

The Honorable Mayor, Joseph A. Curtatone

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We hope that you enjoy this program for our unique celebration of Patriot's Day this year – *in absentia!* The original event was developed by a Committee led by the **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission** (J. Brandon Wilson, Executive Director), in close cooperation with the **Somerville Museum** (Evelyn Battinelli, Director), and **Historic Somerville** (Eileen Schofield, former President and Barbara Mangum, historian).

The program would not be possible without the generous support of many other individuals and organizations. We would particularly like to acknowledge the educational material provided by the Paul Revere Memorial Association of Boston, and the Noah Webster House of West Hartford, CT, and the clothing contributions provided by Historic Somerville. We are thankful for many agreeing to be enthusiastic volunteers and who would have overseen the games, refreshments and Local History tables, including Bob & Cynthia Doherty; Somerville residents: Pauli Katz, Linda Gritz, Mike Katz, Susan Goldin, Lois Greenbaum, and Kathleen Pondelli; the Somerville High School Band and Tom Westmoreland, Bandmaster; the elementary school poem readers, and the participating members of the SHS Local History Club and their advisor, Ms. Adda Santos.

The Committee also appreciates the generous refreshment donations that would have been provided by the **Foss Park Dunkin Donuts, Redbones, East Somerville Stop & Shop**, the Food Services of the **Somerville School Department**, and **When Pigs Fly**.

Finally, special thanks are always due to these talented and hard-working City staff: Veronica Gee in the Mayor's Office, Denise Taylor & the Communications Office, the DPW Crew supervised by Michael Bowler and Frank Santangelo, and to Fred Lund, our beloved and late master draftsman and local historian, for his unique graphics.

For more historic information, go to www.somervillema.gov/historicpreservation and the Historic Preservation Commission's FaceBook Event page or call 617-625-6600, extension 2500.

THE CITY OF SOMERVILLE

MAYOR JOSEPH A. CURTATONE

PATRIOT'S DAY



MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2020 – AT YOUR LEISURE!

245TH ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

Of Paul Revere's Ride

From Boston through Somerville to Lexington
Foss Park on Broadway/Fellsway West



April 20, 2020

My Fellow Citizens,

Thank you for joining us once again as we celebrate Somerville's rich history and our role in the historic ride of Paul Revere.

As we look back on that history, let's reflect on Somerville's role in the events of April 1775. Many people know that Paul Revere set out from Old North Church in Boston's North End and finished his ride in Lexington. What most people do not realize, however, is the role that other communities – Charlestown, Arlington, Medford and Somerville – played that night. We celebrate Paul Revere's ride each year as a way of remembering our cities' roles in our nation's history.

To Mayor Breanna Lungo-Koehn of Medford: From one city, where the first American flag flew over Prospect Hill under General George Washington's command, to another, the fourth oldest settlement in the Commonwealth and a former campground for General Washington, I wish you well and hope you will join me in honoring the patriots who fought for our independence and for the freedoms we enjoy today.

Best Wishes for this Historic Celebration,


Joseph A. Curtatone,
Mayor



COLONIAL BAKING

Most baking would have been done either directly over the fire or just in front of the hearth. Some of the flavors for colonial baking came from molasses, lemons, almonds, and coconuts. Cookies did not make an appearance until the late 1700s, as only air and egg whites were available to help sweet snack items to rise. While yeast was available to aid in the rising of bread, this was not a good flavor to add to cookies.

Although Paul Revere is most famous for his ride on horseback to Lexington, he also made several longer rides to New York City and Philadelphia. On those trips, Revere undoubtedly carried snacks in his saddlebags. Try making this recipe for parched corn!

A COLONIAL SNACK: PARCHED CORN

Parched corn was eaten regularly by the Native American warriors and hunters as a high-energy snack long before European explorers and was a typical food or treat for the colonists as well. Although this recipe may not be completely aligned with Shape Up Somerville's current guidelines, it is very filling!

Adapted from <http://www.utahpreppers.com/2009/10/survival-food-how-to-make-parched-corn/>

Ingredients

Dried corn

1 tablespoon oil or butter

Any of the following toppings for your corn:

- Molasses
- Brown sugar
- Maple syrup
- Shredded cheese
- Dried fruit (apples work well)
- Cook meat diced up
- Red pepper flakes

Directions:

1. Dry your corn. To dry corn on the cob, you can hang it in a dry place for two to three weeks and then remove the kernels from the cob. Or, you can buy frozen corn and dry it by heating in the oven at 150 degrees for two to three hours.
2. Heat the oil or butter in a skillet over medium heat. Add enough corn kernels to cover the bottom of your pan.
3. Cook the corn, occasionally shaking the skillet, until a few of the kernels pop like popcorn and the rest of the kernels start to brown and puff up.
4. Remove from heat. Drain the corn on a paper towel and add any desired toppings. Be creative!



