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First stretch of Highland Ave. overnight paving scheduled



Repaving along Highland Avenue between McGrath Highway and School Street will take place overnight on Wednesday, July 10.

This week, beginning Wednesday, July 10, at 8:00 p.m., city contractors will undertake the first of two long-awaited mobilizations to pave the travel lanes (approximately 28-foot wide) of eastern Highland Avenue. This first part of a two-part interim paving plan will cover the segment of roadway between McGrath Highway and School Street.

This stretch is one of Somerville's most traveled roadways. To ease travel and support safety prior to a pending larger streetscape project planned for Highland, Mayor Ballantyne's administration allocated \$375,000 for the interim paving of eastern Highland Avenue from Benton Road to McGrath Highway in the fiscal year 2024 budget. This interim repaving will precede a full, multi-modal streetscape redesign and reconstruction to be shaped with community input.

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Inside-Out Gallery presents: 'Into the Wild: Exploring and Celebrating the Untamed'

In honor of this year's ArtBeat theme: "WILD" the Inside-Out gallery and guest curator, Edie Bresler, have brought together a wonderful collective of untethered talent that explores the unruly and untamed – with a natural flare.

"When we pay attention to the natural world, something beautiful happens," says Edie Bresler, guest curator. "Whether it is heightened awareness from direct observation, an imaginary encounter, finding innovative ways to use collected organic materials or seeking gestures to convey the unfettered energy swirling around us. Being in conversation with nature is a wild way to renew one's sense of wonder and mystery. Thank you to these Somerville artists for participating in ArtBeat 2024."

About the ArtBeat theme: "WILD"

At this year's festival, we will explore all that is wild, and the myriad ways this

Continued on page 4



Inside-Out Gallery's "Into the Wild: Exploring and Celebrating the Untamed" exhibit will run now through August.

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Attend the **Tufts Street Community Open House**. An updated design is here. Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Ward 1 Councilor Matthew McLaughlin, and City of Somerville staff invite you to a community open house on **Wednesday, July 10**, at **Glen Park Playground** from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The outdoor open house will feature multiple stations describing different aspects of the street reconstruction project, including an upcoming wall mural. Other opportunities for community members to share feedback will include an online survey, a **street outreach popup** planned for **July 23** from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and virtual office hours with **Mobility Division staff** on **July 25** from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For details on these engagement opportunities, visit somerville-ma.gov/tuftsstreet.

ArtBeat, Somerville's annual multicultural arts showcase, returns on **Saturday, July 13**. For this year's theme, explore all that is "wild". The festival will feature 100 vendors and community groups, music, dance, theater, food, and much more. This event kicks off at 11:00 a.m. in **Davis Square**. For more information, visit the Somerville Arts Council's website at www.somervilleartsCouncil.org. Also, celebrate the release of the **Pollinator Action Plan** with art, activities, and planting/habitat tips. Find "Pollinator Alley" all day on Dover St. at ArtBeat.

Celebrating their birthdays this week: Happy *Continued on page 7*

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of July 10 – July 16 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
Wednesday July 10	Cloudy	88°/74°	25%	16%	SW 13 mph
Thursday July 11	Sunny	87°/72°	26%	17%	SSW 15 mph
Friday July 12	Partly Cloudy	86°/72°	25%	15%	SW 11 mph
Saturday June 13	Thunderstorms	84°/70°	68%	52%	S 7 mph
Sunday July 14	Sunny	89°/71°	9%	5%	S 9 mph
Monday July 15	Thunderstorms	91°/72°	34%	23%	WSW 10 mph
Tuesday July 16	Thunderstorms	90°/71°	31%	21%	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: Outstanding students win Somerville Math Fund Scholarships

Betty Barry says:

Thank you Erika for all you do for students. You are amazing!
B

Response to: Lyrical Somerville – July 3

Susan Tepper says:

Dianne's poem is so brave and wonderful. I only met her once and she was so gracious.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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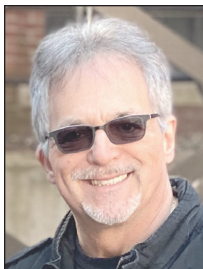


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Life in the  by Jimmy Del Ponte

Breakfast revisited



A few months ago, I did a story about Buddy's diner which still remains closed today. I thought I'd throw it out on Facebook and do a survey on favorite breakfast spots in Somerville

past and present. I asked for their favorite food at their favorite restaurant. Comments appear in quotes.

"Ball Square Cafe French toast with caramelized fruit."

"The cream of wheat at the Neighborhood." (A lot of readers mentioned this)

"When Kay and Chips was open, the Texas breakfast was my favorite at 1:00 a.m."

"The breakfast special at the old Prince Diner on Broadway at Powder House Square (where Richdale's used to be)."

"The best sausage links at Buddy's din-

er, with bacon, sunny side over eggs and real sausage links not like the crappy ones at the other diner or the other place that serves Jimmy Dean precooked sausage."

"Kay and Chips, drunk as a skunk, then chew and screw. LOL."

"Ball Square Cafe's veggie omelette, 3 servings!"

"The Golden Egg after Faces Disco." (blast from the past!)

"Eggs Benedict home fries Renee's Cafe from the original owner!"

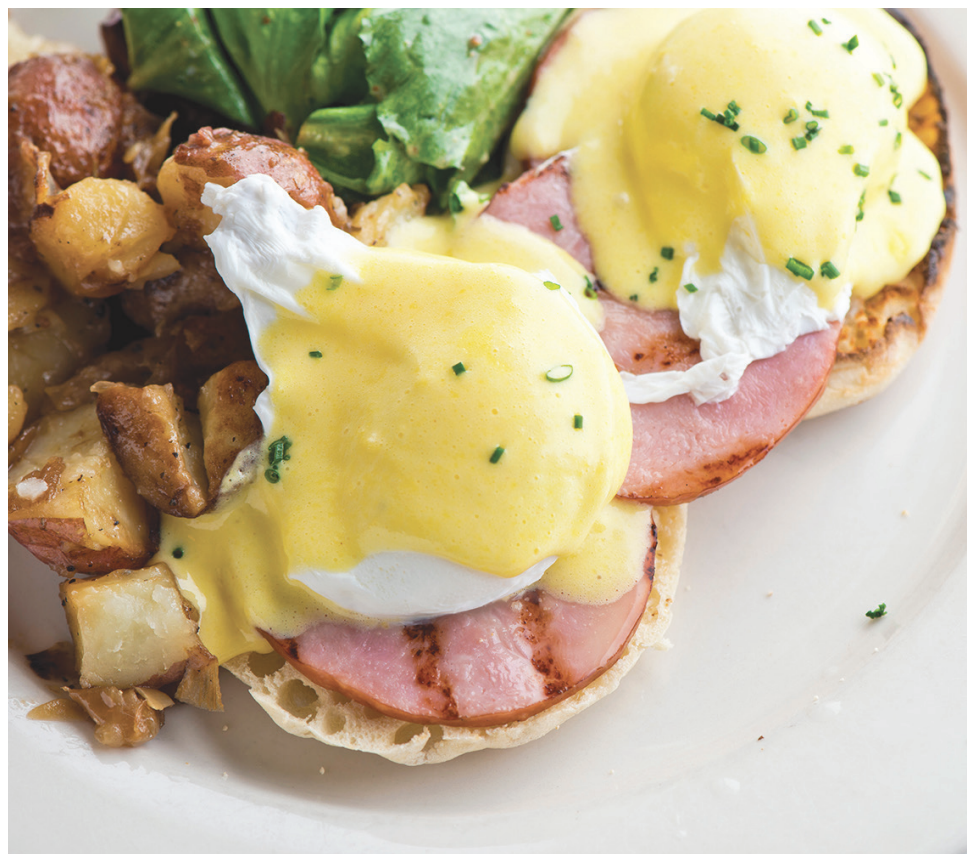
"Ball Square Cafe, fantastic food."

"Kellys Diner. Steak and eggs with scali bread."

"\$1.99 breakfast and Herald at Frenchys."

I think they should move Buddy's Diner to Davis Square.

I'll leave you with one more breakfast spot favorites. The Waldorf was where Mike's is now. Great food especially the pancakes.



Buy fresh, affordable local produce at the City of Somerville Mobile Farmers Market

The Somerville Mobile Farmers Market is gearing up for the 2024 season selling fresh produce across the city on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, July 11 through October 26.

All produce is sourced from local farms and priced low to make healthy, fresh foods affordable and accessible to all. The mobile market accepts cash, debit cards, SNAP, Fresh Connect, WIC Farmers Market Coupons, and Senior Farmers Market Coupons.

Here's where you can find the mobile market this summer and fall:

Thursday afternoons, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.:
Clarendon Hill Towers, 1372 Broadway

Friday mornings, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.:
Council on Aging, 167 Holland St.

Friday afternoons, 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.:
Somerville Public Library East Branch, 115 Broadway (new location)

Saturday mornings, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.:
Mystic Housing Development, 25 Memorial Road

For more information and to see what's in stock each week, visit the market website at somervillema.gov/farmersmarket.



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Somerville Police Dept Crime Log June 25 – July 1

Assault

On 6/25/24 at approximately 10:37 a.m., Somerville Police responded to a business on Beacon St for report of a past assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the two victims who stated they were involved in an argument with a male party inside the store. During the argument, the male suspect brandished a pocketknife. Officers identified the male suspect.

Assault

24038485: On 6/28/24 at approximately 9:25 p.m., Somerville Police responded to 275 Broadway for report of an assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated he got into an argument with a male party. During the argument, the male suspect struck the victim with a wooden object. The victim suffered wounds to his arm and hand.

Assault

24038370: On 6/28/24 at approximately 12:41 p.m., Somerville Police responded to Statue Park for report of a dispute. Upon arrival, officers spoke with two male parties who stated they were involved in a fight with each other. During the fight, one of the individuals brandished a knife. Officers identified both male parties.

Commercial Breaking and Entering

24038381: On 6/28/24 at approximately 1:24 p.m., Somerville Police responded to a business on Highland Ave. for report of a past breaking and entering. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the reporting party who stated three checks were missing from an office. Officers reviewed surveillance footage and observed a male party entering the business while carrying a knife.

Other Crimes: 5 MV thefts + 5 Package thefts + 9 Bike thefts + 3 MV vandalisms + 2 Vandalisms + 3 Car breaks

— Somerville Police Department



First stretch of Highland Ave. overnight paving scheduled CONT. FROM PG 1

The second stretch of interim Highland Avenue paving is expected to take place later this summer. Upon completion of Eversource's Gas Main Upgrade project on Highland Avenue, the next round of paving will cover the segment of roadway between School Street and Benton Road.

"I want to thank the community for their immense patience as we've worked to upgrade utilities underneath Highland Avenue. Smoother driving and riding is now nearly here," said Mayor Ballantyne. "As we lay down this interim paving to keep everyone safer for now, I look forward to the community joining us in our next steps: planning for a great new Highland Avenue that better serves our environment and the travel

needs of us all whether walking, biking, rolling, or driving."

More About This Week's Paving

Paving will take place overnight beginning Wednesday, July 10 at approximately 8:00 p.m. and ending Thursday, July 11 at approximately 7:00 a.m. This schedule is subject to change due to weather or other factors.

During paving operations:

Highland Avenue between School Street and McGrath Highway will be closed to motor vehicle traffic in both directions during work hours.

Detours will be installed for vehicle traffic. For a full detour map please visit somervillema.gov/springhill.

Access will be maintained for pedestrians via both sidewalks.

MBTA buses and emergency vehicles will be able to proceed in

both directions at all times.

On-street parking will also be restricted during construction.

We ask that residents please observe posted signage.

Future Full Redesign and Reconstruction of Highland Avenue

The city's current Five-Year Capital Investment Plan includes a larger-scale redesign and reconstruction of Highland Avenue. This effort is currently planned to begin as early as July 2025. For more details visit somervillema.gov/highlandave.

To ensure consistency with the city's Vision Zero Action Plan and Citywide Bicycle Network Plan, this larger project will include:

- + Reconstructed sidewalks.
- + Traffic calming and crosswalk safety enhancements.
- + Two directions of separated

bicycle lanes.

- + Bus priority infrastructure.
- + Green stormwater infrastructure elements.

The project development process will include a thorough evaluation of resident, business, and visitor parking and loading needs with a commitment to serve these needs in the context of the future street design.

To stay informed on the larger-scale redesign and reconstruction project please visit somervillema.gov/highlandave.

About the Spring Hill Sewer Separation

Much of Spring Hill has historically been served by a combined sewer system that collects both wastewater and stormwater runoff in the same pipes. The City of Somerville has worked to upgrade these systems by install-

ing new storm drains that separate stormwater from the existing combined sewer. This measure is one in a series of actions the city is undertaking to reduce water pollution, mitigate flooding, and ultimately modernize our infrastructure.

