



Inside:



July 4th

page 3



Family Fun with the SPD

page 11



Math Fund scholarships

page 17

Freedom Day: Flag-Raising Juneteenth Jubilee



A flag-raising ceremony commemorating the Juneteenth holiday took place at the Somerville City Hall concourse on Tuesday, June 18. More photos of the event on pages 12-13 — Photos by Harry Kane

By Harry Kane

The end of slavery is something that has been on the minds of many for a long time, and in Somerville, we raise a flag to remember those who've been enslaved, but also to prevent others from being enslaved knowingly or unknowingly in modern day America.

On June 18, 2024, the day before the federal holiday, community members attended a flag-raising ceremony held by the Department of Racial & Social Justice at City Hall to commemorate the second annual Somerville Juneteenth. Some 50 constituents convened under a tent at 11:00 a.m. to witness youth, local leaders and activists deliver remarks.

"Juneteenth is a holiday unlike any other in our country, marking the end of one of the darkest chapters in American history and the

Continued on page 4

Mural showcasing the science and impact of climate change at Somernova unveiled

Rafi Properties, Owner and Operator of Somernova, the 7.4-acre innovation campus and community dedicated to helping people and companies iterate and grow faster, unveiled a 190-foot mural by local artist Sophy Tuttle at Somernova. Tuttle's mural celebrates the work of Somernova's leading tough tech and climate-tech innovators, including Form Energy, Greentown Labs, and Sublime Systems, who are dedicated to building a more resilient future and changing the world through climate action.

Tuttle is a Boston-based muralist, painter, and installation artist. Her art is widely known for integrating themes of nature and climate resilience and celebrating the interconnectedness of science and art. Her indoor and outdoor murals can be seen from Massachusetts to Colombia, and she has participated in several mural festivals

Continued on page 5



Sophie Tuttle and her 190-foot mural at the Somernova innovation campus.

BUSINESS BANKING

With a Complete Line of Online and Mobile Banking Services Business Banking is... **Better Than Ever!**

WINTER HILL BANK
Member FDIC

617-666-8600 | 1-800-444-4300 | winterhillbank.com

A Mutual Bank Serving the Community Since 1906.

Green & Yellow Cab
Serving Somerville & Surrounding Areas!

617-628-0600 617-625-5000

Logan reservations our specialty - Call 3 days in advance to book your trip.

OPEN 24-HOURS A DAY!

24 hour GPS automated dispatching system

We'll get you home safely. Please don't drink and drive.

T.J. SILLARI, INC. Over 50 Years Experience

Plumbing • Heating • Gas Fitting • Industrial Work • Water Heater Replacement • Complete Drain Service

Residential - Industrial - Commercial **625-9877**

Proud to be a Somerville resident Master Plmb. Lic. #6106



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.

Join the city's **Mobility Division** for a pop-up event: try out **Blue-Bikes** (e-bikes too), learn about current mobility projects in the city, and register for annual and income-eligible BlueBikes memberships. This event will be held on **Wednesday, June 26**, on the **Community Path** at Lowell St. from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For any questions, email transportation@somervillema.gov.

Join the **Somerville Police COHR Unit** and the **Somerville District Court Office of Probation** to learn more about initiatives to divert individuals from the **Criminal Justice System**. **Wednesday, June 26, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m., Public Safety Building, 220 Washington St.** Parking is available at the **Target Parking lot** at 180 Somerville Ave. Please contact COHR Director Patty Contente if you are interested in attending and need a parking placard, have any questions or need further information: 617-625-6600 ext. 7281.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: This week a lot of local celebrities are celebrating their birthdays. Happy birthday to our former mayor, **Joe Curtatone**. We hope he has a great birthday for himself. We wish **Devon Moos** of East Somerville a very happy birthday. Happy Birthday to our friend, **Len Ferrari**, of **Century 21 North East**, who is also celebrating this week. We wish him the best. Happy birthday, Lenny. Also this week, happy birthday to **Andy Puglia**. We wish Andy a very happy birthday. We wish all our Facebook friends, such as **Diane Dee-Dee** *Continued on page 7*

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of June 26 – July 3 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
Wednesday June 26	Partly Cloudy	92°/64°	12%	9%	SW 14 mph
Thursday June 27	Partly Cloudy	82°/56°	22%	17%	W 12 mph
Friday June 28	Sunny	77°/60°	1%	1%	N 10 mph
Saturday June 29	Cloudy	76°/70°	22%	16%	S 14 mph
Sunday July 1	Thunderstorms	84°/63°	63%	48%	S 14 mph
Monday July 2	Partly Cloudy	76°/58°	8%	5%	N 13 mph
Tuesday July 3	Sunny	79°/60°	3%	1%	SSW 11 mph

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

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: **New agreement for Fire Alarm Unit union announced**

Dennis Fischman says:

This is good news, but what about the rest of the City workers?

Response to: **Somerville City Council special meeting – June 20, 2024**

John Wich says:

great

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times

news@thesomervilletimes.com

www.thesomervilletimes.com

Phone: 857-488-5138



@somervilletimes



www.facebook.com/thesomervilletimes

Publisher – Somerset Valley Publishing Inc.

Editor – Jim Clark

Assignment Editor – Bobbie Toner

Advertising Director – Bobbie Toner

Arts Editor – Doug Holder

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

Contributors: Jimmy Del Ponte, Dorothy Dimarzo,

Joe Creason, Bob Doherty, Ross Blouin

Photographer: Claudia Ferro

The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

A proud member of the following newspaper organizations:



© 2024 The Somerville Times except where noted. All rights reserved.

Community Outreach, Help and Recovery: Forum on Jail Diversion Initiatives

Please join Somerville Police COHR Unit and the Somerville District Court Office of Probation to learn more about initiatives to divert individuals from the Criminal Justice System. **Wednesday June 26, 2024, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. Public Safety Building, 220 Washington St.**

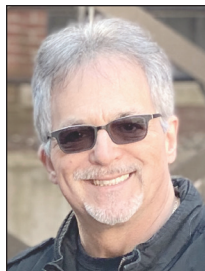
Dinner will be provided.

Parking is available at the Target Parking lot at 180 Somerville Ave. Please place attached placard on your dash. If you have any questions or need further information please feel free to contact Patty Contente at 617-625-6600 ext. 7281.



Life in the  by Jimmy Del Ponte

July 4th



The annual fireworks display will probably be the highlight of my July 4th weekend. I may pop up to Old Orchard Beach for a day trip. When the kids were younger, we would always spend July 4th weekend there. What are our Somerville neighbor's plans? Each set of quotes is a new person's remarks.

"Simple. Cookout with family and watch the fireworks."
 "Canobie Lake fireworks with the grandkids." (I love Canobie Lake)
 "77th Birthday. Oh my!!!!" (happy birthday)
 "We are going to have a picnic at Pow-

derhouse Park."
 "We will watch the fireworks from atop Prospect Hill Park."
 "Longest continuous 4th of July celebration in my town of Bristol, RI! The works!"
 "We are having a big cookout. Trying out my new smoker."
 "Some of my friends are going into Boston to hear that concert and watch the fireworks. Another friend will be on his boat on the Charles."
 For a few years we had a camper in New Hampshire until my boys became too busy to go there. This year I'll be sure to have plenty of hot dogs on hand. Of course, I'll watch the Nathan's Hot Dog eating contest.
 If I recall, July 4th was the day the city passed out Hoidsies at the playgrounds. Happy Fourth!



Somerville Community Corporation secures state grants to boost affordable housing initiatives

The Somerville Community Corporation (SCC) is thrilled to announce that several of its affordable housing projects have received significant funding from the Affordable Housing Development Grant Awards, recently announced by Governor Maura Healey. This vital financial support is part of a larger effort to increase affordable housing availability across Massachusetts.

The SCC projects that will benefit from these grants include:

1. 299 Broadway, Winter Hill – This project will transform the long-closed Star Market into 115 all-affordable family homes, with 16 units designated as deeply affordable.
2. Bow Linden Project, Ward 2 – This initiative will create 60 all-affordable homes across several structures, with 18 units categorized as deeply affordable.
3. Clarendon Hill Reconstruction, Phase II – This phase will upgrade 216 affordable homes, adding 80 moderate-income units and 295 market-rate units. The state's contribution will fund 92 all-affordable homes, including at least a dozen deeply affordable units.

"We are so grateful for the state's and Governor Healey's support, which will allow us to continue our work addressing the critical housing needs of our community. We also thank Mayor Katjana Ballantyne for always championing SCC's initiatives," said SCC CEO Gonzalo Puigbo.

The funding is part of a \$227 million package of state and federal tax credits and subsidies aimed at building or preserving 1,874 rental units across 23 cities in Massachusetts. SCC's projects are set to make a substantial impact in the local community by providing much-needed affordable housing options and revitalizing neighborhoods.

For more information, please visit www.somervillecommunitycorp.org or contact Elizabeth Devane at edevane@somervillecdc.org.



Are You Sitting On A Fortune?

Call Our Team at CRG To See What Your Home Is Worth.

617-764-4342

699 Broadway Ave, Somerville, MA 02144



For sale



1988 Corvette convertible. White, 24,743 miles. Runs great. \$12,500. 617-594-3539

Somerville Police Dept Crime Log 6/12 – 6/17

Residential Breaking and Entering

24034985: On 6/13/24 at approximately 2:43 p.m., Somerville Police responded to an apartment complex on Innerbelt Rd. for a past breaking and entering. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the reporting party who stated someone gained access to the mechanical room and was living there. Nothing was reported missing.

Assault

24035032: On 6/13/24 at approximately 7:39 p.m., Somerville Police responded to Cypress St. for report of a past assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with a juvenile victim who stated earlier in the day, she was attacked by another juvenile. The victim suffered minor injuries.

Assault

24034731: On 6/12/24 at approximately 5:26 p.m., Somerville Police responded to Sewall St. for an assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated she was sitting outside her residence and was approached by a female who began yelling at her. The female suspect then pushed a shopping cart into the victim.

Assault

24035314: On 6/14/24 at approximately 6:07 p.m., Somerville Police responded to Walnut St. for an assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated she was at Leathers Park and was approached by a female party. As the victim began walking away, the suspect and a group of females began punching the victim repeatedly.

Other Crimes: 5 MV thefts + 2 Vandalisms + 3 MV vandalisms + 3 Car breaks

— Somerville Police Department



Freedom Day: Flag-Raising Juneteenth Jubilee CONT. FROM PG 1

beginning of a long and ongoing journey towards equality," said Somerville Mayor Katjana Ballantyne.

While President Joe Biden signed the bill into law making Juneteenth the 12th federal holiday back on June 18, 2021, the history goes all the way back to June 19, 1865, when the Civil War ended, which actually makes this the 159th Juneteenth Jubilee.

"It is a celebration of justice and freedom, a solemn remembrance of the horrors of slavery and a poignant reminder of the arduous struggle African Americans have endured," Mayor Ballantyne said.

The red, white and blue flag with a bursting star in the middle of the banner is a powerful symbol of freedom for African Americans, and anyone who has been enslaved.

"We must continue to work to build an inclusive and just Somerville," Mayor Ballantyne added. "This means addressing systematic inequalities that persist in our institutions."

The jubilee began with African drummers Akil Haynes and Joh Camara from The Art of Black Dance & Music organization playing hand drums, which symbolize the freedom that was once lost and the struggle to regain it over time.

"My hope is that the June-

teenth flag, waiving above City Hall, serves as a catalyst that renews our dedication to the ongoing journey toward a fairer and more inclusive world," Mayor Ballantyne said.

Following remarks from Mayor Ballantyne, Somerville City Councilor At-Large Willie Burnley Jr said: "These days are meant to remind us...that none of us are free until we all are free."

Halfway through the ceremony the flag was hoisted by Racial and Social Justice youth league member Marcus Odilon, while the Black National Anthem: Lift Every Voice and Sing, played aloud. Attendees sang along from the lyrics on the backside of the program of events.

"The ceremony recognizing Juneteenth that we gathered here for today as well as the celebrations around the country signify a purposeful effort to bring awareness to the impact of long-lasting racism in America," Odilon said.

The flag flies proudly above City Hall, symbolizing the City's commitment to confronting the past and acknowledging the injustices that have shaped America's history and continue to affect the present.

The first step to improving the future, Odilon added, is to realize what flaws exist.

Marica Narh-Botchway, another racial and social justice



youth league member, spoke after the flag had been hoisted.

"Juneteenth is part of the start of recognizing and acknowledging the celebration of the African American people's sacrifices, culture and freedom from bondage," Narh-Botchway said.

Founder of Art of Black Dance and Music, Inc. De Ama Battle has sought to unify people of African American descent through the study of African-rooted dance, music and folklore to highlight cultural similarities within the African diaspora.

"We have chosen the arts as an educational tool to reach our children and their families,"

Battle said. "Through the art of black dance and music we have been able to explain how the differences are yet commonalities in us as people."

The event ended with another drumming performance.

"The drum is the language that will incorporate, or at least dictate the movement," Battle said.

Many thanks to Coordinator Amanda Nagim-Williams, Project Specialist Elijah Booker, Commissions Coordinator Latoya Saulters and Public Information Officer Brooks Haakon from The Department of Racial and Social Justice.