Historical Context of Paul Revere's Ride

The fetters of England's rule were gradually tightening around the New England men and women who aspired to be absolutely free, and the treatment by King George and his ministers grew continually more autocratic and oppressive. In 1774 a long series of restrictions on the part of the British Government culminated in the enactment of the Boston Port Bill, which placed a disastrous embargo on Boston and Charlestown, amounting to a complete blockade of the port upon which the welfare of the people depended.

The British sent over strong military and naval forces to intimidate the colonists. On Somerville soil, one of the first hostile acts on the part of the British occurred. On September 1, 1774, the British came up the Mystic River from Boston, landed at Ten Hills Farm, crossed Broadway, and went on to the Powder House, where they took 250 barrels of powder belonging to towns in the vicinity. From there the British went to Cambridge and seized the cannon that they found on the Common.

The loss of the powder was serious, and the Colonists were alarmed. The next day hundreds of minutemen were marching toward Boston from all directions. Had further seizures been attempted, an army of many thousands would have assembled to oppose them.

After the British raid on the Powder House and Cambridge Common, the colonists removed their remaining guns and war materials to Concord and other distant towns. English officers in disguise, however, soon discovered the hiding places, so that the patriots were in constant suspense, feeling that other seizures would be attempted. Watch was kept on all ways out of Boston by land or by water, so as to detect instantly any movement of the King's troops, to promptly alarm the country, and to call together the minutemen. Thirty men organized a company and took turns, "two and two", at this watch. One of these men was Paul Revere.

Several days before the march to Concord, the preparations observed aboard the transports and other boats in the harbor caused suspicion that some formidable expedition was intended. "The town watches at Boston, Charlestown, and Cambridge, were ordered to look well to the landing places." About this time a lady in Boston sent word to Samuel Adams and John Hancock, who were at Lexington, that within a few days, troops would leave the town, but that their destination was unknown.

On the 18th of April, 1775, Dr. Warren learned that their object was to capture Adams and Hancock. At once he sent William Dawes, by way of Roxbury, and Paul Revere by way of Charlestown to Lexington. Revere arranged for signals to be displayed from the steeple of the North Church – two lanterns if the British went by water, one if by land. He had already displayed a lantern from Christ's Church to warn Charlestown that the troops had begun their march. He rowed across the river, past the British man-of-war "Somerset" and only a few minutes before her sentinels were ordered to stop all boats! He landed in Charlestown where a good horse awaited him. He set out on his midnight errand.

Soon after passing Charlestown Neck Revere saw, beneath a tree, two horsemen whom he discovered to be British officers. One tried to get ahead of him, and the other to overtake him. He turned his horse quickly and galloped towards Charlestown Neck, escaping by way of Broadway. The officer who followed, endeavoring to cut him off, found himself in a clay pit, and Revere was able to elude him. He continued through Somerville, over Broadway and Main Street, to the present day towns of Medford and Arlington. It is also said that on his ride, Revere galloped over to Ten Hills Farm where he signaled, from a barn, back to Charlestown.

10:00 am **Colonial & Patriotic Music** at Foss Park -- Members of the Somerville High School Band led by Tom Westmoreland, Band Master

~10:30 am **Welcoming Remarks** – Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and City Councilors present.

Introduction of Invited Guests and Event Organizers:

J. Brandon Wilson, Executive Director of the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission. Organizers include: Historic Somerville; Somerville Historic Preservation Commission; and the Somerville Museum.

Proclamation from Governor Charles D. Baker

Read by Will Mbah, Councilor at Large.

Reading of poems: “The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere”

read

by Ruthanna Kern and Lily Thompson (7th grade, Healey School),

and “**The House by the Side of the Road**” and “**The**

Midnight Ride

of Williams Dawes” read by Bella Strezo-Filippo (Kennedy School, 3rd grade).

Colonial Period Music by the SHS Band and Band Master.