In addition to the installation of a modern, separate sewer system, the Spring Hill Sewer Separation project includes:

- + Green infrastructure to help manage stormwater by mimicking natural processes.
- + 185 new trees to be planted throughout the neighborhood.
- + Improvements to the streetscape for people walking, wheeling, driving, or cycling.

For more information on this project visit somervillema.gov/springhill.

— City of Somerville

'Into the Wild: Exploring and Celebrating the Untamed' CONT. FROM PG 1

word can be interpreted. Wild can convey that which is uninhabited, untamed and convey images like lushness, luxuriance, and nature in its pure unkempt form.

Wild can also convey that which is feral, fierce, and unconventional. How will Somerville and all its artists and community members interpret this theme?

We anticipate a wild ride. Whatever the art form or mode of expression, we seek performances and activities that are "out there," weird, and exuberant. Let's generate artistic expression by leaving polite society behind and wander into the wild.

Participating Artists

Henry Bergman, Edie Bresler, Jonathan Donahue, Martha

Friend, Kerrie Kemperman, Emmaline Kenny, Mary Kocol, Pauline Lim, Uma Mirani, Deb Olin, Judith Prager, and Debra Weisberg.

Find out more about the artist by visiting www.somervilleartsandculture.org/insideout/into_the_wild.

About the Inside-Out Gallery

The Inside-OUT Gallery is

located in the CVS Window in Davis Square, a unique space that allows the public to view an eclectic array of works from artists and local organizations each month. Since its inception in 2009, the Inside-Out gallery has displayed 100-plus exhibits featuring over 150 artists. This space is not only a way for creatives to showcase their art, but also has been a cul-

tural economic driver for artists to sell their work.

The mission of the Somerville Arts Council is to cultivate and celebrate the creative expressions of the Somerville community. Through innovative collaborations and quality programming we work to make the arts an integral part of life reflective of our diverse city.

City of Somerville honoring 2024 Disability Pride Month

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the Somerville Commission for Persons With Disabilities (SCPD) are announcing a series of events throughout July to recognize and celebrate Disability Pride Month. This month-long celebration will feature a variety of activities designed to raise awareness, celebrate the contributions of individuals with disabilities, and foster an inclusive community spirit.

“We are very thankful to Mayor Ballantyne and the Department of Racial and Social Justice (RSJ) who have supported us in facilitating these events as we celebrate Disability Pride Month this July,” shared Somerville Commission for Persons with Disabilities Chair Holly Simione. “We are excited to embrace the diversity and rich contributions of people with disabilities and have fun learning together.”

All residents are invited to participate and join in celebrating the diverse abilities and achievements of our community members.

Schedule of Events:

“How to Train Your Dragon” Screening
Date/Time: Wednesday, July 10, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Location: West Library Branch (40 College Ave)

About: Enjoy a screening of “How to Train Your Dragon” with treats and prizes.

Space is limited and registration is required in advance. RSVP here.

Disability Pride Flag Raising

Date/Time: Thursday, July 11, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Location: City Hall Plaza (93 Highland Ave)

About: Join the Somerville Commission for Persons with Disabilities and Mayor Ballantyne to raise the Disability Pride flag above Somerville’s City Hall. Light refreshments will be served following the flag raising.

SCPD ArtBeat Booth

Date/Time: Saturday, July 13, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Location: ArtBeat, Davis Square

About: Visit the Somerville Commission for Persons with Disabilities’ booth at Art-

Beat to participate in a multi-sensory community art project, share a pride story, and decode secrets and get a custom cup with your name in Braille.

Stop by for free books, prizes, and your very own Disability Pride tote bag.

“CODA” Screening and Discussion

Date/Time: Wednesday, July 24, 1:00 p.m.
Location: Somerville Council on Aging (167 Holland St.)

About: Attend a Council on Aging screening of the film “CODA,” followed by a discussion with members of the Disability Commission.

RSVP by calling Debby at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321 or emailing at dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Disability Pride Family Day

Date/Time: Saturday, July 27, 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: West Library Children’s Room (3rd Floor)

About: Join in for live readings of stories that celebrate disability read by members from the Disability Commission, bracelet-making, and painting messages on river rocks.

Attendees will receive treats, prizes, books, and a tote bag. Activities are inclusive for all ages and abilities.

Book readings for grades K-3 will take place at 10 a.m., 10:20 a.m., 10:40 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

Book readings for grades 4-6 will occur at 11:30 a.m. and 11:50 a.m.

Evening Book Reading by Local Authors with Disabilities

Date/Time: Monday, July 29, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: West Branch Library

About: Join an evening of readings by local authors with disabilities. For more details on the events and to register

RSVP here.

About Disability Pride Month

Disability Pride Month is celebrated in July to honor the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on July 26, 1990.

The month aims to promote visibility and mainstream awareness of the positive pride felt by people with disabilities.



**Somerville Community Corporation
Affordable Housing Open Waitlist Opportunity
Metro 9, 9 Medford Street, Somerville MA 02143**

Waiting List Opportunity for the following apartments:

# of Units	# of bedrooms	Rent**	Maximum Income Limit (% AMI)	Minimum Income Requirement*
5	1 BR	\$1,370	50%	\$32,880
4	1 BR	\$1,829	80%	\$43,896
1	2 BR	\$1,625	50%	\$39,000
2	2 BR	\$2,177	80%	\$52,248

*Minimum Income Requirement does not apply to households receiving housing assistance such as Section 8 or MRVP.
**Rent and Income Limits are subject to change annually as new rent and income limits are released.

Apartments feature high ceilings, large windows, modern finishes and appliances, in-unit washer & dryer, access to common lounge space, common roof deck, and common artist gallery/studio space.
Utilities (heat/hot water and electricity) are not included in rent. Parking is available for an additional cost.

Artist Live/Work Units:

Four of the units available have an artist live/work requirement. Applicants must be certified as working artists by the Somerville Arts Council. Applicants do not have to be certified before applying, but anyone selected for a unit will have to receive certification from the Somerville Arts Council before they can move in.

Maximum Income per Household Size (2024 limits, 50% and 80% provided by Boston-Cambridge- Quincy, HUD Metro Area)

HH size	50% AMI	80% AMI
1	\$57,100	\$91,200
2	\$65,300	\$104,200
3	\$73,450	\$117,250
4	\$81,600	\$130,250

Applications will be available beginning July 22, 2024:

- o In Person: Wingate Management- 337 Somerville Avenue 2nd Fl, Somerville MA 02143
- o Email Requests to 100homes@Wingatecompanies.com
- o Call to request an application by mail 617.206.3008

Applications will be processed on a first come first served basis beginning July 29, 2024.

Applications may be delivered in person or mailed. The postmarked date will be used as the submission date for mail applications.

Applications may also be submitted via email or fax to the address or number on the application.

Reasonable accommodations will be made. LEP services available. Equal Housing Opportunity. Use and Occupancy Restrictions apply.

For more information or reasonable accommodations, call Wingate Management Company (617) 206-3008 TTY/TTD 711



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Beacon Hill Roll Call



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THE HOUSE AND SENATE: *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records local representatives' and senators' votes on recent roll calls from the week of June 24-28. There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week.

CLEAN FUEL STANDARDS (S 2829)

Senate 1-39, rejected an amendment that would force transportation fuel providers to comply with new clean fuel standards set by the Department of Energy Resources. The amendment would create a credit system to penalize providers who do not meet those standards. Collected credits from public entities will be used to fund projects aimed at clean energy and transportation projects that disadvantaged communities need.

"This amendment was a measure that would have had a drastic impact on reducing emissions while also creating a benefit for local transportation infrastructure in the communities that need it most," said amendment sponsor Sen. Mark Pacheco (D-Taunton).

Amendment opponents offered no arguments during floor debate. Sen. Mike Barrett (D-Lexington), a lead sponsor of the bill, did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call to comment on his opposition to this amendment.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

OFFSHORE WIND (S 2829)

Senate 2-38, rejected an amendment that would give the governor's executive branch the right to procure offshore wind projects without the need to go through the Legislature.

"This amendment would provide the Executive Branch with more flexibility and would eliminate the necessity of having to seek the Legislature's approval for how much megawattage they are able to procure from clean energy projects," said amendment sponsor Sen. Marc Pacheco (D-Taunton). "The Healey-Driscoll Administration should be able to go out and solicit multiple forms of clean energy at the same time, as long as they are moving toward meeting the overall emissions requirements by 2050."

Amendment opponents offered no arguments during floor debate. Sen. Mike Barrett (D-Lexington), a lead sponsor of the bill, did not respond to repeated requests by Beacon Hill Roll Call to comment on his opposition to this amendment.

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

the amendment.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

FLOOD RISK (S 2829)

Senate 39-0, approved an amendment that would require the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs to review existing flood risk mapping resources in the state and assess the need for and feasibility of creating additional flood risk mapping resources to identify areas vulnerable to current and future flooding across the state.

"Ignoring the long-term effects of climate change on our vulnerable communities while continuing to rely on traditional approaches like insurance and federal assistance is inadequate and inequitable," said amendment sponsor Sen. Marc Pacheco (D-Taunton). "As damages from flooding become more frequent and costly, and our traditional options for addressing these issues become inadequate, we need a novel and equitable way to protect and relocate people and property."

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

ALLOW VIRTUAL MEETINGS OF CONDO ASSOCIATIONS (H 1338) – The House approved and sent to the Senate a bill that would allow condominium association boards to hold meetings virtually and vote on issues electronically.

"This bill will allow for more participation in condo associations," said sponsor Rep. Kevin Honan (D-Boston). "It provides convenience for all involved in the maintenance and care of their condos."

FIRE CHIEF MUST BE A FORMER FIREFIGHTER (H 2347) – The House gave initial approval to legislation that would require that any candidates for appointment to the position of Fire Chief, Fire Commissioner or head of a fire department in any city or town, must have been a uniformed member of the Massachusetts firefighting force of a Massachusetts Fire Department for a minimum of five years.

Supporters said this would ensure that anyone appointed to one of these high positions has some hands-on experience as a firefighter and has come up through the ranks.

Rep. Dan Hunt (D-Boston), the sponsor of the measure, did not respond to repeated requests by *Beacon Hill Roll*

Call to comment on his bill and its passage.

ALLOW ELECTRONIC RECEIPT FOR DELIVERY OF FUEL OILS AND PROPANE (H 4132) – The House approved and sent to the Senate a bill that would allow companies to send customers an electronic delivery receipt for the bulk sale of fuel oils and propane.

"Massachusetts is one of the last states to update this antiquated system of delivery of receipts/invoices from bulk sales," said sponsor Rep. Jeff Roy (D-Franklin). "In today's world of technology, it only makes sense that the delivery of receipts/invoices can be safely and efficiently transmitted to the consumer without having to leave a paper bill at the door or mailbox. Many if not most businesses already operate this way and there is no good reason not to advance bulk sales in this direction as well particularly as the consumer would have a choice in the method of delivery."

Supporters also noted that customers frequently complain about the current practice of the company leaving bags with receipts on their doorknobs or in their mailboxes. They said leaving the receipts in a USPS mailbox is not permitted by law and also leaves consumers vulnerable to identity fraud. They also pointed out that leaving a plastic bag which might remain on the doorknob for several days is a clear signal to would-be criminals that the homeowner is not home and might be traveling.

HOSPITAL HELIPADS (H 2400) – The House gave initial approval to a bill that would ban non-emergency aircraft from practicing training maneuvers, including simulated landings, practice approaches, turns about a point and power off turns, within a two nautical mile vicinity of a hospital with a helipad. Aircraft would be allowed to fly directly over the helipad as long as they are not performing these maneuvers and are flying at an altitude of over 2,000 feet.

"As a representative from a district with a hospital that operates a helipad, I filed this bill after much input from the public," said sponsor Rep. Dan Sena (D-Acton). "I heard from constituents that recreational aircraft often utilized the helipad for training flights and maneuvers that were completely unrelated to the operation of the hospital, which had a significant impact on those in the area. This bill is designed to ensure that hospital helipads are kept open and safe to ensure they are always prepared for an emergency and free of interference."

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"These projects are a direct result of the governor's tax relief bill. Our vacancy rate is at an all-time *Continued on page 10*

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Free meals for the kids this summer is a pretty nice thing.

Our View Of The Times



The Healey-Driscoll Administration has launched a new Massachusetts Summer Child Nutrition Program. Starting this week, kids under the age of 19 can get free meals at various locations throughout the city from now through August 16.

It's a great way of making sure that the city's youth get the nutritional support they need, regardless of financial or social standing.

The importance of getting fully nutritious meals to our kids, especially throughout the summer months while they are out of school and engaged in lively summer activities, cannot be overly emphasized.

Certain kids in the city may not have the same opportunities for getting well-balanced meals that others have, and this program helps to assure that the playing

field is fully leveled and that all are equally equipped with the nutrition they need to properly develop and thrive throughout the summer months.

