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original
independent
newspaper

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SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



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those changes**
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City challenged to improve rodent control efforts



According to one local resident, trash bins located in public places like city parks should be upgraded to help in rodent abatement endeavors.
— Photo by Bobbie Toner

By Eileen Qiu

A call to action for city officials to supply the Somerville's 15 parks with solar compacting closed garbage cans came from one resident as she and her friends witnessed rodents rummaging around open trash bins.

Jean Horstman said she, her friends, and her friend's children were leaving Lexington park one evening when they saw the rats. Horstman realized the open bins in the park present a danger to guests, especially children who may be exposed to rat droppings or urine.

Contact with rat urine can result in Weil's Disease, a bacterial infection that causes fever, nausea, vomiting and chills, she said.

"In the almost 10 years of Somerville's increasingly growing rat infestation/epidemic, the city has totally failed to ensure to provide the children and families who use our
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'Strike Up the Bands' at SomerStreets coming to Highland Avenue

Come sing along at "Strike Up the Bands," the September installment of Somerville's SomerStreets festival, on Sunday, September 19, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Highland Avenue between Central Street and Lowell Street.

SomerStreets is the city's take on the internationally renowned Open Streets concept, closing busy city streets to vehicles and opening them up for cycling, walking, dancing, running, and other modes of activity.

Through SomerStreets, the city and its community partners aim to promote and encourage easy access to physical activity, fresh foods, and reconnecting with neighborhoods and businesses and their unique cultural elements in a thriving urban environment.

Activities along Highland Avenue will include:

- Live music on two stages, curated by Arts at the Armory and ONCE

- Vintage and artisan market by local craft vendors

- Aerial performances by



"Strike Up the Bands" at SomerStreets, featuring live music on two stages, returns on September 19 at Highland Avenue.



IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE



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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.

Don't forget to go out and vote in the city's **primary election** on **Tuesday, September 14**. Somerville voters also have the option to **vote early** in the September preliminary election. This preliminary election will narrow the field for **Mayor, Ward 5 City Councilor, and Ward 7 City Councilor**. Four days of in-person early voting will be held prior to election day. For more information on early voting and polling places visit: www.somervillema.gov/departments/elections.








Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and the City of Somerville's Department of Veterans' Services invite residents to join the **annual procession and memorial ceremony** to mark the **20th 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. At approximately 10 a.m. there will be a speaking program and the presentation and retiring of the colors by the **Somerville Police and Somerville Fire Honor Guards** at the **9/11 memorial in Davis Square**. Participants are encouraged to wear face coverings for this event.

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 an old friend, **Bob Trane** (former Alderman for Ward 7), and another great guy. We wish him the very best. Happy birthday to **Jodi Gallo**. We wish her the very best of birthdays. Happy birthday to a local historian and a great guy, **Matt Hoey**. We wish him the very best of birthdays as well. We wish **Juscelia LoRusso** a very happy birthday. We know she will have the best cake around! A happy birthday to a great guy, family man and one of the best restaurateurs here in Somerville, **Marty Henry**, one of the famous Henry's of the **Mt. Vernon Restaurant** on lower Broadway. A great guy and family. We wish him the very best of birthdays this week We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Paul Mercier, Judith Medeiros, Joe Fothergill, Sabrina Faria Caprigno, Richard Barry, David Roberts, Maureen McCole,**

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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of September 8 – September 14 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday <i>September 8</i>	Sunny	84°/69°	7%	4%	SSW 15 mph
 Thursday <i>September 9</i>	Rain	77°/62°	78%	63%	SW 9 mph
 Friday <i>September 10</i>	Sunny	76°/57°	21%	10%	NW 12 mph
 Saturday <i>September 11</i>	Sunny	80°/64°	4%	2%	W 9 mph
 Sunday <i>September 12</i>	Sunny	84°/64°	6%	3%	SW 13 mph
 Monday <i>September 13</i>	Partly Cloudy	74°/62°	25%	11%	N 10 mph
 Tuesday <i>September 14</i>	Partly Cloudy	76°/65°	16%	9%	ESE 11 mph

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

2021 docent tours of three historic sites in Somerville

Prospect Hill Tower

Second Thursdays: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.,
except September and October: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Third Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Dates: 9/9, 9/18, 10/14, 10/16

Old Powder House

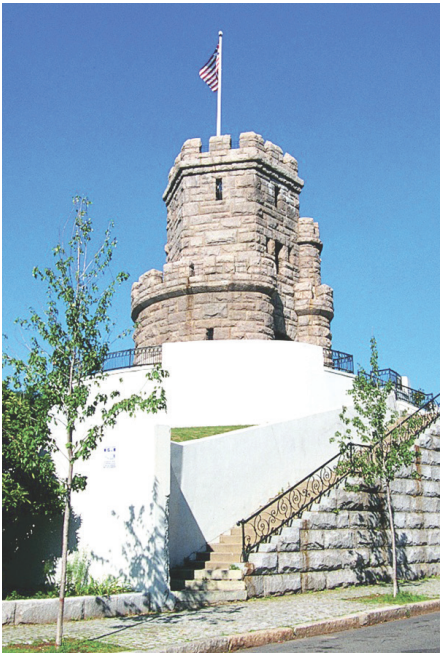
First Thursdays: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.,
except September and October: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
Fourth Saturdays: 10:00 a.m. –12:00 p.m.
Dates: 9/25, 10/7, 10/23

Milk Row Cemetery

Third Thursdays: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.;
except September and October: 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.
First Sundays: 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.;
except September (moved to Second Sunday
due to Labor Day)
Dates: 9/12, 9/16, 10/3, 10/21

Inclement weather cancels any event. Call 311 (617-666-3311) for updates and check the city's calendar: <https://www.somervillema.gov/events>

Sponsored by the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission and the Somerville Museum www.somervillema.gov/historicpreservation and <http://somervillemuseum>.



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‘Strike Up the Bands’ at SomerStreets coming to Highland Avenue

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Esh Circus Arts
+ Parkour with Parkour Generations Boston
+ Activities and games with Somerville Recreation
+ Community chalk art activity
+ Explore a fire truck and ambulance
+ Community vendors and local businesses
+ And more

To ensure public safety at the event, the following road closures and parking bans will be in effect:

+ Highland Avenue (Central Street to Lowell Street): Closed to all vehicular traffic noon – 7:00 p.m.; no parking 10:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
+ Belmont Street (Summer Street to Highland Avenue) and Spring Hill Terrace will become two-way streets from noon to 8:00 p.m. to allow access for abutters.
+ MBTA buses 88 and 90 will be rerouted from noon to 7:00 p.m. For details about service changes, visit MBTA.com.

The final SomerStreets event of the year is planned for Sunday, October 31. “Monster Mashed-Up” will be on Somerville Avenue (from Hawkins Street to Park Street).

Both SomerStreets events will run from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m., rain or shine.

For more information, visit somervilleartscouncil.org/somerstreets or contact Events Coordinator Iaritz Menjivar at imenjivar@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2998.

Life in the  by Jimmy Del Ponte

Seasons Changed and So Did I



This article was first published on March 18, 2009.

"When I was a kid," used to be the beginning of statements made by our parents, but I hear it coming out of my own mouth more and more lately. I can't believe that I now qualify to talk about "the good old days." When did that happen?

A recent reckoning came to me thanks to Facebook - I got a chance to see old photos up close as I posted them to the popular time-consuming online site. I look at these photos and say to myself "what the Hell happened to the last 30 years?" Well, it went by in a flash. As David Bowie said: "Turn and face the strange, ch-ch-changes!" I'm turning, and facing, and boy are they strange.

I am in an okay place, despite watching every cent for the first time in my life, but I am reminiscing a lot more lately for some reason. I know I am not mellowing out, because I am still a hot-headed big mouth blow hard (sometimes). I am just doing a lot of looking back lately, and here's what I see - I am almost 56 years old and I am basically a kid stuck in an aging body. I think that goes for lot of my Somerville friends as well. We are still kids at heart.

Growing up in Somerville was a blast and we will always carry that sense of youthful humor. We laugh over the same silly things that have been amusing us for decades. We gather every so often and talk about our high school days, the cool cars we drove, and tell the same funny stories that we now have down to an art. We drive our kids to kung fu, hockey, basketball and the mall.

Sometimes our kids roll their eyes when we start talking about the old days, but I notice they also enjoy some of the crazy tales. We limit the time they spend on the computer, but increase our own surfing time. We see our bills going up and our cash flow going down. And finally, we have officially become our parents. And if I have become my father, I have the right to voice my opinion, just like he did.

I now make silly comments to the cashiers at Johnnie's and Shaw's about the amount my food purchase comes to. I say dumb stuff like "Jeez, these kids have to eat EVERY day?" The cost of eating is eating my heart out. They look at me like I am a deranged old coot, which may not be too farfetched! If you've seen me lately, you will agree that I am definitely not starving, so I am finding a way to continue eating my share at least. I constantly have to watch my ch-ch-changing ... waistline. I wish that when I shop I could get back more ch-ch-change!



I may have to call up the "boys" and see if anyone wants to put the old band back together and go out and do some gigs for some extra cash. I am pretty sure I can still rock, although I may have to keep a chair and some ben-gay close to my piano. I have also considered dusting off my real estate license and trying to do some rentals. I was pretty good at that when I worked with Jackie Veri. I even sold a condo! I have always lived beyond my means, and now I am in the same flimsy mortgage boat that many of us are in.

Some changes I don't like so much are out of state drivers on cell phones speeding through pedestrian crosswalks, while said pedestrian is half way across. Seems to be more of these banana heads all the time. And if you beep at them to show your displeasure at their careless disregard for law and safety, they usually flip you half a peace sign.

Another not so wonderful change that

has occurred is that my new mustache is very grey. I wonder why it doesn't match my hair? I look like a cross between Don Amece (*Cocoon*, *Trading Places*) and Tony Orlando (before he went on the Slim Fast diet). But with the changing of the season, I have vowed to take longer walks with the dog, hit the gym more and eat less (ok, and try not to lie as much).

