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## Union Square Green Line station to close for 25 days



Due to crucial work being done on the Squires Bridge, the Union Square GLX station will be closed for 25 day, beginning on Monday, September 18.

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation is announcing the work on the Squires Bridge, which carries Route 28/McGrath Highway over the Union Branch of the Green Line, the Fitchburg Commuter Rail Line, and Somerville Avenue Extension, originally planned to take place in July and August, will commence on Monday, September 18.

In the time since the work was postponed on July 5, the work plan has been modified to reduce the duration from 42 days to 25 days. The work will take place over 25 consecutive days with efforts focused on completing critical beam end repairs, along with additional preventive actions, to ensure the bridge can remain open and safe for use.

Because the Squires Bridge work must be performed within the Green Line right of way, transit service on the Union Branch will *Continued on page 4*

## Community invited to join walking tour and celebration for 'ART LIVES HERE!'

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, and The Somerville Arts Council (SAC), in partnership with North River Leerink LLC (NRL), presents "ART LIVES HERE!" – a public art project displaying the talents of local artists from Joy Street Studios and the Brickbottom Artist Association. In creating this vibrant outdoor "museum" to beautify Joy Street, SAC and NRL sought to capture the importance of protecting the art-making community that is unique to the Brickbottom District.

"ART LIVES HERE!" beautifully showcases the talents of the artists from Joy Street Studios and the Brickbottom Artist Association," said Mayor Katjana Ballantyne. "This project serves as a celebration of our artistic community and a reminder of the vibrant spirit that thrives within our city. I encourage Somerville residents and visitors *Continued on page 11*



The "ART LIVES HERE!" walking tour will start from Joy Street Studios on Saturday, September 9, at 2:00 p.m.

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

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the City of Somerville Department of Veterans' Services invite residents to a remembrance ceremony marking the anniversary of 9/11. On Monday, September 11, the city will hold a procession and memorial ceremony to recognize the 22nd anniversary of 9/11. Anyone interested in joining the procession should meet at the Cedar Street entrance to the Community Path at 8:30 a.m. A speaking program and wreath laying ceremony will follow at approximately 9:00 a.m. at the 9/11 memorial in Davis Square, with the presentation and retiring of the colors by the Somerville Police and Somerville Fire Honor Guards. For more information, email veterans@somervillema.gov or call 617-625-6600 ext. 4700.

\*\*\*\*\*








The Somerville Community Growing Center holds Open Hours for the Arts: Poetry, Saturday, September 9, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m., 22 Vinal Ave. Visit the Center to join poet Denise Provost in a garden setting. Nurture your creative muse by taking time to look, listen and write. Bring a notebook for some responsive writing. Enjoy discussion with other participants. Share your own poems or others that inspire you. Any questions? Contact: Denise Provost at denise.provost@verizon.net.

\*\*\*\*\*

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to local realtor Stephen Bremis. We wish a great birthday. Happy birthday to Jodi Gallo. We wish her the very best Continued on page 7

## Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of September 6 – September 12 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 <b>Wednesday</b> September 6	Sunny	88°/71°	11%	7%	NE 7 mph
 <b>Thursday</b> September 7	Sunny	89°/72°	22%	16%	SE 9 mph
 <b>Friday</b> September 8	Thunderstorms	86°/69°	30%	22%	SW 12 mph
 <b>Saturday</b> September 9	Thunderstorms	82°/66°	50%	41%	SE 9 mph
 <b>Sunday</b> September 10	Thunderstorms	77°/61°	52%	44%	W 7 mph
 <b>Monday</b> September 11	Sunny	75°/58°	6%	3%	NE 9 mph
 <b>Tuesday</b> September 12	Partly Cloudy	70°/55°	13%	9%	NE 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: The Massachusetts State Budget – How will it impact Somerville in FY2024?

David Lyons says:

Not a single word about hiring Police Officers. They are short handed, working double shifts on occasion in order to keep you safe in your bed at night. They need a raise and they need more Personnel. If something happens you will be one of the first to point a finger. You all disgust me. Nobody from SPD encouraged this response. I spent 35 years there.

Stephen Keenan says:

Dave is right! Dave was an excellent Police Officer in Somerville. The Police are our defenders on the thin blue line which gets thinner every day. Support them!

### Response to: Matignon closes

Stephen Keenan says:

This is so sad. Matignon was a wonderful school. Their hockey program was excellent. Sorry to see it closed.

### Response to: Somerville Artist Sam Fein: An artist who explores human relations, power structures with vivid art

Jimmy Arthur says:

Great Article. Definitely an artist whose work will be quite valuable as time goes on. Great investment now!

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

## The Somerville Times

news@thesomervilletimes.com

www.thesomervilletimes.com

Phone: 857-488-5138



@somervilletimes



www.facebook.com/  
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Publisher – Somerset Valley Publishing Inc.

Editor – Jim Clark

Assignment Editor – Bobbie Toner

Advertising Director – Bobbie Toner

Arts Editor – Doug Holder

Writers: Jim Clark, Molly Rains, Fernando Cervantes Jr.,  
Ryan DiLellio, Kyle Dante

Contributors: Jimmy Del Ponte, Dorothy Dimarzo,  
Joe Creason, Bob Doherty, Ross Blouin  
Photographer: Claudia Ferro

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Life in the

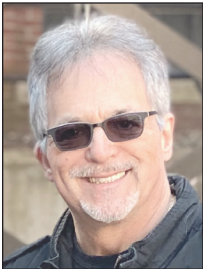
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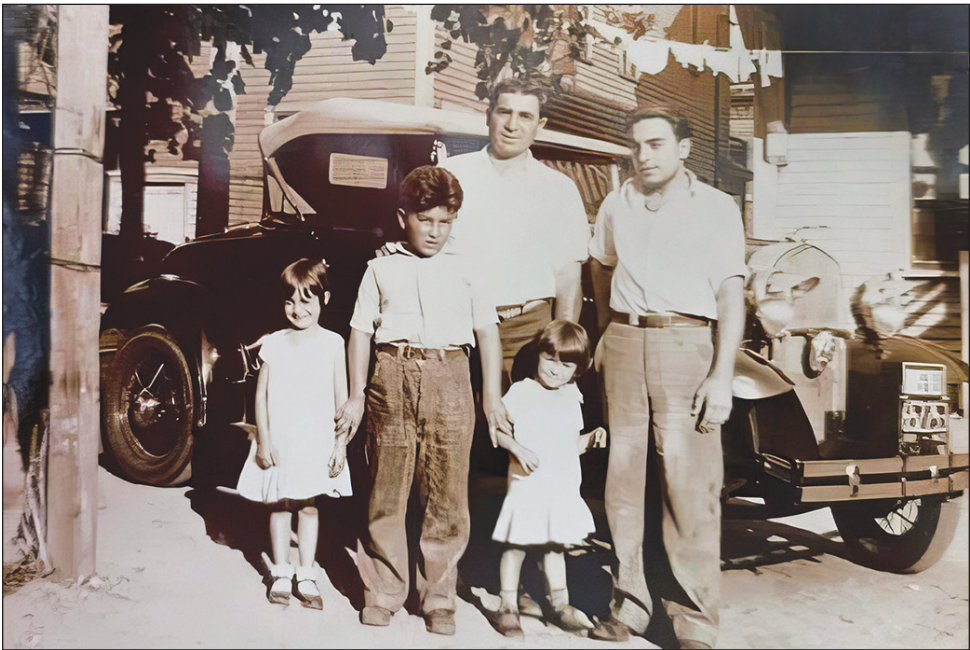
by Jimmy Del Ponte

# My cousins from Italy



My cousins from Italy recently came for a visit. We agreed to meet at Mike's in Davis Square. Alfonso and his wife and three kids showed up and we did hugs and introductions. They did well taking the Red Line to Davis.

We sat down and looked at the menu. I was surprised that the three kids all ordered pasta dishes and they seemed to eat a lot. How would Mike's pasta compare with authentic Italian cuisine? By the way they dug in I'd say it was very satisfying for



them. They're food looked so good that yesterday I ordered the shrimp scampi for myself. It was very delicious. Mike's passed the Italian food test with flying colors.

Alfonso's wife's name is Rosella, Valeria 16, David 14, and Aurora, 9. Alfonso showed me some great photos of our relatives from generations back.

They were also going to meet some other cousins too.

I thoroughly enjoyed my visit with my Italian cousins. They seem to enjoy Davis Square and Mike's restaurant, which will always remind me of our visit.

My cousins from Italy experienced New York gridlock traffic, a whale watch in Plymouth and good old Davis Square. It was an epic visit. Arrivederci!

ČERVENÁ BARVA PRESS

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

POETRY & FICTION SUMMIT

This year Červená Barva Press celebrated 18 years of publishing in April. Founded in 2005 by Gloria Mindock, editor and publisher, the press has continued to grow every year. The press has offered numerous events every year such as poetry and fiction readings, book launches, poetry roundtables, translation roundtables, Pastry with Poets, Portrait of an Artist, Červená Barva Press Reads Around the World (a reading series with readers from different countries throughout the world), collaborations with the Interpoezia reading series in NYC, and a forthcoming collaboration with an arts organization in Turkey. This year, the press is offering an exciting new event!