We hope that this program continues through the years to come. It doesn't cost so much to make sure that our kids are fed well and kept healthy and happy.

It goes without saying that we all wish the best for our kids and will go the extra

mile to provide their basic needs.

Both breakfast and lunch will be offered at various locations throughout the city. Check out the schedule and locations at: <https://www.somervillema.gov/freesummermeals>.

We can all feel better knowing the kids in the city are being both nourished and convinced that their well-being is important to everyone. Because it is.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

birthday to lifelong resident and former mayor, **Gene Brune**. We wish him the very best, he is an amazing person. We wish him many more birthdays to come. Happy birthday to well-known local **Eileen Costa**. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Barbara Passero, David Figueiredo, Rebecca McLaughlin, Tom Fitzgerald, Linda Sauer McSorley, Janeen MobiliaDowling, Corinne Brune Dellanno, Patricia Jillson** and **Joanne Parziale**, a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

The **Red Cross's regular blood drive** returns to the **Armory**, 191 Highland Ave. **Wednesday, July 10**, at 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting www.RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

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. Visit www.somervillema.gov/rodent-saway for more information. To report

trash overflow and rodent issues/sightings, please call 311 (617-666-3311).

Somerville Community Growing Center is looking for **weekend waterers**. Help them keep the center green and growing through the fall. Flexible watering time around weekend events/weather. Commitment: weekly, 12 hours, sub list available. Need to have taken the volunteer orientation. Onsite watering training and written instructions given. Email paula@thegrowingcenter.org

Join the **Arts at the Armory** for their monthly **Café events**. Upcoming events

include: **Tunefoolery Coffee House, Wednesday, July 10**, at 7:00 p.m., **Pub Sing, Thursday, July 11**, at 7:00 p.m. More info available for each event on their website: www.artsatthearmory.org.

The city's annual **SomerMovie Fest** is returning with a lineup of six family-friendly films to be shown in parks around Somerville. Kick off the season and watch **Wonka (2023)** this **Thursday, July 11**, at **Lincoln Park – Argenziano School**. All screenings are free to attend and will begin at dusk. Closed captioning is available. For exact times and to learn more, visit www.somervillema.gov/moviefest. *Continued on page 16*

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#931

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. What major sporting event is traditionally held on the first Monday in July? | 7. What was printed on all paper money, instructed by President Eisenhower, on July 11, 1955? |
| 2. What is July's full moon otherwise known as? | 8. What type of clothing was unveiled by French designer Louis Reard on July 5, 1946? |
| 3. Which national park, the first in the United States, was established in July 1872? | 9. Riots began in which Michigan city on July 23, 1967? |
| 4. What event in New York City, occurring in July 1977, led to widespread looting and arson? | 10. When is International Kissing Day? |
| 5. Who is the fastest man in history with the world record time for the 100 meters? | 11. On July 14, which country celebrates Bastille Day? |
| 6. According to folklore, what should you never do with a July sky? | 12. The July War in 2006 took place in which Middle Eastern country? |

Answers on page 14

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. The infinity sign is called a lemniscate.
2. No word in the English language rhymes with "month."

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

FAMOUS FIRSTS

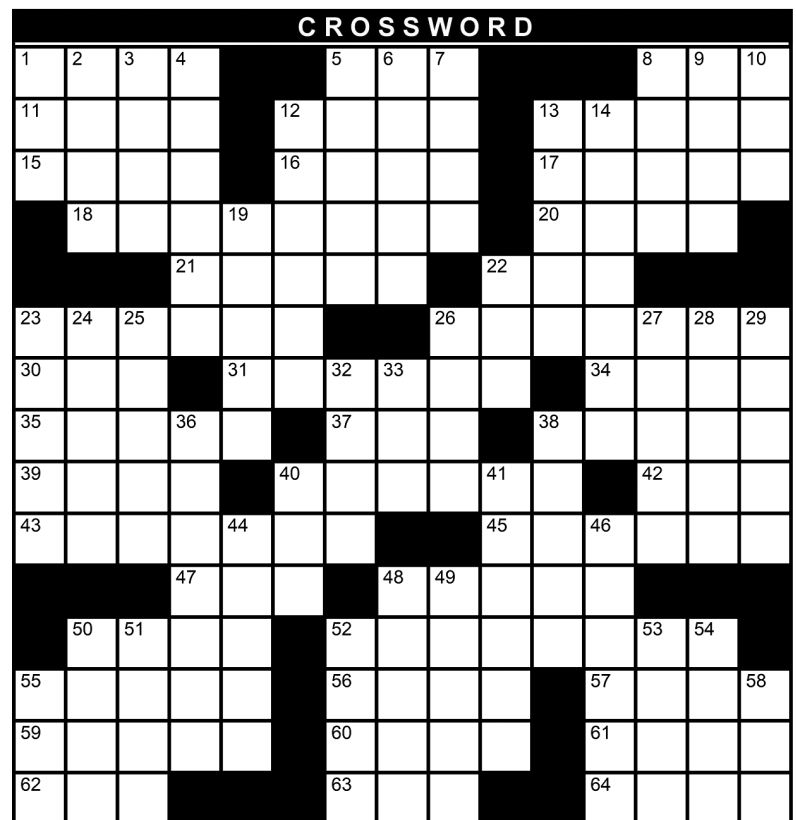
ACROSS

1. Croat or Moravian, e.g.
5. Paid player
8. Not Miss or Ms.
11. First-rate
12. Mattress with memory?
13. Be of use
15. "It's time!" signal
16. ____-de-camp
17. Like an unhealthy dog
18. First one to circumnavigate globe, almost
20. March Madness org.
21. Bring upon
22. Orange Lavaburst drink
23. Rita ____, first Latina to win Academy Award
26. Winter rides, in Russia
30. Brewery order
31. Unties or unbuttons
34. Nearly
35. One born to Japanese immigrants
37. Good times
38. Rheummy
39. Tel ____, Israel
40. Bequeath
42. Once known as
43. West African country
45. Chuck ____, first to break speed of sound
47. Genetic info carrier, acr.
48. City near D, sseldorf
50. Short for Dorothea
52. First artificial satellite (2 words)

55. Clay and silt deposit
56. Marine eagle
57. Mercantile establishment
59. Singer Piaf
60. Concert series
61. Indian nursemaid
62. Craggy peak
63. Little troublemaker
64. Solitary

DOWN

1. Give in to gravity
2. Weaver's apparatus
3. The "I" in "The King and I"
4. Carrots or peas, slangily
5. French soldier in WWI
6. Speed gun



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Soultion to last week's crossword puzzle:



7. First horror film about Damien Thorn, with The
8. Supernatural life force
9. Capital of Latvia
10. Canny
12. Han Solo's "Millennium ____"
13. Prenatal test, for short
14. The first one helped combat smallpox
19. Tedium
22. 120 mins.
23. #8 Down, pl.
24. Martini garnish
25. Pine product
26. Midterm, e.g.
27. a.k.a. Tibetan wild ass
28. Feel the same
29. Timider
32. Deadly challenge
33. Military moves
36. Mount first conquered by Hillary and Norgay
38. 10 to 12-year-old
40. Ewe's cry
41. Half-shell delicacy
44. Grind with teeth
46. Fauna member
48. Erasable programmable read only memory
49. Break of day
50. List of chores
51. Prince of Wales to King
52. Searching for E.T. org.
53. Boxer's last blow
54. Azerbaijan's southern neighbor
55. "____ the wild rumpus begin!"
58. "____ one and only"

Soultion in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

OBITUARY

Frances 'Fran' T. Vallone

December 17, 1928 - June 27, 2024



all her and Bob's siblings and in-laws. Daughter of the late Albert and Antoinette (Croci) Bertocchi.

She leaves her sons Robert A. and his partner Ruth Lof-tin, Richard W. and his partner and Fran's caregiver Glenn Mc-Cormack, and granddaughters Janelle and Shawna. Before motherhood, Fran worked at the Sealtest ice cream factory.

After having children, she worked part-time evenings at the soda fountain of the Bal-A-Roue roller skating rink in Medford and then binding books in Fleming's Print Shop, Cambridge. Enthusias-tic member of many bowling

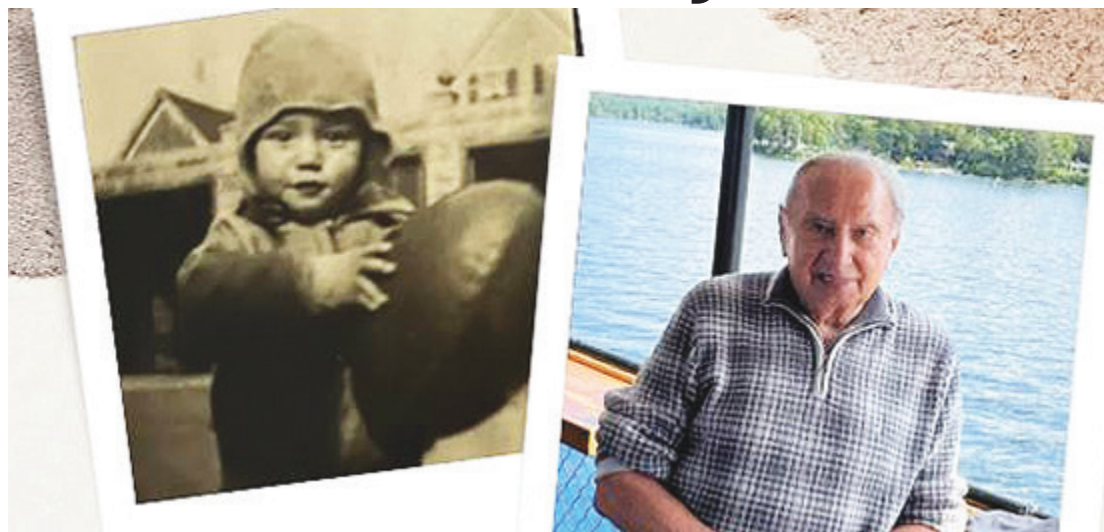
leagues with her late sister, Rosalie.

Relatives and friends were in- vited to visit in the DeVito Fu- neral Home, 761 Mt. Auburn St., WATERTOWN on Tues- day July 2nd from 9:00 - 10:30 am and to her funeral mass at 11:00 am at Sacred Heart Church, Watertown.

Burial followed in New Calva- ry Cemetery, Boston. In lieu of flowers, please donate in memo- ry of Fran to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, c/o Develop- ment, 10 Anna's Place, Dedham, MA 02026, or ARLBoston.org/ donate. Please visit devitofuner- alhome.com to view an online guestbook.

Vallone, Frances T. "Fran" (Bertocchi), 95, of Somerville died calmly June 27, 2024 af- ter much recent health tur- moil in her life. Lifelong resi- dent of Somerville. Steadfast wife of the late Robert "Bob" Vallone and last survivor of

It's time to recognize an extraordinary man



Gene Brune will be turning 95 years young on July 12 and there are at least 95 reasons to celebrate the amazing Gene Brune!

The Somerville Museum has always been special to Gene – they intend to honor his commitment and contributions with your help. Please join them in donating \$95 to the Somerville Museum in Gene's name and send them at least one of the many reasons to honor and love him.

On July 12, the day of Gene's 95th birthday, they will use the words that you send them in a birthday card to Gene and will make a special announcement regarding how they intend to honor and recog- nize him for his many contributions to the Museum over the past five decades, both as a Trustee and before that in public office. They hope that you will join us in recognizing this special man and true son of Somerville on his 95th birthday.

So, here's what to do: Send theSomerville Museum the one word that you think best describes Gene, either by return email, by email to laidy@somervillemuseum.org or by including it on a note with your donation below, and Make your donation online using the link below <https://www.somervillemuseum.org/checkout/donate...>(with "Gene 95 for 95" noted) or send a check payable to the Somerville Museum (with "Gene 95 for 95" noted in the memo line) to the Somerville Museum, One Westwood Road, Somerville, MA 02143.

(Your contribution qualifies as a tax-deductible charitable donation to a 501c3 organization.)

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #308

Historic Clarendon Hill

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

It wasn't until after the Civil War that Somerville began enjoying her western border, the of Town of Arlington. Historically, the two towns shared in Paul Revere's ride, the Battle of April 19th, the Pawtucket Indian's Queen Squaw Sachem's deeded land, and sports.



On Bunker Hill Day, June 17, 1867, Arlington, formerly West Cambridge, renamed itself after our sacred National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. Since then, an impressive eagle-surmounted Civil War Memorial has commanded the view of Arlington's Center.

Somerville, like Arlington and other locations, was greatly impacted by the Civil War. Its citizens didn't want future generations to forget the sacrifices that were made to protect the Union. Those sacrifices were made by her soldiers, the places they fought at, and the men they fought along with.



