

VOL. 12 NO. 30

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24, 2024

SOMERVILLE, MASS.

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lt's a scortcha' page 3



The new guy at SMC page 11



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Pecos Wind Power will be testing of their 85-kW PW85 prototype wind turbine with the aid of the DOE's award of \$200,00.

On Wednesday, July 17, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) selected Pecos Wind Power in Somerville as part of its 2024 Competitiveness Improvement Project (CIP). These selections will advance distributed wind turbine technology through testing and commercialization, providing more certified technology options for clean energy deployment.

Pecos Wind Power was selected under the Prototype Installation and Testing Perform category. Pecos Wind Power will perform testing of their 85kW PW85 prototype wind turbine in Neodesha, Kansas with an award of \$200,000.

"DOE is working to ensure that farmers, rural small businesses, and electric cooperatives have more options for affordable, safe, and reliable clean energy systems," said Jeff Marootian, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Energy *Continued on page 4*

'Se Réfleter Dans' by Colette Brésilla at Bipoc Space @ the Armory

Se Réfleter Dans celebrates the dynamic vision of Haitian-born painter, textile designer, and sculptor Colette Brésilla who explores the cultural and creative contexts as a tool for social change. Curated from the artist's private collection, the exhibition is organized thematically into a fifteen-piece series of work with a remarkable interpretation of mirrored images which, like their reflections, can be ambiguous and even contradictory; yet a glaring characterization of the complexities of human identity both personal and cultural.

The female form and principle is prominently featured in the artist's artwork; from a Haitian market women with pipes and Japanese geishas to thinkers, and mothers. The inspiration of these selections was drawn from the artist's interest in representations of complicated figures at ease with *Continued on page 4*



"The Mountain's Farmers" by Colette Brésilla







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

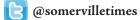
Are you on the hunt for your next apartment in Somerville? Get guidance from the **Somerville Office of Housing Stability (OHS)** at a rental housing information session on **Thursday, July 25**, at the **City Hall Annex** (50 Evergreen Ave.) from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. Whether you're a first-time renter or looking to relocate within Somerville, this session will provide practical guidance and empower you to navigate the rental process with confidence. Topics cover preparing for the housing process, renting basics, navigating the market, and available resources for moving costs. To learn more and register to attend, visit: tinyurl.com/OHSsearch.

Meet baby goats from Chip-In Farm! Goats & Giggles is your chance for a hands-on playtime with the goats with plenty of time for goat cuddles and photo ops. A maximum of 20 people may visit with the goats at one time. This program is funded by the Friends of the Somerville Public Library. Goats & Giggles at the East will take place Thursday, July 25, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. East Branch Library, 115 Broadway.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to our good friend **Jimmy Del Ponte**. Many in Somerville and beyond look forward to his column here each week. We wish him a great day. Happy birthday to former **Ward 5 Councilor Mark Niedergang**, who is also celebrating this week. We hope he has a great birthday. We wish all of our Facebook friends, *Continued on page 7*



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Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of July 24 – July 30 as provided by the National Weather Service

	DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
•	Wednesday July 24	Rain	71°/68°	35%	26%	E 10 mph
	Thursday July 25	Thunderstorms	82°/64°	47%	31%	WSW 11 mph
*	Friday July 26	Sunny	83°/63°	5%	3%	NW 9 mph
*	Saturday June 27	Sunny	82°/65°	4%	2%	ENE 9 mph
*	Sunday July 28	Sunny	86°/68°	5%	3%	SE 9 mph
*	Monday July 29	Sunny	90°/68°	7%	4%	SSW 10 mph
Č	Tuesday July 30	Partly Cloudy	85°/71°	15%	10%	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: Join Somerville's Annual National Night Out event

Slaw says:

Photo depicts training for police dogs to attack people. State violence depicted as family friendly fun...

Response to: *Arts at the Armory Should Uphold Its Commitment to Inclusivity*

Joseph says:

So, to create spaces where diverse viewpoints are respected, we should censor the viewpoint that "genocide, apartheid, and ethnic cleansing are bad?" As for the pro-Israel protestors, did they register for the event? and did you just compare a film that you disagree with to blackface?

Andy says:

I am a Jewish Somervillian and I was at this event. I did not consider the documentary to be in any way anti-Semitic, but rather anti-Apartheid.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte



This article first appeared in the May 29, 2010 edition of The Somerville Times

Here it is, the hot weather. The sweating, the shortness of

breath and the scantily clad people!

It's all back. We asked for it, and we got it. Please come up with a better line than, "Is it hot enough for ya?" That one is played out. If you ask me if it's hot enough for me, I usually say, "no, my deodorant stopped working four hours ago, my underwear is stuck to me, and the air conditioning in my truck is blowing hot air.

Yes, Mr. Originality, it's plenty hot enough for me! Thanks for asking!

Speaking of the heat, I have a pet peeve. There are a lot of us who like to wear flip flops and sandals. Do us a favor, cut your toe nails and use some foot powder. If you're going to parade your dogs around, show a little courtesy. Your comfort, is very uncomforting to some of us. There is nothing worse than the "agony of the feet," in a closed in area. Can we all say Dr. Scholl together? Thank you!

When we were kids there were no room air conditioners, like the ones that will be selling out at BJ's and Home Depot. Each kid had a rickety old noisy metal, and later on, a plastic fan. They were wonderful. They merely circulated the stagnant hot, annoying air around the room. We got ours at Bradlees.

Dad said it worked better in the window, but I used to put it in a chair directly in front of the bed, as close as it could get. Still, it was hot and my ears would be filled with sweat when I laid my head on

my soggy pillow. Remember when dad would try to turn

the fan so it would "suck out the hot air?" That was a climate control fiasco!

Then low and behold, dad broke down and went to Lechmere Sales and bought a room air conditioner, for him and mom's room. If you were lucky, they would let you sleep on the floor of their room. As the fans got older, the grill loosened up , and they made more noise. We had central air installed 12 years ago but it decided to stop working. Maybe I will have it looked at, maybe not.

Here is what some of us Villens used to do on a sweltering day: running around the sprinklers at Albion Park, Conway Park, or hitting the Craigie Street Park pool cooled some of us off.

Traveling to the "Boston Pool" (near Science Park) aboard the number 88 bus with a transfer worked for others. My dad used to take us to what he referred to as, "The Arlington Pool." It was a concrete wading area with a geyser of water shooting out of a pipe in the middle. It was on Broadway near where the old "hepatitis Friendly's" was. One pal actually remembers the City of Somerville opening the fire hydrants on really hot days! Then there were those few kids whose families had in ground, or above ground pools in their yards. I noticed those kids had had a lot more friends during the summer months.

