

VOL. 10 NO. 36

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



Breakfast is served in Somerville page 3



That little cottage can now be yours page 5



Veterans wellness and 9/11 memorial page 9

State Primary Election: Preliminary results



By The Times Staff

Although no State Representatives for Somerville faced any opposition this year, local voters did their duty at the polls on Tuesday's State Primary election, weighing in on their choices for other statewide offices.

The following preliminary results were released on Tuesday night. For the most up-to-date totals, visit our website at www.thesomervilletimes.com. The current results for the top offices at press time are (winning candidates in bold text):

Governor

Democrat

Attorney General Maura Healey State Sen. Sonia Chang-Diaz - Withdrew Republican Continued on page 12

Massachusetts voters took to the polls on Tuesday to help narrow the field in advance of November's General Election.

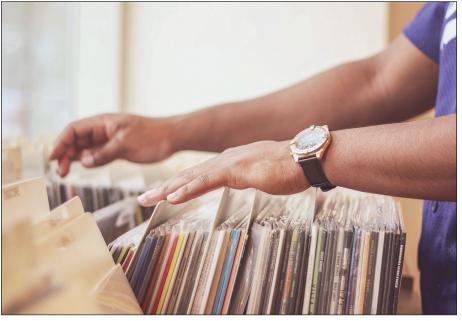
Rock is dead, but records keep rolling

By Ryan DiLello

Johnny Cash's rendition of *Sunday Morning Coming Down* played in my headphones as I walked down Prospect Hill to Somerville's annual Rock + Roll Yard Sale in Union Square last Sunday.

It was two in the afternoon and the sun was baking the pavement in the plaza. People were moving slowly, partly to view the records, partly because of the heat. While Cash sang about reaching for a beer in the morning, I could see the vinyl junkies floating bin to bin, looking for their next analog fix.

The market consisted of a small conglomeration of tents, most of which housed enormous amounts of used records. Small laminated labels popped out of the vinyl like drowning sailors, declaring genres and band names of yesteryear. A few tents boasted reprints of iconic graphic tees, which hung motionless, dead in the wind. If there was *Continued on page 4*



The Somerville Rock + Roll Yard Sale returned to Somerville at on Sunday in Union Square Plaza, offering stacks of used records and live entertainment.





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.

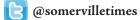
On Sunday, September 11, the city will hold a procession and memorial ceremony to recognize the 21st anniversary of 9/11. Anyone interested in joining the procession should meet at the Cedar Street end of the Community Path at 9:30 a.m. A speaking program will follow at approximately 10:00 a.m. at the 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.

September is **Recovery Month**. Additional **Narcan distributions** will take place **Thursday, September 15**, in **Union Square** from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and **Friday, September 30**, at **Foss Park** from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For more information, resources, or to get involved, email mmitchell@somervillema.gov or visit https://www.somervillema.gov.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to local realtor **Stephen Bremis**. We wish him the very best for his birthday. Happy birthday to a good friend, **Bob Trane**, a former Alderman for Ward 7. We wish him the very best this year. Happy birthday to **Jodi Gallo**. We wish her the very best of birthdays. Happy birthday to **Matt Hoey**. We wish him the very best of birthdays as well. We wish **Juscelia LoRusso** of **Juscelia's Cakes**, a very happy birthday. She makes the best cakes around! A happy birthday to a great guy, **Marty Henry**, one of the *Continued on page* 9



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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of September 7 – September 13 as provided by the National Weather Service

	DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
	Wednesday September 7	Cloudy	71°/58°	23%	17%	NE 11 mph
¥	Thursday September 8	Sunny	75°/59°	15%	11%	NE 10 mph
	Friday September 9	Cloudy	75°/59°	14%	10%	ENE 10 mph
¥	Saturday September 10	Sunny	80°/63°	10%	7%	NE 9 mph
Č	Sunday September 11	Partly Cloudy	79°/62°	14%	12%	S 11 mph
•••	Monday September 12	Rain	78°/64°	35%	25%	SSW 11 mph
	Tuesday September 13	Cloudy	76°/62°	24%	18%	S 12 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: Round and round we go

Ed says:

So many poor drivers telling on themselves here. If you find it confusing, maybe you're not cut out for driving in the city.

Response to: City reevaluates confirmations process after Civil Service Commission rebuke

Curtis says:

This was a long time coming. The Our Revolution / DSA Councilors turned this committee into a political tribunal, making capricious and politically motivated decisions, and in the process, chasing out strong and qualified candidates for various positions and appointments. The judge is only stating what any casual observer has known for years.

Response to: *Revival Coffee in Somerville takes up the Natural Lawn Challenge*

Rob Moir says:

Bravo Somerville Times. Wicked Local in Malden and Medford would not run story when tabling at cafes there in Wicked local (Gannett). The print papers put our story on front pages but fertilizer sponsors prohibited spreading the word of their dirty secret.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

Be sure to visit us online at **www.TheSomervilleTimes.com** and on Facebook at **www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1** and follow us on Twitter at **@somervilletimes**

Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte The Breakfast Club



In the old days we used to go to Howard Johnson, The Golden Egg or Kay and Chips for breakfast. There are a lot of other great break-

fast places serving during the traditional breakfast hours. In Ball Square, there's Ball Square Café and breakfast, Soundbites and Kelly's Diner. I've also eaten at a great breakfast at Buddy's Diner on Washington St.

Now here are comments by our Somerville neighbors about a great subject ... breakfast. Each quote is a different person.

"Ball Sq. cafe hands down the best."

"The Neighborhood and Ball Square Cafe."

"My house – I make a yummy quiche!" "Ball Square Café, then if you can't wait, then go to Kelly's diner." "Damn Soundbites has fallen out of flavor? I wonder why?"

"Neighborhood. Portuguese power."

"It's a joke. Anyone can cook eggs. Neighborhood brings it to another level.

"Neighborhood bakery best by far."

"Ball Square Café, where servers know you by name! Great vibe!"

"Ball Square Café ! Hands down! Mike Moccia the owner makes it very personable and they remember their customers as if they were family!"

"Whoever has the best spuds is usually the best breakfast in town."

"Also, Supreme Kitchen on Highland Ave., across from Somerville Hospital! Felicia is awesome!"

"Sound bites."

"Neighborhood and Ball Square Café." "Olde Magoun Saloon. Weekend Full Irish Breakfast is spot on."

"Teddy and Libby's."



"Kelly's Diner in Ball Sq. or Mag Muffin in Teele Sq. for something quick." "Rene's."

It was fun to see all the comments

about old breakfast places like Harold's, Kay and Chips and The Waldorf.

After writing about delicious breakfast places I'm dying for Eggs Benedict







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A real feel-good arrest

While changing a flat tire on a disabled vehicle outside Saks Off 5th on Grand Union Blvd. last week, a Somerville Police officer observed a Saks store employee attempting to stop a suspected shoplifter who was running away from him with merchandise in his hands.

The officer ran after the

man, later identified as James

on the ground and he reportedly did not comply. The officer then took him down and handcuffed him. The store employee recovered

the stolen merchandise amounting to a sweatshirt, a duffle bag, and two pairs of pants, with a total value of \$603.40.

Wright, and grabbed his arm.

The officer asked Wright to get

Additionally, Wright had six Vichy skin care items and one men's body spray. The officer asked Wright if he had a receipt for the items he was carrying, and he replied that the receipt had been emailed to him and he was unable to show a receipt.