**What:** Červená Barva Press Poetry and Fiction Online Summit

**When:** Saturday, September 30, 2023, from 9:50 A.M–2:00 P.M. EDT  
Sunday, October 1, 2023, from 9:50 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. EDT

**Where:** Online. Access information will be sent out prior to the summit.

**Who:** Presenters include award-winning authors with years of publishing experience.

**Robin Stratton:** The Revision Process

**Vassiliki Rapti and Peter Bottéas:** Poet/Translator/Performer: Building Bridges

**Lloyd Schwartz:** Can serious poems be funny? Can funny poems be serious?

**Anne Elezabeth Pluto:** Haibun Hybrid Poetry/Prose

**Andrey Gritsman and Gloria Mindock:** Translingual Poetry and Translation of Poetry

**Daniel Tobin:** Poetry and Epiphany

**Jen Knox and Ashley Holloway:** Research Workshop

**How:** Registration is \$42.00 for both days.

For registration, descriptions of the events and bios, please visit:  
<http://www.cervenabarvapress.com/index.html#POETRYFICTIONSUMMIT>

Gloria Mindock, Editor & Publisher  
[editor@cervenabarvapress.com](mailto:editor@cervenabarvapress.com)

Website: [www.cervenabarvapress.com](http://www.cervenabarvapress.com)

ANNOUNCEMENT

315 Broadway, in conjunction with Micozzi Management  
are pleased to announce an  
**Affordable Rental Open Waitlist Opportunity**

The application period for a one-bedroom (1BR) Affordable Rental Waitlist  
will begin on 8/28/2023 at 2pm and end on 9/28/2023 at 2pm.

The Household size must be no more than 2 people.

315 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02145

Located in the Winter Hill neighborhood of Somerville, the units offer open- concept floor plans and modern features. Parking is available based on availability and for an additional fee.

Eligible households of 1 or 2 people whose income does not exceed the following:

Maximum Annual Income		
80% AMI Income	1 Person	2 Persons
	\$82,950	\$94,800

Eligibility Requirements

- The rental unit must be used as the renters' primary residence.
- Income and residency restrictions will apply throughout tenancy. Income eligibility will be reviewed annually.
- Head of households claiming full-time student status are not eligible.
- Total Household Liquid Assets cannot exceed \$75,000

Applications will be available beginning on 8/28/2023 at 2pm.  
To obtain an application, please contact Micozzi Management and reference "315 Broadway 80%"  
Telephone: 617-254-5576 ex 112 or email: [eburkart@micozzimanagement.com](mailto:eburkart@micozzimanagement.com)

Completed applications must be submitted to Micozzi Management at  
[eburkart@micozzimanagement.com](mailto:eburkart@micozzimanagement.com)  
or mailed to 159 Cambridge Street, Suite 2, Allston, MA 02134 by 9/28/2023 at 2pm.

Applications received after the deadline will not be added to the waitlist. All qualified applications will be ranked by date and time received. All mailed applications will receive a 7-day grace period.



# THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

## Somerville Police Dept Crime Log 8/29 – 9/4

### Residential Breaking and Entering

23049877: On 8/29/23 at approximately 12:14 p.m., Somerville Police responded to a residence on Laurel St. for report of an attempted breaking and entering. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated a male party opened his front door but then fled after hearing a dog.

### Assault

23049324: On 8/29/23 at approximately 3:09 p.m., a male party entered the station and stated the day prior, his juvenile granddaughter was assaulted by two juvenile females at the AMC Theater.

### Assault

23050189: On 9/2/23 at approximately 11:05 a.m., Somerville Police responded to Myrtle St. for a past assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated she was involved in an argument with a female known to her. During the argument, the female shoved her. Officers identified the female suspect.

### Residential Breaking and Entering

23050325: On 9/3/23 at approximately 12:20 a.m., Somerville Police responded to a residence on Pearson Ave. for report of a breaking and entering. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the residents who both stated that a female party had climbed through a bedroom window. When they confronted her, she fled out the back door. Nothing was reported missing.

### Assault

23049735: On 8/31/23 at approximately 11:40 a.m., Somerville Police responded to a business on Elm St. for report of an assault and shoplifting. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated a female party began shoplifting numerous items. When he confronted her, she punched him in the stomach and fled.

**Other Crimes:** 6 Bike Thefts; 3 Vandalisms; 1 Package Theft; 3 Car Breaks; 2 MV Vandalisms; 1 MV Theft



## Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210

Do your part - Leave a message on our tip hotline answering machine – All calls are confidential – Your Privacy is Assured. If you choose, you can leave your name and phone number and your call will be returned (not required). Also, if you prefer you may e-mail directly with your crime tip. We will follow up on all information provided to the best of our ability. Thank you for your assistance.

### Help Keep Somerville Safe!

## Union Square Green Line station to close for 25 days CONT. FROM PG 1

terminate at Lechmere Station during construction. Bridge work will not impact motor vehicle travel across the bridge, Commuter Rail service on the Fitchburg Line, or Green Line service to Medford/Tufts.

The Squires Bridge is a critical component of the Route 28/McGrath Highway corridor which links Boston, Cambridge, and Somerville with communities to the north. On average, the Squires Bridge carries approximately 40,000 motor vehicles per day, roughly the equivalent of travel volumes through the Sumner Tunnel in Boston. Based on MBTA Green Line boarding information for January through March 2023, the MBTA esti-

mates an average of approximately 1,550 customers board the Green Line at Union Square each weekday, with fewer estimated boardings on Saturdays and Sundays.

The bridge work, which was initially scheduled to start on July 18, was postponed while MassDOT and its contractors worked in collaboration with the MBTA to undertake a detailed review. The result is a plan that modifies the project scope, work sequencing, and methods to achieve time savings in order to minimize impacts to transit service while still allowing for the completion of the safety-critical work to the bridge.

"We know this will come as

an inconvenience to Green Line riders and we have worked to adjust our construction schedule to minimize impacts as much as possible while balancing the need to complete necessary infrastructure work," said MassDOT Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver. "With this new 25-day schedule, we can strike a better balance between completing important repairs while minimizing the impacts to transit service."

Green Line customers are encouraged to consider alternative routes, which include the 86, 91, and CT2 bus routes that travel between Union Square and East Somerville Station on the Medford Branch. These bus routes

also travel to Sullivan Square Station on the Orange Line. In addition, the Route 87 travels between Union Square and Lechmere Station.

An open house will be hosted to provide the public with additional details about the project and answer any questions about travel alternatives. At the open house, there will be MassDOT Highway Division representative there to speak to the bridge work and there will be representation from the MBTA to speak about the Green Line impacts and alternative service options.

### Open House Information:

Location: Somerville Public Library (Central), 79 Highland Ave, Somerville, MA 02143

Date: Tuesday, September 12  
Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

A telephone hotline has also been set up to answer rider questions about the project and service: 617-927-9957.

MBTA customers can find more information on service changes through in-station signage, in-station public announcements, and at [mbta.com/alerts](https://mbta.com/alerts). Transit Ambassadors and MBTA staff will be available on-site during these service changes to offer information and assistance. Riders are encouraged to subscribe to T-Alerts or to follow the MBTA on Twitter @MBTA for up-to-date service information.

— Massachusetts Department of Transportation



# City approves lease for Tufts Administration Building

By Jim Clark

A special meeting of the Somerville City Council was held virtually on Thursday, August 31. The primary focus of the meeting involved responding to a request by Mayor Katjana Ballantyne that the Council approve a 1.5-year lease for the Tufts Administration Building (TAB), from September 1, 2023 through February 28, 2025.

Chief of Staff to Mayor Ballantyne, Nikki Spencer, addressed the Council, thanking it for its assistance in relocating the students and staff affected by the situation at the Winter Hill Innovation School and said that most of School Department staff has already moved into the Tufts Administration Building (TAB).

Councilor At-Large Willie Burnley, Jr. inquired about tax-

es on the building and asked if the city would pay them. Budget Director Mike Mastrobuoni explained that there are no taxes on the building as Tufts is tax exempt. He went on to say the this would not affect any PILOT agreements the city has with Tufts.

Burnley asked why it was included in the lease agreement and City Solicitor Cindy Amara said the lease was started from a template and the focus was on important details of the agreement. She stated that it does not have a substantive effect on the city.

Burnley asked Amara about Tufts PILOT agreements and she said that the language was included to clarify that Tufts would not use this towards any PILOT.

Councilor At-Large Jake Wilson asked why the lease is for 1.5 years and Chief of Staff

Spencer said the city requested that time frame to be able to consider any future use of the facility by the city.

Councilor At-Large Kristen Strezo asked for information regarding parking and Spencer said that the details are still being worked out.

There are 79 paid spaces available as well as an additional 25 spaces for the Council on Aging and SCALE. These spaces are reserved for the city and School Department under the terms of the lease. Some employees will be allowed to park on neighborhood streets and city employees and School Department personnel will have free access to blue bikes.

