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newspaper

The Somerville Times

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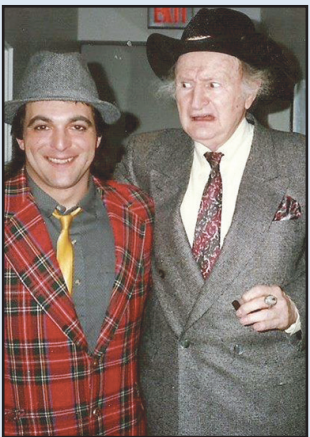


VOL. 9 NO. 39

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2021

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

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Somerville to receive nearly \$78M in recovery funding

New high school field delayed



Completion of the new Somerville High School athletic field has been pushed to early 2023, due to issues related to removal of asbestos in the field's soil.

By Joe Creason

The City Council held a regular meeting on Thursday September, 23.

Upon the Mayor's request, the ARPA Director and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) were given an opportunity to provide the City Council with an overview of the American Rescue Plan Act. This piece of federal legislation was signed into law on March 11, 2021 in response to the economic and public health crisis brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic.

"It is not very often that municipalities receive tens of millions of dollars to spend how they see fit, within certain parameters, and that is the situation we find ourselves in now," said Somerville ARPA Director Austin Faison. *Continued on page 4*

Somerville Theatre reopens after 18 months of closure

By Fernando Cervantes Jr.

On September 17, the Somerville Theatre's Instagram website released a new post with the caption, "Did you miss us? We're back! Starting today we're showing LAST NIGHT IN ROZZIE, PIG, and CRY MACHO."

After closing on March 15, 2020 more than 18 months ago, the theater opened its door for their first screenings since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The theater first opened in May of 1914 has been in operation for 107 years.

Creative Director for the Somerville Theatre, Ian Judge, remarked on how the COVID pandemic affected the theater for the past 18 months. "COVID was devastating to cinemas and event venues, and we were no exception. All staff, including myself, were furloughed for over a year," Judge said.

Judge has a special connection to the theater itself. "I have been running the *Continued on page 2*



After going dark for the past 18 months, the Somerville Theatre has reopened, featuring a newly renovated interior. — Photo by Fernando Cervantes Jr.



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Two popular Somerville Arts Council events – **PorchFest** and the **Ignite! Global Food and Fire Festival** – are happening **Saturday, October 2** (rain date Sunday, October 3). PorchFest musicians of most genres you have heard – and probably a few you haven’t – will be playing live music around the city on porches and in yards between noon and 6:00 p.m. Performers will be given a time to play based on where they are located: west of Willow Avenue performs from noon to 2:00 p.m., between Willow Avenue and Central Street performs from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., and east of Central Street performs from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. A full list of performers and a map of performer locations is available at somervilleartscouncil.org. There is also still time to sign up to play PorchFest. Registration is open on the Somerville Arts Council’s website until **Thursday, September 30**.

After **PorchFest**, celebrate Union Square’s sizzling food landscape at the **Ignite! Global Food and Fire Festival** from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. in Union Square plaza. 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 music and dance performers, and to top it all off, fire throwers. Local eateries throughout the square will be featuring Ignite! themed specials. A \$2 donation is suggested. Visit somervilleartscouncil.org for a full Ignite! schedule.

Sts. Louis and Zelig Martin Parish’s Annual Holiday Bazaar will take place on **Friday, October 15**, from 2:00 – 7:00 p.m., and **Saturday, October 16**, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in **St. Catherine’s Parish Hall**, 179 Summer Street, Somerville. Free Admission.

The number of confirmed cases of **COVID-19 in Somerville** has risen from 32 in June to 147 in July to 328 in August. See the latest Somerville case data at [Continued on page 7](#)

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of September 29 – October 5 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
Wednesday <i>September 29</i>	Partly Cloudy	65°/49°	6%	4%	N 10 mph
Thursday <i>September 30</i>	Cloudy	63°/51°	25%	17%	NNW 8 mph
Friday <i>October 1</i>	Partly Cloudy	65°/49°	7%	4%	W 9 mph
Saturday <i>October 2</i>	Sunny	66°/52°	10%	5%	N 8 mph
Sunday <i>October 3</i>	Partly Cloudy	67°/54°	20%	9%	NW 12 mph
Monday <i>October 4</i>	Cloudy	67°/52°	15%	7%	N 11 mph
Tuesday <i>October 5</i>	Partly Cloudy	68°/55°	12%	5%	NE 10 mph

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: Somerville artists featured in new online exhibition

Alex says:

Nice!

Response to: Thirteen crossing guard vacancies

Tom lee says:

This is not surprising, who wants to work in Somerville with free rent, free food, free everything. Socialism is going to be great for Somerville

Casimir H. Prohosky Jr. says:

Don’t forget the freedom to spread fascist disinformation.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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Somerville Theatre reopens after 18 months of closure

CONT. FROM PG 1

theater for 19 years. I grew up down the street so I have been going here a lot longer!” Judge said.

The Somerville Theatre underwent renovations during the time that it was closed. Judge gave more details of the changes. “However, we made the very best of being closed for so long and made a great deal of improvements to the space – new lobby finishes, spruced up restrooms, and a 4K laser projector in our main theater. Plus, most notably, the second floor of the building, which was converted to two cinemas in the 90’s, was renovated to bring back the old Crystal Ballroom, which is what that area was originally used for back in its heyday. That space will open in October.”

These changes have given a boost to the spirits of everyone at the Somerville Theatre, Judge being one of them. “Cautiously optimistic. It has been truly great to see so many regular customers come through the doors, and all of them have been enthusiastic about the renovations we have undertaken. Certainly, the interior has never looked so good, so that gives us all a good feeling,” Judge said.

The Somerville Theatre currently requires proof

of vaccination or a negative COVID test within 72 hours in order to accept admission. More information and tickets can be found on the theater’s website: <https://somervilletheatre.com>.



Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

Sitcom Ville



I figured if we always talk about the old days, we need to talk about one of our favorite past times, well mine anyway, and that's watching old TV shows. I have mastered the art of maneuvering my remote without having to look at it! That's how much TV I watch. All I ever wanted to do was stay home and watch TV and now I can do it since I retired a few years ago.

We still love the shows that we grew up with like *Andy Griffith*, *F Troop*, *Gomer Pyle*, *My Three Sons*, and *Leave it to Beaver* to name a few.

My favorite channels are the ones that air the old classics. Black and white or in color, I love them. I have at least one TV on whenever I am home. The stations I

watch most are Nickelodeon, MeTV, TBS and TV Land.

I asked these question to my friends. What old TV show /sitcom themes do you remember? Here are some of your responses.

"Well, let me tell ya story 'bout a man named Jed..."

"*Have gun, Will Travel* reads the card of a man. A knight without armor in a savage land"

"Here's the story of a lovely lady who was bringing up three very lovely girls. All of them had hair of gold like their mother, the youngest one in curls..."

"Let me tell ya about my best friend, he's a warm-hearted person who would love you 'til the end ... he's my best friend."

"*Flintstones*, meet *The Flintstones*!"

"Give us any chance, we'll take it, read us any rule, we'll break it, we're gonna make our dreams come true..."

"When drilling and fighting get them down they know their morale can't droop, as long as they all relax in town before they resume with a bang and a boom *F-Troop*!"

