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Happy birthday Claudia!

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Somerville's Primary Election unofficial totals



The ballots were cast on Tuesday for the 2024 Massachusetts State Primary.

By The Times Staff

The Massachusetts State Primary Election took place on Tuesday, September 3. Voters across the Commonwealth voted early, voted by mail, or went to the polls to cast their votes.

The following unofficial totals have been posted for voters in the City of Somerville:

Democratic Party

United States Senator

Elizabeth Ann Warren 10,832

Representative in Congress-Seventh District

Ayanna S. Pressley 10,742

Councillor-Sixth District

Terrence W. Kennedy 9,611

Senator in General Court-Second Middlesex District

Continued on page 3

Everybody's going nuts about Mass Hole Donuts

By Harry Kane

A quirky gourmet donut hole shop called Mass Hole Donuts in Somerville sells golf ball size donut holes and names them after Massachusetts landmarks and legends.

Mass Hole Donuts is located at 1157 Broadway. The shop opened in May of 2023, and is owned and operated by Peter Gladstone. Their slogan reads: The Filet Mignon of Donuts.

"We like to joke that we're the flavorful center cut, where most donut places throw out the middle, we keep the middle and throw out the ring," Gladstone said.

They've created 101 different donut holes since they opened. Gladstone washes the dishes and works the counter; he leaves the

Continued on page 4



The bakers are Karen Kosta, Vanessa Rowsell and Erick Johnson.— Photos courtesy of Mass Hole Donuts

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

The **Overdose Awareness Flag Planting** takes place on **Thursday, September 5, 10:00 a.m.**, at **City Hall Lawn, 93 Highland Ave.** This event is one of many to observe **International Overdose Awareness Day** on August 31 and **Recovery Month** in September. **Purple lights** will also light up **City Hall** in recognition of Recovery Month. The flag and light displays will remain for the entire month of September. Somerville Prevention staff will host **Narcan Distribution Events** and trainings to distribute free overdose prevention information and harm reduction materials. These include the overdose-reversing nasal spray naloxone (often referred to as Narcan), Fentanyl test strips, CPR face shields, and syringe disposal boxes. For more information and a list of events visit <https://www.somervillema.gov/>, For more information, please contact **Han Hogan-Rigg** at hhoganrigg@somervillema.gov and be sure to follow Somerville Prevention on Instagram: @somervilleprevention.

As of **Tuesday, September 3**, the **Central Library** (79 Highland Ave.) temporarily implemented a **modified afternoon schedule** during weekdays. Weekend hours will remain unchanged: **Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays: Closed from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Wednesdays: Closed from 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** For questions about events and pick-up schedules impacted by the temporary schedule change, you can contact them at 617-623-5000 or by calling 311. Learn more at: somervillepubliclibrary.org. *Continued on page 7*

Somerville Weather Forecast

for the week of September 4 – September 10 as provided by the National Weather Service

DAY	CONDITIONS	HIGH/LOW	PRECIPITATION	HUMIDITY	WIND
 Wednesday <i>September 4</i>	Sunny	79°/57°	3%	1%	SE 10 mph
 Thursday <i>September 5</i>	Sunny	76°/58°	5%	2%	SE 10 mph
 Friday <i>September 6</i>	Partly Cloudy	74°/60°	12%	9%	ENE 12 mph
 Saturday <i>September 7</i>	Rain	73°/61°	32%	27%	E 11 mph
 Sunday <i>September 8</i>	Rain	71°/53°	45%	38%	S 11 mph
 Monday <i>September 9</i>	Sunny	73°/55°	11%	7%	NW 11 mph
 Tuesday <i>September 10</i>	Sunny	74°/55°	5%	2%	W 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: *Peace at Home to Support Peace Abroad*

Spider Jerusalem says:

Mayor Katjana, do you want to restore peace, respect and safety in our city?

Then start by speaking the truth and begin humanizing the Jewish community currently being boycotted by city hall.

A responsible mayor would speak the simple truth: " Hamas terrorists are responsible for starting the war in Gaza. Not Israeli Jews who left Gaza "Jew-free" since 2005 in exchange for peace and certainly not Somerville Jews."

A responsible mayor would begin to humanize the victims of Oct 7th: Mayor Katjana, please say the words "Rape is not resistance". You can try it privately, we understand, you're under pressure from bona-fide masked hate-groups. But cowardice is not an immutable characteristic, please at least watch "Screams Before Silence" Mayor Katjana, if you refuse to show it.

A responsible mayor would stretch a banner across the city hall, armory and the police station stating that "Rape is not Resistance" after hearing that people in the city under her watch are being threatened for uttering this true statement. What are you going to do Katjana? Ignore and boycott people speaking truth while battling imaginary "hamaso-phobia"? We stood up to hate for our Muslim neighbors by around 10:45 on 9/11/2001, but please do keep insulting and persecuting non-compliant Jews, Mayor Katjana.

Then maybe lets talk about stopping taxpayer funds for anti-Jewish hate groups? Were not just talking about the council's resolution campaigns to save hamas from the war it started or the hate fest movie nights at the armory. Lets also thoroughly examine how our tax dollars go to fund "[Jew] Free Palestine" hategroups throughout the city? Nobody is fooled any longer by the motivation of hamas supporters at this point. A responsible mayor would call out hate Mayor Katjana.

Also, Mayor Katjana, have you asked Muslims if they agree with your label of "Islamophobia" for Jews who try to restore safety in our community? Cause when Tsarnaev senior revealed his jewhating views, the imam at the mosque on Prospect st ran to tell the cops instead of protecting the terrorist. Are you sure you want to lump all Muslims into the terrorist Hamas supporters camp? Maybe they're not cool with pimply Hamas cosplayers from Tufts alienating the Muslim community on their behalf? Terrorism is not foreign to our town, shameless hate for Jews is new, but we can deal with hate if only our elected officials get our of their preferred ostrich position. Boston Strong.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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Life in the  by Jimmy Del Ponte

Let's all go to the lobby...



This article first appeared in the March 16, 2013 edition of The Somerville Times

Remember the dancing and singing popcorn box and soda cups inviting us to buy refreshments at the movies? Sure you do. Do you remember the first movie you saw at a Somerville movie theater? Some of us do. My parents took us to the drive-in when we were really young where we saw *The Blob* in 1958. My first movie theater shows were *Ben Hur* in 1959 and *101 Dalmatians* in 1961 at Davis Square. We also saw *The Shaggy Dog* with Fred MacMurray in 1959. In 1965 my mother took us to see *The Sound Of Music*.

ing to The Davis Square Theatre and the Broadway Theatre, although there were many more Somerville movie houses in the past. Two of them were in Teele Square, and Ball Square. Here come some testimonials:

Carol says, "I think we paid 15 cents to get in the movies. Two cartoons and a movie for 15 cents, plus candy! We hardly ever saw the whole movie because my cousin would always get in trouble and we would get thrown out! (perhaps tossing Ju-jubes off the balcony?)"

KN tells us: "We saw *The Three Stooges* in *The Outlaws* is *Coming* in 1965 and I think we paid 50 cents."

MH shares this: "When we went to the Davis Square Theatre, we would buy popcorn at Gorins and candy at The Smoke Shop because it was cheaper. My dad got mad because we took my little sister to see *Blazing Saddles*. No PG-13 back then! We saw *Hello Dolly* in 1969, *Willy Wonka* in 1971 and *Jaws* in 1975 at the Broadway Theatre."

Saturday afternoons at Davis. "I think it was 35 cents (I would get 50) you would 'go in' with another guy one would buy popcorn for 10 cents and one would buy tonic for 10 cents and each would buy a box of candy and we'd all split everything."

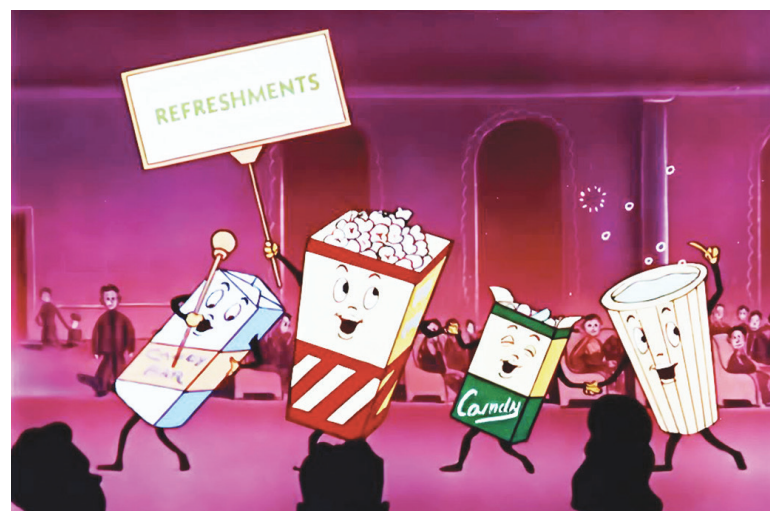
"My parents would give us each \$2.00 (yikes!) which would cover the bus ride which I think it was .10 each way, admission to the theater, candy, popcorn and soda! Ah, the good ole days!"

"We saw *American Graffiti* in 1973. My brother Danny snuck us in. We usually went to the Broadway Theatre but Davis was a hell of a lot cleaner!"

This guy goes way back! "On Saturdays, they ran two feature movies and several mini-series plus food for .25 cents! Sometimes Major Mudd or Big Brother Bob Emery would show up! Remember those guys?"

Woody remembers a Beatles movie fest in Davis Square, and lots of those Elvis movies.

Here are some of the movies we



saw back then. *Carrie*, *Swiss Family Robinson*, *Shirley Temple*, *The Lone Ranger*, *The Thing*, *Where The Boys Are*, *007*, *Smokey and the Bandit*, *Lassie Come Home*, *Buck Rogers*, *Creature from the Black Lagoon*, *Dracula*, *Frankenstein*, *The Mummy*, *Star Wars*, *Planet of the Apes*, *Goldfinger*, *It's a Mad Mad Mad Mad World*, and *Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn*.

My movie memories include my dad taking us to the drive in our pajamas. In later years I recall hiding in the trunk of cars to avoid paying. I would have to

say that *Swiss Family Robinson* in 1960 (when I was 7 years old) was the most memorable and exciting movie I have ever seen.

We got to see our movies in a full-size theater, not one of those tiny mini-plex things. Of course, we also had to sit through the rumbling, shaking and rattling that happened every time a freight train rolled through Davis Square.

My son is the third generation of Del Ponte men to work at The Somerville Theatre. We will do anything for free popcorn.

Somerville's Primary Election unofficial totals CONT. FROM PG 1

Patricia D. Jehlen **10,491**
Representative in General Court -Twenty-Sixth Middlesex District
 Mike Connolly **868**
Representative in General Court-Twenty-Seventh Middlesex District
 Erika Uytterhoeven **5,705**
 Kathleen M. Hornby **2,571**
Representative in General Court-Thirty-Fourth Middlesex District

Christine P. Barber **2,221**
Clerk of Courts -Middlesex County
 Michael A. Sullivan **9,735**
Register of Deeds -Middlesex Southern District
 Maria C. Curtatone **9,549**
Libertarian Party
 No candidates were nominated by the Libertarian Party for the ballot. Any

write-in candidates that receive a qualifying number of votes will be reported here.
Republican Party
United States Senator
 Robert J. Antonellis **250**
 Ian Cain **93**
 John Deaton **377**
 In the two races that were the only ones

with opponents, John Deaton won the Republican Senate primary and will run against Elizabeth Warren, while Erika Uytterhoeven won the primary against Kathleen M. Hornby for 27th Middlesex District Representative.
 Check www.thesomervilletimes.com for the latest updates on voting totals and relevant stats.