I wish we didn't have to wait so long for the weekend. Thankfully Spring is right around the corner, bringing with it a fresh new start, full of hope. As a matter of fact, I'm full of it right now.

I guess I just want to be a kid again - with no responsibilities, no bills, with parents who used to fix everything for me. Yes, I have changed into my parents, and I am quite happy about that. I am half mom and half dad. Today I will pay bills, dust and cook a boiled dinner - later on I will slap on some Old Spice, eat the boiled dinner and then watch TV.

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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Vehicle break-in suspect taken in

Somerville Police officers were dispatched to a Foley St. location last week on reports of a breaking and entering of a motor vehicle.

Upon arrival, the officers were met by the two victims of the incident, as well as an employee of the Row Hotel. The employee stated that a white male wearing a Boston Red Sox baseball cap, with a blue mask, on a moped had broken into a vehicle in the garage of the hotel.

One of the victims showed the officers the back window of his vehicle that was completely shattered. The victim stated that most of his belongings were missing. He said he was missing a big green duffel bag containing a lot of expensive clothing and a Sony Sonos speaker. He went on to say that there was also a blue duffel bag containing more clothing. When asked if there was anything else missing, he stated that they were missing two floor lamps and many clothing items that they had just gotten at Assembly Row.

A description of the suspect, as well as the missing property, was broadcast to the other responding units.

Eventually a suspect, later identified as Peter Murphy, of Stoughton, was located with a green duffel bag and a guitar in front of the Mount Vernon Restaurant.

The missing blue bag was located by a responding officer behind Home Depot while en route to the Mt. Vernon Restaurant.

Meanwhile, Murphy was read his Miranda Warnings and asked if he would speak with the officers, to which he did not answer.

A name on the green duffel bag matched that of one of the victim's brothers.

Murphy was placed into custody without incident and transported to the police station to be booked on charges of larceny over \$1200 and nighttime breaking and entering of a vehicle or boat.

Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210

Help Keep Somerville Safe!

Somerville Police Department incident reports

Assault Log August 24 2021 to August 30 2021

On 8/28/21 at approximately 6:10 PM, Somerville Police responded to 400 Somerville Ave for report of an unarmed robbery. Upon arrival, officers spoke with a male victim who stated approximately 20 minutes prior, he was approached by a white male wearing a white hoodie and riding a bike that attempted to grab his watch and wallet. The victim pulled away then fled the area. Officers then spoke with another victim who stated a male matching the same description struck him in his face.

On 8/25/21 at approximately 5 PM, Somerville Police responded to the area of Broadway & Garfield Ave for report of two males fighting. Upon arrival, officers spoke with a male victim who stated while inside a nearby restaurant, he observed the male party looking at his vehicle. When the victim confronted the male party, the male party struck him in the head multiple times. Officers identified the male party.w

On 8/26/21 at approximately 4:50 PM, Somerville Police responded to the area of Broadway & Alewife Brook Parkway for report of an assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with two males who stated they were involved in an argument that escalated into a fight.

Firearm recovered

On 8/25/21, the Somerville Police's Community Action Team, Middlesex Special Investigation Unit, Bristol County Narcotics Unit, and Attleboro Police, executed a search warrant at an Attleboro residence. The subject was taken into custody by the Bristol County Sheriff's Department on multiple outstanding warrants. In his bedroom, Detectives located a loaded 9mm firearm which had been stolen out of Cambridge. He was charged with Possession / Carrying a Firearm, 2nd Off; Poss of Firearm / Ammo w/o FID Card Subsq Off; Firearm, Store Impropr; Receive Stolen Property -\$1200.

City challenged to improve rodent control efforts

CONT. FROM PG 1

parks," said Horstman.

The city takes an integrated and multi-method approach to rodent control, said a city spokesperson. Some effective solutions included a 311 hotline for residents when they need an inspector on a property or information about the Rodent Control Program, educational efforts to reduce rodent activity and an introduction of standardized trash and recycling bins with tight-fitting lids.

"Warmer winters have been shown to lead to increased rodent populations," said Denise Taylor, the Director of Communications and Community Engagement. "So, one more aspect of climate change affecting the community as the planet warms is that we will need to remain vigilant in our efforts to reduce rodent activity. It will take the city, businesses, and individuals all working together to have the greatest success at that."

With elections coming up, Horstman said the new mayor and council members should prioritize rodent control by supplying closed trash bins throughout the community.

As a project manager herself, Horstman calculated the cost of putting three BigBelly solar compactor garbage cans in each of the 15 parks and 10 on bike paths to be close to \$400,000, less than 1 percent of the city's budget. If three cans stretch the budget too much, Horstman thinks two cans that are emptied daily could be an effective solution as well.

She remembered the city putting the same ones on street corners years ago and thinks putting them in parks will help the city in deterring rodents.

Somerville has a Residential Rodent Control Assistance Program that extended free services to about 90 percent of the city, according to a city spokesperson. Participation increased by 300 percent as a result. The city is looking into the availability and the cost of different types of trash bins and containers for both the city parks and residential pickups as well.

"We understand the community's frustrations and concerns and will continue to work with them and the Council to minimize rodent activity," the spokesperson said.

Horstman's own rodent control comes in the form of a 13-year-old white and orange cat named Loki. He is a former stray that Horstman adopted last August. He started bringing her carcasses within two weeks of his adoption and has killed around 40 rats, she said.

Horstman emphasized she respects the visions and values of city officials, but wants to see plans, performance measures, budgets and staff accountability for these types of hard quality of life issues that inequitably affect our poorer neighborhoods.

The Somerville Rodent Control website states that working together as a community can aid in deterring rodents and reducing their numbers.

Horstman now checks the bins in Lexington and Albion Parks and the bike paths to see if they've been emptied. She hopes other neighbors will start doing the same.

"Our politicians and city employees, paid through our taxes, are not elected or hired to name a problem." Says Horstman. "We put them in place and pay their salaries for them to solve a problem. That problem may be complex, multi-faceted, or complicated by unforeseen factors like the pandemic and it is still their job to find a solution. I would go so far to say that is their duty as public servants."



Jean Horstman's own personal rodent control officer, the infamous Loki.

2021 mayoral candidates answer our questions

The Somerville Times put three questions of interest to the voters of Somerville to the four candidates running for mayor of Somerville. The candidates' answers are presented in alphabetical order, according to their last names. The questions and answers are as follows:



Katjana Ballantyne

Question 1: You are promising great things for our city. But we need to invest \$1.12 billion in our disintegrating infrastructure just to prevent emergencies and meet code requirements. How do we pay for that along with the things that you are promising?

As mayor, I will be committed to creating safe, accessible, complete streets that work for all Somerville users. To enable complete streets there are a variety of large-scale infrastructure projects to complete, like storm water, sewerage, and other utility upgrades. Many of these projects require immediate attention, as recent flooding and service interruptions show.

Somerville expects tens of millions of stimulus dollars from the federal government. I'll establish an open process to define priority, shovel-ready projects and I'll work to jump-start critical projects, like stormwater management in our squares, with stimulus funding. I'll work for Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) support in the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Somerville will need to complete entitlements work, 25% or so, to get projects into the LRTP and TIP. After that, accepted projects could use MPO funding for final designs, engineering, and construction.

The good planning and mixed-use development that I've been advocating for decades is beginning to diversify our tax base, as we presently see new office and lab / R&D buildings developed according to new zoning. I'll keep working for appropriate commercial development, so that new development and businesses can help us to pay for new infrastructure.

Question 2: With Overdose Awareness Day just behind us and we are now in National Recovery Month, what would you like to be done to help with this problem if you are elected?

As we remember the fourteen Somerville residents who died by overdose in 2020, I state my support for harm reduction efforts. Supervised consumption sites, (SCS) are one type of harm reduction,

with a primary goal of keeping people alive. The opioid crisis is a public health emergency. As mayor, I will support an open process, involving all stakeholders, to determine what's right for Somerville. I will work to coordinate with state and federal efforts to end preventable deaths by overdose.

As mayor, I'll advocate supporting and expanding the work of Somerville Cares About Prevention (SCAP), a community based coalition supported by the City's Health Department, works to reduce substance abuse, as well as the harms associated with such use among Somerville residents with a particular focus on youth. I will also support the Community Outreach, Help and Recovery (COHR) initiative, which provides addicts with alternatives to arrest and help in finding recovery resources.

Question 3: In general, why should Somerville voters choose you for mayor over the other candidates?

Our next mayor must have three key qualities to lead our city through our current and future challenges, she must embody; Somerville values, an inclusive leadership style, and proven experience. I'm running to represent the values and culture of Somerville, to make sure that everyone's voice will be heard in city hall and I'm running because our next Mayor needs to have the skills and experience to be our chief executive. I'm running for mayor because I best bring these three key qualities to the mayor's office.

My values-driven initiatives have made Somerville a national leader in combating climate change, increased affordable housing, access to jobs, and protected vulnerable communities. My tri-sector experience, in business, non-profit community organizations, and in government as a city councilor, qualify me uniquely to understand and align the incentives and strengths of all stakeholders to solve complex problems. My inclusive leadership creates buy-in, shared purpose, enthusiasm, and better results. I'm known for listening, and valuing all voices; activist voices, and the voices of vulnerable residents.

I ask your vote, on September 14th, so that we can keep working to make Somerville an inclusive, equitable city where we can all thrive together.

For more information on the candidate visit www.katjana.org.



Mary Cassesso

Question 1: You are promising great things for our city. But we need to invest \$1.12 billion in our disintegrating infrastructure just to prevent emergencies and meet code requirements. How do we pay for that along with the things that you are promising?

For Somerville to continue to thrive we need robust investment in our city's infrastructure. This has become more apparent due to the worsening effects of climate change. The pending Federal Infrastructure Bill will fund much of the work that we need to do. As mayor, I will invest in our water and sewer systems, drainage systems, green and open spaces, and expand tree canopies to combat the increased flooding we have suffered in certain low-lying neighborhoods. We will need our streets to become more pedestrian and bicycle friendly so that we can make our communities a safer place to live. It is a moral obligation to reach carbon neutrality when investing in our city's infrastructure.