"It was an honor to again com-

memorate Juneteenth with the Somerville community this past week." shared Amanda Nagim-Williams, RSJ Coordinator. "It was a special opportunity to gather as one to commemorate the history and celebrate the triumph of Black Americans. I want to especially thank the folks who presented at the Juneteenth flag raising including Somerville Mayor Ballantyne, Councilor At-Large Willie Burnley, RSJ Youth League members Marcia Narh-Botchway and Marcus Odilon, and DeAma Battle, Akil Haynes, and Joh Camara from Somerville's very own Art of Black Dance and Music."

Fourth of July Community Fireworks Celebration

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne is inviting Somerville to kick off their Fourth of July festivities by joining Somerville's annual Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration at Trum Field (541 Broadway) on Thursday, June 27 (rain date Friday, June 28).

The celebration begins at 6:00 p.m. and will include food by Italian Wizard and Dos Manos Kitchen along with music by DJ Philip Tan and funk band Search Party. Somerville High School graduate Britney Flores will sing the Star-Spangled Banner to lead into the fireworks countdown by Mayor Ballantyne. Fireworks will begin at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Public Safety and Street Closures

As the city prepares for this event, streets will be closed at the following times:

Franey Rd. from Cedar St. to Charles Ryan Rd., will be closed from 3:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Broadway from Maguon Sq. to Ball Sq. will be closed from 4:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Cedar St. from Morrison Avenue to Broadway will be closed from 4:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

From 4:30 to 6 p.m., residents have access to Cedar St and Charles Ryan Rd. No access to Franey Rd.

The following parking restrictions will be in effect for this event:

- No parking around Trum Field
- Charles Ryan Road, from Cedar St to Broadway, 12:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. (eastbound side).
- Broadway, from Medford St to Boston Ave, 4 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. (westbound side).
- Cedar Street, from Morrison Ave to Broadway, 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. (both sides).
- MBTA Buses 80 & 89 rerouted from 5 p.m. to 12 a.m. See www.mbta.com for full detour information.

Due to the large crowds and loud noise associated with the fireworks celebration, the city recommends that attendees leave pets at home and not bring unnecessary bags or backpacks. All bags and backpacks are subject to inspection.

For more information on the Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration, please call 311 (617-666-3311 outside Somerville), or visit somervillema.gov. For information about events, go to somervilleartscouncil.org/somerstreets or contact Iaritz Menjivar, Events Coordinator, at (617) 625-6600 ext. 2998 or imenjivar@somervillema.gov.



Mural unveiled CONT. FROM PG 1

including PangeaSeed's Sea Walls festival in East Boston (2020 and 2021), Beyond Walls in Lynn, and Worcester Walls.

Tuttle's mural at Somernova, located on the exterior of Form Energy's 45,000 SF R&D space, depicts several species threatened by energy extraction including bees, puffins, and the ram's head lady's slipper. Tuttle also included species local and native to Massachusetts in her work, such as the sweat bee. The mural's hexagonal pattern, inspired by Greentown Labs' logo and Form's battery technology, represents the essential role Somernova's tenants play in fighting the harmful ecological effects of energy extraction and in advancing clean energy technology. The mural's color gradient, which moves from dark to light, symbolizes how climate tech innovators at Somernova are paving the way for a brighter and more resilient future.

Since its inception, Somernova has cultivated a collaborative arts ecosystem that uplifts local artists and inspires creativity. Somernova has commissioned numerous

art installations throughout the campus including Hope Shadows by Katherine Chin, which was born out of a collaboration among Somernova, the Somerville Arts Council and Call to Arts, and served as a visual reminder of Somerville's hope and resilience amid the pandemic.

Other installations on campus include 650-pound, life-size Dyanna T368, an Asrobot designed and built by Somerville-based sculptor Skunkdelia. Dyanna was created in 2019 through the welding of repurposed steel and old machine parts, yielding a heroic yet endearing female figure that represents Somernova's spirit and culture of fearless innovation. Junglenova, a mural installation by Badway Creative at Somernova, is designed to evoke a sense of an urban sanctuary on campus.

"Somernova is a place for people to push the boundaries of what is possible," said Kristin Phelan, Vice President of Real Estate Development for Rafi Properties, Owner and Operator



of Somernova. "The confluence of art and climate technology creates a powerful dialogue, where the beauty of creative expression meets the urgency of scientific innovation, inspiring collective action and fostering a deeper understanding of our planet's fragility and resilience. Sophy's mural is an inspirational addition to campus life at Somernova."

"As an artist, my work aims to bridge the gap between complex scientific topics and the general public," Tuttle said. "My new mural at Somernova highlights the connectivity between our local

ecosystems and the role of innovative, clean technologies that aid in the preservation of biodiversity. I am honored to have my art represent the critical work of leading climate tech and tough tech companies located at Somernova."

Sophy Tuttle is an English-born American muralist, painter, and installation artist. Her work celebrates nature, reconsiders our position in the web of life, and creates new narratives that explore regenerative, resilient culture-building among all forms of life.

Sophy began painting murals

after a residency in Oaxaca, Mexico in 2013, where she learned from local activists and artists. Her indoor and outdoor murals can now be seen from Massachusetts to Colombia and she has participated in several mural festivals including Pangeaseed's Sea Walls Festival (2020 and 2021) and Worcester Walls (2016 and 2021). Often vibrant and dynamic, these murals are a way to begin conversations within the community about our relationship with nature and the ways in which we both conflict and collaborate with our fellow creatures every day.

Beacon Hill Roll Call



Volume 49 – Report No. 25 • June 17-21, 2024 • Copyright © 2024 Beacon Hill Roll Call. All Rights Reserved. By Bob Katzen

Beacon Hill Roll Call can also be viewed on our website at www.thesomervilletimes.com

THE HOUSE AND SENATE: *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records local representatives' and senators' votes on roll calls from the week of June 17-21.

MATERNAL HEALTH (H 4773)

House 153-0, approved and sent to the Senate a maternal health bill that would require certified professional midwives and lactation consultants to be licensed; encourage the creation of more freestanding birth centers; expand access to postpartum depression screenings; and raise awareness of pregnancy loss and perinatal mood and anxiety disorders.

"Today, I feel proud to stand with my colleagues in recognition of the autonomy of all birthing people to make important decisions about where they give birth – whether in a hospital, at home or in a birthing center – and ensure that all parents feel strong, empowered and in charge of their health at such a formative time in their lives," said Rep. Kay Khan (D-Newton), a sponsor of the bill. "In passing this historic maternal health package, we have further elevated the midwifery model of care and moved mountains toward addressing the needs of all birthing people in the commonwealth, regardless of their race, ethnicity or socioeconomic status."

"Today we are making a commitment to ensuring that every mother receives the care and support they need before, during and after childbirth," said Rep. Pat Haddad (D-Somerset), a sponsor of the bill. "We are taking steps to eliminate the causes of infant mortality and improving maternal health outcomes of pregnancies for all birthing persons. This legislation tackles the root causes of maternal deaths and delivery complications."

"[The bill] is a significant legislative step in addressing perinatal mood disorders in Massachusetts," said Rep. Jim O'Day (D-West Boylston). "This bill provides crucial support for new parents by improving access to comprehensive mental health care during the perinatal period. By focusing on early detection and intervention, we can ensure better health outcomes for both parents and their babies. This legislation is vital for fostering healthier families and communities, particularly for those most vulnerable to perinatal mood disorders."

"This legislation, which is the fourth significant health care bill that the House has passed this session, is the latest example of our ironclad commitment to increasing access to quality, affordable health care for all residents of Massachusetts," said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy). "While the commonwealth's health care system is amongst the best in the world, inequities in maternal health remain prevalent, and certain aspects

of care are woefully insufficient. That's why the reforms included in this legislation are so important, as they will help to close racial inequities and improve maternal health care statewide."

(A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Erika Uytendaele	Yes

BAN SINGLE-USE PLASTIC BAGS AND MORE (S 2830)

Senate 38-2, approved a bill that would ban single-use plastic bags; make straws and plastic utensils available by request only; require stores to charge 10 cents for recycled paper bags with 5 cents retained by the retailer and 5 cents used to fund environmental protection measures; make it easier to recycle; create a statewide program for recycling large plastic objects including car seats; prohibit single-use plastic bottle purchases by state agencies; require do-not-flush labeling for non-flushable wipes made of plastic; and implement statewide composting.

"From microplastics in our blood to plastic bags in our waterways to greenhouse gases in our air, plastics pollute and harm our people and planet," said Sen. Becca Rausch (D-Needham), Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Environment. "The Plastics Reduction Act will prevent billions of single-use plastic bags, bottles, cutlery and wipes from clogging up our environment, pipes and landfills each year. This is a major win for our climate, our wildlife and our health."

"Nothing we use for just a few minutes should pollute the environment for decades," said Janet Domenitz, Executive Director of MASSPIRG. "Getting rid of single use plastic bags, food ware and more will reduce plastic waste, cut down on litter and make a cleaner, greener future for everyone."

"In Massachusetts, we take pride in being a leader when it comes to protecting our environment and people's health, and this bill continues that leadership," said Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland). "Limiting our plastics use means less trash in our waterways and on our streets, and giving our kids the green, clean planet they deserve to inherit. This is a crucial part of achieving the commonwealth's climate goals."

"It's burdensome on small businesses and creates increased cost at the grocery store and everyday living for consumers by having to pay an additional tax on paper bags and reusable bags," said Sen. Ryan Fatman (R-Sutton), one of two

senators who voted against the bill. "It also has no chance of passing through the Legislature because it's unrealistic and out of touch."

"I think it's important to understand that when we talk about the pollution that occurs throughout the world, that we understand where this comes from," said Sen. Peter Durant (R-Spencer), the other senator who voted against the bill. "Over 70 percent of all plastic pollution in the world today comes from Asia. The United States accounts for approximately 4 percent of the pollution, which is too much, I can give you that. I oppose this bill because the question becomes, what is the cost to benefit ratio that we're talking about here? To what end do we want to cause businesses to cause families in Massachusetts, to expend more for a diminishing return?"

Durant continued, "This is going to cost the consumers of Massachusetts more, in a state that already has an incredible cost of living and in a state where we're trying to make it more affordable to be here. I think this is something that ends up being a little bit too much, too much for us to bear."

(A "Yes" vote is for the bill. A "No" vote is against it.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes
----------------------	-----

MAKE PAPER BAG FEE OPTIONAL (S 2830)

Senate 8-30, rejected an amendment that would make the up to 10 cent fee for paper bags optional for retailers to charge. The amendment would replace a section of the bill that requires stores to charge 10 cents for recycled paper bags with 5 cents retained by the retailer and 5 cents used to fund environmental protection measures.

Sen. Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton) said he "voted in favor of [the] amendment because it helps consumers and small business owners save money at a time when inflation is causing hardships for families and businesses alike."

"I voted yes ... because we have spent almost four years fighting inflation," said Sen. Mike Moore (D-Millbury). "Just when prices are starting to stabilize, why would we impose a mandated cost increase on retail products? I believe we should leave it up to the retailer to decide if it makes sense to impose a fee on carryout paper bags."

"A nominal paper bag fee that business owners can customize will incentivize customers to bring reusable bags and advances the bill's waste reduction goals," said Sen. Becca Rausch (D-Needham) who opposed the amendment. "This fee is optional for small businesses, building in flexibility for business owners who need it most." *Continued on page 16*

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Somerville celebrates the 4th of July!

Our View Of The Times



The Fourth of July holds a special significance in the hearts of truly patriotic Americans. Not only is it a time to celebrate the birth of our nation, but it also happens to fall at the best time of year to make good times happen, summer.

Who among us doesn't enjoy the occasion? Who can resist the warm glow of good fellowship between friends, neighbors and families as the "birthday" of our

nation comes around?

Great memories for the future are made each year as we attend a patriotic gathering, watch some fireworks, or just take a quiet look around and realize that America is still the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave. There's nothing corny about these ideas. They are concepts that live and breathe as vitally today as they ever have.

For whatever exists momentarily that may divide us, there are important times like these when we can unite together in the spirit of true patriotism and national pride to celebrate the great gift of being Americans, and commemorate the sacrifices of our forebears in bringing this nation to life. We owe it to their memories to take the time to pause and reflect on what their efforts mean to us today.

Enjoy the day and remember what it stands for. That's the most important thing of all.

So take the family out this Thursday, June 27, for the annual Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration at Trum Field. The entertainment begins at 6:30 p.m. and the spectacular fireworks display follows. Make some patriotic memories with your loved ones this year.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Smith, Mark Anthony Anderson, Dave Bertocchi, Peter Tsairidie, Leslie Phelan, Kristina Ann, John Correia and Suzan Baltozer 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

Join Somerville's annual **Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration** at **Trum Field** (541 Broadway) on **Thursday, June 27** (rain date Friday, June 28). The celebration begins at 6:00 p.m. and will include food by **Italian Wizard** and **Dos Manos Kitchen** along with music by DJ **Philip Tan** and funk band **Search Party**.

Somerville High School graduate Britney Flores will sing the **Star-Spangled Banner** to lead into the fireworks countdown by **Mayor Ballantyne**. Fireworks will begin at approximately 9:00 p.m. For more information on the Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration, please call 311 (617-666-3311 outside Somerville), or visit somervillema.gov.