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Somerville Police Dept Crime Log August 20 – 26

Residential Breaking and Entering

24051191: On 8/22/24 at approximately 11:06 p.m., Somerville Police responded to a residence on Marshall St. for report of a past breaking and entering. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated he left his apartment and when he returned, observed his apartment door had been damaged and was slightly ajar. Nothing was reported missing.

Robbery

24050734: On 8/20/24 at approximately 7:40 p.m., Somerville Police responded to Assembly Row for report of an armed robbery with a knife. Upon arrival, officers spoke with a juvenile victim who stated he was approached by two juvenile males who brandished knives and demanded he give them his shoes and other belongings. Officers identified both suspects.

Assault

24050603: On 8/20/24 at approximately 9:51 a.m., Somerville Police took a report from a female victim who stated the day prior while walking on Curtis St., a vehicle pulled up next to her and the occupants began talking to her. The vehicle then took off and the victim was shot in the face with a BB gun. The victim did not have any injuries.

Assault

24052047: On 8/26/24 at approximately 9:08 p.m., Somerville Police responded to 247 Elm St. for report of an assault. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated he was approached by a male party after withdrawing money from the ATM. The victim attempted to leave the area and male suspect brandished a knife/box cutter at him. The victim then ran into a nearby business for help.

Residential Breaking and Entering

24051494: On 8/24/24 at approximately 10:52 a.m., Somerville Police responded to a residence on Highland Ave. for report of a past breaking and entering. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated frozen meat was stolen from his freezer.

Residential Breaking and Entering

24051310: On 8/23/24 at approximately 12:29 p.m. Somerville Police responded to a apartment on Broadway for report of a past breaking and entering. Upon arrival, officers spoke with the victim who stated she left her apartment and when she returned, observed a male party inside.

Other Crimes: 6 Package thefts + 4 Vandalisms + 5 Car breaks + 2 MV vandalisms + 2 Bike thefts

— Somerville Police Dept.



Everybody's going nuts about Mass Hole Donuts CONT. FROM PG 1

baking up to the professionals. The bakers are Karen Kosta, Vanessa Rowsell and Erick Johnson.

Two of the most popular donut holes are the Johnny Appleseed Cider Donut and the New-Berry Street Chocolate Cake Donut. Recently, The Wicked Pissah Pistachio Brioche has gained popularity.

The Wicked Pissah Pistachio is a tender brioche dough filled with pistachio custard, covered in a pistachio glaze and topped with a white chocolate drizzle

and chopped pistachio nuts. It's green, it's delicious, and it has the nest name evah!

The Johnny Appleseed Cider Donut is named after Leominster's most famous son. It's a rich spiced apple donut, studded with chunks of real apple, covered in cinnamon and sugar, with a satisfying crunch on the outside.

The New-Berry Street Chocolate Cake donut is topped with vanilla bean icing, a dollop of Nutella and a fresh blackberry.

Every week they make six

different donut holes and they change their menu constantly.

"We are committed to having a few good bites and variety," Gladstone said.

Every Sunday they decide what 6 donut holes they want to make for the upcoming week. They typically come up with two brioche donut holes (one that's filled and one that's not filled), two poppyseed cake donut holes, a chocolate donut hole and cider donut hole.

"That occasionally might change where we will swap in a different dough, but typically we are doing four doughs across six donuts," Gladstone said.

The bakers arrive around 4 a.m. and they make 1000 donut holes per day on average. Weekends are busier. They have four hours to make, fry and decorate the donuts, and open for business at 8:00 a.m. They stay open until 11:00 a.m. or sometimes 11:30 a.m.

Mass Hole Donuts makes singles, but since they are all about variety, the most popular packs



The New-Berry Street Chocolate Cake Donut.

they sell are 3-packs (\$7), 6-packs (\$14), and 12-packs (\$26).

They sell hot and cold coffee that they get from Broadsheet Roaster right in Somerville. There's also merchandise like branded t-shirts, hats and mugs.

Recently Mass Hole Donuts has been opening on Friday nights to make hot donut sundaes. It's been popular, so during the Au-

turn, it may happen more than just on Fridays, Gladstone said.

Mass Hole Donuts offers corporate catering and can make custom donut holes for clients. As an example, for Harvard, Mass Hole Donuts came up with the Crimson Donut Hole.

"We can create new donut flavors or looks for weddings and clients," Gladstone said.



Sometimes they get silly and dress up in bear outfits.

Animal Control receives citation for no-kill status

By Harry Kane

Somerville Animal Control department received a national award from an organization called Best Friends Animal Society earlier this year for reaching a benchmark goal in 2023 with a 90 percent no-kill rate of dogs and cats.

In addition to the award from the Best Friends network, Animal Control Officers Rachel Taylor and Haley LaMonte were presented with a citation for recognition of maintaining and achieving a no-kill status at the August 22 Somerville City Council meeting as an offering of commendation for the achievement of saving at-risk canines and felines.

"I brought forward this citation recognizing the Animal Control department for receiving that award," said City Councilor At-Large Kristen Strezo. "I thought it was important to commemorate, because we have to celebrate the win."

In 2023, 415,000 dogs and cats were killed in shelters across the

United States due to homelessness, according to Best Friends Animal Society.

Best Friends Animal Society is a non-profit organization that operates the nation's largest sanctuary for homeless animals and provides adoption, spay/neuter and educational programs.

Somerville's Animal Control department processed a combined total of 107 dogs and cats at their kennel in 2023. Sadly, four cats and two dogs were humanely euthanized as a result of veterinary recommendation primarily due to illness or severe injury.

This is the first year that the City of Somerville Animal Control department has received the no-kill status. To be considered no-kill, a shelter must have at least a 90 percent placement rate for the cats and dogs in their care.

The job of an Animal Control Officer or ACO involves responding to calls about sick, injured and potentially dangerous domestic and wild animals roaming at large, and providing transportation to the Massachu-



ACO Haley Lamonte (3 years service) and Rachel Taylor (15 years service) received recognition after achieving no-kill status at shelter for the first time ever.

setts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals or a veterinarian as necessary.

The department enforces the city's regulations against cruelty to animals and handles cases of abandoned or unclaimed animals. If warranted, officers will take custody of a neglected or cruelly treated animal.

As the city's animal inspector, the ACO department manages bite reports and follows up with any necessary prosecution. They maintain the city kennel, and unclaimed dogs are required to be held for 10 days prior to being transported to a viable adoption program, according to the City of Somerville.

Before the citation was presented at the City Council meeting, a letter was read aloud, which was written by Julie Castle, Chief Executive Officer of Best Friends Animal Society.

"I want to congratulate Somerville Animal Control on achieving a 90 percent save

rate for the 2023 calendar year. You've joined an elite group of organizations across the country who are leading the way toward making us a no-kill nation," said Castle in the letter.

An orange and white plaque, which says, WE ARE A NO-KILL SHELTER 2023, now hangs on the wall at Somerville Animal Control, and is a representation of the dedication and milestone the city has reached within the broader animal welfare movement.

In most cases, Officers Taylor and LaMonte capture and impound roaming or wandering cats and dogs, and later return them to their homes.

"Most of the time we are able to find their owner," said Officer LaMonte. "There have been a couple of instances of an abandoned animal where we are not able to find an owner."

If stray dogs or feral cats are not claimed after a hold period they typically go through an eval-

uation for adoption or transfer to a rescue organization.

Animal Control provides humane refuge to homeless, abandoned and surrendered cats and dogs. The hope is to find caring people to adopt, foster, donate, volunteer and advocate to help save the lives of pets in Somerville.

Both Officers Taylor and LaMonte work tirelessly to provide for the community and animals in their time of need.

"I hope we can keep that status every year," said Officer LaMonte. "That's the goal."



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: There were no roll call votes in the House or Senate last week. This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* reports local senators' roll call attendance records for the 2024 session through August 30.

The Senate has held 150 roll calls so far in the 2024 session. *Beacon Hill Roll Call* tabulates the number of roll calls on which each senator voted and then calculates that number as a percentage of the total roll call votes held. That percentage is the number referred to as the roll call attendance record.

Thirty-six (90 percent) of the current 40 senators did not miss any roll calls and have 100 percent roll call attendance records.

Four (10 percent) of the 40 senators missed one or more roll calls.

It is a Senate tradition that the Senate president only votes occasionally. Current Senate President Karen Spilka follows that tradition and only voted on 28 (18.7 percent) of the 150 roll calls while not voting on 122 (81.3 percent) of them.

Sen. Mike Rush (D-West Roxbury) missed 14 roll calls for a roll call attendance record of 90.6 percent.

Sen. Mike Barrett (D-Lexington) missed three roll calls resulting in a 98 percent roll call attendance record.

Sen. Liz Miranda (D-Boston) missed one roll call resulting in a 99.3 percent roll call attendance record.

Beacon Hill Roll Call contacted Rush, Barrett and Miranda asking why they missed some roll calls. Here are their responses:

Sen. Mike Rush: "I am one of three members of the Senate who are active reservists. On April 25th, June 6th and June 13th, I was on orders with the United States Navy and as a result was unable to participate in roll call votes during session. I had submitted letters to the Clerk of the Senate to be included in the Senate Journal stating this fact and recording how I would have voted had I been present."

Sen. Mike Barrett: "I was drafting the Senate's climate bill, exacting work that occasionally had me missing a roll call."

Sen. Liz Miranda: "I missed one roll call because I actually came late into the chamber, from my office while dealing with an emergency constituent issue. I submitted a letter when I arrived moments after."

SENATORS' 2024 ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

RECORDS THROUGH AUGUST 30, 2024

The percentage listed next to the senator's name is the percentage of roll call votes on which the senator voted. The number in parentheses represents the number of roll calls that he or she missed.

Sen. Patricia Jehlen 100 percent (0)

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL (S 1666) – The House gave initial approval to a bill that would allow public safety personnel with impaired health, presumed to have suffered in the line of duty, to submit an affidavit attesting that he or she did undergo a physical examination on entry into service, if their employer failed to maintain such records.

"Public safety personnel like police and firefighters that are injured in the line of duty or suffer illness due to their occupation shouldn't have to jump through hoops or navigate red tape if their employer fails to maintain proper medical records documenting their service," said sponsor Sen. Paul Feeney (D-Foxborough). "I am proud to have filed this legislation to help relieve public safety officials of the undue burden of proving an occupational presumption when through no fault of their own, their medical records have been lost or damaged by their employing department."

PROTECT CATS AND DOGS (S 2908) – The House gave initial approval to legislation that would prohibit the sale or transfer of any puppies and kittens under eight weeks old. Violators would be fined \$100 per animal.

When the animal is more than eight weeks old, the outright ban is lifted and replaced with a section that would prohibit the sale or transfer of any dogs or cats at specified outdoor locations, such as flea markets and roadsides. This prohibition would not apply to the transfer of a dog or cat by, or to, a shelter, animal control or animal rescue; or to the display of a dog or cat as part of a state or county fair exhibition, a 4-H program or similar exhibition or educational program. Violators would be fined \$50 per animal for a first offense, \$100 for a second offense and \$300 for a third and subsequent offenses.