We can no longer defer investment in our infrastructure. This need has been growing as a result of the passage of Proposition 2 1/2 in the 80's. This initiative capped revenue from property taxes and has made it difficult to have resources to continue to maintain and improve infrastructure within the City of Somerville. There is an opportunity right now to utilize federal funding to do this essential work. Additionally, larger developers coming into the city must contribute to the city's infrastructure that they plan to depend upon. By making these investments, we can continue to grow our tax base and assure a future where these services are properly maintained.

Question 2: With Overdose Awareness Day just behind us and we are now in National Recovery Month, what would you like to be done to help with this problem if you are elected?

Substance use treatment has been an area of focus of mine for the past 7 years, as a result of community groups and individuals identifying it as their primary unmet need. As mayor I will invest in our Health and Human Services department, as well as lead in our regional efforts, by continuing initiatives such as the recovery center in Malden. We must work together with community-based agencies like Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery (MOAR) and Somerville Overcoming Addiction, government entities, and hospital systems to make sure that there are no gaps in our continuum of care, and enough resources for treatment, recovery, and employment opportunities to successfully navigate and remain in recovery.

Sadly, the gains we made in reducing overdoses were wiped out during the pandemic. We will collectively increase our workforce in mental health and substance use treatment, from community health peers, social workers, nurses, psychiatrists, and psychologists. We need to incentivize workers to enter this field, with particular attention to

adding diversity.

I support the Cahoots model as a future for how we handle interactions that require de-escalation. All opportunities to treat and reduce substance use and keep people alive must be at our disposal. That is why I support overdose prevention sites, as one measure among many to address this epidemic.

Question 3: In general, why should Somerville voters choose you for mayor over the other candidates?

I am ready to take on the role of mayor from day one. I am the only candidate running with the experience necessary to deliver for the people, the only candidate who has operated large and complex organizations. I am a public servant, not a politician. I will listen to our neighbors and communities to make our City more equitable, safe, and inclusive.

I am the candidate for working families. I will prioritize an affordable Somerville. I have the knowledge and background in public health that will serve us well as we emerge from the pandemic and focus on all the social factors of health.

I am confident that my lived experiences, raised by a single mom and growing up poor in East Somerville, and my participation in progressive movements to advance equity and social justice, combined with my unparalleled experience in senior administrative and financial roles in the city of Somerville, the Patrick and Dukakis Administrations, Harvard University, and Cambridge Health Alliance have prepared me to become your next mayor. Somerville not only needs a leader who has a vision for equity and sustainability, but someone who has a proven track record and is committed to listening and tapping into a vast and diverse network to get the job done.

For more information on the candidate visit www.marycassesso.com.



Wilfred N. Mbah

Question 1: You are promising great things for our city. But we need to invest \$1.12 billion in our disintegrating infrastructure just to prevent emergencies and meet code requirements. How do we pay for that along with the things that you are promising?

There are several ways we can pay for the investments we need to make Somerville a more equitable and sustainable city. First, we are going to be receiving federal funding from both

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2021 mayoral candidates answer our questions CONT. FROM PG 5

the American Rescue Plan, which was passed earlier this year, and an expected federal stimulus bill. Second, it's time for developers from outside of our city to pay their fair share. If we increase the linkage fee for large developments, we can continue to invest more into our city's Job Creation and Retention Trust. Additionally, the GLX is bound to bring more development and jobs to Somerville. This will expand our commercial tax base and bring in more revenue for the city, which we can invest in a Green New Deal for Somerville, education, and making our transportation infrastructure safer and more accessible. And finally, the green line is coming in under budget and we are due to receive some funding back as a result of this. We can invest these funds in upgrading our disintegrating infrastructure.

Question 2: With Overdose Awareness Day just behind us and we are now in National Recovery Month, what would you like to be done to help with this problem if you are elected?

For too long our society has treated the victims of substance abuse as criminals and not people in need of help who are suffering from a disease. We need to take a more humane approach to help people struggling with substance abuse. I will focus the work Somerville Prevention Services and Somerville Health and Human Services do on treatment and outreach to people that are suffering from substance abuse.

I will also be sure to implement the Safe Consumption Site, which has been approved, and ensure it has the resources necessary to properly help individuals who are victims of substance abuse. With the Safe Consumption Site, we can meet the individuals who are victims of substance abuse where they are and work with them to get them the help they need. We also need to focus on the variety of services a safe

consumption site will offer, such as connecting individuals with treatment sites and preventing overdoses.

Question 3: In general, why should Somerville voters choose you for mayor over the other candidates?

I believe there are three areas that distinguish me from my opponents. The first area is my lived experiences. I am an immigrant from Cameroon and was raised in a foster home and by my extended family after my parents died. When I came to Somerville, I learned what it was like to work hard, but barely get by. Despite holding an advanced degree, I worked as a janitor and dishwasher when I arrived here. I also have experienced Somerville's housing crisis first hand. At one point I was forced to move five times over a six year period due to rising rents. I also understand what it is like to be a person of color in this city. I have been racially profiled and discriminated against and personally understand how this impacts our neighbors who are people of color. The best way to address issues like housing affordability and racial justice is by electing people who have been directly impacted by these issues.

Next, I am the only candidate in this race that has a background in STEM. I have an undergraduate degree in environmental science and a master's degree in soil science. Currently, I work as an environmental analyst at the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. My background in environmental science makes me uniquely qualified to make our city a model for national sustainability and prepare Somerville for the impact of climate change. These qualifications are why I was endorsed by 314 Action, a national organization that endorses candidates with a background in STEM, and Sunrise Somerville Youth, a local organization dedicated to fighting climate change.

Finally, I am the only candidate in this race that can say they have NEVER accepted contributions from developers. This was a commitment I made when I first ran for office and one that I have kept in every subsequent campaign, including this campaign for mayor. No other candidate in this race can say that. Residents can know for certain that I will prioritize their needs over the needs of developers. I am always going to put people before profits.

For more information on the candidate visit www.willmbah.com.



William "Billy" Tauro

Question 1: You are promising great things for our city. But we need to invest \$1.12 billion in our disintegrating infrastructure just to prevent emergencies and meet code requirements. How do we pay for that along with the things that you are promising?

Who's opinion was this large investment attributed to? I would like to see exactly why the amount of 1.12 Billion is the actual estimate for the disintegrating infrastructure. I feel those numbers have been grossly ballooned out of proportion to scare the citizens and accommodate the same underhanded dealings and white envelopes used for payoffs from the administration dealings. In my

administration, we will be frugal and efficient in time, expenditures, and completion. The past has failed and now it is time for a change.

Question 2: With Overdose Awareness Day just behind us and we are now in National Recovery Month, what would you like to be done to help with this problem if you are elected?

Treatment and recovery has been an on going staple in my statements. Encouraging the continuation of drug abuse only masks the issue. I would like to see special units within a Hospital environment allow Treatment along with a recovery program that works. People are tired of losing so many loved ones because of a lack of treatment. I intend on seeing our HUB Program integrate along with this to not only provide the proper help and treatment but preserve a future for the individuals to function in society with better standards.

Question 3: In general, why should Somerville voters choose you for mayor over the other candidates?

I speak from the heart when I say I will follow through with something I do! For well over a decade I have helped many individuals to give them a better way of life. I will apply my common sense and business experiences to put our community on a better way of living. I will unite groups with honesty and truthful actions. I will compromise on all levels. I will protect the citizens of our community on all levels so that they can enjoy the fruits of their labor or the choices of their life. A vote for me will be the best thing Somerville can have for the future.

Please consider me, William B. Tauro for your next Mayor. Please remember to vote on September 14th and if you need a ride to the polls, please give my campaign a call at (617)778-3992. Thank you!

For more information on the candidate visit www.billy4mayor.com.

New commercial density for business overlay districts

By Joe Creason

The City Council's Land Use Committee held a meeting on September 1 for the purpose discussing issues around proposed legislation and city planning.

The first item addressed was with regards to zoning ordinance amendment for small business overlay districts. Committee members took time to unpack some of the revisions which had been added to the proposed legislation.

"In the same way that our zoning ordinance has a dimensional standard call a density factor that tells you how many dwelling units you can have in a building, the new version purposes a commercial space factor, which would tell you the minimum number of space for commercial use" said Deputy Director of Planning and

Zoning Daniel Bartman.

The revised amendment had specified the density of commercial units to be the width of the building divided by 30, meaning that 240-foot-wide building would be designated as space for eight commercial units. This is different from what the amendment originally proposed, which was six commercial units for every 100 feet of store front.

"From a high level, it seems like this undercuts the purpose of the original amendment, we wanted to keep the smaller commercial space for a built environment where the footprint is smaller. The smaller the footprint, the smaller the rents," said Ward 6 City Councilor Lance Davis.

Committee Chair Ben Ewen-Campen noted that no final deliberation would be given on the proposed amendment that

night and the issue was left on the table for further discussion at a future date.

Another amendment concerning the preservation of historic structures was also discussed during the meeting.

"In a nutshell, the idea is to allow for more units and more density on historic properties so that these properties are not demolished," said Ward 5 City Councilor Mark Niedergang.

Niedergang and Ward 4 City Councilor Jesse Clingan collaborated on a zoning solution that would allow for greater density while maintaining the historic integrity of the homes, either by allowing them to be divided up into smaller apartments, or to allow for structural additions which are permissible under certain circumstances for historic homes.

"Right now, there's no incentive for redevelopment of the historic homes, except to knock them down and build the maximum number of units, so we lose historic properties," Niedergang said.

According to councilor Clingan, the amendment would create a zoning environment suitable for the preservation of these historic buildings, while also balancing the need for new housing units in Somerville. However, the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development is less concerned about density than about possible administrative and procedural issues with the designation of historical status.

"There is a process where the state reviews the characteristics of the property and whether or not it meets the criteria for being designated historical asset and those criteria aren't based

on the need for additional housing. The process of the historic designation is intended to create historic districts and not necessarily promote the existence of individual historical lots," said Deputy Director Bartman.

According to Bartman, the proposed amendment may not create its intended outcomes if the state's historical designation criteria do not align with the interests of individual property owners.

