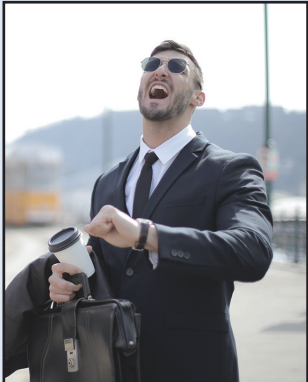




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Oh, those many traffic woes

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A semi goodbye to Brandon

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'Ignite' the night with food and fire

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City unveils plans for protected bike lanes



Last week, the public had a chance to weigh in on the proposed protected bike lane installations along Holland St. during a special meeting hosted by the city.
— Photo by Bobbie Toner

By Fernando Cervantes Jr.

Last week *The Somerville Times* reported a story about Holland St. business owners and their objections to parking and bike lane changes on the street. This past Wednesday, the City of Somerville through its Traffic Commission hosted a special meeting to hear comments from the community.

The proposed protected bike lanes would run along Holland St. from Buena Vista Road to Teele Square in West Somerville. The plan for the proposed changes were presented to the commission and residents in a virtual meeting on Wednesday.

These proposed changes come after a series of pedestrian deaths across Somerville in the past three years. According to city officials six of these deaths have occurred, the most recent

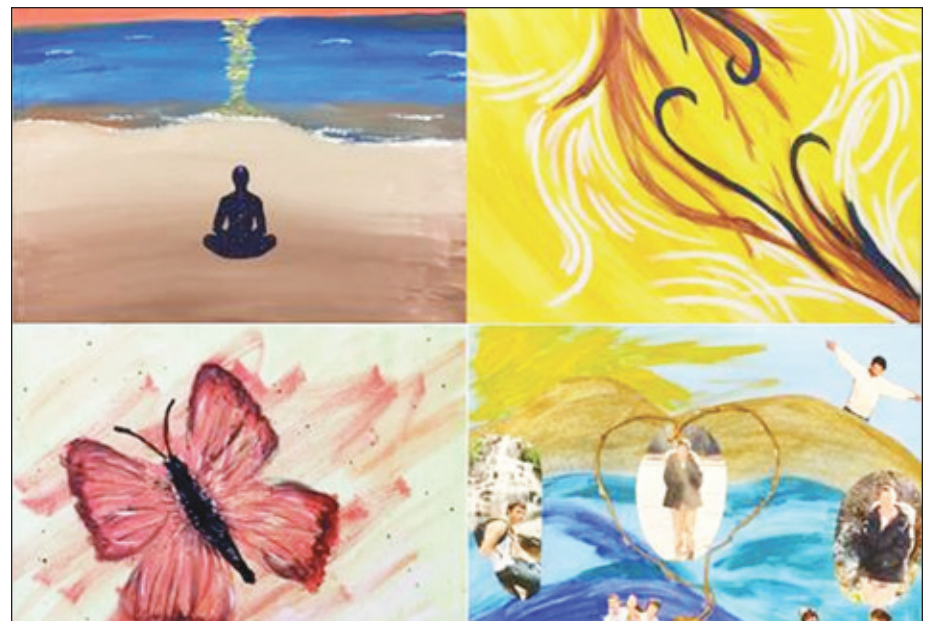
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'The Opioid Project: Every Picture Tells a Story' at the Nave Gallery

Since 2014, the Nave Gallery, in partnership with the Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, has presented a "Social Justice Art" show in the fall, to highlight a societal concern through the arts, to raise awareness and engage in conversation. This year, the Nave Gallery is pleased to host *The Opioid Project* to tell the stories of those affected and afflicted by addiction. The Gallery feels strongly that these stories need to be seen and heard.

Started as a collaboration in 2016 between Dr. Annie Brewster, Executive Director and Founder of Health Story Collaborative, and artist Nancy Marks, *The Opioid Project: Changing Perceptions through Art and Storytelling* is a creative response to the opioid epidemic. Using art and audio storytelling as its foundation, the project engages those touched by the opioid epidemic and substance

Continued on page 3



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The views and opinions expressed in Newstalk do not necessarily reflect those of The Somerville Times, its publisher or staff. The column has many contributors.








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 on **Wednesday, September 28**, at 6:00 p.m. Visit somervillema.gov/westernwashington to register to attend.

Join the **Somerville Public Library (MA)** and **SustainaVille** for their fall speaker series on building equitable, sustainable, and resilient communities. Talks begin on Wednesday, September 28, with MIT Associate Professor **Andres Sevtsuk** on urban street planning. For the full schedule and to register, visit somervillepubliclibrary.org/calendar

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to **An-Marie Carey-Browne**. We hope she has a great *Continued on page 7*

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of September 28 – October 4 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday <i>September 28</i>	Sunny	70°/51°	7%	5%	W 11 mph
 Thursday <i>September 29</i>	Partly Cloudy	65°/48°	6%	4%	NNE 11 mph
 Friday <i>September 30</i>	Partly Cloudy	64°/49°	5%	4%	ENE 7 mph
 Saturday <i>October 1</i>	Cloudy	68°/53°	16%	9%	WSW 5 mph
 Sunday <i>October 2</i>	Cloudy	59°/49°	9%	6%	N 14 mph
 Monday <i>October 3</i>	Partly Cloudy	58°/46°	22%	14%	NE 13 mph
 Tuesday <i>October 4</i>	Rain	60°/49°	31%	26%	N 9 mph

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: *Lyrical Somerville – September 21*

Paul Sohar says:

Very subtle but effective description of the world Putin created.

Response to: *Re: Professor’s Row and Packard Avenue*

Matt C says:

Thanks for all the researching and putting it together in an easy to understand way.

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

Mark says:

There’s a massive parking lot across from Cameron Ave. If these businesses are dependent on customers accessing their business via car perhaps they and the city should band together and rent the use of that parking lot for the area. The street is a public resource and I support the city making it friendly for cyclists rather than it being available 24/7 for customers to store their cars. Plus this plan already preserves PJ Ryan’s parklet. Beyond that, how much of the street are they entitled to? Who knows maybe there’s a whole untapped market of customers who would frequent the business on a bike.

Somervillen says:

It’s funny these data yuppies preach safety & ignore businesses that predate them living in this city. So a niche hobby has control over urban design of a city. So winter months when these goofy bike lanes are ghost were all supposed to deal with it. I stand w the businesses & oppose this nonsense.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

Traffic woes



With all the changes in traffic patterns and bike lanes and speed bumps, driving in Somerville is a challenge. Gotta keep calm!

When I let a driver into traffic and they don't acknowledge it I don't get mad and beep like I used to. I have drastically changed the way I drive today. There's a lot of nuts out there! I asked the readers how they handle their level of road rage as they drive through the detours of Somerville?

Here is what readers shared.