RSJ is partnering with the **Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS)**, **Bow Market**, and the **Somerville Museum** to host the annual reading of **Fredrick Douglass'** famous address, "What to the Slave is the Fourth of July?" The

reading and discussion will take place on **Thursday, June 27**, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. upstairs at **Bow Market** (1 Bow Mkt. Wy.). Doors open at 5:15 p.m. Interested community members are encouraged to RSVP online as space at the venue is limited. www.somervillemuseum.org.

Tersea Vincente, Administrative Assistant for the **City of Somerville**, is retiring this week after a long and distinguished career. Tersea has dedicated 30 years to the department and community. Wishing her the best for this exciting new phase of her life, she deserves it.

Bubble Blast: Kids park meet-up, **Sunday, June 28**, 4:30 – 5:00 p.m. Do you have a little kid who likes bubbles? Are you a kid at heart who also loves bubbles? BYOB (bring your own bubble blaster) to **Hodgkins Curtain Park**, 121 Holland St, as they try to make a billion bubbles. This informal family event will feature a giant bubble station, bubble machines, lots of bubble wands, and a sidewalk chalk station.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the **Somerville Arts Council** are inviting the community to **NibbleFest**, a celebration of **Nibble Kitchen's**

Continued on page 21

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#929

1. What 1980s girl band sang *Cruel Summer*?
2. Which artist had the hit *Summer of '69*?
3. What was the first public beach in the U.S.?
4. In what country is Pig Beach located?
5. When was the first beach ball invented?
6. What berry can be red, golden, or black?
7. What cheese is in a Greek salad?
8. What three flavors make up Neapolitan ice cream?
9. Which U.S. city hosts a UFO festival every year in July?
10. Where do people in England gather to celebrate the summer solstice?
11. When is National Ice Cream Day celebrated in the United States?
12. How many times has the U.S. hosted the Summer Olympics?

Answers on page 14

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. Stewardesses is the longest word typed with the left hand.
2. The "pound" key (#) is called an octotroph.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

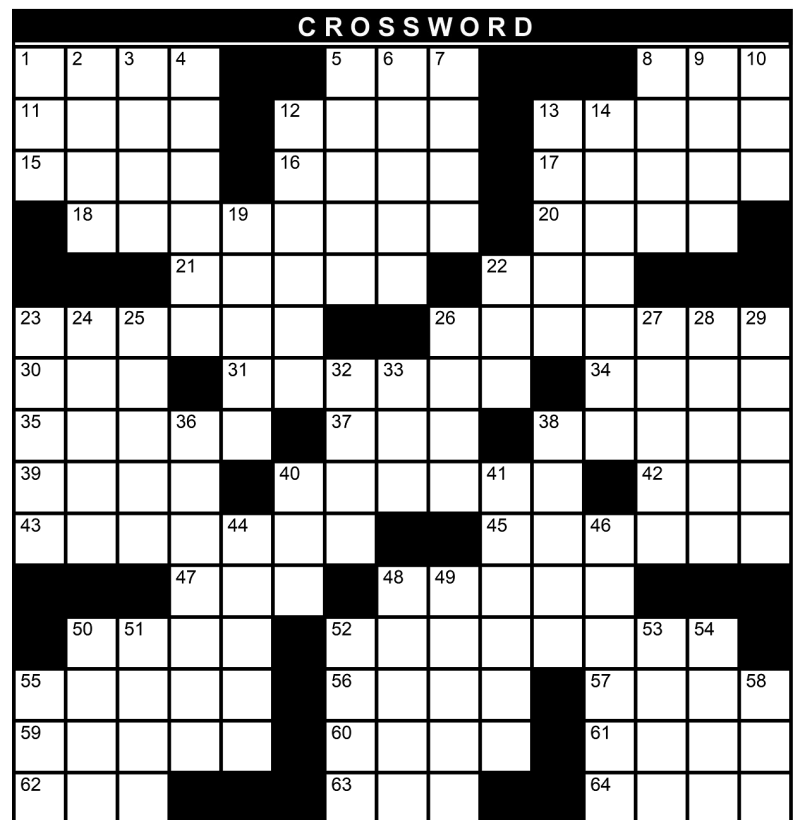
THINGS WITH WHEELS

ACROSS

1. Unfledged hawk
5. The ___ Gala, haute couture fundraiser
8. Ballet step
11. Sasquatch's cousin
12. Prefix in levorotary
13. DVD player button
15. What Tylenol and xylenol have in common
16. Seaport in Yemen
17. With ample space
18. *Rumpelstiltskin's ___ wheel
20. Viking writing symbol
21. Musical finales
22. In favor of
23. Source of tapioca
26. Smith, e.g.
30. "Stand and Deliver" singer
31. Live-in helper (2 words)
34. Et alii, abbr.
35. Nephew's sister
37. Tire depression
38. Turkey's southern neighbor
39. Same as ayah
40. Engage in a pursuit (2 words)
42. Bed-and-breakfast, e.g.
43. Tibetan Buddhism
45. Pinched
47. Sing like Public Enemy
48. Mother-of-pearl
50. Cripple
52. Wheel in Vegas
55. Chocolate substitute
56. Egg on
57. Capri or Catalina
59. Olden days violin maker
60. Croaks
61. "Run Away to Mars" singer
62. Jump key
63. Corncob
64. Gaelic

DOWN

1. London ____, tourist attraction
2. Hankerings
3. At the summit of
4. Glass ingredient



SWITCH & GET \$25

Off First Month of New Service!
USE PROMO CODE: **GZ590**

Consumer Cellular

CALL CONSUMER CELLULAR **888-804-0913**

© 2023 Consumer Cellular Inc. For promo details please call 888-804-0913

© StatePoint Media

Soultion to last week's crossword puzzle:



5. TV and radio
6. Not odds
7. Chinatown gang
8. Low-ranking worker
9. Pinnacle
10. Pig's digs
12. Royal procession carriage
13. E in baseball box score
14. "Wheel in the Sky" band
19. Star bursts
22. "___ Elise"
23. Suez or Panama
24. Carl Jung's inner self
25. Type of locomotive
26. Surfer's stop
27. Like anchor aweigh
28. Easternmost state
29. Serengeti grazer
32. Perambulator, for short
33. Black and white sea bird
36. Ancient Greek ride
38. Top of a steeple
40. Kitchen meas.
41. Reunion attendees
44. Poets' feet
46. Smaller size than small
48. a.k.a. water wheel
49. Hole-borer
50. Baby's first word?
51. Speedy steed
52. Boorish
53. Russian autocrat
54. 90-degree pipes, e.g.
55. "Peace Train" singer-songwriter
58. Increase

Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

'River' – The humblest corner

By Mina Rose Morales

Dave Ortega's sequel, *River*, continues the narrative from *Días de Consuelo*. Ortega narrates his family's semi-autobiographical immigration story in *River*, which is set in the region where Texas, New Mexico, and Mexico converge in the United States.

"Can you imagine Mijo? Three places meeting in one spot like that," Consuelo comments.

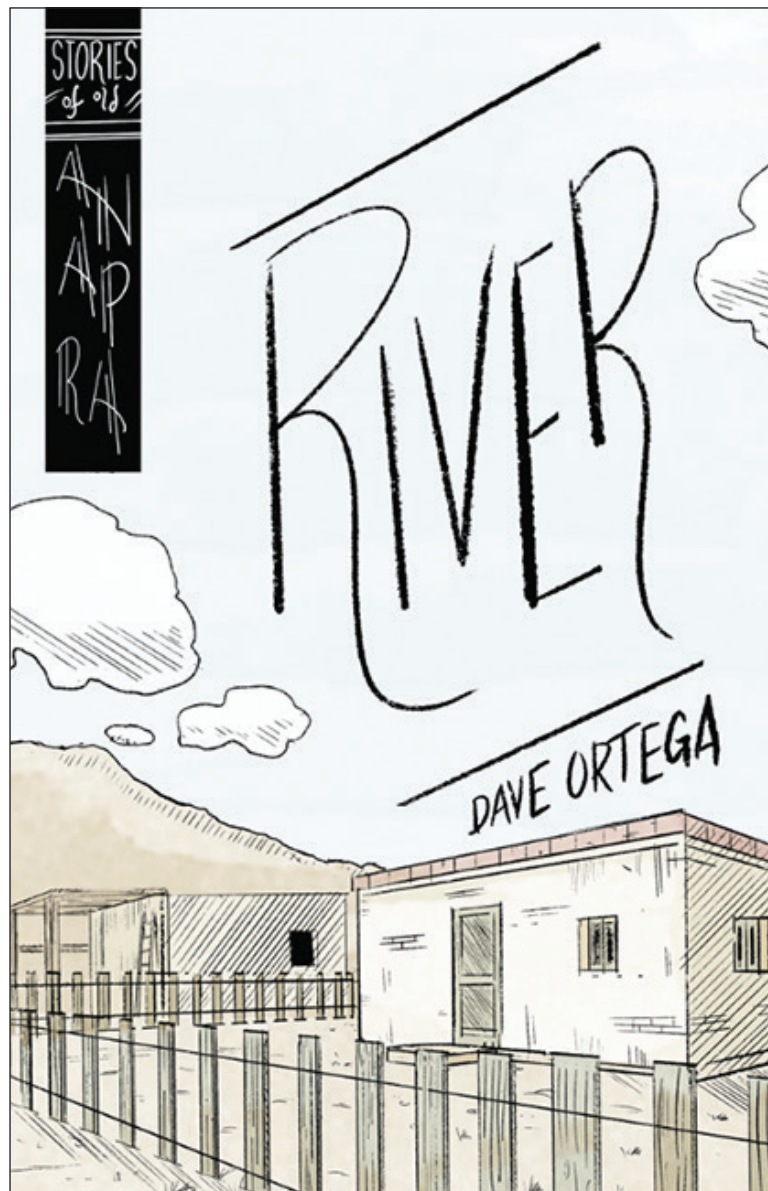
His short comic features black and white drawings depicting life across the border. These images vividly portray his great-grandfather's hardened exterior, their encounters with border patrol, struggles with prohibition, and other challenges, thereby revealing the intricate complexities of their family's immigration journey in the United States.

Shortly after introducing the setting in *River*, the first major conflict unfolds. A man who appeared to have been shot dead is found lying on the family's yard. Consuelo's father, already callous due to life as an immigrant, is enraged at this incident.

"We escape the butchery of wars in Mexico only to have this poor soul killed on our doorstep?! Madness!" shouted Pedro.

A close-up sketch of the man is shown revealing his boots tied tightly to his legs. Consuelo's mother, Evarista, explains the reasoning behind this: He tied them tightly so they wouldn't get wet while he crossed the river.

"Do you know what we had to



Dave Ortega's follow-up to "Días de Consuelo" is "River".

go through to live here in peace?!" asked Pedro.

The Border Patrol responded, "Señor, we have the authority..."

The river and the bridge play a significant role in the comic. They connect the setting of the story where Texas, New Mexico, and Mexico meet. It was a route for smuggling liquor during prohibition, a path where Ortega's grandmother walked to her job,

and the crossing point for Consuelo and her husband Marcelo's wedding party under moonlit skies. This place represents an unknown journey that somehow feels like home.

Capturing the essence of a place where cultures merge and stories unfold against the backdrop of shared histories and struggles, Ortega describes it as the humblest corner of the city.

OBITUARY

Louise A. Re

Louise A. Re, 89, formerly of Somerville, passed away June 14, 2024. She is survived by

her brother, Richard (Joanne) in Hampton, VA. Services will be private in Virginia.

To read the entire obituary, please go to www.berceusefuneralhome.com.

Want to write local Somerville stories?
Call 857-488-5138
and speak to the Assignment Editor

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #307

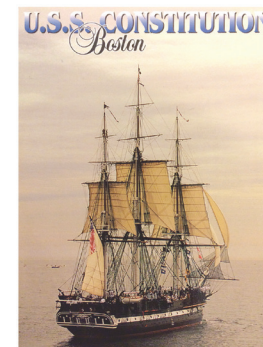
Our Memorable Fourth

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Somerville was part of Charlestown and her history until 1842. The most accurate account in early writings places the arrival of English Captain Thomas Graves, a Charlestown engineer and street planner, as the date of Charlestown's founding. Older than Boston, she was born on the fourth of July, 1629.



Two years later, on July 4, 1631, Governor John Winthrop launched the first ship built in Massachusetts into the Mystic River. He christened her "The Blessing of the Bay." This ship enabled settlers to trade with far-off colonies, sailing as far south as Virginia to acquire goods. She was also the first ship that was armed to fight pirates and to protect other merchant ships who followed her. Thus, she became the first Coast Guard vessel and the progenitor of the United States Navy. Who knew the day of the launching at Ten Hills and the derivation of Somerville from Charlestown would be so significant in American history.



Independence Day or our Fourth of July commemorates the adoption of America's Declaration of Independence in 1776 which proclaimed the original colonies to be free from British rule. The first state to officially celebrate it as a holiday was Massachusetts in 1781. America's second President,

John Adams, and its third President, Thomas Jefferson, both died on July 4, 1826. Five years later in 1831, our fifth President, James Monroe, died on July 4th. Massachusetts Governor and America's thirtieth President, Calvin Coolidge, was born on the fourth of July, 1872, the year Somerville became a city.