Closing Remarks

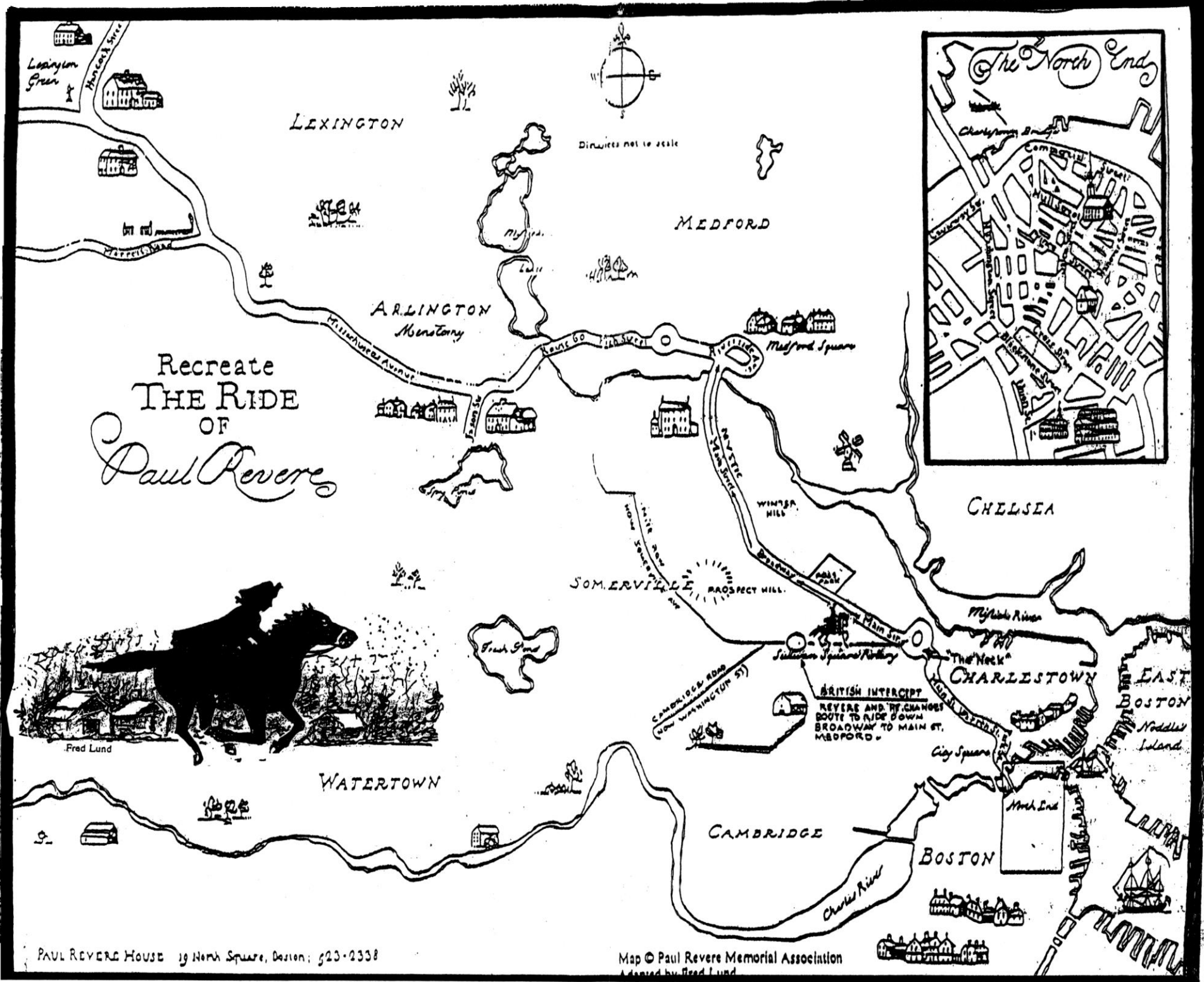
10:00-11:30 am Children’s Colonial Games for local school children.

Games led by event organizers and community volunteers. All encouraged to join in the game stations, enjoy the period refreshments, and visit the local history and souvenir tables.

Reception of Paul Revere when he arrives on

horseback. Mayor Curtatone and City officials greet Paul Revere with Proclamation from his Excellency, Governor Charles D. Baker. Mayor Curtatone sends his greetings via Paul Revere to Medford Mayor, Breanna Lungo-Koehn.





Recreate
THE RIDE
OF
Paul Revere



PAUL REVERE HOUSE 19 North Square, Boston; 523-2338

Map © Paul Revere Memorial Association
Adapted by Fred Lund