The officer informed Wright that the items would be taken into evidence if he was unable to show a receipt and would only be released after showing a proof of purchase. Wright reportedly responded by accusing the officer of "stealing "his property.

The store employee told police that Wright entered the store, selected clothing items, and walked out without making any attempt to pay for them.

Wright was informed that he was under arrest for larceny under \$1200 and he reportedly started insulting the officers on scene for arresting him, and said to them, "You feel good arresting a junky for shoplifting?"

Wright was subsequently transported to the Somerville Police headquarters for booking on the above stated charge.

ΙG

Arrests:

James Wright, August 30, 1:36 p.m., arrested at Canal St. on a charge of larceny under \$1200.

Ramon Ordonez, of Chel-

sea, August 30, 10:44 p.m., arrested at Broadway on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, marked lanes violation, motor vehicle operator failure

to identify self, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, and negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

Patrick Skelton, September 2, 1:57 p.m., arrested at Wash-

ington St. on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, marked lanes violation, and speeding.

George McGinley, Septem-

ber 3, 7:08 a.m., arrested at Davis Sq. on warrant charges of larceny from a building, utter counterfeit note, receiving stolen property under \$1200, and trespassing.



Text a Tip to the SPD from anywhere!

• 100% completely anonymous • Easy and secure • Text messages can be sent from anywhere at any time

Simply text the phone number "TIP411" (847411) and put "617spd" at the beginning of your text message. If your message requires an emergency response PLEASE DO NOT TEXT and instead call 9-1-1.



Rock is dead, but records keep rolling CONT. FROM PG 1

any conversation to be heard, it ment. I stepped further into the was overwhelmed by the thwap, thwap, thwap sound of people flipping through records.

Local Boston rock group The Marshalls were wrapping up the first leg of their set and a few onlookers cheered. I thought their sound resembled an early Jefferson Airplane. Contrary to what their Marshall name might suggest, there were no full-stack amplifiers nor deafening guitar tones to be heard. Apt for today's live music venues, the group's guitar players were flanked by two 10watt Fender Princetons - each turned to moderate volumes.

"Cause there's something, in a Sunday / Makes your body feel alone," Cash muttered through my headphones, his voice sounding like rocks grinding on pavemarket, eager to find my next companion of an album.

The tents were tightly packed people, records, and all. As I explored my first crate of the day, I tucked my elbow to preserve access to the bin next to me, which a man was furiously thumbing through. "Suppose that's how the veterans do it," I thought, as I caught the plastic of one record and clumsily recruited my other hand to hold back the growing mass of records I'd moved past.

I appreciated the friendly prices, especially the discounted wildcard bins. I thought of Steven Kotler, owner of Round Again Records in Providence, peering over at me from behind the checkout. "These aren't pre-Columbian artifacts," he would mutter, gesturing around his hole-inthe-wall shop – a favorite of mine back home.

Artifacts or not, the smell of mothballs, tobacco, and aged paper filled the air. We were all trekking down nostalgia road, kicking up clouds of our grandparents' ashes, perfume, and dead skin. And as I walked along a sea of records, I reflected on how music listening has changed.

The era of "1000 songs in your pocket" certainly has its upsides in terms of breadth and accessibility, but does it offer comparable fulfillment for the ear and mind?

Records are the most comprehensive form of music as a thing, if not as a commodity. I believe they do the most justice to this vague notion of a "recording," which always begs the questions, a recording of what? At what time? By whom? How? In what form? To what end?

The very best records address all of these questions and then some. In a thoughtfully crafted package, albums combine liner notes from the artist and/or producer with candid images of the creative process; they feature tangible artwork, and the vinyl itself contains the grooves to be electro-magnetically amplified in a way, analogous to electric guitar. One could argue, records are an automated instrument. On top of all of this, records combat the kind of musical ADHD that so many of us succumb to at the helm of today's streaming platforms. With their continuous, unilateral playstyle, the listener

is disarmed from the skip button. Records enable you to listen to music the way an artist intended.

In a word, records are a presentation. A presentation in that records comprise multiple forms of media to best capture a musical creation, bearing in mind all the ineffable ways in which it affects us. The italics nod toward the way in which records demand the listener remain in the present mechanically (by setting up and tending to the record), auditorily (via the vivacity of analog sound), and temporally (in the "real-time" playback of a record).

Rock may be dead, but as records keep rolling, one must wonder whether the next musical revolution will be waged on the grounds of the medium, rather than the content.

Land Use Committee approves backyard cottages, more

By Fernando Cervantes Jr.

The Somerville City Council's Land Use Committee held its monthly meeting to discuss zoning ordinances and amendments in various locations of the city.

In a virtual meeting, the Committee covered a variety of topics ranging from requests from individual citizens to a request from Mayor Katjana Ballantyne.

The first of the motions discussed in the meeting was introduced by City Councilor At-Large Jake Wilson, who proposed an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances where backyard cottages would be allowed by right.

According to Dan Bartman,

Somerville, there was a largely positive reaction from the public as seen in a set of public meetings.

"This is supported by the Urban Design Commission, the Planning Board and obviously councilor Wilson submitted this," Bartman said.

The Committee approved the measure unanimously. This would allow homeowners to convert their garages into guest houses, etc., without a neighborhood meeting being required as previously mandated, as long as they meet code.

Following discussion of other zoning requests submitted by citizens, the Committee discussed a request sent in from Mayor Kat-

Senior Planner for the City of jana Ballantyne seeking to "repeal all references to a Certificate of Zoning Compliance and replace with a requirement for the Building Official to conduct a zoning compliance review and maintain a public record of such reviews for all development."

> Seen as more of a clerical change rather than a large zoning amendment, this measure would keep the process of zoning compliance the same.

> Following discussion, the measure was also unanimously passed by the Committee.

> For more information regarding this meeting and following meetings by the land use committee, visit: https://somervillema. legistar.com/Calendar.aspx.



awareness on falls prevention **SCES** walks to raise

Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) staffers are walking this September to raise awareness about fall prevention.

Falls are the leading cause of injury for older adults. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that one out of four Americans age 65 and over experiences a fall each year, resulting in more than 3 million emergency room visits.

Fortunately, falls are not inevitable. Fall Prevention Awareness Week starts Sept. 18, and SCES is marking the occasion by raising awareness and sharing useful information throughout the month.

The CDC recommends the following steps to reduce the risk of falls:

Talk to Your Doctor

• Ask your doctor or healthcare provider to evaluate your risk for falling and talk with them about specific things you can do.

+ Ask your doctor or pharma-

cist to review your medicines to see if any might make you dizzy or sleepy. This should include prescription medicines and overthe counter medicines.

+ Ask your doctor or healthcare provider about taking vitamin D supplements.

Do Strength and Balance Exercises

Do exercises that make your legs stronger and improve your balance. Tai Chi is a good example of this kind of exercise.

Have Your Eyes Checked

Have your eyes checked by an eye doctor at least once a year, and be sure to update your eyeglasses if needed.

Make Your Home Safer

+ Get rid of things you could trip over.

+ Add grab bars inside and outside your tub or shower and next to the toilet.

+ Put railings on both sides of stairs.

• Make sure your home has lots

of light by adding more or brighter light bulbs.

+ Keep items you use often in cabinets you can reach easily without using a step stool.

+ Use non-slip mats in the bathtub and on shower floors.

