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## The Somerville Times

VOL. 8 NO. 36

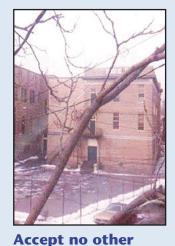
SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2020

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

## **Inside:**



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page 5

## City calls for more police enforcement for illegal parking on Beacon Street



#### By Denise Keniston

On any given day you can find delivery trucks parked in the designated bike lane on Beacon Street while drivers load and/or unload their cargo. Delivery truck drivers have lost much of their parking space in Somerville as bike and bus lanes have been introduced across the city.

Independent delivery driver George Gray says, "Delivery drivers operate on a tight schedule and Somerville, in particular, is a hard city to deliver to because of lack of parking," he adds, "It's tough to wait or drive around looking for parking spots when we have up to a dozen or more deliveries to make in a day."

But cyclists and city leaders have little patience for delivery drivers parking illegally, and instead are now calling for police enforcement. In a recent meeting, Somerville City Councilors discussed ramping-up pressure Continued on page 4

## **Prospect Hill Park reopened**

Somerville's iconic Prospect Hill Park reopened to the public on Friday. The renovation project focused on improving accessibility, restoring and managing the park's landscape, and preserving and revealing the site's history.

Prospect Hill Park, located adjacent to the Prospect Hill Memorial Flag Tower and Observatory at the corner of Munroe Street and Prospect Hill Parkway, is an important gem in Somerville's park network.

It was on Prospect Hill that, on January 1, 1776, George Washington ordered the raising of the first true American flag, the Grand Union Flag. The project focuses on improving accessibility, restoring and managing the park's landscape, and preserving and revealing the site's history.

Rehabilitation of the park began in the fall of 2018. While the park was not closed during fall and winter, some portions of the park were inaccessible to the public. Starting in the spring of 2019, the park was completely closed to the public.

More information on the park's renovation can be found online at https://www.somervillema.gov/prospecthillpark.



The two-year long renovation project at Prospect Hill Park came to a conclusion recently and the park was officially reopened last Friday.

— Photo courtesy of the City of Somerville

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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.

September is National Recovery Month. The social distancing necessary to control the spread of COVID-19 can make it difficult for people in recovery to connect with others and access support. Groups like Narcotics Anonymous, SMART Recovery, and Herren Project, among others, are offering virtual recovery meetings and resources during the pandemic. We have a list of additional resources at www.somervillema.gov/ coronavirushelp.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

Unfortunately, Somerville lost two music venues this week because of the pandemic. Bull McCabe's and Thunder Road, both on Somerville Ave., announced that they are closing. Having their doors closed for such a long period of time has made it difficult for them to keep going. Please support all local businesses as much as you can. These have been very trying times for all businesses and we do not want to see more of them forced to close.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy Birthday to our own photographer, Claudia Ferro. We can't say enough nice things about her, we are very happy to have her as our photographer. We wish her a very happy birthday and know she will have a great day with her husband Sal and all of her family around her. Happy birthday to a local favorite, Patty Oppedisano, the best waitress around. We wish her a great day. Happy birthday to the sister of our former publisher, Marilyn Publicover, who is celebrating this week. We wish her the very best. Happy birthday to hard working city employee, Nancy Gaudet Bacci. Happy birthday to Judith Medeiros, we wish her very happy day for herself. Happy birthday to local realtor and successful developer, Stephen Bremis, of the famous Bremis Real Estate. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as Mary Casavant, Len Glionna, Dennis Kacoyanis, Guillermo Samuel Hamlin, Nick Stavre, Justin Moeling, Billy Harrison, Christine Frazer Amari and Paul Mercier a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. Continued on page 7

## The Somerville Times

699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144 news@thesomervilletimes.com www.thesomervilletimes.com 617-666-4010 + Fax: 617-628-0422





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#### The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

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## **State Primary Election** unofficial results

The following are the unofficial resultsof the State Primary Election as of Tuesday evening. Go to www.thesomervilletimes.com for the latest updated results.

<u>Senator in Congress – Democratic:</u>

Edward J. Markey - 19,630 / Joseph P. Kennedy, III - 19,317

Senator in General Court-Second Middlesex District:

Patricia D. Jeblen - 19387 / Gary P. Fisher - 3782

Senator in Congress:

Shiva Ayyadurai - 377 / Kevin J. O'Connor - 517

Representative in Congress - Seventh District: Ayanna S. Pressley - 22684

Representative in General Court:

Christine P. Barber - 3458 / Anna Callahan - 2421

Representative in General Court - Twenty-Sixth Middlesex District: Mike Connolly - 3100

Representative in General Court - Twenty-Seventh Middlesex District:

Catia R. Sharp – 5313 / Erika Uyterhoeven – 8674

<u>Councillor – Sixth District:</u>

Terrence W. Kennedy – 8051 / Helina Fontes – 14061

Register of Probate - Middlesex County: Tara E. DeCristofaro - 19791

### Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of September 2 – September 8 as provided by the National Weather Service

	DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
•••	Wednesday September 2	Rain	72°/67°	49%	41%	SSE 9 mph
•••	Thursday September 3	Rain	84°/69°	51%	37%	SSE 11 mph
*	Friday September 4	Sunny	84°/60°	21%	17%	W 11 mph
*	Saturday September 5	Sunny	78°/56°	0%	11%	W 10 mph
*	Sunday September 6	Sunny	79°/59°	9%	7%	SW 11 mph
*	Monday September 7	Sunny	78°/60°	19%	10%	SSW 13 mph
	Tuesday September 8	Partly Cloudy	76°/61°	21%	21%	SSE 11 mph

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

## TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

#### Response to: We all screamed for ice cream

Ron Newman says:

After Steve's closed, it was torn down to build Carberry's Bakery. Carberry's closed and was followed by several unsuccessful restaurants before becoming the current Posto.

#### Jeanne Alexopoulos says:

I absolutely loved reading this story. Old Somerville Memories from the 50's 60's and 70's will always be so special to me. I loved Brighams in Porter Square where I ALWAYS bought raspberry sherbet with chocolate jimmies. It was amazing. And I have never been able to find jimmies that tasted that good. I go to homemade ice cream stands and they still dont compare. On Sunday nights my parents sometimes bought all the fixings from there to make sundaes at home for 5 little kids. The best days ever. Thank you for a trip down memory lane. Happy tears.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments



## Life in the VILLE by Jimmy Del Ponte

## Small Italian sub



Somerville in the late '70's and '80's was a lot different than today. High School was a bit stricter and we had creative ways of letting off steam.

Please be assured I have the utmost respect for most teachers and the education system.

As I watch the progress of the construction of the new Somerville High School, memories of my days at the old high school fill my head. I recall the demonstrations, walk outs, ridiculous dress codes and the archaic disciplinary practices. But I also remember all the fun we had. The strict rules enforced by the principal, vice principal and building masters made it all the sweeter when we broke the rules.

I graduated in 1971 and seven years later I returned as a substitute teacher. \$25 bucks a day. The money was okay but the look of terror on my former teachers' faces when they saw me smoking in the teacher's lounge was freaking priceless! But first a little of my history as a student.

Even though my mom paid a fellow student to tutor me during my whole sophomore year, I still flunked Geometry. To my shock, they put me back in Geometry for my junior year with the same teacher who flunked me. When I saw my schedule on the first day of school, I walked out of class and marched into my guidance counselor Mr. Perno's office. I told him if they stuck me back in Geometry with the same teacher I'd quit school. He came up what we jokingly labeled The Jimmy Course. No math! No math at all!

I took Music Appreciation, Music Theory, Boys Glee Club, SHS Glee Club, and A Cappella Choir. And to think I graduated from Emerson College with a BFA, and zero math background. It's a wonder I didn't end up in the gutter. And my intimidation by that math teacher eventually subsided.

Fast forward a few years. I loved substituting. I was playing in a rock band at night and dragging myself into various schools in the morning. Although sometimes when the schools called my house at 7:15 a.m., I didn't answer the phone.

As a 1968 graduate of the Western, and then a sub, one of my fondest memories was a personal phone call by the principal of the very same Western Junior High School, Dr. Wendell David Jones.