Continued on page 11

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
KATJANA BALLANTYNE
MAYOR**

THOMAS F. GALLIGANI, JR.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a public meeting and public hearings on **Tuesday, July 16, 2024** 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 2 of the Acts of 2023, 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://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/WN_fzN5AM2mTqHIS5XOK2QA

Webinar ID: 839 3156 4747

TO CALL IN

An attendee must register for the meeting online in order for a call-in number to be emailed to them by Zoom.

ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT

Alterations to Local Historic District (LHD) Properties

HP24-000020 - 76 Highland Avenue

Applicant: Li Liu

Owner: Same as Applicant

The Applicant seeks a Certificate of Appropriateness to alter an LHD property by removing the rear chimney.

HP24-000049- 33 Bow Street

Applicant: Joy Street Design, Inc

Owner: The Somerville Community Corporation, Inc

The Applicant seeks a Certificate of Appropriateness to alter an LHD property by replacing windows and doors.

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

HP24-000045 - 33 Vinal Avenue

Applicant: Niranjan Gawli

Owner: Thomas E. McAllister

The Applicant seeks to demolish a building that is at least 75 years of age.

HP24-000047- 60 Bonair Street

Applicant: LaCourt Holdings LLC

Owner: Mouhab Rizkallah

The Applicant seeks to demolish a building constructed a minimum of 75 years ago.

Case documents reviewed by the HPC are available on the City website at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/historic-preservation/hpc-cases>.

Cases may be continued to a later date; please check the agenda (posted 48 hours in advance of the meeting) on the City website or email historic@somervillema.gov to inquire if specific cases will be heard.

Continued cases will not be re-advertised. **Note:** Written comments due to historic@somervillema.gov **NO LATER THAN NOON** one week prior to the meeting date. Email historic@somervillema.gov with inquiries.

6/26/24 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
KATJANA BALLANTYNE
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, July 9th, 2024 at 6:30 pm**. Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this hearing will be conducted via remote participation.

REGISTER ONLINE

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_EW0gntKNR1aEDrCB7gPiVw

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

- 15 registered voters requesting a Zoning Map Amendment to include 8 Park Street, 10 Park Street, 504 Somerville Avenue, 7-9 Properzi Way, 15-27 Properzi Way, 29 Properzi Way, 26-32 Park \ Street, 8-14 Tyler Street, 40 Park Street, 15 Dane Street, 7-9 Tyler Street, 30 Dane Street, 24-28 Dane Street, 460 Somerville Avenue, 444 Somerville Avenue, 440 Somerville Avenue, and 502 Somerville Avenue in the Somernova Innovation Sub-Area.
- 14 registered voters requesting a Zoning Text Amendment to amend the Zoning Ordinances to add section 8.4.19, Somernova Innovation Sub-Area.
- 14 registered voters requesting a Zoning Map Amendment to change the zoning district of 228, 230, 232, 234, 236 Pearl Street from Mid-Rise 4 (MR4) to Mid-Rise 6 (MR6).
- 14 registered voters requesting a Zoning Map Amendment to change the zoning district of 136 School Street from Urban Residence (UR) to Mid-Rise 6 (MR6), 95 Highland Avenue from Neighborhood Residence (NR) to MR6, and 97, 99-99A, 101-103, and 107 Highland Avenue from Mid-Rise 5 (MR5) to MR6.
- Mo Rizkallah requesting a Zoning Map Amendment to change the zoning district of 5 Homer Square from Neighborhood Residence (NR) to Urban Residence (UR).
- Requesting ordainment of an amendment to the Somerville Zoning Ordinance to add Section 8.5 Interim Planning Overlay District (IPOD) and the Brickbottom sub-area.

Zoning amendments may be viewed online by searching the Somerville City Council's online meeting calendar for the address or item number: <https://somervillema.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

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 the Planning Board and the City Council at publiccomments@somervillema.gov. Comments must be received no later than 12 Noon the day of the Hearing to ensure they are conveyed to the Committee for inclusion with the hearing testimony. The Chair(s) may opt to extend the period for written comments, in which case additional comments will be accepted until the date indicated. This information can be found in the minutes of the meeting.

6/19/24, 6/26/24 The Somerville Times

Public Notice

Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection--Bureau of Resource Protection

Division of Wetlands and Waterways

Northeast Regional Office

978-694-3200

Pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 and M.G.L. c. 21 §§ 26-53, notice is given of a 401 Water Quality Certification application for the replacement of anodes along the J-1 Pipeline System in the Mystic River near 400 Mystic Ave. in Somerville, MA. The proposed work will be done underwater by divers, to provide cathodic protection for the existing gas pipeline. Minor cable repair work will be done at an existing pole drop near Arthur D. Healey School. The work will be conducted by Algonquin Gas Transmission, L.L.C., 890 Winter Street, Suite 320, Waltham, MA 02451. Written comments should be sent to MassDEP Northeast Regional Office: 150 Presidential Way, Woburn, MA 01801 within 21 days of this notice.

Any group of ten persons, any aggrieved person, or any governmental body or private organization with a mandate to protect the environment who submits written comments may appeal the Department's Certification Failure to submit written comments before the end of the public comment period may result in the waiver of any right to an adjudicatory hearing.

6/26/24 The Somerville Times



LEGAL NOTICE

**City of Somerville
Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning
and Community Development (OSPCD)
Office of Housing Stability (OHS)**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – RFP #Tenant OEO-FY25

The City of Somerville, Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) invites sealed proposals to provide Outreach, Education, and Organizing services to Somerville tenants.

The Request for Proposal (RFP) package for bidders seeking to receive grant funding to provide said Tenant OEO services will be posted and available for download on the City of Somerville website beginning at **8:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at**

www.somervilleMA.gov/OHS/Tenant-OEO-FY25-RFP/
Print copies are available upon request to Ellen Shachter
eshachter@somervillema.gov.

Interested parties should email Ellen Shachter eshachter@somervillema.gov and Fred Berman berman@somervillema.gov stating their **preliminary intent to submit a proposal and indicating any questions they might have regarding this RFP using the subject line, "Intent to Submit – Tenant OEO."** Responses to such questions will be shared with all organizations that have submitted an email indicating such preliminary intent to submit. **The deadline for stating preliminary intent / posing questions is Monday, July 8, 2024.**

Responses to submitted questions will be emailed by close of business on July 10, 2024.

To be considered for funding, proposers must submit an electronic PDF file containing the proposal package by email to eshachter@somervillema.gov and berman@somervillema.gov no later than **12 noon on Wednesday, July 17, 2024. Please use the subject line "Proposal in Response to Tenant OEO RFP"**

Thomas Galligani, Executive Director,
Somerville Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development
617- 625-6600 x2531, tgalligani@somervillema.gov

6/26/24 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PROCUREMENT & CONTRACTING SERVICES DEPARTMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
IFB # 24-75**

The City of Somerville, through the Procurement & Contract Services Department invites proposals for:

Lead Service Line Replacement Program – Phase 4

The IFB package may be obtained online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/procurement> or from the City of Somerville's BidExpress page at <http://www.somervillema.gov/BidExpress> on or after: **Wednesday, June 26, 2024**. Sealed responses will be received at the PCS Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 or via Bid Express until: **2:00 pm, Wednesday, July 25, 2024.**

The City of Somerville reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive any minor informality in the IFB process, and accept the proposal(s) deemed to be in the best interests of the City of Somerville.

Please contact Andrea Caruth at acaruth@somervillema.gov for more information.

Andrea Caruth
Deputy Chief Procurement Officer
617-625-6600 x3400

6/26/24 The Somerville Times

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

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

LEGAL NOTICES

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

LEGAL NOTICE OF A COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETING REGARDING A MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT PROPOSED BY CORE EMPOWERMENT, LLC

Notice is hereby given that a community outreach meeting for **CORE EMPOWERMENT, LLC** (d/b/a "Seed")'s proposed Marijuana Establishment is scheduled for **Monday, July 15, 2024, at 500 Medford Street, Somerville, MA 02145, at 6:00 p.m.** The proposed Marijuana Retailer is anticipated to be located at **500 Medford Street, Somerville, MA 02145** (the "Property"). Community Members and members of the public are encouraged to attend and will be permitted to ask questions and receive answers from representatives of Seed.

A copy of this notice is on file with the City of Somerville Clerk's Office, 93 Highland Ave, Somerville, Massachusetts 02143. A copy of this notice was published in a newspaper of general circulation at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the community outreach meeting and mailed at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the community outreach meeting to abutters of the Property, owners of land directly opposite the Property on any public or private street or way, and abutters to the abutters within three hundred (300) feet of the property line of the Property as they appear on the most recent applicable tax list, notwithstanding that the land of any such owner is located in another city or town.

6/26/24 The Somerville Times

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 9



The most historic and the longest in-service ship in our Navy is the 227-year-old

USS Constitution. Birthed in Charlestown, she was named by president George Washington after the document that proclaims our liberty and affirms our freedom -- America's Constitution. We celebrate the signing of this law of our land every July 4th.

Heroic Captain Richard Sommers, the namesake of Somerville, spent the last day of his life on the Constitution's deck. He died in action in 1804 attempting to destroy the enemy fleet during the Tripolitan War.

On July 4th, 1910, President William Howard Taft fulfilled an invitation from the City of Somerville to visit, to partake and to preside over its nation's birthday celebration. It was a phenomenal day for Somerville citizens to experience and to remember.

The most common symbol of America on July 4th is her flag that is raised from coast to coast while often illuminated by fireworks. The first time it was raised was in the presence of General George Washington at Somerville's Prospect Hill on New Years' Day in 1776.

SPD at Family Fun Day event

On Saturday, June 22, the Somerville Police Department Community Affairs Unit participated in the Somerville Park and Recreation Department's Family Fun Day. They had their Motorcycle and Side by Side for the kids to play on. Their new swag came in and they were able to give out some gear to their new friends. They also invite the community to join in on August 6 for the National Night Out.



Freedom Day: Flag-Raising Juneteenth Jubilee

CONT. FROM PG 4





Photos by Harry Kane



CLASSIFIEDS

Place your classified ad today – only \$1 per word! E-mail: ads@thesomervilletimes.com

AUTOS WANTED

CASH FOR CARS! We buy all cars! Junk, high-end, totaled-it doesn't matter! Get free towing and same day cash! NEWER MODELS too! Call 1-866-258-6720

FINANCIAL

WESLEY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free Consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 855-428-7954

FOR RENT

Apartment for rent: Somerville, 1 bedroom available 7/1/2024. W/W, EIK. \$1500./month. Call Jim, 617-429-0947

Warm Weather Is Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.

FOR SALE

YOU'LL WANT TO USE THIS TIMESHARE. Orange Lake, Florida. Near Disney. Weeks 8 & 9 (February) One floor living with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, full kitchen, laundry. Purchase both for \$19,000. Call 978.371.2442 or email carol@actionunlimited.com

HEALTH & FITNESS

VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! 50 Generic Pills SPECIAL \$99.00. 100% guaranteed. 24/7 CALL NOW! 888-445-5928 Hablamos Español

Dental insurance from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400+ procedures. Real dental insurance - not just a discount plan. Get your free Information Kit with details! 1-855-526-1060 www.dental50plus.com/ads#6258

Attention oxygen therapy users! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. Free info kit. Call 877-929-9587

HOME SERVICES

Ageing Roof? New Homeowner? Got Storm Damage? You need a local expert provider that proudly stands behind their work. Fast, free estimate. Financing available. Call 1-888-878-9091

Water damage cleanup & restoration: A small amount of water can lead to major damage and mold growth in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-888-872-2809

MISCELLANEOUS

4G LTE HOME INTERNET Now Available! Get GotW3 with lightning fast speeds plus take your service with you when you travel! As low as \$109.99/mo! 1-877-452-1183

CARING FOR AN AGING LOVED ONE? Wondering about options like senior-living communities and in-home care? Caring.com's Family Advisors are here to help take the guesswork out of senior care for you and your family. Call for your FREE, no-obligation consultation: 1-844-556-4158

DISH NETWORK \$59.99 for 190 Channels! Blazing Fast Internet, \$19.99/mo. (where available.) Switch & Get a FREE \$100. Visa Gift Card. FREE Voice Remote. FREE HD DVR. FREE Streaming on ALL Devices. Call today! 1-833-800-0411

DISH TV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some Restrictions Apply. Promo Expires 01/31/2024. 1-877-494-7039

ELIMINATE GUTTER CLEANING FOREVER! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 15% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-723-0883

FREE HIGH SPEED INTERNET for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping and handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-877-559-8698

HUGHESNET SATELLITE INTERNET Finally, no hard data limits! Call Today for speeds up to 25mbps as low as \$59.99/mo! \$75 gift card, terms apply. 1-877-459-1615

SAFE STEP North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower

package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe-Step 1-844-610-9711

SWITCH AND SAVE UP TO \$250/YEAR on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time offer: get 50% off on any new account. Use code GIFT50. For more information, call 1-866-926-5071

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase* Call 1-855-948-6176 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule free LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-833-610-1936

BATH & SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 months! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Senior & Military Discounts available. Call: 855-761-1725

Donate Your Car to Veterans Today! Help and Support our Veterans. Fast - FREE pick up. 100% tax deductible. Call 1-800-245-0398

HughesNet - Finally, super-fast internet no matter where you live. 25 Mbps just \$59.99/mo! Unlimited Data is Here. Stream Video. Bundle TV & Internet. Free Installation. Call 866-499-0141

Become a published author. We want to read your book! Dorrance Publishing trusted since 1920. Consultation, production, promotion & distribution. Call for free author's guide 1-877-729-4998 or visit dorranceinfo.com/ads

DISH TV \$64.99 For 190 Channels + \$14.95 High Speed Internet. Free Installation, Smart HD DVR Included, Free Voice Remote. Some restrictions apply. Promo Expires 12/31/24. 1-866-479-1516

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-in tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our free shower package & \$1600 off - limited time!