"Passing this legislation would represent an end to the supply-and-demand relationship between Massachusetts and puppy mills and give these animals a better opportunity at finding a home," said Sen. Patrick O'Connor (R-Weymouth), a sponsor of an earlier version of the measure. "I am a longtime supporter of animal protection issues, even before I ran for Senate. I have co-sponsored many animal

protection bills and I am focused on protecting animals as some of the most vulnerable members of our society. All animals deserve to be treated with respect and dignity and I am proud to be a voice for animal rights on Beacon Hill."

"As an animal lover I have been proud to support animal welfare legislation throughout my legislative career including sponsoring [this bill]," said Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), another sponsor of an earlier version of the measure. "At the most fundamental level this bill seeks to prevent a variety of health issues among dogs and cats because they were prematurely separated from their mother or sold at inappropriate locations such as along the side of a road. I am thrilled that this bill is currently being considered by the House of Representatives following its passage in the Senate a few weeks ago."

The bill still needs additional approval by both the House and Senate prior to it going to Gov. Maura Healey for her signature.

RENAME THE MASSACHUSETTS REHABILITATION COMMISSION (S 2941) – The Senate approved legislation that would rename the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission to MassAbility, a change that supporters say will better and properly define the agency's role in supporting residents with disabilities to live independently. In April, the House approved a different version of the bill and the Senate version now goes to the House for consideration.

Supporters said the name change reflects the intention of the commission to empower individuals living with disabilities and move away from outdated terminology as the office undergoes broad changes toward a more expansive model for disability employment services and independent living. They noted that the legislation also removes offensive terminology in current Massachusetts law referring to people with disabilities.

"This legislation is not just a name change but a mission enhancement," said Sen. Nick Collins, Senate Chair of the Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight. "By defining the commonwealth's response now with emphasis on the abilities of our citizens, we are taking the MassAbility Commission in a new proactive, positive direction to better serve the community's needs."

"This historic legislation represents the state's commitment to propelling the disability movement forward," said Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commissioner Toni Wolf. "Language has the power to shape people and culture, tackle stigmas, biases and stereotypes. For too long, the words we've used have not reflected the *Continued on page 16*

COMMENTARY

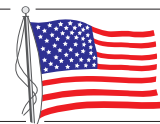
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Somerville goes purple in support of Overdose Awareness Day.

Our View Of The Times



If there is one thing that most Somerville residents can agree on it's the importance of supporting initiatives that help solve the problem of addiction and recovery in our community and others.

In recognition of International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) on Saturday, August 31, and National Recovery Month in September, advocates and officials in Somerville have united in their

call for Somervillians to observe both events in a few simple but powerful ways. From displaying purple lights and ribbons to attending vigils and events, residents can send a message of support and hope for recovery.

On Thursday, September 5, the City of Somerville will plant 14 purple flags on the Highland Avenue side of City Hall, representing the 14 Somerville residents

who passed away from an opioid-related overdose in 2023. One larger flag will also be planted, representing all those lost in prior years.

Purple lights will also light up City Hall in recognition of Recovery Month. The flag and light displays will remain for the entire month of September.

Somerville Prevention staff will host Narcan Distribution Events and trainings

to distribute free overdose prevention information and harm reduction materials. These include the overdose-reversing nasal spray naloxone (often referred to as Narcan), Fentanyl test strips, CPR face shields, and syringe disposal boxes.

Going purple is one way we can all share in the effort to make a difference in the struggle to curb addiction and support those in recovery. Let's all join in.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to local realtor **Stephen Bremis**. We wish a great birthday. Happy birthday to **Jodi Gallo**. We wish her the very best of birthdays. Happy birthday to **Juscelia LoRusso** of **Juscelia's Cakes**. She makes the best cakes around. Happy Birthday to **Nancy Gaudet-Bacci**, who is celebrating this week. We wish her a great birthday. We wish all of our Facebook friends, such as **Patty Oppedisano, Nick Stavre, Guillermo Hamlin, Billy Harrison, Paul Mercier, Judith Medeiros, Joe Fothergill, Sabrina Faria Caprigno** and **David Roberts** 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.

Somerville Public Schools are now in session for the **2024/2025 school year**. Visit SPS district website calendar for more information: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/events/calendar>. Visit the 2024-2025 School Year Calendar page for an English, Spanish, Portuguese, or Haitian Creole calendar to print: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/school-yearcalendar>. Visit the Food and Nutrition Services Department page for school meal menus. Breakfast and lunch

are free for all students: <https://somerville.k12.ma.us/fnsd>.

Somerville's DPW, through the **Procurement Department**, is seeking **contractors to provide snow plowing services** for the city from **October 15, 2024 to June 30, 2026**. Interested vendors may obtain a **Request for Application (RFA)** packet from the Procurement Department web page, or by emailing a request to procurement@somervillema.gov. Vendors must return their completed RFA packet by **Thursday, September 19, 2024**, at 2:00 pm for early contract offers.

On **Monday, September 9**, the **West Branch Library**, 40 College Ave., will host **Bad Art Night**. Let your enthusiasm run wild and create with no expectations. They'll provide a variety of materials and then you can go wild creating your masterpiece. This month's theme is **"Back to School"**. This program is intended for adults. Learn more and register at <https://tinyurl.com/bddznau9>.

School is back in session and this year the **Somerville Homeless Coalition** is asking for crucial donations of school supplies for their young student clients and their families. Right *Continued on page 21*

FUN & GAMES

Ms. Cam's Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#939

1. What is the oldest stone building in Massachusetts?
2. When was the NFL founded?
3. Which 1960s sitcom featured a witch married to a mortal man?
4. What is different about September compared to every other calendar month?
5. What kind of moon can you expect to see in September?
6. Who was the only U.S. President born in September?
7. What is the name of the dinosaur in the movie *The Good Dinosaur*?
8. How many points win a game in badminton?
9. What was the first television show to depict a pregnancy storyline?
10. Who plays Barbie in the 2024 live-action film?
11. What are the national sports of Canada?
12. In the TV show *The Addams Family*, what was the name of the family's butler?

Answers on page 14

The Somerville Times Useless Facts of the Week

1. Your fingernails grow faster on your dominant hand.
2. Sloths can hold their breath for longer than dolphins.

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

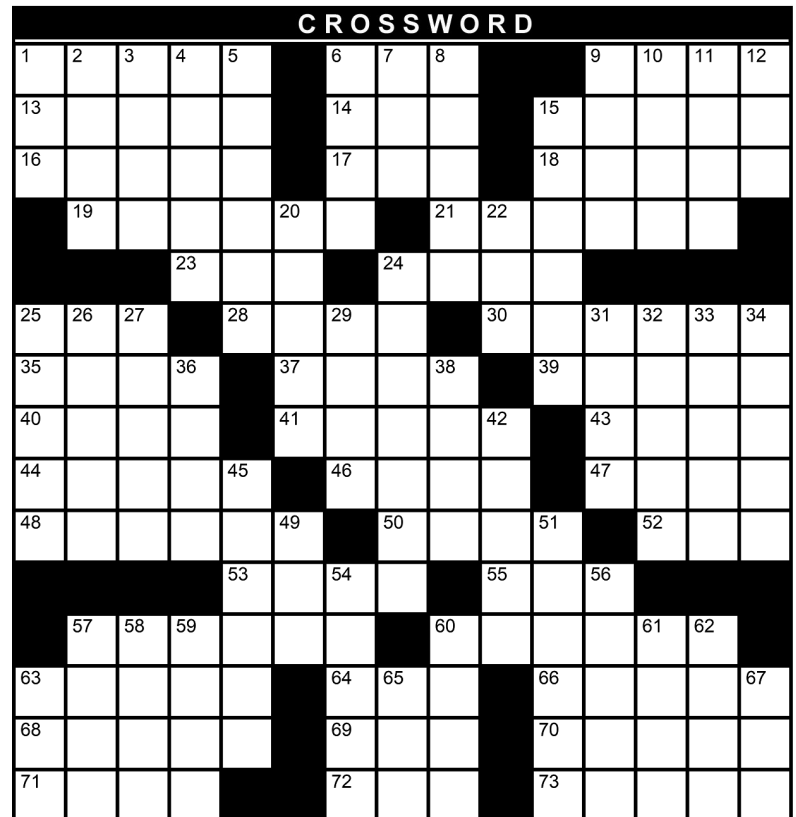
AT THE SUPERMARKET

ACROSS

1. Marriott hotel chain
6. Lockheed Martin Corporation @NYSE
9. Desert in central Asia
13. Tinder user?
14. Distinctive period in history
15. Munchausen's title
16. Likewise
17. Campfire leftover
18. Jason Bateman/Laura Linney TV drama
19. Traditionally clipped
21. OS in POS at the supermarket
23. Bro's sibling
24. "____ there, done that"
25. T in Greek
28. FBI's cold one
30. Windshield ____, pl.
35. "The ____ for Red October"
37. Coach of Dallas Mavericks
39. Bow's partner
40. Black and white killer
41. Be in accord
43. First word in fairy tale
44. Formerly known as Pleasant Island
46. Long-lasting Steelers coach
47. TV's "man named Brady"
48. GO in BOGO
50. French "place"
52. 6th sense
53. Adored one
55. What cruelty and crush have in common
57. Dairy aisle package
60. S&H Green ____
63. Non motorized vessel
64. I have
66. Nev.'s neighbor
68. Offspring, collectively
69. Rank above maj.
70. Visual
71. QBR in football, e.g.
72. Will Ferrell's Christmas classic
73. Like a gymnast

DOWN

1. *What registers do
2. Nonclerical
3. Football legend Graham
4. Unborn vertebrate
5. ____ of Cancer
6. Like freezer aisle "Cuisine"
7. "____ Robinson" by Simon & Garfunkel
8. California/Nevada lake
9. Mediterranean Strip
10. Not written
11. Dull one
12. Pen juice
15. Home to Sarajevo
20. Port city in Japan
24. Cowboy's bedding
25. Flip-flop
26. Plural of aura
27. Adam Sandler's "____ Gems"
29. Manual communication gesture
31. High school ball
32. Bert's TV buddy
33. Ice in a cocktail
34. TV's "Supermarket ____"
36. Tropical tuber
38. *Sliced items section
42. Choose a president
45. "____ we stand, divided we fall"
49. Tokyo, once
51. Adenine's partner in RNA
54. Chilled (2 words)
56. Savory taste sensation
57. Rolling supermarket carrier
58. Dwarf buffalo
59. Type of canal, in dentistry
60. Ego's main concern
61. Surveyor's map
62. Accompanies relief
63. "Big Three" TV network
65. Radio knob, abbr.
67. ATM extra



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Soultion to last week's crossword puzzle:



Solution in the next edition of The Somerville Times.

Happy birthday Claudia!



Long time Somerville resident and *The Somerville Times* photographer, Claudia Ferro, celebrated her 80th birthday on Monday of this week. All of her family and extended family came out to celebrate her special day. We wish her many more happy years to come.

Follow us on X/Twitter
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The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #312

This article first appeared in the September 3, 2014 edition of *The Somerville Times*

The Sentinel

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

How old is Somerville? It depends on how you measure it. If you use the European settlement or when it was part of Charlestown as your barometer, it would date from 1628. If you use the time that it separated from Charlestown, it would be 1842. If you use when it became a city, it would be 1872.



