions to join the webinar.
2. If you are unable to attend but wish to be heard, you may send written comments by US mail to the City Clerk at 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, 02143, or by email to cityclerk@somervillema.gov. Your comments must arrive no later than 12 Noon on the day of the Hearing, in order to be sure they are conveyed to the Committee.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

JOHN J. LONG
CITY CLERK

9/23/20 The Somerville Times

Legal Notices can be downloaded from our website www.TheSomervilleTimes.com



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
RFA#21-20

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

City of Somerville contracted vendors for Request for Application - SNOW PLOWING (November 2020 – June 2022)

Potential vendors may obtain a Request for Application (RFA) packet at the Purchasing Department, City Hall (first floor), 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143 OR online via the department's website: <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing>

RFI packets are available for pick-up or download from Wednesday September 23rd, 2020.

Vendors must return their completed and sealed RFA packet by Wednesday, October 7th 2020, at 12:00 noon

9/23/20 The Somerville Times

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court Department
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141

MIDDLESEX Division **Docket No. MI19D1724DR**

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

Sherry Prakash aka Sherry Cote vs. Akshay Prakash

To Defendant:

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B. The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. **.SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:

Sherry Prakash
Cote, Sherry
50 River Road
Somerville, MA 02145

your answer, if any on or before **10/26/2020**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, Hon. Maureen H Monks, First Justice of this Court.

Date: September 14, 2020.

Tara E. De Christofaro
Register of Probate

9/23/20 The Somerville Times

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Challenging times and legal gridlock at The Jungle CONT. FROM PG 1

said Epstein. “But there’s no interest in letting venues move outside and no interest in letting any musicians perform.”

In Somerville, most music venues and performance halls have been shuttered since March. And as a result of the pandemic, a number of venues have permanently closed in Somerville, including Bull McCabe’s and Thunder Road.

According to the Massachusetts reopening guidelines, small performance venues and concert halls can reopen outdoors during Phase 3 at limited capacity, but can’t reopen indoors until Phase 3, Step 2, which was indefinitely postponed by Governor Baker in early August.

But as part of the city’s coronavirus regulations, Somerville has banned outdoor music at any venue that is currently operating under an outdoor seating license, meaning that The Jungle cannot have anyone perform outdoors

even if performers and attendees wear masks and social distance.

Similar bans do not exist in places like Cambridge and Lowell, where musicians have been able to perform at outdoor restaurants and patios. According to Epstein, the city is worried about live music attracting crowds, a problem Epstein thinks can be easily controlled by venue managers and employees.

“That [explanation] doesn’t make sense because small business managers are always required to disperse crowds, you are not allowed to have lines,” said Epstein. “So, what is it about a musician that’s going to make these criminal gatherings that a manager can’t disperse?”

Epstein even started a petition on The Jungle’s website to try to garner support for the removal of the ban. “We are just trying to maintain some semblance of the community music club that we have,” said Epstein.

Eva Davenport, a local singer-songwriter who performs at The Jungle, sees the ban on music at restaurants and patios as a lost opportunity for musicians. “If these spaces are allowed to have live performances, at least there’s something that we can look to for potential revenue. If there’s no available spaces for artists to perform, then there’s no hope,” said Davenport.

Since the start of the pandemic in March, Davenport has had to cancel several paying events, including gigs as a wedding singer. During the past few months, she has performed at several virtual events, but only two of them were money-making, with most of that money going to charity.

She had recently started performing outside at patio restaurants in Lynn, where there is no ban on outdoor music at restaurants. She hopes to be able to do the same thing in Somerville if the ban is lifted. “It would bring



The makeshift parking lot dining area outside of The Jungle is bringing in some much-needed revenue as the club hopes to soon add some live music to their menu.

a level of happiness and community that we all need right now, while giving a space to the artist community to not only express their art but gain revenue in a time where we have lost so much financially,” said Davenport.

As a last-ditch effort to spark change after creating the petition and talking to local officials, Epstein was able to speak to Somerville Mayor Joe Curtatone and several City Councilors at a

recent Arts and Culture Town Hall on Tuesday, September 15.

After speaking at the town hall, Epstein was optimistic, but after a week with no changes he is skeptical that the ban will be removed before the cold weather hits and musicians are unable to perform outside. “It sounds like another example of when the city looks like it’s helping musicians, but it didn’t do anything,” said Epstein.

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40 Whitfield Road family home remains well-preserved

By Marian Berkowitz

The COVID-19 pandemic is still in full swing, but I am determined not to miss learning more about the owners who are winning 2020 Awards from the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission!