Financing available. 1-855-417-1306

MobileHelp, America's premier mobile medical alert system. Whether you're home or away. For safety & peace of mind. No long term contracts! Free brochure! 1-888-489-3936

Free high speed internet if qualified. Govt. pgm for recipients of select pgms incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB internet. Android tablet free w/one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping. Call Maxsip Telecom! 1-833-758-3892

Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt & fees cancelled in 2019. Get free info package & learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. 833-308-1971

Diagnosed with lung cancer & 65+? You may qualify for a substantial cash award. No obligation! We've recovered millions. Let us help! Call 24/7 1-877-707-5707

Replace your roof w/the best looking & longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! 3 styles & multiple colors available. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off install + Additional 10% off install (military, health &

1st responders.) 1-833-370-1234

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're cutting installation costs in half and offering a FREE safety upgrade! Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 3/31/24 Call 1-844-501-3208

Reader Advisory: The National Trade Association we belong to has purchased the above classifieds. Determining the value of their service or product is advised by this publication. In order to avoid misunderstandings, some advertisers do not offer employment but rather supply the readers with manuals, directories and other materials designed to help their clients establish mail order selling and other businesses at home. Under NO circumstance should you send any money in advance or give the client your checking, license ID, or credit card numbers. Also beware of ads that claim to guarantee loans regardless of credit and note that if a credit repair company does business only over the phone it is illegal to request any money before delivering its service. All funds are based in US dollars. Toll free numbers may or may not reach Canada.

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

From page 8

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Bananarama | 7. Feta cheese |
| 2. Bryan Adams | 8. Vanilla, chocolate, and strawberry |
| 3. XXX Revere Beach, Massachusetts | 9. Roswell, New Mexico |
| 4. Exuma, the Bahamas | 10. Stonehenge |
| 5. 1938, by Jonathon DeLonge | 11. The third Sunday in July |
| 6. Raspberry | 12. 4 |

COMMENTARY

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

Plastics!

By State Senator Pat Jehlen



On Thursday of last week, the Senate passed (38-2) an important comprehensive bill to reduce the use of single-use plastics. Hundreds of you, my constituents, have asked us to reduce the use of plastics.

(We were also planning to pass

a climate/energy bill, but Republicans tabled it. We went back Friday, and they tabled it again, so we'll pass it Tuesday, and then move on to the Housing Bond bill Thursday. Busy days at end of session!)

The Plastics Bill

S.2830, An Act to reduce plastic will prohibit carry-out plastic bags at retail stores and require stores to charge 10 cents for recycled paper bags, five cents of which will be allocated to environmental protection measures. There's a limited exemption from the 10-cent requirement for small local retailers. All the communities in our district already prohibit single-use ban plastic bags.

The bill will also prevent plastic utensils and straws from automatically being given to consumers, prohibit single-use plastic bottle purchases by state agencies, and create a statewide program for recycling large plastic objects such as car seats. Finally, the bill will require non-flushable wipes to be labeled "Do Not Flush" to avoid \$10 m year in costs to our sewer system.

The legislation now goes to the House for consideration.



Career Advice for The Graduate

In the 1967 movie The Graduate, Dustin Hoffman's character receives career advice: "I just want to say one word to you... Plastics. There's a great future in plastics." For sure plastics has been a growth industry.

Senator Rausch explains the plastics problems

Sen. Becca Rausch, chair of the Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources, said the harms of plastic begin with the fact that 99% of it is made from fossil fuels. "We produce... around 500 million tons [of plastic]

every year. Half of that is...single-use plastic." A plastic shopping bag is used for about half an hour, and in the ensuing centuries it goes to a landfill "where it degrades over hundreds of years releasing greenhouse gasses ...and breaking down into microplastics that infiltrate our bodies." Or it's "incinerated and turns instantly into toxins and greenhouse gasses." Between 5-9% is recycled, and plastic bags are more likely to jam the recycling machine than to be recycled.



Sen. Rausch displayed "Plastic Pete," a sculpture her children made from plastic waste.

She added, "Massachusetts uses more than 2 billion plastic bags a year ... or 10 million gallons of oil. We also throw away 3.4 billion plastic bottles every year ... We dispose of 2500 tons [of plastic waste] each and every day... A bag persists for 20 to 300 years. A straw or bottle takes centuries to break down, and for cutlery it's up to 1,000 years. This leads to microplastics, the little bits of plastic that stay in the soil and water and atmosphere and in humans, too."

Sen. Rausch cited a study from this year of "200 people undergoing heart surgery, and 60 percent had microplastics in a main artery. Those patients were 4.5 times more likely to experience a heart attack, stroke, or death in following months."



Sen. Jason Lewis and Turtles

Sen. Jason Lewis, who co-founded the Zero Waste Caucus with Rep. Michelle Ciccolo, added more data about the harms of plastics. He said that "by 2050 there will be more plastic in our oceans than fish. The so-called Great Pacific Garbage Patch, much of it plastic debris, covers

an area twice the size of Texas. Less than 10 percent of post-consumer plastic waste is actually recycled in reality."

He recalled that Senate President Karen Spilka visited the Vancouver aquarium and saw "a beautiful turtle, that had died. And when the turtle was opened up to see what caused the death, its stomach was stuffed full of plastic bags. It had been eating bags... because they look like jellyfish."



VEEP learns about power

There are so many cultural references to plastics! In the first episode of VEEP, Vice President Selina Meyer planned to speak about reducing plastic use when she replaced the president at a fundraiser. But the White House staff crossed out most of her speech. She concluded that "Plastics must have gotten to the president."



Song of the Month

Sing along Pete Seeger about plastic and other kinds of Garbage!: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BX14qe-HIVj4>

Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 6

(A "Yes" vote is for the amendment. A "No" vote is against it.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

REQUIRE REPORTING (S 2830)

Senate 4-35, rejected an amendment that would require the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to report annually to the House, the Senate and the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, on any increased rates of recycling that can be attributed to the provisions of the new plastics law.

"Creating a reporting system for the progress of this bill would give us an opportunity to evaluate the efficacy of the legislation over time," said Sen. Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton) who voted for the amendment. "Reporting this data serves as a metric to tell us if this bill has done what it was purported to do. These are reasons why I voted in favor of this amendment."

"The DEP already publishes an extensive report on waste management," said Sen. Becca Rausch (D-Needham), who voted against the amendment. "They diligently produce annual reports, including a Recycling Market Development Action Plan. These reports are publicly available on the DEP website."

(A "Yes" vote is for the amendment. A "No" vote is against it.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

REVENGE PORN AND TEEN SEXTING (H 4744)

- Gov. Maura Healey signed into law a bill that would prohibit the posting of sexually explicit images of another person online without their permission—commonly referred to as "revenge porn." The practice is often used by ex-spouses or ex-partners. The measure was recently unanimously approved by the House and Senate.

Massachusetts was one of only two states that did not have a law about this crime. The measure establishes a sentence of up to 2.5 years in prison and/or a fine of up to \$10,000; increases the upper limit of the fine for criminal harassment from \$1,000 to \$5,000; allows a victim to petition the court for a harassment prevention order against a person who has violated this statute; and extends the statute of limitations to pursue criminal charges for certain domestic violence offenses from six years to 15 years.

The measure adds coercive control to the definition of abuse. Coercive control is a nonphysical form of abuse that includes a pattern of behavior intended to threaten, intimidate, harass, isolate, control, coerce or compel compliance of a family or household member in a manner that causes the targeted individual to fear physical harm or to have a reduced sense of physical safety or autonomy. Examples of coercive control include threatening to

share explicit images, regulating or monitoring a family or household member's communications and access to services, and isolating a family or household member from friends or relatives.

Another provision changes current law under which minors, under 18 years of age, who share explicit images of themselves or other minors, can be charged with violating Massachusetts child pornography laws and be required to register with the Sex Offender Registry. The bill allows minors to be diverted to an educational program that would provide them with information about the consequences of posting or transmitting indecent visual depictions of minors.

"This law will save lives and strengthens our efforts to hold accountable those who would engage in abusive, coercive and deeply harmful behavior," said Gov. Healey. "This is about stopping violence, because nobody deserves to be subjected to threats, abuse or control. We're grateful ... to all of the survivors who bravely came forward to share their powerful stories of pain, fear and trauma to make a difference for generations to come."

"The inclusion of coercive control in this bill is a vital advancement in safeguarding individuals from abuse," said Vilma Uribe, Executive Director of the Governor's Council to Address Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking. "It acknowledges the severe impact of manipulative behaviors and provides crucial protections for victims-survivors. Equally important is the inclusion of media literacy for our youth, empowering them to navigate the digital world responsibly."

"No person's life should devolve into chaos because a private photo was shared without their permission, and no person should fear coercion or be threatened with the sharing of such a photo," said Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland). "I'm proud that this legislation protects our residents and supports young people who make a mistake."

"This legislation modernizes our criminal laws by ensuring that those who share explicit images of others without their consent face punishment, while also educating minors on the dangers of sharing explicit images of themselves rather than imposing upon them some of the criminal justice system's most severe consequences," said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy). "I'm also incredibly proud of this legislation's bolstered protections for survivors, including the added consideration of nonphysical forms of abuse for those who are seeking restraining orders from their abusers."

PROHIBIT SALE OF DOGS, CATS AND RABBITS IN NEW PET STORES (S 2820)

- The House gave initial approval to a bill that would prohibit pet shops opened after January 1st, 2025 from offering dogs, cats and rabbits for sale. Pet shops existing prior to January 1, 2025 would be exempt from the law.

The new law would allow new pet shops to offer space to an animal rescue or shelter organization to showcase dogs, cats or rabbits for adoption as long as the pet shop does not have an ownership interest in the animals offered for adoption. The bill imposes a penalty of \$1,000 for a first offense, \$2,500 for a second offense and \$5,000 for a third and subsequent offenses.

"This legislation moving forward marks a significant step towards ending the puppy mill to pet shop pipeline, ensuring the protection of both animals and consumers alike," said sponsor Sen. Patrick O'Connor (R-Weymouth). "We are taking a stand against the promotion of animal cruelty, which is often overlooked, and I am confident that we will soon join our neighboring northeastern states in putting a stop to this inhumane practice by law. I am proud to be the primary sponsor of this bill and will continue to tirelessly advocate against the abuse of animals and for their protection as some of the most vulnerable members of our community."

"I take the matters of animal welfare and inhumane conditions very seriously," said Sen. Mike Moore (D-Millbury). Given that puppy mills and other profit-focused animal breeding operations have a demonstrated track record of substandard conditions and disregard for the wellbeing of the animals, anything we can do to disrupt this industry without harming responsible breeders is action we should take."

"Typically, pet shops obtain animals from substandard breeding facilities, which results in consumers unknowingly purchasing sick or genetically compromised pets," said Rep. Natalie Higgins (D-Leominster).

REQUIRE ADAPTIVE BEAM HEADLIGHT TECHNOLOGY (H 3419)

- The House gave initial approval to a bill that would require all new automobiles sold in the state after January 1, 2026 to be equipped with adaptive beam headlight technology which is currently used in other parts of the world including Europe, China and Canada.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Adaptive Driving Beam Headlight Systems (ADB) use automatic headlight beam switching technology to shine less light on occupied areas of the road and more light on unoccupied areas. The adaptive beam is particularly useful for distance illumination of pedestrians, animals and objects without reducing the visibility of drivers in other vehicles.

As a CNN report noted, "Imagine if you could drive at night with your high beams on all the time, bathing the road ahead in bright light but without ever blinding other drivers.' That's what ADB accomplishes."

"The legislation seeks to address the problem with overly bright headlights," said sponsor Rep. *Continued on page 18*

Outstanding Students win Somerville Math Fund Scholarships

By Erica Dakin Voolich

The Somerville Mathematics Fund is pleased to announce the winners of their renewable mathematics scholarships for 2024. The Math Fund was founded to celebrate and encourage math achievement and these students deserve to be celebrated for their work in math and science while in high school. Thanks to the generosity of many individuals and a few organizations, this year we were able to award a record 13 scholarships, totaling \$78,000 over four years.

Due to a COVID-19 outbreak, we were unable to personally award the scholarships at the awards night for four years. Last year it felt so wonderful to be back personally handing out the scholarships and meeting the winners in person again like we used to do.

We definitely want to celebrate our scholarship winners for their achievements while meeting the challenges of going to high school, some of it was during a

pandemic. Congratulations.

The winners are attending a variety of schools next fall. Max Barish will attend Perdue U; Dashiell Brenner, Carlton College; Noah Brown, U of Chicago; Galen Carter, Boston U; Cecelia Crouse U of Vermont; Rowan Ferguson and Harrison Mayer, UMass Amherst; Lillian MacArthur, Harvard U; Yasmin Nazhar, MIT; Devasya Nepal, Worcester Polytechnic Institute; Lilly Thompson and Tessel Van Schaaik, Tufts U; and Lucca Valdes, Cornell U.