Actually, these years are but seconds and micro seconds in her real age. The topography, or top layers of most of Somerville's soil, was deposited here by glaciers roughly 14 to 15 thousand years ago. As old as this topsoil description sounds, its age is incredibly minute compared to Somerville slate or Somerville bluestone, as it is known. Slate is old – 450 to 600 million years old. It predates humans, dinosaurs, and insects. The deep bedrock of Somerville is slate.

Its most prominent location surfaces at Quarry Hill on the edge of Powder House Square. Somerville bluestone was quarried from this location and brought to Union Square where it was cut for distribution.

Look around a bit, and you will find this slate throughout the city. Hundreds of homes sit on slate foundations and are covered by slate roofs. Throughout the years, Somerville bluestone has been used for walls, sidewalks and flagstone garden pavers in Somerville, Boston and elsewhere. Churches, schools, and firehouses across the city were built or partially built with Somerville slate.



Continued on page 23

Somerville Commemorates Powder Alarm of 1774

By Fred Bernardin

On Sunday September 1, the 10th and 4th British regiments marched from Trum Field down Broadway to the Powder House at Nathan Tufts Park to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Powder Alarm, which resulted when British troops removed gunpowder for safekeeping in Boston's Castle William (since renamed Fort Independence) in the Boston Harbor.

The event commemorates an early morning raid by about 250 British troops, who landed in Ten Hills near the Blessing of the Bay Boathouse. Although the raid itself was uneventful, the repercussions of this raid led to the "Shot heard round the world" the following spring. As a direct result of the Pow-

der Alarm, and the resulting increased tensions between the Colonists and the British Crown, the Minutemen and a network of horseback messengers were put into higher readiness.

This past Sunday, a much-reduced contingent of British troops arrived well after sunrise to the less-than-courteous welcome of several hundred onlookers. The reenactment by costumed reenactors included the reading of proclamations made by the original key players such as Governor Thomas Gage and Major-General William Brattle. The reenactment of the Powder Alarm was followed by a Living History Fair, Docent Tours of the Powder House, as well as several activities and games. Against a background of food and music inspired by the revo-

lutionary era, dancing took place as well as conversations with and between the participants, who provided their perspectives on the historical events and on their participation.

Grace Bryan, the Historic Events Manager at the Somerville Museum, said that the planning for this event began in February when she was contacted by members of the community interested in commemorating this important historical anniversary. She was able to draw on a vibrant community of Somerville residents who actively and regularly participate in revolutionary war era reenactments and commemorations. She also was able to make use of funding from the City of Somerville to help make this event happen.

Army veteran Lawrence Will-

werth, a life-long Somerville resident shared the importance he sees in educating the public about the history that binds us together as a nation, particularly in the present divisive political atmosphere. Willwerth played the role of a narrator to help fill in the historical context of the proclamations by Gage and Brattle; he participates regularly in Somerville historical events and was dressed for the part although he does not consider himself a "reenactor."

Dan Breen, Somerville resident and professor of Legal Studies at Brandeis University, attended the event and emphasized that the Powder Alarm was a pivotal moment in which the British over-reaction which drove many of the less radical colonists to align themselves with the more

radical elements responsible for the Boston Tea Party which took place that previous December. Breen presented a lecture on the Powder Alarm at the Somerville Museum on May 23, 2024, (available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G3vFBQI-V93c>) in which he fully explains the importance of this event.

The Powder Alarm commemoration is one of many "semiquincentennial" events taking place, including the next Patriot's Day celebration. For Somerville residents interested in the revolutionary war era, the next major event (also organized by the Somerville Museum) is the Ghosts of Somerville tour of the Milk Row Cemetery in Union Square during the SomerStreets Monster Mash on October 20.





Photos by Denise Provost



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Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

From page 8

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Old Powder House | 7. Arlo |
| 2. August 20, 1920 | 8. 21 |
| 3. Bewitched | 9. I Love Lucy |
| 4. It has the same amount of letters as its calendar month, 9 | 10. Margot Robbie |
| 5. Harvest Moon | 11. Ice hockey and lacrosse |
| 6. William Taft | 12. Lurch |

GovTV – Xfinity 22/Astound 13/613

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

7:00 AM School Committee Meeting 8-26-24
 9:30 AM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 10:00 AM India Flag Raising Celebration 8-3-24
 10:30 AM Congressional Update
 11:00 AM Art Beat 2024
 12:00 PM SomerViva em Português
 12:30 PM Driver's License Info Session em Português
 2:00 PM Brickbottom Plan Public Meeting 7-8-24
 4:00 PM Jane's Walk 2024
 6:00 PM City Council Spotlight: Will Mbah
 6:30 PM City Council Meeting 8-22-24
 8:35 PM Talking Business: Night Life
 9:00 PM Juneteenth Ceremony 2024
 10:00 PM SomerViva an Kreyol
 10:30 PM Somerville Immigrant Workers Rights Fair

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

12:00 AM SomerViva em Português
 12:30 AM Somerville Immigrant Workers Rights Fair
 2:00 AM Jane's Walk 2024
 7:00 AM People's History Walking Tour of Davis & Ball Squares
 9:00 AM Spark of the Revolution: 250th Anniversary of Powder House Alarm
 10:30 AM Museo Inmigrante: Mental Health In the Latino Community
 12:10 PM Senior Circuit: Protective Services
 12:31 PM City Council Meeting 8-22-24
 3:00 PM City Council Spotlight: Will Mbah
 3:30 PM SomerViva an Kreyol
 4:00 PM Tavern Talk: 190th Anniversary of The Ursuline Convent Burning
 5:00 PM India Flag Raising Celebration 8-3-24
 5:30 PM Art Beat 2024
 6:12 PM Grimes Park & 31 Tufts St. Ribbon Cutting
 6:35 PM Talking Business: Night Life
 7:00 PM Senior Circuit: Protective Services
 7:30 PM SomerViva an Kreyol
 8:00 PM Spark of the Revolution: 250th Anniversary of Powder House Alarm
 9:30 PM Tavern Talk: 190th Anniversary of The Ursuline Convent Burning

10:30 PM Congressional Update
 11:00 PM Porchfest 2024

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

12:00 AM Disability Pride Flag Raising
 12:35 AM Grimes Park & 31 Tufts St. Ribbon Cutting
 1:00 AM SomerViva en Espanol
 1:30 AM Museo Inmigrante: Mental Health In the Latino Community
 7:00 AM Sept. 11th Remembrance Ceremony 2023
 7:30 AM Chair Yoga w Chris
 8:00 AM Porchfest 2024
 9:00 AM SomerViva an Kreyol
 9:30 AM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 10:00 AM School Committee Meeting 8-26-24
 12:30 PM New England Hong Kong Festival 2024
 1:00 PM Somerville Immigrant Workers Rights Fair
 2:30 PM Finance Committee of the Whole 6-18-24
 6:00 PM City Council Meeting 8-22-24
 8:05 PM SomerViva em Português
 8:30 PM Somerville Immigrant Workers Rights Fair
 10:00 PM Spark of the Revolution: 250th Anniversary of Powder House Alarm

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

12:00 AM Jane's Walk 2024
 1:35 AM National Night Out 2024
 2:00 AM How to Lose an Empire: The Road to the Powder Alarm
 7:00 AM SomerViva em Português
 7:30 AM City Council Spotlight: Will Mbah
 8:00 AM How to Lose an Empire: The Road to the Powder Alarm
 9:00 AM National Night Out 2024
 9:30 AM India Flag Raising Celebration 8-3-24
 10:00 AM Museo Inmigrante: Mental Health In the Latino Community
 12:00 PM SomerViva en Espanol
 12:30 PM Final Pollinator Plan Presentation
 1:30 PM Disability Pride Flag Raising
 2:05 PM Spark of the Revolution: 250th Anniversary of Powder House Alarm
 4:00 PM Disability Pride Flag Raising
 5:00 PM School Committee Meeting 8-26-24

7:30 PM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 8:00 PM Phil Reavis: Highlander to Olympian & Beyond
 9:10 PM National Night Out 2024
 9:30 PM City Council Spotlight: Will Mbah
 10:00 PM Congressional Update
 10:30 PM How to Lose an Empire: The Road to the Powder Alarm
 11:30 PM Senior Circuit: Protective Services

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

12:00 AM City Council Meeting 8-22-24
 2:05 AM Talking Business: Night Life
 2:30 AM Congressional Update
 7:00 AM Yoga with Jenn Falk - Practice III
 8:00 AM Art Beat 2024
 9:00 AM City Council Spotlight: McLaughlin
 9:30 AM Brazilian Flag Raising 2024
 10:30 AM SomerViva an Kreyol
 11:00 AM Haitian Flag Raising Ceremony 2024
 12:05 PM Senior Circuit: Protective Services
 12:30 PM People's History Walking Tour of Davis & Ball Squares
 3:00 PM SomerViva em Português
 3:30 PM Driver's License Info Session em Português
 5:00 PM Brickbottom Plan Public Meeting 7-8-24
 7:00 PM Senior Circuit: Protective Services
 7:30 PM Brazilian Flag Raising 2024
 8:00 PM City Council Spotlight: McLaughlin
 8:30 PM Spark of the Revolution: 250th Anniversary of Powder House Alarm
 10:00 PM How to Lose an Empire: The Road to the Powder Alarm
 11:00 PM Art Beat 2024

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

12:00 AM Somerville Museum: How the GI Bill Changed America
 1:10 AM Sept. 11th Remembrance Ceremony 2023
 1:30 AM School Committee Meeting 8-26-24
 7:00 AM Chair Yoga w/ Janine Duffy
 7:30 AM Congressional Update
 8:00 AM Brazilian Flag Raising 2024
 8:30 AM SomerViva em Português
 9:00 AM Tavern Talk: 190th Anniversary of The Ursuline

Convent Burning
 10:00 AM India Flag Raising Celebration 8-3-24
 10:30 AM City Council Spotlight: McLaughlin
 11:00 AM Porchfest 2024
 12:00 PM City Council Meeting 8-22-24
 2:30 PM City Council Spotlight: McLaughlin
 3:00 PM School Committee Meeting 8-26-24
 5:30 PM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 7:00 PM School Committee Meeting 9-9-24 – LIVE
 11:00 PM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 11:30 PM National Night Out 2024

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

12:00 AM Spark of the Revolution: 250th Anniversary of Powder House Alarm
 2:00 AM Somerville Immigrant Workers Rights Fair
 7:00 AM National Night Out 2024
 7:30 AM Tavern Talk: 190th Anniversary of The Ursuline Convent Burning
 8:30 AM SomerViva an Kreyol
 9:00 AM How to Lose an Empire: The Road to the Powder Alarm
 10:00 AM Art Beat 2024
 11:00 AM Disability Pride Flag Raising
 11:35 AM Grimes Park & 31 Tufts St. Ribbon Cutting
 12:00 PM Senior Picnic 2023
 12:30 PM Finance Committee of the Whole 6-18-24
 4:00 PM Tavern Talk: 190th Anniversary of The Ursuline Convent Burning
 5:00 PM Brazilian Flag Raising 2024
 5:30 PM SomerViva an Kreyol
 6:00 PM New England Hong Kong Festival 2024
 6:30 PM Final Pollinator Plan Presentation
 7:30 PM City Council Spotlight: McLaughlin
 8:00 PM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 8:30 PM School Committee Meeting 9-9-24
 11:30 PM SomerViva an Kreyol

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

12:00 AM Brazilian Flag Raising 2024
 12:30 AM SomerViva em Português
 1:00 AM People's History Walking Tour of Davis & Ball Squares