"Glad I no longer drive the streets of Som. Wouldn't want to subject my car to those road conditions, especially the speed bump on Lowell St. that I hear about."

"I grew up in Somerville, I don't recall speed being an issue back then. I grew up during the muscle car era and quite a few of us would spin our tires from time to time.

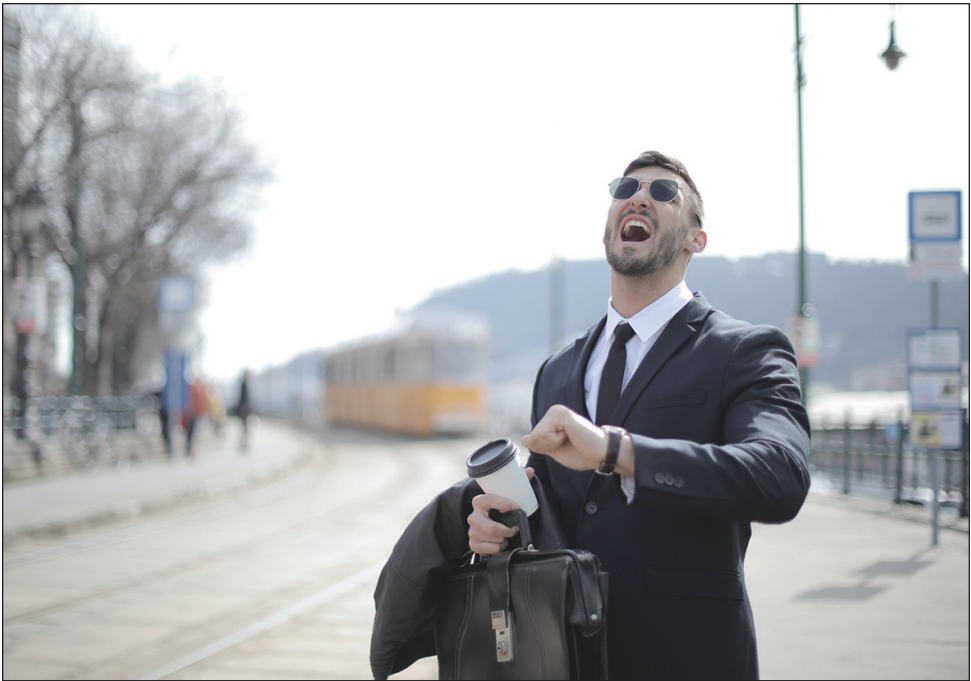
It just seems it was less congested back then. I can recall Broadway being double lanes from Sullivan to Powderhouse."

"I'll have to drive by some day. I was told you have to bring it down to a crawl to get over the bump without damaging your car."

"Getting upset about something you have no control over does you no good physically and mentally. When I let someone go in front of me, I don't look for a reaction."

"There are horror stories out there about road rage and people getting out of their cars. The best way to deal with traffic is to just suck it up because there's nothing you can do about it. If you let somebody go in front of you in traffic you can't expect a reaction from them."

"There are a lot of crazy people out there who have guns and knives and bats in their car and these are the people that are just waiting for a reaction in an excuse to start an altercation. I try not even to make eye contact with the driver because



it's just too risky."

Looks like we're just gonna have to get used to all the changes in the traffic system of the city. I guess we'll also get used to them taking away a good deal of parking spots as they are doing on Holland Street. Grin and bear it. Listen to your radio and just mind your own business because it's a losing battle. Turn up the tunes and sing along! The crazy traffic ain't going away.

'The Opioid Project: Every Picture Tells a Story' at the Nave Gallery

CONT. FROM PG 1

use disorder – including active users, people in recovery, first responders, and individuals grieving the death of a loved one to overdose – with the goals of decreasing stigma, increasing public awareness, enhancing community dialogue, and supporting advocacy efforts.

In her book *The Healing Power of Storytelling*, Dr. Brewster uses personal narrative, science-based research and concrete guidance to show patients, families and care providers how to craft and share their own stories in order to heal and move forward. The book offers extensive case studies from Brewster's years of experience as a doctor working with patients, families and other care providers. Stories include people coping with terminal diagnosis; families grappling with grief, loss and trauma; individuals, families and health practitioners impacted by the opiate crisis; mental health diagnosis; and more. Also included are "takeaways" at the conclusion of each chapter and practical exercises and prompts incorporated throughout the book.

The exhibit will run October 1 through November 14, and the gallery is open Saturdays and Sundays 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. (closed on October 8). There will be an opening reception on October 1, 3:00–5:00, featuring a curator's talk and book signing at 4:00 p.m., with an opportunity to discuss the Opioid Project and Dr. Brewster's newly published book, *The Healing Power of Storytelling*.

Free and open to all. Nave Gallery, Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church, 155 Powderhouse Blvd., Somerville, MA 02144. For more information: navegallery.org, info@navegallery.org, (617) 625-4823.

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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Brawl takes place outside political event in Somerville, two arrested

Somerville Police officers were dispatched to a Dover St. location last Saturday afternoon on reports of a fight that had started outside the Somerville Theatre in Davis Sq., the site of a speaking event featuring "The Squad" (U.S. Reps. Cori Bush, Ilhan Omar, Ayanna Pressley, Rashida Tlaib, and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez).

A protest organized by Donnie Palmer, a Republican congressional candidate challenging Pressley, had been taking place outside the theater.

Upon their arrival, the officers spoke with an alleged victim of an assault who stated that he was in Davis Sq. demonstrating against the group of politicians. While demonstrating, he had a dispute with an unknown female, with whom he has had prior altercations.

The alleged victim was later approached by four men stating that they were relatives of the unknown woman. According to the alleged victim, he and the four men began to argue. Then he said the four men assaulted him, knocking him to the ground, kicking and punching

him, and hitting him with a flag pole belonging to a participant in the protest.

The officers observed the alleged victim to have multiple cuts and abrasions on his face and extremities. Police were shown a video that was recorded of the incident.

In the video, police observed four males, two of which were later identified as Andwain Coleman, of Cuyahoga, OH, and Foster Starks, of Cambridge, approach the alleged victim, who was filming. The other two males are as of yet unidentified.

In the video, the group of men appeared to accuse the alleged victim of assaulting a relative. The camera then began to jostle violently and people began shouting. The officers were unable to get a clear visual, but this is the point in the video that the alleged victim says he was knocked to the ground and assaulted by the group. There is a brief moment in the video where police observed a kick being thrown by an unknown party. The victim stated numerous times that the two males still on scene, Coleman and



Members of "The Squad" at Saturday's participating in Saturday's event at the Somerville Theatre.

— Photo courtesy of Councilor At-Large Kristen Strezio

Starks, kicked him and hit him with a flag pole. The other two males fled the scene.