What a delight to talk by phone to Nancy Kalajian who is a recipient of a 2020 Director's Award (for non-City designated older houses) for her

long-standing family home on Whitfield Road. It's a beautiful tree-lined street of 2-family houses near the Tufts University campus. The street was developed in the early 1900's and Nancy's parents bought the house in the 1950's.

In the 1960's and 1970, aluminum and vinyl siding were gaining in popularity among homeowners because it was reputed to be a material that was easier and cheaper to maintain

than shingles and clapboards. Nancy's parents, however, stayed firm in their desire to keep the house as it was originally intended, even retaining the slate roof and wood gutters.

Over the years, the wooden gutters were repaired until eventually a newer system was needed. Nancy noted that "I had people tell me that the water flows better through aluminum gutters and the leaves don't collect as much, plus they are much less expensive to install than wooden gutters."

"... I wanted to keep the integrity and look of the original architecture..."

Nancy, however, inherited her parents' resistance to follow then current neighborhood trends. She pointed out that "I could have installed vinyl siding, aluminum gutters, and an asphalt shingle roof, but I wanted to keep the integrity and look of the original architecture both inside and outside, now over 100 years old, just as my parents did."

The Commission recognized her this year, the 25th anniversary of the Awards Program, for her work restoring the wood gutters, soffits and fascia on the left side of her house. Her eager roofer even cut out a piece of the old gutter so he could take it with him to search for the same profile and replicate it.

Indeed, inside the house, Nancy is happy to still have the original two-compartment porcelain



Old wood gutter, soffit and fascia that needed replacement.



New work done.



Owner Nancy Kalajian in front of house with original slate and gutter pieces.



Owner Mike Thielbar of Blue Skys Restoration doing gutter and roof work.

sink in her kitchen; one side is deeper than the other. At her suggestion, I visited her in front of the house and snapped a photo next to pieces of the old and new wood gutter, as well as an original piece of the slate roof.

Now that this work is done, Nancy is looking forward to painting the house and making sure it continues to enhance the streetscape and her pride in preserving a bit of Somerville architectural history!

Marian Berkowitz is a freelance writer in Somerville with a love

of older houses and community involvement.

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission gives out up to twelve awards each year to owners of designated historic properties (Preservation Awards) and of houses over 50 years old (Director Awards) to recognize their impressive exterior work over the last few years. This is the 25th anniversary of the Awards Program with 9 winners. Interviews with the owners plus photos of each property have been highlighted here over the summer.

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



Did you hear about the guy who invented the knock-knock joke? He won the 'no-bell' prize.

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On This Day in History September 23

- 1673 – James Needham returns to Virginia after exploring the land to the west, which would become Tennessee.
- 1904 – Exiled Nez Perce leader Chief Joseph dies of a "broken heart."
- 1915 – Stonehenge is sold by auction for 6,600 pounds sterling (\$11,500) to a Mr. Chubb, who buys it as a present for his wife.
- 1929 – Fighting between China and the Soviet Union breaks out along the Manchurian border.
- 1937 – The women's airspeed record is set at 292 mph by American pilot Jacqueline Cochran.
- 1978 – Two Soviet cosmonauts set a space endurance record after 96 days in space.
- 2003 – Galileo space mission ends as the probe is sent into Jupiter's atmosphere where it is crushed.

Simple Steps can help reduce fall risk for older adults

By Nathan Lamb

Falls are the leading cause of injuries for older adults. One in four older adults fall each year – leading to 2.8 million emergency room visits annually.

Fortunately, there are some simple steps that can help reduce fall risk for older adults:

Keep your home safe Evaluate your home for fall hazards. Remove obstacles, such as rugs or clutter that might cause you to trip. Make sure entryways are well-lit. Install grab bars where needed, such as in the bathroom or near the front door.

Talk to your doctor Don't be afraid to mention that you've had a fall or are afraid of falling. Your doctor will be able to assess your risk of future falls and recommend strategies to help.

Review medications Your doctor or your pharmacist can determine whether your prescriptions or over-the-counter medications increase your chance of a fall. It's important to review your med-

ications regularly, and to verify that you are taking them only as prescribed.

Check vision and hearing Don't skip those annual appointments! Your ability to hear and see can greatly impact balance and ability to avoid obstacles.

Focus on balance and exercise It's never too late to build stability, strength, and flexibility. Look for ways to walk more and sit less, even if you are spending the day at home. Even just 20 minutes per day of moderate physical activity can make a difference.

The National Institute on Aging offers the following recommendations:

- Brisk walks can help build endurance. Be sure to warm up and cool down, and stop if you experience dizziness, chest pain or pressure or a feeling like heartburn.
- Build strength by lifting light weights. If possible, exercise your arms and legs at least twice per week, but don't exercise the same area two days in a row. Start light,

or with no weights at all, and use smooth and steady movements.