Don tells us, "We had one 12-inch fan for six people. When it got really bad my father would take us out to drive with the windows down and get ice cream."

In later years, some kids were brought to the Aquarium to cool off. No, they didn't jump in with the penguins, there was a fountain out front. Gino's grand-



father would squirt the kids with the hose while watering the tomato plants. My dad used to blow a nice swirl of cigarette smoke our way as he drove the 1953 Mercury (only kidding). Some of us went to the Dilboy Pool, turtle rock on route 93, Wrights Pond and the Mystic and "Lost" Lakes.

You had to be a Meffa resident to get into Wrights, but we snuck in anyway. HA HA! Sandy Beach was down the Mystics. We would swim during the day, then steam up the windows making out at night, until the MDC cop shined his flashlight in our faces.

Some sneaky Villens used to get money from mom to supposedly take the bus to the pool at Foss Park. But these little fibbers actually kept the money and walked to North Cambridge to "Jerry's Pit." Jerry's Pit was a very dangerous former clay pit on Rindge Avenue, adjacent to the WR Grace plant.

We used to make Kool-Ade ice cubes, and there was always the ice cream truck. We asked for slush money, had squirt gun and water balloon fights, and someone always seemed to have a Slip n' Slide. We drank "Fizzies" which were flavored Alka-Seltzer tablets that you dropped into cold water.

But we were Somerville kids ... and Somerville kids were cool ... even when the mercury hit the 90's.

I hope you all stay cool during this heat wave. And please, if you are driving with no air conditioning in your car, and you are getting aggravated and very hot under the collar, please stay away from the Powder House rotary.



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Somerville Police assisting investigation of fatal shooting on Dartmouth Street

The following is an important update from the Somerville Police regarding a fatal shooting on Dartmouth Street:

Dear community members,

The Somerville Police are currently supporting the Middlesex District Attorney's Office in the investigation of a fatal shooting that occurred Monday night night in Somerville, on Monday, July 22. We ask the community to share in our sincere condolences to the victim's loved ones as we provide the following safety message.

At approximately 10:27 p.m. on Monday night, Somerville Police responded to reports of a shooting on Dartmouth Street. The 49-year-old male victim, identified as Paul Nolan, was located on scene suffering from multiple apparent gunshot wounds and was transported to Mass General where he was later pronounced dead.

I've ordered increased patrols in the area, and while we believe there is no ongoing threat to the immediate area, we ask you to remain alert and report any suspicious activity. If there is an urgent threat to public safety, please call 911 for an immediate response. Anyone with any information is urged to contact Somerville Police 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 SPD App: Submit your tip with the Somerville PD App available on iOS or Android devices

Submit online: Submit your tip via the online form on the Somerville Police website at somervillema.gov/crimetip.

Mayor Ballantyne is supporting the Somerville police in ensuring we are able to dedicate all the resources we need to protect the safety of our community. 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. 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.

Violence can result in difficult emotional impacts not just for those connected to events but also for persons absorbing the news. The Somerville Department of Health and Human Services has clinical staff that can direct you to additional wellness resources if needed. Please use the online referral form at 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.

We thank you for reading this message and for reporting any related information.

Sincerely,

Chief Charles Femino

Somerville Polic Department

Somerville's Pecos Wind Power awarded \$200K by U.S. Department of Energy CONT. FROM PG 1

Efficiency and Renewable Energy. "These investments in projects to expand rural distributed wind will also support U.S. energy independence, a cornerstone of the Biden-Harris Administration's clean energy goals." The Competitiveness Improvement Project (CIP) provides financial and technical support to manufacturers of small wind turbines. Managed by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) on behalf of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Wind Energy Technologies Office, CIP awards cost-shared subcontracts and technical support to manufacturers of small and medium-sized wind turbines. Designed to make distributed wind energy technologies more cost-competitive and reliable, these awards help manufacturers

of wind turbines less than 1 MW in capacity to:

- Optimize their designs
- + Develop advanced manufacturing processes
- + Perform turbine and component testing and certification
- + Accelerate pathways for com-

mercialization.

The goals of CIP are to make wind energy cost-competitive with other distributed generation technologies and increase the number of wind turbine designs tested and certified to national standards.

'Se Réfleter Dans' by Colette Brésilla at Bipoc Space @ the Armory

CONT. FROM PG 1

themselves who at the same time mirror particular identities.

was created by the artist from

2012-2015, and offers a captivating glimpse into her evo-This exhibit ranges from lution over the past 30 years. small to big dimensions, and Brésilla exclusively works with palette knives, oil sticks, and

wax paste and has a connection to the ancient technique of appliqué, an important art from Benin, West Africa, the ancestral homeland named by many

Haitians. Curated by Tina Cabral.

Bipoc Space @ the Armory, 191 Highland Ave., Second Floor, 2A, Somerville, through September 30. By appointment only, as the gallery space is not open to the public. For visiting hours, please contact imenjivar@ somervillema.gov.

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Book review – 'The Searcher' by Tana French

By Dennis Fischman

In her Dublin Murder Squad books, Tana French [1] did the literary equivalent of lighting a candle from a candle: a minor character in Book 1 would turn up as the central figure of Book 2, and so on. The Somerville Public Library Mystery Book Club [2] liked her writing so much, we unofficially dubbed ourselves the Boston Murder Squad!

Toward the end of the series, French took a new tack, following Detective Antoinette Conway for the last two entries. That was a more conventional approach, but with an unconventional detective, a Black woman in Ireland.

The hero of *The Searcher*, Cal Hooper, is a conventional detective: a white man and former Chicago policeman with the requisite addiction to work, alcohol problem, and troubled marriage (that led to divorce before this story starts). What's unusual about him is that he has a strong and straightforward moral code. When he could not reconcile it with his job any longer, he resigned from the police and moved. Here he is, trying to work out his confusion by pouring his energy into a rundown cabin in a small Irish village in the hills.

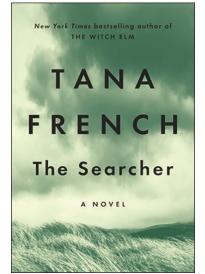
Just when we thought he was out, his good heart pulls him back in.

A teenager, Trey Reddy, starts haunting Hooper's property, gradually gaining his trust to the point where he takes on the job of finding out what happened to Trey's older brother Brendan, who has been missing for months. But Hooper has no badge, no uniform, no database, and he is only beginning to know his neighbors and the people in the village, and their intertwined family histories that go back for generations. And they are only beginning to know him.