Ward 7 Councilor Judy Pineda Neufeld mentioned the bus shelter that was removed, saying she spoke to the Mobility Department about having it



The Tufts Administration Building (TAB). — Photo by Bobbie Toner

replaced and she asked that the administration work to bring this to fruition.

Director Mastrobuoni explained that the lease is expected to be funded from the general fund through tax revenue, since there is more new growth than previously anticipated.

Ward 5 Councilor Beatriz Gomez Mouakad suggested that a better picture of the city's finances should be made available when financial requests, such as this, are made.

Councilor Strezo asked about the 'right of first offer' in the lease and Chief of

Continued on page 6

## HEALTH, WELLNESS & HEALING FORUM

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## COMMENTARY

The views and opinions expressed in the commentaries and letters to the Editor of The Somerville Times do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Somerville Times, its publishers or staff.

## City Committees and Commissions



By Chris Dwan

Somerville has dozens of committees, commissions, working groups, and task forces who advise the city on various topics. Attending meetings of these groups, whether as a visitor or a full member, is one of the best ways to get involved with local government, meet city staff, and connect with local folks who share your interests.

It's important to note that I am writing here only as myself, not speaking on behalf of any committee or the city itself.

### What We Make It

I was in the first wave of people appointed to the Urban Forestry Committee when it was re-instituted in 2019. One of the things that surprised me at our first meeting was the amount of flexibility we had in figuring out how to work together. The committee had a mandate from the City Council to advise the city

on planting and maintenance of trees, and not much else in the way of guidance. Over the years we have settled on a few patterns, which may eventually become either bylaws or just a "run book" that sets expectations for new members.

One of the most successful of those patterns is making space for "resident concerns" near the top of every agenda. Part of the purpose of these advisory committees is to be a space where community members can interact with domain experts, local activists, and city staff. We usually get around a half dozen people showing up either out of general interest or to surface questions, ideas, and concerns.

Concerns can come with strong emotions, even on a topic as seemingly noncontroversial as trees. In part because of this, the Mayor recently asked all committee members to sign a code of conduct affirming our intention to treat participants and attendees with respect. The chair is responsible for keeping discussions respectful and on topic.

Given how caustic political conversations can be, particularly online, it's refreshing to have a forum where the ground

rules support vigorous, yet respectful discussion.

### How to Advise

The Tree Preservation Ordinance specifies that UFC is an advisory committee. It took time to figure out what it meant to "advise the city," particularly on topics where some committee members disagreed with the approach that the administration was taking. Committee members are appointed and serve at the pleasure of the Mayor. It's reasonable to ask whether our job is to be a friendly group of domain experts or more of a group of activists pushing the city to do more and better.

We didn't know, at the beginning, whether the UFC could be independent and forceful enough to be seen as useful by the activist community. It could easily have turned out to be something of a mouthpiece for the administration, which I think would have been a lost opportunity. In conversation with members and chairs of other city committees, this is a common concern. Committee members are volunteers, and people don't like to have their time wasted or to feel complicit in decisions with which they disagree.

From the beginning, it was im-

portant to me that the committee should be able to push back on the Mayor, not just refine pre-ordained decisions.

It quickly became clear that merely talking about a topic in the meeting and then approving notes on the conversation in the minutes was not terribly impactful. Who, after all, reads the minutes? To overcome that, we adopted a practice of writing memos that would be posted on the city's website, and sent to various government agencies. We have weighed in on artificial turf, on the proposed removal of trees at 90 Washington Street, on gas leaks on Somerville Ave, and even on how green infrastructure can support traffic safety.

Committee members also organize activities like the adopt-a-tree program and create educational materials about species we recommend for planting and a field identification guide to Somerville's "most wanted" list of weeds. We have even gotten a little allocation of money in the city budget, which mostly goes towards native plant giveaways at Arbor Day and other events.

### History is made by the people who show up

All of this happened because

people decided to show up and contribute their time, energy, and expertise. Several committees are currently looking for new members, including the Commission for Women and the Commission for Persons With Disabilities. The complete list of openings are listed on the city website.

If you are curious about any city committee, I encourage you to show up to a meeting or two. City committees follow Open Meeting Law, which means that agendas and access instructions are posted on the city website several days in advance.

The Americans With Disabilities Act requires the city to provide support for people who require assistance accessing the venue or the materials, and there is also support for translation and interpretation services. If you have a specific need, it's a good idea to let the staff supporting the committee know ahead of time so they can schedule the right resources. In a perfect world, everything would be available everywhere all at the same time — but we don't live in a perfect world.

If you are curious about city stuff and want to get involved, I highly recommend showing up to a meeting or two.

## City approves lease for Tufts Administration Building CONT. FROM PG 5

Staff Spencer noted that this was not included in the license, but it is in the lease. City Solicitor Amara explained that it is there for the benefit of the city.

Councilor Wilson asked if the city would be responsible for utility costs, i.e., water and sewer during its tenancy and Chief of Staff Spencer stated that Tufts included those costs

as part of the rent.

Director Mastrobuoni then spoke about comparable rents, saying there is not a lot of available buildings this big and in terms of pricing, the only other similar experience was a few years back when moving ISD was being considered, and at that time the rent estimates were close to \$1 million per year.

Ward 4 Councilor Jesse Clingan asked if the Department of Public Works will still be doing maintenance under this lease, and Chief of Staff Spencer explained that it is the city's responsibility to provide custodial and basic maintenance services for the building and these services will be contracted for with a vendor.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld asked about the plan for election days, since the building is a polling location. Chief of Staff Spencer said that she will get an answer to that question and report back. In closing, she commented that the Tufts team was extremely accommodating to the city's needs.

A vote was then taken and the

mayor's request was approved.

Next, an additional request by the mayor was introduced, asking for a supplemental appropriation of \$1,053,387 to the Capital - Building Lease Account to pay for a Lease Agreement regarding use of space at the TAB building.

This request was also voted on and approved.

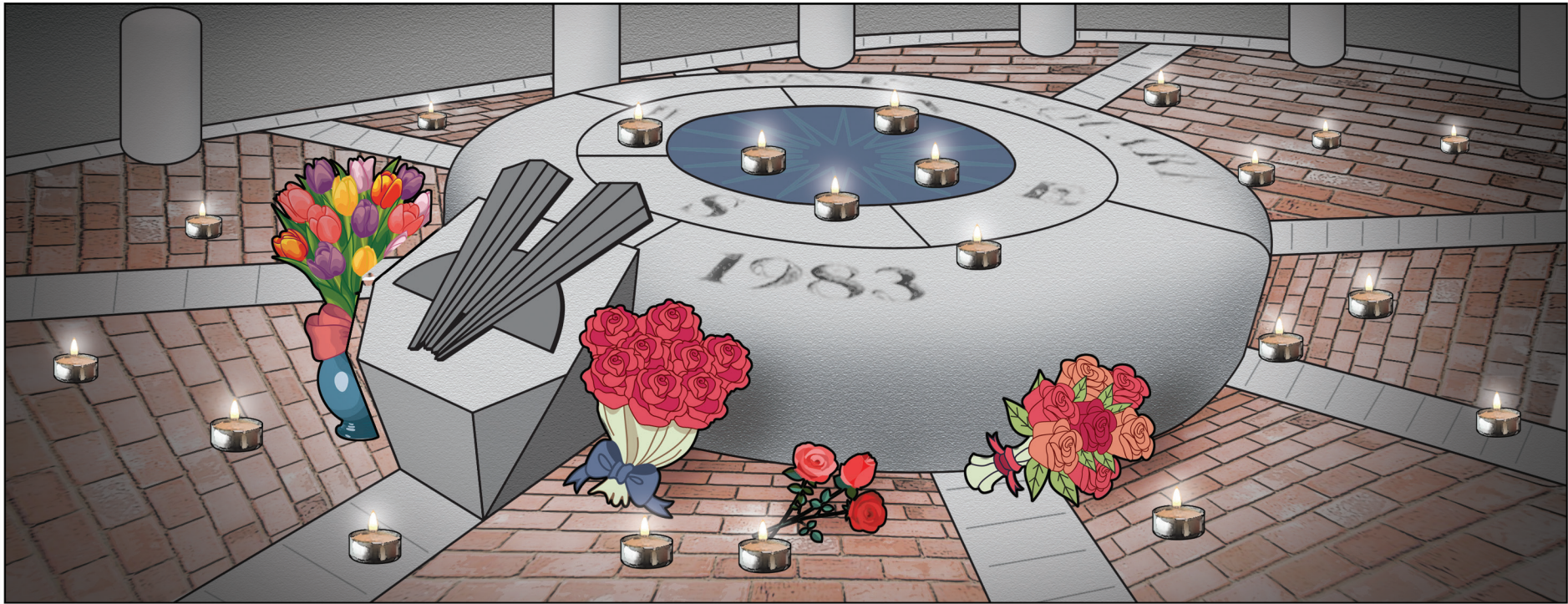
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COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Somerville remembers the victims and heroes of September 11, 2001.