- Balance exercises can help avoid falls. Try standing on one foot, then the other. A heel-to-toe walk, where you place the front heel just in front of your rear-foot toes with each step, can also help. Have a support, like a study chair, nearby if you feel unsteady.
- Stretches can help build flexibility. Calf and ankle stretches can be very helpful, and you should stretch after strength and endurance exercises.
- For more information about in-home exercises, contact SCES Wellness Coordinator Eliza Wiesner at Eliza.Wiesner@eldercare.org.

The week of Sept. 21 is Falls Prevention Awareness Week. For the second straight year, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) Home Care Team is raising awareness on this issue throughout the month with a 2.5 Million Steps to Prevent Falls campaign.



Jeffrey Clement and Rachel Lynch are among the 14 Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services staffers walking to raise awareness about falls prevention this September.

Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) is proud to support these efforts. Throughout September our team is walking to help EOEA reach its goal of 2.5 million steps. Through two weeks, our team has contributed 760,944 steps, and we are looking forward to a big finish for this effort.

If you would like to join in this effort, post your photos, walk results, and comments on Facebook using the hashtag #MASteps2PreventFalls. We'll be sure to update EOEA on

your contributions.

Together we can help raise awareness on this issue and encourage everyone to take simple steps to avoid falls.

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

Winter Hill Urban Renewal Plan clears first hurdle

CONT. FROM PG 4

The developer, who has not yet been selected, would ideally negotiate a purchase of all the properties privately, only requiring the SRA's use of eminent domain if a private sale is not reached.

Should that happen, the city could have a unique fight on its hands. Attorney Phil Privitera owns 9 Temple St. He says in the city's "zeal" to redevelop the "blighted" buildings they have wrongly swept his "maintained" property into their plans. He

wants the plans resubmitted without 9 Temple and 313 Broadway. Privitera says he has the "legal knowledge" and "passion" to fight the project.

"The innocent victims in these two ancillary parcels (9 Temple and 313 Broadway) did nothing wrong," he says. "They are hard-working, predominantly immigrant, local citizens, who all contribute to the economy, community and fabric of Somerville. They should be commended and praised not punished, persecut-

ed and relocated. They are being treated like 'collateral damage' for the mere goal of 'making it easier' for a non-local developer to bid on this project."

The approval process is just beginning. The Winter Hill Urban Renewal Plan still needs to pass the Somerville Planning Board, the Somerville City Council, and the Mass. Department of Housing and Community Development. The complete plan is downloadable on the City of Somerville's website.

Davis in distress

CONT. FROM PG 6

open the Davis Redline T stop back in 1984, go to waste. Remember when Davis Sq. was known as 'the Paris of the Nineties'?

Now is the time to get going,

pull together, and do whatever necessary to prevent what may be known as the Davis Sq. Disaster.

Editors' note: Jack Connol-

ly is a native Somervillian, a Davis Sq. resident and insurance agent. He is also a former Somerville Ward Six and At Large Alderman (known now as City Councilor).

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

1. Forty-two

2. Big & Rich

3. Chicago

4. Grapefruit

5. Deion Sanders

6. Byron Raymond "Whizzer" White

7. Starbuck's

8. German chemist Carl Neuber

9. Phoenix

10. A kaleidoscope

11. Weight lifting

12. Nepal

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Newstalk

CONT. FROM PG 7

the additional \$600 per week federal unemployment benefit has ended, more people in our community are facing financial hardship and making tough choices when it comes to paying for essentials. If you're fortunate enough to be able to, please consider making a donation to the Somerville Cares Fund. If you are in need of assistance, you can apply to the fund via the same link. This donation-based fund gives direct assistance to Somerville residents, workers, and families to help cover basic needs

like groceries, diapers, personal hygiene products, medical copays, and prescriptions. The community has been immensely generous, donating more than \$650,000 so far, but the fund has run dry. Even a small donation will help.

CHA Somerville Hospital offers free COVID-19 testing at Assembly Row by appointment. To make an appointment, call 617-665-2928 (Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.). The mobile testing unit also offers testing in our neighborhoods

to make access easier for residents. Mobile testing schedules and more information on both can be found under the **"Symptoms, Testing, & Medical Info"** tab on somervillema.gov/covid19.

With generous support from the **City of Somerville, Cradles to Crayons, The Beautiful Stuff Project, the Diaper Circle** and **individual donors, Somerville Family Learning Collaborative** provides free diapers to Somerville families **every Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00**

a.m. outside the **East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St., and West Somerville Neighborhood School, 177 Powderhouse Blvd.** No signup or ID required. Since March, more than 200,000 diapers have been donated to families in need. Donations may be made to The Beautiful Stuff Project or contact the **SPS/SFLC Volunteer Coordinator** at jCapuano@k12.somerville.ma.us to donate packages of unused diapers. (Sizes 4,5,6 preferred, but any size N-7 and pullups are welcomed), or to volunteer.

SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

SCATV is part of Somerville Media Center, home to Boston Free Radio, Somerville Neighborhood News and SMC Youth Media!

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Wednesday, September 23

12:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am NASA TV

7:00am Community Bulletin Board

7:30am DW In Good Shape

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

9:00am DW Global 3000

9:30am Both Sides of the Bars

10:00am Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer

10:30am Somerville Neighborhood News

11:00am SNN Neighborhood Update

11:30am From My Heart to Yours

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News

1:30pm Somerville Neighborhood News

2:00pm Colores Latinos

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

4:00pm DW Conflict Zone

4:30pm Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library

5:00pm Hello Neighbor

5:30pm From My Heart to Yours

6:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News

6:30pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects

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

7:30pm Sidewalks Entertainment

8:00pm LIVE - Somerville Pundits

8:30pm DW Euromaxx

9:00pm Revolution Awakening at VOX POP

10:00pm LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

11:00pm Flotilla

Thursday, September 24

12:30am SCATV Secret Stash

1:00am Free Speech TV

1:30am Free Speech TV

2:00am Free Speech TV

3:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am Bate Papo com Shirley

7:00am DW Conflict Zone

7:30am DW Euromaxx

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

9:00am DW Tomorrow Today

9:30am Hello Neighbor

10:00am The Chef's Table Series

10:30am The Chef's Table Series

11:00am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals

11:30am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm The Somerville Line

1:30pm The Somerville Line

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

4:00pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects

4:30pm The Struggle

5:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News

6:00pm #AFAD

6:30pm #AFAD

7:00pm Community Lens: SHC 5K Race

8:00pm LIVE - Our View

9:00pm PABFONE Closing Day Ceremony

10:00pm Community Bulletin Board

10:30pm The World Fusion Show

11:00pm VOX POP Comedy Night

Friday, September 25

12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

1:00am SCATV Secret Stash

1:30am SCATV Secret Stash

2:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am NASA TV

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

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

9:00am DW Euromaxx

9:30am Strata

10:00am NASA TV

11:00am SOM ARTS

11:30am Cambridge Calendar

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm Community Benefits Agreement

2:00pm Somerville Pundits

2:30pm Autumn Reads with Somerville Public Library

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

4:00pm Gay USA

5:00pm DW Global 3000

5:30pm What's New Massachusetts?