How can he win enough trust to be told anything? How can he trust that anyone will tell him the truth when there is more at stake than he knows? Most important, when moral decisions arise that can't easily be resolved by his principles or intuition, how will he decide what's right?

As usual with this author, the writing is lovely, especially the dialogue, and the character development is enthralling. I will certainly read the next in the series because I want to know what happens next with Cal, Trey, his faraway daughter Alyssa, and his potential love interest, Lena.

The two drawbacks to this



"The Searcher" by Tana French. Viking, 2020, 562 pages.

book, for me, were that at least one of the killers was obvious from early on, and (more important) that for a mature man with admirable qualities, Cal Hooper is an emotional doofus. He's beginning to learn better at the close of this book. Let's see where



Dennis Fischman is a member of the Somerville Public Library's Mystery Book Club and an inveterate reader.

he goes next.

Links:

[1] https://www.goodreads. com/author/show/138825. Tana_French

[2] https://www.somervillepubliclibrary.org/adults/book-social-groups

Somerville Dems Committee and elected officials endorse Kamala Harris nomination for President

A Message from the Somerville Democratic Party:

Tonight, the Somerville Democratic Party Executive Committee, which is made up of the Chairs of each of the 7 Ward Committees and the 4 city-wide officers, voted unanimously in a 12-0 vote to endorse Kamala Harris to be our party's nominee for President of the United States. We have asked our Democratic elected officials in the city to join us in this decision and are proud to announce the following list of elected Somerville Democrats joining us in supporting Vice President Harris for the nomination:



• Mayor Katjana Ballantyne

- Senator Patricia Jehlen
- Representative Christine Barber
- + City Council President, Ward 3 Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen
- City Council Vice President, Ward 7 Councilor Judy Pineda Neufeld
 - Councilor At-Large Kristen Strezo
 - Councilor At-Large Jake Wilson
 - Councilor At-Large Will Mbah
 - Ward 1 City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin
 - Ward 4 City Councilor Jesse Clingan
 - Ward 5 City Councilor Naima Sait
 - Ward 6 City Councilor Lance Davis

These 12 elected officials join the Chairs of all seven Democratic Ward Committees and City Party Chairman Jack Perenick, City Vice Chairs Maggie Joseph and Aaron Soroa, Secretary Teagan Ladner and Diversity Officer Joe Lynch in their support of Kamala Harris.

As a party, we are proud of the enormous success of the Biden-Harris Administration and want to share our sincere thanks to President Joe Biden for his service as our Commander-in-Chief. No administration has led more boldly on infrastructure, delivering the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law; worked harder to fight COVID and invest in our communities by passing the American Rescue Plan; or mended our nation's judiciary by appointing hundreds of federal judges.

President Biden leaves behind a demonstrably transformative and accomplished 44-year legacy and Somerville Democrats thank him for his truly remarkable work. We now make it our mission to elect Kamala Harris and to defeat Donald Trump in November's election.

To volunteer and get involved in the 2024 election, please visit SomervilleMassDems.org to sign up or email info@SomervilleMassDems.org.

Beacon Hill Roll Call

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

THE HOUSE AND SENATE: Beacon Hill Roll Call records local representatives' and senators' votes on roll calls from the week of July 15-19..

APPROVE \$58 BILLION FISCAL 2025 STATE **BUDGET (H 4800)**

House 154-3, Senate 40-0, approved and sent to Gov. Maura Healey a \$58 billion fiscal 2025 state budget for the fiscal year that began July 1, 2024. The price tag represents a 1.97 billion or 3.5 percent increase over last year's fiscal 2024 budget.

The package uses more than \$1 billion in one-time revenues to support the spending bill. Aside from the spending, the package makes policy changes including authorizing free community college, free rides on regional transit agencies, allowing the Massachusetts Lottery to sell its products online. A portion of the new revenue collected from online Lottery sales, estimated to be \$100 million in in fiscal year 2025, would fund a permanent Commonwealth Cares for Children grant program which provides long-term stability for high-quality and affordable care for families.

Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland) said, "This budget is a vote of confidence in every Massachusetts resident going to school, raising a family and working to make ends meet—as well as a strong blueprint for bringing equity and opportunity to every region and resident of our state."

"This budget takes a fiscally responsible approach to making meaningful investments in areas of significant need," said House Speaker Ron Mariano (D-Quincy). "I'm proud of the fact that the ... budget allocates key funding to better support Massachusetts students and families, to increase access to affordable health care and to provide for a safer and more reliable public transportation system."

"This year's budget includes a \$2 billion spending hike with \$208 million less in tax revenues," said Rep. Nick Boldyga (R-Southwick) one of only three members to vote against the budget. "So Democrats dug into reserve funds to balance this budget boondoggle. Even the Massachusetts Municipal Association said this year's budget wasn't based in reality. The budget 'freebies' include free school meals, free tuition at community colleges and nocharge rides on the state's 15 regional transit authorities. The people stuck footing the bill are the working-class and from what I've seen they're struggling to pay their bills and buy groceries. I'm not sure they can withstand more tax increases when these bloated budgets eventually go belly up."

state in the country to pass its annual budget, and once again it is the largest budget in state history," said Paul Craney, spokesman for the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance. "Legislators are already putting their thumb on the scale when determining the spending ratio for the income surtax funds, in which education spending is 17 percent greater than transportation, a ratio that was included in neither chamber's original budget. House and Senate leaders also included multiple new and costly programs at a time when state revenue collections have been underperforming and a new billion dollar migrant crisis is growing. Long term, this will be very difficult to fix unless these same big government spenders decide to cut the spending priorities they are passing in this budget."

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

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

APPROVE FIREARMS CHANGES (H 4885)

House 123-33, Senate 35-5, approved and sent to Gov. Healey a bill that would change some of the state's gun laws.

Provisions include cracking down on untraceable "ghost guns;" banning firearms in additional public spaces like schools, polling places and government buildings; expanding the 2018 "red flag" law that allows school administrators and licensed health care providers to petition a court to temporarily take firearms away from someone deemed a threat to themselves or others; closing loopholes that allow the modification of legal firearms into illegal automatic weapons; and providing a legacy clause so all firearms legally owned and registered in Massachusetts as of the effective date of the bill will continue to be legal and may be bought and sold within the state.