At the beginning of the war, local troops were recruited in Union Square and trained at Prospect Hill. As the war progressed from 1861-1865, thousands were required and were trained locally at the 140-acre, 30-building Camp Cameron site. It was a basic training camp in Somerville/Cambridge and its location was between today's Massachusetts Avenue and Holland Street, and Teele and Davis Squares.

In the Summer of 1863, our city's *Continued on page 17*

LEGAL NOTICES

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

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court

MIDDLESEX Division Docket No. MI23P5594EA

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Estate of:
Jean C. Keelan
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Also Known As: _____

Date of Death: October 28, 2022

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Margaret Curtis of Brockton MA
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)


[x] Margaret Curtis of Brockton MA
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

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

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

7/10/24 The Somerville Times

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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The **Somerville Planning Board (PB)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Thursday, July 18, 2024**, at 6:00pm through Zoom.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting of the Planning Board will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to PlanningBoard@somervillema.gov.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qnvAEHxQUOZYsZFWfDozg
Webinar ID: 811 4342 0315

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.

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

71-72 Union Square Walter Sullivan seeks a Major Amendment to a previously issued Special Permit for Cannabis Retail (CZC#2020-00039) for in the Commercial Core 4 (CC4) zoning district.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions>. Interested persons may provide comments to the Planning Board at the hearing or by submitting written comments by email to PlanningBoard@somervillema.gov.

7/3/24, 7/10/24 The Somerville Times

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



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

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The **Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Wednesday, July 17, 2024**, at 6:00pm through Zoom.

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting of the Zoning Board of Appeals will be conducted via remote participation. An audio recording of these proceedings will be available upon request to ZoningBoard@somervillema.gov.

TO USE A COMPUTER

Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_WcQoNIVTQkqEsvFWJllepww
Webinar ID: 861 1687 6438

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.

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

10 Bedford Street Dmitry Vasilyev and Patrycja Missiuro seek an administrative appeal of (1) the Building Official's issuance of a Building Permit, B23-001151, and (2) the Building Official's denial of a Request for Enforcement.

35 McGrath Hwy 35 McGrath Highway Realty Trust seeks zoning relief from the curb setback requirement of the High Rise (HR) district, which require a Hardship Variance.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning/reports-and-decisions>. Interested persons may provide comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing or by submitting written comments by email to ZoningBoard@somervillema.gov.

7/3/24, 7/10/24 The Somerville Times

Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 6

low, and these awards will create much needed multi-family housing across our state.” — *Housing and Livable Communities Secretary Augustus announcing \$27 million in Housing Development Incentive Program (HDIP) awards to create 547 total new units in 11 Gateway Cities across the Bay State.*

“Access to affordable, high-quality early education and child care is essential. By actively engaging with the needs and challenges of families and providers, we can develop transformative policies that empower our workforce, drive economic growth and ensure a brighter future for our children. Together, we will create an early education system that benefits every resident of Massachusetts.” — *Secretary of Economic Development Yvonne Hao announcing the Healey Administration will be holding a series of listening sessions across the state in July and August to inform the Early Education and Child Care Task Force’s recommendations and broader strategy to ensure accessible and affordable high-quality childcare for all families. For a list of locations and dates and/or to register to attend these sessions or provide input go to: Mass.gov/ChildCareTaskForce*

“Once again, Massachusetts taxes punish success. While there is only one NBA Championship team, there are many businesses and high-income earners making the same decision as the owner of the Celtics. If Massachusetts ever wants to be economically competitive again, it must eliminate the income surtax and estate tax. These two taxes punish success and today is another great example of its economic harm.” — *Paul Craney, spokesman for the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance, reacting to news reports that Wye Grousbeck announced that he will be selling his majority interest in the Boston Celtics for “estate and family planning considerations.”*

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. 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 in-

frequency 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 July 1-5, the House met for a total of 27 minutes and the Senate met for a total of 15 minutes.

Mon. July 1	House 11:00 a.m. to 11:13 a.m. Senate 11:12 a.m. to 11:18 a.m.
Tues. July 2	House 11:00 a.m. to 11:06 a.m. No Senate session
Wed. July 3	House 11:03 a.m. to 11:11 a.m. Senate 11:03 a.m. to 11:12 a.m.
Thurs. July 4	No House session No Senate session
Fri. July 5	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

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.

Dojo Partners in support of Somernova campus expansion project

On behalf of the Dojo Partners, we would like to voice our collective support for the proposed Somernova campus expansion project. We are made up of organizations who have all directly benefited from The Dojo at Somernova and we are; Somerville Bike Kitchen, Mystic Learning Center, Better Future Project, Parkour Generations Boston, Somerville Media Center, Somerville Community Corporation, Riverside Community Care, Somerville Foundation, Books of Hope, Youth Stream, The Center for Teen Empowerment, Highlanders FRC 6201, Elizabeth Peabody House & DEILAB.

With feedback from many partners and the community, in 2021, Rafi Properties/Somernova established The Dojo, a youth-driven multi-generational community space pilot that connects and empowers people of all ages and backgrounds through immersive learning, cultural experiences and fun. To date, the Dojo has hosted hundreds of programs and events with thousands of attendees and visitors of all ages. Programs and events ranging from robotics competitions to financial literacy seminars to open mic nights, weekly bike kitchens, sustainable fashion shows, educational programs, game nights and much more. The Dojo has been a lifesaver for many of us, allowing us to collaborate and test programs. Each of us, and our youth participants, have collaborated on what should be included in the new community center. The design and scale model for the permanent youth driven community cen-

ter is part of Rafi Properties/Somernova's campus expansion.

We as nonprofit collaborators are rapidly outgrowing the capacity of The Dojo, we are working together to utilize every inch. This space is invaluable to us and there has been little to no cost for any of our programming. Not paying exorbitant rent allows us to divert our resources towards service. Our wish is that we are moving towards the construction of a permanent home for The Dojo. As part of the Rafi Properties/Somernova expansion plan, this space would offer 12,000 square feet, housing a youth-driven, multi-generational community center. This space would allow us to expand our programming and amplify our impact within the Somerville community. Best of all, it will be run by the community.

Those of us who are partners with The Dojo struggle to keep programming going in Somerville. Space that can be used at low to no cost is a challenge to find, rents have skyrocketed and for those of us who have advocated for a community center for decades, this could be a dream come true. The families, youth and community of Somerville deserve a safe space to learn and grow and a nurturing environment to call their own. We, the partners of The Dojo, support the Somernova expansion project. Below are some quotes from the Dojo partners.

"SBK lost its previous space in 2023 and we are grateful that our partnership with Somernova at The Dojo has enabled SBK's

operation to not only continue but to further thrive," said Andrea Aparicio of the Somerville Bike Kitchen. "Since joining The Dojo, we have doubled the amount of guests that we serve every month, and this factor continues to increase. We support the expansion that would allow Somernova to provide increased support to community organizations like ours, such that we are able to grow our programming and community network."

"As a human service professional for over 35 years and the Executive Director of the Mystic Learning Center Inc., I see that we need change within the City of Somerville," said Tracey Stearns, Executive Director, Mystic Learning Center. "We need to work together for a common goal. Progression is inevitable and huge change comes with each passing year - it is our time to embrace those who seek to improve and help us grow our community. Rafi Properties/Somernova are here to help us do just that. They have come to the table to hear what the community needs and have listened to what its residents have to say. They have our utmost respect and support!"

"We are thrilled for the Better Future Project to join Somernova and make our new home in The Dojo," said Alan Palm, Executive Director of the Better Future Project. "Through our programs—350 Mass and CREW—Better Future Project addresses the climate crisis by organizing people to take collective action to stop climate pollution and build resilience. The vibrant, innovative, community at Somernova and youth centered space of The Dojo is an auspicious setting to carry out our mission."

"We've enjoyed partnering with The Dojo @ Somernova over the last 5+ years as it has provided a much-needed city-wide "hub" for youth-serving programs and young people. I grew up in Somerville (SHS '05) and even as a kid there was a lack of safe and accessible spaces that offered high-quality programs. Somerville needs spaces specifically designed for young people, not just ones where we happen to let congregate during certain times," said Blake Evitt, Director, Parkour Gener-

ations Americas. "We have great programs in Somerville, but many of them struggle to find space, afford space, or deal with the headaches of managing a space. The Dojo @ Somernova is a unique opportunity to combine the (significant) support of a forward-looking developer with the passion of our diverse landscape of high-quality programs to fill a (large and enduring) hole in our city's landscape."

"The Board of Directors of the Somerville Media Center is proud to support Somernova in their visionary master plan for campus development," said Jesse Buckley, Board President, Somerville Media Center. "In our search for a new home, Somernova emerged as a dedicated and enthusiastic partner and their commitment to SMC has already enhanced our operational capabilities and expanded our community outreach. The inclusive vision outlined in Somernova's master plan, particularly the creation of a community center and arts space, resonates deeply with our mission. We are excited about the potential to contribute meaningfully to this transformative initiative. Together, we envision a future where collaboration thrives, innovation flourishes, and the community benefits immeasurably."

"Somerville Community Corporation has been working with the Union Square Neighborhood Council and Rafi Properties to continue discussions that supports affordable housing, community center, workforce development and other important initiatives that will benefit our community," said Gonzalo Puigbo, Chief Executive Officer of the Somerville Community Corporation. "Conversations between all groups continue to move forward to get to a comprehensive community benefits agreement that will benefit the needs of residents and our city economy."

"Since its inception, The Dojo @ Somernova has been a cornerstone for numerous non-profits and youth-serving organizations, offering a welcoming space for programming and collaboration," said Kimberly Martin, Assistant Vice President Child and Family Services of Riverside Community Care. "The center's commitment to creating

Continued on page 12



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Somerville Police investigating two separate shooting incidents week of June 24

The following is an important update from the Somerville Police regarding recent gun activity. The Somerville Police Department is actively investigating two recent gun incidents that occurred this week (week of June 24, 2024).

The first incident occurred on Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 11:58 p.m. when police responded to shots fired in the area of Summer Street near Bow Street. Several homes were damaged, and one resident reported shots were fired into their apartment. A witness reported seeing two masked individuals exit a small dark-colored motor vehicle and start shooting. Detectives located over 30 bullet casings on Summer Street. No injuries were reported.

On Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at 8:03 p.m., Somerville Police responded to the Cambridge Health Alliance on Tower Street in Somerville after a man self-reported a gunshot injury. The victim is a 22-year-old man, formerly of Somerville and now an Everett resident, who sustained a single gunshot wound to his upper torso. Based on information provided to police, it is believed the victim sustained his injury in the area of Temple Road under the Route 93 underpass.

Police are actively investigating both incidents, and there is no evidence at this time that the two incidents are related. No arrests have been made, and anyone who has related information is asked to contact the Somerville Police Department at 617-625-1212.

You can also leave an anonymous tip one of several ways:

Text: Text the keyword 617SPD and your tip to the number 847411

Use the App: Submit your tip with the Somerville PD App available on iOS or Android devices

Submit online: Submit your tip via online form on the Somerville Police website at [somervillema.gov/crimetip](https://www.somervillema.gov/crimetip)

Police Chief Femino has increased patrol presence and deployed additional resources in the areas where these incidents occurred. Although we believe there is no ongoing threat to the immediate areas, we ask residents to remain alert and report any suspicious activity to the Somerville Police Department. If there is an urgent threat to public safety, please call 911 for an immediate response. For non-emergency reports, please call 617-625-1212.

The City of Somerville and Somerville Police are committed to keeping our community safe. We also understand that violent incidents can be traumatizing and unsettling. The City of Somerville Department of Health and Human Services has clinical staff that can direct you to additional resources if needed. Please use the online referral form at www.somervillema.gov/support. If you need assistance filling out the form, please call 311 at 617-666-3311. Please also visit the City's Mental Health Support webpage for more resources at [somervillema.gov/mental-health-support](https://www.somervillema.gov/mental-health-support).

Investigation of and prevention of gun activity is a top public safety priority. All investigative resources are dedicated to each incident with the goal of identifying and apprehending those responsible. In most cases, the suspects are identified and apprehended. SPD collaborates with state and neighboring law enforcement to address gun activity and community connections are often key. Please always report any activity that may be related.



Dojo Partners in support of Somernova campus expansion project

CONT. FROM PG 11

an inclusive environment has not only provided essential resources for families and youth but has also facilitated meaningful networking opportunities for service providers. This unique ecosystem of support is instrumental in addressing the diverse needs of our community.”

“The Dojo @ Somernova has been essential for running programming funded by The Somerville (Education) Foundation. The gathering of program leaders at The Dojo created the new and innovative Green Team Bike Division, led by Groundwork and Somerville Bike Kitchen. Several communities where youth can create, express themselves, and make or cultivate friendships, call the Dojo home,” said Rafael Vieira, Manager of The Somerville Foundation. “This community space is not just for youth, but for youth workers as well. I especially support the expansion if it includes conference spaces for use by community organizations and nonprofits. Please know that there are many passion-

ate people seeking to serve the Somerville community, and their work is bottlenecked by a lack of accessible space.”