6:00pm Grandstanders

7:00pm Emergency Preparedness

7:30pm The Somerville Labor Show

8:00pm LIVE - Greater Somerville

8:30pm Greater Somerville

9:00pm Fur, Fins and Feathers

10:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

11:00pm Heavy Leather Music Video Show

Saturday, September 26

12:00am VOX POP Comedy Night

1:00am Free Speech TV

2:00am Free Speech TV

3:00am Free Speech TV

5:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am DW Focus on Europe

7:00am Effort Pour Christ

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

9:00am SMC Youth Media

9:30am Science 360

10:00am Dead Air Live

11:00am TeleGalaxie

12:00pm Somerville Storytellers

1:00pm Tele Magazine

2:00pm Reeling Review

3:00pm MA House of Representatives Formal Session

4:00pm Tele Kreyol

5:00pm Henry Parker Presents

5:30pm Henry Parker Presents

6:00pm Somerville Pundits

6:30pm The Somerville Labor Show

7:00pm BLOWW Show a Go Go

7:30pm Somerville Neighborhood News

8:00pm #AFAD

9:00pm Nossa Gente e Costumes

10:00pm Heavy Leather Music Video Show

11:00pm SCATV Secret Stash

11:30pm Queer Cats

Sunday, September 27

12:00am Flotilla

1:00am NASA TV

1:30am NASA TV

2:00am NASA TV

3:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am Bate Papo com Shirley

7:00am Nossa Gentes e Costumes

8:00am Effort Pour Christ

9:00am NASA TV

10:00am Tele Kreyol

11:00am House of Representatives Formal Session

12:00pm Sidewalks Entertainment

1:00pm SOM ARTS

1:30pm SNN Neighborhood Update

2:00pm Chico and B-Man

3:00pm African Television Network

4:00pm Dedilhando a Saudade

5:00pm Gay USA

6:00pm VOX POP: Somerville Connects

6:30pm DW Tomorrow Today

7:00pm Emergency Preparedness

8:00pm Dead Air Live

9:00pm Tele Magazine

10:00pm Community Lens: Somerville 5K Detour

11:00pm TUTV

11:30pm SCATV Secret Stash

Monday, September 28

12:00am Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

5:00am Free Speech TV

6:00am NASA TV

7:00am Somerville Storytellers

7:30am Going Postal

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

9:00am Science 360

10:00am Somerville Neighborhood News

11:00am Our View

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm SOM ARTS

1:30pm Somerville Storytellers

2:00pm NASA TV

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

4:00pm African Television Network

5:00pm Community Lens: SHC 5K Race

6:00pm LIVE from VOX POP

6:30pm Fur, Fins and Feathers

7:00pm Tele Galaxie

8:00pm LIVE -Somerville Overcoming Addiction

9:00pm Dedilhando au Saudade

10:00pm Colores Latinos

11:00pm Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

Tuesday, September 29

12:00am Public Safety/Homeland Security Hearing

6:00am NASA TV

7:00am NASA TV

8:00am Democracy Now!

9:00am The Chef's Table Series

10:00am Strata

11:00am Joanna Bremis HMS Clinicals

12:00pm The Thom Hartman Show

1:00pm Revolution Awakening at VOX POP

2:00pm Somerville Overcoming Addiction

3:00pm Democracy Now!

4:00pm SMC Youth Media

4:30pm Going Postal

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

5:30pm What's New Massachusetts?