A bit of explanation about the scholarship names. Some scholarships are supported by many donations, some large, some small — but together there is \$6000 for each student. For those students who participated in Scrapheap Showdown this year, we had some of our sponsors who each sponsored one year of a scholarship. We have some named annual scholarships, two memorial scholarships are for founders of the Somerville Math



The Somerville Math Fund was pleased to be able to award four-year renewable scholarships to these outstanding math and science students. Pictured are Galen Carter, Max Barish, Rowan Ferguson, Tessel Van Schaaik, Lucca Valdes, Harrison Mayer, Erica Voolich (president SMF), Cecelia Crouse, Yasmin Nazhar, Devasya Nepal, Noah Brown, Lillian MacArthur, Lily Thompson, and Dashiell Brenner.

Fund. Two of our named scholarships are given by one of our first scholarship winners back in 2001 in the name of his favorite famous mathematician. One is given in memory of a mother who distinguished herself in WW2 as a nurse and saved for her children's education. And, finally, one is given in memory of a beloved Wheelock College Professor of Math and Math Education.

Their annual scholarships of \$1500 are renewable for up to a

total of four years as long as they maintain a B average and take mathematics or courses which use mathematics.

The six memorial scholarships this year are for Dr. Alice T. Schaffer, Lt. Catherine M. Landers, S. Ramanujan, Dr. Rika Spungin, and Michael Voolich.

The Somerville Mathematics Fund was chartered in 2000 to celebrate and encourage achievement in mathematics in the city of Somerville, Massachusetts.

It May 2011, it was recognized as the outstanding Dollars for Scholars Chapter in New England. Since its founding in 2000, it has awarded \$709,000 in four-year mathematics scholarships to one hundred forty-three outstanding Somerville students. If you would like to make a contribution, you can do so on PayPal, mail a check to 244 Summer St Somerville MA 02143, or go to www.somervillemathematicsfund.org.



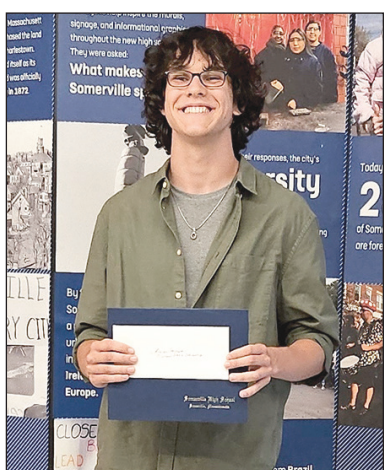
Lillian MacArthur.



Tessel Van Schaaik.



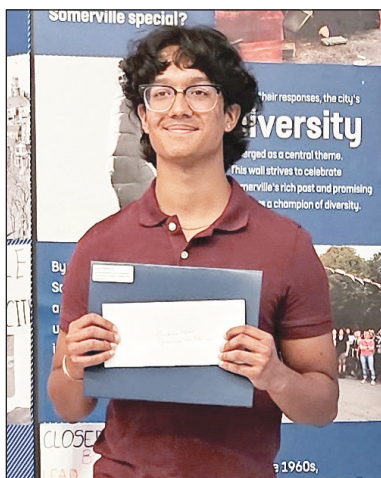
Lily Thompson and Yasmin Nazhar.



Rowan Ferguson.



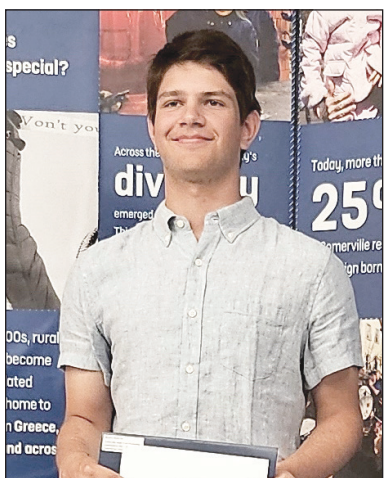
Galen Carter.



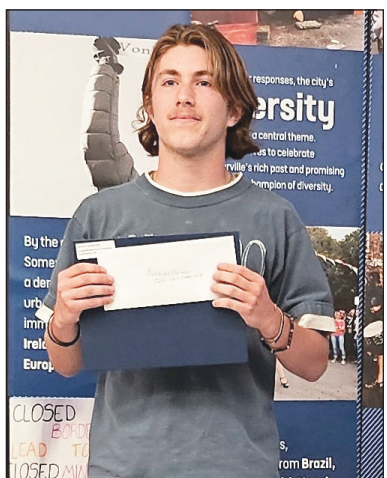
Devasya Nepal.



Lucca Valdes.



Noah Brown.



Dashiell Brenner.



Max Barish, Cecelia Crouse, and Harrison Mayer.

Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 16

Lindsay Sabadosa (D-Northampton): "There are no shortage of news articles that speak to the growing problem of overly bright headlights on the highways of Massachusetts. While they improve driver safety in some respects, they also blind oncoming traffic, which does not help with road safety. A solution is adaptive headlight technology or smart headlights."

"The American Automobile Association research found ADBs illuminate the road 86 percent better than current headlight technology but without the glare," continued Sabadosa. "Smart headlights make about 5,000 adjustments per second to curve light around the part of the road already lit up by an oncoming car. So, there's no direct beam in the other driver's face."

ILLEGAL FIREWORKS (H 3634) – The House gave initial approval to legislation that would amend current law which imposes a fine between \$10 and \$100 on anyone convicted of illegal possession or use of fireworks. The bill would increase the penalty, in areas with a population density of 1,000 or more persons per square mile, to a fine of between \$200 and \$500 and/or a prison sentence or up to six months. "This has been an issue in my district that needs to be addressed," said sponsor Rep. Rodney Elliott (D-Lowell). "By increasing fines for illegal fireworks usage, we not only deter irresponsible behavior but also send a clear message that the safety of our citizens is eminent."

FREE WEIGHTS IN PRISONS (H 2422) – The House gave initial approval to a measure that would require superintendents of medium- and maximum-security prisons to block inmates from accessing free weights or any other exercise equipment that is not secured.

Sponsor Rep. Steven Xiarhos (R-Barnstable) said the bill is named "Matt's Law" in honor of Corrections Officer Matthew Tidman, who was brutally assaulted in 2022 by a prison inmate who used free weights from a prison gym facility as a weapon.

"I am proud to have filed the bill ... this session and I believe its protections are necessary to keep our correction officers safe at work," said Xiarhos. "These brave men and women risk their safety for us every day and it is important for us to have their back."

EXPAND NERO'S LAW (H 2423) – The House gave initial approval to another Xiarhos proposal that would expand Nero's Law, passed in 2022, that requires EMS personnel to provide basic emergency treatment to a police dog and use an ambulance to transport the dog injured in the line of duty to a veterinary clinic or veterinary hospital, if there are not people requiring emergency medical treatment or transport at that time. That law was passed following the tragic death of Yarmouth Police Sgt. Sean Gannon who was shot and killed in the line of duty. His K-9 partner Nero was severely injured and had to be rushed to the animal hospital in the back of a police cruiser. Nero survived.

The bill permits not just basic emergency medical treatment, but also advanced life support care as an option by those properly trained, if available and necessary.

"We passed Nero's Law a couple of years ago in honor of K-9 Nero, and as a lasting tribute to fallen Yarmouth Police Sgt. Sean Gannon, who was killed in the line of duty in the same incident where Nero was injured," said Xiarhos. "Law enforcement depends on police dogs to keep the public safe in dangerous situations. It's the least we can do to make sure that these dogs receive proper emergency medical care if they are injured through their work."

CITIES AND TOWNS (H 3396) – The House gave initial approval to a bill that would require that cities and towns include a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) element in their master plans. Sponsors say that TDM studies policies aimed at giving people effective, reliable transportation options, often by spreading travel across modes, locations, routes and times of day. The measure also emphasizes collaboration with Transportation Management Associations (TMAs) to reduce congestion and improve mobility.

Supporters said that TDM and TMA options can help improve transportation equity by allocating resources to under-served groups, including non-drivers and reduce negative impacts from driving, such as congestion, noise, air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions. They argued that implementing TDM policies is often less expensive for cities and towns than car-centric options such as expanding roads and parking facilities.

"Massachusetts has some of the worst traffic congestion in the Wwrld. Too often, transportation planning is done on a project-by-project basis rather than as part of a holistic, municipality or regional basis," said sponsor Rep. Steven Owens (D-Watertown). "[My bill] fixes that."

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"The clerk will modify the members and tell them that a roll call is in progress." — *The closed captioning words that appeared on the screen of the live coverage online of the House of Representatives when the speaker announced, "The clerk will NOTIFY the members and tell them that a roll call is in progress."*

"Y'all can stand and clap for that." — *Freshman Rep. Christopher Worrell (D-Boston) during his inaugural speech on the House floor, referring to the May birth of his second daughter.*

"One of our most important natural resources is right beneath our feet -- soil. Protecting soil quality is essential to stewarding our ecosystems and sustaining Massachusetts' agricultural industry. Healthy soil is the foundation for climate resilient communities. Implementing thoughtful land management strategies is vital to maintaining biodiversity, promoting water quality and reducing carbon in the atmosphere." — *Executive Office of Energy and Envi-*

ronmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper announcing the awarding of more than \$1 million in grants to organizations to promote and protect Massachusetts' soil health.

"While the law prohibits discrimination in places of public accommodation, we sadly see LGBTQIA+ individuals and others denied basic rights simply because of how they express or identify themselves. I, along with my office, will continue to educate people about their rights and protections under law as we seek to create safe and equitable spaces for all." — *Attorney General Andrea Campbell upon releasing an updated 'Protections Against Discrimination in Places of Public Accommodations Guide' to help ensure compliance with existing law and educate the public about their rights in public spaces, including gender-specific spaces like men's and women's restrooms. The guide has been updated to include information about how the law protects those who identify as nonbinary and/or transgender.*

"Our Bureau of Special Investigations examiners are making government work better by identifying fraud, waste and abuse of tax dollars so that residents actually in need have access to support and services." — *State Auditor Diana DiZoglio on her office identifying more than \$2 million in public benefit fraud in the third quarter of fiscal 2024.*

HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION?

Beacon Hill Roll Call tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of the Legislature's job and that a lot of important work is done outside of the House and Senate matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that have been filed. They note that the infrequency and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late-night sessions and a mad rush to act on dozens of bills in the days immediately preceding the end of an annual session. During the week June 17-21, the House met for a total of five hours and 51 minutes and the Senate met for a total of eight hours and 26 minutes.

Mon. June 17	House 11:00 a.m. to 11:09 a.m. Senate 11:07 a.m. to 1:05 p.m.
Tues. June 18	No House session No Senate session
Wed. June 19	No House session. No Senate session
Thurs. June 20	House 11:00 a.m. to 4:42 p.m. Senate 11:12 a.m. to 4:43 p.m.
Fri. June 21	No House session Senate 1:07 p.m. to 2:04 p.m.

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

Tufts Street reconstruction community open house

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Ward One Councilor Matthew McLaughlin, and City of Somerville staff invite you to a community open house to learn about the updated design for transportation safety improvements on Tufts Street.

The event will take place Wednesday, July 10, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Glen Park Playground. If there is inclement weather, the event will be rescheduled to July 11.

The outdoor open house will feature multiple stations describing different aspects of the street reconstruction project including an upcoming wall mural. Drop-in anytime during the event to review materials and talk with the project team about your feedback, questions, and ideas.

Following the event, a recorded presentation and information about the updated design will be available on the project website.

Other opportunities for community members to share feed-

back will include an online survey, a street outreach pop-up planned for July 23 from 5 to 7 p.m., and virtual office hours with Mobility Division staff on July 25 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For details on these engagement opportunities, visit somervillema.gov/tuftsstreet.

About the Tufts Street Reconstruction Project

The city is repaving Tufts Street and reconstructing its sidewalks as part of the citywide Pavement and Sidewalk Management Program. This presents an opportunity to redesign the street to make it safer for everyone. Tufts Street is designated as a "Neighborway" in the Somerville Bicycle Network Plan, which is a walk and bike friendly street designed to lower vehicle volumes and speeds.

After gathering feedback on the concept design from community members in the fall, and processing data collection on soil analysis, parking utilization, and incorporating input



from emergency services, the city has developed an updated design proposal. City staff will share the updated design for the street as part of our upcoming open house. Updated design information will also be shared on the project website at somervillema.gov/tuftsstreet.

Questions and comments can be submitted and by calling 311 (617-666-3311), transportation@somervillema.gov and by calling 311 (617-666-3311).

This project is one of a series of actions the city is undertaking

in pursuit of our Vision Zero goal of eliminating traffic fatalities and series injuries from our roadways. Construction is anticipated to begin in mid-2025 and continue through 2026. All schedules are preliminary and subject to change.