“As a youth worker in Somerville for over a decade, I know how urgently our young people need a space where they can come for free arts and cultural programming,” said Erich Hagen, Director of Books of Hope/ YouthStream. “Under the guidance of Director Majic Alphonse, The Dojo expansion plan should guarantee the availability of space for such programs for today, and build sustainability for tomorrow by supporting the great work already being done by youth workers in our community.”

“Somernova has been a reliable, long-term supporter of many community programs. The SHS robotics program found itself homeless in 2019 when the High School was being rebuilt. Somernova offered space for the team to meet and has since provided venues for middle school Lego robotics and other STEAM programming,” said Michael Chiu, Co-Found-

er & Parent Volunteer, Highlanders 6201. “Rafi has done a great job to date and has been innovative in the existing Ames Envelope facilities. However, the overall site has much more potential to bring transformational value to the city in the form of high paying jobs, more efficient buildings, more green space and a new hub for community engagement where youth can interact with startup companies through outreach, programming and internships.”

“Somernova has been used by the city in different ways and will continue to be a big help for the community,” said Ashley Saint Hilaire, Program Director, The Center for Teen Empowerment. “We hope the whole city agrees with how the youth feel.”

“Somerville is crying out for more programs, services, and spaces that are dedicated to supporting, uplifting, and empowering our diverse youth population,” said Mathew Caughey, Executive Director, Elizabeth Peobody House. “Spaces like the Dojo are unique in offering dedicat-

ed space for youth to gather, share experiences, co-create, self-advocate, and affect change in their own lives and communities. This is why we lend our voice and support to this expansion project.”

“Somernova has been a crucial partner for us with our mission to reach even more students in Somerville,” said Ethan Busis, Program Director, DEILAB. “We’ve run many programs with them over the years and have always been impressed by the dedication they have creating more opportunities for local youth. I’m especially thankful that they collect, value, and act on student input, instead of just dictating what they think youth may be interested in. We’ve heard feedback from students that they want a ‘third place’ to belong to beyond school and home, and the current Dojo community center is a great step in that direction. We hope that Somernova is able to expand their community center and be able to serve even more local youth in the years to come!”

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.

Supporting the zoning amendment for Somernova

Dear Planning Board and City Council,

My name is Jhenny Saint-Surin, and before diving into the reasons why I support the zoning amendment for Somernova, I want to disclose that I have consulted for Rafi Properties on this project. However, before being a consultant, I am a Ward 5 resident who has lived in Somerville for over 10 years and worked for the city for 7 years. I hope to call Somerville home for many years to come and wish for developers who come into our city to be as community-oriented as Rafi Properties.

While I could share sentimental reasons for my support—like the developer's generosity towards underserved community members—I want to focus on the tangible benefits of this project for our community.

I am writing to support changing the zoning to allow the Somernova expansion. As a resident, my primary concern is the positive fiscal impact this project will have on our community. The expansion of Somernova promises substantial economic benefits. The increased commercial tax base will permit Somerville to

continue providing essential social services to the city's most underserved residents. If the zoning does not change and the project proceeds as of right, we will miss a significant opportunity to generate the resources needed to enhance our social safety nets, fix our aging infrastructure, and address our financial challenges.

Our region faces a housing crisis, and every effort to alleviate it helps. An as-of-right project would not permit housing. The current zoning proposal includes a six-story, 100-unit residential building, with a MINIMUM of 20% of the units designated as affordable. This contribution is crucial for addressing our community's housing needs and ensuring that more residents have access to affordable living options.

The economic impact of job creation cannot be overstated. The project is expected to generate approximately 11,868 new jobs, including permanent and construction-related positions. Additionally, funds allocated to the jobs trust will support workforce development and training programs, essential for increasing access to employment opportunities. This focus on workforce

development is particularly important in sectors like energy efficiency and climate tech, where I currently work, and can provide long-term career growth for residents. Connecting our underserved populations to jobs on the Somernova campus is an amazing opportunity that, while requiring some coordination, offers a chance to help people access a lucrative field with long-term viability. Affordability is also about connecting people to jobs and training that will help them advance economically.

The expansion also includes transformative civic spaces—including a 37,000 SF Courtyard/Park, 7,200 SF "Daycare" Park, and 11,000 SF Park. The new Public Room civic space type will allow Somernova to create publicly accessible indoor spaces, fostering community engagement and social interaction. This will enhance the quality of life for all residents. Additionally, the commuter rail expansion to the campus is an incredible benefit to Somerville residents, like me, who commute out of the city for work, improving access to public transportation.

I understand that residents

living around the area are mainly concerned about traffic, and their concerns are very valid. Rafi Properties has listened, and the new proposed mobility plan includes guardrails via a phased approach to ensure maximum efficiency. The Somernova Momentum Mobility Plan is designed to create an environment with various transportation options. By promoting walking, bicycling, micro-mobility, and public transit, the plan will reduce car dependency and will help create a healthier, more connected community.

The project is designed with a strong emphasis on environmental sustainability and social equity. The Climate & Equity Innovation Overlay District will support climate-tech startups and ensure the most underserved populations in Somerville and the region benefit from the campus expansion. The expansion prioritizes providing resources and opportunities for youth, fostering innovation, and supporting social equity.

Rafi Properties has demonstrated a model for working with the community that is unprecedented in Somerville. They have

been accessible, responsive, and committed to incorporating community feedback into their plans. In my opinion, this developer has truly embraced the community and listens, setting a new standard for community-oriented development.

This project offers numerous benefits that align with the greater good of our community. It supports economic growth, addresses housing needs, creates jobs, and provides valuable civic spaces. By changing the zoning, we can leverage this opportunity to build a more prosperous and equitable Somerville. The phased approach to development and recognition of parking issues further highlight the thoughtful planning behind this project. As a community, we have much to gain from this project. I hope that we can maximize the benefits and extract as much good from this opportunity as possible. I urge the city to support the zoning amendment to allow the Somernova expansion.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Jhenny Saint-Surin
Somerville

Ward 5 'Slice of the City' meet-up event

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Ward 5 Councilor Naima Sait, and the City Council invite Somerville community members to the Ward 5 "Slice of the City" meet-up event on Monday, July 22, at Trum Field playground (1 Franey Road at Cedar Street), from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. This event was originally scheduled for Thursday, May 16, but was postponed due to weather.

The Ward 5 event wraps up the debut of "Slice of the City," a series of family-friendly pizza parties in the parks that offer attendees a new way to connect and engage with city leaders and staff as well as neighbors, all while enjoying Somerville's parks.

Staff on hand will be happy to discuss neighborhood projects, City programs and services, questions or concerns, or your favorite pizza topping. Additional refreshments and activities for children will be provided.

Each "Slice of the City" event prioritizes inclusivity and accessibility, with language assistance available through the SomerViva Office of Immigrant Affairs and accommodations for seniors and individuals with mobility needs. For more information, please visit somervillema.gov/slice.



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Ms. Cam's

Olivo

Answers

From page 8

- | | |
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| 1. The Wimbledon Championships | 7. In God We Trust |
| 2. The Buck Moon | 8. Two-piece swimsuit |
| 3. Yellowstone | 9. Detroit |
| 4. New York City Black-out | 10. July 6 |
| 5. Usain Bolt | 11. France |
| 6. Trust it | 12. Lebanon |

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.

Senate passes Housing Bond Bill



By State Senator Pat Jehlen

There's no place like home! How can we make sure everyone in Massachusetts has a stable home they can afford, whether it's owning or renting? Housing affordability is the biggest crisis right now in our state.

This is the first of three newsletters about the Housing Bond Bill the Senate passed on June 27. Others will be about the housing emergency and other immediate solutions.

HOUSING BOND AUTHORIZATIONS

The Affordable Homes Act [1] is the largest bond bill in Massachusetts history. It authorizes \$5.4 billion in borrowing over the next five years. It is a very important step to solving the housing supply problem in the long run.

The widely quoted McKinsey study [2] projected that we need 125-200k new units by 2030. The administration says the bill could enable construction/preservation of up to 45,000 units over 5 years [3]. Obviously, we need to count on the private market to produce many more units, which are not likely to be affordable to essential workers, but will increase the supply. We hope that will help stabilize prices.

Repairing Public Housing

The Senate bill provides \$2.2 billion for repairs and renovation in the 43,000 units of state-aided public housing.

Promoting Affordable Housing Units

\$425 million will go to the Housing Stabilization and Investment Trust fund [4], working with municipalities, non-profits, and developers to support housing preservation, new construction, and rehabilitation projects for affordable rental units.

The bill adds \$800 million into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund [4] to create and preserve housing for households with an income at or below 110 per cent of area median income.

Building Sustainably

This bond bill includes \$275 million for innovative, sustainable, and green housing initiatives.



Supporting First-Time Homebuyers in Gateway Cities

The bill authorizes \$200 million for the Commonwealth Builder program [5] for production of housing in Gateway cities for first-time homebuyers.

It includes \$50 million for MassDreams [6], which provides down payment and closing cost grants to first-time homebuyers who meet the program's eligibility criteria and who currently live in one of the 29 communities that were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. (none in our district)

Maintaining Essential Infrastructure

The bill authorizes \$375 million for HousingWorks [7], which awards grants to municipalities and other public entities for infrastructure-related support. \$100 million of that will be dedicated to addressing water, sewer, and septic challenges tied to housing developments, and \$100 million will help incentivize best practices in communities that have adopted the Community Preservation Act (CPA) and are spending a high percentage of those funds on housing, as well as MBTA communities that are going beyond the minimum requirements of the 2021 MBTA zoning law.

Addressing Regional Equity

The legislation includes \$150 million in dedicated funds for rural towns, seasonal communities, and mid-sized communities.

My Amendment: Small Properties Acquisition Fund

My amendment allocates \$10 million for grants of capital funds to Community Land Trusts and Community Development Corporation to compete with cash purchasers for small naturally affordable properties from 1-8 units. These units would then be required to be long-term affordable.

It would preserve neighborhoods, and give communities an option to slow the flipping of homes and neighborhoods. It would keep people in their homes.

POLICY CHANGES

Policy proposals in the Senate bill are extremely important, along with the funding.

Protecting Tenants from Broker Fees

The bill requires that real estate brokers' fees be paid solely by the party that contracted with them. Trying to save up for first, last, security AND broker fees keeps people for getting apartments.

Eviction Record Sealing

The bill creates a process for tenants to seal their eviction records in cases of no-fault evictions and other limited scenarios. This protects tenants from the long-term stigma of eviction records, enhancing their ability to secure future housing and promoting housing stability.

Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)

The legislation prohibits banning or unreasonable restriction of ADUs in single-family residential zones. This policy enables homeowners to create additional living spaces, increases housing supply and can provide more af-



fordable rental options.

Inclusionary Zoning

The bill allows cities and towns to adopt inclusionary zoning ordinances that require up to 13% affordable housing by a majority vote rather than the current 2/3.

Homeownership Tax Credit

This tax credit can be used to produce homeownership units for households that make up to 120 per cent of the area median income.

Songs of the Week

Bob the Builder [8]

I Live in a City...Made by Human Hands by Malvina Reynolds [9]

Links:

- [1] <https://malegislature.gov/Bills/193/S2850>
- [2] chrome-extension://efaidnbmninnkcbpajp-cglclefindmkaj/https://www.mass.gov/doc/future-of-work-in-massachusetts-report/download
- [3] <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/the-affordable-homes-act-research-and-analysis#production-and-preservation>
- [4] <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/housing-stabilization-fund-hsf>
- [5] <https://www.masshousing.com/en/developers/commonwealth-builder>
- [6] <https://www.masshousing.com/home-ownership/homebuyers/massdreams>
- [7] <https://www.mass.gov/how-to/housingworks-infrastructure-program>
- [8] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HdVg-2jn2OU>
- [9] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iJWvEwrb_CA

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Child and Family Tax Credit Information Session (In Spanish), **Tuesday, July 16, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.** Did you know that some families can get extra money through tax credits in Massachusetts? The **SomerViva Office of Immigrant Affairs**, in partnership with **Greater Boston Legal Services (GBLS)**, invites you to participate in this free virtual information session. Virtual Meeting Information: Meeting ID: 849 2580 6088, Passcode: 758983, Zoom link: <https://tinyurl.com/d5w5f6ma>.

Container Gardening Workshop with **Green City Growers** takes place at the **Central Library, Monday, July 29, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.** 79 Highland Ave. In this workshop, learn everything you need to know to get started with container gardening. Topics will include how to determine how much light your location gets and how that impacts what you can grow; types of containers; soil and fertilizers; when and how much to water; plant spacing; as well as determining whether to direct seed or buy transplants. Stop by with questions and leave with a small container and plant.

CultureHouse has its next popup 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/gilmanpark/>. CultureHouse is looking for artists, creatives, nonprofit 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/gilmanpark/>.