For the third straight year, the Executive Office of Elder Affairs (EOEA) is coordinating a step challenge, to raise awareness on this issue and promote exercise.

The statewide goal for this effort is 45 million steps in the month of September. Our team at SCES is looking forward to doing our part in this effort.

If you would like to join in, post your photos, walk results, and comments on Facebook or Instagram using the hashtag #MASteps2PreventFalls. If you tag our social media accounts, we'll be sure to update EOEA on your contributions.

SCES will provide updates throughout the month, along with more information on this



SCES Outreach Director Nathan Lamb enjoys a walk at Waitt's Mountain in Malden with his son Jason and dog Penny on Labor Day weekend. September is Falls Prevention Awareness Month and all month SCES employees are logging steps to help the Executive Office of Elder Affairs reach its goal of 45 million steps to reduce falls.

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

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

Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1

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.

Trouble with a capital T

By State Senator Pat Jehlen

People are furious at the state of the MBTA: the fatality, the fire, the explosion, the derailments, the injuries, the delays, the actual and proposed cuts in service, the month-long closure of the Orange and Green Line.

In 2009, two reports looked at Gov. Cellucci's 1999 Forward Funding plan, which was developed with his Administration and Finance Secretary Charlie Baker. That plan dedicated 1% of the sales tax to the T, and also transferred over \$3 billion in debt from the general fund to the T.

The D'Alessandro Report¹, requested by Gov. Patrick, found that the T was underfunded because "the Finance Plan substantially underestimated the system's cost drivers."

"Born Broke ²," a report for the T Advisory Board, added that sales tax revenue had been growing less than 1% a year, failing completely as the T's principal source of money. It reiterated the "corrosive effect" of the debt.

Under Gov. Patrick, who took office in 2007, the legislature added \$160 million a year to help with the debt, and fares were increased. Patrick appointed Beverly Scott, who had 30 years of experience in public transit management, as general manager in December 2012. She said the T needed "significant reinvestment ³," while Transportation Secretary Richard Davey added that "the T would spend more on debt service than on salaries" that year.

In 2013 Patrick proposed a major increase in transportation funding, based on the legislature passed a smaller, \$800 million, tax package, which was further reduced after public pushback against a tax on software. And then, on a ballot question, taxpayers rejected the provision that indexed the gas tax to inflation 4, further reducing available funds. Evan Horowitz wrote a good summary ⁴ of those revenue proposals.

Gov. Baker took office in January 2015 and immediately faced a shutdown of the T as nine feet of snow fell during February. Under criticism and pressure from Baker, General Manager Scott resigned ⁵, while continuing to assert the need for more investment ⁶.

Baker appointed an expert panel to recommend improvements to the T. Their Action Plan ⁷, issued in April 2015, said "it rejects the 'reform vs. revenue' debate because the T needs both." However, Baker claimed that the problem was only with management: ⁸ "What they did not say is that the T was underfunded. It wasn't. It isn't. It won't be. What it was was poorly led and horribly managed."

A safety review panel appointed by the Fiscal Management Control Board reported in 2019 that "since 2010 there have been 9 new GMs ... the lack of trust with leadership was by far one of the most cited issues. When it comes to safety, employees felt that the organization has created a blame and retaliation culture." 5 of the new GMs had been appointed – one of them twice – in Baker's 4 years.

The FTA said in its August report that, since the 2019 Safety Review Panel report, safety performance has declined.

This brings us to 2022, with the Federal Transit Authority announced its safety investigation, leading to shutdowns and service reductions while the T does maintenance and tries to hire dispatchers and operators. We're all following those stories closely, and I'll write a little more about that soon. Meanwhile, I'm posting on Facebook ⁹ about some of what I'm doing, including riding the shuttles to see how they're working.

The T just doesn't have either adequate funding or adequate management. They're related: Adequate funding will depend on management - including the governor - telling the truth about how much money they need. And people - including the governor and all of us citizens - need to be willing to pay for it.



Reps. Ultrino, Connolly, and Donato on a trip to see how the Orange Line shuttle would work. I've taken the Green Line shuttle to work since.

tax.html

We'll have a chance in November to decide whether people who make more than a million dollars a year to pay a little more for transportation and education. The Fair Share Amendment ¹⁰ is our best chance to raise more revenue and say that safety, public transit, education, and our future are worth paying for. Don't take it for granted!

¹ http://www.mbtareview.com/ MBTA_Review_2009.pdf ^o https://archives.lib. state.ma.us/bitstream/ handle/2452/279424/ ocn497040434.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y ³ https://www.wbur.org/ news/2012/11/19/beverly-scott-mbta

⁴ https://www.governing.com/ archive/gov-massachusetts-rollsback-inflation-measure-for-gas⁵ https://www.bostonglobe. com/metro/2015/02/13/ want-fix-don-forget-pay-for/2qIWsBYiVD9kSg1vlEOyDL/story.html ⁶ https://www.bostonglobe. com/metro/2015/02/10/beverly-scott-remains-focused-mbta-while-political-winds-swirl/ sXnv5c2OZGjCUvGqqIVaFK/ story.html 7 https://archives.lib. state.ma.us/bitstream/ handle/2452/264299/ ocn907381943.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y ⁸ https://cdn.mbta.com/sites/ default/files/2019-12/2019-12-09-fmcb-B-safety-review-panelfinal-report-accessible.pdf

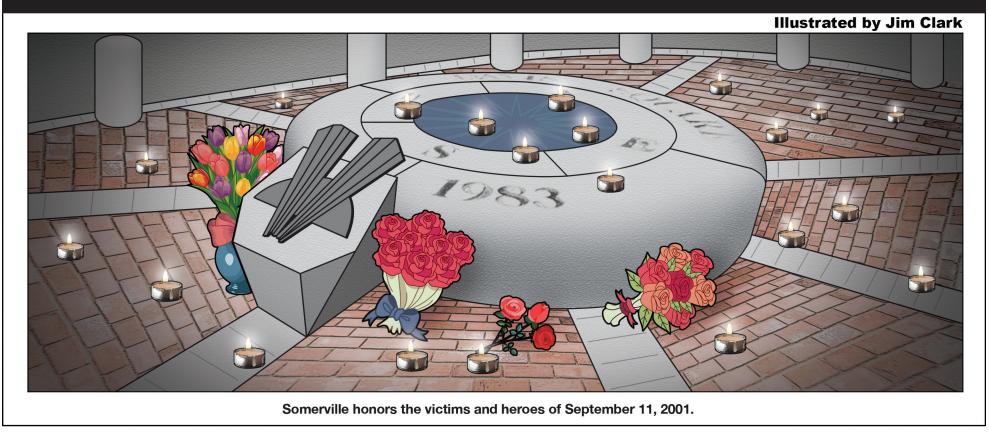
⁹ https://www.facebook.com/
SenatorPatriciaJehlen/
¹⁰ https://www.raiseupma.org/
fair-share-amendment-2022/

Mayor Ballantyne statement on FTA MBTA Report

"The FTA report is an important wake-up call for our Commonwealth. Massachusetts needs a world-class public transit system. Good public transit is a benefit to everyone in the region because it has the potential to touch so many people in positive ways. It's good for economic justice, environmental justice, and racial justice. The FTA report shines a bright light on the need for independent and interlocking levels of MBTA oversight. It is clear that Massachusetts has not effectively used all the tools in the box. The FTA report rightly identifies the state DPU as an oversight entity that needs greater technical capacity and independent authority. I would also argue that the Auditor's office and municipalities can play a greater role in MBTA governance and oversight—we are crucial stakeholders and partners. As I've consistently said, public transit requires sustained and predictable funding. Drastic cuts in the MBTA's operating budget have contributed to the workforce being hollowed out. A stretched, fatigued workforce is not a recipe for critical safety, maintenance, and state-of-good repair activities. But maintenance is the bare minimum—we need a world-class system. One that is safe, reliable, and affordable. We need a world-class vision for the system that understands it is an economic driver for our region. We haven't gotten it right yet, and as a daily T rider, I understand firsthand the importance of a safe and reliable T. I'm optimistic that this will be an opportunity to create the public transit system riders deserve. And, I believe it needs to be a priority for the next Administration."