6:00pm Somerville Neighborhood News

6:30pm From My Heart to Yours

7:00pm The Somerville Labor Show

7:30pm LIVE - Greater Somerville

8:00pm LIVE - Dead Air Live

9:00pm The World Fusion Show

10:00pm Totally Working Out

11:00pm Box House Productions Presents

11:30pm SCATV Secret Stash

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

Wednesday, September 23

7:00am Arts Community Town Hall

7:33am Youth Mental Health During COVID-19

8:00am Serenading Seniors at Bryant Manor

9:00am Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #3

11:30am Gestión de Conflictos

12:40pm Gestión de Conflictos Preshow

1:00pm City Council Spotlight - Matt McLaughlin

1:30pm Saude Mental e Cuidados

2:10pm ArtBeat 2020

2:30pm Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #2

4:30pm Structural Racism Panel 6.23.20

6:00pm SPL: Gardening w/Green City Growers

6:30pm Serenading Seniors at Bryant Manor

7:30pm City Council Spotlight - Matt McLaughlin

8:00pm School Committee Meeting 9.21.20

11:00pm Gestión de Conflictos Preshow

11:30pm City Council Spotlight - Matt McLaughlin

Thursday, September 24

12:00am Serenading Seniors at Bryant Manor

1:00am CC-Legislative Matters 9.17.20

2:03am Como Enfrentar o Novo Coronavirus

7:00am Gestión de Conflictos

8:06am Youth Mental Health During COVID-19

8:30am City Council Spotlight - Matt McLaughlin

9:00am ArtBeat 2020

9:16am Gestión de Conflictos Preshow

10:00am School Committee Update: Carrie Normand

11:00am Chair Yoga w/Janine

11:30am Serenading Seniors at Bryant Manor

12:30pm Licenses & Permits 9.23.20

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #3

5:03pm School Committee Update: Carrie Normand

7:00pm City Council Meeting - LIVE

Friday, September 25

12:00am Serenading Seniors at Bryant Manor

1:00am CC-Land Use Meeting 9.15.20

6:30am Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

8:00am Saude Mental e Cuidados

8:41am Gestión de Conflictos Preshow

9:00am SPL: Gardening w/Green City Growers

9:30am Senior Circuit: SHINE

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #2

11:30am Serenading Seniors at Bryant Manor

12:30pm 9/11 Vigil 2020

12:42pm ArtBeat 2020

1:00pm CC-Legislative Matters 9.17.20

2:03pm Doenças Crônicas e Cuidados

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #1

4:30pm Town Hall w/Mayor Curtatone: Seniors

6:06pm ArtBeat 2020

6:30pm 9/11 Vigil 2020

6:42pm Gestión de Conflictos Preshow

7:00pm City Council Spotlight - Matt McLaughlin

7:30pm ArtBeat 2020

7:46pm Poetry Reading by Lloyd Schwartz

8:00pm Prospect Hill Ribbon-Cutting/Re-Opening

8:10pm Gestión de Conflictos Preshow

8:30pm City Council Spotlight - Matt McLaughlin

9:00pm CC-Public Health & Public Safety Committee

11:00pm Serenading Seniors at Bryant Manor

Saturday, September 26

12:00am Senior Circuit: SHINE

12:30am 9/11 Vigil 2020

12:42am Letters of World War II at Council on Aging

2:00am School Committee Update: Carrie Normand

6:30am Town Hall on Race and Equity in Policing

8:00am Como Enfrentar o Novo Coronavirus

8:40am Youth Mental Health During COVID-19

9:00am School Committee Update: Carrie Normand

9:31am Prospect Hill Ribbon-Cutting/Re-Opening

10:00am ArtBeat 2020

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #2

11:30am School Committee Meeting 9.21.20

2:30pm East Somerville Walking Tour - 6.16.19

4:00pm Chair Yoga w/Janine

4:30pm Licenses & Permits 9.23.20

7:30pm Serenading Seniors at Bryant Manor

8:30pm SPL: Gardening w/Green City Growers

9:00pm School Committee Meeting 9.21.20

Sunday, September 27

12:00am ArtBeat 2020

12:16am Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

1:00am SPL: Gardening w/Green City Growers

1:30am Return to Italy

2:30amGestión de Conflictos para Pequenas Empresas

6:30am Structural Racism Panel 6.23.20

8:00am Saude Mental e Cuidados

8:44am ArtBeat 2020

9:00am Serenading Seniors at Bryant Manor

10:00am 9/11 Vigil 2020

10:15am SPD Ride Along

10:30am Senior Circuit: Farewell Cindy Hickey

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #2

11:30am City Council Spotlight - Matt McLaughlin

12:00pm Senior Circuit: SHINE

12:30pm In the Principal's Office 9.24.20

1:00pm Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

3:00pm Serenading Seniors at Bryant Manor

4:00pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #3

4:30pm SPL: Gardening w/Green City Growers

5:00pm Raising Families

5:30pm Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

7:00pm Senior Circuit: SHINE

7:30pm In the Principal's Office 9.24.20

8:00pm City Council Meeting 9.24.20

Monday, September 28

12:00am City Council Spotlight - Matt McLaughlin

12:30am CC-Legislative Matters 9.17.20

1:33am Saude Mental e Cuidados

6:30am Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

8:30am SPL: Gardening w/Green City Growers

9:00am In the Principal's Office 9.24.20

11:00am Chair Yoga w/Janine

11:30am City Council Meeting 9.24.20

4:30pm Fit 4 Life 2020 #1

5:00pm The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism

6:20pm Prospect Hill Ribbon-Cutting/Re-Opening

6:30pm Youth Mental Health During COVID-19

7:00pm School Committee Meeting 9.21.20

10:00pm School Committee Update: Carrie Normand

10:31pm Doenças Crônicas e Cuidados

Tuesday, September 29

12:00am Gestión de Conflictos

1:06am ArtBeat 2020

1:30am CC-Land Use Meeting 9.15.20

6:30am Gestión de Conflictos Preshow

7:33am Raising Families "Youth Vaping & Smoking"

8:00am 9/11 Vigil 2020

8:30am City Council Spotlight - Matt McLaughlin

9:00am Chair Yoga w/Janine

9:30am School Committee Update: Carrie Normand

10:01am SPL: Gardening w/Green City Growers

11:00am Fit 4 Life 2020 #1

11:30am Prospect Hill Ribbon-Cutting/Re-Opening

11:40am ArtBeat 2020

12:00pm Senior Circuit: SHINE

12:30pm Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

2:30pm Serenading Seniors at Bryant Manor

4:00pm Fit-4-Life #6

4:30pm In the Principal's Office 9.24.20

5:30pm Saude Mental e Cuidados

6:15pm Prospect Hill Ribbon-Cutting/Re-Opening

6:30pm ArtBeat 2020

6:46pm Music & Movement w/Steve Gintz

7:30pm Senior Circuit: SHINE

8:00pm City Council Meeting 9.24.20

Wednesday, September 30

12:00am Senior Circuit: SHINE

12:30am In the Principal's Office 9.24.20

1:00am Licenses & Permits 9.23.20

Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, September 23

7:00am Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

9:00am SPL Gardening w Green City Growers

9:30am Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #4

10:01am School Committee Update

11:00am MIAA Playoff: SHS Boys Soccer v Revere

1:00pm SHS Construction Update Tour

2:00pm SPL Storytime w/Miss Meghan [5.27]

3:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Cambridge [1.19.10]

5:00pm Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

7:00pm SPL Gardening w Green City Growers

7:30pm Jef Czekaj's Sequestered Storytime #4

8:01pmSchool Committee Update w Carrie Normand

9:00pm MIAA Playoff: SHS Boys Soccer v Revere

11:00pm SHS Construction Update Tour

Thursday, September 24

12:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Cambridge

1:30am SHS Boys Basketball vs MC [12.14.10]