Police spoke with another alleged victim who stated he was also assaulted by this group of men. He provided police with a video of part of the incident. In the video, a fight between several people, including this alleged victim and Starks, was shown. During this altercation, the alleged victim appears to have been bitten in the shoulder by an unknown male. The flag pole is also seen laying on the ground during this fight.

Police spoke with Coleman and Starks. Both parties stated that the alleged victims and their group of protesters shouted racial slurs and attacked them, and that they were defending themselves. Police did not observe Coleman or Starks to have sustained any injuries.

Based on the video footage, visible injuries, and all statements gathered, including statements made by multiple witnesses, police placed Coleman and Starks under arrest for assault and battery with a dangerous weapon (shod foot and flag pole).

While being placed into handcuffs, Starks and Coleman repeatedly stated that they did not feel the arrests were fair and that their side of the story was not heard. Police reportedly allowed them to explain their version of events several additional times. It was explained to them that they were being charged based on the evidence at the scene. They were subsequently transported to the Somerville Police Station and booked on the above-stated charge.

The alleged victims were transported to area hospital for treatment of their injuries.

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City unveils plans for protected bike lanes CONT. FROM PG 1

being Stephen Conley near 1055 Broadway.

"As a community we have the responsibility to prevent crashes from occurring in the first place. We must have city streets that are safe for all users," Mayor Katjana Ballantyne said.

In the meeting plans for the

protected bike lanes were presented, among these plans the removal of some 50 parking spots were highlighted, but contingency plans were also presented.

According to officials, parking lots on Buena Vista Road and parts of the Tufts Administration Building would be used to

supplement lost parking.

"The new proposal offers better safety outcomes than the previous design, it is consistent with city policy," Brad Rawson, Director of Mobility said.

Following the presentation of plans by city officials, the meeting was open for public comment.

As a whole, comment was mostly positive with many local-area residents expressing their support for the new designs.

"I want to just stress the importance of folks who live in the community, who have resided here for a long time, want this type of plan in the neighborhood. The mayor

has this mandate running on safety for complete streets," resident Alex Anderson said.

Another resident, Ariel White strongly supported the plans, "Personally I currently avoid going to businesses in Teele Square just because there is no safe way to bike there," White said.

Somerville tenants rally to support families at risk of eviction



Organized by the Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS), last Sunday, approximately 70 Somerville tenants rallied in support of four families from El Salvador and one family from Haiti who are at imminent risk of displacement in October.

A company called BBD Holdings LLC bought their building and abruptly raised rents by 74% and then decided to demand that the tenants leave without a cause— another brutal example of the tidal wave of gentrification sweeping the new Green Line Extension corridor. The public demonstration took place at 182-184 Tremont Street, Somerville, just a few minutes-walk from the Union Square GLX Station.

During the rally “United for Tremont Street”, organizers and members of the Somerville community demanded that lawmakers develop a comprehensive plan that mitigates unaffordable rent increases and tempers market forces driving the displacement of local residents and small businesses.

Since the legislative session ended in July, the demonstration highlighted the refusal of Massachusetts lawmakers to enact housing policies that would prevent further displacement of vulnerable residents from urban communities, such as lifting the statewide ban on rent control, allowing eviction records to be sealed, imposing a real estate transfer fee to fund affordable housing, and passing the tenant opportunity to purchase act (TOPA). The organizers joined a statewide movement calling on

lawmakers to return this fall for a special session that addresses the housing crisis.

Carlos Salazar, an immigrant from El Salvador who has lived in the same apartment for 27 years said that the previous owner sold the building and he doesn't know the new owner. “We are being evicted and have nowhere to go. I was hoping the landlord would be here, because we don't know who they are and they don't know us; we want to talk to them and ask them to stay in our homes. We are asking that our rights be respected,” he said during the protest.

Santos Cruz, who is Salazar's wife, also made an appeal: “We have never had a problem, not even with rent arrears. But now we were caught by surprise and the new owner never spoke to us or gave us an explanation. First, he sent a letter saying that he would raise the rent from \$1,150 to \$1,800 starting September 1, and then to \$2,000 in January. But the following week he told us that he didn't want any more money from us and that we have to leave because he is going to demolish the building. We can't accept it happening this way and they should know they are evicting good people.”

Another resident, Jose Kendy Oge, from the Haitian community, moved into the building 5 years ago and is struggling to find an affordable apartment in the area. “We just had a baby, my wife is not working because she is still recovering from birth and the cost of housing is too high

so we need more time to find an affordable option. We hope that the landlord is touched by the presence of so many in the community,” he said.

“We're here today in solidarity with these families, asking Matthew Urciuoli, owner of BBD Holdings LLC, to come to the table and begin collective negotiations. We have sent a letter to Matthew and his lawyer and are waiting for their response. Our neighbors have not yet been able to speak to anyone from BBD Holdings because people like Matthew Urciuoli try to hide behind these limited liability companies and disregard their responsibility to the community”, emphasized CAAS Community Organizer Samantha Wolfe.

According to Camila Gutierrez Plata, also a CAAS Community Organizer, after research to find out more information about BBD Holdings LLC, it was discovered that Mr. Urciuoli recently purchased another building in Somerville and is converting it to luxury housing. “We won't stand by as investors continue to destroy this community. When you come for our neighbors, you come for all of us and we're not going to let that happen”, highlighted Camila.

The tenants of 182-184 Tremont Street asked supporters to sign a petition requesting the new owner to meet with them and begin collective negotiations for an agreement about their continued tenancy. The trilingual petition is available at: tinyurl.com/United-ForTremont.

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #263

Mount Vernon

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Mount Vernon is an American landmark and the former estate of George Washington. The old mansion is situated on a picturesque plateau located 200 feet above and overlooking the Potomac River in Virginia. The remains of our Revolutionary War Commander and first President of the United States and his wife Martha lie in a brick tomb on these hallowed grounds.



The original house was built in 1734 in a palisade style by his father and later expanded twice by George. Washington's older brother Lawrence, a soldier, politician, and large land owner named the family estate Mount Vernon. It was named after colonial British Admiral Edward Vernon whom he admired while serving under him when fighting against the Spanish. Besides being a battle-hardened sailor, the Admiral introduced into the Navy the practice of serving rum mixed with water instead of straight rum. The mixture became known as grog.



Before the Paul Revere Apartments were built at the crest of Somerville's Winter Hill, there were some very impressive mansions.

One of them was the Oden Estate which was the residence of the Honorable Edward Everett while he was a member of Congress. He was also the namesake of Everett, Massachusetts. Everett's home was

Continued on page 12

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.

MCAS testing update



By State Senator Pat Jehlen

In August, the Massachusetts Board of Elementary and Secondary Education voted to raise the minimum score that this year's freshman class, and classes following, will have to attain on the MCAS test in order to graduate. And against Commissioner Riley's recommendation, they voted to increase the passing score further for classes starting in 2030. They also voted, against Commissioner Riley's recommendation, to increase the passing score further for classes starting in 2030.