"They're creepy and they're spooky..."

"It's *Howdy Doody Time*!" We'd sit on the sidewalk in front of a tv store to watch it, go home, and beg for a TV!

"*Green Acres* is the place to be. Farm living is the life for me. Land spreading out so far and wide, forget Manhattan,



Jerry Mathers (Beaver Cleaver), me and Ken Osmond (Eddie Haskell).

just give me that countryside. No, New York is where I'd rather stay. I get allergic smelling hay. I just adore a penthouse view. Darling, I love you, but give me Park Avenue! The chores! The stores! Fresh air Times Square! You are my wife. Goodbye city life. Green Acres we are there!"

"Boy the way Glenn Miller played..."

"Love. exciting and new. Come aboard we're expecting you."

"Welcome back ... your dreams were your ticket out ... welcome back ... to that same old place that you laughed about..."

"Just sit right back and you'll hear a tale ... a tale of a fateful trip..."

"Making your way in the world each day takes everything you got..."

"Believe it or not, I'm walking on air, I never thought I could feel so free..."

"A horse is a horse of course of course and no one can talk to a horse of course..."

"You take the good you take the bad you take them both and then you have *The Facts of Life*..."

"Here's Cathy who's lived most everywhere, from Zanzibar to Barclay Square, but Patty's only seen the sights a girl can see from Brooklyn Heights, what a crazy pair ... but they're cousins, identical cousins all the way, one pair of matching bookends, different as night and day!"

I'm happy to report that MeTV just recently added *The Honeymooners* to its Sunday lineup. I'm thrilled! "Bang ZOOM!"

One more thing before I end this story ... "STOP FLIPPING THAT CHANNEL DIAL SO FAST!"



Tony Randall, me and Jack Klugman - The Odd...Trio!

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Me with Al Lewis aka Grandpa Munster.



Me and Larry Storch (Sgt. Agarn from *F-Troop*).



Me and "Marcia, Marcia Marcia!" Maureen McCormack from *The Brady Bunch*.

THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Suspected shoplifter hard to identify

A Somerville Police officer was dispatched to Assembly Row last week on reports of a shoplifter who fled the Adidas store.

The officer entered the nearby Puma store and observed a male fitting the description provided standing at the register.

Upon seeing the officer, the man reportedly dropped the item he had in his hand and attempted to leave the store.

The officer instructed him to stop and informed him of the circumstances why he was making contact with him. The suspect reportedly admitted to the theft and attempted to hand the officer a bag full of stolen clothing and leave. The informed him again that he was not free to go.

The officer informed the suspect that his intention was to positively identify him and allow

him to leave afterwards.

The suspect acknowledged the officer's statement, and when asked for identification, he stated that he had none. When asked to verbally identify himself, he provided the officer a name and a date of birth, but he could not remember his Social Security number.

This information did not return a matching record. The suspect then gave another name and date of birth, and a query of this information returned a matching record, however the RMV image was clearly not the same individual the officer had in front of him.

In addition to the image not matching, the listed height and weight on the name given also did not match the suspect's build.

The officer continued questioning the suspect, trying to ascertain his true identity, but he was reportedly provided with apparently more incorrect information.

Backup officers responded to the Adidas store to speak with the reporting party, who stated she observed the suspect placing numerous clothing items inside a backpack that Adidas sells, and walk out the door past all points of purchase.

The backpack located on the suspect was Adidas brand, and still had the tags on it. The store employee positively identified the stolen merchandise inside of it. The total value of the stolen goods added up to \$454.17.

The officers then spoke with the manager of the Ralph Lauren Polo Store. Located in the

suspects' tote bag were numerous items of merchandise belonging to that store, which totaled \$323.33.

The Polo store employee stated he observed the suspect using wire clippers to remove the security sensors. When the suspect noticed the employees were monitoring his actions, he stated something to the effect that the security alarms would not go off.

Based on the inability to establish a true identity, the officers informed the suspect that he was being placed under arrest.

While performing a search incident to arrest, officers located a pair of wire clippers in the suspects left rear pocket. Clippers such as these are commonly used to defeat security sensors.

Also located on the suspect's person was \$125 cash. The of-

ficers immediately recognized these bills as counterfeit. They located 12 counterfeit \$10 bills and one counterfeit \$5 bill.

At this point, the suspect stated he did not wish to speak further with the officers, and no additional conversations were had.

Police transported the suspect to the station for booking. Upon a return from his fingerprints, his true identity was learned to be Steven Collymore.

Collymore was booked on charges of larceny under \$1200, removal of theft prevention device, furnishing a false ID, and possession of a counterfeit note, and on warrant charges of larceny under \$1200, larceny over \$1200, shoplifting by asportation, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and threat to commit a crime.

Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210

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SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Steven Collymore, of Cambridge, September 22, 4:52 p.m., arrested at Assembly Row on charges of larceny un-

der \$1200, removal of theft prevention device, furnishing a false ID, and possession of a counterfeit note, and on warrant charges of larceny under

\$1200, larceny over \$1200, shoplifting by asportation, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and threat to commit a crime.

Javier Gonzalez-Garcia, of Boston, September 26, 5:41 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on a charge of larceny under \$1200, and on war-

rant charges of misdemeanor breaking and entering, destruction of property over \$1200, and larceny from a building.

Somerville to receive nearly \$78M in recovery funding

CONT. FROM PG 1

According to Faison, Somerville will be receiving \$61,700,944 directly from the Federal Government and \$15,803,026 from Middlesex County for a total of \$77,503,970 in recovery funds. The state will be receiving \$5.3 billion and local municipalities will be receiving \$3.4 billion for a total of \$8.7 billion in the Commonwealth.

"The important thing to note is that we have been encouraging the state to act quickly. The sooner they get those dollars out the door, the more certainty it will give cities and towns as they figure out how to spend or how to complement local investment with potential opportunities for state investment," said MAPC Director of Government Affairs Lizzi Weyant.

According to Weyant, ARPA funding can be used for emergency public health expenses, infrastructure, and to pay for any services that governments have been unable to provide due to revenue loss. ARPA funding cannot be used to offset loss in

taxes, pay pensions or service debt. "There are very robust reporting requirements that are included in the treasury guidelines," Weyant said.

All ARPA funds must be allocated by December 31, 2024 and must be spent by December 21, 2026.

The community will have opportunities to engage in further information sessions and participate in decisions with regards to how this money will be spent, says MPAC Co-Director of Strategic Initiatives Emily Torres-Cullinane.

"We feel it is very important to develop a base of collective knowledge of learning about how the ARPA funding can be used in the community, we want to engage all stakeholders," Torres-Cullinane said.

There were questions from the Council on this issue.

"This is a great presentation. We thank you for giving it and we are very excited to receive these funds. However, I see nothing about incentives for dis-

enfranchised groups to participate in community engagement. Can someone speak to this?" Councilor At-Large Wilfred N. Mbah asked.

According to Torres-Cullinane, MPAC looks forward to addressing this, and has taken community engagement steps as well as held discussions around incentives for disenfranchised groups in other cities.

For more information on recovery funds, residents should visit somerville.gov/ARPA.