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



Our View Of The Times



Services health and wellness event on Saturday at Lincoln Park, 290 Washington Street, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Then, consider joining in Sunday evening, September 11, as we gather in Davis Square to share our thoughts and feelings, and show solidarity in our support for those who have passed and those who remain, doing everything in their power to help keep us safe.

Although 21 years will have passed since the terrible and tragic events of September 11, 2001, took place, for many of us the shock and horror remain 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.

This 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.

All are invited to attend the Veterans'

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

famous Henry's of the Mt. Vernon Restaurant on lower Broadway. We wish him the very best of birthdays this week. Happy Birthday to Nancy Gaudet-Bacci who is celebrating this week. We wish her a great birthday. Happy Birthday to Maureen Cuff Bastardi. We wish her the best day. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as Paul Mercier, Judith Medeiros, Joe Fothergill, Sabrina Faria Caprigno, David Roberts, Maureen McCole, Jeff Meese, Richard Keller, Alexa Trefonides-Mase, Dan Thomas, 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.

On Saturday, September 10, Veterans' Services will host its first health and wellness event to raise awareness for National Suicide Prevention Week, promote physical and mental wellbeing, and connect residents with resources. This event will feature health education and assessments, high-energy fitness classes, and one-on-one coaching services for participants. All first responders and families, Veterans and dependents, Active-Duty Military personnel, and members of the public are welcome. The event will take place at Lincoln Park, 290 Washington Street, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

On Saturday, September 10, at 10:00 a.m., the Ryan Harrington Foundation Cornhole Tournament will be taking place at Trum Field. Registration fee is \$50 per team, two players per team. There are men's and women's divisions. A cash prize goes to the winners of each division. They will be selling t-shirts, hats, food and drinks at the field as well as having raffle items and a 50/50. There will also be kids activities. All monies raised will go to youth organizations in local communities. http://www.ryanharrington-

foundation.org.

The Peace Corps currently has a high need for applicants to fill volunteer programs departing by early 2023. Interested Americans can apply online by October 1 for hundreds of available openings in nearly 48 countries worldwide. Volunteers receive a living stipend, extensive language and technical training, and financial benefits including student loan deferment and graduate school fellowships after service. On Saturday, September 10, Mike Black, the Peace Corps recruiter will be hosting an Application Workshop at the Somerville Public Continued on page 13 Ms. Cam's

mixture, hodgepodge

Asada' mean in

Spanish?

vision?

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous

1. What does 'Carne

2. How many stars

are in our galaxy?

3. Who was the

inventor of the first

fully electronic tele-

4. Do Eskimos live

the South Pole?

5. What does the

ics stand for?

there?

"DC" in DC Com-

6. How many Lord

of the Rings films are

7. What is the name

in the North Pole or

lio

on the father on

TV's The Jetsons?

8. Who is the phase

born every minute"

closely associated

9. What is the last

letter of the greek

10. In what TV se-

ries would you find

the chacater Kate

11. Who invented

12. What does

Hebrew?

"Kosher" mean in

Answers on page 12

the radar speed gun?

with?

alphabet?

Austen?

"There's a sucker

#841

FUN & GAMES

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. The only real person to be a Pez head was Betsy Ross. 2. Queen Elizabeth II's cows sleep on waterbeds.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

ACROSS

THE 1920s

- 1. The Sweet's hit "Ballroom 6. Farm cry
- 9. Schooner pole
- 13. Barrel racing meet
- 14. "_____ Quiet on the Western Front,"
- 1920s novel
- 15. Move sideways
- 16. Southeast Asia org.
- 17. Hula dancer's garland
- 18. Like the Vitruvian Man
- 19. New type of movie in the 1920s
- 21. Jack Dempsey's sport 23. Triple _____ liqueur
- 24. Prep flour
- 25. "Hamilton: An American Musical"
- singing style
- 28. Floppy data storage
- 30. Smack
- 35. Not much (2 words)
- 37. Prolific playwright ____ Coward
- 39. Sacrum, pl.
- 40. "Nana" author ...mile 41. Flash of light
- 43. Not kosher
- 44. Convex molding
- 46. Football legend Graham, born in

3. Brain wave

5. Very tired

4. Shades of blue

7. Bass or Redhook

8. Defendant's excuse

9. Longer than mini

10. Port in Yemen

11. Smelting waste

15.6 equal parts of 6

25. Schick's product

26. Beyond's partner

12. Aviv

20. Cake layer

atlantic flight

31. W on a bulb

- 1921
- 47. Furniture wood
- 48. Not wholesale
- 50. Aquatic snakes
- 52. Reggae precursor
- 53. Animal den 55. Café alternative
- 60. St. _, 1928 Olympic site
- 63. East Asian peninsula
- 64. Nope
- 66. "Bite the bullet," e.g.
- 68. Relating to Quechuan people
- 69. B&B, e.g.
- 70. Foul smell
- 73. Decorates, as in Christmas tree
- DOWN
- 1. Type of undergarment 2. Like generation described by Gertrude Stein

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33. Floorboard sound 34. "The Trial" and "The Castle" author Franz 6. "The Fighter" actor Christian _ 36. Samoan money 38. Not on time 42. Much, in Italy 45. Tin Man's prop 49. Follows soh 51. Confession, archaic 54. Not Doric nor Corinthian 56. Downy duck 57. Kind of cornbread 22. Short for oftentimes 58. Rainbows and such 24. Mosquito, slangily 59. Like a drink in a snifter 60. Mimicking bird 61. _____caca, South American lake 27. Amelia Earhart, e.g. 62. Type of modern meeting 29. Like Charles Lindbergh's 1927 trans-63. American Girl character born in 1923 65. American cuckoo 67. Robinson to "The Graduate" 32. TV classic "Green Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:



- 57. *Assassinated Villa

 - 71. Challenge
 - 72. Langley, VA agency

Somerville to host Veterans wellness event and 9/11 Memorial Ceremony

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the City of Somerville Department of Veterans' Services invite residents to a pair of events to mark National Suicide Prevention Week and the anniversary of 9/11.

First, on Saturday, September 10, Veterans' Services will host its first health and wellness event to raise awareness for National Suicide Prevention Week, promote physical and mental wellbeing, and connect residents with resources. This event will feature health education and assessments, high-energy fitness classes, and one-on-one coaching services for participants. All first responders and families, Veterans and dependents, Active-Duty Military personnel, and members of the public are welcome. The event will take place at Lincoln Park, 290 Washington Street, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

On Sunday, September 11, the city will hold a procession and memorial ceremony to recognize the 21st anniversary of 9/11. Anyone interested in joining the procession should meet at the Cedar Street end of the Community Path at 9:30 a.m. A speaking program will follow at approximately 10:00 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.



