

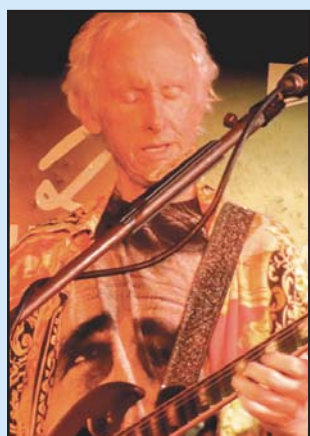


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Somerville rings in the holidays



The city's annual holiday traditions kicked off with the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony last week, and the Illuminations Trolley and Bike tours are soon to follow. Details are on pages 12-13.

GLX off and running

By Max Sullivan

Extension of Somerville's Green Line was officially announced Tuesday afternoon as Governor Deval Patrick, Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone and other Boston and Massachusetts officials took the podium in support of the new project.

The project, expected to be completed by 2017 and costing \$12.9 million, will extend Somerville's Green line to Union Square and into Medford Hillside. It will involve the reconstruction of the Harvard St. railroad bridge in Medford and the Medford St. railroad bridge in Somerville, as well as the demolition of the building currently at 21 Water St. in East Cambridge to include an extension off of Lechmere Station.

Governor Patrick was greeted by a round of applause a little before 2:00 p.m. from a small crowd of roughly fifty people in the parking lot behind Target in Somerville, the podium placed fittingly in front of the MBTA's railroad tracks that run through Somerville as its backdrop.

Governor Patrick spoke of the importance of transportation to a city's economy.

Continued on page 20

Mayor and Traffic and Parking assemble transportation team

By Cathleen Twardzik

Mayor Curtatone has formed a transportation research, innovation and planning (TRIP) team to advise the city about new technology and procedures, which will be intended to increase capacity, accessibility, convenience and safety of each mode of local transportation.

The advisory panel, which was begun in March 2012, is comprised of representatives, all of which were found in residential community and business community in Somerville. The team also includes transportation and parking policy experts.

Along with city officials, all of whom will supply support, the TRIP team will have a broad mandate to evaluate best practices and emergent technology, which will include: pedestrian improvements, new transportation technology, transit access and promotion, traffic calming strategies, bicycle safety, parking permits, parking configurations, payment

Continued on page 17



Photo by Bobbie Toner

An advisory panel has been established that will study ways of improving how we travel through the city.

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NEWTALK

The annual Illuminations Trolley Tour is scheduled for Saturday, December 15, with tours departing from the City Hall Concourse beginning at 4:30pm. The 45-minute tours will showcase holiday light displays in our own Somerville. Tours leave from (and return to) Somerville City Hall where coffee, hot chocolate, and cookies are served. Entertainment at City Hall includes choral music, courtesy of the Somerville Community Chorus and craft activities for children. Trolley Tour tickets are available at the Blue Cloud Gallery, 713 Broadway. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children and seniors. For more information visit www.somervilleartscouncil.org.

The third annual Illuminations Bike Tour will also be held on December 15, a joint production of the Somerville Bicycle Committee and Somerville Arts Council. The guided group ride will be shorter this year so folks can spend more time looking at the lights and stay warmer. For those who would like to tour the longer route from last year, maps will be available. Those touring the longer route may continue after the short guided tour concludes, may meet with others at the suggested times below or tour the route on your own schedule with friends. Guided Short Route Meet Location: Somerville High School Main Entrance. Meet Time: 5:50 p.m. Departure: 6 p.m. Duration: 45 minutes, or less. Required: warm clothes and bike lights. Recommended: holiday lights, costumes and good cheer. Suggested: Donate \$5 to the Somerville Arts Council. Afterwards: Hot drinks and treats at City Hall. Un-guided Long Route Maps: available at city hall, donation recommended. Suggested Meet Times: 7:15 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Congratulations to Doug and Bonnie-Jean Carriger on the recent birth of their daughter, beautiful Samantha Jean Carriger, 6 pounds 10 ounces 19 3/4 inches. What a great present, a new baby and a new house for Christmas. We wish them a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! This is such great news for a great family here in the *Continued on page 8*

TheSomervilleNews.com
Comments of the Week

Response to Medical cannabis and beyond

A. Moore says:
I think many just voted for it like myself because it just can't be controlled by law and may as well just be legal like alcohol and cigarettes. It will be abused like the latter by many, but that is happening anyway. The government could not squash alcohol so it really is a losing battle to have it illegal. If it is indeed helpful as stated that's even a better reason. With government control and taxes on it we should see a decrease in our takes (like that will happen). Personally I did try it a number of years ago and disliked it and have no desire to try it again. Next we will try for legalizing prostitution, might as well get it all out there.