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

7:00 AM Winter Hill Moving On Ceremony
 8:00 AM Argenziano Moving On Ceremony
 9:00 AM Tarello Chem Labs Dedication
 9:30 AM WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising
 10:00 AM El Sistema Somerville June Concert
 11:00 AM Brown School Moving Forward
 12:00 PM WSNS Moving On Ceremony
 1:00 PM Winter Hill Moving On Ceremony
 2:00 PM SHS Spring Concert & Art Show
 4:00 PM Kevin Raymond Memorial Dedication
 5:00 PM Healey School Moving On Ceremony
 6:30 PM SHS Chamber Ensemble Concert
 7:00 PM Winter Hill Moving On Ceremony
 8:00 PM School Committee Meeting 8-26-24
 10:30 PM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 11:00 PM SHS Girls' GLAX vs Matignon

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

12:30 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Malden
 7:00 AM Kennedy School Spring K-3 Concert
 7:30 AM Kevin Raymond Memorial Dedication
 8:01 AM WHCS Spring Concert K-3
 8:30 AM WHCS Spring Concert gr. 4-8
 9:00 AM SHS Chamber Ensemble Concert
 9:30 AM SCALE Graduation & Awards Night
 11:00 AM Tarello Chem Labs Dedication
 11:30 AM Healey School Moving On Ceremony
 1:00 PM East Somerville Moving On Ceremony
 2:32 PM Intramural Boys Basketball Championship
 4:00 PM Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship
 5:00 PM SHS Multicultural Fair
 5:30 PM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 6:00 PM WHCS Spring Concert K-3
 6:30 PM WHCS Spring Concert gr. 4-8
 7:00 PM SHS Chamber Ensemble Concert

7:30 PM SHS Girls Soccer v Cambridge 9-3-24
 9:30 PM Healey School Moving On Ceremony
 11:00 PM SHS Baseball vs Milton

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

12:30 AM SHS Staff vs Student Basketball Game
 7:00 AM Kennedy School Spring K-3 Concert
 7:30 AM WHCS Spring Concert K-3
 8:00 AM WHCS Spring Concert gr. 4-8
 8:30 AM SHS Chamber Ensemble Concert
 9:00 AM School Committee Meeting 8-26-24
 12:00 PM SHS Girls Soccer v Cambridge 9-3-24
 2:02 PM Intramural Boys Basketball Championship
 3:30 PM Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship
 4:30 PM SHS Multicultural Fair
 5:00 PM Kennedy School Spring K-3 Concert
 5:30 PM WHCS Spring Concert K-3
 6:00 PM WHCS Spring Concert gr. 4-8
 6:30 PM SHS Chamber Ensemble Concert
 7:00 PM SCALE Graduation & Awards Night
 8:30 PM Tarello Chem Labs Dedication
 9:00 PM Healey School Moving On Ceremony
 10:30 PM East Somerville Moving On Ceremony

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

12:02 AM Intramural Boys Basketball Championship
 1:30 AM Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship
 2:30 AM SHS Multicultural Fair
 8:00 AM Healey School Moving On Ceremony
 9:30 AM WSNS Moving On Ceremony
 10:05 AM Winter Hill Moving On Ceremony
 11:00 AM Tarello Chem Labs Dedication
 12:00 PM East Somerville Moving On Ceremony
 2:00 PM SHS Spring Concert & Art Show
 4:00 PM Argenziano School Moving On 2024
 5:00 PM Kevin Raymond Memorial Dedication
 5:31 PM SHS Chamber Ensemble Concert

6:00 PM SHS Boys Soccer v Revere 9-5-24
 8:30 PM School Committee Update: Ilana Krepchin
 9:00 PM SHS Boys' LAX vs Malden
 10:35 PM SHS Staff vs Student Basketball Game

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

12:00 AM SHS Football vs Everett 10-11-97
 2:30 AM Healey School Moving On Ceremony
 3:40 AM Kevin Raymond Memorial Dedication
 8:30 AM Healey School Moving On Ceremony
 10:00 AM WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising
 10:30 AM Tarello Chem Labs Dedication
 11:00 AM Intramural Boys Basketball Championship
 12:30 PM SHS Boys Soccer v Revere 9-5-24
 2:30 PM Kennedy School Spring K-3 Concert
 3:00 PM WSNS Moving On Ceremony
 3:35 PM Argenziano School Moving On 2024
 4:30 PM SHS Girls' LAX vs Medford
 6:30 PM School Committee Meeting 8-26-24
 9:00 PM SHS Football v Boston English 9-6-24
 11:30 PM Kennedy School Spring 4-8 Concert

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

12:30 AM Kennedy School Spring K-3 Concert
 1:00 AM WSNS Moving On Ceremony
 1:35 AM Argenziano School Moving On 2024
 2:30 AM SHS Girls' LAX vs Medford
 7:00 AM SHS Boys' LAX vs Watertown
 9:00 AM SHS Chamber Ensemble Concert
 9:30 AM Healey School K-1st Spring Concert
 10:00 AM SHS Football v Boston English 9-6-24
 12:00 PM SHS Graduation 2024
 1:30 PM Intramural Boys Basketball Championship
 3:00 PM Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship
 4:00 PM Brown School Spring Concert
 5:30 PM SHS Chamber Ensemble Concert

6:00 PM SHS Boys' LAX vs Watertown
 8:00 PM SHS Chamber Ensemble Concert
 8:30 PM Healey School K-1st Spring Concert
 9:00 PM SHS Girls Soccer v Cambridge 9-3-24
 11:00 PM SHS Graduation 2024

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

12:30 AM Intramural Boys Basketball Championship
 2:00 AM Intramural Girls' Basketball Championship
 3:00 AM Brown School Spring Concert
 4:30 AM SHS Chamber Ensemble Concert
 7:30 AM Winter Hill Moving On Ceremony
 8:30 AM Argenziano Moving On Ceremony
 9:30 AM Tarello Chem Labs Dedication
 10:00 AM WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising
 10:30 AM El Sistema Somerville June Concert
 11:30 AM Brown School Moving Forward
 12:30 PM WSNS Moving On Ceremony
 1:30 PM Winter Hill Moving On Ceremony
 2:30 PM Argenziano Moving On Ceremony
 3:30 PM Tarello Chem Labs Dedication
 4:00 PM WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising
 4:30 PM El Sistema Somerville June Concert
 5:30 PM SHS Boys Soccer v Revere 9-5-24
 7:30 PM Winter Hill Moving On Ceremony
 8:30 PM Argenziano Moving On Ceremony
 9:30 PM Tarello Chem Labs Dedication
 10:00 PM WSNS Juneteenth Flag Raising
 10:30 PM El Sistema Somerville June Concert
 11:30 PM Brown School Moving Forward

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

12:10 AM SHS Football v Boston English 9-6-24
 2:30 AM Kennedy School Moving On

Beacon Hill Roll Call CONT. FROM PG 6

strengths, resilience and determination of the disability community. This legislation changes that. We are changing life in Massachusetts for the better, making it more equitable, accessible and inclusive for people with disabilities.”

“Every person has the right to live an independent and meaningful life regardless of ability, with the same access to work, housing and services that every resident deserves,” said Senate President Karen Spilka (D-Ashland). “This name change reflects the strong work of MassAbility to deliver that access to every individual who works with them. In removing archaic laws, we are taking an important step toward making our laws reflective of the equitable commonwealth we continue to strive for.”

LONG TERM CARE AND ASSISTED LIVING (H 5033) – The House and Senate approved and sent to Gov. Healey a new version of a bill making changes to the state’s long term care and assisted living industry that supporters said will make sweeping reforms to these two industries and will take a powerful step toward delivering high quality and safe care for older residents across the state.

The bill includes provisions related to basic health services administered in assisted living facilities and oversight of long-term care facilities, including creation of a program for the certification, training and oversight of certified medication aides who would be authorized to administer medications to residents of long-term care facilities; several new initiatives to recruit and retain a dedicated long-term care workforce; allowing assisted living residences to offer basic health services such as helping a resident administer drops, manage their oxygen or take a home diagnostic test; giving the Executive Office of Elder Affairs new powers to penalize non-compliance by allowing it to fine assisted living residences up to \$500 per day; and authorizing the attorney general to file a civil action against a person who commits abuse, mistreatment or neglect of a patient or resident.

Other provisions allow the Department of Public Health (DPH) to limit, restrict or revoke a long-term care facility’s license for cause, such as substantial or sustained failure to provide adequate care, substantial or sustained failure to comply with laws or regulations or lack of financial capacity to operate a facility; streamline the process for small house nursing homes to be licensed; direct DPH to establish and implement training and education programs on topics such as infection prevention and control, resident care plans and staff safety programs; and require long-term care facilities to develop individualized outbreak response plans to contain the spread of disease and ensure consistent communication with DPH, residents, families, and staff.

The measure also would require each long-term care facility to provide staff training on the rights and care of LGBTQ+ older adults and older adults living with HIV; forbid any long-term care facility and its staff from discriminating based in whole or in part on a person’s sexual

orientation, gender identity, gender expression, intersex status or HIV status, whether through the denial of admission, medical or non-medical care, access to restrooms or through room assignments.

“This legislation couldn’t have come at a more critical time when more oversight and accountability are needed in long-term care,” said Rep. Tom Stanley (D-Waltham), House chair of the Committee on Elder Affairs. “[The bill] marks the first major legislative reform to our long term care and assisted living industries in over a quarter of a century. This legislation enhances both access to and quality of care in long-term care settings, tightens suitability standards for operators, strengthens supports for the long-term care workforce and permanently allows assisted living residences to offer basic health services to their residents.”

“This landmark legislation is the culmination of years of advocacy and collaboration among so many people committed to improving life for our family, friends and neighbors residing or working in long-term care, assisted living and the community,” said Sen. Pat Jehlen (D-Somerville), Senate chair of the Elder Affairs Committee. “There is always more work to do but we have agreed on policy that will surely have a positive impact on quality of care, transparency and oversight and planning for the future.”

“This bill is an important step toward ensuring older adults receive the care they need to be safe and healthy,” said Rep. Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury). “Strengthening oversight of long-term care facilities, requiring infectious disease outbreak plans, improving licensing requirements and other reforms ... will protect vulnerable patients and provide the commonwealth with the tools needed to enforce the standards for long term care facilities.”

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE (S 2932) – The House last week gave initial approval to a bill, approved by the Senate in July, that would allow victims of child sexual abuse to file a civil suit, any time after the abuse took place, against an individual who sexually abused a minor or negligently supervised a person who sexually abused a minor. This would replace current law that places a statute of limitations which limits the time period during which a victim is allowed to sue, to the later of either 35 years after the abuse or seven years after discovery of damages relating to the abuse, with both timeframes beginning to run when the minor turns 18.

Prior to 2014, the law allowed even less time to file a suit. The statute of limitations was limited to three years after a victim turned 18. That law was changed by the Legislature in 2014 to reflect current law.

When the Senate first approved the bill on July 31, sponsor Sen. Joan Loverly (D-Salem) said, “Back in 2014, we passed a statute of limitations for civil claims of child sexual abuse that would allow claims up to 35 years after the victim turned 18, or until 53 years old. I questioned then, and over the last decade, what was the magic number of

53, and I couldn’t find one. I couldn’t find that answer. So I decided to dig in, to talk to advocates, to talk to survivors, to talk to the public safety [officials].”