Our View Of The Times

Although 22 years will have passed since the terrible and tragic events of September 11, 2001, took place, for many of us the shock and horror remains fresh in our memories. And since we, as New Englanders, were relatively close to the sites of destruction and loss of life, we can perhaps feel those sensations of sadness and even anger a little deeper than some others might, especially since our own Logan

Airport played a role in the perpetrator's deadly scheme.

It all felt so close. The Twin Towers, the Pentagon, and then the anthrax threats. It seemed like the world had gone mad and we wondered where we could go to be safer. More than a few spoke of heading for remote locations until things calmed down. Yes, the whole country was shocked and angered, but we here also felt so close

to the eye of this storm.

Next week we join the rest of the nation in remembering those who were injured and killed during this horrendous event, including the brave first responders who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Those who were there and survived the ordeal are also remembered and honored on this occasion.

On Monday, September 11, the City

will hold its annual procession and memorial ceremony to recognize the 22nd anniversary. To join the procession, meet at the Cedar Street entrance to the Community Path at 8:30 a.m. The speaking program and wreath laying ceremony will take place at around 9:00 a.m. at the 9/11 memorial in Davis Square, with the presentation and retiring of the colors by the Somerville Police and Somerville Fire Honor Guards.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

of birthdays. Happy birthday to a great guy, **Bob Trane**, a former Alderman for Ward 7. We wish him a very happy birthday. Happy birthday to **Juscelia LoRusso** of **Juscelia's Cakes**. She makes the best cakes around. Happy Birthday to **Nancy Gaudet-Bacci**, who is celebrating this week. We wish her a great birthday. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Billy Harrison**, **Paul Mercier**, **Judith Medeiros**, **Joe Fothergill**, **Sabrina Faria Caprigno**, **David Roberts**, **Maureen McCole**, **Jeff Meese**, **Richard Keller**, **Alexa Trefonides-Mase**, **Dan Johnson**, **Felicia Dalelio** and **Judy Calvey** 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.

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**MassDOT** announced that **September 18** will be the start of **Squires Bridge Work Construction**. **Green Line service to Union Square** will **temporarily terminate at Lechmere for 25 days**. An **open house** will be hosted to provide the public with additional details about the project and answer any questions about travel alternatives. At the open house, there will be **MassDOT Highway Division representative** there to speak to the bridge work and there will be repre-

sentation from the **MBTA** to speak about the **Green Line** impacts and alternative service options. Open house information: **Somerville Public Library** (Central), 79 Highland Ave, Somerville, **Tuesday, September 12**, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. A telephone hotline has also been set up to answer rider questions about the project and service: 617-927-9957.

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**Mayor Katjana Ballantyne** and the **City of Somerville Department of Veterans' Services** invite residents to the second annual **Health and Wellness Day** on **Saturday, September 9**, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in **Lincoln Park** (290

Washington St.). All are welcome at this free event to promote physical and mental health and well-being. Come check out fitness classes for all ages (yoga, Zumba, strength training), chair massages, free consultations with wellness coaches, a bounce house, Army Combat Fitness Test demos, face painting, healthy snacks, a DJ, and more. Experts will also connect first responders, veterans, active-duty military personnel, and their families with vital mental health resources and support. In the event of rain, the event will be canceled. For more info, email [veterans@somervillema.gov](mailto:veterans@somervillema.gov) or call 617-625-6600. ext. 4700.

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# FUN & GAMES

*Ms. Cam's*

Olío

**Olio** - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

# #888

1. When did the original World Trade Center in New York City open?
  2. What was American Airlines flight 11's intended destination on 9/11 before being hijacked?
  3. Where was President Bush when he was informed of the events unfolding on 9/11?
  4. What took place at 9.40 a.m. on September 11, 2001 for the first time in the history of the US?
  5. How many of the four planes involved in the 9/11 attacks flew out of Boston?
  6. How many hijackers were involved in the 9/11 attacks?
  7. When is Grandparent's Day 2023?
  8. In the *Batman* TV series, who played Egghead?
  9. Kimchi is a popular side dish from where?
  10. What musical did the song *I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Out Of My Hair* come from?
  11. Who wrote the music for *West Side Story*?
  12. What was the name of the *Dallas* character played by actress Linda Gray?
- Answers on page 11*

Answers on page 11

## The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. Basenji dogs are the only breed that doesn't bark.
2. You can't hunt camels in Arizona.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD  
NURSERY RHYMES

ACROSS

1. Ground grain
6. Black sheep answer: "Yes \_\_\_\_\_, three bags full."
9. Estimator's phrase (2 words)
13. Washer cycle
14. Australian bird
15. Plants and animals
16. Chipped in
17. Dashboard acronym
18. Not over
19. Rhymes with Porgie
21. Container in nursery rhyme and Ella Fitzgerald's song
23. Ray shooter
24. Gloomy
25. Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
28. The Wise Men
30. Type of mold
35. Civil Rights icon
37. Front of ship
39. Marilyn's real name
40. Distinctive elegance
41. Meal in a shell, pl.
43. Plant anchor
44. Strong and sharp
46. "Three Little Kittens" cry
47. Shower with affection
48. Bungle (2 words)

## DOWN

1. Hand grenade
2. Pick-up expression

## CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4			5	6	7			8	9	10	11
12					13					14				
15					16					17				
	18				19					20				
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55						56					57			58
59						60					61			
62						63					64			



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

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

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 3. On top of                                  | 33. Portray emotion                             |
| 4. Website visitors                           | 34. Jack and Jill's quest                       |
| 5. Wrigley's Big _____                        | 36. Black tropical cuckoos                      |
| 6. Bone-dry                                   | 38. Sheep's bagfull                             |
| 7. Elf on the Shelf, e.g.                     | 42. Curse                                       |
| 8. Cuban dance                                | 45. Lollipop brand                              |
| 9. Old MacDonald's farm sound                 | 49. Bud or chum                                 |
| 10. Traveled on                               | 51. Snooze                                      |
| 11. Proofreader's mark                        | 54. _____ and desist                            |
| 12. Sail alternative                          | 56. C2H5  |
| 15. Boot that reaches halfway or more to knee | 57. Pay a visit                                 |
| 20. Unsuitable                                | 58. Bumpkin                                     |
| 22. Pitcher's pride                           | 59. Famous boxing promoter Bob                  |
| 24. Bishop's jurisdiction                     | 60. Smoker's water pipe                         |
| 25. Life is but this                          | 61. Group of cows                               |
| 26. Marcello Mastroianni's "La _____ Vita"    | 62. Great Lake                                  |
| 27. Some Romanovs                             | 63. Back seat, e.g.                             |
| 29. SI unit of mass                           | 64. Negative vote                               |
| 31. "Here goes my _____ a trot, a trot..."    | 66. Mother Hubbard's pet                        |
| 32. Sag                                       | <i>Solution in the next edition of The Some</i> |

*Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.*



# Arts at the Armory closes in on 1,000 petition signatures goal

On August 15, 2023, the Center for Arts at the Armory (CAA) held an important hybrid in-person and virtual community (Zoom video recording available via the link below) during which the community expressed strong support for CAA and deep frustration with the City of Somerville’s fumbling of the Armory since acquiring it through eminent domain in May 2021.



At the meeting, CAA presented its case for a petition which makes the points below. Reporting close to 800 signatures to date, CAA is seeking 1,000 signatures on the petition by September 8, 2023. Once the petition has concluded, CAA will present the Mayor, Somerville City Council, the Somerville Armory Master Plan Advisory Committee, Somerville Arts Council and the Armory Master Plan consultant, Create Today with the petition, public commentary, and the recording of the August 15th meeting.

The petition created by Arts at the Armory urges the City of Somerville to do the following:

- abandon the proposed model 1 for the Armory building (City as owner and operator model)
- adopt a 3rd party operator model
- issue RFPs for a 3rd party operator and for prospective Armory arts/culture tenants
- create an Armory governance model

### Some background:

A year into its ownership of the Armory building, the City instituted an Armory Master Planning Process and hired a consultant team, Create Today, based out of New York, to guide this process. With the Master Planning Process now underway for over a year, the City and Create Today presented for consideration two models for the future of the Armory building. Model 1 proposes “the City as owner and operator” of the Armory building, giving the City full control of the building and its programming. In this model, the Center for Arts at the Armory would be dissolved, and other current Armory tenants would also need to vacate.

Model 2 is dubbed “Multiple Tenants,” which proposes the City as the building manager that rents spaces to chosen artists or arts organizations/business, and is similar to how the Armory has existed for nearly 20 years, with the exception that the City would remain as building manager and choose who can occupy the building to fill their chosen arts mandate.

During Armory Master Plan community meetings held by the City of Somerville in July/August, City officials had taken the 3rd Party Operator model off the table. CAA and others are now urging City officials to reconsider the omission of the 3rd Party Operator model, and to involve current arts tenants, including CAA, in future plans related to the Armory building.

The recording of the August 15, 2023 community meeting convened by Arts at the Armory can be found here: <https://artsatthearmory.org/about/armory-master-plan/>, along with the link to the full petition, public commentary, and links to recent articles in the press covering this story.