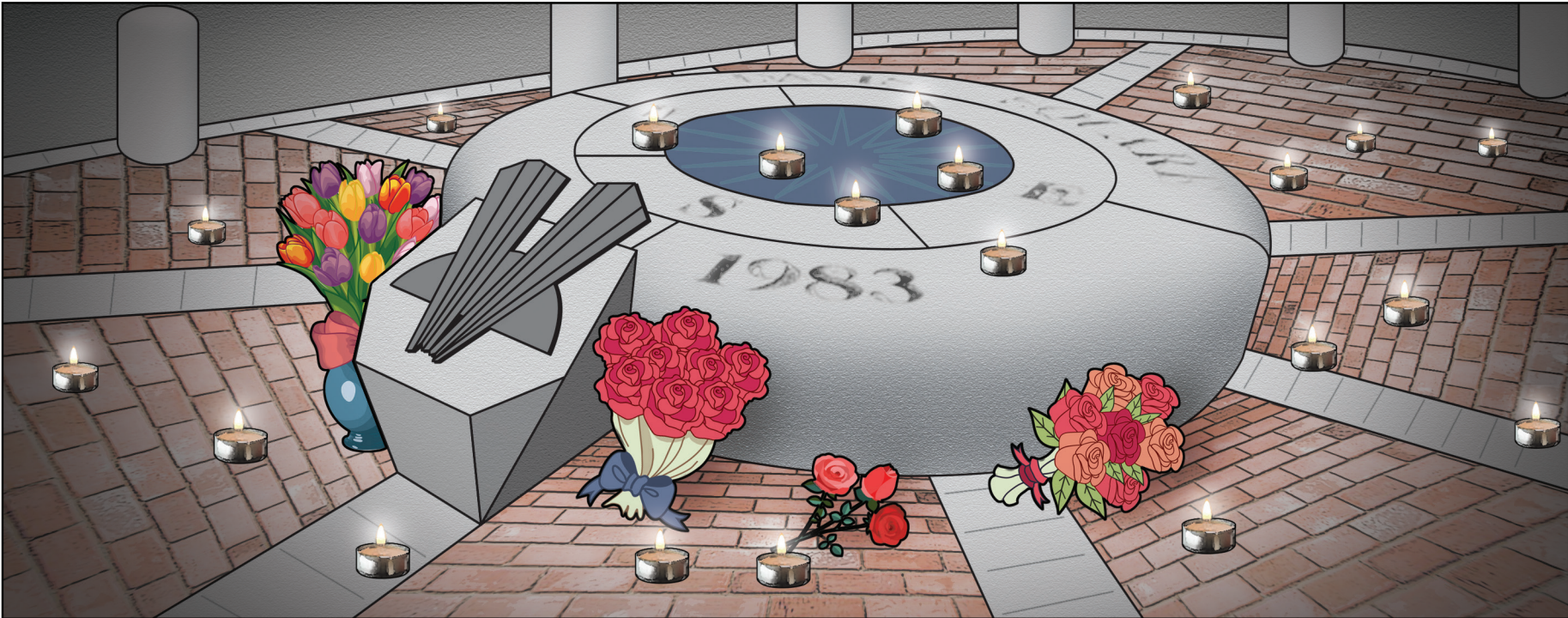
The Land Use Committee meeting adjourned with the approval of an amendment to zoning ordinance for building components like porches and forward-facing elements, making it easier to assess permit applications from an administrative perspective.

The Land Use Committee will meet again on September 28 at 6:30 p.m.

COMMENTARY

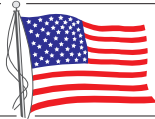
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



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

Our View Of The Times



Although 20 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 perpetrators' 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 coming Saturday 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.

We've all been through so much over the

past year or two, dealing with the pandemic and all the fallout associated with it. Perhaps it's time to set aside what divides us and embrace what unity we can.

Consider joining in on 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.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Richard Keller, Felicia Dalelio, Danny Johnson, Alexa Trefonides-Mase, Jeff Meese, Judy Calvey, Maureen Cuff Bastardi, Carol Cook O'Leary, Mary Ann Beaton and Cheryl Tucker 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.

The City of Somerville is seeking to extend its **eviction moratorium through November 30**. With the current moratorium otherwise set to expire on September 15, the **Somerville Board of Health** will consider the city's extension proposal at its September 9 meeting. The administration's request comes as COVID-19 cases rise and amid President Joseph R. Biden's call for states and cities to enact local eviction moratoria after a Supreme Court ruling ended the federal moratorium. Somerville residents in need of assistance are urged to contact **OHS** at 617-625-6600 x2581 or fill out a referral form at [somervillema.gov/ohs](https://www.somervillema.gov/ohs). The city has already leveraged more than \$2 million in rental assistance during the pandemic from local, state, and federal sources. **CAAS** can be reached at 617-623-7370 or [ville.org/need-help](mailto:caasomer-</p></div><div><p><a href=).

The **Somerville Board of Health (BOH)** approved a **face-covering mandate** for all indoor public spaces at its August 19 meeting that went into effect as of Friday, August 20. The mandate applies to **anyone two or older**, and face coverings can be removed when people are actively eating or drinking. Masks should have a snug fit and cover the nose and mouth. The order can be read at <https://www.somervillema.gov/sites/default/files/COVID-19-Mask-Order-Proposed-8.21.pdf>. The **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** recommends everyone in areas of high or substantial COVID-19 transmission wear face coverings when in indoor public spaces regardless of vaccination status. Currently, all Massachusetts counties have either high or substantial transmission. For more coronavirus and vaccine information, visit [somervillema.gov/COVID19](https://www.somervillema.gov/COVID19) or [somervillema.gov/vaccine](https://www.somervillema.gov/vaccine) and sign up for city alerts at [somervillema.gov/alerts](https://www.somervillema.gov/alerts). Everyone is urged to sign up for every alert method you are able to receive phone call, text, email. Also please follow [FB.com/SomervilleCity](https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCity) and @

[SomervilleCity](https://www.facebook.com/SomervilleCity).

The **East Somerville Market** will return on **Sunday September 12**, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at their new location: **East Somerville Library**, 115 Broadway, Somerville. For a list of vendors visit <https://www.eastsomervillemainstreets.org/market>.

The **September breakfast and lunch menus** are available on the **Food and Nutrition Services website**: <https://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/fns>. **Breakfast and lunch will be free** for all students enrolled in **Somerville Public Schools**.

Registration is open for **musicians** who want to participate in this year's **Porch-Fest on Saturday, October 2**. Performers will be given a time to play based on where they are located: west of Willow Avenue performs from noon to 2:00 p.m., between Willow Avenue and Central Street performs from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., and east of Central Street performs from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Performers who want to register should sign up at [somervillearts council.org/porchfest](https://www.somervillearts council.org/porchfest) by Thursday, September 30.

The **Somerville High Class of 1971** is looking for classmates for their **50th reunion on Saturday, October 23**, at **Anthony's Function Hall** in Malden from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m. The price is \$65 per person. Please contact **Rosalie DeLucia** or **Jimmy Del Ponte**, or the SHS71 page on Facebook for more information. Wave high your guilded banners as SHS 71 celebrates their 50th!

The **Somerville High Class of 1961** is holding their **60th reunion on September 28**, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at Seasons 52, 6 Wayside Rd., Burlington. The cost is \$40, you can mail checks to SHS Class of 1961 c/o 30 Murray Hill Rd, Cambridge, MA, 02140.

Riverfest 2021 will take place **Saturday, September 18**, 4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at **Assembly Row at Assembly Square**. Highlights include: Live local music powered by PUMA, free family-friendly activities and a firework spectacular over the Mystic River. Plus, don't forget to check out Night Shift's Owl's Nest Beer Garden plus and family friendly games including pickleball and shuffleboard by PKL Boston – located near The Smoke Shop BBQ.

Continued on page 11

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olío

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#793

1. How many U.S. states start with the letter “M”?
 2. What is the 58th largest island in the United States?
 3. How many sheets of paper are in a ream?
 4. How many zeroes are in a trillion?
 5. What is the only U.S. state to have two Ivy League Schools?
 6. Who played Ben Braddock in *The Graduate*?
 7. On the back of what state's quarter would you find a trumpet, guitar and a fiddle?
 8. Who was the “Maid of Orleans”?
 9. What is a quid-nunc?
 10. What are irons in horseracing?
 11. What is a crucial card in the game of Hearts?
 12. What is the national flower of Australia?
- Answers on page 10*

Answers on page 10

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. A square mile of fertile earth has 32,000,000 earthworms in it.
2. Carolyn Shoemaker has discovered 32 comets and approximately 300 asteroids.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

TV COUPLES

ACROSS

1. Sweeney Todd's weapon
6. It's in the hole?
9. Plural of #6 Across
13. Soft palate dangler
14. Each one for himself?
15. Red Cross supply
16. Short skirts
17. Flightless bird
18. Wavelike patterned silk
19. Philip Banks' wife
21. Dre Johnson's wife on "Black-ish" and occasional site around rain storm
23. 31st of the month, e.g.
24. E-mailed
25. Digital audio workstation
28. Essence of idea
30. Mouth infection
35. Fussess
37. Burden or load
39. Official language of Lesotho
40. Choose politically
41. Sashay
43. Thailand, formerly
44. All worked up
46. One assigned menial work
47. Rancher's unit
48. Blue jeans
50. Famous Scottish lake
52. A cause of inflation
53. Number one
55. Israel Kamakawiwo'ole's guitar
57. Stars Hollow Luke's love interest
61. Louise Jefferson's husband
64. Like a solitary player
65. Government Printing Office
67. Home to BYU
69. Request to Geico
70. Calendar mo.
71. Gladdened
72. 36 inches
73. Jake and ____ of "Brooklyn Nine-Nine"
74. Rub off

DOWN

1. Cuba Libre ingredient
2. Tel _____, Israel
3. Pueblo tribesman
4. Good will branch
5. Leveling to the ground

Soulution to last week's sudoku puzzle:

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

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:

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

SUDOKU

GRAND ALASKAN CRUISE & TOUR

12 days, departs May - Sep 2022



promo code N7017

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*Prices are per person based on double occupancy plus up to \$299 in taxes & fees. Single supplement and seasonal surcharges may apply. Add-on airfare available. Onboard Credit requires purchase of Ocean View or Balcony Cabin. Offers apply to new bookings only, made by 9/30/21. Other terms & conditions may apply. Ask your Travel Consultant for details.