7:00am SHS Construction Update Tour

8:00am SPL Gardening w Green City Growers

9:00am School Committee Mtg. 9.21.20

11:00am School Committee Update

12:00pm SHS Football vs CRLS

3:00pm Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

5:00pm School Committee Mtg. 9.21.20

8:00pm SHS Construction Update Tour

9:00pm SPL Gardening w Green City Growers

10:00pm SHS Alumni Tour '18

Friday, September 25

12:00am SHS Football vs CRLS

7:00amSPL Storytime w/Miss Meghan [5.27]

8:00am School Committee Mtg. 9.21.20

11:00am SHS Construction Update Tour

12:00pm Boys' Soccer Championship 2019

1:00pm Girls' Soccer Championships 2019

2:00pm SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden

3:30pm Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

5:00pm SPL Storytime w/Miss Meghan [5.27]

6:00pm School Committee Mtg. 9.21.20

9:00pm SHS Construction Update Tour

10:00pm Boys' Soccer Championship 2019

11:00pm Girls' Soccer Championships 2019

Saturday, September 26

12:00am SHS Girls Soccer vs Malden

1:30am SHS Girls Soccer vs Maitignon 9.27.19

3:00am Public Domain Theater [10.19]

7:00am Girls Intramural Basketball Championship

8:00am Boys Intramural Basketball Championship

9:00am School Committee Mtg. 9.21.20

12:00pm SHS Construction Update Tour

1:00pm SHS Alumni Tour '18

2:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett

3:30pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading

5:00pm Girls Intramural Basketball Championship

6:00pm Boys Intramural Basketball Championship

7:00pm School Committee Mtg. 9.21.20

10:00pm SHS Construction Update Tour

11:00pm SHS Alumni Tour '18

Sunday, September 27

12:00am SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett

1:30am SHS Boys' Basketball vs Reading

3:00am Public Domain Theater

7:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs E. Boston

9:00am Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

10:30am SHS Boys Soccer vs Tewksbury

12:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford

1:30pm SHS Boys Soccer vs E. Boston

3:00pm SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere [1.31.20]

4:30pm School Committee Update

5:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs E. Boston

7:00pm Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

8:30pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Tewksbury

10:00pm SHS Boys Soccer vs Medford

Monday, September 28

12:00am SHS Boys Soccer vs E. Boston

1:30am SHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere [1.31.20]

7:00am SHS Construction Update Tour

8:00am Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

10:00am Capuano Kindergarten Spring Concert

11:00am El Sistema Year End Concert

11:30am String Fest & Summer HONK Concert

1:00pm SING! Somerville

2:00pmCelling Your Soul: Raising Kids in a Digital Age

4:00pm SHS Alumni Tour '18

5:00pm SHS Construction Update Tour

6:00pm Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

8:00pm Capuano Kindergarten Spring Concert 2014

9:00pm El Sistema Year End Concert

9:30pm String Fest & Summer HONK Concert

11:00pm SING! Somerville

Tuesday, September 29

12:00am SHS Girls Basketball @ Beverly [1.29.19]

1:30am SHS Alumni Tour '18

7:00am SHS Drive Up Graduation

8:30am SHS Drive Up Graduation

10:00am SHS Football @ Beverly [10.7.17]

1:00pm SHS Construction Update Tour

2:00pmSchool Committee Update w Carrie Normand

3:00pm Schools Reopening Town Hall 9.21.20

5:00pm SHS Drive Up Graduation

6:30pm SHS Drive Up Graduation

8:00pm SHS Football @ Beverly [10.7.17]

11:00pm SHS Construction Update Tour

Wednesday, September 30

12:00am SHS Football @ Beverly [10.29.16]

2:30am School Committee Mtg. 9.21.20

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OFF THE SHELF
by Doug Holder

From the mosh pit of punk rock:
To Somerville City Councilor

I met Kristen Strezo at The Somerville Times Annual Dinner some years back. At our table were columnists Jimmy Del Ponte, and Bill Shelton. Among these folks with the gift of gab, Strezo impressed me as an articulate and dynamic presence. So a couple of years later we finally got a chance to talk, not in person but virtually.

Doug Holder: Tell us about your experience in Somerville. It was once described as the "Paris of New England." Does that ring true for you?

Kristen Strezo: Somerville is truly one of a kind. I am inspired serving Somerville surrounded by so much creativity. My goal is lift up our artists, musicians and creative class of residents, to do all I can to help us all thrive, including support during the pandemic shutdown.

DH: You became a Somerville City Councilor At-Large during the pandemic. How do you conduct business now?

KS: I never imagined I'd be sworn in during a pandemic! Of course, now, some aspects of the job are different than how they are traditionally done. For one thing, I have not had a chance to sit at my desk during City Council meetings and committee meetings are also now held over Zoom.