The Center for Arts at the Armory is located at 191 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143. To learn more please visit our website, [artsatthearmory.org](https://artsatthearmory.org), our Facebook page, and follow us on Instagram at @ArtsattheArmory. Join our mailing list at: <https://artsatthearmory.org/about/monthly-newsletter/>.

— The Center for Arts at the Armory

# Armory Cafe presents: Four on the Floor

On Friday, September 8, at 7:00 p.m., the Armory Cafe will host Four on the Floor, an evening of original theatre pieces and music by local emerging artists.

More info and tickets here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/four-on-the-floor-tickets-664574539337>



# The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #287

## Dropping Anchor

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Somerville’s nautical history and its environs go way back. It is believed that Vikings explored the Charles and Mystic Rivers’ shores from 1000-1004, five hundred years before Columbus. In the 1600’s, our location was a fledgling tidal island christened “Charlestown Beyond the Neck.” Its watery perimeter was made up of the Mystic River to the north, the Alewife Brook to the west, the Tannery Brook and the Miller’s River to the south, and the Charles River with its millponds to the east.



• In 1621, Pilgrim Captain Myles Standish was the first European to sail up the coast from Plymouth and drop anchor to explore what is now Somerville.

• The first governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, John Winthrop, dropped anchor in the Mystic in July of 1630, taking up residence at what is now Ten Hills.

• The first ship built in Massachusetts was the Blessing of the Bay. Built by Winthrop and later captained by his son John Jr., it was christened and slid into the swash of the Mystic River on the 4th of July, 1631.

• Captain William Kidd was one of America’s most famous pirates. While in concealment at Ten Hills, it was believed that his treasure was hidden somewhere along Somerville’s shore.

The era of the American Revolution and after produced many maritime names that would drop anchor in Somerville.

• Foremost was General George Washington who, after organizing the Colonial Army here, raised our first flag. He also established Washington’s Navy, a fleet of successful Colonial Privateers.

• Patriot Paul Revere rode hard through the swash of Charlestown Neck on his midnight ride through Somerville after averting anchored British ships and calvary.

• One of our heroic naval officers who gave his life in America’s war with Tripoli was Captain Richard Somers, Somerville’s namesake. He planned his

Continued on page 10



LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notices can also be viewed on our website at [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com)

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage dated April 28, 2023 given by I K Real Estate Development, LLC to RD W SPV LLC, said mortgage recorded with the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 81477 Page 381, and which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 a.m. on the 21st day of September 2023 at 23-25 Day Street, Somerville, Massachusetts**, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

To wit:  
Property Address: **23-25 Day Street, Somerville, Massachusetts**

The land, with the buildings thereon, situated in Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point on the Northwesterly side of Day Street, distant 43 feet from Orchard Street; thence running

Northwesterly at right angles with Day Street, about Seventy-Nine (79) feet to land now or late of Charles W. Parkhurst; thence running

Northeasterly by said land now or formerly of Charles H. Parkhurst, Forty-Five (45) feet, more or less, to land now or late of Susan Collins; thence running

Southeasterly on land now or late of Susan Collins, eighty one feet and five inches (81'5") to Day Street; thence running

Southwesterly on said Day Street, forty-Eight feet and Five inches (48'5") to the point of beginning.

Subject to, and with the benefit of, all rights, rights of way, reservations, restrictions, easements, agreements and appurtenances of record, insofar as the same are in force and applicable.

For title reference, see deed recorded herewith at the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds [Book 81477, Page 378].

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens and rights of any tenants and parties in possession, if there be any, or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. The successful bidder will pay all costs of recording the foreclosure deed and any other foreclosure documents including, without limitation, all state and county excise stamp fees, and shall also be responsible for any Title V inspection and repair requirements.

Terms of sale: A deposit of Twenty Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$20,000.00) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check to Baker, Braverman & Barbadoro, P.C., 1200 Crown Colony Drive, Suite 610, Quincy, MA 02169 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

RD W SPV LLC  
Present holder of said mortgage  
By its Attorneys,  
Baker, Braverman & Barbadoro, P.C.  
1200 Crown Colony Drive, Suite 610  
Quincy, MA 02169

8/30/23, 9/6/23 The Somerville Times

MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Lord Mansoor LLC to Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Three Trust, dated February 14, 2023 and recorded with the Middlesex (Southern District) County Registry of Deeds in Book 81250, Page 91 of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, and in which the mortgaged premises consist of a certain parcel of land with the buildings and improvements thereon located in Somerville known as 41 Derby Street, Somerville, Massachusetts, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold collectively commencing at Public Auction at 1:00 pm on the **6th day of October 2023**, at the mortgaged premises located at 41 Derby Street, Middlesex County, Somerville, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

To wit:  
A certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon in Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, shown as lot “E” on a plan recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds at the end of Book 2028, being a sub-division of lots thirty-three (33), thirty-four (34), and thirty-five (35) on a plan of land recorded with said Deeds and Book of Plans 54, plan 39, and bounded and described as follows:

SOUTHWESTERLY by Derby Street, Forty (40) feet;  
NORTHWESTERLY by lot F on said sub-division plan, one hundred (100) feet;  
NORTHEASTERLY by lot 49, recorded in said Book of Plans 54, plan 39, forty (40) feet; and  
SOUTHEASTERLY by lot thirty-two (32) on said last mentioned plan, one hundred (100) feet.

For Grantor’s title see Deed dated July 7, 2022, and recorded on February 14, 2023, with the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds in Book 81250, Page 79.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid condominium fees, taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. No representations express or implied are made with respect to any matter concerning the premises, which will be sold “as-is”.

**TERMS OF SALE:**  
Twenty-Five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$25,000.00) shall be paid in certified or bank cashier’s check by the purchaser at the time and place of said sale, and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid by certified or bank cashier’s check at the offices of Erik T. Potter, Esq., Potter MacLellan LLP, 113 Ripley Road, Cohasset, MA 02025 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. The successful bidder of the sale of the premises shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Terms of Sale containing the above terms at the Auction Sale. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee, or the Mortgagee’s attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale.  
Present Holder of Said Mortgage:  
Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Three Trust - c/o Erik T. Potter, Esq. Potter MacLellan, LLP  
113 Ripley Road, Cohasset, MA 02025 – 617-257-7050  
Dated: September 5, 2023

9/6/23 The Somerville Times



PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

City Of Somerville  
Mayor’s Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development

Pursuant to 24 CFR 91.105(e) (1), the City of Somerville will hold a public hearing to present the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the City’s 2022-2023 programs funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and to obtain public input on the City’s performance regarding its current grants funded by HUD, including the Community Development Block Grant Program, the Emergency Solutions Grant Program and the HOME Program.

The Public Hearing will be held virtually at 6:30 p.m. on **Thursday, September 21, 2023** and will be accessible via the following link:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9tJNt6u61iS7sg\\_K7A](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9tJNt6u61iS7sg_K7A)

Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication, written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Somerville should contact Adrienne Pomeroy, at [APomeroy@somervillema.gov](mailto:APomeroy@somervillema.gov).

The City of Somerville can provide you with an interpreter in your language for free. To request an interpreter, please contact us at [somervillema.gov/ContactSomerville](mailto:somervillema.gov/ContactSomerville) or call 311 (617-666-3311) at least 7 days in advance of this event.

All requests for accommodations should be made by the close of business on **Tuesday September 19th, 2023**. General questions about the hearing should be directed to the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) at [ospcd@somervillema.gov](mailto:ospcd@somervillema.gov). Written comments will be accepted until **Thursday October 5, 2023 @ 7:30 p.m.** and should be sent to the attention of Alan Inacio at the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD), 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143 or via email to [ospcd@somervillema.gov](mailto:ospcd@somervillema.gov).

9/6/23 The Somerville Times

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court

MIDDLESEX Division Docket No. MI21P1685EA

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Estate of:  

Anthony	Donato	Tempesta
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name

Also Known As: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Death: August 5, 1988

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of

Petitioner 

Daniel	A.	Tempesta	of	Tewksbury	MA
First Name	M.I.	Last Name		(City/Town)	(State)

  
[x] 

Daniel	A.	Tempesta	of	Tewksbury	MA
First Name	M.I.	Last Name		(City/Town)	(State)

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve [ ] with [x] without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

9/6/23 The Somerville Times

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week

CONT. FROM PG 9

last mission while on board the anchored USS Constitution. Regrettably, he and his crew never survived to return to her deck. To this day, their remains lie controversially beneath the swash on the edge of Tripoli’s harbor.

• Two Admirals from Somerville dropped anchor many times during World War II. Admiral Ralph Christie of Belmont Street was the commander of submarines in The Seventh Fleet. He was the highest-ranking flag officer to engage in actual submarine wartime patrols. Admiral Alfred Pride of 105 Hudson Street was the first man to land a helicopter on an aircraft carrier and

the second man to land an airplane on a carrier’s deck. He was considered the most knowledgeable man in the world on aircraft operations.

• After dropping anchor and coming ashore in the battle of Iwo Jima, Somerville’s Marine Corps Sergeant Henry O. Hansen and his squad raised two of the first flags on Mount Suribachi. Hansen died ten days later.