The contingency budget to build the new high school is down over \$17 million dollars, among other issues with the new Central Hill construction site, says Councilor At-Large Mary Jo Rossetti. "We know there has been some asbestos in the soil samples around the ground they are removing for the new high school field. Unfortunately, in the recent testing, 75% of those samples have been recovered with asbestos in them," Rossetti said.

The facility licensed to receive

toxic materials like asbestos has reached its state mandated quota and closed on September 14. The facility will not be able to receive toxic materials for at least another three months. "The new completion date for the field is probably at the earliest January 2023," Councilor Rossetti said.

In light of Senate Bill 8 passed by the Texas State Legislature, Councilor At-Large Kristen Strezo submitted a resolution calling on Congress to affirm reproductive freedom and pass the Women's Health Protection Act (WHPA). "Laws like WHPA will help protect women from these vicious attacks on healthcare, we need a legislative safeguard against this barrage of attacks at the state level and to provide a bulwark against any supreme court action that would destabilize Roe v. Wade," Strezo said.

The entire Council sponsored the resolution in support.

"One of the things that has been so horrifying and disturb-

ing since the Supreme Court made this decision, has been the silence that we have seen from the political establishment in this country. I think it's incredibly valuable for us to use the voice we have, which is resolutions like this," said Ward 3 Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen.

In other news, Ewen-Campen submitted an order asking the Chief of Police to establish a policy to donate unclaimed bicycles to local non-profit organizations and/or auction them off to the public. "Thank you for bringing this forward, I would certainly like to have something more uniform and down in policy," said Chief Charles Femino.

According to Femino, the Somerville Police Department does distribute bikes to the public for a minimum fee, however he has always wanted to have a day where Bikes Not Bombs repairs many of the accumulated bikes for the purpose of a rideshare program in the Mystic Area. "I welcome the conversation" Femino said.

Fishy situation on the Mystic River



Thousands of dead fish began accumulating along the banks of the Mystic River on or near Assembly Row last week. Wildlife experts blamed the incident on predators of the fish driving them upstream, where the overcrowded conditions robbed them of the oxygen they needed to stay alive. Stench from the decaying fish became noticeable a few days into the incident. Encore Boston Harbor hired crews to help clean up the area. The fish are expected the fish to sink to the bottom of the river, thus eliminating the offensive odors that have plagued the area since their arrival last week. — Photos by Ida Fasano



Somerville awarded PARC grant to renovate and expand Somerville Junction Park

The City of Somerville has been awarded \$400,000 for park improvements through the Commonwealth’s Parkland Acquisition and Recreation for Communities (PARC) Grant Program.

In a ceremony on September 21, Governor Charlie Baker announced Somerville as one of 23 communities across the state selected to receive PARC funds this year. The PARC Program was established in 1977 to assist cities and towns in acquiring and developing land for parks and outdoor recreation purposes. Since 2004, Somerville has been awarded more than \$6 million through the program. Recently, PARC funds were used to rehabilitate Prospect Hill Park and reconstruct the Central Hill playground.

The city will use this year’s PARC award to renovate and expand Somerville Junction Park, located off of Central Street near the Community Path extension, which is currently being constructed as part of the Green Line Extension project. Planned improvements include planting trees and adding a splash pad, fitness area, and community gardens.



Get plugged in.

Learn about a proposed electric system upgrade in your region.

Please join us at one of our upcoming virtual open houses to learn more about proposed improvements to the electric system. These upgrades will bolster system reliability and facilitate access to clean energy resources for our customers.

The proposed **Greater Cambridge Energy Project** will deliver a new underground substation in Cambridge, along with five new underground transmission lines interconnecting existing substations in Allston-Brighton, Somerville and Cambridge.

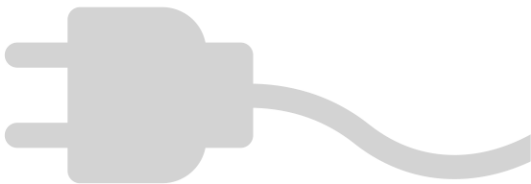
Keeping the lines of communication open is an important part of our work in the community. The virtual open houses are designed to give residents an opportunity to learn more about the project, ask questions and provide comments.

Somerville Virtual Open Houses:

Evening Session Tuesday, October 5, 2021 7:00 PM–9:00 PM	Lunch Hour Session Thursday, October 14, 2021 12:00 PM–2:00 PM
Zoom Info: https://bit.ly/3zltFZ3 Meeting ID: 891 8829 7526 Passcode: 890334 Dial In: +1-646-558-8656	Zoom Info: https://bit.ly/3Aq7QJe Meeting ID: 854 8513 1838 Passcode: 668554 Dial In: +1-646-558-8656

Questions?

Email Eversource at **ProjectInfo@eversource.com** or call **800-793-2202**. You can also keep up to date on pop-up events and happenings in your community by providing us with your contact information (phone, email) and/or by scanning the QR code below with your smart device.



Remembering Gina Foglia

Our city and region lost a loving friend, precious asset, and shrewdly subtle leader last week. Gina Foglia was an exceptional soul who took enormous delight in the natural world, in other humans, and in integrating the two. Her persistent efforts to enrich the built environment with nature’s gifts produced a legacy that may be viewed throughout Somerville.

She succeeded me as Mystic View Task Force president, and if I was a “war consigliere,” as some suggested, she was a “peace consigliere.” She had a rare generosity of spirit, engaging all whom she encountered with gracious and focused attention that often persisted long after a first encounter. I cherished her capacity to see past my own pettiness, gently acquainting me with what goodness I might possess and share with others. She was not the kind of leader who seeks attention, promotes her own persona, and becomes well known. But a leader she was, leaving an enduring impact on many – both those who loved her and those who will never know her name.

The following are remembrances from others who knew and cherished Gina. The Somerville Times encourages all who wish to, to add to these in the Comments section online. — *Bill Shelton*



Gina had a gift for bringing people together. We collaborated on a National Register of Historic Places site that was also a home for treating women recovering from substance abuse. Tensions arose from the neighbors who objected to the facility’s presence in their neighborhood.

Gina understood the need for the neighbors and program residents to come together and understand each other’s perspective. The first step was to organize meetings that included neighbors with the facility’s staff and residents. Her true genius was to propose that the residents of the facility participate in the planting and maintenance of their own garden, including planting vegetable and herb beds where they could grow food and share it with neighbors. She persuaded some of the neighbors to help with gardening, which included training the residents. The healthy relationships that Gina fostered among neighbors, staff and residents continue. — *Edrick vanBeuzekom*

Gina, I will never forget you - your exuberance for life, for adventure, your creativity and intelligence, and your deep ability in connecting with others and making them feel loved and important. You were a kindred spirit, a woman I looked up to, and if I can live half the life you have, I will be proud. To you I will make that promise—and I will do those things we talked about doing and hold you in my heart as I do them. You will be with me. And one day, we will walk in the forest again together. — *Carol Burnup*

Gina designed a gorgeous space, full of native plantings for our home – a Dawn redwood tree, six peach trees, rustic stone walls, and many meditative outdoor rooms. The space is truly magical, as was the time I spent with Gina. I feel as though part of her spirit resides in my garden, which brings blessings to all who experience it. Gina, thank you! You will reside in my heart forever. —*Lillian Sober Ain*

I first met Gina in the early ‘70s when we were both students at Southern Illinois University. I will always remember her amazing cooking, unbounded curiosity and caring for her many friends. One of my fondest memories was staying at her parent’s home on Long Island over Pride Weekend, spending Saturday on Fire Island and then training into the city for the Pride March on Sunday. It was clear her graciousness was inherited from her amazing family. She drove me crazy sometimes but my life was enriched for having known her. — *Paulette Curkin*

As I was exiting City Hall about 25 years ago, I encountered a woman who tenaciously insisted that I buy a dogwood sapling. Our landlady was initially displeased that we planted it without her permission, but it flourished and we subsequently bought the house.