The three members chosen by students, teachers and labor voted against both proposals. The eight members who were chosen by Gov. Baker alone voted to make the changes. Shockingly, educators and school committee members are prohibited by law from serving on the Board. This is unlike boards that regulate other professions. Rep. Garballey filed legislation to add two teachers; Rep. Ultrino filed a bill to add a school committee member. These have not been approved by the Education Committee.

In May, Sen. Jo Comerford, Rep. Jim Hawkins and I wrote a letter [1] to the Board asking them not to approve the change. In just a few days, 98 representatives and senators (half the legislature) signed it. As we wrote, "It was easy to collect the signs from our colleagues because long-standing issues with the MCAS test are widespread – hearing urgent calls for help and action, as we do, from the people

we represent."

The public comment, like ours, was over 98% in opposition to the higher requirements. 225 comments opposed to the proposed changes, and 4 emails were in support. Our comments and those of others focused on harm to English learners, students with disabilities, low-income students, and Black and Latino students. The comments also argued that there would be more time spent on test prep instead of meaningful learning, more pressure on students and teachers who were already suffering from the stress of the pandemic, and an increase in dropouts.

Sen. Comerford, Rep. Hawkins and I returned from our vacations to testify at the August meeting. My testimony, focusing on the probable damage to English Learners, is at the end of the email. You can watch our testimony here [2]; it starts at 3:19; I'm at 7:47. Coverage included *The Somerville Times* [3], *Fall River Reporter* [4] and other local newspapers.

Our testimony was consistent with the recent guidance from the federal government [5], which asks states "to reduce the high stakes of assessments in such State decisions as graduation...requirements." The federal department encourages states to emphasize "the original intended uses of statewide annual assessments: to provide comparable data to identify outcome gaps," inform parents, and prioritize resources. In fact, most states have eliminated tests as a graduation requirement; only 11 still retain it.

Many have questioned the timing of raising the passing score at a time when so many students, teachers, families and schools are still suffering effects of the pandemic. *Commonwealth* [6] reported that "Reading and math scores plummet amid pan-

demic." *The Globe* [7] used the same language: "MCAS scores plummet during the pandemic." In a poll [8] last year, 55% of parents reported a negative impact of the year on their child's mental or emotional health.

Why would the board do this at this time? One possible answer is that in January there will be a new governor, with the power to appoint a new Secretary of Education and to fill board vacancies.

Testing has not reduced gaps. Max Larkin of WBUR recently posted a comparison of scores by school, compared with the number of low-income students.

Four years ago, I wrote a report [9] for a Senate committee I chaired on accountability. The Massachusetts Achievement Gap Act of 2010 had dramatically raised the high stakes for districts to improve test scores, I found that the results on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (for which students can't prep) showed gaps "increased in eight out of twelve comparisons, decreased in three, and remained unchanged in one."

South Coast Today [10] compared scores in New Bedford and nearby Westport. In New Bedford, 82.5% of students are low income; 25.8 English learners. In Westport, 35.8% are low income and 1.5% ELs. The paper found that the average Westport student would easily surpass the new graduation requirement; most New Bedford students would fail.

Maybe you'd like to try your hand at the 10th grade sample tests and scoring guide [11]. I found it instructive.

What will happen for students who fail in 10th grade? Here's one answer: *JFYNetWorks* [12] recently announced that the sample test questions for 2022 had been released. The image on the right was from an email this summer, saying they

are excited that they now know exactly which standards will be on the tests. Now they can focus on those and not others. This answers the question so many students ask: Will this be on the test? JFYNetWorks curriculum includes practice tests and test-taking strategies, all on-line. Over a hundred Massachusetts schools use their program through an appropriation of \$875,000 from the state. Just asking: Do we need more on-line instruction? [13]

My testimony is below. I'd like to hear your thoughts:

Testimony to Mass. Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, August 15, 2022. In opposition to raising the passing score for MCAS.

Raising the passing score for English MCAS will harm children who are English Learners (ELs). This is the fastest growing group of students [14] in our schools: and is now over 100,000 or 11% of all students.

These students will be the most affected by raising the English passing score because they don't yet read and write English fluently. They can have bright futures as important members of our community and contributors to our economy if they can just get a high school diploma.

In the pre-pandemic class of 2020, only about half of English learners passed both the MCAS English and math tests as sophomores [15]. Raising the English passing score will cause more of them to fail.

What happens to students who don't pass in 10th grade? They're more likely to drop out, as 2010 research by Prof. Papay and others confirmed. Indeed, ELs are almost four times more likely to drop out [16] than the average. (5.8% vs. 1.5%).

And what happens to young people who don't graduate from high school?

Without a diploma, or a GED which is also especially difficult for English Learners, young people can't get into higher education, including community college. They can't get into most apprenticeship programs. Even a GED probably won't get them into the military. These are all opportunities for upward mobility and long-term economic success. They are all unavailable to students who don't graduate.

For those students who persist and stay in school, raising the score will not help them learn English faster. They will just spend more time on test prep and strategies for getting around MCAS – not the kind of communications skills they need; not internships or career exploration; and not the kind of applied skills business leaders say they need [17]. [In a poll by the Mass. Business Alliance for Education, which nevertheless advocated raising the passing score.]

English Learners have overcome incredible, often life-threatening, obstacles to get here. They continue to face daunting obstacles just to get to school. Please don't raise this barrier to their success.

Note after the meeting: At the meeting, Board member Matt Hills said the number of students failing under the new standards would be "de minimis" but no one said how many that would be. The next day Board member Martin West said that they expect 3300 additional students to fail the MCAS under the new standards.

[1] <https://senatorjocomerford.org/letter-to-the-board-of-elementary-and-secondary-education-regarding-mcas-passing-scores>

[2] <https://livestream.com/madesestreaming/events/10559613>

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Step right up folks, the shots are on the house.

Our View Of The Times



Who among us actually likes getting a shot of any kind? There are certainly a given number of masochistic types out there who don't mind taking a little jab in the arm or ... elsewhere.

But many of us put off or completely avoid the prickly deed for as long as we can push it, until the cold and flu season completely bypasses us altogether, or we fall victim to the merciless clutches of our mi-

crobiological nemeses. And, of course, perhaps even more importantly, those all important COVID-19 booster doses should not be put off or rejected altogether.

And so, the City of Somerville comes to the rescue with its annual flu vaccine clinics, already in progress, offering free flu vaccines for Somerville residents ages 3 and older at various times and locations throughout the city until the city's supply

of vaccine is exhausted.

Go online right away to find out the times and locations of the scheduled clinics at: <https://www.somervillema.gov/vaccineclinics>. Pre-registration is required for all city flu clinics.

Get your flu shot and updated COVID-19 booster at a City of Somerville clinic this fall. Both are strongly recommended to protect yourself and others

from serious illness.