Kim Morera says:
My husband is currently participating in a privately funded clinical trial for his advanced prostate cancer using a highly concentrated Cannabis extract. His current Lab work has shown a marked decrease in this cancer markers, which considering the fact that the Cannabis treatment has no negative side effects, has been nothing short of miraculous. If you told me six months ago that Marijuana could cure cancer, I would have made the same lame jokes that I hear on media sites in regards to the medical benefits of Cannabis (which is it's true name, not, the made up name that the DEA prefers). Now, I have evidence that Cannabis could be "the miracle drug/plant compound."

Harry says:
You potheads liberals make me laugh!

Don Berry says:
Thanks, Mr. Shelton, for such a clear, informed article. Detractors are free to check the references you mention if they care to. I look forward to the next installment on how this beneficial plant came to be banned. To me, that is one of the most fascinating and under-investigated stories of American history...maybe because the news media of the time were complicit in the demonizing of all things cannabis then maintaining that stream of propaganda for decades.

Log onto TheSomervilleNews.com to leave your own comments

TheSomervilleNews.com poll of the week

In addition to breaking news, sports and opinion, TheSomervilleNews.com also features a daily poll in which you, the reader, tell us where you come down on local issues. Last week's poll concerned your views on whether or not you think Somerville High School should be repaired or should a new high school be built. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleNews.com.

Do you think Somerville High School should be repaired or should a new high school be built?



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There's school music in the air

Winter concerts December 13 through 21

By Elizabeth Sheeran

If the sound of cash registers and mall traffic is beginning to wear thin, Somerville school kids are ready with the musical antidote. Thousands of public school students will perform in nearly a dozen free winter concerts in the coming days.

The roster of performers will span from pre-kindergartners stepping on the stage for the first time, to seniors bound for college music programs. The program will include choruses, orchestras, bands and percussion ensembles. And the repertoire will include popular songs, classical pieces and folk music from around the world.

"It's a celebration of the work that our students have done so far this year, and of the importance of bringing music to the community," said Richard Saunders, director of music education for Somerville Public Schools.

The season of concerts kicks off on Thursday, December 13, with the All City Middle School Concert, which brings together musicians and singers from around the district. Because the Somerville High auditorium is still closed in the wake of Hurricane Sandy, the middle school concert will take place at the Cohen Auditorium at Tufts University, which will also be the venue for Somerville High's annual Winter Concert on Thursday, December 20.

On Tuesday, December 18, "Community in Harmony" will bring together Somerville High School musicians with Somerville's El Sistema youth orchestra to perform an evening of classic works by the likes of Tchaikovsky and Vivaldi, and featuring Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus."

And each of Somerville's elementary schools will host its own winter concert, with at least one concert daily between December 14 and 21.

Saunders said Somerville's school music program is unusual because any student can participate at every grade level, regardless of skill or past experience. Somerville's open door policy means that recent immigrants learning their first instrument can perform alongside high school musicians who have actively participated since elementary school.

"Our music program reflects the diversity of our student body," said Saunders. "We've focused on tiering our instruction for all types of learning. It's a challenge but we make it work."

That diversity ultimately enriches both the schools and the music curriculum, said Saunders, pointing to the high school's World Percussion Ensemble as a program that promotes cultural understanding while at the same time producing star performers. But he said the main purpose of the school music program is not to groom professional musicians, but to bring the benefits of music education to every kid in Somerville.

"Our greatest minds, from Einstein on down, have had music training from a very early age," said Saunders. "It's troubling how our country sometimes views music education as discretionary, but I view it as essential."

Advocates often cite studies that have found a correlation between music education and performance in subjects like math. Saunders said that may or may not be true, but whether or not music class can help boost math test scores is not the point, because music can stand on its own in terms of what it brings to



Photo by Elizabeth Sheeran

A series of school music concerts this week and next will feature Somerville student musicians, like this brass section at the Argenziano School.

a child's education.

He said music builds students' self-esteem, since they learn to set goals for themselves and reach milestones. They learn to work in a group cooperatively. They learn to express themselves creatively. And they learn to improvise. "We call those 21st century skills," said Saunders. "They're transferable to daily life."

For students who may never play on a varsity sports team, the music program also gives them a chance to represent

their school in the community and beyond. Student musicians take part in local events like the "Honk" street festival, for instance. And the Somerville High School chorus will have the unique opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C. during the presidential inauguration next month.

This month's Winter Concerts are just another entry in that long tradition of sharing school music with the community. "Music is for everyone," said Saunders. "It's part of being human."

Somerville Public Schools Winter Concerts:

- Thursday, December 13, 7 p.m. All City Middle School Concert, Cohen Auditorium at Tufts University, Medford
- Friday, December 14, 9 a.m., East Somerville Community Schools first performance, in the Cummings Gym
- Monday, December 17, 3:15 p.m., Brown School
- Tuesday, December 18, 9 a.m., East Somerville Community Schools second performance, in the Edgerly Gym
- Tuesday, December 18, 9 a.m., Winter Hill Community Innovation School
- Tuesday, December 18, 6:30 p.m., "Community in Harmony," East Somerville Community School Edgerly Gym
- Wednesday, December 19, 6:30 p.m., Kennedy School
- Thursday, December 20, 9 a.m., Healey School
- Thursday, December 20, 9 a.m., West Somerville Neighborhood School
- Thursday, December 20, 7 p.m., Somerville High School Concert, Cohen Auditorium, Tufts University, Medford
- Friday, December 21, 9:15, Argenziano School

For more information go to www.somerville.k12.ma.us.