When called upon throughout our history, patriotic legions of Somerville’s men and women stepped up to drop protective anchors around the world to shield our freedom. Anchors away!

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
INVITATION FOR BIDS  
IFB #24-18

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

Asbestos Abatement for The City on An as Needed Basis

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at [www.bidexpress.com](http://www.bidexpress.com), <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or from the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **Wednesday, September 6, 2023**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **2:00PM, Wednesday, September 20th, 2023**. The Chief Procurement Officer 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.

Please contact Sonia Castro at [scastro@somervillema.gov](mailto:scastro@somervillema.gov) for more information.

5% Bid deposit required.

DCAMM Certification and Update Statement required for Asbestos Removal.

Sonia Castro  
Procurement Manager  
617-625-6600 x3407

9/6/23 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
IFB # 24-19

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

Glen Park Community Garden Expansion Construction

An Invitation for Bid may be obtained online at [www.bidexpress.com](http://www.bidexpress.com), <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement>, or from the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **Wednesday, September 6, 2023**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **2:00PM, Wednesday, September 27, 2023**. The Chief Procurement Officer 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.

Please email Felisa Garate at [fgarate@somervillema.gov](mailto:fgarate@somervillema.gov) for more information.

5% Bid Deposit required. Massachusetts Prevailing Wages apply.

Sonia Castro  
Procurement Manager  
617-625-6600 x3407

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ADVERTISEMENT

The **Somerville Housing Authority** is seeking competitive sealed Request for Proposals (RFP) for the procurement of a multiyear "Single Audit Contract", SHA Job No. P-SAC2325-2 in accordance with the specifications prepared by the SHA Purchasing Department.

The Term is for One (1) year with a Two 1-year option at the SHA's sole discretion.

Documents will be posted at **11:00 A.M., September 6, 2023**.

Responses will be received until **2:30 P.M., September 19, 2023**.

The work is estimated to cost **\$165,000.00** for 3-years.

Download of RFP Documents will be available for download on SHA's Web site, [www.sha-web.org](http://www.sha-web.org) under our Bid opportunities tab at **11:00 a.m., September 6, 2023**. If bidding, you must contact Anthony Crespo by email at [Tonyc@sha-web.org](mailto:Tonyc@sha-web.org) and register/leave contact information including an email. You will receive a reply that your email has been received. Proposers are responsible for ensuring that their email and bids are received. Addendum's will be posted on the website and shall be the bidder's responsibility to include in bid.

9/6/23 The Somerville Times

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

'ART LIVES HERE!' CONT. FROM PG 1

alike to visit this unique public art project and reflect on the invaluable community role played by our local artists."

On Saturday, September 9, the Somerville community is invited to join a walking tour of the installation at 2:00 p.m., rain or shine. Several artists will speak about their work along the way and there will be musical accompaniment. The walking tour will culminate at Brickbottom Galleries, where there will be a photography opening that is part of the Toy Camera Festival from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The "ART LIVES HERE!" project, on view through April 2024, features the works of 22 neighborhood artists conveying how the area's artistic community and art-making spaces foster a vital sense of place within the Brickbottom District.

The artists showcased represent multiple genres yet have similarities in that their selected work tends to be colorful and bold. Artist Pier Gustafson, who has visually chronicled the construction in the Brickbottom area and "enjoys finding interesting subjects in places that may not

be seen as beautiful," showcases a work called "Excavation" that depicts a massive yellow crane at work. Mrinaalika Sivakumar's featured graphic work, "I'm in Love," is, in her words, "a representation of her heritage and queer experience."

Featured artist Debra Olin says, "Being represented on the wall gives me a sense of belonging and a sense of ownership in this rapidly changing neighborhood... It feels good to be included with the other artists and let folks know that we are here!"

SAC oversaw the competitive selection process and served as Project Manager, while NRL served as the financial sponsor. NRL owns the 86 Joy Street Building, which is home to Joy Street Studios, as well as 14-20 Chestnut Street and 100 Chestnut Street— a 200,000 SF LEED Platinum Life Science development, scheduled to deliver Q3 2023. NRL's neighborhood activation advisor, Graffito SP, provided creative direction and design services for the scrim itself. Each of the chosen artists was awarded a \$600 prize by NRL, alongside individual donations to both the

Brickbottom Artist Association and Joy Street Studios for their project support to help fund their broader artist initiatives.

SAC assembled a jury to execute the artwork selection process, which consisted of a broad range of individuals, all of whom are affiliated with the Brickbottom District. Jury members included: Rachel Strutt (Somerville Arts Council), Peter Marquez (Brickbottom Artist Association), Connie Blaszczyk (Brickbottom Artist Association), Rebecca Scott (Joy Street Studios), Anna Burgess (North River Leerink LLC), and Gustavo Quiroga (Graffito SP).

"What is exciting about this project is that it brings renewed awareness to the incredible artistic vibrancy of the area. Both Brickbottom Artist Association and Joy Street Studios are massive cultural assets to the city and create a strong sense of place within this part of town. This public art project brings the talents of local artists from the inside to the outside and makes a statement about how integral artists are to the local landscape,"

says Rachel Strutt, Cultural Director, Somerville Arts Council.

"NRL sees great value in having such a robust artistic community within the Brickbottom District, and we remain committed to promoting their creativity throughout the neighborhood. We are thrilled that our first

collaboration with Brickbottom Artist Association and Joy Street Studios produced such a dynamic project, and we look forward to future collaborations with both SAC and the Brickbottom artistic community," says Andrew Dulac, Vice President, North River Leerink LLC.

Ms. Cam's

Olío

Answers

From page 8

1. April 4, 1973

2. Los Angeles

3. Elementary School in Sarasota, Florida

4. All air traffic was halted by the FAA

5. Two

6. Nineteen

7. September 10

8. Vincent Price

9. Korea

10. South Pacific

11. Leonard Bernstein

12. Sue Ellen Ewing



# 2023 Somerville Toy Camera Festival

Lo-fi art takes over Somerville, MA. The 10th anniversary celebration of the Somerville Toy Camera Festival (STCF) takes place at the Nave Gallery, Brickbottom Gallery and Washington Street Gallery, making it among the largest toy camera festivals in the world.



Showcasing the work of local, national and international photographers, the STCF highlights the talents and creativity of artists using low tech tools to create high art images. Juried by Ann Jastrab.

Since 2013, the Somerville Toy Camera Festival has celebrated the quirky and creative results that can happen when photographers are forced to loosen their controls, submit to the light and embrace the accidental.

Each year since, the festival has brought a wide range of toy camera photography by US and international artists together in simultaneous shows at galleries throughout the city, and featured related programming including artist talks/ panel discussions, workshops, social events, and a darkroom day.

Opening Reception: Sunday, September 10, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Nave Gallery (Teele Square), 155 Powder House Blvd, Somerville, MA.

Masks are required. No refreshments will be available.

Accessibility: No wheelchair access

### EXHIBITION DATES

Brickbottom Gallery: September 7 – October 7

Nave Gallery: September 9 – October 7

Washington Street Gallery: September 9 – 30

See full list of festival events here:

<http://www.somervilletoycamera.org/festival-events>.

# Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Garden hidden in plain sight on Poplar Street ... — Photo by Denise Provost

## BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



Why did Humpty Dumpty love September?  
Because Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.

## On This Day in History

### September 6

- 0394 – Theodosius becomes sole ruler of Italy after defeating Eugenius at the Battle of the River Frigidus.
- 1522 – One of the five ships that set out in Ferdinand Magellan's trip around the world makes it back to Spain.
- 1847 – Henry David Thoreau leaves Walden Pond and moves back into town, to Concord, Massachusetts.
- 1901 – President William McKinley is shot while attending a reception at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, New York, by anarchist Leon Czolgosz.
- 1907 – The luxury liner Lusitania leaves London for New York on her maiden voyage.
- 1941 – Germany announces that all Jews living in the country will have to begin wearing a Star of David.
- 1953 – The last American and Korean prisoners are exchanged in Operation Big Switch, the last official act of the Korean War.
- 1997 – Funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales.

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## COMMENTARY

The views and opinions expressed in the commentaries and letters to the Editor of The Somerville Times do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of The Somerville Times, its publishers or staff.

# Open Spaces and Tree Lined Streets



**By Will Mbah**  
**Candidate for**  
**Somerville City**  
**Councilor at**  
**Large**

During the summer I was able to bring the kids to

several of the city's parks, both to take part in organized programs and just to hang out with dad and mom under the trees. It got me thinking about the jobs that our talented parks managers and urban foresters must do every day to keep the network of open spaces and tree-lined streets in good shape for us all.

What a great job they do!

## How we plan for open space expansion and parks improvement in the city

The basic strategies for our park system and greens paces have been defined in the Open Space and Recreation Plan (2016-2023) and the Urban Forest Management Plan of 2021. These are complex plans, when compared to traditional models of parks and open space planning in US cities. Contrary to expectations, it appears to be more difficult to expand and maintain our open spaces in a small geographic city like Somerville (4.1 square miles) than in bigger places. If you are Boston, for example, with 38 square miles and a long and varied coastline, there are many more opportunities to find land and fit interesting green spaces into neighborhoods and new project designs. In Somerville, we need to watch, wait and jump quickly whenever some small or larger bit of land or a new program opportunity becomes available. We often need to scramble quickly to structure a funding package and a design team to make it all work.