As Gina and I were admiring the tree last year she revealed that the sapling had come from berries of a tree that she had planted on the farm on Long Island. At the time that I had bought it, I didn’t know that the ‘tree lady” was Brandon Wilson, and I wouldn’t know Gina for years to come. But today those lovely dogwoods grow throughout our city, and it’s typical that Gina was instrumental in the creation of something beautiful. — *Melissa McWhinney*

As accomplished as she was in multiple fields of endeavor, Gina was refreshingly free of arrogance. — *Koletta Kaspar*

During our last visit we walked and talked while tagging new street trees for adoption. Before she came over, Gina had called to see if I needed a tarp for the soil delivery that I was expecting, and to ask whether I needed cloves and nutmeg, as she had bought excess. Curiously, I needed all three. This was the epitome of Gina—thoughtful awareness of others’ needs, a great memory, and, I think, a touch of the sixth sense. — *Renée Scott*

Gina was a guide for the Association of Nature and Forest Therapy. She was a life-long learner, and she was passionate about so many things. Her connection with the natural world was profound. — *Tam Willey*

During Mystic View Task Force’s early days Gina advocated for making all of Assembly Square green space. While this view did not prevail, her advocacy was sufficiently persuasive that our mantra became “30 acres of open space, 30,000 new jobs, and \$30 million in net new tax revenues.”

She told my wife and me to plant a styrax tree in our small and shady backyard, where it thrives and propagates. We pass its offspring on to our friends. She subsequently advised us on landscaping for our rental property. We planted the first tree the day she fell.

A wonderful friend and a fearless and passionate advocate for the natural world we are so busily destroying, her work lives on in a way that makes a difference to all of us. — *Philip Parsons*

SFLC Session 1 playgroups scheduled to start October 4

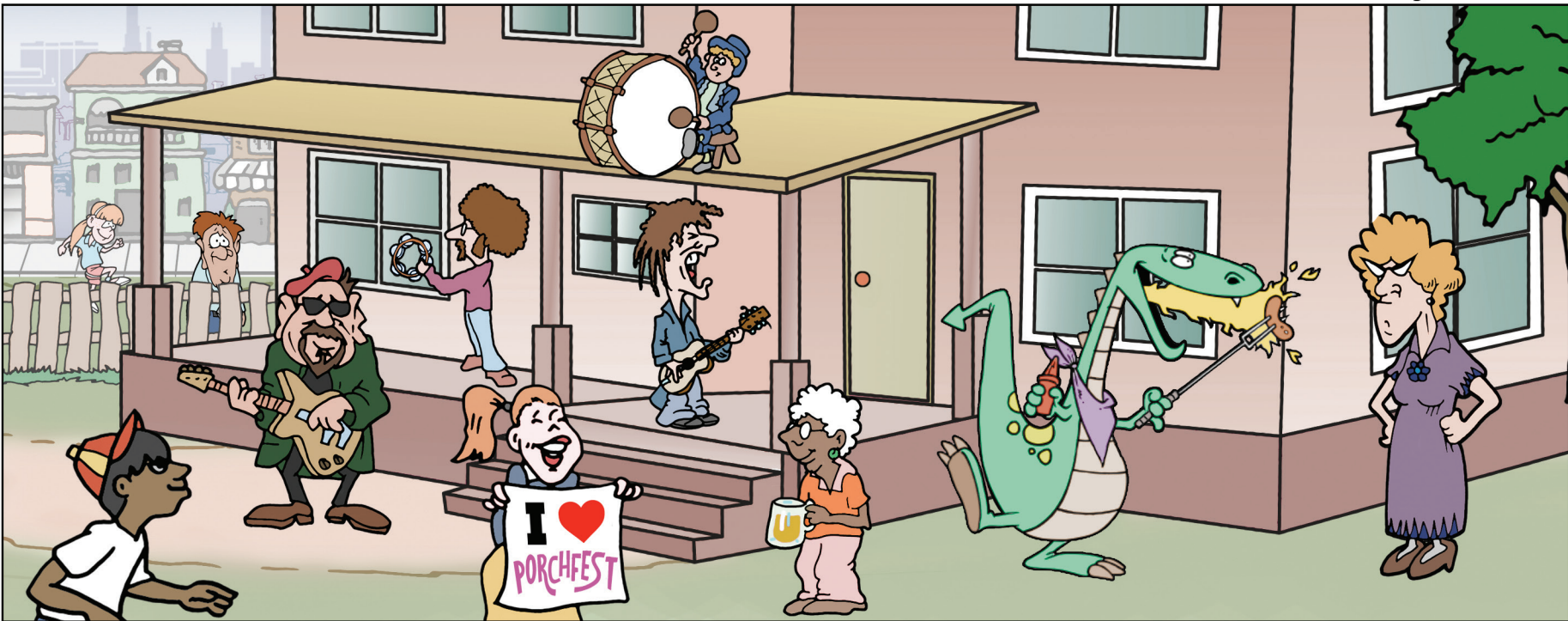
The Somerville Family Learning Collaborative (SFLC) is gearing up for its fall playgroup sessions. Session 1 playgroups start on October 4 and run through December 17. Several indoor playgroups will be offered at the SFLC’s new location – the Edgerly Building located at 8 Bonair Street in east Somerville. Outdoor playgroups will also be offered and will be held at the Somerville Community Growing Center, 22 Vinal Ave. All Somerville families with children birth to 5 years old are welcome to register for one group per week.

SFLC Playgroups are a place to meet other parents/caregivers with infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Playgroups also provide children an opportunity to play together in an educationally-rich environment. All groups focus on a variety of experiences that support children’s development in literacy, math, science, music, art, large motor, fine motor, and social-emotional skills. Virtual playgroups and resources, and a variety of parent support groups will also be available. Visit the SFLC website and look under Prenatal – Early Childhood Services and Supports to learn more and for a complete schedule of Fall Playgroups and Support Groups. SFLC playgroups are free and registration is ongoing throughout the session until all groups are fully enrolled.

COMMENTARY

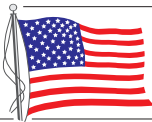
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Be sure to catch PorchFest this weekend – followed by Ignite!

Our View Of The Times



Ready or not, this year’s installment of PorchFest will be hitting the city this coming weekend.

Those who have, in the past, taken notice of the event – and it is an event that is rather difficult not to notice – usually have fairly strong opinions of approval or distaste for the goings on.

For the uninitiated, PorchFest invites local musicians to give something of an

informal concert outside their homes, either on a front or back porch, yard, garden, etc.

The event is organized and presented by the Somerville Arts Council, who register participants and provide interested parties with maps to the “stars” homes. The music kicks off at noon and continues through three different neighborhoods until 6:00 p.m.