Lovely continued, “I want to thank all of the survivors in and out of my district who have come to me, including colleagues, who disclosed to me that at some point in their life they were sexually abused, but they choose not to come forward and disclose because of how painful it is. It really is lifelong pain and trauma.”

The bill is a “great thing” for survivors in Massachusetts, said Sandi Johnson, senior legislative policy counsel at the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network.

“We believe that survivors should have access to justice, regardless of when they’re able to access that justice,” said Johnson. “Eliminating that statute of limitations puts the focus back on whether or not there’s enough evidence, rather than just arbitrary timelines. Trauma is not a timeline and can’t be governed by a timeline.”

Reps. Ken Gordon (D-Bedford) and John Lawn (D-Watertown) who filed earlier versions of the bill, did not respond to repeated requests by *Beacon Hill Roll Call* asking them to comment on this bill.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

“We all have an important role to play in protecting civil rights, particularly at a time when societal divisions and political polarization have resulted in decreased civility and increased intolerance. The Healey-Driscoll Administration remains focused on developing and supporting the programs, policies and initiatives that strengthen Massachusetts’ ability to uphold our values and embrace our differences.” — *Public Safety and Security Secretary Terrence Reidy on the Healey administration’s convening a statewide Civil Rights Symposium for 200 law enforcement officers to promote justice, equity and civil rights protections for all Bay State residents and visitors.*

“One of my first commitments as governor was to launch this assessment across our administration with the goal of applying an equity lens to everything we do. If we want to break down barriers to accessing government service and ensure we are reaching every community, we need to be able to measure what’s working well and what needs improvement – and then we need to act.” — *Gov. Healey upon releasing a report on equity assessment which analyzed how each state agency can improve equity, accessibility and accountability.*

“We are thrilled and honored to be recognized once again by The Princeton Review. This ranking is a reflection of the hard work and dedication of our entire UMass Dining team, who are committed to delivering an outstanding dining experience for our students every day. We believe that good food is essential to the well-being of our community, and we will continue to push the *Continued on page 17*

Book review: 'The Silver Pigs' by Lindsey Davis

By Dennis Fischman

It's quite a feat to write a historically accurate novel set in ancient times and make it as much fun as this one.

Marcus Didius Falco is an "informant," or private investigator, working in first century Rome. He's been described as "Roman Emperor Vespasian's smart-aleck PI." To keep body and soul together, Falco moves around Rome's empire, working for hire, even in savage places like Roman Britain.

Falco comes from a complicated family background: a scalawag of a father, a chiding mother, various sisters and brothers who are either trying to rise above their plebeian background and consider Falco a weight around their

necks or who are amused by his antics (and call on his services when they need him).

In this debut, it is an aristocratic family who call upon him. At first, the mystery is the attempted kidnapping of a 16-year-old girl, Sosia, who becomes Falco's client. As the book goes on, we find our way into tales of murder and intrigue at the highest levels of Rome, as well as a conspiracy to defraud the Roman government of quite a large amount of silver ingots from Britain. (The title of the book comes from this subplot, as "pigs" is another word for "ingots.")

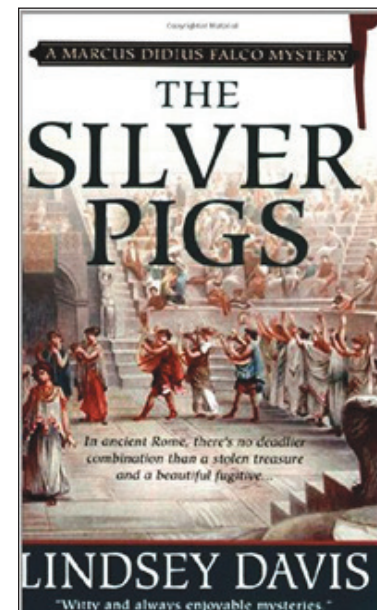
The cover story for Falco's trip to Britain is to bring Sosia's cousin Helena Justina home from that backwater part of the empire.

That sets in motion the romance that will continue for decades. Davis puts the Rome in romance. Her Marcus Didius Falco is a cross between a noir detective and 007, while Helena Justina is a strong, smart, sexy, stubborn woman who refuses to let her sex or her social class dictate the shape of her life.

This book is really more of a political thriller than a whodunit, and the process of finding out who's conspiring against Vespasian makes more sense than the way our hero discovers the person who murdered his beloved's cousin. Also, as a Jew, I could not help feeling aggrieved that the defeat of Judea and the destruction of the Second Temple were reduced to a mechanism for



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



"The Silver Pigs" by Lindsey Davis. Minoaur Books, 2006, 329 pages.

creating a chase scene. But that's probably how the Romans were looking at it, at the time.

Do not expect anything deep from this series, but it promises

a lot of enjoyable reading. If you like this first book, there are nineteen more to tickle your fancy.

YouthBuild Graduation

Somerville resident Daniel Lancaster graduated from YouthBuild Just A Start on Thursday, August 29, at the Cambridge Public Library. Next, he will go on to working an apprenticeship with YourthBuild. YouthBuild Just A Start is a youth workforce development program for out-of-school youth ages 16 – 24 from Boston Metro North communities. Students work towards their HiSET while developing workforce readiness skills.



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boundaries of what campus dining can be." — Ken Toong, assistant vice chancellor of Umass Auxiliary Enterprises, which includes Umass Dining, on Umass Amherst being rated number 1, for the 8th consecutive year, by The Princeton Review's list of Best Campus Food, for its exceptional campus dining experience.

"Today, the Massachusetts Republican Party is standing against the veil of secrecy and the obstructionist efforts of the Healey-Driscoll administration and the Democratic supermajority. We stand with the Massachusetts press corps in declaring: enough is enough. The public deserves transparency. Release the details on the vendors profiting from this crisis and the public safety issues affecting our communities. On behalf of Massachusetts residents, we are demanding accountability." — Massachusetts Republican Party Chair, Amy Carnevale, upon submitting FOIA requests for documents she says might expose \$1 billion in Secret Migrant Crisis Spending as well as detailed information on 600 incidents involving police, fire and medical emergencies

in state-funded emergency housing.

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 of August 26-30, the House met for a total of one hour and 15

minutes and the Senate met for a total of three hours and 50 minutes.

Mon. August 26	House 11:01 a.m. to 11:20 a.m. Senate 11:13 a.m. to 11:18 a.m.
Tues. August 27	No House session No Senate session
Wed. August 28	No House session No Senate session
Thurs. August 29	House 11:00 a.m. to 11:56 a.m. Senate 11:16 a.m. to 3:01 p.m.
Fri. August 30	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

Mayor Ballantyne seeks to expand climate action and energy savings to renters

Roughly two-thirds of Somerville residents are renters, and Mayor Katjana Ballantyne is determined to improve their access to the energy savings and health benefits of green energy upgrades often out of reach to renters—especially low-income renters. And she’s asking residents to help her do so.

The city’s Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) is seeking volunteers to help shape a new Rental Registry and Energy Disclosure ordinance designed to improve rental unit energy efficiency, affordability, and healthiness, as well as advance the city’s climate action and affordable housing efforts.

The concept is simple. Landlords would provide basic rental unit information and energy details to the city annually. Then the city would generate energy “disclosures” for owners to post on-site for tenants (and future tenants) to see. Information collected and shared could include the number of rental units, the type of property, and owner or property manager contacts. It could also include energy details such as type of fuels used, if they’ve had a MassSave energy efficiency assessment, and a list of energy saving measures taken such as installing Energy Star appliances, weatherization measures like insulated windows, or green upgrades like heat pumps.



“Having this information will help the city increase energy upgrades. It will make it easier for us to inform owners of subsidies available to them for improvements that will lower renter’s energy costs. By having energy facts posted for tenants and future tenants, this type of energy disclosure requirement has been shown to drive market demand for landlords to reduce energy costs for tenants. Heating bills, for example, can easily run up into the hundreds of dollars in winter months, and renters vote with their feet when they can get a sense of where they’ll have lower utility costs,” said OSE Director Christine Blais.

Rental registries are common in cities, and energy disclosure measures are already key climate action tools in some States, such as Maine, and cities across the country, including Austin, TX; Minneapolis, MN; and Chicago, IL. Somerville’s would be the first rental energy disclosure ordinance in Massachusetts.

“We are looking to use every tool in the box both for climate action and housing affordability in Somerville, and they are directly related. When you live in a drafty apartment with an ancient heater, or if you have an old energy-hog window AC unit to keep an elderly parent safely cool in the summer, you may be left choosing between groceries and safe temperatures when you are on a tight budget. You may also be at higher risk for not making your rent. And right now, landlords have little incentive to change that for you. But when owners know about and can make affordable upgrades that lower tenant utility bills, it’s a win-win for affordability, our climate, and for resident health,” said Mayor Ballantyne.

In Somerville, approximately 37 percent of residents are housing cost-burdened, meaning they spend more than a third of their income on housing. City data indicates that this number climbs to above 50 percent for households in the Black and non-white Hispanic U.S. Census categories. With lower likelihood of energy efficiency in Somerville’s older housing stock rental units, not only are utility bills likely higher, but health risks increase as well. Energy efficiency measures have been shown to also reduce environmental risks such as mold, pests, and allergens that contribute to asthma, bronchitis, emergency room visits, and financial stress.

“At first glance it may seem as if an initiative such as this would drive up rents, but key to our efforts is helping landlords make upgrades via the many federal, state, and local programs that reduce the costs of energy improvements. That way they get better units with lower investment and they have units that will be more comfortable, desirable, and safer for tenants,” said Blais. “The data we collect on the units will also help our Housing Stability and Housing development teams inform and advance their work to support affordability programs.”

The city also sees the effort as a building block for future work to improve additional health and safety oversight of rental units, and establish improved communication to landlords and property managers on a range of programs designed to support them and their tenants.

Join a Focus Group

All community members including renters, landlords, real estate brokers, adults of all ages including seniors of fixed incomes, real estate agents, commercial landlords, members of the home improvement workforce, home energy raters, community organizations, and community advocates are invited to join focus groups to discuss how to make the draft ordinance work best for everyone.

Staff have already been doing their homework, which they’ll share to get everyone oriented. Alongside several years of research, they’ve connected with community members, as well as municipalities and nonprofits across North America, and convened a cross-departmental working group within Somerville, to deepen their knowledge. Focus groups participants will answer questions about their views and needs from a rental registry and energy disclosure ordinance. The feedback will be used to inform both the ordinance to be submitted to the City Council for approval, as well as how it would be implemented.

Each focus group will last about 90 minutes. Community members may be eligible to be compensated with a \$40 gift card for their participation.

To sign up, please complete the online form at somervillema.gov/rred. If you need assistance filling out the form, please contact 311 (617-666-3311).

For more information, please visit somervillema.gov/sustainaville or contact Garrett Anderson at ganderson@somervillema.gov, 857-270-4403 (call/text) to request paper forms.

Interpretation is available at all focus groups.

State Senator Patricia Jehlen to receive 2024 ARC OF JUSTICE Award

On September 12 at City Winery Boston, as the New England Innocence Project commemorates 20 years of fighting for freedom at their annual storytelling event, Voices of the Innocent, the social justice nonprofit will honor Senator Patricia Jehlen for her more than 20 years of dedicated service in support of wrongfully convicted people and their families.