One quick jab in the arm or ... you know where ... can make a difference between enjoying a happy, healthy fall and winter or facing a miserably bleak one. Let's face it, taking the time and effort to do this will be well worth it.

And your family, friends, coworkers, and everyone else you regularly come into contact with will thank you too.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

birthday for herself with her great family. Happy birthday to **Karen F. McWatters**, who celebrates this week. We hope she has a great birthday. Happy birthday to **Sal DiDomenico**, who is also celebrating this week. A special happy birthday to **Ena Johnson** who will be celebrating on October 2. She has lived in Somerville for 60+ years and we wish her the very best of birthdays. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Joseph Leblanc, Debbie Price King, Linda Malone, Edward Barry, Rick Gaetano, Terri Monsalve** and **Kevin Driscoll** 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.

This **Thursday, September 29**, the *Evicted Exhibit* will be holding a **Services Fair in Arts at the Armory's Performance Hall** from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. 191 Highland Ave Somerville, MA 02143. Join in to talk to staff and learn about housing services offered by Somerville housing agencies and organizations.

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>.

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.

The **Somerville 5K Road Race** is this **Saturday, October 1** and they are kicking off the festivities by sporting their new event T-Shirts As it gets closer to race day, make sure to sign up and bring your energy to the race. Don't want to run or walk alone? Take on the race with friends, family or a pet then enjoy a continental breakfast once you've finished. Register: <https://runsSignup.com/Race/MA/Somerville/Somerville5KRace>

Ward-based **Community Meetings**, formerly called the ResiStat *Continued on page 14*

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#844

1. When is Breast Cancer Awareness Month?

2. When is International Coffee Day?

3. When is National Walk and Bike to School Day?

4. What is the boiling point of water Celsius?

5. In what film would you find Madonna's single *Beautiful Stranger*?

6. What planet is known as the Red Planet?

7. What is the oldest MLB stadium still in use today?

8. Konopiště Castle is located in which country?

9. What is gin rummy?

10. The Super Bowl has been the final game of the National Football League since when?

11. Who is the former drummer of Nirvana who fronts the Foo Fighters?

12. Who holds the record for the largest collection of cat-related items?

Answers on page 13

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. "Schoolmaster" is an anagram of "the classroom."

2. The sun makes up more than 99 percent of our solar system's mass.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

FINISH THE LYRICS

ACROSS

1. Fake deal

5. Dashboard acronym

8. Oxen connector

12. Guesstimate phrase (2 words)

13. Give a darn

14. Exhibitionist

15. It's OTAN in French

16. Carbon monoxide lacks this

17. Geometry class prop

18. Lou Reed: "She says, "Hey babe, take a walk on the _____"

20. European "curtain"

21. Mustangs, e.g.

22. Campaign pro

23. Cause of wheezing

26. Men's Colonial headgear

30. Fib

31. Bon Jovi: "Take my hand, we'll make it I swear. Woah, livin' on a _____"

34. The only thing to fear?

35. Small and round, eyes description

37. Future fish

38. Alabama civil rights site

39. Tangelo

40. Shape clay, e.g.

42. James Corden's network

43. Awaited deliverer

45. Same as lathees

47. 0 meridian acronym

48. World-weary

50. Prefix with legal

52. Aerosmith: "Sing with me, sing for the year. Sing for the _____"

55. Siberian prison

56. Pakistani language

57. Dionne Warwick: "I think I'm going out of my _____"

59. Rapidly

60. Cheese app

61. "Cogito, _____ sum"

62. Diamond's corner

63. European Economic Community

64. Whiskey grain, pl.

CROSSWORD

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dish

ALTITUDE

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Soultion to last week's crossword puzzle:

O K R A N A G A A H

F O E S T A L L N A C R E

F L A P R A G E I T E M S

A M E R I C A N O L D S

C O U P E A B A

B O S T O N A G E N D A S

A R T M E N A G E T I L T

S L A Y S I L O P A S T E

T O G A E N I G M A C H A

E N S N A R E U N C O O L

K I R F A K I R

T I E S W I L D C A R D

L A B E L A X L E N A O H

O B E S E T E E N N I L E

T U X T R Y Y L E M

6. Cattle controls

7. Bébé's mother

8. Elton John: "And it seems to me you lived _____"

9. Capital of Norway

10. Hiking sandals brand

11. Mess up

13. Show's other star

14. Rap sheet listing

19. Negative house description

22. p in #5 Across

23. Michael Jackson's "Thriller", e.g.

24. Military blockade

25. Bluish greens

26. Banana leftover

27. _____'s, grape jelly brand

28. Many iambs

29. Guns N' Roses: "Take me down to the paradise city where the _____"

32. Missouri capital tourist attraction

33. ABBA: "Waterloo - knowing my fate is to be with _____"

36. Queen: "You got mud on your face, you big _____"

38. Hiding place

40. Aptitude test acronym

41. Black Death

44. Picture

46. Restraint

48. Ballet rail

49. Playful

50. Immature butterfly

51. Unfortunately, exclamation

52. Jiffy's grease

53. Spooky

54. Uncontrollable anger

55. Loquacious person's gift

58. Not don'ts

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

(Semi) Retirement Celebration for Brandon Wilson

Executive Director of the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission Brandon Wilson was treated to a (Semi) Retirement party on Wednesday, September 21. The event, hosted by Evelyn Battinelli, Mary Cassesso, and Howard E. Horton, was attended by her family and the many who knew and worked with Wilson through her many years of service to the city and community at large. She was hired by Mayor Gene Brune and worked under him and the next four mayors: Dorothy Kelly Gay, Mike Capuano, Joe Curtatone and Katjana Ballantyne. They all showed up to the party at the Somerville Museum and spoke of the memories that have shared with her. City Council President Matt McLaughlin presented a citation awarded by the City of Somerville.

— Photos by Bobbie Toner



LEGAL NOTICES

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

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

THOMAS F. GALLIGANI, JR.
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, October 18, 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/9195569112270665744>

Webinar ID: 180-712-451

TO CALL IN

Phone Number: 1 (415) 655-0052

Access Code: 521-024-924

ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT**Alterations to Local Historic District (LHD) Properties****HPC.ALT 2022.53 – 24 Warren Avenue**

Applicant: Emma Rose
 Owner: Maryann Thompson
The Applicant seeks a Certificate of Appropriateness for after-the-fact approval of hardscape alterations.

HPC.ALT 2022.56 – 101 School Street

Applicant: Brian Militana
 Owner: Jane Messinger & Ben Messinger
The Applicant seeks a Certificate of Appropriateness to alter an LHD property by removing existing window openings to install a doorway.