It was around 1978 and the call went something like this. "Hello James, this is Mr. Jones at the Western. It seems some of the students forced the substitute teacher to abruptly leave the class-



Somerville High School.

room by way of the window. I wonder if you could come up and take over the class. And James, please leave the leather jacket at home."

True story. Later that week Dr. Jones scolded the students for convincing me, still a novice sub, that it was okay for them to play cards at their desks. My dad and Dr. Jones grew up together and were golf buddies, along with my Uncle Sal, their whole lives.

Another funny memory was when I was subbing at Somerville Trade High around 1981. The students told me that it was okay if I read the newspaper while they ran amuck in the class room. They were blowing plastic wire nuts though lengths of pipe, out the window at passing cars. One driver whose car got hit barreled into the front door, pass the office, up the stairs and into the classroom. He was in a rage as he confronted the culprits with principal Muzzioli following right behind. That was my last day as a substitute teacher at Trade High.

Other memories were of the time I gave a friend of mine his own pad of corridor passes at Somerville Continued on page 14

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

Our hours of operation moving forward will be

12:00 to 8:00 p.m. until further notice.

Be safe and stay healthy – The Mount Vernon Restaurant

## By Jim Clark

## Unlicensed driver sees what happens

Last Friday, while traveling on Mystic Ave., a Somerville Police officer queried the license plate of a vehicle directly in front of him, resulting in a report that the plates were canceled and attached to the wrong motor vehicle.

The officer contacted Somerville Police control and asked for confirmation on the license plate status, then activated his lights and sirens.

The vehicle was stopped near

the intersection of Mystic Ave. and McGrath Hwy., then drove towards the side entrance of the Stop & Shop store.

A passenger in the vehicle reportedly opened the door while the vehicle was still in motion, and once the vehicle stopped, exited the vehicle with a black backpack and took off running towards Blackeley Ave.

The officer approached the vehicle and requested the license and registration from the operator, Shami Grant, of Charlestown, and informed him of the reason for the stop.

Grant handed the officer the vehicle's title and a bill of sale and reportedly stated that he did not have a valid license.

The officer asked Grant to step out of the vehicle and placed him under arrest for unlicensed operation and failure to stop for police.

The officer grabbed Grant's left hand and cuffed him. When he grabbed Grant's right hand, he reportedly began to question why he was being arrested and pulled his arm away. The officer advised Grant not to resist, and placed him in handcuffs without further incident.

The officer instructed Grant to sit on the sidewalk while waiting for backup. He then started to complain about the handcuffs being too tight and said to the officer, "Why are you doing this to me? Take these cuffs off and see what happens."

Additionally, Grant repeatedly threatened the officer until the prisoner transport vehicle arrived, according to reports.

Grant was transported to the Somerville Police Headquarters and booked on charges of failure to stop for police, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, unregistered motor vehicle, attaching wrong motor vehicle plates, and uninsured motor vehicle.

## Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210

#### **Arrests:**

Shami Grant, of Charlestown, August 28, 9:45 p.m., on charges of failure to stop for police, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, un-

arrested at McGrath Hwy. registered motor vehicle, attaching wrong motor vehicle plates, and uninsured motor vehicle.

Joseph Norman, August 29, 4:39 a.m., arrested at Sydney St. on charges of possession of ammunition without FID

card, resisting arrest, assault and battery on a police officer, and carrying a firearm without a license.

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#### City calls for more police enforcement for illegal parking on Beacon Street CONT. FROM PG 1

on the Somerville Police Department to start ticketing delivery drivers parked illegally in bike and bus lanes, especially on Beacon Street.

"It's taken a decade plus of visioning to get this protected lane on Beacon Street," says Ward 7 Councilor Katjana Ballantyne. amount of frustration from cyclists that delivery trucks are always parked. Hence, cyclists are no longer safe because cyclists have to go out into the traffic to go around."

Trying to get a driver to move a delivery truck, van, or Uber vehicle while parked in the bike lane is a confrontation most cyclists would rather avoid and cyclists may not feel comfortable alerting the police. Plus, telling one driver at a time - who may or may not listen to you - does not solve a growing problem.

Tom LaMar, Chair of the Somerville Biking Committee, says "mountable curbs" are a big part of the problem on Beacon

Street. "Parking in a bike lane is illegal and dangerous, just like parking on a sidewalk, which is why we often rely on vertical curbs to keep cars out," he says. "Unfortunately, the westbound Beacon St. bike lane uses an outdated design known as a 'mountable curb' - a diag-"There's been a tremendous onally slanted curb that makes it too easy to drive into the bicycle lane. This lack of clear separation creates a confusing and dangerous situation where Ubers and delivery vehicles often mount the curb and park in the raised bicycle lane, undermining its safety benefits."

> According to the Somerville Traffic Commission's Traffic Regulations document, updated and released in July 2020, any illegally parked vehicle is subject to fine. A ticket for parking illegally in a bike lane results in a \$50 fine.

> Ward 2 Councilor J.T. Scott says police enforcement needs to be taken in context. "I think it's also an important conversation



A small delivery van parks illegally on the Beacon Street bike lane. Drivers say they are often on tight schedules making it hard to search for parking.

to have as it dovetails with the role of policing," he says, "And how they're [police] able to adequately address the needs that the city has. I hope this is taken

in the context of the ability to enforce laws and do not lean on a police department that already has other priorities."

A copy of the Somerville Traf-

fic Commission's 'Traffic Regulations' document can be found online at https://www.somervillema.gov/sites/default/files/ current-traffic-regs.pdf.

## Somerville bar and restaurant join forces to stay in business

#### By Rachel Berets

The parking lot behind Dragon Pizza in Davis Square used to be an eyesore - a mess of patchy gray concrete with worn white lines marking the parking spaces.

Now it has been transformed into an outdoor patio serving food and beverages, a COVID-collaboration between Dragon Pizza and their Davis Square neighbor Sligo Pub.

The joint outdoor restaurant provides a unique opportunity for Sligo Pub to reopen, as bars like Sligo that do not serve food are not allowed to operate until Phase 4 of the Massachusetts reopening plan goes into effect.

"Really this partnership is about people helping each other," said Charlie Redd, the owner of Dragon Pizza. "They're able to earn, we're able to earn. It's a partnership of need right now and it's been a positive experience."

While Dragon Pizza has been able to stay open during the pandemic, delivering pizza and filling take-out orders since Governor Baker ordered non-essential businesses to close in late March, Sligo has been shuttered throughout the spring and most of the summer.

For months, Sligo's leadership tried to secure a food license from the City of Somerville so that they could reopen during Phase 2 alongside other restaurants in the area.

"We just didn't want to die," said Joe Devine, Sligo's Bar Manager who has worked at the pub since 2001. "If we didn't open up soon, we could be saying 'See



Loyal customers of both Dragon Pizza and Sligo Pub are delighted to have a place to - Photo courtesy of Sligo Pub enjoy their favorite fare at their outdoor patio area.

you later Sligo."

Sligo did not see any way to open until they consulted with Redd and Dragon Pizza about how they could operate together in the dilapidated parking lot behind their two storefronts.

Dragon Pizza did not want to run an outdoor patio on their own without serving alcohol, so teaming up with Sligo felt like the perfect solution. "It's a bad business decision to open a patio with no alcohol, it didn't make sense. But if we opened this patio with Sligo serving alcohol and us serving food, all the sudden we created a restaurant together," said Redd.

After Dragon Pizza and Sligo was approved by their landlord and the City of Somerville to run their restaurant in the parking lot, they started constructing the patio, which seats 50 people.

"We built a restaurant in our back parking lot, so it was a lot of work," said Devine. "The whole staff was there with me every day, working for free, just to make sure Sligo doesn't die." Since opening the outdoor patio in late July, Sligo has been able to rehire several of their full-time employees. They have also been able to provide a semblance of normalcy to their customers, many of whom work at restaurants in the Somerville area and have been coming to Sligo for years.

The two establishments plan on partnering at least for the rest of the summer and into the fall. But even as the weather gets colder, Devine is not worried.