Some folks love it, others hate it, and of course there are plenty who fall in the middle. If you’ve never attended, you should check it out, if for no other reason than to say you’ve been there.

One thing that everyone can pretty much agree on is the fun to be had at the Ignite! Global Food and Fire Festival from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. in Union Square. There will be international foods, exhila-

rating exhibitions of fiery derring-do, and all manner of illuminating entertainment.

So, if you’re free for the day, you might want to take in one or more musical presentations at a porch near you, and follow it up with the dazzling sights and sumptuous flavors offered at Ignite!

Get the details for both events at <https://somervilleartsCouncil.org>. You’ll be mighty glad you did.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

somervillema.gov/covid19dashboard. Need a COVID test? Go to somervillema.gov/covid19testing to find a testing location.

Pfizer vaccine clinic is open to all people age 12+ will be held at the location below. The vaccines are free, regardless of immigration status or health insurance. Identification is not required. The **CHA vaccine site** at 176 Somerville Ave. (next to Target in Union Square) and many local pharmacies also offer walk-in vaccinations. To find out more about these clinics and where else you can get vaccinated, visit somervillema.gov/vaccine. If you’re not vaccinated, make a plan today to get your shot. **Monday, October 18:** City Hall Annex, 50 Evergreen Ave., 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. At-home vaccinations available: Massachusetts offers in-home vaccinations for anyone who can't travel to a vaccination location. To learn more and sign up for an in-home vaccination, call (833) 983-0485.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to **AnnMarie Carey-Browne**. We hope she has a great 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. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Linda Malone, Edward Barry, Rick Gaetano, Terri Monsalve, Kevin Driscoll, Millie Vecchia Curley** and **Diane Kerins Conneely** a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

Somerville High School students are encouraged to enter the **Somerville Mathematics Fund 2nd Annual Game Jam**. Teams of three students vie for top honors and prizes in a game-creation competition. Students can register individually or as a team. Registration deadline is **October 13**. Participating students must be residents of Somerville who have not yet graduated high school. For more information and to register, visit <http://somervillemathematics.blogspot.com>.

Brunchin’ @ Warehouse XI, Sunday, October 3, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. **Pam and Bruiser** are back and better than ever with a brand-new drag brunch featur-

ing queens from all over New England. Tickets are for the 1:00 p.m. seating at Warehouse XI. This time around they are partnering with local chefs to give you an a la carte dining experience. Ticket price includes a mimosa and the rest goes to the talent. Make sure to get your tickets now. Masks and vaccine cards required at the door. Location: Warehouse XI, 11 Sanborn Ct., Somerville MA 02143. Source: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/brunchin-warehouse-xi-1pm-seating-tickets-169212594425>

A **Somerville Girl Scout troop** has started a petition for a **crosswalk at Somerville Ave. and Spring St.**, which they see an important desire line, and one that is not currently safe. To support them visit <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeMYDFDOVo9sHZwgcNdkoxRwVVZwmQzOulYuVLIMOXZ-z7nYw/viewform>.

SAC and the Inside-Out Gallery present featured artist, **Bethany Noel Murray**. Bethany's paintings are renderings of the world as it appears through the lens of her chronic migraine symptoms, including ocular aura and a plethora of

Alice-in-Wonderland effects. Bethany’s aura transforms the world around us and she paints the transformation. This otherworldly vision brings an unexpected eerie joy and shines a spotlight on an otherwise invisible disease. To find out more visit our website at <https://somervilleartsCouncil.org/insideout/noel> and check out her work in person at the **Inside-Out Gallery** at One Davis Square.

Beginning **Monday, September 20**, and continuing through **Friday, October 29**, excluding weekends, the **Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)** will implement a **closure of the Foss Park/ Latta Brothers Memorial Pool parking area** in the **City of Somerville** from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to accommodate work on the **Latta Brothers Memorial Pool Modernization Project**. No roadways will be closed or blocked due to this work, but the public is advised to be cautious of construction vehicles entering and exiting the site at the Fellsway West/ Jaques Street intersection.

Due to rain expected on **September 28**, the **Healey Community Play Area ribbon cutting ceremony**

Continued on page 13

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olío

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#796

1. When was the Communist Party of China founded?
 2. How many Bond films did Roger Moore appear in as 007?
 3. How many sunflowers were there in Van Gogh's third version of the painting *Sunflowers*?
 4. Who was the only two time winner of the Heisman Trophy?
 5. What was the name of the *Dallas* character played by actress Linda Gray?
 6. Hotfoot Teddy was the original name of what icon?
 7. What kind of dog is Scooby Doo?
 8. From what musical did the song *I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Out Of My Hair* come from?
 9. How many Gilbert and Sullivan operas are there?
 10. Who invented Cat's Eyes in 1934 to improve road safety?
 11. What was Adele's first album called?
 12. In which game do you have to collect as many marbles as possible with the hippos?
- Answers on page 15*

Answers on page 15

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. A cockroach can live several weeks with its head cut off.
2. Dominica, Mexico, Zambia, Kiribati, Fiji and Egypt all have birds on their flags.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

SCARY MOVIES

ACROSS

1. Shenanigan
6. "Losing My Religion" band
9. Kind of learning
- 13 Capital of Egypt
14. Nest egg acronym
15. Cupid's target
16. Bar, legally
17. Indian restaurant staple
18. Kind of committee, two words
19. Hedge maze, dull boy, redrum, with The
21. Pretend girlfriend, surgery, body parts
23. Monkey _____, monkey do
24. Post-it message
25. It makes a guitar louder
28. Royal Indian
30. Perfumes
35. Glorify
37. Freeway exit
39. Like today's cell phones?
40. Keen on
41. Like a confection
43. At any time
44. One of the large keys on the right
46. Greek portico
47. Common workday start
48. Former President of Egypt
50. Ancient eternal life symbol
52. Bathtub, hacksaws, Jigsaw
53. Euphemism for "darn"
55. Blind violinist, transplant surgery, sees ghosts, with The
57. Hotel, mother, shower
60. Count, bite, cross
64. Hot winter drink
65. Aye's opposite
67. Financial benefactor
68. Seize a throne
69. Headquartered in Langley
70. Exclude or omit
71. Done on a Smith Corona
72. Old age, archaic
73. 6666...

DOWN

1. Single pip cards
2. Crosby, Stills, _____ & Young
3. South American monkey
4. Actor Jeremy

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

CROSSWORD

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	34
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	63
64						65	66			67				
68						69				70				
71						72				73				




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5. Xerox machine
 6. Videotape, stone well, seven days, with The
 7. Paleozoic one
 8. Tropical smoothie flavor
 9. Make over
 10. Hawaiian island
 11. Ragtime turkey dance
 12. And so on, abbr.
 15. Bias crime perpetrators
 20. Closes in on
 22. Pilot's announcement, acr.
 24. ID badge, two words
 25. Sigourney Weaver, outer space
 26. Old Testament miracle food
 27. Hits while on the green
 29. Beachgoers, police chief, need for bigger boat
 31. Boy, shadows in photographs, three sixes, with The
 32. "Transylvania" daughter
 33. Entertainment complex
 34. Scatter
 36. "Nobody ____ It Better"
 38. Low-ranking worker
 42. One who accepts the offer
 45. Porter's head gear
 49. U Rah ____!
 51. Seven daughters of Atlas
 54. Present
 56. Food-borne bacteria
 57. One in a pocketful, according to Mother Goose
 58. Fish a.k.a. porgy
 59. Bygone era
 60. Two of a kind
 61. Type of operating system
 62. Prospector's mother?
 63. God of war, son of Zeus
 64. Director's cry
 66. Be ill
- Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.*

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

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

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

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

East Cambridge Savings Charitable Foundation donates \$5,000 to SCES



East Cambridge Savings Bank President/CEO Gilda M. Nogueira (second from left) presents a check for \$5,000 to support the Money Management program at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services. Also in photo, from left, are East Cambridge Financial Services VP/ SCES Board Member Curtis Jones, Rachel Marta Greenberg of the Money Management program, SCES Executive Director Paul Hollings and Jeremy Bratt of the Money Management program.