Determinations of Historic Significance (STEP 1 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS)**HPC.DMO 2022.32 – 17 Hudson Street**

Applicant: Nicole Black & Michael Pettit
 Owner: Same as Applicant
The Applicant seeks to demolish a principal structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

HPC.DMO 2022.34 – 627 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 2022.37 – 63 Putnam Street

Applicant: FL Development, LLC
 Owner: James F Saraiva & Philip G Saraiva Sr., representatives of the Estate of Joseph Saraiva
The Applicant seeks to demolish an accessory structure constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

HPC.DMO 2022.40 – 11 Chester Place

Applicant: Jim Chen
 Owner: Hong Ying Li
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.*

9/28/22 The Somerville Times



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, 9/28/22 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 §526 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, 9/28/22 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.storagetreasures.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, 9/28/22 The Somerville Times

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LEGAL NOTICES

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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.

9/21/22, 9/28/22 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT
REBID IFB #23-07

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

On-call Plumbing Repairs for the Municipal Buildings

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at www.bidexpress.com, <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **09/28/2022**. Sealed bids will be received at above office until: **10/13/2022 3:00PM EST**. The Chief Procurement Officer reserves right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please contact PCS Department at procurement@somervillema.gov for more information.

5% Bid Deposit required.

Andrea Caruth
Deputy Chief Procurement Officer
617-625-6600 x3400

9/28/22 The Somerville Times

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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

Professor's Row & Packard Avenue

Ladies & Gentlemen:

Pursuant to the authority vested in the traffic commission by Chapter 397 of the Acts & Resolves of 1978 (hereinafter "the Act"), I respectfully request that you remove or cause to be removed thirteen signs unlawfully installed by Tufts University and located on Professor's Row, a public street in Somerville, purporting to restrict on-street parking to Tufts employees. (See Exhibits A and A1 annexed hereto*)

Also, I request that you remove the signs you have installed atop the existing resident parking signs located on upper-Packard Avenue, between Powder House Boulevard and Professor's Row, purporting to alter the twenty-four-hour enforcement of resident parking and limit it to the hours of 1AM to 8AM, daily.

Professor's Row is a significant connector street linking Curtis Street to College Avenue. Unlike Latin Way, Sawyer Avenue and Talbot Avenue, all private, Professor's Row is indisputably public, notwithstanding its location in the heart of the Tufts campus. (See Exhibit C annexed hereto*) Any Somerville resident whose motor vehicle displays a valid resident parking permit on its windshield is therefore entitled to park on it, just as they are entitled to park on every other public street in Somerville.

Regarding upper-Packard Avenue, the limitation of the hours during which resident parking is enforced to the hours between 1AM and 8AM, rather than the regular twenty-four hours during which it is enforced on every other public

street in Somerville, with limited exceptions most often necessitated by business or public safety needs is, to say the least, most unusual. Indeed, as far as I have been able to discern from a review of your regulations, it is the only street with this extraordinary limitation.

From in or about September 2021, when I first noticed the signs on Professor's Row and Packard Avenue, I have taken the opportunity, during my weekday walks, to count the number of vehicles parked on upper-Packard Avenue on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, between 10AM and 4PM. The highest number of vehicles I have observed parked there has been seventy-four; the lowest number has been 52; the average number has been sixty-four. Of these, the highest number with a valid resident parking permit affixed to their windshield has been seven; the lowest number with a valid resident parking permit has been two; the average number with a valid resident parking permit has been five.

The obvious question to ask is: Who benefits from this significant change in the resident parking permit program on upper-Packard Avenue - a program with which every other Somerville resident must comply if they wish to lawfully park on our public streets? The answer is self-evident: It is Tufts faculty, staff, employees, and students who are not Somerville residents and are therefore not entitled to resident parking permits or permit exemptions, who are the direct and substantial beneficiaries.

Both the Professor's Row signs and the restrictions they announce, and the upper-Packard Avenue "special dispensation" from the

normal twenty-four hour enforcement of resident parking, have had the demonstrable effect of turning these two, public streets into what can best be described as "private parking lots" for Tufts.

And what is the outer limit of your special treatment of Tufts? Will all or part of College Avenue or Powder House Boulevard or Teele Avenue or Whitfield Road, or any of the many other streets that abut Tufts, one day find themselves treated the same way as Professor's Row and upper-Packard Avenue?

Although it will not change what has occurred since last September, it is worth noting that, the limitation of the hours for the enforcement of resident parking on upper-Packard Avenue required - and requires - the adoption of an appropriate regulation, in accordance with Section 3 (a) of the Act. Moreover, such a proposed regulation is subject to appeal, as provided in Section 3 (b). However, no such regulation is found in the alphabetical arrangement of streets set forth in Schedule D of the traffic commission regulations. Based upon this, I therefore submit the 1AM - 8AM resident parking limitation on upper-Packard Avenue and the signs that announce it have been and remain - as I suggest should be the case - without force or effect.

Sincerely,

Andrew R. Puglia
Somerville

* The exhibits referenced above can be downloaded at: http://www.thesomervilletimes.com/downloads/puglia_exhibits.pdf

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OBITUARY

Mary H. Regan, R.N.



Mary H. Regan, R.N., age 87, a longtime resident of West Somerville and Edgartown, passed away peacefully at the Massachusetts General Hospital on Saturday, September 24, 2022, following a brief illness.

Born in Cambridge on August 14, 1935, she was the daughter of the late James J. and Molly (Scanlon) Regan.

Mary was raised in Somerville and graduated from Matignon High School in 1953. Following high school, she attended the Mount Auburn Hospital School of Nursing. She later received her B.S. Degree in nursing from Boston College and her M.S. Degree in nursing from Boston University.

Mary worked in nursing for many years at the Massachusetts General Hospital, the former Presidio Mili-

tary Base in San Francisco, CA. and for the Massachusetts Nurses Association.

She was a member of the Martha's Vineyard Women's Club and the Friends of the Edgartown Library.

Mary loved the beaches and tranquility of Martha's Vineyard, the companionship of her family and friends and occasional trips to Bermuda.

Mary was the sister of the late Francis X. Regan and his surviving wife, Nortrud, of Tewksbury, and the late Roberta Randlett, of Woburn.

In addition to her sister-in-law, she is survived by her nieces and nephews, James G. Regan, of New Ipswich, NH, John F. Regan, of Billerica, Carolyn M. Regan, of Dracut, Michael F. Regan, of Tewksbury, Kathy Lally, of Bradford, Christine Pottle, of Chelmsford, Jeanne Rainone, of Tewksbury. She also leaves many grandnieces and grandnephews.

Calling hours will be Friday, Sept. 30, from 9-11 a.m. at the Farmer & Dee Funeral Home, 16 Lee St., Tewksbury, followed by her Funeral Mass at 11:30 a.m. at St. William's Church, 1351 Main St., Rte. 38, Tewksbury. Interment at St. Mary Cemetery, Tewksbury. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to Camp Jabberwocky, P.O. Box 1357, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568 or online at www.campjabberwocky.org/donation.