Dorothy's Corner BY DOROTHY DIMARZO

Truffles

One of the most expensive delicacies in the world is the white truffle, at an approximate retail price of \$3,424/lb., that's a whopping \$214 per oz. (https:// truffle.farm/truffle_prices.html).

The white truffle is smooth and has a slight yellow tinge and is found in the Piedmont region of Italy. (https://untolditaly.com/truffles-in-italy/) Overall, the majority of truffles are found in Italy and France.

One of the most highly sought after truffles is the black truffle found in Villefranche-du-Perigord. These are the most popular, however, these small delights may be found in other places, including the United States. Check out the truffles of Sonoma, California (https://www.kj.com/blog/kendall-jackson-truffle-harvest).

Truffles are expensive because they are hard to find and are seasonal. To "sniff" out these subterranean tubers, pigs were used in the past to dig them up. But the pigs would eat them before the hunters could get the truffles. Now, it is very common to use dogs to find them.

There is an abundance of information out there regarding the different types of truffles, where they grow, and the times of year they can be found. Check out these links for the history of the truffle. (http://www.trufflespecialty.com/en/truffles.html) and (http:// www.nerodicognaro.com/en/truffle-world/history-of-truffle/)

So, if you never had the pleasure of trying truffles because of price or the very short shelf life, there are some products out there that you can purchase for a fraction of the cost that do have a longer shelf life.

Truffle butter is a great way to get that truffle flavor and the leftovers can be frozen for up to a year if stored properly. Then there's truffle salt, one of my favorite flavorings for roasted potatoes. The salt will last long past the expiration date if stored in the refrigerator.

I'm sure most people have heard about truffle oil. But when it comes to truffle oil, you may not be getting a real truffle infused flavor, but a flavor produced in a lab. Check out this article about what to look for when purchasing oil (https:// www.eataly.com/us_en/magazine/culture/truth-truffle-oil-urbani/).

And one last thing I would like to mention, the first time I had truffle balsamic vinegar I was in Florence, Italy. As I was meandering down the side streets by the Piazza di Santa Croce, I came upon a little specialty oil and wine shop called Italian Loves. They



had a sign out front offering free wine tastings. Of course, I just had to check it out. Not only did I get to try fantastic wines, but they also offered tastings of other specialty items including truffle balsamic vinegar. What a game changer! This was one of the best things I have tasted in a while. Needless to say, I filled a box of items and had it shipped back home. I used that truffle balsamic vinegar on everything! Vanilla ice cream with strawberries, a caprese salad, and with a charcuterie platter, drizzled over some Pecorino. Definitely a tasty treat.

And if you decide to purchase whole truffles, I highly recommend a truffle slicer. This allows for very thin slices over your risotto, or scrambled eggs. But if you have a mandolin, that will also work well.

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

LEGAL NOTICES

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



BID ADVERTISEMENT

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. 274145, in accordance with the documents prepared by SOCOTEC AE Consulting Inc. of Boston, Massachusetts.

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. Also, the project includes roofing at the Administration Building that involves the replacement of existing built-up roofing with a new EPDM single-ply membrane roofing and asphalt shingles with new prefinished standing seam metal roofing, and related work,

The work is estimated to cost \$ 335,000.00, 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 in **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 <u>www.biddocsonline.com</u>. 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 22, 2022**, and publicly opened online forthwith. All Bids will be submitted online at <u>www.biddocsonline.com</u> 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), <u>payable to BidDocs ONLINE, Inc.</u>, to cover mail handling costs.

General bidders must agree to contract with minority and women business enterprises as certified by the Supplier Diversity Office (SDO), formerly known as SOMWBA. The combined participation goal reserved for such enterprises shall not be less than 10.4% of the final contract price including accepted alternates. *See Contract Documents - Article 3 of the Instructions to Bidders*.

The site will be available for inspection at **10:00 AM** on **Thursday, September 15, 2022**. Please meet at Mystic River Apartments, Facilities Office, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145.

Somerville Housing Authority August 29, 2022

9/7/22 The Somerville Times

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



NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Removal of Public Shade Trees

City of Somerville

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 87, the **City of Somerville** will hold a **virtual public shade tree hearing on** <u>Thursday. September 8th, 2022</u> at 5:00 p.m. using GotoWebinar software to consider the removal of the following public shade tree(s):

- 2 Harding Street (Boynton Yards) 15.4-inch diameter white ash due to conflict with planned construction activities. Location will be replanted.
- 3-5 Hawkins Street 6.2-inch diameter cherry due to conflict with planned construction activities. Location will be replanted
- 270 Alewife Brook Parkway (Clarendon Hill, Somerville Housing Authority) – 17-inch diameter pin oak due to conflict with planned construction activities. Location will be replanted.

The trees identified above have been posted for public inspection. In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 87, any objections to the removal of any of these trees must be submitted in writing to the Tree Warden prior to or at this public hearing. Documents may be sent via email to: trees@somervilleMA.gov, or mailed to: 1 Franey Rd., Somerville, MA. 02145.

Pursuant to Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, this Public Shade Tree Hearing will be conducted via remote participation. A recording of this hearing will be available upon request to trees@somervillema.gov.

TO USE A COMPUTER Webinar ID: 988-419-443 Registration URL: https://tinyurl.com/thsept22

United States: +1 (631) 992-3221 Access code: 930-827-278 8/31/22, 9/7/22 The Somerville Times



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

Web: www.sha-web.org

The Somerville Housing Authority is requesting quotes from qualified Electrical Contractors to perform electrical work including installations and repairs on an as needed basis. Proposals should include an hourly rate for electrical services.

Term: 6 – 12 months

Not to exceed \$50,000.00

Quotes are subject to M.G.L c.149 sec.44A (2)(A) and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L c.149 \$26 to 27H inclusive.

Scope of work: The Contractor shall provide all labor and tools to provide the necessary work as directed for the completion of the electrical services at the SHA's various developments. The Contractor shall apply for and obtain permits and regulatory approvals as may be required. The SHA shall reimburse the contractor the amount paid. The cost shall be identified and included in the monthly invoice.

The Contractor shall be required on site within one week as scheduled by SHA.

Stock and Materials: The Contractor shall use SHA furnished fixtures and finishes unless otherwise authorized. Items purchased by the Contractor at the SHA's request shall be billed at no more than cost plus 15%. The Contractor will be required to present the original itemized invoice to the SHA. The cost shall be identified and included in the monthly invoice.

Payment Invoicing: Contractor's invoicing must be itemized to reflect contract pricing for each item.

Contractors who intend on bidding shall email Ryan Cummiskey at <u>Ryanc@sha-web.org</u> after <u>11:00AM on Thursday, September 8th</u> to request a bid package.

Proposals must be received by **2:00PM on Thursday, September 22nd**. Proposals can be emailed to <u>Ryanc@sha-web.org</u>. Please contact Ryan Cummiskey at <u>Ryanc@sha-web.org</u> with any questions.