Help reduce rodent activity this summer

It's officially summertime in the 'Ville. As you plan your next barbecue, picnic, or pool day, let's work together to keep our community rat-resistant and maintain a clean and safe environment for everyone:

- Remove food sources
- Keep trash and recycling carts closed and tightly sealed.
- Compost properly: No meat, dairy, grease, or strong-smelling items.
- Do not feed wildlife; remove bird feed and garden waste.
- Pick up after your dog.
- Remove water sources
- Remove sources of standing water: dog bowls, birdbaths, or plant saucers.
- Inspect and repair any leaks from faucets, hoses, rain catchers, or AC units.
- Clear away containers that gather rainwater: buckets, toys, or other items.
- Remove access to shelter
- Clear low-lying vegetation and trim all plants away from your home or other structures.
- Inspect the outside of your home for potential rodent entry points. Rats can fit through holes as small as a half-inch wide. That's a little smaller than a dime!
- Fill entry points with steel wool, rodent-proof spray foam, steel mesh, or hardware cloth.

For all tips, visit somervillema.gov/rodentsaway. To report trash overflow and rodent issues/sightings, please call 311 (617-666-3311).



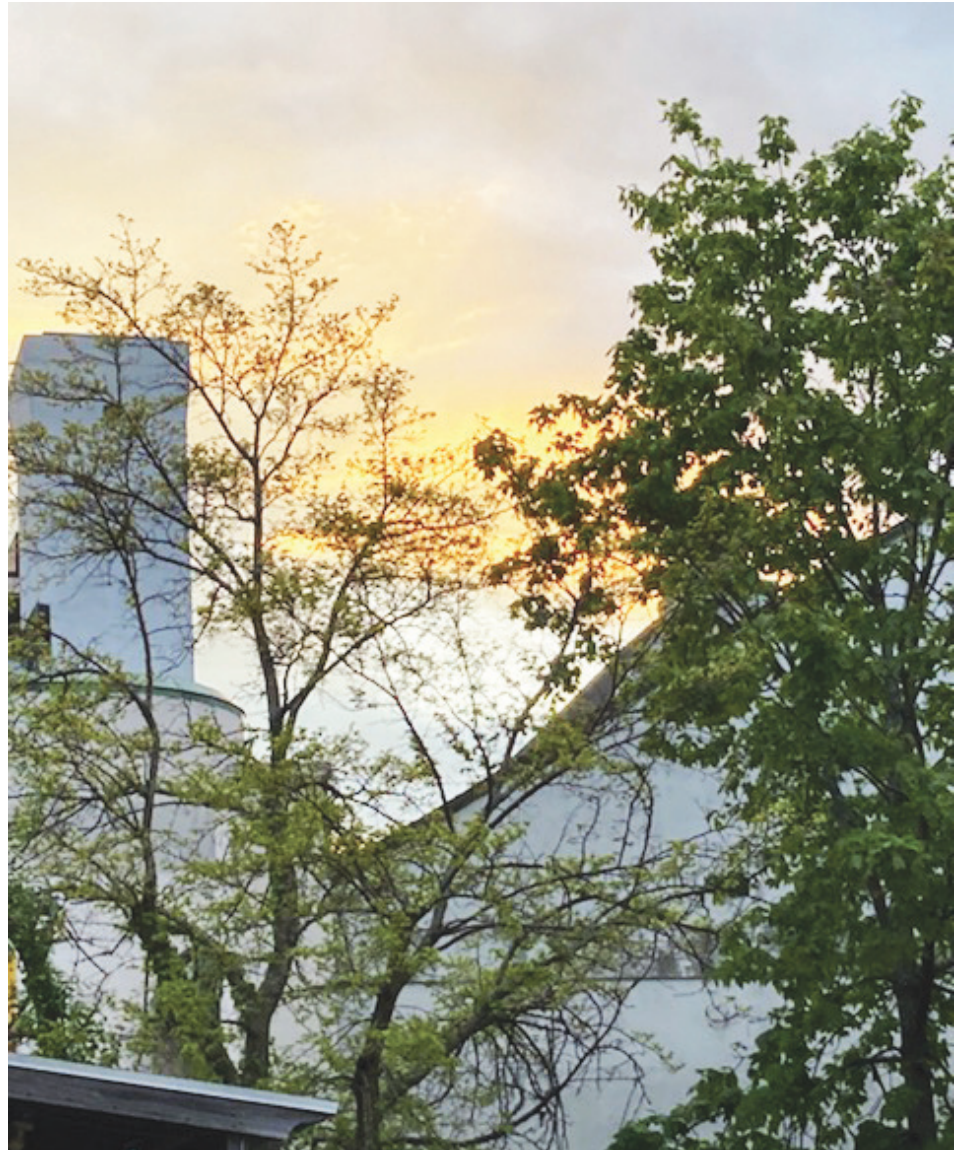
Learn about BlueBikes



Enjoy or interested in biking? Join the city's Mobility division for a pop-up event: try out BlueBikes (e-bikes too), learn about current mobility projects in the city, and register for annual and income-eligible BlueBikes memberships.

This event will be held on Wednesday, June 26, on the Community Path at Lowell St. from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. For any questions, email transportation@somervillema.gov.

Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Welcoming Summer Solstice... — Photo by Denise Provost

YART SALE

AUGUST 10
12PM - 6PM
2024

Rain date: Aug 11

somervilleartscouncil.org/yartsale

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



What was the most popular dance in 1776?
Indepen-dance.

On This Day in History

June 26

- 0363 – Roman Emperor Julian dies, ending the Pagan Revival.
- 1096 – Peter the Hermit's crusaders force their way across Sava, Hungary.
- 1243 – The Seljuk Turkish army in Asia Minor is wiped out by the Mongols.
- 1541 – Former followers murder Francisco Pizarro, the Spanish Conqueror of Peru.
- 1794 – The French defeat an Austrian army at the Battle of Fleurus.
- 1804 – The Lewis and Clark Expedition reaches the mouth of the Kansas River after completing a westward trek of nearly 400 river miles.
- 1900 – The United States announces it will send troops to fight against the Boxer Rebellion in China.
- 1907 – Russia's nobility demands drastic measures be taken against revolutionaries.
- 1945 – The U.N. Charter is signed by 50 nations in San Francisco, California.
- 1963 – President John Kennedy announces "Ich bin ein Berliner" at the Berlin Wall.
- 1971 – The U.S. Justice Department issues a warrant for Daniel Ellsberg, accusing him of giving away the Pentagon Papers.

The "Original"
All Types Vent Cleaning
Restaurant Hood Cleaning
Dryer Vent/ HVAC Cleaning
Power Washing
Licensed and Insured
in Massachusetts
We travel all over
Massachusetts
Call today to find out
our weekly specials!
Call Jimmy 857-366-3761

To advertise in
**The
Somerville
Times**
call
Bobbie Toner
857-488-5138

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

five-year anniversary at **Bow Market**, on **Sunday, June 30**, from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Bow Market (entrance by 345 Somerville Ave). To celebrate five fantastic years, Nibble Kitchen will host pop-ups from some of their favorite Chefs-in-Residence, past and present. In addition to delicious food, there will be live music courtesy of **Juan Carlos Ruiz**, and activities including the Test Your Nose! game, and face painting.

All city offices are closed on **Independence Day, July 4**. Trash and recycling pickup will be delayed by one day.

CultureHouse has its next pop-up space. They have been working with the **City of Somerville** to transform the vacant lot in **Gilman Square** (also known as the Homan's lot) into a three-month outdoor community space. **Gilman Park** is a gathering space for local organizations, a hangout space for residents, and an opportunity for development for local businesses, artists, and creatives. The park will be open all summer **from June 15 to September 9**. Join in for lawn games, vendor markets, beer gardens, food, workshops and music performances. Keep an eye on the website for more information <https://culturehouse.cc/projects/gilman-park/>. CultureHouse is looking for artists, creatives, non-profit organizations, and local businesses to participate in collaborative programming at Gilman Park. Interested groups should fill out the **Program Interest Form**. For questions, email rishika@culturehouse.cc. **Small Mart** is hosting bi-weekly vendor markets all summer at Gilman Park. If you are interested in joining the market, please visit <https://culturehouse.cc/projects/gilman-park/>.

Mark your calendars for **August 10** for the **Somerville Arts Council's** annual citywide **Yart Sale**. Explore an entire city's worth of front yards, driveways, and porches transformed into mini art galleries and bustling markets. Here's what you can expect: paintings, photography, handmade objects, band merch, art supplies, art tools, collectible items, plants, art supplies, frames, vintage clothes, etc. Your purchases help support the vibrant local art community. This citywide event is fun for all ages, we highly encourage you to bring your friends and family. Interested in registering as an art vendor? Check out <https://somervilleartscouncil.org/yartsale>.

Share your **Growing Center Memories**. Do you have any photos from your experiences over the years at the Growing Center, whether from 1994 or last week? Or maybe some images of plants that you got from the Center that flourished? Or know someone who was around during some of the early years who may have photos? You can email them in jpeg format to 30th@thegrowingcenter.org Or visit their website to other options www.thegrowingcenter.org

Historic Somerville stickers are available. Collect all of the Historic Somerville Stickers. You can pick them up at local businesses, including **Mudflat** in East Somerville, 81 Broadway.

The **Somerville Arts Council** is calling all local arts vendors, volunteers, businesses and community organizations for **SomerStreets events**. For information on how to table please visit: somervilleartscouncil.org/somerstreets.

Families are invited to join in as the East Branch kicks off their **Children's Summer Reading Program** with **Mr. Vinny's Shadow Puppets**. Mr. Vinny (of the acclaimed **Toe Jam Puppet Band**) will host an evening of magical storytelling told through shadows. Best for ages 5+ and families. **June 27, East Branch Library**, 115 Broadway. The East Branch is a one-room library. This event will be in the children's area and library lights will be dimmed during the performance. For more info, contact **Meghan**: mforsell@somervillema.gov.

Docent tours take place **from May through October** at three historic sites in Somerville, **Milk Row Cemetery** (Somerville Avenue), **Prospect Hill Tower** (above Union Square), and **Old Powder House** (Nathan Tufts Park), they are open to the public on certain days and evenings. Inclement weather cancels any event. For full schedule and more information on the Docent Program: <https://www.somervillemuseum.org/docent-program>.

Somerville Recreation is gearing up for a summer packed with **weekly programming for local teens**. There's something for everyone - programs include pick-up soccer, volleyball and basketball clinics, pick-up flag football, open gym, and Fri-

day crafting at the Powderhouse. Programming begins **July 1**, is free, and open to Somerville teen ages 12-18. The whole family can join the fun during scheduled events like **National Night Out** on **Tuesday, August 6**. Get the full **Teen Summer Guide** to sign up for a specific program or learn more about all programs and events <https://somervillema.myrec.com/info/default.aspx>.

Beginning in July, public charging stations will charge **25 cents per kilowatt-hour**. Fees will be used to directly support the city's electric vehicle programs and expand our station network. For more information, reach out to **SustainaVille.ma** or visit somervillema.gov/electric-vehicles.

Each month, **The Dojo at Somernova** hosts **Gaming is Not a Crime: Youth-Stream**. Come build community through playing your favorite games. The event features cash prizes and pizza and starts at 6:00 p.m. Hosted at The Dojo at Somernova, 15 Properzi Way, Somerville. Youthstream, **June 26: Tuesdays and Thursdays** from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., the **Somerville Bike Kitchen**, a volunteer-run bicycle repair cooperative, hosts open-shop nights at The Dojo at Somernova. Come maintain your bike or learn more about cycling. Upcoming Bike Kitchens: **June 27, July 2. Every Thursday** from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., come join **Parkour Generations Boston** for **Teen Jams** at The Dojo at Somernova. This is a flexible time for teen community members to use the pop-up training space at The Dojo @ Somernova and connect with fellow community members in the process. Upcoming Teen Jams: **June 27**.

For 39 years, children, teens and adults have learned circus skills with the **OPE-NAIR Circus of Greater Somerville**. People of any age can learn new skills and join the circus community on **Tuesday and Wednesday** late afternoons at **Prospect Hill and Powder House Park**. Classes will be 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays at Prospect Hill and Wednesdays at Powderhouse Park. Classes started on June 25 and will end July 25, with rehearsals the week of July 29 and performances the first weekend of August. Equipment loans are also free so students can practice at home. Some items require measurements, so be sure to register in time to get your equipment. Register soon, or invite

friends to register for free. A donation of \$30 per child, \$50 per family is suggested but not required and includes as many classes as the student wants. View the schedule below and register at www.openaircircus.org.

Somerville Winter Farmers Market is hiring an **Assistant Manager** for the Somerville Winter Farmers Market **2024-25 season**. This is a part-time position, and **applications close on July 8**. If you are interested in local food systems and community engagement, apply today. Send a resume and cover letter to swfm@artsatthearmory.org.

The **Somerville Public Library** is encouraging our community to connect with nature and our collections. While previous adult summer reading challenges at the SPL have been bingo cards, this year, they are offering a raffle. With challenges like "Read outside," and "Read a book about a particular animal," you can live out this year's theme through the library. Additionally, you can check out our curated book displays at the **Central Library**, or our booklists online for some inspiration. For more information visit <https://www.somervillepubliclibrary.org/>.

Help stop **black swallow-wort** this summer. Have you seen this invasive weed in your area? Black swallow-wort (BSW) is an aggressive weed that's harmful to native plants, butterflies, birds, and more. BSW has shiny green leaves that come in pairs, thin green pods, and small dark purple flowers that grow in clusters. BSW can often be found around fences and shrubs in late May and early June. If you see BSW, dig it up by the root and seal it in a trash bag.