"Sligo customers are a different kind of people, they don't care how cold it is, they just want to hang out. We could get heating lamps or whatever, but I'm not worried about that. Sligo is strong as far as the clientele goes. They're all crazy but they're there."

Redd is also thrilled to be able to provide a good, familiar experience to his customers. "The people that come are happy and that's the only concern that any restaurateur can carry," said Redd. "We're a punk rock pizza shop and they're a dive bar. It's been a great partnership."

## The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #212

#### A Day for Laborers

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

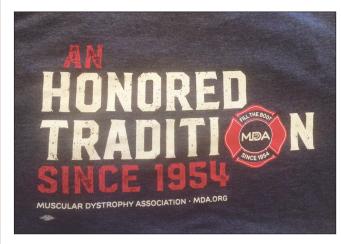
On June 28, 1894, a little over 126 years ago, the United States Congress and America's 24th President Grover Cleveland signed into law and recognized that the first Monday in September would become Labor Day, a federal holiday.

Twelve years earlier on September 5, 1882, between ten and twenty thousand working men of all trades marched from City Hall to Union Square. This was not in Somerville, but in New York City's Union Square. It was the first Labor Day parade in America.



Today, this holiday honors no particular individual or event. It celebrates the contributions and achievements of all of our American workers. Because of its floating date, it is always on a Monday. This rewards us with a three-day weekend bridging the twilight of summer for sad returning vacationers and the sunrise of autumn for even sadder returning students.

Early on, the observance of Labor Day's goal was to end twelve-hour work days, seven-day work weeks, unsafe working conditions and the abuses of child labor. Now, during more promising times, parties, street parades, cookouts, and relaxation are the norm.



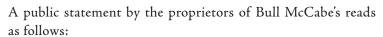
For 44 years covering over two generations between 1967 and 2011, singer, actor, comedian, philanthropist and humanitarian, Jerry Lewis was a Labor Day crusader for disadvantaged children. His Labor Day weekend telethons made billions of dollars for "Jerry's Kids" and the Muscular Dystrophy cause.



In 1942, George E. Graney, father of retired Somerville Deputy Fire Chief Thomas Graney, was a fiveyear Boston firefighter. He was part of the initial fire crew that worked at the horrific Coconut Grove nightclub inferno which took 492 lives, nine of whom were from Somerville. Continued on page 12

## Two music clubs close in Somerville

Two popular night spots in Somerville have been forced to close their doors for good due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its resulting restrictions on social distancing. Both Bull McCabe's Pub and Thunder Road have recently announced their immediate permanent closures.



"It is with a very heavy heart that I am writing to let you know that, after twelve years in Union Square, Bull McCabe's will not be reopening. The last six months have taken an incredible toll on all of us, and while the restaurant/bar/music venue industry as a whole has been decimated,

Mom-and-Pop shops like ours, especially, have been crushed. We're a 780 sq. ft music venue, not easily-aligned with social distancing, and we have been struggling to stay afloat for a long time.



Legal battles, construction, an ever-changing neighborhood, and many other causes have made it increasingly difficult for us over the past few years.

We've incurred a large amount of debt, and it is continuing to rise with no income to help knock it down. So, as much as I want to hang on and hope things will bounce back, I can't Continued on page 9

## EPA to coordinate with city on cleanup of Conway Field contamination

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the City of Somerville have signed an Administrative Order of Consent in which the EPA has committed to coordinate with the city on remediation of Conway Field in accordance with federal and state environmental regulations.

Conway Field and the adjacent splash pad were closed in 2018 after soil testing conducted in preparation for the proposed renovation of the park revealed PCB and lead contaminants, some exceeding regulatory limits. Under the agreement, EPA will conduct the first phase of soil removal, addressing the areas with the highest contamination at an estimated cost of \$3 million. Under the guidance of the city's Licensed Site Professional (LSP) and via EPA-approved plans, the city will then complete remaining soil removals and remediation work at an estimated matching cost of \$3 million. The site is now managed under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) and is also regulated under EPA's Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). The city is legally obligated to remediate the site. Conway Field will remain closed to the public during remediation. Conway Playground, which was also tested in 2018 and a portion of which was found safe to remain open, must also close during remediation.

"I want to thank the EPA for this significant assistance to help us remediate and restore this field, which is such an important asset for our city's youth and all our athletes. Without this substantial contribution of funding, expertise, and remediation assistance – especially amid the current financial crisis – a timely return of this field to community use would be in jeopardy," said Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone.

#### Project Schedule:

Pending a City Council vote and any unforeseen circumstances, the city will begin preparing the site for remediation as early as this fall. Soil removal is expected to begin in the spring of 2021. It is estimated that remediation will be complete by late summer 2021 and reconstruction of the field will be finished by fall 2021. A new splash pad will also be installed and the playground will be refurbished. Due to the contaminants and remediation requirements, there are unfortunately a number of trees that must be removed. All will be replaced and some additional trees will be planted as well. The target date for completion of the entire project pending any unforeseen circumstances is late fall 2021.

The area will be prepared as early as this fall with an access road for construction vehicles, security fencing, and dust control measures. In spring 2021, EPA contractors will then remove contaminated soil to a range of depths to remediate identified areas of contamination as dictated by federal guidelines. A contractor for the city will then remove the top 18 inches of soil across the entire site, again according to state and federal guidelines. The contractor will then cap the site by installing a geotextile barrier and new soil and then build a syn-



thetic turf field on top. Plans for the remediation and capping with a synthetic turf field were previously approved by DEP and EPA. A City Council vote on requested construction funds is pending. All preparation and remediation activities will be coordinated and overseen by the city's Licensed Site Professional.

## Community updates and engagement

To date, the city has held four community meetings on the Conway site, the most recent on December 16, 2019. The Administrative Order of Consent triggers both the remediation

work and additional deadlines. Neighborhood outreach and a public meeting to detail project plans will be conducted jointly with EPA according to EPA timelines this fall. The city will also hold additional community discussion on the field reconstruction and splash pad designs this fall.

Visit the Conway Project Page on the city website at somervillema.gov/conwayfield for previous updates and FAQs as well as coming updates. Via the project page, you can also view the December 19, 2019, Conway Field presentation and sign up for Conway site email updates.

## Bus improvements along Washington St. in East Somerville set for fall

As part of an MBTA initiative to make bus service more efficient and safer for passengers during the COVID-19 pandemic, Somerville will be installing a westbound dedicated bus lane along Washington St. in East Somerville between Tufts St. and McGrath Highway.

In the eastbound direction, a dedicated protected bike lane will start at Joy St., linking with the protected bike lane that begins at New Washington St. This project is expected to be installed in September or shortly thereafter and will not require the removal of any parking spaces.

This bus lane upgrade was given priority by the MBTA, which is seeking to protect essential workers and those reliant on public transit during the pandemic as part of an ongoing effort to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Dedicated bus lanes can reduce crowding and also reduce the amount of time riders spend in close proximity to others while on the bus. In some cases, bus lanes can support improved service frequency to even further mitigate crowded conditions.



These improvements can support public health and COVID-19 recovery throughout the bus service network and region.

"Every element of what we do and how we get around is being reevaluated during this pandemic," said Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone. "Among other things, a quicker bus trip is a safer bus trip. This is especially important for people at higher risk for serious COVID-19 complications if infected, such as seniors and those who are immunocompromised. For many people, the bus is their primary mode of transportation, an essential link to their jobs and every other facet of their lives. We will seek to provide them a greater measure of safety and security as our battle to contain this disease continues."

The project will improve travel time and reliability for MBTA Route 86, Route 91, and Route CT2 bus service. Between these three routes, this road corridor serves approximately 120 weekday inbound bus trips and 10,000 total weekday riders. Route 86 is a Top 20 Route in the MBTA system, serving approximately 6,150 weekday passengers, but on-street traffic congestion contributes to poor on-time performance.

Route 86 has experienced steady ridership through the COVID-19 emergency, which lends additional urgency to these mobility improvements. The project is anticipated to shave two to four minutes off each trip.

"The improvements to bus reliability and trip times, and hence to the MBTA's ability to manage crowding during the COVID-19 emergency, is a substantial public benefit that is consistent with the City of Somerville's holistic response to the pandemic," said Somerville Director of Mobility Brad Rawson. "Every minute we can shave off a trip reduces the risk to riders."