Gallery @ SPL presents: **Boston Street photography** with **Troy D. Minkowsky**. During the **month of July**, the Gallery

@ SPL will display the work of local photographer, **Troy D. Minkowsky**. This exhibit focuses on Boston Street photography captured during the pandemic. Join the celebratory reception. This event will be held on **Saturday, July 13, at Somerville Public Library Central Branch** (79 Highland Ave.) from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

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. **SomerStreets** is an annual series that takes place one Sunday per month in the months of **June through October**. It's the **City of Somerville's** take on the internationally renowned **Open Streets** concept, closing busy city streets to vehicles, and opening them up for cycling, walking, dancing, running, and arts programming.

Join **Boston Lindy Hops** on **Wednesday, July 17, 608 Somerville Ave.** for **Somerville Stomp**. They will kick things off from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. with a **Community Hour**, hosted by **Alexander Graber-Tilton**. Come share a meal with fellow dancers, maybe grab someone to practice a few moves with. From there, we'll have three hours of DJ-ed music with lots of space for dancing, and the opportunity to enjoy bar grub, spirited drinks, and good company.

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/docentprogram>.

Somerville Recreation is gearing up for a summer packed with weekly programming for local teens. There's something for everyone, programs include pickup soccer, volleyball and basketball clinics, pickup flag football, open gym, and Friday 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.gov or visit somervillema.gov/electricvehicles.

Femmechanics' annual alleycat race, Babes Bike Boston, is taking place on **Sunday, July 14**. Babes Bike Boston is Boston's alleycat for and by femme, trans, nonbinary, and women cyclists. This is a great way to explore Boston on two wheels and compete for awesome prizes. Race is limited to femme, trans, nonbinary, and women cyclists only, but everyone

is welcome to the afterparty volunteers, riders, and allies. The race will start and end at **The Dojo at Somernova** located at 15 Properzi Way, Somerville, MA. There will be some space for day-of signups, but advance registration is preferred. More info at femmechanics.wordpress.com.

AARP Presentation on the Six Pillars of Brain Health takes place on **Thursday, July 11, at 10:00 a.m.** at the **Holland Street Center**. It's never too late to take charge of your brain health. In this session, you will learn about the six pillars of a brain-healthy lifestyle, share your brain-boosting activities and be inspired by others. RSVP by contacting **Debby Higgins** at 6176256600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.gov Lunch will be served at noon.

On **Sunday, July 20**, **Boston Bouldering Project** is hosting **Summer of Climbing Boston**, a daylong celebration of all things climbing, presented by **Arc'teryx and Jackalope**. Get psyched for an epic bouldering competition, with \$10,000 in cash prizes and an invitation for four winners to attend **Squamish Academy in British Columbia**, along with an artisan village, live DJ sets, local food vendors, and more! Those interested can register to compete at www.boulderingproject.com/location/somerville. Not competing, but still want to attend? Reserve a free ticket on the site to join in on the fun.

A **Poetry Reading: Celebrating Amy Lowell** takes place on Saturday, July 20, 4:00–5:30 p.m. (Rain Date: July 21, 6:00–7:00 p.m.). Visit the **Somerville Community Growing Center** in celebration of the garden poetry of Amy Lowell, with readings from **Jennifer Clarvoe, Lloyd Schwartz, and Denise Provost** in a garden setting. Conversation and an open mic will follow. Presented by the **NE Poetry Club**. More info at nepoetryclub.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 *Continued on page 22*

53 Somerville locals pedal toward record-breaking fundraising goal in the 2024 Pan-Mass Challenge

On Saturday, August 3 and Sunday, August 4, 6,500 riders, including 53 residents from Somerville, will participate in the milestone 45th Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC) with the goal of raising a record \$75 million for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (Dana-Farber). This year, the PMC, which is Dana-Farber's largest single contributor, will cross \$1 billion in lifetime fundraising for the Institute.

"Thanks to the fierce determination of PMC riders, volunteers, donors and sponsors, I'm confident that this will be our biggest fundraising year yet," said Billy Starr, founder and executive director of the PMC. "We're well positioned to cross \$1 billion in total donations for cancer research and treatment since I founded the PMC in 1980 – I am looking forward to cycling alongside everyone on the road in August as we hit this momentous achievement together."

As the #3 top-grossing peer-to-peer fundraising organization in the country, the PMC donates 100 percent of every rider-raised dollar directly to Dana-Farber to support cancer research and patient care, accounting for 62 percent of the Jimmy Fund's annual revenue. For more than four decades, PMC funds have allowed Dana-Farber to achieve lifesaving clinical breakthroughs and advancements. In the last five years alone, Dana-Farber doctors and researchers have played a substantial role in developing more than half of all cancer drugs approved by the FDA.

Cyclists come together from all corners of the world to ride between 25 and 211 miles—6 countries and 44 states, territories, and districts – with one mission: to raise as much money as possible for Dana-Farber. Most participate in honor of a family member or friend fighting cancer, and nearly 1,000 riders and volunteers are cancer survivors or current patients, considered Living Proof® of the PMC mission. There are also 160 Dana-Farber employees committed to the cause as riders and volunteers, in some cases to fund their own cancer research.

There is still time to be #OneInABillion by participating in this year's ride – registration for PMC 2024 is open through July 1. Join riders from your community in the fight against cancer by registering for one of the following routes still available:

25 and 50-Mile Routes (1-Day, 25 or 50 Miles; Sunday, August 4):

Starting and finishing in either Wellesley or Foxboro at Patriot Place, these Sunday routes are perfect single day options.

Wellesley Century Ride (1-Day, 100 Miles; Sunday, August 4):

The scenic Wellesley Century route is for riders looking to challenge their endurance in a single day format while making an impact in the fight against cancer.

The PMC is co-presented by the Red Sox Foundation® and M&T Bank. To make a financial contribution to a rider from your town or to register as a rider, visit www.pmc.org, or call (800) WE-CYCLE. Connect with #PMC2024 on Facebook, X, Instagram and LinkedIn.

Thank you to the following riders from Somerville: Jennifer Abramson, Jim Adams, Colin Alie, Ben Anderson, Samuel Bar, Alyssa Beatty, Daniel Bekenstein, Dory Bowers, Betsy Bowman, Margaret Brochu, Jackie Bussgang, Georgia Cook, Madeline Cortes, Peter Cote, Lance Davis, Annie Donahue, James Dorer, Cole Dutcher, Julia Dutcher, Peter Eramo, Tony Espy, Antonio Ferre, Adam Fraust-Wylie, Alexander Frieden, John Henson, Nolan Houston, Gerran Hullah, Daniel Hullah, Joshua Jackson, Dylan Katz, Andrew Kirkwood, Kate Lane, James Lee, Julie Lugten, Tres Macdonald, Penny Mapa, Ian Marlier, Josh McCarthy, Billy McSheffrey, Dylan Metcalf, Lucy Murphy, Rachel O'Leary, Christopher Provenzano, Charles Rose, Evan Rouleau, Virgil Ruddy, Kristine Schroeder, Muriel Schwinn, Tyler Smith, Josh Thibodeau, Gabriella Tober, Aaron Valentine and Cameron Winters.



Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 9

hallowed eagle-surmounted Civil War Monument was the first in the country and honored the Somerville Light Infantry's fallen heroes. That remembrance only scratched the surface of the war that cost over 360,000 Northern lives. It was a war that could not be forgotten.

In West Somerville, Clarendon Hills, Seven Pines Avenue, Malvern Avenue, Glendale Avenue, Fair Oaks Street and Yorktown Street bring to mind Civil War battles, while Camp Street, Cam-

eron Avenue and Day Street recognize the training camp.

After the Union was saved, the city memorialized its area with street signs paying tribute to over thirty Army, Navy and civilian heroes and the States that saved the Union. Our Clarendon Hill mirrors a section of the Arlington National Cemetery called Clarendon Village.

Somerville and our western neighbor, Arlington, might have more historic tie-ins than we realize.



Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

Upcoming events:

Medical Equipment Program – 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. We 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.

Focus Group - Friday, August 2nd from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Holland Street Center located at 167 Holland Street. Please join the City of Somerville Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) for a focus group on the potential rental registry and energy disclosure ordinance. We are looking for tenants and landlords to join us. Focus group participants will be eligible for a gift card. What is the rental registry and energy disclosure ordinance? The potential ordinance proposes to require residential and commercial landlords to register their units with the City of Somerville and share information about the energy use of each unit. This information would be publicly available and accessible. The intention is to make this information transparent and available for potential tenants making housing decisions. Why is OSE hosting focus groups? OSE wants to hear insights from those most impacted by this potential ordinance.

Lockboxes for Seniors - What is the Lockboxes for Seniors program? The Lockboxes for Seniors program is intended to provide Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) access to your residence in the event of an emergency where you are unable to open the door. A key to your residence will be stored in a secure metal storage device, like a realtor's lockbox, at your residence. The access code to the lockbox will only be available to Police, Fire, or EMS personnel and used only during an emergency. Who is eligible? The program is targeted towards Somerville community members who live alone and are aged 65+, or those who are disabled and/or

suffer from major medical illness at any age. Individuals living in apartment complexes or other facilities with maintenance staff are not eligible for this program. How do I know this is safe? A member of the Somerville Fire Department will install and demonstrate how the lockbox operates and answer any questions you may have. The four-digit combination on the lockbox will only be available to responding emergency personnel in the event of an emergency. Who should I contact for more information? For more information, please contact Debby Higgins at the Council on Aging via E-mail at dhiggins@somervillema.gov or by telephone at (617) 625-6600 ext. 2321. There is no charge to participate in the program if you meet the established target criteria. The Council on Aging will verify eligibility for services. This program is designed for those who are at most significant risk for falls or have limited mobility. All participants will be required to provide a spare house key to be used in the lock box as well as a safety inspection of the property.

AARP Presentation on the Six Pillars of Brain Health – Thursday, July 11th at 10:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. It's never too late to take charge of your brain health. In this session, you will learn about the six pillars of a brain-healthy lifestyle, share your brain-boosting activities and be inspired by others. RSVP by contacting Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Debby at dhiggins@somervillema.go.

Summer Olympics Event – Wednesday, July 31st starting at 10:00 a.m. and running to 11:45 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Travel the world and enjoy fun and easy games while winning fun prizes! Try your hand at modified golf, archery, ping pong and much more. Let the games begin! Lunch at noon, \$3 per person. Space is limited. To RSVP, please contact Michelle Deutsch by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email Michelle at mdeutsch@somervillema.gov.

Farmers Market Coupons for Older Adults – Coupon distribution at the Holland Street Center is tentatively planned for Thursday, July 18th, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services Nutrition program is distributing free farmer's market coupons for eligible older adults in July. Available through the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture. Eligible participants will receive a coupon booklet worth \$50 to use to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables at area farmers' markets. Applicants

must be Cambridge or Somerville residents, aged 60 or older or disabled and living in elderly housing with a congregate meal program, and income at or below 185% of the Federal poverty levels. Income is self-declared, do not bring proof of income. Coupon booklets are limited one per person, while supplies last. Booklets must be picked up in person. Identification with proof of address and a date of birth is required to receive coupons. If someone is unable to come to a distribution site, they can send someone with a proxy form. Contact SCES Nutrition Department for more information on a proxy form and the farmers market program at 617-628-2601. SCES is an equal opportunity provider.

Blood Pressure Clinic – Thursday, July 25th starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Holland Street Center located at 167 Holland Street. Celeste Gearhart, Director of Public Health Nursing will be at the COA the last Thursday of the month to take your blood pressure. She will also share heat safety resources as we head into the summer months. Celeste will return on August 29th.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

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

The Council on Aging's Senior Transportation Program

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, we 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.