Thus, our plans have to encompass a variety of concepts and models along with flexible schedules and the skills and tools for quick response. In general, there are three approaches that the different programs and activities follow:

- Certain programs involve steady, incremental work. For example, the Urban Forestry division follows a season-by-season schedule of activities, inventorying trees in the parks and on sidewalks, assessing their health, pruning and removing any that are diseased, and planting new trees

to diversify species and expand the tree canopy. Each year they have added about 150 new trees, combined in the spring and fall plantings.

- Other programs "piggyback" the green space improvements on other infrastructure projects. In particular this has involved final stages of sidewalk improvements as each stretch of the new storm drains and sewer lines have been installed. Urban forestry finishes the ground level with drainage swales, native plants and trees to create a ribbon of trees and shrubs along new bike lanes and pedestrian walkways.

- The third approach to green space expansion has been to work with private developers to install wider sidewalks and small parks and plazas as public/private spaces. These are coming on line in Union Square, Assembly Square, Boynton Yards and Brickbottom as new lab buildings and larger scale residential projects are completed.

Has this strategy of incremental, steady addition of green spaces made progress this summer?

Overall, around the city, the Urban Forestry Division has planted 185 new trees during the spring 2023 planting, with concentrations in the areas where the sewer and drainage separation work has been finishing. This was in addition to over 350 trees planted in spring and fall of 2022. They are now getting ready to continue with a mobilization of High School volunteers who will be tree planters for this fall.

Heavier duty park improvement work is also underway. The Healey School Playground reconstruction finished in May and the linear Somerville Junction Park (running along the Community Path between Gilman and Teele Squares) has been fenced in August for construction to start. Junction Park will get about 70 new trees and other shrubs and lawns, replacing asphalt and gravel, running alongside the Community PATH.

Various stretches of the sidewalk improvements, over finished sewer and drainage separation lines have also been completed during the summer. In particular, the bike lane and planting areas on Somerville Avenue from Union Square to Medford Street now create a ribbon park of trees and native shrubs and grasses.

Another project of ribbon urban forest, located alongside the Community PATH,

has been installed by the developers of the new lab building on Chestnut/Joy Street in Brickbottom. This building will soon have a "front yard" stretch of tree-lined widened sidewalk, bike path and storm water retaining planted areas.

## Keeping up the momentum and sustaining a flow of funds for green space

Looking toward the future, the city's

Capital Improvement Plan encompasses an ambitious program both of incremental work – more sidewalk green spaces as the sewer projects move along – and of larger park and playground projects. First in the queue of priority projects are the Art Farm, the Brown and Winter Hill schoolyards. Their timing is uncertain, however, because all three projects

*Continued on page 14*



## The Massachusetts Department of Transportation

invites you to attend a

### Public Information Meeting

for the

### Squires Bridge Construction Project

Tuesday, September 12th, 2023

6:30 p.m.

### Somerville Public Library (Central) Auditorium

79 Highland Ave, Somerville, MA 02143

This public meeting will provide the community an opportunity to hear an overview of the upcoming Squires Bridge construction including the project overview, schedule, and the suspension of Green Line train service between Lechmere and Union Square Stations on Monday, September 18, 2023, and lasting for 25 consecutive days through Thursday, October 12, 2023. For the duration of construction, Green Line service on the Union Square Branch will terminate at Lechmere Station; roadway users will not be impacted. Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and offer comments. Spanish and Portuguese interpretations will be available at the meeting.

All residents, abutters, local business owners, and interested commuters are invited to attend. All attendees will have the opportunity to enter their email into the project's email database to receive project updates. Prior to the meeting, if you have specific questions or concerns about the project, please call (617) 927-9957 or email [Daniel.Fielding@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:Daniel.Fielding@dot.state.ma.us). If you have specific questions or concerns about MBTA service changes, please call (617) 222-3200.

Note: This meeting is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request (e.g., interpreters in American Sign Language and languages other than English, live captioning, videos, assistive listening devices, and alternate material formats), as appropriate. For accommodation or language assistance, please contact MassDOT's Chief Diversity & Civil Rights Officer by phone at (857) 368-8580, Relay Service at 7-1-1, fax (857) 368-0602 or by email to [MASSDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us](mailto:MASSDOT.CivilRights@dot.state.ma.us). Requests should be made as soon as possible prior to the meeting, and for more intensive services including sign-language, language translation, and interpretation, requests should be made at least five (5) business days before the meeting.

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Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Join the **Gilman Square Neighborhood Council** and the **Somerville Arts Council** for their latest **SomerStreets** event, as the **Gilman Square Arts and Music Festival** takes place on **Saturday, September 9**, from 12 noon to 6:00 p.m. (rain date on Sept.10). Come out to hear live music from: **Matt Heaton, Hot Molasses, Eminent Domain, The Spicy Condiments** and **Sold by Weight Brass Band**. Activities, artists, and food vendors will be out on Pearl St. and in the Mad Oyster lot, including **Daddy Joes, Dean's Concession, Neighborhood Produce, Scott Brothers Kitchen, Tipping Cow**, and **Winter Hill Brewing**.

The **Somerville Rock + Roll Yard Sale** returns with locally sourced indie vendors selling a fun and eclectic mix of vinyl records, vintage + DIY handmade goods. This is the perfect way to support independent small businesses. Showcasing New England's top vinyl dealers in the heart of Union Square on **Sunday, September 10** from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. (rain date Sunday, September 17). Admission is free and open to all: Follow the Facebook event page for updates: <https://www.facebook.com/events/800471684462494/>.

**Tufts University** invites campus neighbors to join for the annual free **Outdoor Movie Night**. Grab your lawn chairs and head over to **Fletcher Field on the Medford/Somerville campus** on **Friday, September 8**, at 7:00 p.m. **Minions: The Rise of Gru** (PG) will be playing on the big screen, while **Jumbo the Mascot** will be greeting guests for a quick photo-op. Popcorn and other tasty treats will be served at this family-friendly event. Entry is free, please RSVP if you plan to attend. Parking

details and other logistics will be shared with registrants. RSVP at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tufts-university-presents-minions-the-rise-of-gru-tickets-699774453227?aff=oddtcreator>.

A full sit-down **Senior Picnic** has been rescheduled for **Thursday, September 14**, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at **Trum Field**. For any questions and to get a new ticket, call the **Somerville Council on Aging** at 617-625-6600 ext. 2319.

**East Somerville Main Streets** will hold their last **Block Party** of the summer on **Sunday, September 10**, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., 115 Broadway. Get back to school ready with businesses like **Fadil African Hair Braiding, Marlon's Barbers**, and **All She Wrote Books**. A **Trike Called Funk** returns.

Do you have an **opinionated kid** in the 8-12 age range? Stop by the **West Branch Children's Room** and pick up a not-yet-published book, and share your thoughts with **LittleBrown publishers** before anyone else reads them. For more information visit [somervillepubliclibrary.org](http://somervillepubliclibrary.org).

**Somerville Jr. Highlanders Softball** is looking for more participants. Please email [jrhighlander-softball@gmail.com](mailto:jrhighlander-softball@gmail.com) with any questions.

September is **Library Card Sign-Up Month**. There's so much you can do with a library card from the **Somerville Public Library**. Having a card allows you to: Check out books, movies, CDs, and more from our library collection, log in to computers at the library and use your daily printing credit and much more. To sign

up for a card visit, the Circulation desks at any of the three branches. All you need is a photo ID, and proof of Somerville address. Children ages 5 and up can also get a library card with their parents' information. Visit: [somervillepubliclibrary.org](http://somervillepubliclibrary.org).

**Mayor Katjana Ballantyne** and the **City of Somerville** invite community members to provide public comments about **rent stabilization** at a third and final **listening session on Tuesday, September 12**, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Comments should address specific elements of Somerville's proposed new rent stabilization rules. Attend in-person at the **Armory building** (191 Highland Ave.) or online via Zoom. Written comments will also be accepted until **September 10**. Learn more and register to speak at the session: [voice.somervillema.gov/adtf](http://voice.somervillema.gov/adtf).

The **Project Outlook, Low Vision Group** meets the **fourth Thursday of each month** starting at 2:00 p.m. at the **Holland Street Center**. Project Outlook is a group of residents with low or no vision who enjoy getting together for camaraderie and socialization. Project Outlook has been active for over 30 years. All are welcome. Call **Connie Lorenti** at 617-625-6600, ext. 2319 for more info.

The Row's most anticipated event, **Riverfest**, returns on **September 16**. Celebrate the end of summer with a bang – literally – during a free, fun-filled day for the whole family, all culminating with a spectacular fireworks show over the Mystic River. With live music, kids activities, an artisan market and so much more, you won't want to miss our biggest event of the year. Visit their website for the full

event details: <http://assemblyrow.com/visit/events/riverfest-2023/>.