The new bus lane also will link up with the recently installed network of Shared Streets throughout East Somerville at the corner of Washington St. and Tufts St. In addition, later this fall, the inbound bus stop at Washington St. and Tufts St. and the outbound stop at Washington St. and New Washington St. will be converted to fully-curbed and protected "floating bus stops," where the bus stop will have a bicycle lane run behind it. This creates a protected waiting area for bus riders and greater safety for cyclists, who will not need to negotiate around bus traffic at those intersections.

The MBTA's Rapid Response Program plans also announced improvements in Boston, Everett, and Chelsea, and will continue to roll out new projects into spring 2021.

## COMMENTARY

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

**Illustrated by Jim Clark** 



## **Our View Of The Times**



While its precise origins in the late nineteenth century are a bit unclear, the observance of Labor Day has generally come to signify a celebration of the common working class in America, in a somewhat similar fashion as that of International Workers Day on May 1 throughout other parts of the world.

The occasion also traditionally marks the symbolic end of the summer high season, when kids are back in school and vacation time is over for many. But in the face of the COVID-19 situation, much of what was once traditional has flown out the window as a new "new normal" confronts us on an almost daily basis.

Schools are struggling to find ways to function safely and effectively, and many workers have lost their jobs - either temporarily or permanently - due to restrictions imposed on businesses that ordinarily operate at a high level of customer contact. Those fortunate enough to be able to work at their "home offices" are faring better, but there are so many who aren't so fortunate, and they are feeling the pinch.

While the city gradually reopens over time, we will hopefully be crawling our way back to some level of normalcy. In

the meantime, let's all hang in there and understand that the present state of things can't go on forever. That there will eventually be relief from all the stress and worry that so many of us or our friends and families have experienced.

Let's make this Labor Day a recognition of the courage it takes to shoulder on in the face of this adversity, as so many of us have done and are still doing.

#### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, State Senator Pat Jehlen, State Representative Mike Connolly, City Council President, Ward 1 Councilor Matt McLaughlin, and City of Somerville staff invite you to a virtual meeting to discuss the community needs at the Kensington Connector. The Kensington Connector is the pedestrian crossing under I-93 at Mystic Avenue between the East Somerville neighborhood and the Assembly Square neighborhood. The meeting will be held on Thursday, **September 3**, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. on the GoToMeeting webinar platform. Please visit www.somervillema.gov/ KensingtonMeeting1 to register to attend. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions on how to join the webinar. For more information, contact Cortney Kirk at ckirk@ somervillema.gov.

Share a photo or drawing of what you are doing to keep cool on mapc.org/ keep-cool-somerville and tag #keepcoolsomerville. The Keep Cool Somer-

ville Photovoice Project is a part of the Somerville Heat Health Assessment and Toolkit which aims to improve climate and health equity in the City of Somerville.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Mayor Joe Curtatone, the City Council, the Somerville Arts Council, and the city's ResiStat program invite Somerville's artists and the cultural community, as well as all interested persons, to join a virtual town hall to discuss challenges faced by the arts community that have been amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic as well as possible solutions. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15, starting at 6:30 p.m. The meetings will be hosted on the Zoom online meeting platform and livestreamed on YouTube and City Cable TV, and those who prefer can also call into the meeting from any phone (no computer or smartphone needed). Residents may also watch repeat showings of recordings of the meetings on City Cable TV. Visit www.somervillema.gov/virtualtownhall at the start time of the meeting to join live or get call-in information. Call-in information will also be available on the day of each meeting on City Cable (channel 13 on RCN, channel 22 on

Comcast) or by calling 311.

Somerville Public Schools students will be starting the 2020-2021 school year virtually in an effort to protect the health of students, teachers, school staff, and the broader community. This is part of a phased hybrid approach that will, dependent on positive health data, transition to some in-person learning. To learn more about SPS's back-to-school planning, visit their website.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

than 3,700 reusable cloth masks have been donated as part of our 10,000 Masks Drive. If you'd like to sew and donate some masks, please seal them in

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Thanks to our crafty residents, more

a bag and use the book drop at either the Central or East Branch Library. Masks are being distributed to seniors and other vulnerable populations who may not have easy access to reusable masks.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

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

There is still time to fill out the 2020 U.S. Census - and the time is now! Census takers have begun visiting Somerville homes that have not yet completed the Census. Census takers will be wearing PPE and taking safety precautions, but the safest way to complete the Census (and avoid a visit!) is to respond on your own at my2020census.gov or call 844-330-2020. You can always verify the identity of a Census worker by calling the local Census office at 212-882-7100.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Looking for a way to practice social distancing but still remain connected to other people? Look no further than the Somerville Council on Aging's Friendly Phone Caller program. They have many wonderful volunteers who are waiting to give you a call. Whether you are looking to make a new friend or would just like a friendly chat to look forward to every week, this program has you covered. Call Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 to learn more about the program and to sign up.

The city has set up a separate website dedicated to local business needs during this health crisis. Continued on page 9

## **FUN & GAMES**

## Ms. Cam's Tams lio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

- 1. What was the first state in the U.S. to make Labor Day an official public holiday?
- 7. What is the most expensive home in the world?

U.S. state?

- 2. When did Labor Day become a national holiday?
- 8. Cirque du Soleil started in what country?
- 3. What was the name of the strike which led to making Labor Day national holiday?
- 9. A tick bite can make you allergic to what food?
- 4. Outside which New York apartment building was John Lennon killed?
- 10. In what country was the Caesar salad invented?
- 11. What is a community of ants called?
- 5. How many eyes does a bee have?
- 12. What is an Apgar score?
- 6. What was the first

Answers on page 15

#### SUDOKU American Standard WALK-IN BATHTUB SALE! SAVE \$1,500 ✓ Backed by American Standard's 140 years of ✓ Ultra low entry for easy entering & exiting ✓ Patented Quick Drain® Technology ✓ Lifetime Warranty on the bath AND installation, INCLUDING labor backed by American Standard 44 Hydrotherapy jets for an invigorating massage Limited Time Offer! Call Today 866-612-7490 3 2 9 0 O O 4 6 5 4 1 3 6 3 5 8 6

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.

#### The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. It is against the law to burp, or sneeze in a church in Nebraska.

2. There is a 1 in 4 chance that New York will have a white Christmas.

#### STATEPOINT CROSSWORD FALL FUN

#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Domenikos Theotokopoulos, a.k.a.
- 6. Org. striving to attain "the highest possible level of health" for all
- 9. Faculty member, for short
- 13. Rekindled
- 14. Western omelet ingredient
- 15. Trailblazer Daniel
- 16. Not a minor
- 17. Spud bud
- 18. Nonsense
- 19. Colorful autumn attraction
- 21. Popular fall decor item, pl.
- 23. Leave speechless
- 24. Thailand money
- 25. Belfry dweller
- 28. Dwarf buffalo
- 30. Eccentric one
- 35. 2nd word in fairytale?
- 37. Overnight lodgings
- 39. Marilyn Monroe's given name
- 40. Between a trot and a gallop
- 41. Pressed beverage
- \_\_\_ Blanc
- 44. Type of saltwater fish
- 46. Like a broken horse
- 47. Larger-than-life
- 48. Sound setup
- 50. "CliffsNotes," e.g.
- 52. Fifth note
- 53. Genuflecting joint
- \_\_\_ he drove out of sight..."
- 57. Back to what?
- 60. \_\_\_\_ weather 64. Cell dweller
- 65. Tokyo, pre-1868
- 67. Out of the way
- 68. Be needy
- 69. Sticky stuff
- 70. Conical dwelling
- 71. Heidi's shoe
- 72. Asian capital
- 73. Move furtively

#### **DOWN**

1. Famous Steffi

# 10 11 69

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4 (3 oz.) Gourmet Jumbo Franks