"Today, as we consistently do in the area of firearm safety, we take the lead in making the commonwealth a safer place to live by giving law enforcement the tools they need to go after ghost guns, keeping battlefield weapons out of our neighborhoods and keep our schools, homes, town halls and polling locations safe," said Rep. Mike Day (D-Stoneham), House Chair of the Committee on the Judiciary. "While Washington is paralyzed by dysfunction that endangers Americans across the country, we in Massachusetts address our challenges directly and take the steps necessary to modernize our firearm laws to keep us safe."

statues, our nation and our commonwealth have continued to be rocked by mass shootings and gun tragedies at an alarming rate," said Majority Leader Sen. Cindy Creem (D-Newton). "This legislation proactively addresses the root causes of gun crime to curb the epidemic of violence and prevent tragedy before it strikes. It does so by ensuring that ghost guns, Glock switches and assault-style firearms are kept off our streets and out of the wrong hands."

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

Rep. Christine Barber Yes Rep. Mike Connolly Yes Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven Yes Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

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 chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that have been filed. They note that the infrequency and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late-night sessions and a mad rush to act on dozens of bills in the days immediately preceding the end of an annual session.

During the week July 15-19. the House met for a total of 19 hours and 59 minutes and the Senate met for a total of 13 hours and 42 minutes.

Mon. July 15 House 11:00 a.m. to 11:07 a.m. Senate 11:05 a.m. to 11:44 a.m.

Tues. July 16 No House session No Senate session

- Wed. July 17 House 11:01 a.m. to 7:33 p.m. No Senate session
- Thurs. July 18 House 11:00 a.m. to 5:48 p.m. Senate 11:04 a.m. to 9:29 p.m.
- Fri. July 19 House 11:04 a.m. to 3:36 p.m. Senate 1:10 p.m. to 3:48 p.m.

"Once again, the Massachusetts Legislature is the last "In the decade since we last updated Massachusetts' gun

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Our View Of The Times



It seems as though we cannot get enough of the farmers market scene in Somerville. They have become time-honored traditions and perennial mainstays of alternative commerce in the city.

There is something special about shopping for fresh produce, discovering unique arts and crafts vendors, and enjoying live entertainment in the open air. We feel a sense of camaraderie, too, as we gather to

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

take in the sights, sounds, flavors and aromas that permeate each market site.

The major markets are in full operation now – with the exception, of course, of the Winter Farmers Market, which serves our needs during the off-season – and there is no better time to experience what they have to offer than in the high summer months.

The Union Square Farmers Market,

operated by Union Square Main Streets, takes place every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., at 66-70 Union Sq., and will run until October 26.

Groundwork Somerville's Mobile Farmers Market is underway, bringing fresh produce and other delights to various locations throughout the city. Go to somervillemobilefarmersmarket.wordpress.com for up-to-date info on locations they are serving.

The Davis Square Farmers Market is there for us, too, at the Intersection of Day St. and Herbert St. every Wednesday, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m., ongoing until November 27.

So you see, there is no shortage of good, old fashioned style trading available for all of us here in the city. Be sure to check them out and enjoy the feeling.

such as Christine Lyons, Tommy Mcdaid, Frank Tello Jr., Erica Jones, Carol Powers, Joan Campo McKenna, Stephanie Ann, Erika Uyterhoeven, Justin Klekota, Peter Mcisaac, Joanne Tibbetts, Gail Stoico, Mark Niedergang, Paul Wood Memories, Robert Carnes, and Michael Delicato a very happy birthday. We hope everyone has a great day. To all the others we may have missed, we sincerely wish them the very best of birthdays.

The city will host **Tufts Reconstruction Virtual Office Hours, Thursday, July 25.** Join city staff for their virtual office hours anytime from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to ask your questions and share your feedback on the **Tufts Street Reconstruction Updated Design**. Community members can log into the zoom webinar at any time and either ask questions or share your comments to the whole team or join a breakout room to talk oneon-one with a team member. Register in advance https://us02web.zoom.us/ webinar/register/WN_87yZ0OzaTK-CwJQVZuIcSsg. For more information about the project, visit somervillema.gov/ tuftsstreet.

 vent on Mt. Benedict, in what is now Somerville, was vandalized and then burned to the ground by an anti-Catholic mob. Author and Salem State Professor Emeritus Nancy Schultz will explore the tensions over class, gender, religion, ethnicity, and education that fueled the convent's destruction. Tickets are \$12 and include one drink from Aeronaut Brewing. For details, see http://www.somervillemuseum.org/calendar-events/ursuline.

Visit East Somerville Main Street's Summer Party on July 27 from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Chuckie Harris Park, Cross St E. Enjoy food, live music, storytelling, art, games and activities. They want to hear from you, share your dreams about East Somerville. No te pierdas este momento lleno de arte y activitades! Não perca este dia cheio de diversão e arte com a família!

Enjoy music in the garden, with local professional musicians sharing American Jazz Standards, with new twists integrating rhythms from French Caribbean traditions. Led by **Growing Center volunteer Mark Torgerson** on guitar, who will be joined by keyboard, horns, bass and percussion. **Kadanz Jazz: Standards with French Caribbean** *Continued on page 13* Ms. Cam's

FUN & GAMES

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. Sleeping through summer is called "estivation." 2. A group of hippos is called a "bloat."

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

17. Katmandu's land

- 18. Natural electrical discharge
- 20. Fiber source

- 30. Slang for million dollars
- 31. Mother-of-pearl, pl.
- 34. Of a particular kind
- 35. Exclude or omit
- 37. Not safe
- 38. Parallel grooves
- 39. Campbell of "Scream" fame
- 40. Morally degraded

- 47. Rubber substitute, acr.
- 48. Broom of twigs
- 50. Wild plum
- 52. Short-lived whirlwind (2 words)
- 56. Philip Roth's "The Human _
- 57. Additional
- 58. Driver's spare
- 59. Church songs
- 60. Biology lab supply
- 61. Pac Man's blue ghost
- 62. H in HI
- 63. Slightly insane
- 64. ____pool or ____pit

- 1. Come together 2. Smoothie bowl flavor 3. Two-masted sailing vessel
- 4. Broad-brimmed beachwear
 - ____a play

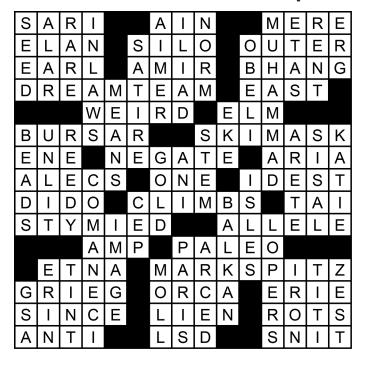
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6. Flora's partner 7. H.S. math class 8. Not sunny 9. Between larva and adult 10. Enthusiasm 11. Split lentils dish 13. Roman statesman, Nero's advisor 14. Open up 19. Three 22. "Send help!" acronym 23. Make change 24. "Inside Out 2" main character 25. Actor Owen 26. Between Phi and Kappa 27. Like some sausages 28. Cake cover 29. What storm pursuers do