Over the last two decades, Senator Jehlen has passed landmark legislation to compensate victims of wrongful convictions. Working directly with people who have been exonerated, their loved ones, and advocates, Senator Jehlen has tirelessly fought for people who have endured the trauma of wrongful imprisonment and long-term incarceration, ensuring that they are supported in freedom and compensated for what they have suffered.

Senator Jehlen has helped people understand that, when someone is exonerated and freed, they are not automatically given support or assistance from the state that wrongfully convicted them. Instead, exonerees are required to go back to court, fight for compensation, and even when they succeed, they do not always receive an adequate sum for such a tragic injustice.

Senator Jehlen has championed funding for the Exoneree Network, a program of the New England Innocence Project that creates a thriving community for families impacted by long-term incarceration and provides direct support, including housing, financial stipends, therapeutic spaces, and more.

"The New England Innocence Project has helped free numerous innocent people, often after decades in prison," says Senator Jehlen. "I worked to pass the 2004 Wrongful Convictions compensation law, based on stories like that of Lawyer Johnson. But even when people like Sean Ellis were exonerated after decades in prison, they had to fight for months or even years to get any compensation. I'll continue to work for reform with the New England Innocence Project and the Exoneree Network. I'm honored to receive this award, and am so grateful for their dedication to justice for people unjustly robbed of their liberty."

"Senator Jehlen has devoted her time, and heart, to wrongfully convicted people and their families so that their long-fought freedom can be a time of joy and reunification. Her work has been a salve for the trauma caused by wrongful incarceration," says

Radha Natarajan, Executive Director of the New England Innocence Project.

The ARC OF JUSTICE Award recognizes the special contributions of a community member who "bends the arc of the moral universe toward justice." Senator Jehlen has been an incredible partner to the New England Innocence Project over the last 20 years and has truly bent the arc of the moral universe toward more justice for wrongfully convicted people.

Event & Arc of Justice Award Presentation Details:

Voices of the Innocent: Free Us All! (<https://www.newenglandinnocence.org/voicesoftheinnocent>) September 12, Program at 7:00 p.m. City Winery Boston | 80 Beverly Street, Boston, MA

"Senator Patricia Jehlen's unwavering support of the Exoneree Network has provided not just a voice for the wrongfully convicted but a lifeline to hope and healing," says exoneree and Director of the Exoneree Network, Sean Ellis. "She understands that justice doesn't end with exoneration – it extends to rebuilding lives, restoring dignity, and ensuring that every exoneree has the opportunity to thrive. Her leadership is a continuation of hope



Senator Patricia Jehlen with Sean Ellis, Exoneree and Director of Exoneree Network.

for those of us who have faced the unimaginable, and her work stands as a powerful reminder that true justice is rooted in humanity and compassion. The Arc of Justice Award is a testament to her unyielding commitment to creating a more just and equitable commonwealth."

About Voices of the Innocent: Free Us All!

Join us in celebrating our 20th anniversary as a nonprofit at Voices of the Innocent, the New England Innocence Project's annual storytelling event and fundraiser. At this unique and powerful event, we will hear stories from innocent people impacted by wrongful con-

victions and their loved ones and learn what it takes to persevere in the fight for freedom.

Funds raised through this event directly support the work of the New England Innocence Project by providing forensic testing, investigation, experts, an experienced legal team, and social service advocates to free innocent people, bring them home to their loved ones, and help them rebuild their lives in freedom. Through public support, we can also educate and advocate for systemic change to prevent future tragedies. Learn more at www.newenglandinnocence.org/voicesoftheinnocent.

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley statement on Primary Election

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (MA-07) released the following statement following her uncontested victory in the 2024 Massachusetts Democratic Primary:

"I am so humbled by the support from voters across the Massachusetts 7th. I am deeply grateful to my family, and to our dedicated team, volunteers, and supporters. Together, we are powerful. And daily we are working towards a more just world for our neighbors and for everyone who calls this district home.

From safe housing to abortion care, student debt cancellation, and support for vital community projects, the change we are making is real and meaningful. And I've been honored by the overwhelming support our work has received every reelection since we first made history together.

Our work together remains as vital today as it was when I was first elected to Congress. For every inch of hard-won progress, there are extreme Republicans and special interests intent on taking us backwards. But this diverse, intergenerational movement – led by the people – has proven time and again what we can achieve when we organize, mobilize, use our collective power, and lead with love.

I am deeply honored and humbled to once again be the Democratic nominee to represent the Massachusetts 7th in Congress. I look forward to earning your vote each and every day, and doing everything I can to elect Kamala Harris, Tim Walz, and Democrats up and down the ballot in November."

Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley made history in 2018 when she became the first woman of color elected to represent Massachusetts in the U.S. Congress. Since then, Congresswoman Pressley has secured over \$35 million in federal funding for high-impact community projects that will help build a more just and equitable district, and has been a leader on vital legislation like the Abortion Justice Act; the PAID Leave Act; the Down Payment Toward Equity Act, to invest \$100 billion toward down payment assistance for first-generation, first-time homebuyers; the Freedom to Move Act; and the Post-Disaster Mental Health Response Act, signed into law by President Biden, which expands mental health support for survivors of natural disasters and terrorist attacks. To learn more about Congresswoman Pressley, please visit <https://ayannapressley.com/>



SUNDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER
RECORDS VINTAGE DIY HANDMADE
UNION SQUARE PLAZA NOON-5PM



FREE ADMISSON

Raindate
9.15

AN ARTS UNION EVENT THAT'S ORGANIZED AND PROMOTED BY
 WHAT CHEER? WITH HELP FROM THE SOMERVILLE ARTS COUNCIL



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Spotlight Series Returns in September with Lady Lamb

Arts at the Armory's Spotlight Series will kick off its 3rd full season with singer-songwriter Lady Lamb on Friday, September 6. From her humble beginnings in a video rental store in Maine to the stages of New York City, Lady Lamb's journey has been one of passion and profound musicality.



Doors will open at 7:00 p.m. The concert will start at 8:00 p.m. on September 6 with Westwater as the first opener.

Somerville through the eyes of Denise



Midday shadows...

— Photo by Denise Provost

BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



Why isn't there a clock in the library?
 Because it tocks too much

The "Original"
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To advertise in
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On This Day in History

September 4

- 1781 – Los Angeles, first an Indian village Yangma, is founded by Spanish decree.
- 1881 – The Edison electric lighting system goes into operation as a generator serving 85 paying customers is switched on.
- 1886 – Elusive Apache leader Geronimo surrenders to General Nelson A. Miles at Skeleton Canyon, AZ.
- 1915 – The U.S. military places Haiti under martial law to quell a rebellion in its capital Port-au-Prince.
- 1944 – British troops liberate Antwerp, Belgium.
- 1945 – The American flag is raised on Wake Island after surrender ceremonies there.
- 1951 – The first transcontinental television broadcast in America is carried by 94 stations.
- 1972 – Mark Spitz becomes first Olympic competitor to win 7 medals during a single Olympics Games.
- 1998 – Google founded by Stanford University students Larry Page and Sergey Brin.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 7

now they are in urgent need of essential supplies such as backpacks, binders, notebooks, highlighters and more. Please check out their current needs list here: <https://bit.ly/School4SHC> For any donation inquiries please reach out at info@shcinc.org.

The **Somerville Community Baptist Church** at 31 College Avenue (two blocks from Davis Square) will hold a **Flea Market on Saturday, September 7**, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., both outdoors and indoors, rain or shine. They will also be selling refreshments and lunch. If you would like to rent a table to sell your wares, please call the church at 617-625-6523.

The **10th Annual Evolution of Hip Hop Festival** takes place on **Saturday, September 7**, from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m., rain date Saturday, September 14, at **Union Square Plaza** in Somerville. This **Arts Union** event will feature rappers, singers, spoken word poets, dancers, and visual artists from the Somerville community and surrounding cities. This showcase of hip hop music, dance and culture displays immense creativity throughout the region. There will also be live art, interactive activities, craft vendors and local community groups.

The **Somerville Dog Festival** will take place on **Sunday, September 8**, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., at **Trum Field**. Grab your leashes, pack the treats, and bring your furry friends for a fun time. The Somerville Dog Festival is back, and it's all about your pups. Organized by the **Somerville Foundation for Animals**, the festival supports their incredible mission of making sure no one has to choose between caring for themselves or their pets. For more information visit <https://everypetcounts.org/somerville-dog-festival/>

Somerville Animal Food Pantry is requesting donations. Help support your neighbors by making a donation today. Particular need for dry cat and dry dog food. One note on dry food donations: while they appreciate anything they receive, they are better off with multiple smaller bags (instead of one really big bag) of food since they cannot give open bags to distribute food to multiple families. For wish lists and more information visit <https://www.communities.rescuealies.com/somerville>

The **SPL** and **Green City Growers** are partnering to offer **organic gardening workshops** for all ages at the **Central Library Demonstration Garden**. A Green City Growers farmer will lead hands-on workshops designed to teach you when and what to plant, and how to maintain, fertilize, and harvest successful crops. The next session is on **September 7** at 10:30 a.m. 79 Highland Ave. Learn more and register <https://www.somervillepubliclibrary.org/>.

The **Somerville Council on Aging** will hold their next **Memory Café** on **Tuesday, September 10**, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the **Holland St. Senior Center**. A Memory Café is a safe space for those with cognitive decline and their caregivers. It's a place to gather and socialize without stigma or judgement. For the September 10 Café, they will be doing creative writing. RSVP by contacting **Molly** at 617-625-6600 ext. 2318 or at mpagliuca@somervillema.gov.

The **Intercambio Language and Culture Exchange Program** is starting up again in Somerville. Visit somervilleartsandculture.org/intercambio to learn more about this exciting opportunity to practice a language and connect with others in your community.

Riverfest 2024 will take place **Saturday, September 14**, starting at 11:00 a.m., at **Assembly Row, 355 Artisan Way**. Join in for Riverfest, the annual block party that takes place each September. The event includes live, local music, free family-friendly activities, and concludes with fireworks over the Mystic River. It's the perfect opportunity to visit your favorite stores and restaurants, make new friends and meet with old ones, and enjoy activations all across Assembly Row. For a lineup of events visit <https://assemblyrow.com/event/riverfest/>.

Join the **Gilman Square Arts & Music Festival party** on **Saturday, September 14**, from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. (Rain date 9/15) on **Pearl St. from Marshall to James**. Enjoy live music, meet the local artists of this neighborhood, try some delicious food by various vendors, and enjoy activities for all ages. This community celebration is free and open for all.

On **September 6**, the **Somerville Foundation food festival** is celebrating, cre-

ating and supporting community nonprofits in partnership with **Davis Square restaurants**. If you know anyone who loves music, food, and don't have anything else happening. Please encourage them to purchase a ticket today: <https://www.somerville-foundation.org/food-nation-celebration>. All proceeds go to hiring a community nonprofit grant writer.

This year, the **29th Brazilian Independence Day Festival** will be held **September 3 – 8**, and there will be plenty of activity. Massachusetts is home to one of the largest and most organized Brazilian communities in the United States. They will raise the **Brazilian flag** at **Somerville City Hall** on **Thursday, September 5**, at noon, and at **Boston City Hall** on **Friday, September 6**, at 10:00 a.m. The center point of the week is the **outdoor Festival in Herter Park in Brighton** on **Sunday, September 8**, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Alongside food and craft vendors, the afternoon will feature face painting, pony rides, children's storytelling, and live performances. The **Science Museum** will be donating tickets and exhibiting special attractions from its collection, the raffle includes two round-trip tickets Brazil. For just \$10, these prizes may be yours.