4 (2.8 oz.) Potatoes au Gratin

4 (4 oz.) Caramel Apple Tartlets

Omaha Steaks Seasoning Packet

© StatePoint Media

- 2. Do over
- 3. Twelfth month of Jewish year
- 4. Locomotive hair
- 5. Canadian capital
- 6. Cry of glee
- 7. Wagon "cushion"
- 8. Last letter, to Homer
- 9. Standard's partner
- 10. Crucifix
- 11. Change for a five
- 12. Funny Poehler's funny friend
- 15. Himalayan kingdom
- 20. Relating to genes
- 22. Unit of electrical resistance 24. Boo-boo wrap
- 25. Next spring's flowers
- 26. To the left, on a boat
- 27. Safari hat
- 29. Fonzie: "Sit\_
- 31. Top of the Capitol 32. Fall bounty

- 33. Prenatal test, for short
- 34. Pumpkin garden
- 36. Not far
- 38. Big rig
- 42. Stitch again
- 45. Vietnam river
- 49. Lennon's widow 51. Celebrant's bagful
- 54. Lament for the dead
- 56. Artist's tripod
- 57. Exchange for money
- 58. Greek muse of history 59. Before Kong
- 60. Any time now
- 61. #70 Across, alt. sp.
- 62. Biblical paradise 63. Stink to high heaven
- 64. Broadband access
- overseer
- 66. Unidentified John

 $Answers \ in \ the \ next \ edition \ of \ The \ Some rville \ Times.$ 

#### Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

#### Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

												•		
С	Α	٧	Ε	S		Α	F	Т			0	G	L	Ε
U	М	_	Α	Κ		N	0	R		С	R	0	0	Ν
Ε	М	Ε	R	Υ		Ε	R	Ε		L	Ε	Α	٧	Ε
D	0	W	Ν	L	0	W		Т	Н	Е	0	Ν	Е	
			S	Α	М		Т	S	Α	R				
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Α	В	_	Т		Α	L	G	0	┙		L	_	Е	U
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S	L	Α	Ι	Ν		Α	D	0		Υ	ш	Ν	Т	Α
D	0	S	S			C	Е	Р		S	Τ	Е	Т	S

Answers in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

### Somerville preparing for limited Phase 3 Step 1 businesses to reopen

At a Monday, August 24, meeting with Phase 3 business owners, Mayor Joe Curtatone announced that, if the data continues to trend in the right direction, the city will consider a limited reopening for fitness centers, gyms, and indoor recreation facilities on approximately September 8. These businesses would be required to have an approved health and safety plan and meet stringent COVID-19 safety requirements. The requirements, which are designed to decrease the risk of virus transmission, include measures that exceed State standards such as mandatory face coverings for all staff and patrons at all times. Activities that pose a high risk for virus transmission and superspreader events would not be allowed to open in this phase.

On Thursday, September 3, the city is expected to confirm whether the September 8 reopening date will move forward. Detailed guidelines will also be shared at that time. Affected business owners are invited to attend a live online update and information will be posted to the public as well on www.somervillema.gov/CovidBiz. Register for the online update at https:// www.eventbrite.com/e/somerville-phase-31-businesses-reopening-timeline-and-guidelines-tickets-118202939173.



In Somerville, indoor and outdoor gathering capacity limits also remain at stricter levels than the State with no more than 10 persons allowed until further notice, unless specifically permitted in city activity-specific guidelines. To provide safer options for gyms and fitness centers to offer services, the city is encouraging and supporting outdoor alternatives.

Businesses in the State's Phase 3 reopening include indoor venues and activities generally considered to be at high risk for viral spread such as performance venues, movie theaters, gyms, museums, and cultural centers. Phase 3 Health and Human Services categories opened in Somerville according to statewide plans on July 6. Phase 3 grocery store capacity limit increases also went into effect in tandem with the State on July 17. Regulations currently in place for Somerville youth and adult league sports remain the same.

For more information and regular COVID-19 updates, visit www.somervillema.gov/coronavirus and sign up for city alerts at www.somervillema.gov/Alerts. Community members are encouraged to sign up for every alert method: phone call, text, email. Also follow FB.com/SomervilleCity and @SomervilleCity.

### Somerville Public Library Central and West Branches to close Aug. 31 – Sept. 7

The Somerville Public Library will close for contactless services at both Central Library (79 Highland Avenue) and the West at TAB (167 Holland Street) from August 31 through September 7 to accommodate voting in the primary election.

Both locations will serve as polling places on September 1 and will remain closed through Labor Day for cleaning and sanitizing. The East Branch (115 Broadway) will continue to offer contactless pickup and printing throughout the week.

For more information about library hours and services, please visit www.somervillepubliclibrary.org.

Residents voting on September 1 can find their polling place at www.somervillema.gov/MySomerville.



#### Two music clubs close in Somerville **CONT. FROM PG 5**

afford to, financially or emotionally. My family and I thank you all for your patronage, your support, your help, your love and appreciation, your smiles, your lyrics, your drum solos, ripping guitar licks, the heaviest of vibes, and your beautiful voices that helped make a tiny little bar in Somerville a staple in the Boston music scene. I am forever grateful.

I have always said, "Anyone can a bar, but it's the people

who make it." I stand by that. The people. You, your friends, your family, all the incredible staff that we have been lucky to work with over the years, that's the Bull McCabe's Family, and I am proud to have been a part of something so incredible for so long. But, it's time to go. I love

Thank you for everything, especially my family and friends for With all the love,

Brian Manning, and my parents, my business partners, Chris and Linda Whitney, without whom, none of this would have been possible."

The operators of Thunder Road have made the following announcement:

"Dear Thunder Road community, It is with heavy hearts and an abundance of extraordinary

of the permanent closing of our beloved music venue, the challenges upon us all at this time are far too great to keep our doors open and remain as a staple music venue in the Boston area. We will always appreciate and remember the support that we received from you, the musicians, concert-goers, and live music enthusiasts. Together we built a family that has shared the love of live music. We will

always have each other and the moments we shared. Although our first home is no longer, we may just have a new place for our family to gather in the future. In closing, we want to send our sincere thanks to everyone who

has supported Thunder Road since our opening on September 5, 2015. You are cherished and

Sincerely, Charlie Abel and the

#### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Please bookmark somervillema.gov/ COVIDBizHelp and visit for regular updates, event announcements, and support during this difficult time. You can also contact the Economic Development team at EconomicDevelopment@ somervillema.gov.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

For more than 65 years, Fill the Boot has been a strong fire fighter tradition - giving families with muscular dystrophy in hometowns across America hope for the future and support for today. To make a donation visit https://firefighters.mda.org.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) has announced the second and third human cases of West Nile virus (WNV) in the state this year. The individuals are male, one in his 50s and the other in his 80s. Both were exposed to WNV in Middlesex County in an area already known to be at risk for this virus. Most WNV virus activity this year has been focused in an area around Boston and includes parts of Norfolk, Middlesex, and Essex counties. The risk of human infection with WNV is considered to be generally low throughout most of the Commonwealth. Information about current mosquito activity will

continue to be updated regularly and can be found here https://www.mass.gov/ mosquitoes-and-ticks. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

The Somerville Bicycle Committee is hosting a Bike Talk Virtual Hour on **September 9**, 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. September's talk will feature **Dom** Tribone, General Manager of Bikes and Scooters at Lyft. Dom will take you behind the scenes at Bluebikes and give you an inside look at this very successful bike share system. Zoom info: https:// bit.ly/3ituIOO Please use your full name when you enter the waiting room.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, Ward 7 City Councilor Katjana Ballantyne, and City of Somerville staff invite you to a virtual meeting to review plans to replace the Dilboy Stadium synthetic turf field and improve the natural-grass Dilboy Auxiliary Fields adjacent to Alewife Brook Parkway. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. on the GoToMeeting webinar platform. Please visit to register to attend. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions on how to join the webinar. For more information, contact Arn Franzen at afranzen@somervillema.gov.