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

© StatePoint Media

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

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Somerville School Committee votes to pass vaccine mandate

By Fernando Cervantes Jr.

On August 31, Somerville Public Schools (SPS) hosted a virtual School Committee Meeting in order to review vaccination requirements for all public schools. The meeting was attended by Superintendent Mary E. Skipper and Assistant Superintendent Chad Mazza. It focused on different policies of SPS such as vaccination requirements and school schedules.

Others in attendance included Mayor Joe Curtatone, Councilor Matt McLaughlin, and other Somerville School Committee members from different wards.

After initial pleasantries from members of the School Committee, minutes from the June 21 meeting were approved.

Following this, Mazza gave a district report that included a reflection regarding this year's summer school program and an academic recovery update.

"All staff use core instruction, some of that is effective lesson delivery, high expectations for learning, frequent actionable feedback, there are many core pieces too, that can be explained in a future meeting," Mazza said. "The big piece with our approach to recovery is, all students all the time, it's not some students some of the time."

Once these reports were presented and completed by Mazza, the school commit-

tee meeting moved onto debating vaccine mandates for staff.

The first of two policies discussed for the SPS Policy Manual was the staff COVID vaccine policy.

Most of the comments from the committee members concerned the amount of time that staff would be getting between the policy announcement and the deadline by SPS for full vaccination. One of these members was Laura Pitone from Ward 5.

"We're urging everyone to remind everyone that more than 98% of all cases are of the Delta variant..."

"I'm just concerned that the 20th [of October] is not far enough out, because that really only allocates a week to communicate and for someone to schedule their vaccination," Pitone said.

Director of Health and Human Services Doug Kress also commented on the availability of vaccines in the Somerville area and where to get the shot.

"We do have a couple of clinics that are

upcoming, they would be available for staff, students and their families," Kress said, "We will have another Pfizer clinic coming up on September 15, with the second vaccine on October 6th, giving you both those clinics for students as well as staff to be fully vaccinated within the timeline that you have in front of you."

Mayor Joe Curtatone expressed his vehement opposition to pushing back the deadline for staff vaccination, mostly citing the urge and the need for people to get vaccinated.

"We're urging everyone to remind everyone that more than 98% of all cases are of the Delta variant. We don't have time. We were pretty transparent about what we were all collectively considering to be done, I'd be vehemently opposed to pushing it off for matters of convenience," Mayor Curtatone said.

The Staff COVID Vaccine Policy passed unanimously 9-0.

Next in the meeting was the discussion of a policy that would require students to be vaccinated in order to participate in afterschool activities, most notably afterschool sports.

Michelle Kelly, Athletic Trainer for Somerville Public Schools, presented a recent survey of student-athletes about vaccination and gave statistics on the vaccination rate of high school student-athletes around Somerville Public Schools.

"We had 250 student-athletes from



high school show up and provide physicals, 75% of those students are already vaccinated, another 10% of students have their vaccination scheduled at the doctor's office and 1% of our student-athletes were not interested in being vaccinated. The rest of the students would get vaccinated if vaccinations were required," Kelly said.

Following these two measures, the meeting focused mainly on approving grants for the Fiscal Year 2022 and approval and acceptance of donations from local organizations.

Minutes and more information on the August 31 meeting can be found on the SPS website.

Three Somerville polling locations relocated in 2021

As a reminder, three of Somerville's polling places have been relocated as of the current 2021 election cycle. All other polling locations will remain in the same location as they were in 2020. Before voting in the September 14 preliminary election, don't forget to double-check your polling location.



The new polling locations as of 2021 are as follows:

Ward 3 Precinct 1

New Location: Properzi Manor, 13-25 Warren Ave.
Former Location: Central Library, 79 Highland Ave.

Ward 6 Precinct 3

New Location: A room in the West Branch Library, 40 College Ave.
Former Location: West Somerville Neighborhood School, 177 Powder House Blvd.

Ward 7 Precinct 3

New Location: A room in the VNA Assisted Living Facility, 405 Alewife Brook Parkway
Former Location: West Somerville Neighborhood School, 177 Powder House Blvd.

Voters are always encouraged to look up their polling location before heading out to vote. You can look up your polling place by visiting www.somervillema.gov/mysomerville and entering your address. You can also call 311 for assistance. All polling locations are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for the preliminary election on September 14.

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and Federal Realty Investment Trust are pleased to announce a **Rental Lottery for 31 Income-Restricted Units!**

Miscela, Assembly Row, 485 Foley Street, Somerville

First Units Ready For Occupancy In January 2022

Lottery Applications available online starting on August 30, 2021: <https://form.jotform.com/210403447754048>

* Rents are not based on each applicant's income (unless they already have a Section 8 voucher or similar). Tenants are responsible for paying all their gas, electricity, water and sewer. No parking spots are included in the rent but parking spots are available for the reduced rate of \$75/mo.

Unit Type	Disabled-Accessible (DA) and Hearing-Impaired (HI)	Minimum Gross Annual Income	Minimum Household Size	Approx. Size (subject to change)	# of bathrooms	No. of Units	Monthly Rent (not including utilities+ parking)
Sixteen (16) 50% AMI Apartments							
Studio	1 DA+HI	\$28,200*	1	482-580 sqft	1	3	\$1,002-\$1,021
1 BR	1 DA+HI	\$30,192*	1	581-1,098 sqft	1	9	\$1,034-\$1,054
2BR	N/A	\$36,420*	2	1,119-1,205 sqft	2	3	\$1,223-\$1,245
4BR	N/A	\$46,704*	4	1,570 sqft	2	1	\$1,528
Fifteen (15) 80% AMI Apartments							
Studio	N/A	\$47,001	1	453-540 sqft	1	2	\$1,336-\$1,355
1 BR	N/A	\$47,001	1	594-701 sqft	1	7	\$1,394-\$1,414
2BR	1 DA+HI	\$53,701	2	829-1,318 sqft	1-2.5	5	\$1,656-\$1,678
3BR	N/A	\$60,401	3	1,287 sqft	2	1	\$1,879-\$1,905

MAXIMUM Gross Annual Income Limits		
No. of people in your household	For units set at 50 % AMI	For units set at 80% AMI
1	\$47,000	\$47,001 - \$70,750
2	\$53,700	\$53,701 - \$80,850
3	\$60,400	\$60,401 - \$90,950
4	\$67,100	\$67,101 - \$101,050
5	\$72,500	\$72,500 - \$109,150
6	\$77,850	\$77,850 - \$117,250

Applications will be available at the conclusion of the first Info Session and online here:

<https://form.jotform.com/210403447754048>

The first Info Session will be held on August 30th, 2021 at 6:00pm via YouTube at <https://youtu.be/Sf3lsNw16go> and the second Info Session will be held on Sept 7th, 2021 at 6:00pm via YouTube at https://youtu.be/KeE07glyv_M (or just search for SEB Housing on YouTube, it will still be available after the live recording) and via Conference Call: (425) 436-6200. Code: 862627.

Application Deadline: application must be completed and delivered by 2 pm on September 29th, 2021

The Lottery will be held on October 19th, 2021

For Lottery Information and Applications, or for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities, go to Miscela@sebhousing.com or call (617) 782-6900 (x1 and then x1) and leave a message.

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 or to attend meetings, should contact the City's Deputy Director of Health and Human Services, Nancy Bacci, at 617-625-6600 x2250 or nbacci@somervillema.gov.




Follow us on Twitter at @somervilletimes



LEGAL NOTICES

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



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

GEORGE J. PROAKIS, AICP
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)** will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, September 21, 2021** at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

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

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7359908052840089616>

Webinar ID: 323-686-587

TO CALL IN

Phone Number: 1 (562) 247-8422

Access Code: 446-224-933

ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT

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

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

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

DETERMINATIONS OF APPROPRIATENESS (LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT PROPERTIES)


HPC.ALT 2021.48 – 8 ALDERSEY STREET
Applicant: HKF Construction
Owner: Judith Klausner
Installation of rear pergola

HPC.ALT 2021.45 – 36 CHERRY Street
Applicant: Mark Colling
Owner: Jared Floyd
Alterations to garage structure

HPC.ALT 2021.50 – 33 WARREN Avenue
Applicant: 33 Warren Ave, LLC
Owner: Same as applicant
Retroactive Commission approval for removal of exterior feature visible from a public way

Please see City website at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases>. Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email historic@somervillema.gov to inquire if specific cases will be heard. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. **Note:** Written comments due to historic@somervillema.gov **NO LATER THAN NOON** one week prior to the meeting date. Email historic@somervillema.gov with inquiries.

9/1/21, 9/8/21 The Somerville Times



ADVERTISEMENT

The **Somerville Housing Authority**, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from for the Various Electrical and Systems Replacements at Various Developments for the Somerville Housing Authority in Somerville, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by Nangle Engineering Inc.

The Project consists of: Smoke alarm, loadcenter and video intercom system replacements at four sites, fire alarm control panel repair at Brady Tower and switchgear replacement at Weston Manor.

The work is estimated to cost **\$729,713.00 (including all alternates)**

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §526 to 27H inclusive.

General bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) in the category of Electrical.

General Bids will be received until **2:00 p.m., Thursday, September 16, 2021** and posted online, forthwith.

This project is being Electronically Bid (E-Bid). All bids shall be submitted online at www.Projectdog.com. Hard copy bids will not be accepted by the Awarding Authority. E-Bid tutorials and instructions are available within the specifications and online at www.Projectdog.com. For assistance, call Projectdog, Inc at (978)499-9014, M-F 8:30AM-5PM.

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.

Bid forms and contract documents will be available on **Wednesday, September 1, 2021** at www.Projectdog.com or for pick-up at: Projectdog, Inc, 18 Graf Road, Suite 8 Newburyport, MA 978-499-9014 (M - F 8:30AM - 5PM).