32. "_____ as Ice" by Foreigner

33. Feel regret 36. Condensation-starting point (2 words) 38. Church assembly 40. Stock regulator, acr. 41. Herpes ____, a.k.a. shingles 44. Not odds 46. Nauseant 48. Battle of the ____, 1944-1945 German offensive 49. Literary composition 50. Eyelid affliction 51. Tibetan monk 52. Like Beethoven 53. Climbing plant 54. Irritates 55. Grazing lands 56. "Zip it!" Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Soulution to last week's crossword puzzle:



- WEATHER 101 ACROSS 1. Barbed comments 5. Astern 8. Newspaper piece 12. Light beige 13. Old wound 14. Palate lobe 15. Reposed 16. Needle case

 - 21. Madison Square Garden, e.g.
 - 22. Anatomical pouch
 - 23. Like air from north of Canada
 - 26. Same as boric

 - 42. Lt.'s subordinate
 - 43. Weed a.k.a. dyer's woad
 - 45. Nervous (2 words)

 - DOWN

lio

#933

the badge of the Lam-

8. Which famous

American author

Great Gatsby?

penned the novel *The*

9. What is the name of

the McDonald's des-

sert made by mixing

ice cream and crushed

cookies or candy bars?

hosts the biggest toma-

to fight every summer?

11. Who sang Don't

Stop Believin' in 1981?

12. What is the name

for a fear of the sun?

Answers on page 14

10. Which country

borghini?

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

1. hat player holds the record for the most MLB All-Star Game appearances?

2. What is the national

3. In which country is

Transylvania located?

4. Vodka is made from

5. In Bobby Gentry's

Ode to Billie Joe, what is

the name of the bridge

that Billie Joe McAllis-

6. New York is famous

for what color cabs?

7. What is the main

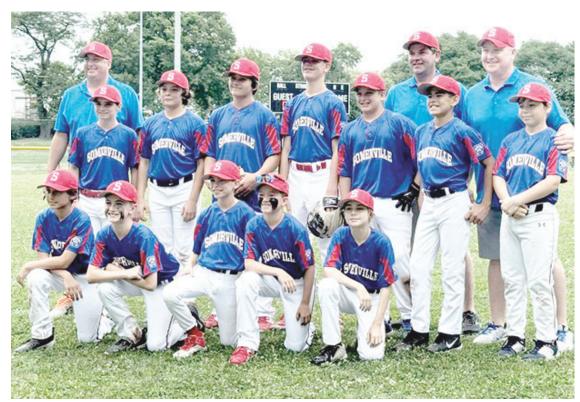
background color on

ter jumps off of?

which vegetable?

sport of Japan?

Somerville excels in Little League World Series



Congratulations to the Somerville Williamsport team on an incredible run in the Little League World Series, finishing in the top 8 in Massachusetts! Your hard work, dedication, and team spirit have made our community so proud. A special shoutout to the amazing players: Ryan Antonelli (#9); Matty Chaffee (#8); Charlie Cooper Dawson (#1); Thomas Desmond (#30); Desmond DiBello (#33); Jasper Hall (#21); Milo Lore (#13); Thomas Perloff (#2); James Papp (#11); Sam Pattanayak (#7); Holden Sidel (#6); and Austin Tingle (#12). Your commitment and passion for the game have truly shone through this season. Here's to many more successes in the future!

Vote by Mail applications for 2024 Presidential Election to arrive in mailboxes

The City of Somerville is alerting all registered voters that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has begun mailing a pre-addressed, postage pre-paid Vote by Mail application to every registered voter before each statewide election. If you have already applied to vote by mail for the upcoming election, you will not receive an additional application.

Voters who prefer to apply online may do so at VoteInMA.com. **Using the Application**

To request a ballot for the next statewide election or all elections this year, simply mark your selections, sign the application, and drop it in the mail.

If printing is not an option, any signed request will suffice. You



may also send a signed letter to your local election office to request your ballot.

Application Deadlines

Your mail-in application must reach your local election officials by 5:00 p.m. on the fifth business day before the election. Regardless of the postmark date, your application must be at the local election office by the deadline. 2024 Application Deadlines

September 3 State Primaries: 5:00 p.m., Monday, August 26.

November 5 State Election: 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 29.

The City of Somerville Elections Office will be sharing more voting information for the 2024 Presidential Election, including voting hours and ballot box locations, in the coming weeks on all City communications channels.



Light Cream, Heavy Cream and Ice Cream By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Eating something cold and refreshing on a sweltering hot day isn't an original idea. The Chinese indulged in flavored ice chips thousands of years ago. Later the Romans flavored ice gathered from the mountains. Explorer Marco Polo brought back eastern ice cream recipes to Italy in the late 1200's. This introduced the first Italian slush and French royal frozen creams to Europe. Considered a rich man's dessert, nobility kept their ice cream ingredients a secret. It wasn't until the early 1700's that sherbets began taking root in America.



It has been said that there are two types of people on earth: those who love ice cream and liars. At one time, the chant during the warm season in Somerville and beyond was, "I scream. You scream. We all scream for ice cream." It was a time when limited flavors and a minimal choice of toppings were the norm.

It was before Steve Herrell broke the ice cream ceiling by adding customized "fix-ins" to his homemade Somerville creations. Steve's novel ice cream approach so popular-



ized Davis Square and beyond, that waiting lines of up to two hours were common. Future owner, Somerville's Joey Crugnale, who was also the founder of Joey's Ice Cream in



Teele Square, later expanded Steve's Ice Cream. Crugnale was also the creator of Bertucci's restaurants.

Light cream, heavy cream, and ice cream ... they all found room along Milk Row in early Somerville's dairy history. This was the name for the path through Union *Continued on page 13*

LEGAL NOTICES

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



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT KATJANA BALLANTYNE MAYOR

THOMAS F. GALLIGANI, JR. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE - HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will hold a public meeting and public hearings on <u>Tuesday, August 6, 2024</u> at 6:45pm on the following applications, in accordance with the Historic Districts Act, Chapter 40C of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, and/or the City of Somerville Code of Ordinances, Pt. II, Chap. 7, Sections 7-16 – 7-28.