9/7//22 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL COMMITTEE 8 BONAIR STREET SOMERVILLE, MA 02145 RFP# S2023-05

The School Committee of the City of Somerville invites sealed bids for:

A CONSULTANT FOR THE SEARCH AND HIRING OF A SUPERINTENDENT FOR SOMERVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Each Proposal shall be submitted in two separate sealed envelopes clearly marked "Price Proposal for A Consultant for the Search and Hiring of a Superintendent" and a "Non-Price Proposal for A Consultant for the Search and Hiring of a Superintendent" in accordance with the Request for Proposal and Contract Documents which may be obtained at the Finance Office (Room 321), Somerville School Department, 8 Bonair Street, Somerville, MA 02145 on or after <u>Tuesday, August 30, 2022</u> Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

All Proposals shall be filed no later than <u>4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 20, 2022</u> at the Finance Office, Somerville School Department, 8 Bonair Street, Somerville, MA 02145. There will be a Proposal review including possible interviews with the finalists.

Please contact Leah Arredondo (<u>larredondo@k12.somerville.ma.us</u>) or call 617-629-5218 to receive the proposal and register as a proposal vendor.

The School Committee of the City of Somerville reserves the right to reject any or all bids or any part or parts thereof, waive any minor informality in the Bid process and to award the Contract that is deemed to be in the best interests of the City of Somerville School Department.

> <u>Francis Gorski</u> Chief Financial Officer Somerville Public Schools

8/31/22, 9/7/22 The Somerville Times



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

Web: www.sha-web.org

ADVERTISEMENT

The Somerville Housing Authority is requesting quotes from qualified Plumbing Contractors to perform plumbing work including installations and repairs on an as needed basis. Proposals should include an hourly rate for plumbing services.

Term: 6 – 12 months

Not to exceed \$50,000.00

Quotes are subject to M.G.L c.149 sec.44A (2)(A) and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L c.149 §\$26 to 27H inclusive.

Scope of work: The Contractor shall provide all labor and tools to provide the necessary work as directed for the completion of the plumbing services at the SHA's various developments. The Contractor shall apply for and obtain permits and regulatory approvals as may be required. The SHA shall reimburse the contractor the amount paid. The cost shall be identified and included in the monthly invoice.

The Contractor shall be required on site within one week as scheduled by SHA.

Stock and Materials: The Contractor shall use SHA furbished fixtures and finishes unless otherwise authorized. Items purchased by the Contractor at the SHA's request shall be billed at no more than cost plus 15%. The Contractor will be required to present the original itemized invoice to the SHA. The cost shall be identified and included in the monthly invoice.

Payment Invoicing: Contractor's invoicing must be itemized to reflect contract pricing for each item.

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Proposals must be received by <u>2:00PM on Thursday, September 22nd,</u> <u>2022</u>. Proposals can be emailed to <u>Ryanc@sha-web.org</u>. Please contact Ryan Cummiskey at <u>Ryanc@sha-web.org</u> with any questions.

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LEGAL NOTICES



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

Web: www.sha-web.org

ADVERTISEMENT

The Somerville Housing Authority the Awarding Authority, invites quotes from Doors, Frames, and Hardware Vendors for the Elderly 667-4, Development for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by SHA Modernization Department

Quotes are subject M.G.L. c.30 § 39M & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

The work is estimated to cost \$ 50,000.00

Quote packages will be available after <u>11:00AM on Thursday, September 8th, 2022</u>. Please email Ryan Cummiskey at <u>Ryanc@sha-web.org</u> to request a quote package.

Quotes must be received no later than <u>2:00PM on Thursday, September</u> <u>22nd, 2022</u>, by preferred method of email to <u>Ryanc@sha-web.org</u>.

Questions should be directed to Ryan Cummiskey at 617-625-1152 x 330 $\,$

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

Web: www.sha-web.org

ADVERTISEMENT

The Somerville Housing Authority the Awarding Authority, invites quotes from Flooring Vendors for the Elderly 667-4, Development for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by SHA Modernization Department

Quotes are subject M.G.L. c.30 § 39M & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive.

The work is estimated to cost \$ 50,000.00

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Quotes must be received no later than 2:00PM on Thursday, September 22nd, 2022, by preferred method of email to Ryanc@sha-web.org. Questions should be directed to Ryan Cummiskey at 617-625-1152 x 330

9/7//22 The Somerville Times

State Primary Election: Results CONT. FROM PG 1

Geoff Diehl Chris Doughty

Lieutenant Governor Democrat Kimberly Driscoll Tami Gouveia Eric P. Lesser Republican Leah V Allen Kate Campanale

Attorney General Democrat Andrea Joy Campbell Shannon Erika Liss-Riordan Quentin Palfrey -Withdrew Republican James R. McMahon III

Secretary of State Democrat William F. Galvin Tanisha M. Sullivan Republican Rayla Campbell

Auditor Democrat Christopher S. Dempsey Diana DiZoglio Republican Anthony Amore

Senator in General Court Democrat Patricia D. Jehlen



What's the difference between a teacher and a train? A teacher says, "Spit out that gum!" and a train says, "Chew! Chew!"

The "Original" **All Types Vent Cleaning** Restaurant Hood Cleaning Dryer Vent/ HVAC Cleaning Power Washing Licensed and Insured in Massachusetts

We travel all over Massachusetts

Call today to find out our weekly specials! Call Jimmy 857-366-3761 To advertise in The Somerville Times call Bobbie Toner 857-488-5138

On This Day in History September 7

1630 – The town of Trimountaine in Massachusetts is renamed Boston. It became the state capital.

1778 – Shawnee Indians attack and lay siege to Boonesborough, Kentucky.

1813 – The earliest known printed reference to the United States by the nickname "Uncle Sam" occurs in the Troy Post.

1888 – An incubator is used for the first time on a premature infant.

1916 - The U.S. Congress passes the Workman's Compensation Act.

1940 – Germany's blitz against London begins during the Battle of Britain.

1954 - Integration of public schools begins in Washington D.C. and Maryland.

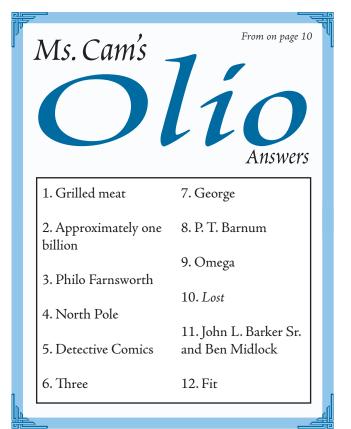
1977 – Panama and US sign Torrijos-Carter Treaties to transfer control of the Panama Canal from the US to Panama at the end of the 20th century.

1986 – Desmond Tutu becomes first black leader of the Church of the Province of Southern Africa (now the Anglican Church of South Africa).

Representative in Congress Democrat Ayanna S. Pressley Republican Donnie Dionicio Palmer, Jr

Representative in General Court Democrat Mike Connolly

We congratulate the winners and thank all who ran for office. Please remeber to cast your ballot in the Statewide General Election on November 8.



Library, West Branch. 10:30 to 12:00 p.m. Register at https://www.peacecorps. gov/events/22_vrs_applicationworkshop_somerville_20220910/

Free, blank **CharlieCards** are now available at **all Somerville library locations** (Central, East, and West branches) during regular hours, while supplies last. Register your CharlieCard at https:// www.mbta.com/fares/charliecard or visit https://www.somervillema.gov

The **30-day full closure** of the **Orange Line** from Oak Grove to Forest Hills stations and the **28-day closure** of the **Green Line** from Union Square to Government Center stations began. The MBTA released the **Rider's Guideweb** to help commuters. Read the full release on our website, www.thesomervilletimes.com.