The **Somerville Flea** is back at **52 Holland St**. Join in as they celebrate their 12th year smack dab in the middle of Davis Square. Vintage vendors, artisan makers, farm stand and DJ. Find that treasure you never knew you even existed. 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Sundays, August through October**.

East Somerville Main Streets is looking for vendors for their **Halloween Block Party** on **Saturday, October 26**, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. at **Chuckie Harris Park**. Please sign up through the form (<https://forms.gle/BvSwZX8YUe-g3rGB7>) for more information. Don't miss this opportunity to have fun and meet the community.

The next monthly **Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day** is **Saturday, September 7**, at the DPW, 1 Franey Rd., 9:00 a.m. - noon.

The **Gilman Pop-Up Park** is an outdoor public space and is accessible between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. every day. **Through September 8**, 350 Medford St., Somerville. Use it like you would any oth-

er public park. During select hours, they have events, entertainment, and games. For a list of events visit <https://culture-house.cc/projects/gilman-park/>.

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>.

Foodie Crawl 2024 is back and better than ever. On **Tuesday, September 17**, **East Somerville Main Streets** invites you to **Broadway** to embark on a culinary journey around the world. They will highlight tastes from El Salvador, Brazil, Italy, France, Mexico, Portugal and more. For tickets and more information visit <https://www.eastsomervillemainstreets.org/event-details/foodie-crawl-2024>.

The **2024 Somerville Rock + Roll Yard Sale** is happening on **Sunday, September 8**, at **Union Square Plaza**. with a rain date of Sunday, September 15. They have 40 of the best locally sourced record / vintage / handmade sellers on board to bring you the awesome and eclectic mix of goodies you can always expect at the Rock + Roll Yard Sale, 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Union Sq Plaza**.

Save the date for the **Somerville Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing** on **October 1**. The Somerville Chamber of Commerce presents the **2024 GOLF CLASSIC**, sponsored by the **Winter Hill Bank**. The event will take place at the **Sandy Burr Country Club**, 103 Cochituate Rd., Wayland MA 01778, 7:30 a.m. Registration, 8:30 a.m. Shotgun Start (note early time). Lunch and awards to follow: 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. For golf (individuals, twosomes, threesomes, foursome welcome); and/or to sponsor – opportunities from \$175 to \$1,500. For more information or to help, email **Joanne Haley**: Joanne@somervillechamber.org.

All Wednesdays during the school year are now **early release days**. You may talk to your child's teacher or school administrators if you have any *Continued on page 23*

OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder



Somerville's Tom Bianchi: Bringing Music from the Backroom

Recently, I caught up with Tom Bianchi, the current head of the Burren Backroom Series at The Burren pub, in Davis Square, Square, Somerville.

Doug Holder: Tom, how has it been for you as a musician to live and or work in Somerville?

Tom Bianchi: Well, I've been making music in Boston/Cambridge/Somerville since 1996, performing at The Burren since about 2000 and curating The Burren Backroom Series since 2011. If this wasn't a great town to do this in I suppose I wouldn't be able to do it. We live in a great city with a great community that is very supportive of and hungry for live music. You can spin vinyl, load up a CD, make a mix tape, but nothing replaces being in a room with a great crowd of people all experiencing the energy of humans playing instruments in rhythmic unison and acoustic harmony.

DH: The Burren is an iconic Irish bar in Somerville. What do you think makes it unique?

TB: Boston runs deep with Irish music and community. What makes The Burren so special in the Celtic community is the influence and experience Tommy McCarthy and Louise Costello have brought to Davis Square. Whether on a big stage or sitting around a session table, they have played Irish music all around the world and created a haven for it at The Burren.



Also, short years after The Burren opening in 1996, legendary curator of Traditional Celtic Music, Brian O'Donovan began presenting the best Trad Irish artists and bands in the community in The Burren Backroom. Brian would bring in bands you would normally have to see in theaters in to our humble pub setting for very intimate shows. There's really nothing like it. We lost Brian last year which is a huge blow to the community, but alongside Brian's wife, Lindsay O'Donovan, good friends like Shannon Heaton and The Burren of course, we are working hard to keep the torch burning with the Brian O'Donovan Legacy Series

DH: Tell me about the Burren Backroom Series that you have taken over... What *Continued on page 23*

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Julia Kanno is an artist and poet living in Cambridge, MA.

Cat in the cradle
Aka antique yellow man

By Julia Kanno Tlou
7/09/24



We took the fast ferry
To Provincetown,
Dog with us,
Licking invisible airsalt,
From the ocean.
We had a plan,
Beach, raw clams, and lobster.
And hike the dunes.
I was mortified about the dunes,
Thinking of drowning into a sinkhole,
Sand methodically slow,
filling my throat,
Eyes,
And esophagus,
I would aspirate and choke,
Before that death gurgle,
Before it hit my other organs.
So,
We did not go to the dunes!
As we walked,
His hand at times reserved and,
Gently,
Firm and strong,
At the nape,
Of my bony back,
And me desperately at times
Fiercely,
Interlocking our white and brown fingers.
I look at how my shade that reminds me of toblerone chocolates,

With my new found liver spots
And paint filled nails,
As I hold out hands up,
Towards north star,
I am marinated,
In
In..

Alabaster magic of his skin,
His nails are immaculate.
After eating the vulva of the sea,
(Clams)
And the roaches of the ocean
(lobsters)
We stumble upon
antique store,
The owner is playing Cat Stevens,
"And the cat and the cradle..."
He welcomes us to look around,
Yet there is a yellow tint in his eye,
And his skin is fresh corn yellow.
We look around this universe,
Of the past.

He stays seated,
The other antique shop we explored,
The 80 year old owner,
Jumped to his feet and started
clapping,
I loved their makeup,
He said he had a rough night,
A boat party,
And his name on the boat was
Demolition.
They / them..
Showed us everything,
Even the black clay
mammy doll,
With big lips and holding a
Porcelain piece of watermelon.
In yellow man's shop
I saw the tubes
A wound vac,
Tubes into his side
Like hungry eels
Hidden by
A badly placed

Cashmere blanket.
It was a
Vintage chair,
And later,
I noticed the bloated,
Parchment thin,
Yellow skin,
From scalp to big toe.
He stares at the dark cloud
Waiting,
More seductive than,
A ripe virgin,
The grim reaper,
Has arrived.
I read an obituary
And he died
Alone
With is his prescriptions
For Aids
Emptied,
One pill landed
Inside an angel statues
Mouth.

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 9

In the mid 1980's, the 120-foot deep MBTA subway tunnel – the deepest in the metropolitan transit system – cut through Somerville bedrock on its way from Porter Square to Davis Square. The slate's uses bridged from school chalkboards to pool tables. The beautiful Goddard Chapel on Tufts' Walnut Hill was built of Somerville

bluestone slate. It was used for colonial tombstones, including the gravestone of Jean Mallet, the architect of the city's symbol, the Powder House. Constructed of bluestone, it was built in 1703. Mallet is buried in Charlestown, under the shadow of Harvard's memorial to their founder, John Harvard.

This week the Powder House, Somerville's proud medallion, which denotes the revolutionary occurrence of September 1, 1774, celebrates its anniversary. The British attack predated Lexington and Concord by eight months and planted the seed of the American Revolution. Somerville's oldest relic still sits on solid ground.



Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 21

questions about drop-off and pickup. **Prekindergarten:** 12:00 p.m., **Grades K-8** (except Next Wave): 1:00 p.m., **Next Wave/Full Circle:** 12:10 p.m., **Somerville High School:** 1:33 p.m.

Somerville Public Schools has lots of openings for educators, classroom paraprofessionals, administrative staff, and an opening for their next **Chief Financial Officer**. Find a list of open positions and apply here: <https://somerville.tedk12.com/hire/index.aspx>.

Visit the **Somerville Bike Kitchen**, a volunteer-run bicycle repair cooperative, hosting open-shop nights at **The Dojo** (15 Properzi Way, Somerville). Come maintain your bike or learn more about cycling. **Tuesdays and Thursdays** from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. **Every Thursday** from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. join **Parkour Generations Boston** for **Teen Jams at The Dojo**. This is a flexible time for teen community members to use the pop-up training space at The Dojo @ Somernova and connect with fellow community members in the process.

Save the date for the **19th annual "What the Fluff Fest" A Tribute to Union Square Innovation**, 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, 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.

Celebrate **Hispanic Heritage Month** with a **Public Art Walk in East Somerville**. Explore sculptures, murals and more as you discover our community's rich cultural heritage. **September 24**, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Meeting Point: **Symphony Park**. Register at: <https://beta.somervilleartscouncil.org>.

Visit the **Somerville Greekfest 2024** and indulge in mouthwatering, authentic Greek cuisine and heavenly pastries that'll make your taste buds dance. Groove under the big tent to live music that'll get your feet tapping and your heart singing. Sip on cold beers and fine wines as you soak in the electric atmosphere of the biggest Greek food festival in town. **September 6 and 7** from 12:00 to 11:00 p.m., and **Sunday, September 8**, from 12:00 to 9:00 p.m. **Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church**, 29 Central St.

Join the **Somerville Central Library** on **September 24** at 6:30 p.m. for **Death Café**. Death Cafés are a group-directed discussion of death with no agenda, objectives or themes, with the objective of increasing awareness of death and help-

ing people make the most of their (finite) lives. Join us in this café led by **End-of-Life Guide & Death Doula, Sarah Gladstone**. You can learn more and register at <https://tinyurl.com/29r6cnew>.

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.

Mayor Katjana Ballantyne and the **Council on Aging** invite you to the annual **Senior Picnic** on **Thursday, September 12**, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at **Trum Field**, 541 Broadway in Somerville. Please call **Connie Lorenti** at the Council on Aging, 617-625-6600 ext. 2319 for your free ticket. There is limited transportation available – please request transportation prior to **September 5**.

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 active 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, ready-to-eat meals, alongside a host of other locally made products. The market accepts cash, credit/debit cards, WIC/Senior coupons, and EBT cards and offers a weekly \$15 SNAP Match.

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Off The Shelf CONT. FROM PG 22

innovations are you bringing to it?

TB: After being the sound engineer for Brian O'Donovan shows – primarily on Wednesday evenings, – Brian and I got to chatting about the other nights of the week in the backroom. The Burren had late night entertainment, but the dinner time slot was mostly wide open. The backroom was simply taking in some spillover from the front room dinner crowd. It made sense to start a music series. The Burren tapped me for it and I started with one or two nights a week. These days I will often have 10 shows a week on the

calendar including Brunch, Lunch and Dinner shows on Saturdays and Sundays. It's a ton of work, but it's been a blast. The Burren has also added a great sound system, green rooms and many other perks for artists and the fans who come to see them.

DH: What genres of music will you present?

TB: I have no genre boundaries really. I field the requests for shows as they come in. I certainly try to book great music no matter the genre, but what I really try to do is get a feel for good folks who simply want to play great music, mostly local acts with some great national and in-

ternational acts peppered in as I can.

DH: Why should we attend your series?

TB: Many reasons. If you,

- love live music
 - want to support friends and family
 - want to see your favorite acts in a spectacular room with great sound and good eats and spirits
 - want to support independent artists
 - can't spend \$100 a ticket to go to big corporate shows
- And as Brian O'Donovan always said from the stage, "Live Music! It's Where It's AT!"

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