The East Cambridge Savings Charitable Foundation, the charitable arm of East Cambridge Savings Bank, recently made a \$5,000 grant to support the Money Management program at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES). This grant is matching the first \$5,000 donated to this innovative program that supports local seniors.

The generous donation will support the independence of local older adults who need assistance with bill paying, bank errands, and other essential tasks. “We are so grateful for the support of East Cambridge Saving Bank,” said SCES Executive Director Paul Hollings. “Our Money Management program relies on local support, and we deeply appreciate East Cambridge Savings Bank stepping up to help us provide this vital lifeline for our older neighbors.”

“The Bank is honored to partner with Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services to support the Money Management Program, which connects volunteers with local senior citizens to help them with vital financial and banking tasks,” said Gilda M. Nogueira, President and CEO of East Cambridge Savings Bank. “We admire the broad range of programs and services SCES provides to meet the needs of our elderly neighbors. These initiatives are crucial to keeping seniors safely in their own homes and connected with the community.”

East Cambridge Saving Bank has generously supported SCES programs since 1995.

The SCES Money Management pro-

gram serves more than 60 older adults in Cambridge and Somerville who need assistance due to failing eyesight, memory loss, or disability.

To support the Annual Money Management fundraising drive, visit eldercare.org/donate.

About Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services

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

About East Cambridge Savings Bank

East Cambridge Savings Bank is a full-service mutually-held bank that is committed to be the preferred banking partner in the communities it serves. Established in 1854, the Bank strives to provide an exceptional customer experience and generous support for the community. Headquartered in Cambridge, the Bank has locations in Arlington, Belmont, Cambridge, Chelsea, Malden, Medford, Somerville, and Waltham, as well as an educational training facility at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. The Bank is a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), the Depositors Insurance Fund (DIF), and is an Equal Housing Lender.

SPS COVID-19 Dashboard

Current community vaccination and COVID metrics, as well as information on SPS testing and tracing can be found on the SPS COVID Dashboard for the 2021-22 school year. The dashboard will be updated weekly on Tuesdays. A link to the dashboard and additional information about our COVID assurance testing program can be found at <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/covid-screening-testing>.

We Are In It To Win It!

On November 2nd

Write In: William Tauro

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"Out to save Somerville"

WILLIAM "Billy" TAURO

Candidate for Mayor of Somerville 2021

wmtauro@aol.com

617.293.2016

Paid for Committee to Elect William Tauro


On November 2nd

Either: "Write it", "Stick it" & "Dot it"

William Tauro

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
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

GEORGE J. PROAKIS, AICP
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, October 19, 2021** at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

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

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4337519913490188047>

Webinar ID: 101-117-515

TO CALL IN

Phone Number: 1 (914) 614-3221

Access Code: 450-489-522

ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT

DETERMINATIONS OF APPROPRIATENESS (LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT PROPERTIES)

HPC.ALT 2021.38 – 10 ARLINGTON STREET
Applicant: Roof Hub
Owner: Kate Williams
Installation of rear deck; Retroactive Commission approval for removal of exterior feature visible from a public way

DETERMINATIONS OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE (STEP 1 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS)

HPC.DMO 2021.20 – 16 WOODBINE STREET
Applicant: Sal Querusio
Owner: Mark R. & Jill T. Ardelino
Demolish principal structure

HPC.DMO 2021.21 – 599 Somerville Avenue
Applicant: 599 Somerville Ventures, LLC c/o Rafi Properties
Owner: Same as Applicant
Demolish principal structure

HPC.DMO 2021.22 – 9 HANSON AVENUE
Applicant: Brendon Boot
Owner: Same as Applicant
Demolish principal structure

HPC.DMO 2021.23 – 256 Elm Street
Applicant: Welch Liles
Owner: AP Davis Square Plaza, LLC
Demolish principal structure

HPC.DMO 2021.24 – 1252 BROADWAY
Applicant: Annette Thomas
Owner: 1252 Broadway Somerville, LLC
Demolish principal structure

HPC.DMO 2021.25 – 2 QUINCY STREET
Applicant: Mystic Realty Trust
Owner: Joseph S. & Sheila B. Savini
Demolish all structures

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

HPC.DMO 2021.19 – 15-16 WINTER HILL CIRCLE
Applicant: Raymond A. Snow
Owner: Raymond A Snow, trustee of 84 Linden Realty Trust
Demolish principal structure

*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.*

9/29/21 The Somerville Times


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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The **Somerville Planning Board (PB)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 6:00pm** through GoToWebinar.

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

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5160148124980758541>
Webinar ID: 169-232-315

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (914) 614-3221
Access code: 138-988-242

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

872 Broadway 872 Broadway, LLC proposes to construct a 3-story Net Zero Ready general building in the MR3 district, which requires Site Plan Approval.

153 South Street Boynton Yards LandCo LLC seeks approval of a plat plan establishing new rights of way for a thoroughfare, which requires subdivision plan approval.

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.

9/22/21, 9/29/21 The Somerville Times

NOTICE OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETING
NUESTRA, LLC

Notice is hereby given that Nuestra, LLC (“Nuestra”) will hold a Virtual Community Outreach Meeting on **Wednesday, October 13** at 6:00 PM relative to its proposal to site a Marijuana Retail Establishment at 518 Somerville Avenue in Somerville.

The Virtual Community Outreach Meeting will be available by clicking <https://tinyurl.com/NuestraNM>. A copy of the meeting presentation will be made available at least 24 hours prior to the meeting by emailing rebecca@vicentesederberg.com.


Interested members of the community will have the opportunity to ask questions and receive answers from company representatives about the proposed facility and operations. Questions can be submitted in advance by emailing rebecca@vicentesederberg.com or asked during the meeting after the presentation. If you are unable to attend the meeting but wish to have a personal telephone call or video conference, please email us to schedule time to meet.

9/29/21 The Somerville Times

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from our website:

www.TheSomervilleTimes.com



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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

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

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1353597088178384397>
Webinar ID: 893-897-739

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (415) 655-0060
Access code: 433-553-400

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

27 Loring Street Jovie and Kyle Conroy seek an administrative appeal of the Building Official’s determination of the building type for the principal building at 27 Loring Street.