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

TO USE A COMPUTER

Registration URL:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_UjX-MQP9RsewEj6czmJ73Q Webinar ID: 856 2707 7672

TO CALL IN

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

ALL OF THE CASES ADVERTISED BELOW HAVE A PUBLIC HEARING COMPONENT

DETERMINATIONS OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE (STEP 1 IN THE DEM-OLITION REVIEW PROCESS)

HP24-000059 - 80 Curtis Street

Applicant: Anthony Seretakis

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

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

7/17/24, 7/24/24 The Somerville Times

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice Prime Storage - Somerville located at 39R Medford St., Somerville, MA 02143 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via <u>www.storagetreasures.com</u> on <u>8/13/2024 at</u> <u>12:00PM</u>. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods, furnishings and garage essentials. Ricardo Borsatto Faria unit #305B. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

7/24/24 The Somerville Times

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



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

FUBLIC REARING NUTICE

The **Somerville Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Wednesday, July 31, 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_UWwus2AiRB6FBrLM5DjYWA Webinar ID: 835 8940 4125

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:

- 52 Elm Street Stephen P. Huff seeks zoning relief from the maximum number of stories in the Neighborhood Residence (NR) district, which requires a Hardship Variance.
- 89 College Ave Jane B. Becker, Maren Chiu, Clair E. Pagnano, Alan Ball, John Amaral, and Kathleen Johanson seek an Administrative Appeal of the Building Official's issuance of a Building Permit, B24-000749.

Development review application submittal materials and other documentation may be viewed online at

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.

7/17/24, 7/24/24 The Somerville Times



City of Somerville PLANNING BOARD

City Hall 3rd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The **Somerville Planning Board (PB)** will hold a virtual public hearing on **Thursday, August 1, 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_vrbZq5LsQ7qkIP-0bF0I9A Webinar ID: 869 3325 4604

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:

500 Medford Street	Core Empowerment LLC proposes to establish a Cannabis Retail Sales use in the		
	Mid-Rise 4 (MR4) zoning district, which requires a Special Permit.		

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.

7/17/24, 7/24/24 The Somerville Times

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage dated February 2, 2023 by Building Alliance Group LLC to Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Three Trust u/d/t dated October 25, 2022 (recorded with Middlesex County (South) Registry of Deeds in Book 80884, Page 355), said mortgage recorded with the Middlesex County (South) Registry of Deed in Book 81222, Page 147, and which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 a.m. on the 15th day of August, 2024** on the premises at 30 Richdale Avenue, Somerville, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

To wit:

Property Address: <u>30 Richdale Avenue, Somerville, Massachusetts</u> 02145

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

Being the lot numbered 12 on a plan of land belonging to Heirs of Oliver Tufts, made by Chas. D. Elliot, E&S., dated March, 1885, and recorded with the Middlesex South District Deeds in Book of Plans 45, Plan 40, being described as follows:

NORTHEASTERLY by Richdale Avenue, forty (40) feet;

SOUTHEASTERLY by lot numbered 11 on said plan, eighty (80) feet;

SOUTHWESTERLY by land now or formerly of the Boston & Lowell Railroad, forty (40) feet;

NORTHWESTERLY by lot numbered 13 on said plan, eighty (80) feet.

Being the same premises conveyed to the herein named grantor(s) by deed recorded with the Middlesex Norfolk County Registry of Deeds herewith [Book 81222, Page 144].

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

Terms of sale: A deposit of Twenty-Five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$25,000.00) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check to Baker, Braverman & Barbadoro, P.C., 1200 Crown Colony Drive, Suite 610, Quincy, MA 02169 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

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

Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Three Trust u/d/t dated October 5, 2022 Present holder of said mortgage By his Attorneys, Baker, Braverman & Barbadoro, P.C. 1200 Crown Colony Drive, Suite 610 Quincy, MA 02169

7/24/24 The Somerville Times

To advertise in The Somerville Times call 857-488-5138

New Executive Director at Somerville Media

The Somerville Media Center announces that Sean Effel will join the organization as its new executive director on September 3, 2024. Sean brings twenty years of PEG access experience, nonprofit leadership and management know-how, and two decades of insight as a resident of the City of Somerville. "SMC's Board of Directors believes Sean is a great fit for the needs of our organization at this time," said Jesse Buckley, President of the Board of Directors.

Somerville Media Center, a 501c3 public access media organization founded in 1983, offers training and technology for Somerville residents, organizations, and businesses to contribute to public discourse and civic life. Among SMC's primary services are experiential learning programs for youth and adults, technical training and enrichment programs, access to high end media production technologies, and access to Comcast and RCN cable channels and streaming services for distributing community-produced content.

"The board conducted a public search and reviewed hundreds of applications for our executive director position," said Buckley. "In the process, we learned a lot about the shared challenges in the access sector and the opportunities in front of SMC to grow and change. Our personnel committee interviewed many finalists and unanimously recommended Sean Effel to the board in June."

"I jumped at the opportunity to build something new for Somerville," said Executive Director Sean Effel. Sean contracted with Somerville Media Center in February to serve as project manager for the planned construction of SMC's future facility. Sean is a former co-executive director of Cambridge Camping Association and former deputy director at Cambridge Community Television. Effel said, "I am a longtime proponent and evangelist of the access mission and moving to a leadership role at SMC feels like a natural fit."

Somerville Media Center left its longtime home in the heart of Union Square and is working with architects at Studio Troika to build out a new state-of-theart facility on the Somernova campus on Properzi Way in 2024. This challenge, along with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and changes in the media landscape, led SMC to develop a three year strategic plan that will refocus the organization on strong management, delivering valuable services, and creating positive outcomes for the community at large.

"Somerville Media Center was the first access television station in Massachusetts and the organization is well positioned to continue providing services as media and community evolves before our eyes again. Sean joins us at the right time to support the success of our new efforts." said Buckley.

"I'm excited to contribute to



Effel seen here overseeing the installation of a new fiber optic cable television demarcation to carry SMC's broadcast signal to cable television subscribers in Somerville.

the community where my family lives and to have an impact on the quality of life we all share here in the city," said Effel. Sean Effel will be on board starting September 3 and can be reached at sean@somervillemedia.org for more information.

Student Art Exhibit Launch at Middlesex County Superior Court

The Middlesex County Superior Court hosted a Student Art Exhibit Launch and luncheon on Friday, June 21, at the courthouse at 200 Tradecenter Drive in Woburn. Over the previous six months, the Clerk of Courts for Middlesex County, Michael A. Sullivan, solicited works of art with themes of justice, equity, and diversity from high schools across Middlesex County. Ultimately, eleven pieces were submitted for permanent display in the courthouse. The following student artists were honored and awarded a framed certificate at the event:



Somerville High School student, Ambika Bhardwaj, with guests.