Another event coming up is the **Somerville Greek Festival**. Enjoy delicious, authentic Greek food and pastry, dance under the big tent to live music and enjoy a cold beer or wine while taking in the excitement at the largest Greek food festival in town. The festival will run **September 8 and 9**, from 12:00 to 11:00 p.m. and **Sunday, September 10**, from 12:00 to 9:00 p.m. Plenty of free parking. The menu will be posted ahead of this event, with plenty of vegetarian options. The Somerville Greek Festival is an annual event of the **Dormition of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church**, 29 Central St., Somerville. and open to the general public. It is a major fundraiser which allows the community of faithful to continue to serve the Somerville community through philanthropy, liturgical services and much more. Visit [dormition-church.org](http://dormition-church.org).

Enjoy **free outdoor movie, popcorn, candy, and fun** at **The Block at Boynton Yards**, all summer long. **Friday Flicks Outdoor Movie Nights at Boynton Yards** will start at 7:00 p.m. with yard games and fun, followed by candy, popcorn, and movies once the sun sets. Bring a blanket and get ready for a fun-filled evening. **September 15: The Little Mermaid** (1995 version). Boynton Yards, 110 South Street.

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

Open Spaces and Tree Lined Streets CONT. FROM PG 13

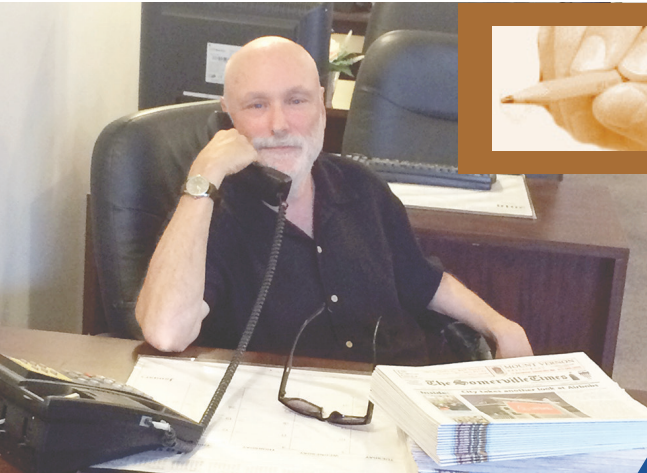
are dependent upon the prior completion of other infrastructure work and possible limitations of future funding. For example, Art Farm has been under discussion for almost ten years but, because it will be built as the surface-level of a complex underground drainage and pumping station, its final design is not yet be worked out. This leaves incomplete the calculations of cost and decisions on financing. It has always been assumed that the Art Farm will be paid for by a combination of city bonded funds, CPA and other state/

federal grants, and developer contributions. In order to be prepared, the city's Finance Department has already put certain funds into stabilization accounts and has reserved but some of the CPA grant/budget lines. But in the early years of planning, before COVID, the cost estimate for Art Farm was reported as \$4 million. By 2023, the estimate has been given as \$10 million, \$11 million and \$20 million in different reports. The underground pumping station work has begun with a projected timeline of 2 years and a budget estimate of \$89

million. Presumably, Art Farm designs will be ready in 2025 or 2026, and a sufficient funding package will by then be in place. This is not a longtime frame for complex planning and related community reviews, and in the interim some large projects of school construction and municipal building repair and renewal may have a priority claim on the capital budgets. Thus, the Art Farm illustrates the problem our open space planners face – how to stay as ready as possible with plans, designs and reserve funds, so that at the moment it becomes feasible to jump forward

with a park and green space project, all the pieces can fit together quickly. It is up to us as citizens to keep abreast of their work and to support and encourage them. Meanwhile, we should all take a little time to visit one of the parks and enjoy our green spaces in the autumn. If you want to learn more or support my campaign, please visit my website at [willmbah.com](http://willmbah.com). If you want to learn more or support my campaign, please visit my website at [willmbah.com](http://willmbah.com).





OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

'The Anniversary'

by Stephanie Bishop

*The Anniversary*  
By Stephanie Bishop  
Black Cat/Grove Atlantic, New York, 2023.  
423 pages, \$18.

Review by Off the Shelf Correspondent Ed Meek.

If you are making a list for summer reading, you can't do much better than *The Anniversary* by Stephanie Bishop. It's a novel that combines a deep dive into writing with a mystery. As a work about writing, *Anniversary* fits into what is becoming a genre. We appear to like pulling back the curtain to see how the wizard does it. Recent examples include *Vladimir* by Julia May Jonas in which a writer confronts political correctness at the college while seducing a younger man, *Mona* by Pola Oloixarac in which a writer attends a writing conference while trying to figure out what caused the bruises on her body. Then there's the HBO series *This May Destroy You* about a writer trying to get to the bottom of a rape she can't quite remember while completing a manuscript. And before that, *Girls*, where Lena Dunham's character, a writer, and her friends deal with toxic males while trying to survive in NYC.

*The Anniversary* is about a woman writer who has just found out that she is receiving a prestigious prize for her new novel. Maybe it's the Booker Prize or even a Pulitzer (she doesn't say). This comes after years of working in the shadow of her famous husband who makes award winning films. He is twenty years older. She met him as a student of his and he became her husband and her mentor. As long as she is unsuccessful, he is very supportive but when she begins to rival him and maybe even surpass him in stature, he has a difficult time with it. Sound familiar? This is a well-worn plot. In the movie *A Star Is Born*, Bradley Cooper nurtures the unknown Lady Gaga until she belts out a few show-stopping numbers and upstages him causing him to fall into a downward spiral. In *The Wonder Boys* by Michael Chabon (a great novel and film about writing) the main character, (Michael Douglas in the film) is outshined by one of his students at the annual college writing festival.

For their anniversary, our narrator decides to take her husband on a romantic cruise to get their relationship back on track. I'm not giving anything away to say that after a round of great sex and too much alcohol, a storm at sea arises and her husband Patrick ends up going over the railing from the upper deck into the cold waters of the ocean in the middle of the night! Even the narrator is somewhat unsure of what really happened. The next few hundred pages are

spent delving into her past, her family history, and her relationship with her husband, in order to figure out what happened and how she arrived at this juncture in time.

Her relationship with her husband happens to involve collaborative writing. She helps him with his films; he helps her with her novels. Bishop is good at explaining how collaboration can work and what the narrator's writing process entails. She brings up questions about the reliability and unreliability of our memory and the connection between fiction and reality. Much of the narrator's writing is closely based on real life and that can cause problems. Hemingway is reputed to have lost half a dozen famous friends when *The Sun Also Rises* came out. There's an old axiom: be careful what you say to a writer. It may end up in a story. The narrator's perspective is different from her husband's and it is the basis for conflict.

In addition, the story we tell ourselves affects our perspective on life. A new movement in psychology involves retelling your own story in order to help you to accept yourself and your fate. If you are always berating yourself for not living up to your standards or your mother's or father's or society's, maybe you just need to change the narrative. In *The Anniversary*, the narrator, Ms. Blackwood, finds her perspective on herself, and her husband shifting and that changes both the past and the present.

Bishop does a great job withholding information to keep us turning the pages though you might find yourself skimming some of her paragraphs that may have benefitted from trimming. She is also good at tying together the many loose ends she creates. Mark Twain said: "The only difference between reality and fiction is that fiction needs to be credible." Mysteries often strain our sense of credibility, and Bishop runs into problems when she leaves the world of writing and ventures into the world of law. But these days, when the real world has become pretty iffy – did ChatGPT write this? Is Tik Tok used for spying? Was Michelle Carter responsible for her boyfriend's suicide because she sent him a text? You may not care to quibble about reality when it comes to this smart, entertaining novel.



Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Born and raised in Massachusetts, k.r. taylor is a Radiologic Technology student with an undeniable passion for writing. Her poetry has been seen in *The Weight Journal*, *Teen Ink*, *Dead River Review*, and forthcoming in *Ghost City Review*. She attempts to grasp the intangible through her work, whether it derives from societal issues or ones close to home. While she helps people in the medical field, she hopes her writing can do the same beyond medicine.



failing at forgiveness smells like cigarettes

the kitchen stopped smelling like cigarettes  
shortly after my fifteenth birthday  
when my mom finally quit  
in the same breath, the bottoms of her bottles were no longer  
her nightly ballroom to dance in

the porch was just a bench  
and a constant slammed screen door  
but she didn't go out there anymore  
in the middle of the night  
in the middle of anything

the day i left home  
the screen door was left unslammed  
words were left unsaid  
my mom's tear soaked cheeks  
still haunt my hands after years of getting clean

she brings me groceries when i'm sick  
always asks if i want something to eat when i visit  
and she reminds me she loves me over text  
but she still sleeps beside the man who taught me violence  
and i still think of her when i smell cigarettes

— k.r. taylor

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



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Martin B. Dropkin  
Nancy G. Matza  
Tel: 617-623-4600  
Attorneys at Law  
Fax: 617-625-7315  
**DROPKIN & MATZA LLP**  
Attorneys at Law  
424 Broadway  
Somerville MA 02145  
**Bankruptcy**  
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