The Gilman Square Neighborhood Association would like to invite you all to join them on Saturday September 10, from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. for their annual G'22 - Gilman Square Arts and Music Festival (formerly known as the Gilman Square Block Party) at Mad Oyster Studios and on Pearl St. between Marshall and Bradley. Based on vendor data from last year, they had between 600-800 attendees. This year, with the addition of 4x the local vendors and artists, they are expecting to see an even larger turnout. They have several local artists, many from the Gilman Square neighborhood, selling their work as well as arts and crafts activities for kids. There will be four fantastic musician groups, including Alastair Moock playing at noon, who will be playing music geared towards the kids. They will also have several local organizations (the Y, OSPCD, PTA groups, and others) sharing information and soliciting neighborhood input, as well as several local food, beverage, and produce vendors keeping everyone fed and hydrated. It will be a fun filled day of celebrating Gilman Square and Somerville. Visit G'22 Facebook Event for more information.

 son, dinner included, cash bar. (\$50 after November 4). Payment methods: include Paypal: mbmbrennan44@gmail.com, Venmo: SHS Class of 1982 @shsclassof1982, Check: made out to SHS Class of 1982 mailed to **Marybeth Caturello**, 85 MacArthur Road Stoneham, MA 02180. For any other questions, please email **Marybeth Brennan** at mbmbrennan@comcast.net or call **Marybeth Caturello** at 617-851-2519.

Join the Somerville Chamber of Commerce on September 20 at the Donald Ross designed Sandy Burr Country Club Golf Course with lunch and dinner on site. There are many ways to participate – golf, sponsor, contribute swag (80 count), contribute raffle items, volunteer for registration desk or for hole in one witness: https://business.somervillechamber.org/ events/details/chamber-golf-classic-1652.

At-home COVID-19 tests are a quick, convenient way to reduce transmission of the virus and protect friends and loved ones. Stock up now if you're running low. Free test kits are available at the following Somerville locations (one kit per family member): City Hall, 93 Highland Ave.; City Hall Annex, 50 Evergreen Ave.; Central Library, 79 Highland Ave.; East Branch Library, 115 Broadway; and West Branch Library, 40 College Ave. Each household is also eligible for three free shipments of tests from the federal government, and if you have health insurance, your provider may also cover the costs of at-home tests. Learn more at somervillema.gov/covidtesting. ****

Tufts Outdoor Movie Night is presenting a free outdoor screening of Disney's *Encanto* on Friday, September 9, at 7:30 p.m. on Fletcher Field (111 Professors Row, Somerville). Attendees may arrive between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m. Parking will be available at Dowling Hall (419 Boston Avenue, Medford). Popcorn and water will be provided. Free www.eventbrite. com/e/community-movie-night-encanto-tickets-406932194147

Visit South Street Farm on Sunday, September 18 from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. to celebrate Groundwork's 22nd annual Harvest Gala. There will be food, drinks, live music, raffles, auctions, and many old and new friends. Buy tickets today via this link: https://tinyurl.com/harvestgala.

The **988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline** is now available 24/7, 365 days a year in Massachusetts and across the country. 988 is a direct three-digit phone line to trained **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** call takers. If you need suicide, substance use, or mental health crisis support, or if you are worried about someone else, you can call or text 988 or use the chatline at 988lifeline.org to access compassionate care and support.

Riverfest 2022 is taking place **Saturday**, **September 10**, 12:00 p.m., at **Assembly Row at Assembly**. To cap off the summer season, Riverfest will return with a day filled with free events, fun, and fireworks all brought to you by **Assembly Row** and **Capital One Café**. Browse handmade goods at our mini craft fair brought to you by **Boston Women's Market** from 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. Starting at 4:00 p.m., enjoy live music at **Night Shift's Owl's Nest** and check out activities and games like music, a Chalk Walk, airbrush tattoos and retailer giveaways, all culminating in a fireworks show over the Mystic River!

Save the date for SomerStreets: Strike Up the Bands on Sunday, September 11, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Highland Ave. between Central St to Lowell St. A free and family friendly event. This street festival includes local craft vendors, community tabling groups and many interactive activities for kids and adults. Don't miss Esh Circus Arts, Parkour Generations, Somerville Recreation activities, and Event Them bringing all the yard games.

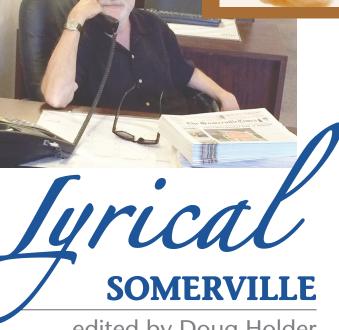
One Man's Trash at the Arts at the Armory, Friday, September 9, 7:00 – 9:00 SEPTEMBER 7, 2022 13

p.m. Residing behind bins and beneath trash can lids, inventive acrobats, high-flying aerialists, and quirky clowns welcome you into their world for a junkyard adventure. Inhabiting a space of discovery and fun, this repurposed circus turns trash into treasure. Dive into our dumpsters to see how we recycle, reuse, and reinvent rubbish into a circus extravaganza. Tickets cirqueus.ticketleap.com/one-mans-trash-a-repurposed-circus. www.TheCirqueUs.com.

Don't forget to visit Somerville's farmers markets. Every Wednesday through November 23, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. visit the Davis Square Farmers Market, across from American Flatbread at 44 Day St. Visit: https://www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis. Every Saturday through October 29, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., the Union Square Farmers Market takes place at 66-70 Union Sq. visit: https:// www.unionsquaremain.org/2022-fmseason. Every Sunday through November 20, the East Somerville Farmers Market takes place at 115 Broadway, 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Visit https://www.eastsomervillemainstreets.org/market. There is a \$15 SNAP match at all Farmers Markets across Somerville.

The Somerville Mobile Farmers Market is open for the season, selling fresh, local produce through October 15. The market schedule is as follows: Fridays: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Council on Aging/SCALE (167 Holland St.); 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.: East Somerville Community School (50 Cross St.) Saturdays: 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.: North Street Housing (24 North St.); 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.: Mystic Housing (Playground between 15B and 25B Memorial Rd.). The market accepts cash, debit, credit, SNAP, WIC Farmers Market Coupons, and Senior Farmers Market Coupons, and it offers an unlimited 50% discount for anyone who needs it. All are welcome. To learn more, visit: somervillema.gov/farmersmarket.

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edited by Doug Holder

Joshua Michael Stewart is the author of Break Every String and The Bastard Children of Dharma Bums. His poems have appeared in the Massachusetts Review, Salamander, Plainsongs, Brilliant Corners, and many other publications. His third poetry collection, Love Something, will be published by Main Street Rag: https://



mainstreetragbookstore.com/product/love-something-joshua-michael-stewart/

YELLOW

I'm wearing my yellow robe, drinking coffee out of a yellow mug that has a rooster on it. When I take coffee into my mouth, I hold off from swallowing and let my tongue believe it's taking a luxurious bath. Traffic swooshes down the street. People are busy being busy. For hours, I've been planning a trip to the end of the driveway to pick up the newspaper. Ravens bicker with each other out in the yard. The cats circle my chair, beg to be let out to murder. Each day we inch our way toward death. One day, without knowing it, we buy the clothes we'll be buried in. We smile for a camera that snaps the shot that'll be used for our obituary. I'll probably die in this robe, but until then I'm going to eat some waffles that come in a box that's also yellow. Often, when children draw the sun, they'll either use a yellow or orange crayon. The older, more advanced children will use both. In kindergarten, there was this kid who drew his suns in big, blood-red circles. The teacher once asked him why he chose red for his suns, and he said, "This is how I see it. This is how it is in my world."