- + Rhianon Anderson, Tewksbury Memorial High School
- Emily Bassetti, Hudson High School
- + Samaira Bedi, Somerville High School
- Ambika Bhardwaj, Somerville High School
- Xavian Gonzalez, Greater Lowell Technical High School
- Sofia Ochoa, Stoneham High School
- + Jay Permatteo, Francis W. Parker Charter Essential School
- Hannah Schwichtenberg, Natick High School
- Tanishka Singh, Weston High School
- Maya Rosen, Holliston High School
 Daanya Usmani, Westford Academy



Families, friends, teachers, school administrators, and many Trial Court employees were in attendance. The speakers included Associate Justice of the Superior Court Laurence Pierce, Clerk Michael A. Sullivan, Assistant Clerk Lia Marino and Office Manager Eric Guzzi.

In his remarks, Clerk Sullivan said, "Your artwork will bring some beauty and reflection to our courthouse." He also encouraged the students to consider careers in the Trial Court and law.

Presently, some of the artwork is on temporary display in the clerk's office until permanent installation is complete. The project received funding from a generous Massachusetts Trial Court Employee Innovation Grant.

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

District Attorney Ryan teaches campers about summer safety

Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan hosted a Summer Safety event at the YMCA in Somerville this week. It was part of District Attorney Ryan's annual effort to educate children on ways to keep themselves safe during the summer months.

With rising temperatures, the Summer Safety training is an opportunity to inform the public



about risks associated with summer heat, including window falls, drownings, bike riding accidents, firework accidents and children or pets being left in hot cars. District Attorney Ryan highlighted important tips for children including: never swim alone, call 9-1-1 or notify an adult if you see a child alone in a parked car, never play near open windows, always wear a bike helmet and never play with fireworks or sparklers. After the talk, the campers played a game of Summer Safety Jeopardy to show off what they had learned.

The visit was part of the Middlesex District Attorney's Office county-wide summer safety initiative which focuses on averting preventable harm to children by discussing ways to keep themselves safe. Contact Sarah.Lamson@mass.gov to request an event for your group. View and download the Summer Safety Tips flyer at https://www.middlesexda.com/sites/g/files/vyhlif11841/f/uploads/safety_5.18.15.pdf.

Pictured: District Attorney Ryan, campers of the Somerville YMCA and Bear, the Middlesex District Attorney's Office Comfort Dog, pose for a photo.

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

Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

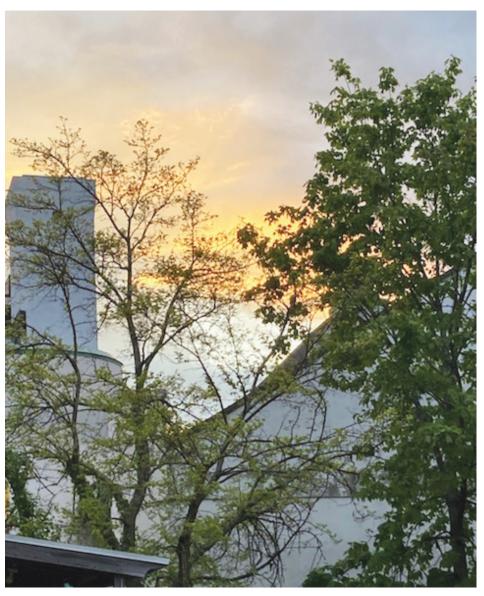
By Bobbygeorge Potaris

How do you make an apple turnover? Push it downhill.

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Somerville through the eyes of Denise



City sunset...

— Photo by Denise Provost

On This Day in History July 24

1505 – On their way to India, a group of Portuguese explorers sack the city of Kilwa.

1567 – Mary, Queen of Scots, is imprisoned and forced to abdicate her throne to her 1-year-old son James VI.

1701 – Antoine de la Mothe Cadillac establishes Fort Pontchartrain for France at present-day Detroit, Michigan.

- 1704 Admiral George Rooke takes Gibraltar from the Spanish.
- 1766 At Fort Ontario, Canada, Ottawa chief Pontiac and William Johnson sign a peace agreement.
- 1847 The first members of Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints arrive in Utah, settling in present-day Salt Lake City.
- 1942 The Soviet city of Rostov is captured by German troops.
- 1950 The U.S. Fifth Air Force relocates from Japan to Korea.

1974 – The Supreme Court rules that President Richard Nixon must surrender the Watergate tapes.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

Rhythms, Friday, July 26, 7:00-8:30 p.m., Somerville Community Growing Center, 22 Vinal Ave. On Saturday, July 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m. the Community Garden will also host Spoken Word/Poetry Open Mic. All invited to share spoken word poetry, first come-first served to sign up.

Cyclopolitan and East Somerville Main Streets host the 4th annual East Somerville Mural Ride on Saturday July 27, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Celebrate our colorful city with a leisurely ride around town. Join the fourth annual tour of the street art of East Somerville by bike. All event details, including the exact starting location, will only be released to those who register. Register here: bit.ly/muralrideeast24.

Register for the **Somerville Soccer fall 2024 season** and save \$5 **between now and July 31** during **SYS Mid-Summer Savings Days**! Sign up today before late fees begin on August 1. Visit www.somervillesoccer.org to learn more.

Heat safety tips and ways to keep cool in and around Somerville are available in multiple languages on the city's Keeping Cool in Hot Weather webpage at somervillema.gov/keepcool.

Join Parkour Generations Boston for the monthly, free Community Jam at The Dojo from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 27. All movement backgrounds are welcome, such as CrossFit, climbing, obstacle course racing, yoga, Pilates, circus arts, boxing, weightlifting, dance, gymnastics, couch-sitting, and anything in between – meet-ups have something for you. No registration is required (15 Properzi Way, Somerville). On Friday, August 2, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., the Mystic Learning Center is hosting a Tropical Summer Party at The Dojo at Somernova. The Party is free and will feature food, fun, music, summer activities, prizes, and so much more. If you're a young adult (14+), come down to The Dojo. Visit the Dojo on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., **Somerville Bike Kitchen**, a volunteer-run bicycle repair cooperative, hosts open-shop nights.

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.

Save the date for the **19th annual "What the Fluff Fest" A Tribute to Union Square Innovation** is a madcap festival honoring the invention of **Marshmallow Fluff.** It celebrates Somerville's proud tradition of innovation with live music, fluffalicious feasts, sticky games, zany happenings, and much more! The Festival is located in Union Square on Saturday, September 21, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. For more info on the events and offerings

at the festival, visit www.flufffestival.com.