Go to www.Projectdog.com and login with an existing account or click Sign Up to register for free. Enter Project Code **845439** in the project locator box. Select "Acquire Documents" to download documents, review a hard copy at Projectdog's physical location, or request a free project CD.

Bidders may obtain one full paper bid set from Projectdog for a refundable deposit of **\$75.00** made payable to Projectdog in the form of certified check or money order. The full amount of the deposit will be refunded to all responsive bidders returning the Contract Documents in good condition within ten (10) days after date of general bid opening. Otherwise, the deposit will become the property of Projectdog, Inc. Bidders requesting their refundable paper set to be mailed must supply a non-refundable shipping and handling fee of **\$35.00** payable to Projectdog.


The job site and/or existing building will be available for observation at **10:30 am Thursday, September 9, 2021**, starting at Weston Manor, 15 Weston Avenue, Somerville, MA 02145.

The inspection is an opportunity to visit and observe the site only. Any oral interpretations offered at the site inspection are non-binding. Any questions must be submitted in writing to the Designer, at the e-mail address on the Project Manual cover, no later than 4:00 PM on the Friday prior to the date stated above for the receipt of quotes. Questions after that time may not be responded to, at the sole discretion of the designer.

The Somerville Housing Authority reserves the right to waive any informalities in or to reject any and all bids, or to waive any informalities in the bidding. No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after approval of the award by the Somerville Housing Authority without written consent of the Somerville Housing Authority.

Joseph Macaluso, Executive Director
Somerville Housing Authority
2021

9/1/21, 9/8/21 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Somerville City Council's Land Use Committee and the Somerville Planning Board will hold a joint public hearing on **Tuesday, September 28, 2021** at 6:30 pm. Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

REGISTER ONLINE
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6436814165425183503>

The purpose of this hearing is to receive public comments concerning the following:

- **Dean Matarazzo proposing a zoning map amendment to change the zoning district of 13 Garfield Ave from Fabrication to Urban Residential.**
- **AP Davis Square Plaza, LP proposing a zoning map amendment to change the zoning district of 258-282 Elm St., 58 Day St., and 7-13 Herbert St. from MR-4 to Civic and CC-4.**
- **A group of ten (10) or more voters proposing a zoning map amendment to change the zoning district of 51 McGrath Highway from HR to MR5 and 35 McGrath Highway from MR5 to MR4.**
- **A proposed text amendment to require that fractional and in-lieu payments be paid prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy. (Council Item #212305)**
- **Proposed text and map amendments to expand the functionality of the Small Business overlay district to require multiple ground story commercial spaces when mapped over the Mid-Rise, High-Rise, or Commercial zoning districts. (Council Item #212306)**
- **Proposed text amendments to reorganize and clarify the provisions regulating sidewalks and frontages. (Council Item #212307)**
- **Proposed text amendments to regulate rooftop mechanical systems and mechanical penthouses. (Council Item #212308)**
- **A proposed text amendment to establish alternative compliance provisions for the Master Planned Development (MPD) overlay district, contextual design standards for the Boynton Yards sub area of the MPD overlay, and to change Map 8.3.12 (a) Sub-Area Boundary and Superseding Zoning Districts of the Boynton Yards sub-area. (Council Item #212309)**

The zoning map amendments identified above may be viewed online by searching the Somerville City Council's online meeting calendar for each amendment. Other proposed amendments identified above may be viewed online at www.somervillezoning.com/amendments.

Final language of the above amendments may be modified by the City Council during the legislative process. Persons unable to attend the hearing may provide comments by email to planning@somervillema.gov.

9/8/21 The Somerville Times

A Public Hearing for all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Licensing Commission** on **Monday, September 20, 2021** at **6:00PM**, to be held by remote participation, on the Application of Bow Market Entertainment LLC d/b/a Bow Market for an Alteration of premises and a Change of Ownership Interest at 337 Somerville Ave., Somerville, MA. For instructions on testifying this public hearing go to the calendar at www.somervillema.gov or contact the City Clerk's Office.

For the Commission
Christopher Allen
Joseph P. Lynch Jr.

Attest: Lori Batzek
Administrative Assistant

9/8/21 The Somerville Times

From on page 8

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

1. 8: Maryland, Michigan, Montana, Missouri, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Minnesota, and Maine	6. Dustin Hoffman
2. Martha's Vineyard	7. Tennessee
3. 500	8. Joan of Arc
4. 12	9. A person who is a busybody
5. New York (Cornell and Columbia)	10. The stirrups
	11. Queen of Spades
	12. Golden watt

Household hazardous waste community collection day


Wednesday, September 8, 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Due to COVID-19, the City of Somerville, in collaboration with ACV Enviro, will be hosting an alternative program for residential pick up of Household Hazardous Waste. Instead of coming to a drop-off site, we are coming to you!

Hazardous waste pickup events will happen from April to November on the second Wednesday of each month. Registration is required. Visit somervillema.gov/HWPickup to sign up. Registration opens three weeks prior to each event and will close when the maximum number of requests is reached.


So clean out the garage, empty the basement, and get rid of...

- Oil
- Paint
- Cleaners
- Antifreeze
- Poisons
- Pesticides
- Batteries
- Fluorescent Lamps
- Electronics
- And more



LEGAL NOTICES

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



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP# 22-07**

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

RFP # 22-07 2021 City-side Water Meter Replacement Meters and Parts

The RFP package may be obtained online at <https://www.bidexpress.com/>, <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing>, or Procurement & Contracting Services Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after: **Thursday, September 9, 2021.**


Sealed bids will be received at above office or via Bid Express until: **Wednesday September 23, 2021 at 2:00 pm.** The City of Somerville reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive any minor informality in the RFP process, and accept the proposal(s) deemed to be in the best interests of the City of Somerville.

The contract term shall be for a period of 1 year with 2 optional renewals.

Please email acaruth@somervillema.gov for more information.

**Andrea Caruth
Deputy CPO
617-625-6600 x. 3400**

9/8/21 The Somerville Times



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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The **Somerville Planning Board (PB)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Thursday, September 23, 2021, at 6:00pm** through GoToWebinar.

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

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3633778595116080910>
Webinar ID: 761-338-075

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (213) 929-4212
Access code: 594-343-281

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


111 South Street Boynton Yards LandCo LLC proposes to develop a Neighborhood Park in the High Rise (HR) zoning district, which requires Site Plan Approval.

121 South Street Boynton Yards LandCo LLC proposes to develop an 11-story LEED Platinum lab building in the High Rise (HR) zoning district, which requires Site Plan Approval.

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

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

9/8/21 The Somerville Times



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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The **Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at 6:00pm** through GoToWebinar.

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

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7996231715891288590>
Webinar ID: 891-690-283

TO CALL IN

Phone number: 1 (213) 929-4232
Access code: 819-032-377

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

101 South Street 101 South Street Owner LLC is proposing Major Amendments to previously-issued permits (ZBA 2019-43 and ZBA 2018-21-E1-2/19) for 101 South Street/2 Earle Street.

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

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

9/8/21 The Somerville Times

Legal Notices can be downloaded from our website: www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

PROJECT: 15 McGrath Highway

LOCATION: 13-21 McGrath Highway Somerville, Massachusetts

PROONENT: 15 McGrath Hwy Owner LLC (a joint venture between Leggat McCall Properties LLC, Laben Realty, LLC and DLJ Real Estate Capital Partners, collectively the "Proponent").

The undersigned has submitted an Environmental Notification Form (ENF) to the Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) on behalf of the Proponent. The 15 McGrath Project (the "Project") is subject to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA).

This will initiate review of the ENF for the Project pursuant MEPA implementing regulations (301 CMR 11.05(7)). Electronic copies of the ENF may be obtained upon request from:

Samhita Saquib
VHB/Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.
99 High Street
Boston, MA 02110-2354
617-607-2988
kgreaves@vhb.com

Electronic copies of the ENF are also being sent to federal, state, and local agencies and interested parties.

The Secretary of the EOEEA will publish notice of the ENF in the Environmental Monitor, will receive public comments on the project for 20 days, and within approximately seven days will issue a MEPA Certificate. All persons wishing to comment on the Project should write to the Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office, referencing the Project.

By: Samhita Saquib- VHB
(agent for the Proponent)

9/8/21 The Somerville Times


Early voting schedule announced

Somerville voters will have the option to vote early in the September preliminary election. Four days of in-person early voting will be held prior to election day on Tuesday, September 14.

All early voting will take place in the City Council chambers at City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue. Please remember that face coverings are required in all City buildings. The schedule for early voting is as follows:

- Wednesday, September 8, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- Thursday, September 9, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Friday, September 10, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

As a reminder, voters also have the option of voting by mail this fall. More information on voting by mail can be found at somervillema.gov/votemail. For those who would like to vote in person on election day, the polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 14.



Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Rosebud American Kitchen & Bar, Davis Square is hosting **Hostess & Little Debbie Milkshake Month**. Grab a milkshake with your favorite **Hostess/Little Debbie** treat. Each week through mid-September, a different dessert will be showcased: **HoHos** from September 5 to September 11, and **Nutty Buddies** from September 12 to September 18.

Groundwork Somerville Harvest Gala takes place **Saturday, September 18**, 198 South St., Somerville. Celebrate Groundwork Somerville's 21st year of farming and environmental education. Visit **South Street Farm** for an evening of games, music, raffles, drinks and delicious food. Full price tickets are \$40, with the option to pay less based on your income. Ticket prices include a meal at one of several food trucks as well as two drink tickets for wine or beer. Tickets events.

constantcontact.com/register/event.

The **City of Somerville Elections Department** is hiring **polling place workers** for the **municipal elections on September 14 and November 2**. Polling place workers will be paid \$200 per day and work from 6:30 a.m. until shortly after the polls close at 8:00 p.m., with a two-hour break. You must be a registered Massachusetts voter to work at a polling place. No prior experience necessary. Email personnel@somervillema.gov or call 617-625-6600 ext. 3300 to learn more today.