During a pandemic with so many diverse needs, the City Council has had to respond to a wide array of pressing issues as quickly and effectively as possible. Some of the changes I hoped to make as a City Councilor – like climate change issues – have been slightly sidetracked in the face of the new pandemic-related challenges. My priority is the health and safety of my constituents. Other priorities – like addressing food insecurity – have been fast tracked through this crisis.

But, safety protocol is paramount and keeping our COVID numbers down is vitally important, so we cannot for a moment let our guard down yet. I know I will eventually be able to sit at my desk during meetings and see my colleagues in person. Like many of my constituents, I'm impatient to get back to regular life. However, for now we need to remain cautious.

DH: To what do you attribute the low rates of infection in our city?

KS: We're a city filled with a lot of intelligent people who get it. We prioritize public health, understanding that it's key to everyone's best shot at successfully navigating this new normal. I feel like in Somerville, we've truly accomplished this COVID response as a team. I'm happy to hear so many people take their roles seriously from mask wearing to looking out for our neighbors. I'm proud of us as a community. I believe in us.

DH: We hear that folks, including many artists, are being forced to move from the city because of gentrification. Artists have really given Somerville its cache. How do you plan to address this issue?

KS: If we lose our artists and creative residents and some of the people that make Somerville so captivating, we lose a part of our soul. I worry about our small artist businesses making it through. I worry about our creative residents being able to stay in their homes and studios. I have heard from some artists that they cannot get to their studios. Some can't afford to keep their studios. Through close contact with the artist community, I have been listening intently and tailoring my advocacy to reflect those conversations.

I also worry about the emotional health of our creative residents during our COVID shutdown. Many musicians rely on the energy of the audience while they perform. But, how do you do that in 2020? We



have so much more work to do to support our creative community in Somerville.

Thinking forward, I'd like it to be standard and implied that all future developments that establish in Somerville choose Somerville artists for design work on their offices and properties. That way, we maintain our Somerville character while supporting our community as the city continues to grow.

DH: In your bio you said you were a singer in a punk rock band. Tell us about that. Did you bring any of the things you learned during this time to your role as a politician? I imagine stage presence is one.

KS: My message of social justice remains the same. My voice is just expressed through a different medium of public office! When I told some of my former bandmates that I was running for office, they said that they were not surprised and that they were proud of me. As a performer, I was always focused on singing about how we can fix our world. So, I take that energy with me as a public servant.

DH: You got a degree in journalism from Harvard University Extension. Tell us about your forays into the world of writing.

KS: I've always felt that our personal stories guide us to learn from each other and heal as a society. After writing lyrics and singing my messages to audiences, I wanted to write them down to connect with my audience on another level.

I love to write and I always thought journalists were the best writers. So, I studied journalism to become a better writer and in the hope that it was contributing to healing the world through the stories I focused on.

I had a great time in school but I wasn't your typical grad student. In addition to my full-time class schedule and Harvard magazine internship, I was a mom of two kids while caring for my elderly grandmother. I leaned into the experience, writing about the struggles of it all and focusing on wanting graduation bad enough to make it through the tears and adversity.

My perspective resonated with my professors and I was honored to be chosen to give the commencement speech to my graduating class. I carry that moment with me, because it helped me understand that there is power in vulnerability. That lived experience has value and can help others who are living through something similar. It's something I think about constantly as I work with my constituents. We are all trying to do our best with what we have.

DH: Do you consider yourself an artist in any way?

KS: Being a performer and singer is in my blood. I spent over a decade in bands as a lead singer in a feminist punk band. We toured and performed all over the country. I still sing on stage when I can. In Somerville, I've sung at Porchfest and at the city's menorah lighting several years in a row. And I never miss a Honk! festival.

Lyrical
SOMERVILLE
edited by Doug Holder

Debbie Wiess is a Boston-based writer, who writes in French and English. She has created a wide variety of projects for stage and screen, poetry and short stories, in both languages. Her work has been presented throughout the US and abroad, in traditional theaters and alternative venues (including in a moving trolley during the Somerville Open Studios several years ago), as well as on cable, radio and the internet. Many of her poems have been published. She is a proud member of the Bagel Bards and has had work included in its *Anthology* since joining the group in 2012.



COLOR BLIND
(July 2000)

Society is in flux
It is ever evolving
That, one can clearly see
Over Time terms change
in meaning and usage

Once it was good to say
one was color blind
That is, regarding race
Now we learn
what we should say is
that we are antiracist
Not being racist
no longer sufficing

So when I say I am color blind
I am looked at askance
with undisguised scorn
I do not mean to insult anyone,
overlook the obvious,
not see a person for who they are
But I am color blind
Truly
I cannot see colors
None at all
Most everything is a shade of gray
For me Life is a multitude of gray
and gradations of gray
The only thing I can see clearly
is what is Black and White

— Debbie Wiess

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