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.

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 began on July 1, is free, and open to Somerville teen ages 12-18. 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.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne, Somerville Police Department, and Somerville Recreation invite community members to National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6, at Trum Field (541 Broadway) from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Enjoy music and family-friendly activities, meet local officers, and more. National Night Out occurs annually and nationwide to promote police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. Learn more and register to attend at somervillema. myrec.com. Registration is not required.

JULY 24, 2024 13

Check out the free summer meals for Somerville youth through August 16. Argenziano/Lincoln Park, 290 Washington St. Breakfast around 9:30 a.m. Dilboy Pool Parking Lot, 324 Alewife Brook Pkwy, Lunch Starting 10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Blessing of the Bay Boathouse, 32 Shore Drive, Lunch10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Founders Skating Rink at Conway Park (near the basketball courts), 570 Somerville Ave. Breakfast and lunch 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Foss Park, 49 Fellsway W. Lunch at 11:15 – 11:45 a.m.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH) recently detected West Nile virus (WNV) in mosquito samples from Cambridge. While no human or animal cases of WNV or Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) have been reported, it is important to take steps to protect yourself from mosquitoes and mosquito-borne illnesses. For tips and information, visit: mass.gov/dph/mosquito

The Somerville Public Library in partnership with St. Mark Community Education Program is offering a free, 10-week U.S. Citizenship Preparation class. The class will prepare students for the citizenship interview including the 100 civics questions, the reading and writing sections, and interview questions based on the filed N-400 application. Requirements: Basic level of English and 5 years as a U.S. permanent resident (green card holder) or 3 years, if married to a US citizen.Registration required: tinyurl. com/splcitizenshipclassfall2024

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.

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 9

Square. At first, it was called the road to Cambridge, connecting Charlestown Neck with Harvard University. Today it is known as Washington Street, named after the first leader of our nation. General George Washington raised the first American flag on Prospect Hill on January 1, 1776, the same day the American Army was formed here. Washington led the Army through eight long years of war, followed by eight years of leadership as our first American President.

In his retirement, Washington enjoyed many visits from friends, dignitaries and former soldiers that he fought beside. For these guests, a frozen surprise dessert was often served. It was called by its Americanized name, "ice cream." George liked the sugary treat to the point that he once spent \$200 in one year, or close to \$5,000 in today's money, to fill his sweet tooth. He also collected ice cream scoops and molds and purchased an ice cream maker.

Washington's wife, First Lady Martha, is popularly credited with the introduction of ice cream to America and established it as a standard presidential dessert. Forty presidents later, Ronald Reagan named July as National Ice Cream Month. This coming July 4th will be Somerville's 175th celebration of Independence Day and the nations 241st. Enjoy saluting her and our country with the founding fathers' and America's favorite dessert ... ice cream!

CLASSIFIEDS

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SOMERVILLE edited by Doug Holder

yrica

Robbie Gamble (he/him) lived in East Somerville through most of the 1990s. He is the author of *A Can of Pinto Beans* (Lily Poetry Review Press, 2022). His poems have appeared in *Post Road, The Worcester Review, Pangyrus, Salamander,* and *The Sun.* He is the poetry editor of *Solstice: A Magazine of Diverse Voices,* and



he now divides his time between Brookline and Vermont.

Zoom Reading

That feeling when you click on the "Leave Meeting" button and you find yourself back in your room the blurred background returning into focus. Your poems have dissolved into the ethos and for a moment you are utterly alone.

Blind Spot

I'm looking for it, allowing the gaze to slide a little left, nothing unusual, then down a bit, there was some trick to this I used to know, something about trying to focus on an imaginary location, two feet in front of the wall, still nothing, and I'm sorry for not speaking to you about the thing I did without checking with you beforehand, not seeing at all how that might affect you or anyone else, really I'm rather stupefied I didn't anticipate your reaction, and I can spin around on my toes, eyes wide, everything seems to be there, the four walls closing in a little, or else this: my hands at 10 and 2 steady on the wheel eyes straight ahead andohmygodwheredidhecomefromreardriversideWHAM!

OFF THE SHELF by Doug Holder

Just thinking... I just turned 69...



In a few years I will have to leave my apartment for decades - my landlords have been great - but they are getting older and need my space. Thanks to them I have had a great place at a very reasonable rent. I have had my most creative and productive years in this flat. So, I am starting to downsize. My landlord and I will take down this large table that has been a bulwark in my living room and has accumulated all kinds of stuff, one friend opined, "Your apartment is a throwback to an old Greenwich Village Bohemian, a museum of Doug Holder." My flat has books littered all around it, artwork, antique furniture, the severe bust of Dante staring at me every morning, a large framed photograph of the old elevated tracks above Harrison Ave. in Boston, the ashes of my late wife, a row of framed photos of my beloved cats who passed over the years, awards, stacks of the magazines and newspapers where my work has appeared, pictures of my late father with Jack Dempsey and Yogi Berra. There are pictures of peddlers from the Lower East

Amazingly I don't feel anything, nothing at all and still I can't see how you've been terribly hurt.

Fifth of July

Last night we hunkered down at home with neighbors

to watch fireworks blinker in far hamlets across the valley,

ethereal nosegays of color and muffle, glowingly benign

Side, who are frozen in a perpetual pose, hawking knishes, men's wear, Sig Klein's fat man shop, with a fat man in large white underwear in the store's window, there is a fit for every man. I am looking at a painting of Toots Shore, the venerable NYC bar/eatery of yore, with a signature from Joe DiMaggio, an ashtray from the Stork Club ... In a way, that bulwark of a table seemed to keep me rooted in the past - it held things together – but as I have learned in life, all things must pass. Eventually you have to let go. I don't think I will ever have a place that I loved so much, a dark refuge, a beaten couch listening to jazz every evening, the tapestries, the Chinese calligraphy, a lot of things will go the way of all things - to dust. I am probably going to have to move from Somerville as the rents are outrageous ... but the years I spent here, the work I have done, my love will always remain ... Slowly I will downsize, like we all do, whether body or home, and in the end as Shakespeare wrote in the Seven Ages of Man, "Sans Everything."

at this fair distance, and my friend has been scheduled

for a colonoscopy today, having purged through the night

to clean a path for her doctor's diagnostic optics. If tyranny

is a polyp, mushrooming onward through our collective

visceral core, tell me, please, do we have a prognosis?

— Robbie Gamble

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