All **city buildings** are now open, with limited staffing. Both visitors to city buildings as well as staff will be required to wear face coverings while inside the buildings. Staff will be available on a walk-in basis in all departments for quick

transactions like paying a bill or picking up a document. For matters that will take longer, residents will need to schedule an appointment with city staff. Many city services are also available online and, whenever possible, residents are encouraged to continue to use online services.

With the spread of the Delta variant on the rise, don't delay getting the **COVID-19 vaccine**. The **Cambridge Health Alliance Vaccine Center** is right here in Somerville at 176 Somerville Ave., open for walk-ins five days a week to anyone 12 years and older. Monday, Tuesday: 11:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. No insurance needed, no ID needed. Free for all, regardless of immigration or health insurance status. No appointment necessary, just walk right in. Open to anyone, you do not need to

be a Somerville resident or CHA patient

Help **support your neighbors** through the **Somerville Cares Fund**. If you're lucky enough to have some extra money, please consider a donation to the Somerville Cares Fund. This donation-based fund provides direct assistance to Somerville residents, workers, and parents of school children so that they can cover basic expenses like housing, food, and utility bills. If you're unable to donate you can still help by sharing information about the Somerville Cares Fund with your friends and family.

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.

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ageless Grace Program – Ageless Grace is a fitness and wellness program consisting of 21 simple exercise tools designed for all ages and abilities. These exercises, based on everyday movements, focus on the healthy longevity of the body and mind. Classes are held via Zoom. Please contact Chris at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315 or email ckowaleski@somervillema.gov with any questions or for additional information.

Walking Group – Fridays at 9:30 a.m. The walking group will meet in front of the Holland Street Center and will enjoy walks through area neighborhoods. All classes and groups will be limited to 8 participants and will follow City of Somerville social distancing and mask policy. Pre-registration is required. For additional info or to register for one of the above programs, contact Chris by email at ckowaleski@somervillema.gov or by phone at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315.

English Conversation – Every Monday at 10:30 a.m. at the Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street (Behind the Holiday Inn.) Meet people from all over the world as we discuss a range of topics. No books – no test – just friendly conversation. This program is in person; pre-registration is required as space is limited. Please contact Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator at MBastardi@Somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 to RSVP.

Music & Movement – Thursday, September 16 at 4:00 p.m. Join Steve as he plays guitar, sings and leads gentle movements. Just tapping your toe or singing along can help move your body in new ways. Being physically active is not just good for our bodies, but it is also one of Mental Health America’s 10 tools to building resiliency; or the ability to overcome obstacles and manage through tough times. Physical activity can improve sleep, increase energy, decrease some kinds of pain, boost our immune systems and lower the risk for stroke and some cancers. It also helps to reduce our anxiety, depression, stress and tension. Join Steve as he shows us that exercise can come in all different forms and movements. This program is in person, pre-registration is required as space is limited. Please RSVP to Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at dhiggins@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2321

Book Club – Friday, September 17 at 10:00 a.m. - Do you love books and want to discuss your love of reading with others? Consider joining book club. *The Murderbot Diaries* by Martha Wells will be discussed. Book club's next meeting will be in person. Please contact Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317. This is an in person group. Please RSVP as space is limited.

Arts & Crafts – Tuesday, September 21 at 10:00 a.m. – At the Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street (behind the Holiday Inn.) Join us as we make a fall flower pot arrangement. Please RSVP to Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321 or email Debby at DHiggins@Somervillema.gov. Space is limited and masks are required.

Caregiver Check-In – Tuesday, September 28 at 11:00 a.m. - Are you a caregiver for a loved one and want to connect with other caregivers? Would you like to discuss the joys and challenges of caregiving? The Somerville Council on Aging is hosting a monthly check-in via Zoom for caregivers. Please contact Natasha by either calling 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 or e-mail Natasha at NNaim@Somervillema.gov.

ONGOING EVENTS

Taxi Rides - Do you need a ride? The COA has a program just for you. Taxi Rides for Somerville Residents 60 and Over Rides can be used for: Grocery Shopping in Somerville Pharmacy Prescription pick up in Somerville, Routine Medical Appointments in the follow areas: Somerville, Cambridge, Medford, Boston or the V.A. in Jamaica Plain or West Roxbury. Two Days Advanced Notice Required. For more info, please call Connie Lorenti at 617-625-6600, ext. 2319.

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

EXERCISE

VIRTUAL FIT-4-LIFE SCHEDULE

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

Fit-4-Life YouTube

Fit-4-Life Exercise Video # 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hd26HjpwBI&t=68s>
Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwHfyoEZaws&t=247s>
Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fcl2eBSS024&t=158s>
Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #4: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7EDtaldYSz0>
Fit-4-Life Exercise Video #5: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AAnwfwGybTI>

OUTDOOR EXERCISE PROGRAM

Mondays at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

OUTDOOR WALKING GROUP

Fridays at 9:30 a.m.

Somerville City Cable

RCN = 13/Comcast = 22

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

Yoga YouTube

Yoga with Janine video #1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vDGF_EEbqF0&t=130s
Yoga with Janine video #3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Zezcj9XXBU>

For questions or to register for a Fit-4-Life Zoom exercise class, please contact Chris at CKowaleski@somervillema.gov or call 617-625-6600, ext. 2315.

SOCIAL MEDIA

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

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

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

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



I used to be addicted to the hokey pokey,
but then I turned myself around

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All Types Vent Cleaning
Restaurant Hood Cleaning
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Somerville
Times
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617-666-4010

On This Day in History
September 8

- 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.
- 1892 – The first heavyweight-title boxing match fought with gloves ends when James J. Corbett knocks out John L. Sullivan in the 21st round.
- 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.
- 1965 – Pro Football Hall of Fame opens in Canton, Ohio.

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The Somerville Times
Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #236

Lafayette
By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier or Marquis de Lafayette was born in a castle in Auvergne, France in 1757. When he was only two years old, his father was killed in battle. At thirteen, his mother died leaving him with vast lands and wealth. He married and entered the French Army in 1774, the same year Somerville's Powder House was attacked. In 1777, being sympathetic to the American cause, the twenty-year old who just had military school training volunteered his assistance.



He was born into nobility with close associations to the French Royal family and had much to lose by coming to America. He became a friend of and idolized General George Washington who trusted him completely and made him his youngest commander. Their friendship was complete to the point that Lafayette named his son George Washington Lafayette.



Despite his youth, he fought with great ability and bravery as an officer and commander of the Continental troops in Virginia. His initial conflict was on September 11, 1777, where his first blood was shed. He was shot through his leg at the Battle of Brandywine near Philadelphia refusing to leave the field until his troops were all accounted for. He supplemented his soldiers pay from his

Continued on page 15



OFF THE SHELF
by Doug Holder

'14 International
Younger Poets'

14 International Younger Poets
Edited by Philip Nikolayev
Art And Letters
Cambridge, MA
www.artnletters.com
ISBN: 978-1-952335-23-5
138 Pages

Review by Off the Shelf Correspondent Dennis Daly

Poets practice their profession as solitaires, with the time spans often lengthy, and the intensity profound. They hear voices and often respond with cursive arcs or, more commonly, by tapping computer keys. The disabling isolation demanded by this profession fosters envy, grandiose pretensions, and bitterness. Not exactly a healthy atmosphere for bardic lads and lasses coming into their own.

But when these young and, presumably, talented versifiers do break through, watch out: a tectonic shift in our cultural bearings may be in the offing. 14 International Younger poets, edited by Philip Nikolayev, may embed one of these singular and potentially seminal events. Nikolayev's chosen poets do not project an ism or a thematic school like Ezra Pound's Imagist Poets or Allen Tate's The Fugitive Poets or Robert Creeley's Black Mountain Poets. They seem more brash and more original like the Yale Younger Poets (chosen one per year). Consider, for instance, the eye-opening newness from that Yale group of Alan Dugan or Michael Casey.

Between the ages of 24 and 35, all fourteen of these poets reside in either the United States (albeit with different ethnic backgrounds) or India. The editor happily includes a large selection from each poet. Their techniques and their themes are diverse. Before the publication of this collection, they connected in virtual chat rooms and read together on Zoom. Here's betting that those connections strengthened their poetic health.

Avinab Datta-Areng, from Kodaikanal, a scenic hill town in southern India, opens this artistic array with a series of fervent meditations. In his piece entitled *Mongoose with Prey*, Datta-Areng intervenes in a drama by just being there. As most physicists will attest, the existence of an observer changes everything. The poet delivers his details,

I hear the canal gushing louder than usual,
Muffled screams from the narrow lane.

A coconut falls on the grass,
Startling us both,
He looks up and sees me.

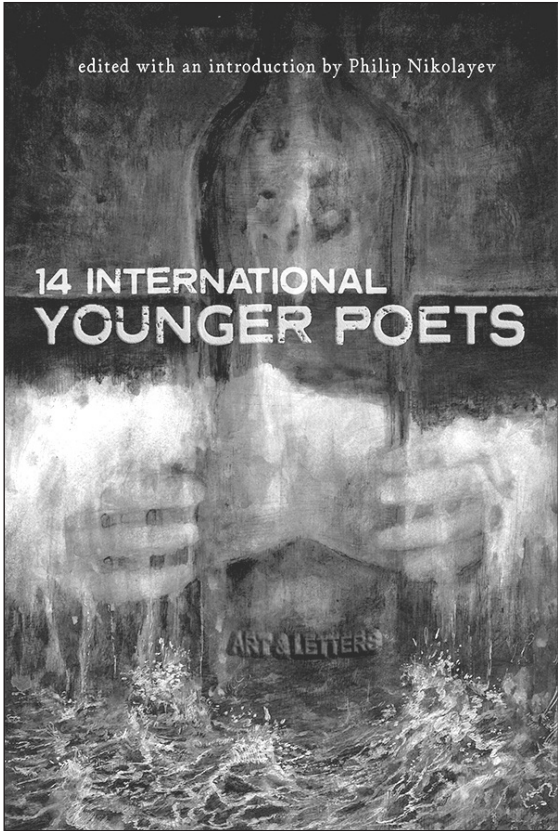
Our hunger now
Indistinguishable.

This has to end.