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 5

on the path of Paul Revere's ride, and his speech at Lexington brought the famous ride to light. He died in the last year of the Civil War after being a brilliant clergyman, a Massachusetts Congressman, Senator and Governor. This just scratched the surface of his career. He also served as a United States Ambassador to England, President of Harvard College and United States Secretary of State.

Everett loved what George Washington did for our country and showed it. After a plea from the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association near the twilight of his life, he volunteered for an All-American pilgrimage across the country. When informed of the deterioration of Washington's home at Mount Vernon, he acted at his own expense. He traveled the country for over five years, giving 129 speeches and raising \$70,000 for the cause which helped save Mount Vernon.

The estate was neutral ground during the Civil War. Arms and uniforms were forbidden and only civilian clothes were allowed. Presently, over one million tourists travel there annually making it one of America's

most visited public dwellings.

Today, Somerville and its citizens honor Washington in many ways.

- + Prospect Hill Park
 - + Prospect Hill Monument honoring his flag raising
 - + George Street
 - + Washington Street connecting Boston to Cambridge.
 - + Washington Avenue, Washington Terrace and Washington Place are all located off of Washington Street
 - + Mount Vernon Street from 22 Broadway to 17 Washington Street
 - + Mount Vernon Avenue
 - + Prospect Street from 238 Washington Street to the Cambridge line
 - + Prospect Place from 406 McGrath Highway to 43 Prospect Street
 - + Prospect Hill Avenue
 - + Since 1935, one of the oldest restaurants in the city has been the Mount Vernon which is a private salute to George Washington.
- Looking down from Winter Hill, Edward Everett would be proud.

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



I only seem to get sick on weekdays.
I must have a weekend immune system.

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Bobbie Toner
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On This Day in History

September 28

1066 – William, Duke of Normandy, soon to be known as William the Conqueror invades England.

1607 – Samuel de Champlain and his colonists return to France from Port Royal Nova Scotia.

1904 – A woman is placed under arrest for smoking a cigarette on New York's Fifth Avenue.

1928 – Sir Alexander Fleming discovers penicillin when he notices a bacteria-killing mold growing in his laboratory

1939 – Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union agree on a division of Poland; Warsaw surrenders to German troops.

1995 – Israel's Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat sign an interim agreement concerning settlement on the Gaza Strip.

2008 – SpaceX launches the first private spacecraft, Falcon 1.

MCAS testing update

CONT. FROM PG 6

[3] <https://www.thesomervilletimes.com/archives/118815>

[4] <https://fallriverreporter.com/massachusetts-high-schoolers-will-need-higher-mcas-scores-to-graduate-teachers-lawmakers-speak-out>

[5] https://oese.ed.gov/files/2022/09/Assessment-Letter-FINAL_Redacted-9-2022.pdf

[6] <https://commonwealthmagazine.org/education/reading-and-math-scores-plummet-amid-pandemic>

[7] <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2021/09/21/metro/mcas-scores-plummet-during-pandemic>

[8] <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5eb9fa2f8ac4df11937f6a49/t/605106e3af466f7d72888a16/1615922916180/Topline+2021+02+Barr+Education.pdf>

[9] https://btu.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Senator_Jehlen_ESSA_Subcommittee_Report_May2018.pdf

[10] <https://eu.southcoasttoday.com/story/news/education/2022/09/08/mcas-scoring-targets-being-raised-new-bedford-urban-districts-worried/7971243001>

[11] <http://mcas.pearsonsupport.com/released-items>

[12] <https://jfyfnet.org>

[13] <https://www.masslive.com/news/2021/09/mcas-scores-showed-declines-in-every-grade-and-every-subject-except-1-due-to-covid-remote-learning.html>

[14] <https://languageopportunity.org/supporters/english-language-learners-in-massachusetts>

[15] <https://www.citizensforpublicschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/The-MCAS-Abyss-3-29-22b.pdf>

[16] <https://www.nber.org/papers/w14186>

[17] <http://www.mbae.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/Employer-Poll-MassINC-Polling-Group.pdf>

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

1. October

2. October 1

3. October 6

4. 100 degrees Celsius

5. Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me

6. Mars

7. Fenway Park, Boston

8. Czech Republic

9. A card game

10. 1966

11. Dave Grohl

12. Carmen de Aldana (Guatemala) has 21,321


The Somerville Times

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Ignite: A Global Street Food, Fire and Light Festival

To celebrate Union Square's sizzling food landscape, Somerville Arts Council is bringing you the IGNITE Festival! Expect an evening of international eats, fire throwers, roving entertainment, and a raucous celebration of global culture. Saturday, October 1, 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. (rain date: October 2). Union Square, Somerville. \$2 donation. 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. Beyond the global grazing opportunities, a Korean Drumming performance will kick things off to get the crowd moving with melodic rhythms of the East. The main event in Fire Square will feature performances such as Haitian dance to fire performers; the night will close out with the fabulous Ignite Dance Party led by A Trike Called Funk! Throughout the evening, there will be light projections, installations, and many other performers. And of course, there will be numerous activities and our infamous Tiger Head.

Fire Square Performance Area

(Union Square Plaza parking lot)

6:20 p.m. Jen Lin Dance – Korean Drum Dance Performance; 6:45 p.m. Flamenco Boston; 7:15 p.m. KS Dance Studio – Haitian Dance Performance; 7:45 p.m. NewYakCity 95 – Hip-Hop Dancin'ing; 8:30 p.m. Boston Circus Guild – fire performance – 9:15 p.m. A Trike Called Funk – DJ Dance Party.

Food Vendors Include:

Union Square Pizza, El Mineirao, Siam Ginger, Masala Square, Machu Picchu, Gracie's Ice Cream and the Arts Council's Nibble Culinary NEP Entrepreneurs.

Follow festival updates here: <https://somervilleartscouncil.org/artsunion/2022/ignite>

Facebook Ignite Event Link: <https://fb.me/e/2Kk7wy12Y> } Instagram @somervilleartscouncil



Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

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.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and **City of Somerville staff** invite you to attend the next community meeting to discuss **90 Washington Street**, a 4-acre site near the **East Somerville Green Line station** envisioned as the home of a new **Public Safety Building** and a range of civic, commercial, and residential spaces. The meeting will take place **Thursday, October 6**, at 6:00 p.m. at the **East Somerville Community School**, 50 Cross Street. Interpretation into Spanish and Portuguese will be provided. The meeting will also be live streamed on YouTube. For more information, go to somervillema.gov/90washington.

September 15 through October 15 is

designated to celebrate the **contributions and diverse cultures** from the **Latino, Latinx, Latina community** in the U.S. It is also a time to reflect, educate, and expand the meaning of this celebration. There are many ways to celebrate. You can fellowship with family and friends, read a book about Latin American history, enjoy a traditional dish from a Latin American or Caribbean country, or watch a captivating documentary on all the impactful contributions from the Hispanic/Spanish-speaking community. Happy Hispanic Heritage month.