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

#### **TO USE A COMPUTER**

Registration URL https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5061283329277933838

Webinar ID 990-561-283

**TO CALL IN** 

Phone # +1 (415) 655-0060

Access code: 453-707-875

**DETERMINATIONS OF APPROPRIATENESS** (PUBLIC HEARINGS)

HPC.ALT 2020.15 - 8 Aldersey Street (re-advertised)

Applicant: Matt Ball Construct rear deck

HPC.ALT 2020.20 - 15 Campbell Park (re-advertised)

Applicant: Contempo Builders Owner: Victor Del Porto Construct left elevation dormer; re-build front porch

HPC.ALT 2020.22 - 56 Bow Street (re-advertised)

Applicant: Ashley Blum Remove second story front porch

HPC.ALT 2020.23 - 50 Spring Street (re-advertised)

Applicant: Sara O'Neill of Sunbug Solar Owner: Jeff & Clair O'Neill Install 18 solar panels on roof

HPC.ALT 2020.24 - 50 Spring Street Rear (re-advertised)

Applicant: Sara O'Neill of Sunbug Solar Owner: Jess Torres & Ariane Davisson Install 22 solar panels on roof

**HPC.ALT 2020-27 – 24 Summer Street** 

Applicant: Steven Azar Owner: same as applicant Construct second story deck on left elevation

HPC. ALT 2020-36 - 36 Beacon Street

Applicant: 36 Beacon, LLC (Dave Cameron, Mgr.) Owner: same as applicant Add rear earess stairs

DETERMINATIONS OF "HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT" (STEP 1 IN THE DEMOLITION REVIEW PROCESS) (NOT public hearings)

HPC.DMO 2020.16 - 4 Princeton Street (re-advertised)

Applicant: KAP Development, LLC Owner: same as applicant Demolish all structures on lot

HPC.DMO 2020.18 - 40 Dickinson Street (re-advertised)

Applicant: Honi R. Sanders & David A. Sanders Owner: same as applicant Demolish principal structure

HPC.DMO 2020.19 - 24 Webster Avenue (re-advertised)

Applicant: The 24 Webster Building Trust Owner: same as applicant Demolish principal structure

HPC.DMO 2020.20 - 13 Clyde Street

Applicant: Scott Zink Owner: Clyde St, LLC / Scott Zink Demolish principal structure

As 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 <u>historic@somervillema.gov</u> to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide public comments to the Historic Preservation Commission at the public hearing or via e-mail to historic@somervillema.gov. All emailed comments <u>must</u> be received <u>by NOON, one week prior to</u> the date of the HPC meeting.

8/26/20, 9/2/20 The Somerville Times



The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites e-bids from DCAM Certified Roofing Contractors for the Partial Roofing Replacement at the (200-2) Mystic River Apartments Development, 30 Memorial Road in Somerville, Massachusetts, DHCD No. 274136, in accordance with the documents prepared by CBI Consulting Inc. of

The Project consists of: The replacement of all existing low-sloped built-up roofing with a new modified bitumen roofing system over the existing precast concrete modular additions at designated buildings and locations. The project will also consist of removal and replacement of all existing sheet metal flashings, counterflashings and cop-

The work is estimated to cost \$ 200,000.00, including Alternates.

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

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

General 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, Wednesday September 16, 2020 and publicly opened online forthwith. 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 Wednesday, September 9, 2020. Please meet at Mystic River Apartments, Facilities Office, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145.

> Somerville Housing Authority August 27, 2020

9/2/20 The Somerville Times



**SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY** 30 Memorial Road Somerville, Massachusetts 02145 Telephone (617) 625-1152

Web: www.sha-web.org

#### **ADVERTISEMENT**

Project Manager: Travis Panzini

The Somerville Housing Authority invites Quotes from contractors to complete the Storage Shed Shelving Fabrication & Installation at 30

Quotes are subject to M.G.L. c.30 and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

A walkthrough will be held at 10:00AM on Thursday, September 10th,

Quote packages will be available Wednesday, September 2nd, 2020. Please email Travis Panzini at travisp@sha-web.org to request a quote package.

Quotes must be received no later than 11:00AM on Thursday, September 17th, 2020 by preferred method of email to travisp@sha-web.org.

Questions should be directed to Travis Panzini at 617-625-1152 x 330

9/2//20 The Somerville Times

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CONTACT US BY 12 PM MONDAY

PH: 617.666.4010 • FAX: 617.628.0422



#### **CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS** MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT JOSEPH A. CURTATONE **MAYOR**

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

The Somerville City Council's Land Use Committee and the Somerville Planning Board will hold a joint public hearing on <u>Tuesday September</u> 15, 2020 at 6:00pm. Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this public hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

#### **TO USE A COMPUTER**

Virtual meeting link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3366287199010330123

#### TO CALL IN

1 (562) 247-8422 Phone number: 519-501-779 Access code:

The purpose of this public hearing is to receive public comments concerning the following proposed amendments to the Somerville Zoning

Ward 5 City Councilor Mark Niedergang and property owner Imran Khan proposing to amend the zoning map to change 56 Murdock Street to UR.

Property owner LaCourt Foundation LLC proposing to amend the zoning map to change 34-36 Merriam St to UR.

15 registered voters proposing to amend the zoning map to change six lots along Medford Street between School Street and Marshall

Ward 3 City Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen proposing to amend the zoning map to change six lots fronting McGrath Highway to MR4 and two lots fronting McGrath Highway to UR. The proposed amendments identified above may be viewed online

at <a href="http://somervillecityma.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail\_Meeting.aspx-">http://somervillecityma.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail\_Meeting.aspx-</a>

Interested persons may provide comments at the hearing or by submitting written comments by email to planning@somervillema.gov

8/26/20, 9/2/20 The Somerville Times



**SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY** 30 Memorial Road Somerville, Massachusetts 02145 Telephone (617) 625-1152

Web: www.sha-web.org

#### **ADVERTISEMENT**

Project Manager: Travis Panzini

The Somerville Housing Authority invites Quotes from contractors to complete the Administrative Building Carpet Installation at 30 Memorial Road in Somerville, MA.

Quotes are subject to M.G.L. c.30 and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive. A walkthrough will be held at 10:00AM on Thursday, September 3rd,

Quote packages will be available Wednesday, August 26th, 2020. Please email Travis Panzini at travisp@sha-web.org to request a

Quotes must be received no later than 11:00AM on Thursday, September 10th, 2020 by preferred method of email to <a href="mailto:travisp@sha-web.org">travisp@sha-web.org</a>.

8/26/20, 9/2/20 The Somerville Times



**SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY** 30 Memorial Road Somerville, Massachusetts 02145 Telephone (617) 625-1152

Web: www.sha-web.org

#### **ADVERTISEMENT**

Project Manager: Travis Panzini

The Somerville Housing Authority invites bids for a Three-Year Service Contract for Corian Shower Surrounds and Installation for the Federal Elderly Housing Developments in Somerville, MA.

Bids are subject to Davis-Bacon Rates.

A walkthrough will be held at 10:00AM on Friday, September 11rd,

Bid packages will be available Wednesday, September 2nd, 2020. Please email Travis Panzini at travisp@sha-web.org to request a bid

Bids must be received no later than 11:00AM on Wednesday, September 16th, 2020 by preferred method of email to travisp@sha-web.org.

Questions should be directed to Travis Panzini at 617-625-1152 x 330

8/26/20, 9/2/20 The Somerville Times

### **LEGAL NOTICE**

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



#### CITY OF SOMERVILLE **PURCHASING DEPARTMENT** IFR #21-12

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

Water Meter Replacement, Repairs, Testing and Maintenance

An invitation for bids (IFB) and specifications may be obtained at the Purchasing Department, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. 02143 on or after: Wednesday, September 2nd, 2020. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: 09/16/2020 at 12:00PM. at which time sealed bids will be open. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The contract term shall be for a period of 1 year with two one-year options to renew. The City reserves sole discretion to exercise re-

A 5% bid deposit is required. Prevailing wage applies to this procure-

Please contact <u>pwaditwar@somervillema.gov</u> for further information.

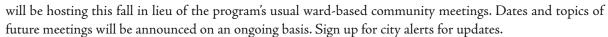
**Construction Procurement Manager** 617-625-6600 x. 3407

9/2/20 The Somerville Times

#### Arts community town hall meeting scheduled for Sept. 15

Mayor Joe Curtatone, the City Council, the Somerville Arts Council, and the city's ResiStat program invite Somerville's artists and the cultural community, as well as all interested persons, to join a virtual town hall to discuss challenges faced by the arts community that have been amplified by the COVID-19 pandemic as well as possible solutions. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15, starting at 6:30 p.m.