GovTV – Xfinity 22/Astound 13/613

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

7:00 AM Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan #2
 7:30 AM Haitian Flag Raising Ceremony 2024
 8:35 AM Dilboy Auxiliary Field Ground Breaking
 8:45 AM Glen Park Ribbon Cutting
 9:00 AM Memorial Day Ceremony
 9:30 AM People's History Walking Tour of Davis & Ball Squares
 11:30 AM SomerViva an Kreyol
 12:00 PM City Council Meeting 5-23-24
 3:30 PM SomerViva em Português
 4:00 PM Driver's License Info Session em Português
 5:30 PM New England Hong Kong Festival 2024
 6:00 PM Talking Business: Night Life
 6:30 PM Memorial Day Ceremony
 7:00 PM Porchfest 2024
 8:00 PM Memorial Day Parade 2024
 9:00 PM Jane's Walk 2024
 10:33 PM SPS FY25 Superintendent's Budget Hearing
 11:30 PM School Committee Update: Emily Ackman

THURSDAY, JULY 11

12:00 AM Haitian Flag Raising Ceremony 2024
 1:04 AM School Committee Meeting 5-20-24
 7:00 AM Haitian Flag Raising Ceremony 2024
 8:05 AM Talking Business: Night Life
 8:30 AM New England Hong Kong Festival 2024
 9:00 AM Memorial Day Parade 2024
 10:00 AM SomerViva em Português
 10:30 AM City Council Spotlight: Jesse Clingan
 11:00 AM Porchfest 2024
 12:00 PM Senior Circuit: Mental Health
 12:30 PM School Committee Meeting 5-20-24
 7:00 PM City Council - Special Meeting - LIVE
 8:30 PM Finance Committee of the Whole - LIVE

FRIDAY, JULY 12

12:00 AM Senior Circuit: Mental Health
 12:30 AM People's History Walking Tour of Davis & Ball Squares
 2:30 AM City Council Spotlight: Jesse Clingan
 6:30 AM Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice I
 7:05 AM Talking Business: Night Life
 7:30 AM Phil Reavis: Highlander to Olympian & Beyond
 8:40 AM Dilboy Auxiliary Field Ground Breaking

9:00 AM SPS FY25 Superintendent's Budget Hearing
 10:00 AM Memorial Day Ceremony
 10:30 AM City Council Spotlight: Jesse Clingan
 11:00 AM Somerville Civic Day 2024
 11:30 AM School Committee Update: Emily Ackman
 12:00 PM Jane's Walk 2024
 1:45 PM Glen Park Ribbon Cutting
 2:00 PM City Council Meeting 5-23-24
 5:08 PM People's History Walking Tour of Davis & Ball Squares
 7:00 PM Memorial Day Parade 2024
 8:00 PM Imagining Climate Forward 2020
 8:30 PM SomerViva an Kreyol
 9:00 PM SomerViva en Espanol
 9:30 PM Museo Inmigrante: Mental Health In the Latino Community
 11:30 PM SomerViva an Kreyol

SATURDAY, JULY 13

12:00 AM Somerville Civic Day 2024
 12:30 AM SPS FY25 Superintendent's Budget Hearing
 1:30 AM Jane's Walk 2024
 7:00 AM People's History Walking Tour of Davis & Ball Squares
 9:00 AM New England Hong Kong Festival 2024
 9:30 AM City Council Spotlight: Jesse Clingan
 10:00 AM Finance Committee of the Whole 5-30-24
 12:00 PM Porchfest 2024
 1:00 PM Women's History Month Celebration 2024
 2:00 PM SomerViva em Português
 2:30 PM Driver's License Info Session em Português
 4:00 PM People's History Walking Tour of Davis & Ball Squares
 6:00 PM Finance Committee of the Whole 5-30-24
 8:00 PM Jane's Walk 2024
 9:33 PM Talking Business: Night Life
 10:00 PM SPS FY25 Superintendent's Budget Hearing
 11:00 PM New England Hong Kong Festival 2024
 11:30 PM School Committee Update: Emily Ackman

SUNDAY, JULY 14

12:00 AM City Council - Special Meeting 5-30-24
 7:00 AM Chair Yoga w/ Janine Duffy
 7:30 AM SomerViva an Kreyol
 8:00 AM Porchfest 2024
 8:50 AM Dilboy Auxiliary Field Ground Breaking
 9:00 AM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 9:30 AM SomerViva en Espanol
 10:00 AM Museo Inmigrante: Mental Health In the Latino Community
 12:00 PM Senior Circuit: Mental Health
 12:30 PM City Council Meeting 5-23-24
 4:00 PM Talking Business: Night Life
 4:30 PM Porchfest 2024
 5:30 PM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 6:00 PM Memorial Day Parade 2024
 7:00 PM Senior Circuit: Mental Health
 7:30 PM Memorial Day Ceremony
 8:00 PM City Council - Special Meeting 5-30-24
 10:00 PM City Council Spotlight: Jesse Clingan
 10:30 PM Haitian Flag Raising Ceremony 2024
 11:34 PM Imagining Climate Forward 2020

MONDAY, JULY 15

12:00 AM Senior Circuit: Mental Health
 12:30 AM SomerViva em Português
 1:00 AM Haitian Flag Raising Ceremony 2024
 2:04 AM SPS FY25 Superintendent's Budget Hearing
 6:30 AM SomerViva an Kreyol
 7:00 AM Nepali Flag Raising Event
 8:00 AM Porchfest 2024
 9:00 AM SomerViva en Espanol
 9:30 AM City Council Spotlight: Jesse Clingan
 10:00 AM Broadway Corridor Meeting Public Results
 11:06 AM Women's History Month Celebration 2024
 12:00 PM City Council - Special Meeting 5-30-24
 2:00 PM People's History Walking Tour of Davis & Ball Squares
 4:00 PM Finance Committee of the Whole 5-30-24
 6:00 PM School Committee Update: Emily Ackman
 6:30 PM SPS FY25 Superintendent's Budget Hearing
 7:30 PM SomerViva en Espanol

8:00 PM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 8:30 PM Memorial Day Ceremony
 9:00 PM Memorial Day Parade 2024
 10:00 PM New England Hong Kong Festival 2024
 10:30 PM School Committee Update: Emily Ackman
 11:00 PM Nepali Flag Raising Event

TUESDAY, JULY 16

12:00 AM Jane's Walk 2024
 1:33 AM Talking Business: Night Life
 2:00 AM Memorial Day Parade 2024
 7:00 AM Fit 4 Life Home Workout w/ Phelan #2
 7:30 AM New England Hong Kong Festival 2024
 8:00 AM SomerViva an Kreyol
 8:30 AM City Council Spotlight: Jesse Clingan
 9:00 AM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 9:30 AM Imagining Climate Forward 2020
 10:00 AM People's History Walking Tour of Davis & Ball Squares
 12:00 PM Senior Circuit: Mental Health
 12:30 PM SPS FY25 Superintendent's Budget Hearing
 1:30 PM Finance Committee of the Whole 5-30-24
 3:30 PM City Council Spotlight: Jesse Clingan
 4:00 PM Jane's Walk 2024
 5:35 PM Dilboy Auxiliary Field Ground Breaking
 5:45 PM SPD Ride Along
 6:00 PM People's History Walking Tour of Davis & Ball Squares
 8:00 PM SomerViva en Espanol
 8:30 PM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 8:30 PM Museo Inmigrante: Mental Health In the Latino Community
 10:10 PM Porchfest 2024
 11:00 PM SPS FY25 Superintendent's Budget Hearing

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

12:00 AM Senior Circuit: Mental Health
 12:30 AM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 1:00 AM New England Hong Kong Festival 2024
 1:30 AM City Council Spotlight: Jesse Clingan
 2:00 AM Memorial Day Ceremony

EdTV - Xfinity 15/Astound 15/ 614

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

8:00 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Watertown
 10:00 AM SHS Softball vs Chelsea
 12:00 PM WSNS Spring Concert
 2:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Revere
 4:00 PM SHS Spring Concert & Art Show
 6:00 PM SHS Boys' LAX vs Watertown
 8:00 PM SHS Softball vs Chelsea
 10:00 PM WSNS Spring Concert

THURSDAY, JULY 11

12:00 AM SHS Multicultural Fair
 12:30 AM SHS Softball vs Cambridge
 2:30 AM SHS Volleyball vs Chelsea
 8:00 AM SHS Spring Concert & Art Show
 10:00 AM SHS Baseball vs Revere
 12:00 PM WSNS Spring Concert
 1:30 PM WHCIS Spring Concert K-3
 2:00 PM WHCIS Spring Concert gr. 4-8
 3:00 PM SHS Girls' LAX vs Medford
 5:00 PM SHS Boys' LAX vs Malden
 7:00 PM SHS Spring Concert & Art Show
 9:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Revere
 11:00 PM WSNS Spring Concert

FRIDAY, JULY 12

12:30 AM WHCIS Spring Concert K-3

1:00 AM SHS Girls' LAX vs Medford
 3:00 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Malden
 8:00 AM SHS Softball vs Chelsea
 9:30 AM SHS Baseball vs Revere
 11:30 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Watertown
 1:05 PM WHCIS Spring Concert K-3
 1:30 PM WHCIS Spring Concert gr. 4-8
 2:00 PM Kennedy School Spring (K-3) Concert
 3:00 PM Kennedy School Spring (4-8) Concert
 4:00 PM SHS Girls' LAX vs Medford
 6:00 PM SHS Class Day 2024
 8:00 PM SHS Softball vs Chelsea
 9:30 PM SHS Baseball vs Revere

SATURDAY, JULY 13

12:00 AM SHS Class Day 2024
 2:00 AM Kennedy School Spring (K-3) Concert
 3:00 AM Kennedy School Spring (4-8) Concert
 8:00 AM SHS Class Day 2024
 10:00 AM SHS Baseball vs Medford
 12:00 PM SHS Spring Concert & Art Show
 2:00 PM ESCS (3-8) Ensemble Spring Concert
 3:00 PM SHS Softball vs Cambridge
 4:30 PM SHS Volleyball vs Everett
 6:30 PM WHCIS Spring Concert K-3
 7:00 PM SHS Class Day 2024
 9:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Medford

11:00 PM SHS Spring Concert & Art Show

SUNDAY, JULY 14

1:00 AM ESCS (3-8) Ensemble Spring Concert
 2:00 AM SHS Softball vs Cambridge
 3:30 AM SHS Volleyball vs Everett
 8:00 AM School Committee Meeting 5-20-24
 12:00 PM ESCS (3-8) Ensemble Spring Concert
 1:00 PM SHS Girls' LAX vs Medford
 3:00 PM SHS Softball vs Chelsea
 4:30 PM WSNS Spring Concert
 6:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Revere
 8:00 PM Intramural Boys' Basketball Championship
 9:00 PM Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship

MONDAY, JULY 15

1:00 AM SHS Softball vs Chelsea
 2:30 AM WSNS Spring Concert
 4:00 AM SHS Baseball vs Revere
 8:00 AM SHS Class Day 2024
 10:30 AM SHS Spring Concert & Art Show
 12:30 PM Capuano Kindergarten Informance
 1:00 PM Kennedy School Spring (4-8) Concert
 2:00 PM Kennedy School Spring (K-3) Concert


3:00 PM WSNS Spring Concert
 4:30 PM WHCIS Spring Concert gr. 4-8
 5:00 PM Spring String Fling
 6:00 PM SHS Class Day 2024
 8:30 PM SHS Spring Concert & Art Show
 10:30 PM Capuano Kindergarten Informance
 11:00 PM Kennedy School Spring (4-8) Concert


TUESDAY, JULY 16

12:00 AM Kennedy School Spring (K-3) Concert
 1:00 AM WSNS Spring Concert
 2:30 AM WHCIS Spring Concert gr. 4-8
 3:00 AM Spring String Fling
 8:00 AM Kennedy School Spring (4-8) Concert
 9:00 AM Spring String Fling
 10:00 AM ESCS (3-8) Ensemble Spring Concert
 11:00 AM SHS Baseball vs Lynn English
 1:00 PM SHS Boys' LAX vs Watertown
 3:00 PM SHS Girls' LAX vs Medford
 5:00 PM SHS Class Day 2024
 7:00 PM Kennedy School Spring (4-8) Concert
 8:00 PM Spring String Fling
 9:00 PM ESCS (3-8) Ensemble Spring Concert
 10:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Lynn English
 12:00 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Watertown
 2:00 AM SHS Girls' LAX vs Medford
 4:00 AM SHS Class Day 2024

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne presents




Somerville's Annual FREE Outdoor Movie Series 


THURSDAY, JULY 11 *Wonka* (2023) 
LINCOLN PARK • ARGENZIANO SCHOOL

THURSDAY, JULY 18 *THE MUMMY* (1999) 
LINCOLN PARK • ARGENZIANO SCHOOL



THURSDAY, JULY 25 *GOOD Burger* (1997) 
LINCOLN PARK • ARGENZIANO SCHOOL

FINDING DORY (2016)  **THURSDAY, AUGUST 1**
SEVEN HILLS PARK • DAVIS SQ.

Barbie (2023)  **THURSDAY, AUGUST 8**
SEVEN HILLS PARK • DAVIS SQ.

The Outsiders (1983)  **THURSDAY, AUGUST 15**
SEVEN HILLS PARK • DAVIS SQ.

More info at: SOMERVILLEMA.GOV/MOVIEFEST


YART SALE

AUGUST 10
12PM - 6PM
2024

Rain date: Aug 11

somerilleartscouncil.org/yartsale

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

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER 

By Bobbygeorge Potaris

Which animal is the strongest at the beach?
The mussels.

The "Original"
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Restaurant Hood Cleaning
Dryer Vent/ HVAC Cleaning
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Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Summer is in bloom...