Become part of an incredible team of **school volunteers**. Join the in-person **Volunteer Orientation** on **Thursday, October 13** from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. to learn more. Email JCapuano@k12.somerville.ma.us to RSVP.

Somerville Public Schools is hosting three clinics at school sites in October for children, families, and staff. Registration and more information at: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/vaccineclinics>. **October 11**, Tuesday from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at **Winter Hill Community Innovation School**. Influenza vaccine only. **October 15**, Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at **East Somerville Community School**. Influenza and COVID-19 vaccines. **October 26**, Wednesday from 1:00 to 4:00

p.m. at **West Somerville Neighborhood School**. Influenza vaccine only. The city of Somerville is also hosting weekly vaccine clinics offering the bivalent COVID-19 vaccine. Those clinics start on **October 5** and run on **Wednesdays** (except October 26) from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at **City Hall Annex**, 50 Evergreen Ave.

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 – 11:30 p.m. 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.

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

'Tracy Flick Can't Win'

by Tom Perrotta

Tracy Flick Can't Win
By Tom Perrotta
Scribner, New York, 2022
257 pages, \$27.00.

Book review by off the shelf correspondent Ed Meek

Tom Perrotta is one of the best satirists writing fiction today. His new book is a sequel to the very funny novel *Election*. The main character of both novels is Tracy Flick. In *Election*, she is a high school overachiever running for President of her class. She is the type of student everyone hated in high school – always knew the answer, hand up first in class, front row student and leader of half a dozen high school clubs.

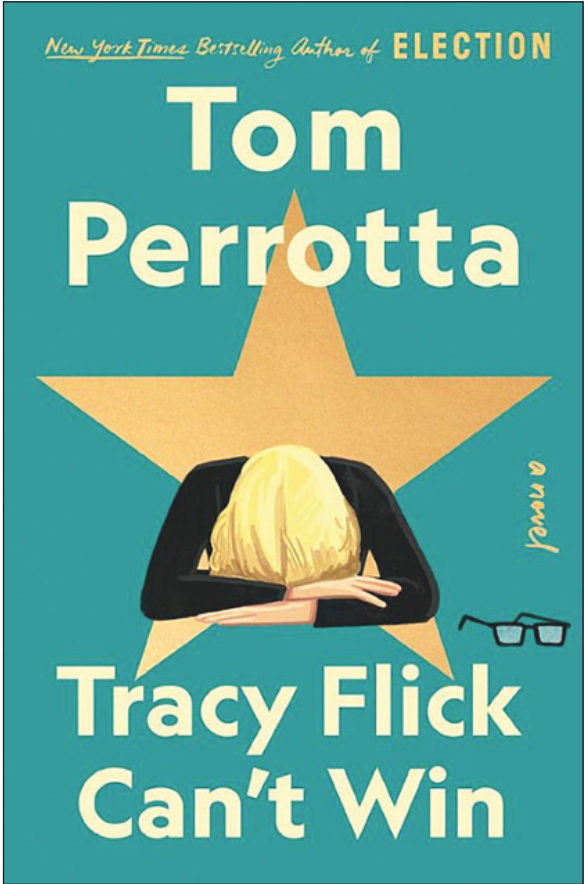
Tracy is played to perfection in the movie version of the novel by Reese Witherspoon (although the novel is funnier than the movie). In our me-too era, the movie feels a little out of date with the main character involved in a consensual affair with her English teacher. Is there such a thing as a consensual affair between a student and a teacher today? The fact that my next-door neighbor married his junior high math teacher just doesn't compute anymore (they did wait until he graduated).

Well aware of the fraught atmosphere of today's political correctness, Perrotta has recreated Tracy as a sympathetic woman whose dreams of becoming the first female President were dashed when she had to leave law school to take care of her sick mother. Now, a single mom and the Assistant Principal at the high school she graduated from, she just wants to be Principal. Is that too much to ask?

A rich member of the school board, Kyle Dorfman, who made his fortune with an app called Barky. Barky has a "Love Bank. If you did a nice thing for Barky, gave him a biscuit or a bath or a bone, you would earn Gratitude Hearts – they would float up from the dog's head and deposit themselves in a treasure chest – and you could use those hearts as currency." Kyle has decided to create a hall of fame in the high school that will be public relations for the school and for him.

Meanwhile, the principal, Jack Weede, is retiring to take his wife, who is a cancer survivor, on the cross-country trip of her dreams. Jack was involved for years with one of the secretaries at the school who is known as Front Desk Diane but he ended the affair when his wife got cancer and now, he is ready to retire and make his wife happy.

At first, Tracy seems to be a shoo-in for the prin-



cipal position, but things get complicated when she signs up as a member of the committee choosing who will go into the hall of fame. A heavy favorite for induction is Vito Falcone, a quarterback who was a star at the high school and made it to the NFL. Maybe the high school needs a revitalized football program with Vito's former coach winning coach to lead the school in a new direction rather than Tracy Flick.

Vito has his own challenges. Football left him with concussions that cause him to lose his temper and hit his wife. As a result, he's living in an apartment by himself and trying to atone for his transgression.

It is a little harder to write satire in 2022 than it was twenty years ago. In *Tracy Flick Can't Win*, it is not just a coincidence that those who commit transgressions are all males. Perrotta could have followed Tracy into politics but instead he has decided to make her into a single mom we root for. Perrotta sacrifices humor for realism.

If you're so inclined, I'd encourage you to read or reread *Election* before picking up *Tracy Flick Can't Win*. Humor is partly based on violating taboos, but what is acceptable to audiences today is not the same as what was funny twenty years ago. In any case, both of these books make great summer reading.

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Mark Saba has been writing fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction for 40 years. His book publications include, most recently, *Two Novellas: A Luke of All Ages / Fire and Ice*, *Calling the Names* (poetry), and *Ghost Tracks: Stories of Pittsburgh Past*. His work has appeared widely in literary magazines around the U.S. and abroad. He is also a painter, and is recently retired as a medical illustrator at Yale University. Please see marksabawriter.com.



Pause

Aqua, indigo, blues
that come and go. Water
holding them in an arc

that reaches our sandy feet.
The sky colors too, clears
for composed clouds.

How many lives have we lived?
In one I run through mud
at the edge of a Pennsylvania creek,

the trees heavy, hazy, and still.
In another I peer through a window
to a hurricane gone berserk.

Now we are reborn in a faux
paradise, making us question
whether we've ever lived

as prisoners of an age,
our scars now tinted rose
lying under Caribbean sun

where they welcome us with eyes
that tell their own stories
in colors we will never know.

— Mark Saba

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