This meeting is the first of a series of COVID related town hall meetings the city's ResiStat program



The meetings will be hosted on the Zoom online meeting platform and livestreamed on YouTube and City Cable TV, and those who prefer can also call into the meeting from any phone (no computer or smartphone needed). Residents may also watch repeat showings of recordings of the meetings on City Cable TV. Visit www.somervillema.gov/virtualtownhall at the start time of the meeting to join live or get call-in information. Call-in information will also be available on the day of each meeting on City Cable (channel 13 on RCN, channel 22 on Comcast) or by calling 311.

All meetings will be captioned and will have live interpretation into Spanish. Interpretation into Portuguese, Haitian Creole, and Nepali can be provided by request. If you are unable to attend the meeting live but would still like us to answer your questions, you can submit them ahead of time at www.somervillema.gov/virtualtownhall.

#### CENTER HAPPENINGS: SENIOR

#### **Taxi Rides**

Do you need a ride?

The COA has a new program just for you. Taxi Rides for Somerville Residents 60 and Over Rides can be used for:

Grocery Shopping in Somerville Pharmacy Prescription pick up in Somerville Routine Medical Appointments in the follow areas:

Somerville, Cambridge, Medford, Boston or the V.A. in Jamaica Plain or West Roxbury

Two Days Advanced Notice Required For more information please call Connie Lorenti at 617-625-6600 ext. 2319

#### Mask Pick Up

The COA has masks available for Somerville residents who are 60 and over. If you are still in need of a mask or may know of a friend or neighbor who may still need a mask, you can pick it up at our Drive -Thru location at the Holland Street Senior Center, 167 Holland Street, Wednesday August 12, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

#### **Healthy Eating Workshop**

Monday, September 14th at 10:00 A.M. Please join in our new group workshop via ZOOM. Planning meals can be tiresome and gets to be boring. Let's share ideas on how to balance out your day with tasty and nutritious meals and snacks. We will focus on getting in all of the daily food groups, while enjoying some summer treats. Things we will cover include: • Knowing how much to eat and spreading out your meals • How to choose foods that are delicious and nutritious • Meal preparation for weekly planning and leftovers • How to get started on your grocery list • Filling out a meal plan that works for you and your schedule RSVP to Mary Marshall at 617 625-6600 ext. 2316. Please leave your name, number and email or you may email me at headtofitness10@yahoo.com

#### "Music and Munch" Program

Why not pair your lunch with a celebration of music? This 45-minute session via Zoom will treat you to a playlist of diverse musical offerings: a little jazz, some "oldies but goodies," a smidgen of classical, a dip into barbershop, a trip to Broadway. The music is taped but the experience is live. Your guide is Somerville Resident, Laura Zoll, trained as a medieval musicologist and with a life-long love of all things musical. Your preferences will help shape the session. Learn a little, sing-along, relax and enjoy some Music while you Munch. Wednesday August 19 at 12:00 p.m. Please RSVP by Monday August 17th at 4:30pm to Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at dhiggins@somervillema. gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2300. You will then receive your email invitation to join the program via Zoom.

#### **Social Services**

Are you interested in learning about different social benefit programs or have question for one of our Social Workers? Social Workers can be reached via e-mail, phone or Zoom. They can set up a zoom meeting if you want to meet face-toface while socially distancing. Zoom meetings can occur during business hours which are Monday-Wednesday 8:30-4:30, Thursday from 8:30-6:30 and Fridays from 8:30-1:30.

#### **Friendly Phone Callers**

Looking for a way to practice social distancing but still remain connected to other people? Look no further than the Somerville Council on Aging's Friendly Phone Caller program. We have many wonderful volunteers who are waiting to give you a call. Whether you are looking to make a new friend or would just like a friendly chat to look forward to every week, this program has you covered. Call Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 to learn more about the program and to sign up.

#### **Open Enrollment**

Open enrollment is around the corner! Once a year, from October 15th to December 7th, Medicare recipients are able to change their health insurance plans for January 1st of the following year. While having the freedom to change your health insurance plan can save you money, there are many health insurance plans and companies to choose from. You don't have to make the decision alone, the Somerville Council on Aging has SHINE Counseling available over the phone or on Zoom

to assist you with finding out what health insurance options are available for you. You can call Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 to book an appointment.

#### Join Our Email Lists

If you would like to receive a virtual copy of our monthly newsletter and daily tips please contact Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 or email Maureen at MBastardi@Somervillema.gov If you would like to become part of our Google Group please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at DHiggins@ Somervillema.gov

#### <u>Facebook</u>

Stay connected via our Facebook page - often updated by Debby or Maureen. Informative, entertaining, lots of photos and updates. Visit our page at https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCOA/

#### **Exercise Schedule**

Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom exercise Thursdays 1:00 .p.m. = Fit-4-Life Zoom Exercise Thursdays 6:30 p.m. = LBT Fit-4-Life Zoom Exer-

#### **Somerville City Cable**

RCN = 13/Comcast = 22

The Fit-4-Life Exercise Show = Daily at 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

#### Fit-4-Life YouTube

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video # 1: https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=4hd26HjpwBI&t=68s

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #2: https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=QwHfyoEZaws&t=247s

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #3: https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=FcI2eBSS024&t=158s

#### Yoga YouTube

Yoga with Janine video #1 = https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=vDGF\_EEbqF0&t=130s

For questions or to register for a Fit-4-Life Zoom exercise class, please contact Chris at CKowaleski@ somervillema.gov or call 617-625-6600.

## A #SusieStrong celebration





A special birthday celebration took place recently for Susan Barry, a DPW employee who is currently waging a battle against cancer. Her friends and family made sure that they are standing with her all the way as they celebrated with her on her birthday.

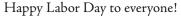
## First responders chillin'



A group of Somerville first responders and friends recently gathered in Davis Sq. for some relaxation and camaraderie.

#### Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 5

Six years later, this exceptional man would establish the famous national, "Fill the Boot" drive for Muscular Dystrophy. Over the years, firefighters were Jerry's largest contributors. They have donated more than \$650 million since 1954 and still carry on the tradition today. Last year they broke their own record for their "Fill the Boot" campaign, contributing over \$26 million. Unfortunately, this year has been a difficult time for most Americans. Hopefully together we can pull up our bootstraps and labor through this together.





## Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

By Bobbygeorge Potaris

What do you call a pudgy psychic?

A four-chin teller.

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## **SMCxHome: Online Learning in September**



During the business interruption due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, SMC remains as committed as ever to offering media training to our community. We continue to offer virtual workshops to replace our on-site classes. These workshops are free to members and are offered to non-members for a fee. A zoom link will be shared with registered participants two days before the start of the workshop. Go to https://www.somervillemedia.org/smcxhome\_augsept/to learn more and to sign up.

#### PLANNING YOUR PODCAST

Wednesday, September 9 - 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Online via Zoom Class Size: 8 students. Learn the difference between podcast and radio and why podcasting is one of the most popular new media forms to emerge in the past decade. Make a basic focus statement for your podcast concept and learn about what's involved in producing your very own podcast. lease note that this class will be recorded.

#### RECORDING YOUR PODCAST AT HOME

Wednesday, September 16 - 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Online via Zoom Class Size: 8 students Learn best practices on how to record your podcast from home. We will cover equipment (mics and mixers) and software like Zoom and Discord. Please note that this class will be recorded. Instructor: Heather McCormack

#### EDITING YOUR PODCAST

Wednesday, September 23-6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Online via Zoom Class Size: 8 students Learn how to use Audacity, a free audio editor, to edit your podcast content, add intro music, and learn about special effects like EQ and compression. Please note that this class will be recorded. Instructor: Heather McCormack

#### HOSTING AND DISTRIBUTING YOUR PODCAST

Wednesday, September 30 - 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Location: Online via Zoom Class Size: 8 students This class is an opportunity for those who already have a solid podcast plan or who have already begun to record to take the next step in putting their podcast out there—hosting, distributing, marketing and even monetizing. Learn the secrets to building a strong and engaged audience, figure out which hosting site is right for you. Please note that this class will be recorded. Instructor: Heather McCormack

## On This Day in History September 2

1666 - The Great Fire of London, which devastates the city, begins.