— Photo by Denise Provost

On This Day in History

July 10

- 1520– The Spanish explorer Hernan Cortes is driven from Tenochtitlan and retreats to Tlaxcala.
- 1679 – The British crown claims New Hampshire as a royal colony.
- 1776 – The statue of King George III is pulled down in New York City.
- 1893 – Dr. Daniel Hale Williams performs the first successful open-heart surgery.
- 1925 – The trial of Tennessee teacher John T. Scopes opens, with Clarence Darrow appearing for the defense and William Jennings Bryan for the prosecution.
- 1951 – Armistice talks between the United Nations and North Korea begin at Kaesong.
- 1962 – The satellite Telstar is launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida, beaming live television from Europe to the United States.
- 1965 – *(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction* becomes the Rolling Stones' first No. 1 single in the USA.
- 1967 – Singer Bobbie Gentry records *Ode to Billie Joe*.
- 1985 – Coca-Cola Co. announces it will resume selling "old formula Coke."

Arts at the Armory's 2nd Annual Feet Keep the Beat Festival

Now in its second year, Arts at the Armory's Feet Keep the Beat Festival announces that it has commissioned five local percussive dance artists and one Musical Director to create an evening length work to be premiered on August 2nd in the Armory Performance Hall. The Feet Keep the Beat Artists will also lead free dance jams and community workshops throughout the festival week. Returning from last year's festival are artists Ariaki Dandawate (Kathak), Yosi Karahashi (Flamenco) and Antonio Tran (Flamenco guitar), as well as Joh Camara (West African), Lekisha Limage (Step), and Ryan Casey (Tap), who are new to the festival this year.

The festival is being produced and presented by Arts at the Armory led by Co-Director/CEO Stephanie Scherpf and Co-Director/COO Jess White. Once again, Arts at the Armory is collaborating with Deborah Mason, who is serving as Artistic Advisor to Feet Keep the Beat, and is also bringing her lauded Boston Tap Party Showcase to the Arts at the Armory Performance Hall on August 3rd, the night after the Feet Keep the Beat premiere.

"I am thrilled to build on what we started last year," says Scherpf. "The Feet Keep the Beat artists are outstanding, and this new format allows us to more deeply support them while asking them to explore the interconnectedness of the various percussive dance forms, which is what is at the true heart of Feet Keep the Beat. In the end, it's a living metaphor for society – once again, the arts lead the way and show us how to communicate and collaborate with others while upholding our cultural traditions at the same time. This new world premiere will tell the story of how feet have been keeping the beat over time, and across cultures and geographies."

On Monday, July 29, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at ROOTED Armory Café there will be a Traditional Irish Session. On Wednesday, July 31, from 7:00 p.m. at ROOTED Armory Café, there will be a Flamenco Tablao led by Yosi Karahashi and Antonio Tran. On Sunday, August 4, Arts at the Armory will host a Feet Keep the Beat community workshop from 2-5pm. All jams and workshops are free admission. Tickets for the August 2nd premiere of a new evening length Feet Keep the Beat are available at <https://the-center-for-arts-at-the-armory.ticketleap.com/feet-keep-the-beat/>.



Lead funding support for Feet Keep the Beat has been provided by Movement Arts Creation Studio. Arts at the Armory is currently accepting sponsorships from businesses and individuals who would like to support this vital program and be associated with its intercultural brand.

Sunday, August 4, 2:00 – 5:00 p.m.: Community Workshops and Dance Off (Arts at the Armory Performance Hall)

The Center for Arts at the Armory is located at 191 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143. To learn more please visit our website, <https://artsatthearmory.org/>, our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ArtsattheArmory/>, and follow us on Instagram at @ArtsattheArmory.

Free summer meals in Somerville

Summer Meals is a totally free-of-charge program that provides free meals to all kids and teens, ages 18 and under, at locations across Massachusetts during the summer months. From Monday to Friday, July 8 to August 16, cold meals and drinks will be provided at the following sites:

Location	Address	Meal(s)	Time(s)	Who to ask for
Argenziano/Lincoln Park	290 Washington St	Breakfast	9:30 a.m.	Joe
Dilboy Pool Parking Lot	324 Alewife Brook Pkwy	Lunch	12:00 p.m.	Coach Tony or the pool staff
Blessing of the Bay Boathouse	32 Shore Drive	Lunch	12:00 p.m.	Evan
Founders Skating Rink at Conway Park	570 Somerville Ave	Breakfast and Lunch	9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.	Yianni
Foss Park	49 Fellsway W	Lunch	11:15-11:45 a.m.	Near the pool

For more information, please contact: George Scarpelli at GScarpelli@somervillema.gov or Wendy Tavico at wtavico@somervillema.gov.

Visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com
 Facebook at www.facebook.com/somerville.times.1

Message from the Arts at the Armory Directors: Consider signing a letter to the mayor about Arts at the Armory's future

Our Co-Directors Stephanie and Jess are meeting with Mayor Ballantyne on July 18th. In preparation for the meeting, we have been circulating a Letter to the Mayor for signature by the wider community. If you would like to review and consider signing the letter, please visit <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8kolnO90nFCK-VedmtM4QTV0qdOoRDyJMbWBg4HIEJ2i2aqw/viewform>

As always, we will keep you up to date with the latest information related to the Armory Master Plan, and how it impacts our organization and community. We have been making information related to the Armory Master Plan available here <https://artsatthearmory.org/about/armory-master-plan/>. Last week a new article about the Armory Master Plan came out in Cambridge Day. <https://www.cambridgeday.com/2024/06/30/goal-at-armory-is-not-to-kick-anyone-out-though-exasperated-tenants-ponder-exits/>

We also recently shared the results from the Armory Master Plan survey that was created and circulated by Arts at the Armory in June, and completed by over 200 people. Visit <https://artsatthearmory.org/about/armory-master-plan/> to view the survey results.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 16

for some inspiration. For more information visit <https://www.somervillepubliclibrary.org/>.

Help stop **black swallowwort** this summer. Have you seen this invasive weed in your area? Black swallowwort (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 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: somervillema.gov/

hydrantflushing.

ComixCon 2024: On **July 20**, the **Somerville Public Library** will host its fourth annual library-wide **Comix Con**, a free event for all members of the community. Join the SPL for a fan-themed day with programming from your favorite fandoms, stalls with local artists and vendors, cosplaying, and more. More information on programming and vendors can be found here <https://www.somervillepubliclibrary.org/comixcon2024>

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@somervillema.gov.

The **2024 street sweeping season** has resumed and will continue through December 31. Check signs in your neighborhood for sweeping days. Visit somervillema.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 parksomerville.com.

Join **Union Square Main Streets** and **50+ of your favorite local food producers** for the **20th Annual Union Square Farmers Market, 6670 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/2024fmseason. 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, readytoeat 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 **Somerville Mobile Farmers Market** opened for the season on **Thursday, July 11**, selling fresh, local produce through **October 26**. The mobile market accepts cash, debit cards, SNAP, Fresh Connect, WIC Farmers Market Coupons, and Senior Farmers Market Coupons. All are welcome. Find the Mobile Farmers Market at the following locations: **Thursdays:** 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.: **Clarendon Hill Towers** (1372 Broadway), **Fridays:** 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: **Council on Aging** (167 Holland St.), 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.: **East Branch Library** (115 Broadway), **Saturdays:** 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.: **Mystic Housing Development** (25 Memorial Rd.).

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 6176256600 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 6176256600, 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

by Doug Holder

Interview with poet Charles Coe: New and Selected Works

Lyrical
SOMERVILLE
edited by Doug Holder

Charles Coe is a wonderful poet, jazz singer, teacher, and literary activist. He has a new collection of poetry out titled *Charles Coe: New and Selected Works*. I caught up with my fellow New England Poetry Club Board member, and he generously agreed to this interview.

Doug Holder: There seems to be a fair amount of food in your work. And you do a wonderful job of bringing things like tomatoes, berries, steaks with Duke Ellington, etc., to a high holy status.

Charles Coe: I grew up in a very food-centered family. My father was a Mess Sergeant in the Army, stateside in Texas during the Korean War. In the sixties when my late sister Carol and I were kids he worked at the Chevy plant during the week and did all the weekend and holiday cooking. Mother cooked because it was in the job description but didn't love it the way he did. She was more than happy to stretch out on the sofa with *Reader's Digest* or watch the tube while he rattled the pots and pans. And I worked in a lot of restaurant kitchens in my younger days.

I've been pecking away at a family memoir called *Room at the Table* for the last few years, where I'm using food as a way of looking at my family's history. So yes, you can accurately call me food-obsessed.

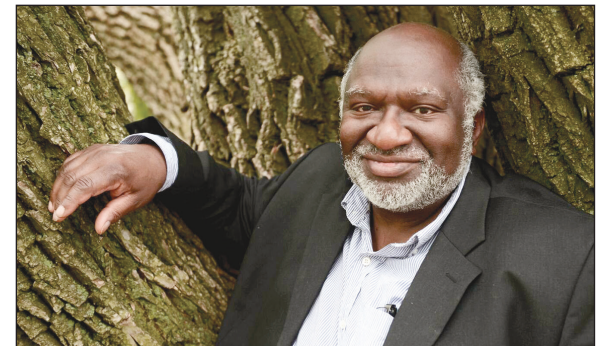
DH: Your work is often prose/narrative poetry. You are a well-regarded storyteller. How was this talent honed?

CC: I think the first and best piece of training for any storyteller is to read a boxcar full of books. All kinds of books. Literary fiction, mystery novels, romances, memoirs. And not just books: magazines, cereal boxes ... whatever. Or listen to books if that's your thing. It's not mine, but if that's how you best engage with stories go for it.

I shake my head sometimes at writers and poets – especially young ones – who don't read much because they don't want their "artistic voice" distracted by other writers' work.

DH: You face age squarely on, from a late night look in the mirror, to a narrative of an over-the-hill bull that is beaten in a fight with a brash younger bull. Do you feel like that old bull sometimes, a King Lear raging at his fate, which is all our fate?

CC: We're all in line to get on that bus but few of us know when. How often have we passed someone on the street who didn't know they were spending their last day on Earth? Being in my early seventies I have a lot more road behind than ahead, and of course I think about that. Which is why the older I get the less willing I am to get caught up in stuff that doesn't really matter. I'm interested in spending time with friends, smiling at supermarket cashiers, and trying to write with much honesty and craft as



I can muster.

DH: You have a great love of jazz. This is often reflected in your work. Talk about this affinity for the music. Is poetry music, and music poetry?

CC: I'm a singer as well as a writer. Since I was a teenager I've done rock, blues, jazz, and a bit of classical, so for me the membrane between music and poetry is permeable. I've written a lot of songs, but most of my poetry is free verse so it's not structured or rhymed like my song lyrics. But I try for a musical flow in my poems, more like a sax or horn solo.

DH: Why should we read your collection?

CC: A free model Winnebago Sunstar to everybody who buys my book? Or, how about this: I want people to feel the "shock of recognition" when they read my poetry and maybe think, "Yeah, I've experienced or observed something like that, but never would have thought about it from that perspective. Makes me think about it in a new way.

PRELUDE

Before we begin, may I ask you a question?
Would it bother you if at some point
I forgot to remember the illusion that we
are made of solid matter? That we instead
consist of atoms and electrical charges,
are ninety-nine percent empty space?

Would it bother you to look through
my suddenly spectral form and see
the backrest of this chair?

It wouldn't be intentional, a parlor trick.
It's just that when I think about broken children
lying in the rubble of bombed-out buildings
I sometimes find it difficult to remain tied to this world.

So if I seem to fade please don't judge or be alarmed.
Just hold out your hand. We can touch, palm-to-palm,
to keep ourselves connected to this terrible and beautiful place,
to remind us we are made of the same stuff as the stars.

— Charles Coe



Thomas DeFreitas was born in Boston, and was baptized at St. Anthony's Church in Somerville at the age of eighteen days. He grew up in East Boston and attended the Boston Latin School, where, under the tutelage of exceptional teachers, he encountered poetry in a big way. He spent three semesters at the University of Massachusetts (Amherst). His poems have been published in *Autumn Sky Poetry Daily*, *Plainsongs*, *Ibbetson Street*, *Pensive*, *Ovunque Siamo*, and elsewhere. Thomas's fourth collection of poems, *Walking Between the Raindrops*, will be published in 2025 by Kelsay Books.

Impulsive

The most impulsive thing I've ever done
Was not to spread some butter on a bun
Or steal a pencil from the Bradley School
Or break a strict pedantic grammar-rule
Or give a beggar a five-dollar bill
Or walk au naturel up Beacon Hill
Or swim in the Atlantic with the sharks
Or chase big dogs while mimicking their barks
Or scamper in the grass with antic squirrels
Or dress in Vera Wang with a string of purrels
Or send fan letters to Drew Barrymore
Or drink beer till it seeps from every pore
Or run the Boston Marathon (it's doable)
Or swing at curveballs with a bat from Louisville
Or join in circles with my favorite Wiccan
Or flap my arms while clucking like a chicken.
My most impulsive deed, if truth be told?
Hell, I forgot. I must be getting old.

— Thomas DeFreitas

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