— Joshua Michael Stewart

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

OFF THE SHELF by Doug Holder

Somerville Artist Jen Fries: Bringing Order to Chaos

I caught up with Somerville artist Jen Fries to discuss her evocative art.

Doug Holder: How has Somerville been for you as an artist?

Jen Fries: It's been pretty fabulous. I've found Somerville quite welcoming and supportive to me as an artist - especially emotionally supportive.

I started my career in my hometown, New York City, and I also worked in Vermont for a while before coming to Somerville about twenty years ago. Both those places are amazing for the arts, of course - full of history and inspiration - but Somerville feels the most open and receptive to new, diverse voices. It's not about who you know or whether you fit in with certain styles.

At the most basic level, Somerville is the first place I've lived where, when I say I'm an artist, people don't respond with, "But what's your real job?"

Plus, there's an energy here - a natural energy. I don't know how to describe it. I find the place itself inspiring. Something in the sky, the light, the weather speaks to me.

I do worry about the future. The housing crisis and the overall economy are poised to price artists out of this area, like many others. I hope that doesn't happen. I love living here. My work thrives here.

DH: Did you formally study art?

I'm mostly self-taught.

JF: I originally studied commercial arts - advertising, illustration, and graphic design - which is definitely not the path I ended up following. I'm lucky that my early training gave me good enough insight into the business side of that field to realize I was just not cut out for it. I did learn a lot about life and professionalism, which has been invaluable.

You can still see the design training in my art, in my compositions and the messaging embedded in my imagery. At least, I see it.

In terms of the media and craft I've developed over the years since, it's been all self-study and experimentation.

DH: You write that you like to bring chaos to order in your work. Have you ever tried it the other way around?

JF: This question is a bit of a challenge for me. At first, I thought, no, no, surely I bring order to chaos. Then I realized I think I do both.

My process is chaotic. The finished works are orderly. But when you get into them, start to analyze and figure them out, the order turns chaotic again.

It goes back to my early interest in advertising, which delivers messaging via imagery, either overtly or subliminally. In commercial work, you want to narrow and focus the messaging. I do the opposite.



My work is crammed with layers of messaging, basically anything that comes up in the process. The works can be about many things at once, and explaining them can be like taking a walk through a maze garden.

I'd say order and chaos co-exist in my art, and it can get kind of kaleidoscopic if you think about it too much.

DH: You have written that water is your favorite medium to draw inspiration from. Why? Do you need to be near a body of water to be inspired, or does this derive from your imagination?

JF: Water is one of my favorites, and there's a practical as well as inspirational aspect.

Practically, I use media that are portable, environmentally friendly, and as non-toxic and fume-free as possible, so I can work anywhere, especially in my home. So that means water-based pigments, inks, paper, found objects. I even make my own pastes, glues, and additives from non-toxic ingredients.

Inspirationally, randomness feeds my creativity. I get most of my ideas from accidental juxtapositions of things, events, words, memories, that come together on my walks around town, or from reading, watching the news, dreaming, etc.

I extend randomness into my media and methods, such as letting the water move the pigment for me. It makes me more a partner to the medium than the master of it.

There's an element of abstraction to it, but I don't have the brain of an abstract artist, so I always end up finding a picture and a story in whatever I end up with.

DH: Can you give us some idea of your process?

JF: My process involves a lot of thinking, staring out windows, and taking long walks – letting ideas percolate through my brain. Continued on page 15

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Off The Shelf CONT. FROM PG 14

Then it involves a lot of commitment anxiety when faced with the blank canvas or paper.

Beyond those features, the process varies depending on what I'm making.

Collage and assemblage are more precise and technical. It's slower, meditative work.

Painting, printing, and drawing are faster, more improvisational and experimental.

Some of my works are planned with a predetermined subject. An example would be an assemblage called "Judgment," which is a comment on climate change. It was inspired by a news article about melting glaciers in the Alps revealing the remains of the lost dead of World War I. Randomness in the selection of materials was edited and composed to illustrate the message I wanted to deliver with that one.

Other works are practice, in the sense of regular creative exercise, having no predetermined subject or message. An example would be my recent abstract landscapes in watercolor and ink, in which I let the subject emerge from random effects. I do everything by hand. I have no digital skills to speak of. I have a process as a writer, too. It's weirdly complicated and somewhat ritualistic, with designated methods for all the stages of planning, drafting, editing, etc.

All my processes are designed to push me past my chronic perfectionism so I can actually finish things.

DH: You are also a poet. Do you find poetry and painting closely aligned?

JF: I don't dare to call myself a poet. I try. I make no claims of success or quality.

Words and pictures have always been my twin loves, and for me, they are closely aligned. I like to tell stories with pictures and paint pictures with words. It's all about those long walks through the maze garden.

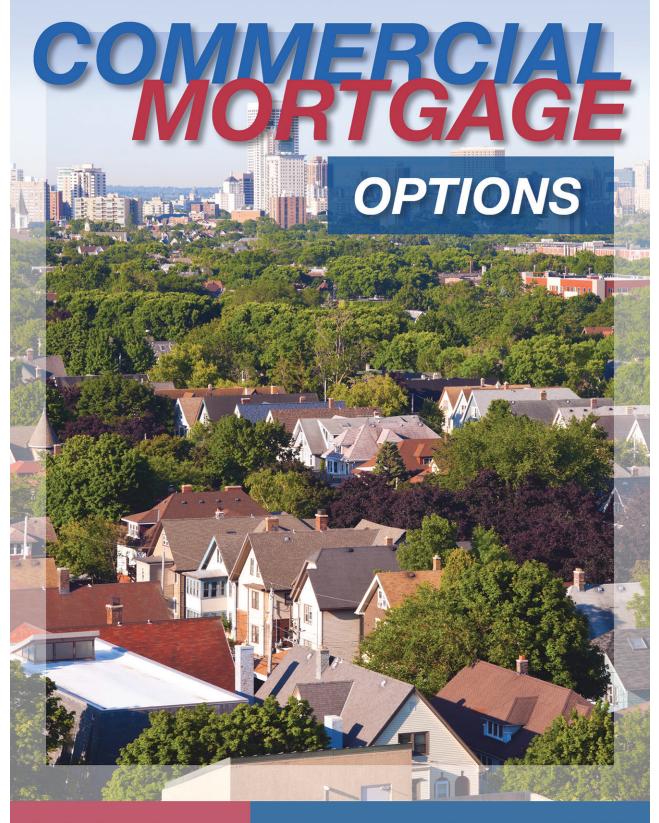
Like the abstract landscapes, the poetry and fifty-word stories are part of my creative practice, though they are a lot more controlled in execution.

With poetry, I'm trying to learn from the haiku-inspired works of Ezra Pound and Allen Ginsberg, following the traditional principle of capturing a moment, while adjusting the form to better suit written English. I'm trying to express a lot in very few words, just as I try to capture whole landscapes in a few brush strokes.

My fifty-word stories are based on an old surrealist game, in which a full story is told in exactly fifty words. I like to add challenge by randomly pre-selecting five words which must be used in the story somehow.

I actually write more long-form prose, but only my closest friends have gotten to read it. I hope that will change soon. *For more information go to: https://jenfriesarts.com/about/*





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