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

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

9/22/21, 9/29/21 The Somerville Times

NOTICE OF ACTION
Middlesex County

BEFORE THE BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

IN RE: The certificate to practice as an Emergency Medical Technician

Joseph R. Merry, Jr.
333 Great River Road #527
Somerville, MA 02145

17 Florence Street, Apt. 287
Malden, MA 02148-3983

150 Rivers Edge Drive, Apt. 408
Medford, MA 02155-5448

CASE NO.: 2020-24237

LICENSE NO.: EMT569778

The Department of Health has filed an Administrative Complaint against you, a copy of which may be obtained by contacting, Kimberly Marshall, Assistant General Counsel, Prosecution Services Unit, 4052 Bald Cypress Way, Bin #C65, Tallahassee Florida 32399-3265, (850) 558-9810.

If no contact has been made by you concerning the above by November 3, 2021 the matter of the Administrative Complaint will be presented at an ensuing meeting of the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services in an informal proceeding.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending this notice not later than seven days prior to the proceeding at the address given on the notice. Telephone: (850) 245-4640, 1-800-955-8771 (TDD) or 1-800-955-8770 (V), via Florida Relay Service.

9/22/21, 9/29/21 The Somerville Times

Charter Review community meetings in Somerville

The Charter Review Committee wants to hear from you. Join in for topic-specific small group discussions on how to improve Somerville.

The topics are listed below next to the dates.

September 28, 5:00 p.m. – Mayor, City Council, School Committee

October 13, 6:00 p.m. – Administrative Organization and Finance

October 16, 3:00 p.m. – Nominations and Elections

November 1, 6:00 p.m. – Citizen Participation Mechanisms

Launch Meeting – Zoom<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81142413891?pwd=dkpHMIVja2RzbkZkb24w-TUxpM2ZZZZz09>

Meeting ID: 811 4241 3891

Passcode: 561846



Charter Review
Community Meetings

Follow us on Twitter at @somervilletimes



16th annual Fluff Festival hits the spot

By Eileen Qiu

Let's take a trip back to 1917, when a man from Somerville who went by the name Archibald Query went door to door selling a sweet white fluffy confectionary cream. Query lost interest in his business after facing hardships from WWI and sold his recipe to Harold Durkee and Fred Mower for \$500. Durkee and Mower started making batches in a kitchen at night and selling them during the day, catalyzing the creation of Marshmallow Fluff in 1920. Fast forward to 2021, and Somerville celebrated its 16th annual Fluff Festival at Union Square in homage of the creation of this sweet innovation. The

weekend from September 22-26 was filled with unique treats like marshmallow fluff stuffed empanadas, sold at Machu Picchu, Fine Peruvian Cuisine. The restaurant staff tried a lot of different combinations and there was a lot of trial and error, including concoctions with plantains, that didn't quite work out, cashier Elias Salazar said. However, the empanadas are a big hit, and sold out within hours on Saturday. Guests entering Union Square were greeted by a blue stand with signs shaped like clouds. Volunteers of the festival, like Gina Ellis and ZihangJian would then direct people to events and attractions. This year's pandemic conscious celebration featured new foods, live music and art walks where

festival goers could pose with giant cardboard cutouts of jars of marshmallow fluff or use their phone to scan barcodes that presented a 3D image. Local businesses opened their doors to feature limited marshmallow fluff related products, and there was an outdoor space with live music and socially distanced merchandise booths and games. COVID ambassadors like Chris Clough perused the streets to offer anyone information regarding COVID safety. Clough, dressed in an official COVID ambassador orange polo, and his team also picked up trash if they saw large pieces sitting on the street. "We're like a bridge that connects the city hall and businesses," Clough said. Guests also walked a couple

blocks away from Union Square to Windsor Place, for the festival's "Parking Lot Prom," an outdoor event featuring local bands such as Emperor Norton's Stationary Marching Band. The band's leader, Chuck, said their music could not be limited to any single genre. Dressed in a pinstripe vest featuring the band's insignia of a saxophone silhouette with tendrils of trumpets and tentacles coming out the end, blue sunglasses and a bandana, he said the band's music is "always loud and always fun." There are about 16 total members, but not everyone was present to play at the Fluff Festival. "It's just awesome to be playing outside in Somerville. This is our first show in Somerville since the before times," Chuck said,

referencing the time before the pandemic. It is a big band with controlled chaos, as he described what the moments before a show start are like. "Everyone in the band is great and fun, so we just swarm into a place and sort of check in with each other and we rehearse a lot, so it's fun. We always have fun." Somerville residents Amanda and Faye said they came out to enjoy the nice weather and to see what the Fluff Festival was like. Pausing their game of corn hole – it was their first time – they said they were most excited about the food. There's no specific type of food they were looking forward to, but they were all grins beneath the masks, as they continued to enjoy the games and the music.



— Photos by Eileen Qui and Union Square Main Streets

Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



Pickled Jalapeños

This past week I harvested two cups of jalapeños from the garden and decided to pickle them to preserve them a bit longer. I made a black bean soup and topped it with guacamole and the pickled jalapeños. They are also great in salads, sandwiches, and wherever else you want to add a burst of heat and flavor.

- 2 cups jalapeños, Sliced 1/4" Rounds
- 3/4 cup water
- 3/4 cup distilled white vinegar
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 3/4 tablespoon kosher salt
- 1 heaping teaspoon pickling spice
- 2 large garlic cloves, peeled and cut

in half

- 1 8oz jar
- 1 16oz jar

Add the water, vinegar, sugar, and salt, to a medium sized saucepan. Bring to a boil. Once the sugar and salt is dissolved, remove from the heat, add the pickling spice and set aside. Slice the jalapeños and place them in the jars along with the garlic pieces. Pour the brine into each jar and let cool to room temperature. Put the lids on the jars and refrigerate. Good for up to a month.

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



PorchFest and Ignite! return on October 2

Two popular Somerville Arts Council events – PorchFest and the Ignite! Global Food and Fire Festival – are happening Saturday, October 2 (rain date Sunday, October 3).

PorchFest

Musicians of most genres you have heard - and probably a few you haven't - will be playing live music around the city on porches and in yards between noon and 6:00 p.m. Depending on their location in the city, musicians will be performing at the following times:
Noon to 2:00 p.m. - West Zone (west of Willow Ave.)
2:00 to 4:00 p.m. - Central Zone (between Willow Ave. and Central St.)
4:00 to 6:00 p.m. - East Zone (east of Central St.)

A full list of performers and a map of performer locations is available at somervilleartscouncil.org. There is also still time to sign up to play PorchFest. Registration is open on the Somerville Arts Council's website until Thursday, September 30.

Ignite!

After PorchFest, celebrate Union Square's sizzling food landscape at the Ignite! Global Food and Fire Festival from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. in the Union Square plaza. 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 music and dance performers, and to top it all off, fire throwers. Local eateries throughout the square will be featuring Ignite! themed specials. A \$2 donation is suggested. Visit somervilleartscouncil.org for a full Ignite! schedule.



BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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On This Day in History September 29

- 1493 – Christopher Columbus leaves Cadiz, Spain, on his second voyage to the new world.
- 1513 – Spanish explorer Vasco Nunez de Balboa discovers the Pacific Ocean.
- 1789 – Congress votes to create a U.S. army.
- 1850 – Mormon leader Brigham Young is named the first governor of the Utah Territory.
- 1932 – A five-day work week is established for General Motors workers.
- 1943 – Adolf Hitler's book Mein Kampf is published in the United States.
- 1960 – General Douglas MacArthur officially returns Seoul, South Korea, to President Syngman Rhee.
- 1966 – Chevrolet introduces the Camaro, which will become an iconic car.
- 1979 – John Paul II becomes the first pope ever to visit Ireland.
- 2008 – Dow Jones Industrial Average plummets 777.68 points in the wake of Lehman Brothers and Washington Mutual bankruptcies.

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Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

at 5 Meacham Street has been rescheduled for **Thursday, October 7**, at 1:45 p.m. **Somerville Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone** and **Ward 4 Councilor Jesse Clingan** invite you to celebrate the newly renovated playground, formerly known as the tot lot, which features state-of-the-art play structures for children ages 2 through 5, an expanded natural area with log seating, and bright colors and graphics. The design was developed in partnership with the **Healey School community** and the **Friends of Healey** group. Renovations were funded entirely using **Community Preservation Act**

funds. The **Healey Community Play Area** is the first phase of a larger, transformational schoolyard renovation project focused on equity and access that is currently under construction and expected to be complete in the summer of 2022.

The **Somerville Board of Health (BOH)** approved a **face-covering mandate** for all indoor public places that went into effect as of **Friday, August 20**. The mandate applies to anyone two or older, and face coverings can be removed when people are actively eating or drinking. Masks should have a snug fit and

cover the nose and mouth. The order can be read at <https://www.somerville-ma.gov/sites/default/files/COVID-19-Mask-Order-Proposed-8.21.pdf>.

The **East Somerville Market** takes place on **Sunday, October 3**, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at their new location: **East Somerville Library**, 115 Broadway, Somerville. For a list of vendors visit <https://www.eastsomervillmainstreets.org/market>.

The **Somerville High Class of 1971** is looking for classmates for their **50th re-**

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

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Somerville Composer

Reynaliz Herrera:

Using Bikes as Percussion Instruments

I caught up with Somerville composer Reynaliz Herrera, who uses very unconventional objects as instruments.

Doug Holder: You are originally from Mexico. How has Somerville been for your life as an artist?

Reynaliz Herrera: I've lived in Boston for 11 years now and lived specifically in Somerville on and off for the past years. I love how Somerville is so mindful and supportive of its artists, I feel like there are a lot of opportunities for artists in this area (festivals, events, grants, etc.) and I like that the scene here is also very supportive of "quirky art," and art that doesn't necessarily fit a particular genre. We need that!

DH: Your project at the Growing Center in Somerville explores "music for bikes." I can recall that Gershwin used taxi horns for his composition *Rhapsody in Blue*. There is a symphony of sounds in the urban environs. Are you going along a similar track?

RH: In a way! I wasn't particularly inspired by Gershwin, but yeah, I would say that especially at the beginning of my exploration with bicycles as instruments and when I started writing music for bicycles – 9 years ago – I was inspired by the sounds of the city. I also was inspired by John Cage and his philosophies about music. I was inspired by the idea of using anything as an instrument and exploring that instrument to the max. I want to treat these types of instruments (unconventional percussion and bicycles) as seriously as you would treat a violin.

DH: The bike will be an actual percussion instrument, right?

RH: Yes! In my new piece/program, *BIKEncerto: a concerto for solo bicycle and orchestra*, I feature the bicycle as a percussion instrument. In this new piece, I aimed to push myself to explore the bike to even more detailed, nuanced heights. I feature the bike in different ways: the full bicycle, a "Tires Keyboard" that I created, and melodic spokes where I wrote and play actual melodic music.

DH: Why do you explore such unconventional instrument possibilities? Do you think the drum conveys more than a bike?

RH: Because it's fun! Traditional instruments are great, but I like to explore new possibilities. Between the more traditional drum – let's say a snare drum – and the bicycle, I would say they just offer different possibilities and opportunities.

DH: Was there a musician or school of music that inspired you?



RH: Yes, especially in my school years I felt really inspired by John Cage and his ideas about music and art, also Evelyn Glennie, percussionist, inspired me to find my own path and my own voice as an artist. My parents, who are also artists, and my former teachers – Ian Bernard, Bob Becker, Noel Savon, Jose Garza, Sam Solomon and Keith Aleo – have also inspired me.

DH: You have a full play that consists of your bike music. It is titled *Ideas, not Theories*. Intriguing title, please explain.

RH: Yes, through *Ideas, Not Theories*, my theatrical percussion company, I perform several original programs featuring the bicycle as an instrument in different ways, one of them is *Ideas, Not Theories – Full Staged Show*, which is the theatrical play. Regarding the title, at the time that I started *Ideas, Not Theories* and wrote my first program, I wanted to convey a sense of playfulness and creative liberty, opposed to tradition and strictness. I was tired of the strictness I felt playing mostly classical percussion and wanted to feel a sense of liberty and freshness. *Ideas*, in this case meaning "openness to possibility" and *Theories*, meaning something more fixed and stricter.

DH: What other unconventional instruments do you hope to explore in the future?

RH: So far I've explored bicycles, water, sprayers, tap and body percussion, brushes, bridges, a boat, etc. I usually like to get obsessed with one unconventional instrument and explore it to the max – like the bicycle, which I've already written four different programs for this instrument. I guess after I get tired of the bikes I would like to explore my water music even further. During the COVID lockdown I wrote and recorded an "impromptu" piece for snow that I haven't shown anyone yet, I plan to upload that online sometime soon, and I'm curious about exploring ice/snow more.

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Dennis Daly has published eight books of poetry and poetic translations. His most recent book *Shield Wall* (Dos Madres, 2021) resurrects the rondel form as used by Francois Villon (a disappeared French poet of the fifteenth century). Daly writes, "The following rondel is from *Shield Wall*, my just released collection from the Dos Madres Press." Visit Daly's blog, *Weights and Measures*, at dennisfdaly.blogspot.com.



Daughters

In soft tears, in love's breathing time,
Those high range moments of stark sun
And rain mix, the lost and the won.
Feel spring's hidden burst. Hear the chime.

Again the chime. Another chime.
So brief, like thoughts, my daughters spun
In soft years, in love's breathing time.

The zest of lemon or of lime
Rouse droll lives before they deepen.
Let each gain themselves, one by one.
The result: a near pantomime
In soft tears, in love's breathing time.

— Dennis Daly

To have your work considered for the Lyrical send it to:
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Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. July 23, 1921 | 7. Great Dane |
| 2. 7 | 8. South Pacific |
| 3. 14 | 9. 14 |
| 4. Ohio State's Archie Griffin, 1974 and 1975 | 10. Percy Shaw |
| 5. Sue Ellen Ewing | 11. 19 |
| 6. Smokey the Bear | 12. Hungry Hungry Hippos |

Somerville Local Cultural Council (LCC)

accepting grant applications

The Somerville Local Cultural Council (LCC) is accepting grant applications that support artists, schools, and organizations for the 2022 calendar year.

Grants are available for projects in the community, individual fellowships, and support to schools for projects or cultural field trips. The application deadline is Friday, October 15.

The LCC Grant Program is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

LCC application guidelines and materials, and information about grant workshop sessions are available at <https://somervilleartscouncil.org/grants>.

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