He knows this before me,
Lets go of his prey, disappears
Into the thicket, leaving me—

Notice, no decision is ever made here. Observation effectuates both climax and ending.

A poet on edge demands notice. Raquel Balboni,



who recently published her first book of poems, *XXX Poems*, powers through life's obstructions with a vengeance. In *Twin Cars* she says,

A strong current through the country drives me home
through skull blade and a 10 gallon headache
and what happened to living in sin together?

Two cars, a house and two devils.
Two cars standing on edge.
On their noses and their driving.

In my dopamine castle
All is well in my dopamine shell
All is fine in the nightmare hours
When the head, I think, shrinks

Some truths are more relevant to our lives than others. Marbleheader Justin Burnett, in his poem *Flat-Earther*, sees the limits of the human condition (and maybe poetics) clearly,

The world for all intents
And purposes is flat,

Speaking empirically,
Taking only my existence
As truth. Yes, I know how to see
The curve of the earth

At the beach – an inverse
Heat-off-the-pavement effect,

If you ask me (and it is
An optical illusion), suggestive

Only of equations
As relevant as metaphysics

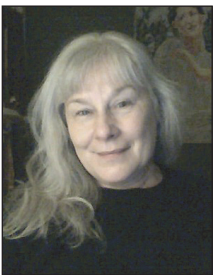
To my life...

For those aficionados of formal poetry Blake Campbell is your guy. His poems are mature and well-wrought. His craft belies the moniker of "younger poets." Within

Continued on page 15

Lyrical
SOMERVILLE
edited by Doug Holder

Julia Carlson's poems have been published in many small presses, such as *Ibbetson Street*, *Muddy River Poetry Review*, *Nixes Mate Review*, *Poetry Super Highway*, and others. Most recently, her poems appeared in *The Poet Magazine* (Childhood Anthology). She authored *Prayer for the Misbegotten* (Oddball Press, 2017) and *Little Creatures* (Wilderness House Press, 2019), and two chapbooks, *Drift* and *Turn of the Century*. A graduate of Boston University and Toulouse-le-Mirail University (France), Carlson lives in Boston, where she reads, gardens, and cooks (too much). She likes rock and roll and a wee dram on a cold night. Follow on Instagram – Uberhu



View to the Monongahela River

I

From the big front bay window
as a brisk wind ruffles and chops
the Monongahela River.
Massive barges float past
like giant inner tubes
loaded down to the waterline
moving the supply chain onward.

II

And one donkey munches
on black willow scrub that grows
on the ever-crumbling banks.
A lone protector of a rented goat tribe
tasked to control the bushy overgrowth.
Cheaper, more thorough, than a labor crew
who prefer frequent coffee breaks
to cutting, scything, and raking.

III

Crunching on verdant springtime bush
the donkey is tuned to the air
now and then sniffing, then snorting
rolling his eyes, craning his neck
on the lookout for a coyote
roaming feral dogs, or wild pigs.

IV

The goat tribe has wandered off
to the top of the tumbling bank
ever-washed out and collapsing.
They delicately pick a path
moved by hunger, forced by instinct,
nibbling down to the very dirt
leaving only short black willow stalks.

V

On this side of the bay window,
white noise of a busy morning
water and dishwasher running
cabinets opening and closing.
We do not hear the donkey's bray
that sends the wooly tribe into
a fast running mortal panic.

— Julia Carlson

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

Protect yourself from mosquito bites as summer winds down

Residents should continue to take precautions to protect themselves against mosquito bites and mosquito-borne diseases, including West Nile virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). According to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, three positive human cases of WNV have been confirmed in the state so far this year. Somerville and surrounding communities are considered to be at moderate risk for WNV. WNV and EEE are usually transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. While WNV and EEE can infect people of all ages, people over the age of 50 are at higher risk for severe WNV, and people under the age of 15 are particularly vulnerable to EEE. WNV symptoms and EEE symptoms tend to include fever and flu-like illness. Residents can take steps to protect themselves and their loved ones from illnesses caused by mosquitoes.

Avoid mosquito bites

Apply Insect Repellent when Outdoors. Use a repellent with DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-methane 3, 8-diol (PMD)], or IR3535 according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under three years of age.

Be aware of peak mosquito hours

The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during the evening or early morning.

Clothing can help reduce mosquito bites

Wear long-sleeves, long pants, and socks when outdoors to help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.

Mosquito-proof your home

Drain Standing Water. Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by either draining or discarding items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty any unused flowerpots and wading pools, and change the water in birdbaths frequently.

Install or Repair Screens. Keep mosquitoes outside by having tightly fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

Protect your animals

Animal owners should reduce potential mosquito breeding sites on their property by eliminating standing water from containers such as water bowls, buckets, tires, and wading pools – especially after heavy rains. Owners should also speak with their veterinarian about mosquito repellents approved for use in animals and vaccinations to prevent WNV and EEE. If an animal is diagnosed with WNV or EEE, owners are required to report to the Massachusetts Division of Animal Health by calling 617-626-1795 and to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health by calling 617-983-6800. More information, including all WNV and EEE positive results, can be found on the Arbovirus Surveillance Information web page at mass.gov/dph/mosquito or by calling the Massachusetts DPH Epidemiology Program at 617-983-6800.

Historical Fact

CONT. FROM PG 13

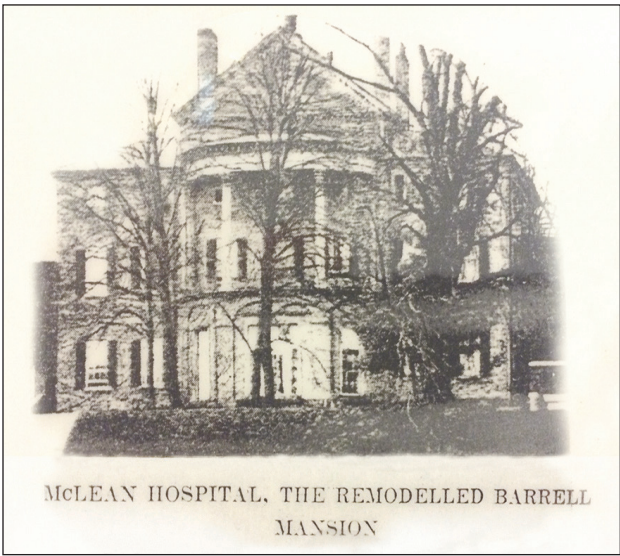
own inheritance. The young officer became one of Washington's most skillful generals. He was a statesman who was significant in acquiring French military and financial aid which helped win the war. At the end of the revolution, he returned to France.

Fifty years later, on the request of Congress, he returned to America. He came to Boston to lay the cornerstone of the Bunker Hill Monument in Charlestown. Somerville honored him with a city-wide parade, and every house had lanterns lit in tribute to him. This was the beginning of his twenty-four-state tour of America. New England is peppered with statues, tablets and memorials in praise of his achievements. America's first-born architect, Charles Bulfinch, and creator of Somerville's Barrell mansion, owes much

of his education to Lafayette's generosity. Upon his death, Lafayette's son retrieved soil from Bunker Hill and brought it back to France to mix with the soil at this father's grave.

At the beginning of World War I, on their arrival in France and in appreciation for his help in saving our country, American troops announced, "Lafayette, we are here!"

Who was Lafayette? To the people of France, he was a soldier, statesman and citizen. To America, he was a soldier, statesman and hero. To General Washington, he was the son he never had and one of his best generals. To the world, he was Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier or Marquis de Lafayette ... to his troops, he was "Lafayette."



'14 International Younger Poets'

CONT. FROM PG 14

Campbell's chosen forms he utilizes both impressive tonal and thematic ranges. In the poem *After the Blizzard* one can feel the remnants of the gale's force as Campbell's perceptions build and change directions,

The gusts that take the reins instead
Already court another storm.

You check the urge to count the blows
The wind delivers in its haste –
The dead leaves lifted from repose,
The footprints of a fox erased –

A translator of literary works from Rajasthani into English and a resident of New Delhi, Sumit Chaudhary imbues his eye-popping sonnet entitled *The Jealous Lover Shaming The Moon* with memorable slant rhymes. The opening stanzas pin the moon on the interrogator's sexual tapestry,

Tell me moon, without feeling ashamed
how many before me have had their gaze
returned with playful curvets in and out
of clouds, how many have doused

crude hungers with your silver fire
(how freely lent)? Was there arousal
as by my touch or did some higher
catch you in your hormonal carousel?

Paul Rowe, a Massachusetts North Shore denizen, stuns with his splendid, yet empathetic study, *Cerebral Palsy*. Regard this powerful denouement,

... We wait

for the voice from the sea to call forth, the light from the tower
To lead him back out – yet the waves push him back

To this shore, this body, this beach, this shell – The reef
Without language pulls us in – binds us together in
blinding night

Some poetic images truly awe, but others literally usurp space in one's mind and they won't let go. Andreea Julia Scridon, a Romanian-American writer, delivers one of the latter types in her poem, *The Old Lady in the Attic*. Here is the heart of the poem and the image,

When she turned the light on,
her celestial head
with its white hair
lit up
like a light bulb.

Sometimes she would wave
toward my window,
and I, who looked like Peter Pan,

would wave back to her.

Kamayani Sharma's poem *Within Urdu* celebrates and laments the history, sounds, and raw emotions held close within this Hindustani language. Sharma delivers her perceptions in an elegant ghazel. Pay attention to these closing lines and their current associations,

These days smuggled into names and addresses
Is a contraband of pain within Urdu.

Cities rechristened at night like girls "post marriage;"
Their past never to surface again within Urdu.

On the news we hear guttural cries of dying men.
Alas they dwelled – all those slain – within Urdu.

Space prohibits this reviewer from presenting more than this brief sampling of eight poems and should not suggest any diminishment of the remaining six poets and their impressive work. These pieces simply jumped out and grabbed me (as other pieces will grab you). The remaining poets – Zainab Ummer Farook, Emily Grochowski, Chandramohan S., Susmit Panda, Shruti Krishna Sareen, and Samuel Wronoski equally need to be read. The immediate purchase of this remarkable collection by you, dear reader, will solve this problem

— Dennis Daly

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