As the weather changes, essential items such as sunscreen, bug spray, and rain ponchos will become vital to keep the **Somerville Homeless Coalition's** most vulnerable clients safe and healthy while they're out in the unpredictable New England weather. Donations can be made through their Amazon wish list or by submitting a donation inquiry. For more information visit **Client Needs**: <https://bit.ly/SHClientNeeds>.

Somerville's annual **Water System Flushing Program** began on Thursday, May 16, and continues through late October. This program consists of



OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Grief Touched the Sky at Night

Poems by Gloria Mindock

By Off the Shelf Correspondent *g emil reutter*.

Somerville poet Gloria Mindock's passion, raw and honest, holds Putin and his regime accountable for the atrocities committed in Ukraine since the beginning of the war. The poet gives voice to the voiceless, documents the atrocities committed by Russians who have lost all sense of morals and faith.

Images and metaphors light up the page in the poem, *Bells of Kyiv*:

The Churches are empty,
half standing
no bells to ring

In the wreckage,
Lays a cross no one
Has touched.

Jesus lays there.
Broken.

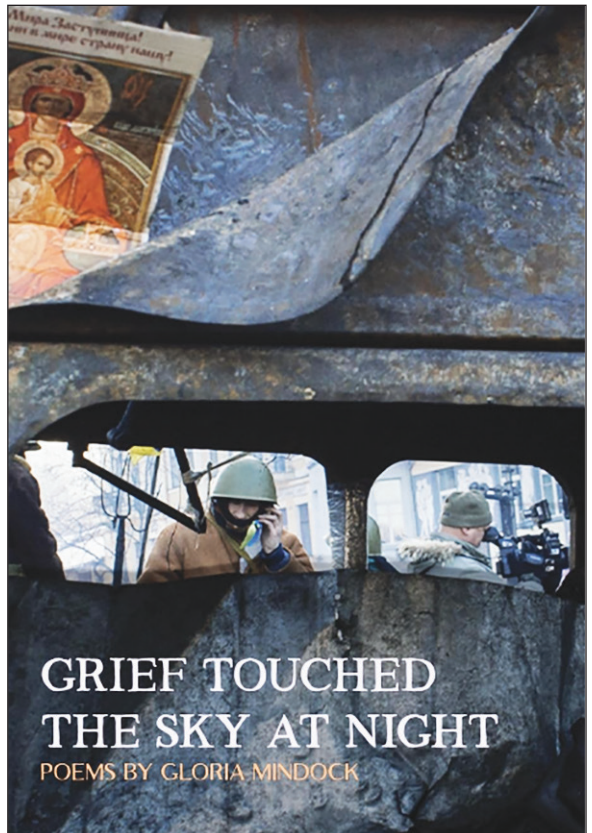
Is there a meaning to this?
Will he rise again
in this country?

Someone will pick him up,
carry him in their arms,
kiss the cross he is on.

Everyone needs to be protected,
to be loved.
Someone else will find his hand.
No nails binding the freedom
we all need.

The poet tells us of the mother who, At midnight,
I hear my baby crying, / but she is gone to where
there/ is no sin. She writes of families with no homes
to return. Of bullet holes where there was once life,
of the screams of men raped by Russians, a woman
brutalized so badly she did not know if she would
live. It is impossible to read the poem *Memory with-*

and everyone in particular,
feeling my own great wholeness
including you, not excluding
anyone, as I climbed
the steps with the ancient
dirty carpet tacked on decades ago
by others who lived here
before us.



out emotion welling up as the poet captures the pain of the captive:

I cannot open my mouth.
It is taped shut,
My hands tied behind my back, feet in chains,
Hurting my ankles, digging into skin, bone, cutting...

The sky is red.
The rivers red.
My heart is not.

The bombs go off.
I hear them getting closer and closer.
So loud, hurts my ears, they ring...
I cannot hear my thoughts...

Crying, scared, a senseless death awaits—
Why am I in this world at all?

Continued on page 23

Now a young worker with swinging gait
strides to his post,
his blond forelock hanging
down his brow, his hammer
in his right hand, swaying
a rhythm.

— Hilary Sallick

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Hilary Sallick is the author of *love is a shore* (Lily Poetry Review Books, 2023), which is on the 2024 longlist for the Massachusetts Book Award, and *Asking the Form* (Cervena Barva Press, 2020). Her poems appear or are forthcoming in *Permafrost*, *Potomac Review*, *Jet Fuel Review*, *Notre Dame Review*, *Ibbetson Street*, *Small Orange*, and other journals. She served as vice-president of the New England Poetry Club from 2015 to 2024. A teacher with a longtime focus on adult literacy, she lives and works in Somerville. (www.hilarysallick.com)



Within It

For months I've been watching the builders
at work on the house behind ours—
how they toss a tool, a word, a plank
neatly one to the other, their movements
in concert.

There's the sound of hammering,
of conversation and laughter.
They're using ropes, ladders, drills,
running up the rungs,
never missing a step.

They remind me of an orchestra,
the musicians in their places
using instruments with great feeling,
or of dancers

with their bodies making forms
in time and space.

I think of all our projects,
how the shape of the container matters,
how we position ourselves within it
and in relation to each other.
Last night rain and wind buffeted my walls.
The windows rattled
in a relaxed responsive way.
I was walking up the stairs.
I was thinking about you

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 21

flushing pipes at high velocities to clean water mains and maintain the highest possible water quality. Flushing will take place Mondays and Thursdays between 6:00 p.m. and midnight to minimize potential disruptions to water service. Temporary drops in water pressure and/or discolored water can occur. In these cases, though the water may be discolored, it is safe to drink. Until the water runs clear, it is advisable to avoid washing laundry, especially white fabrics. Learn more at: somerma.gov/hydrantflushing.

Attention **all artists, makers, and more** in the greater Somerville area! **Somerville Public Library's Comix Con** returns this July and they are looking for local artists to sell their pins, prints, unique art objects and more. They are celebrating fandoms of all types and want you to be a part of their Con. Please fill out this form to be considered for a spot in their **Artists Alley**: ti-nyurl.com/splccvapp.

If you happen to visit the **Stop & Shop** at 105 Alewife Brook Parkway in Somerville, make sure to grab a "Give Back" reusable community bag to help support the **Somerville Homeless Coalition**. Now **through the end of June**, proceeds for each bag purchased at this store will be donated to SHC to support the most vulnerable members in our community.

Hazardous Waste Drop-Off, Saturday,

July 13: Next monthly **Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day** at DPW (1 Franey Rd., 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

A reminder that **yard waste pickup** has begun. Yard waste should be put out with your trash and recycling on your normal pickup day and be in either a paper bag or a trash barrel with a "Yard Waste Only" sticker. Get stickers free of charge at the **DPW Building** (1 Franey Rd.), at the entrance desk at **City Hall** (93 Highland Ave.), or by emailing 311updates@somerma.gov.

The **2024 street sweeping season** has resumed and will continue **through December 31**. Check signs in your neighborhood for sweeping days. Visit somerma.gov/sweeping for a full schedule and to sign up for complimentary street sweeping reminders by text, email, or phone. For more information on street sweeping procedures, visit parksomerma.com.

Join **Union Square Main Streets** and **50+ of your favorite local food producers** for the **20th Annual Union Square Farmers Market**, 66-70 Union Square. Shop local on **Saturdays through October 26**, except September 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on the **Union Square Plaza**. The market provides visitors and residents with top-quality, fresh, and local produce at fair prices; encourages ac-

tive lifestyle values; educates consumers about farming and locally sourced foods; and gives customers opportunities to interact directly with farmers. For more information about the Union Square Farmers Market, visit unionsquaremain.org/2024-fmseason. SNAP customers get \$1 for \$1 match up to \$15. See the Market Manager tent for more info.

Davis Square Farmers Market is now open. **Every Wednesday through November 22**, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. visit the Davis Square Farmers Market, across from American Flatbread at **44 Day St**. Visit: www.massfarmersmarkets.org/davis. This long-running market features over two dozen Massachusetts farmers and food producers offering a vibrant selection of delicious produce, protein, baked goods, ready-to-eat meals, alongside a host of other locally made products. The market accepts cash, credit/debit cards, WIC/Senior coupons, and EBT cards and offers a weekly \$15 SNAP Match.

The **COA** is offering **free taxi rides** to Somerville residents over the age of 60. Rides are available to go to the grocery store, farmer's market, and pharmacy in Somerville and routine medical appointments in the surrounding communities. To best accommodate the needs of everyone in the city and to maximize the use of our funding, they will be capping the number of rides per week. To ensure the health and

welfare of every resident of Somerville, exemptions will be made for chemotherapy and radiation appointments. To find out more information or to schedule your ride, please call **Connie Lorenti** at 617-625-6600 ext. 2319. All rides must be booked two business days in advance. This program is funded through **ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funding**.

Through the generosity of the **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**, and from the direction of **Mayor Ballantyne**, the **Council on Aging** is now able to provide **Durable Medical Equipment** at no cost to Somerville residents. Residents with a documented need for medical equipment must be over the age of 60, or have a permanent disability, and must be otherwise unable to afford or access needed medical equipment. They currently have available: Commodes, Bath Chairs, Bath Benches, Rollator Walkers, Incontinence Supplies and Transport Wheelchairs (wheelchairs are intended for transport and are not self-propelling or self-breaking.) For additional information, or for an application, please contact **Debby Higgins** at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

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.

Off The Shelf CONT. FROM PG 22

The moon inspects the earth—
Does not like what it sees...
Murder, witnessed with its pale brightness...

I did not want to be erased like this.
Another number, a body, with no hope visible...
I bleed soundless.

Mindock captures the essence of survival and fear imposed by fascists who have invaded Ukraine. As the nar-

rator states, Crying, scared, a senseless death awaits—. In this one line the poet captures the essence of the invasion and war—senseless death awaits— .

The poet writes of the destruction of the churches in the poem *The Chapel* and then in the poem, *Exceeding*:

No one lives like I do/ No freedom, just flames/ Days of putting defeat in a vase. I am wishing for a miracle/ Remember, you always see me falling off ladders/ The Devil lives in all wounds

There is nothing contrived in *Grief Touched the Sky at Night*. This collection is an honest forthright poetic telling of the horrific genocide currently underway in Ukraine. The poet speaks out in this time as others normalize the violence and death. The poet makes it very clear through painful verse that this must not be the normal and reflects how the war has taken a toll on the innocent, oppressed in a nation that stands for freedom against the fascist Putin.

You can find the book here: <https://www.amazon.com/Grief-Touched-Sky-at-Night/dp/B0CLHJQQR>

**Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com
and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1
and follow us on X/Twitter at [@somervilletimes](https://twitter.com/somervilletimes)**

The Somerville Times

To advertise in our Business Directory,
call 857-488-5138.

Let your customers find you in
Somerville's most widely read newspaper!

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Monica Calvo Realtor®
Real Estate Professional
Cell: 617-605-3308

Email: mcalvo@relocationnewengland.com
Web: remaxpartnersrelocation.com

RE/MAX
PARTNERS RELOCATION
44 Park ST
Andover MA 01810
Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated



Wedding & Event
Photo & Video
— Harry Kane —

KANE FILMS
www.KaneFilms.net
860-840-3737
HarryKaneFilms@gmail.com



Lic 57726 B



Tennyson Norman
Electrician

License & insured
tennysonnormannorman@gmail.com
857-417-0982



Juscelia LoRusso
617.686.8095

Cakes for all occasions

facebook.com/JusceliasCakes
facebook.com/Juscelia.Lorusso

The Law Offices of Richard G. Di Girolamo
Richard G. Di Girolamo, Esquire
Anne M. Vigorito, Esquire
Breanna L. Rolland, Esquire

ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW

Real Estate Law
Zoning
Civil Litigation
Criminal Defense
Family Law
Personal Injury

TELEPHONE: (617) 666-8200
FAX: (617) 776-5435
EMAIL: digirolamolegal@verizon.net
424 BROADWAY, SOMERVILLE, MA 02145

Martin B. Dropkin
Nancy G. Matza
Tel: 617-623-4600




Attorneys at Law
Fax: 617-625-7315

DROPKIN & MATZA LLP
Attorneys at Law

424 Broadway
Somerville MA 02145

Bankruptcy
Family Law
Immigration
Personal Injury
Business Law
Estate Planning and Probate
Real Estate
Elder Law
Civil Litigation

mdropkin@dropkinmatza.com



Closed Wednesday

Alibrandi's Barber Shop
Men & Boys Haircuts
"Best Somerville Barber"

194 Holland St, Somerville, MA 02144
617-628-4282

T. J. SILLARI, INC.

Over 50 Years Experience
Proud to be a Somerville Business Resident



- Plumbing • Heating
- Gas Fitting • Industrial Work
- Water Heater Replacement
- Complete Drain Service

Residential - Industrial - Commercial

Master Plmb. Lic. #6106 **625-9877**



Bobbie Toner – Real Estate Consultant
Bobbietoner@aol.com 857 488 5138

Telephone: (617) 625-2244
(617) 625-4344

Fax: (617) 625-4350

EDWIN J. SMITH
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW
RUMERY & SMITH

403 HIGHLAND AVENUE
SOMERVILLE, MA 02144
edsmithlaw@gmail.com

To advertise in
The Somerville Times
call
Bobbie Toner:
857-488-5138