1789 – The Treasury Department, headed by Alexander Hamilton, is created in New York City.

1885 – In Rock Springs, Wyoming Territory, 28 Chinese laborers are killed and hundreds more chased out of town by striking coal miners.

1945 – Vietnam declares its independence and Nationalist leader Ho Chi Minh proclaims himself its first president.

1945 – Japan signs the document of surrender aboard the USS Missouri, ending World War II

1963 – Alabama Governor George Wallace calls state troopers to Tuskegee High School to prevent integration.

1992 - The US and Russia agree to a joint venture to build a space station.

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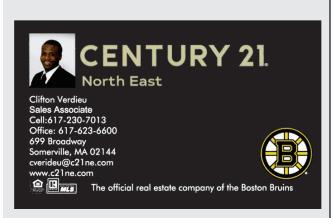
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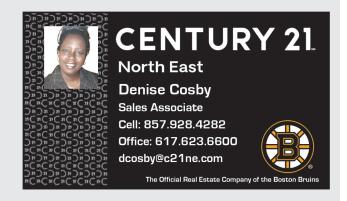
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### Small Italian sub CONT. FROM PG 3

Hugh. One time he wrote himself a pass and came into my classroom to borrow my cigarette lighter. Those crazy '80's! (not proud of that one)

I had substitute teaching adventures at Southern Junior, Northeastern Junior, Western Junior, Somerville High and Somerville Trade. Can't make this stuff up. Precious memories.

I still run into former students who remember having me as their substitute teacher. It's always great to see them and chat. Most kids have memories of just being a student. I'm lucky that I also have

memories of being a teacher too, even if it was just as a sub.

I was later sworn in as Somerville High School's drama teacher. But when I realized my fun loving care free days were over, and this was a serious career move, I promptly resigned. I may have the Guinness World Book Record for the shortest tenure as a teacher ever. I signed a contract and was sworn in as a teacher on Monday, and two days later on Wednesday I wrote a letter of resignation. I did end up with a nice new wardrobe though. Ranking right up there with top high

school memories was the great Schaefer Beer Jingle Fiasco. The chorus director, Mr. Smith, was addressing a packed audience in the SHS Auditorium while the Boys Glee Cub grew restless behind the closed curtain on risers. As Mr. Smith was still talking to the audience, we broke into a resounding chorus of The Schaefer Beer jingle. "Schaefer, Is the, one beer to have when you're having more than one!" The curtain flew open and Mr. Smith literally had smoke coming out of his ears as he loudly lambasted us for our very hilarious ignorance. Ah, high school memories!

Other memorable times were all the Talent Nights my friends and I performed at. I put in about 6 or 7 years as a substitute earning me the nickname The Trouble Shooter. I took the classes that no other

I hope the future students of the new Somerville High School have great memories of their years there just as I have so many memories of my time served.

subs would take.

"Your Education is like a Bank Account. The more you put into it, the more you get out of It."

— David Jones, Ph.D

## yruca **SOMERVILLE** edited by Doug Holder

Zachary Cook grew up in Massachusetts and studied Literature at Lesley University. He likes antiques, medieval manuscripts, poetry and taking long walks while listening to Led Zeppelin.



#### The Mountain

Towering and tall, rocky and icy with sleet covering the sides. Boulders aplenty, myriads of rocks of all types litter the edge. Freezes and chills, wind blows, pebbles falling, raining and

Lack of oxygen, bright sun, are not enough to alleviate the body of cold, those who venture forward are ones who are bold.

What avalanches laid waste to the crevices, what fissures cannot be crossed, what items are needed to to get the top?

Can we survive, will we be able to thrive and pursue our dreams and it seems

that we might seek with our sight in spite of all that has happened, reach the peak,

cold, thirsty, hungry and meek.

— Zachary Cook

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

## Ms. Cam's From page 8 Olio 1. Oregon, in 1887 7. Buckingham Palace 2. June 28, 1894, when 8. Canada

President Grover Cleveland signed it into law

9. Red meat

3. The Pullman Strike

10. Mexico

4. The Dakota Building

11. A colony

5. Five

6. Delaware

quickly summarize the health of newborn children

12. A method used to

## FF THE SHEL

by Doug Holder

## **Karl Stephan:** A Somerville artist with an eye to community

I was glad to catch up with Somerville-artist Karl Stephan. Stephan is an artist who wears many hats, and I wanted to see what's brewing under them.

Doug Holder: Tell us about your Somerville experience, as an artist.

Karl Stephan: Somerville is a city that cares about and supports art and artists. Before I moved here from Cambridge, I showed work at both Nave Gallery locations. Later I curated a set of shows at Nave. Since moving to town I've helped the Arts Council select muralists, the Somerville Museum select curators, been artist of the month at Somerville Media Center and of course shown in Open Studios. This fall I'll be leading a Virtual Art and Ales session at Aeronaut Brewing. I can't wait.

DH: You were in the business world for many years. Why the switch?

**KS:** I studied art in college and learned business out of necessity. I've washed dishes, bused tables, delivered furniture and heavy appliances. I worked in a factory for a day. I was a bill collector and back-office worker in a bank. Approaching thirty, I tried my hand at sales. I got good at that and I rode my luck until the stress nearly destroyed my life. Luckily, a good year in 2013 made it possible to get my Masters at Tufts SMFA in 2014.

DH: You teach art at your Cambridge Central Square Studio. Tell me how does a typical class play out?

KS: Whether in my studio or in the Museum of Fine Arts, my core teaching philosophy is the same: art builds community. In the museum I taught observational drawing to teens and adults in the galleries. I now teach similar lessons on Zoom. A typical class starts with a brief talk on an artistic principle, followed by a group exercise exploring museum-quality examples. Then students perform individual choice exercises, challenges, and small group activities. So we practice the principle alone and together, which creates a community bond. Painting students each pursue their own projects and the community forms as they learn by doing with guidance and learn from each other as well. We're all in it together!

DH: You also work with musician Sarah Bob and her Longy School of Music students. You discuss the intersection of art and music. Are your students surprised that each feed off the other?

KS: Sarah and her "Power of Art" students at Longy are wonderful collaborators. Students may be surprised at first to learn of the connections between art and music, but we discuss the phenomenon of synesthesia, in which one set of senses may literally trigger another. A few students are synesthetic themselves. These are powerful conversations. Countless artists have been inspired by music, and many musicians are also artists.

DH: In some of your own work, from what I have seen, you paint these linear colorful boxes, with equally ornate vertical lines, creating segmented spaces within the box. Can you talk



KS: I intended to strike the viewer in the same way a favorite note or chord in a song strikes a listener. Some pieces of music contain certain passages that thrill or chill. Those involuntary sensations are what I'm hoping to deliver. Pieces are also intended to harmonize together, like voices in a choir. In a sense I'm trying to make music with paint, which sounds a bit like alchemy, and maybe it is. My hope is the work will resonate with anyone who sees it.

DH: Tell me about your work as a curator.

KS: All curators look for art that works well together, but each curator has their own goals. Here again, for me art builds community. To properly serve a community, a curator must be as inclusive as they can. My first Wall to Wall (W2W) show at the Nave Gallery featured community-oriented artists, mostly from the Boston area. These included some of Boston's best-known street artists, plus teachers, social workers, activists and others. W2W2 was subtitled We Work Together, and featured collaborations between all types of artists, from Appalachian quilters to MIT computer scientists, from as far away as England and Japan. I like to cast a wide curatorial net.

DH: I noticed in your bio that you were a military brat educated by Quakers. Seems oxymoronic, no? Has your Quaker education influenced your work?

KS: I am the antiwar son and grandson of distinguished Naval officers, which is less oxymoronic than "Military Intelligence," but yes, unusual. I graduated high school just after the Vietnam war ended, so it was my privilege to choose the path I did. I give my family credit for not discouraging me. Quaker education introduced me to a much less hierarchical social system than the one my father or grandfathers knew. This translates well into 21st century art and into art education, which are both engaged in creating space for many who were long excluded. I'm grateful for the experience.

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