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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Alleged shoplifter and girlfriend tangle with cops

While patrolling the Davis Square area last Wednesday, police officers took note of a man they recognized as having outstanding warrants entering the Tedeschi Food Store on College Ave.

The officers stood outside the store waiting for the man, David Seibel, 28, of Whitman, to exit. They watched through the window as Seibel purchased a pack of cigarettes and then turned towards an aisle in the store where he reportedly picked up two packages of candy.

The officers reported that

Seibel waited in line for a few moments, but then returned to the candy section and pretended to put the items back while actually placing them in his jacket.

Seibel then reportedly left the store without paying for the merchandise and was stopped by the officers waiting outside and told that he was being detained for shoplifting.

When asked for his I.D. he told police that his name was David Marckini and that he did not have identification on him, police said. Asked a second time,

Seibel once again gave officers the same false name, according to reports.

A woman, Karly Trainor, 28, approached the officers and told them she was the man's girlfriend and reportedly told one of the officers that his name was David Seibel.

The alleged shoplifter then asked why the police always have to harass him and that he did not steal anything, police said. Meanwhile, police dispatch radioed that Seibel did indeed have an active arrest warrant for him.

As officers attempted to handcuff Seibel, he reportedly struggled violently and resisted arrest, eventually breaking free and attempting to flee the area. He was soon captured and taken to the ground but continued to resist being handcuffed, according to reports.

Trainor reportedly involved herself in the melee and scratched one of the officers in the ensuing struggle. She was eventually brought under control, police said, and detained while the other officers attempted to subdue her boyfriend.

After police administered a burst of pepper spray Seibel reportedly submitted to being handcuffed.

Seibel was placed under arrest for assault and battery on a police officer, resisting arrest, and shoplifting by concealing merchandise, and for warrant charges of destruction of property under \$250, assault and battery, and conspiracy to violate drug law.

Trainor was placed under arrest and charged with assault and battery on a police officer and resisting arrest.

CRIME TIP HOTLINE: 617-776-7210

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Scott Badeau, 47, of 99A Chelsea St., Everett, December 3, 8:25 p.m., arrested at 373 Highland Ave. on a warrant charge of trespassing.

Dennis Reid, 30, of 520 Medford St., Malden, December 4, 2:42 p.m., arrested at 77 Middlesex Ave. on a warrant charge of larceny over \$250.

Anthony Lungo, 36, of 532 Medford St., December 4, 5:56 p.m., arrested at home on charges of drug possession to distribute and receiving stolen property, and on warrant charges of assault and battery and unarmed robbery.

Dale Harding, 25, of 6 Myrtle St., December 5, 5:56 p.m., arrested at home on a charge of witness intimidation.

A **juvenile**, December 6, 3:29 p.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on a charge of larceny under \$250.

Jose Silva, 46, of 16 Indiana Ave., December 7, 8:30 a.m., arrested at 177 Middlesex Ave. on a charge of operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Rogério Dasilva, 45, of 290 Montvale Ave., Woburn, December 7, 9:31 a.m., arrested at 299 Broadway on charges of resisting arrest and indecent exposure.

Joshua Sullivan, 18, of 33 Jacques, December 7, 10:10 a.m., arrested at 175 Fellsway on warrant charges of assault and battery with a dangerous

weapon and armed assault to murder.

Khyam Mayes, 29, December 7, 10:59 a.m., arrested on warrant charges of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, armed assault to murder, possession of a class B drug, and resisting arrest.

Matthew Closs, 19, of 454 Washington Ave., Chelsea, December 7, 1:06 p.m., arrested at 8 Otis St. on charges of destruction of property over \$250, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, receiving a stolen motor vehicle, and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

A **juvenile**, December 7, 1:06 p.m., arrested at 8 Otis St. on a charge of receiving a stolen motor vehicle.

A **juvenile**, December 7, 1:06 p.m., arrested at 8 Otis St. on charges of receiving a stolen motor vehicle and violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon.

Matthew Beggelman, 29, December 7, 1:31 p.m., arrested at Beacon St. on a charge of assault and battery.

Ruddy Gonzalez, 27, of 72 Hanover St., Lynn, December 7, 2:15 p.m., arrested at 65 Cross St. on charges of drug violation near a school or park, heroin/morphine/opium trafficking, conspiracy to violate drug law, and witness intimidation.

Darlin Dejesus, 23, December 7, 2:15 p.m., arrested at 65

Cross St. on charges of drug violation near a school or park, heroin/morphine/opium trafficking, and conspiracy to violate drug law.

Angelo Perez, 39, of 80 Highland Ave., December 7, 4:35 p.m., arrested at Medford St. on charges of possession of a class B drug and drug possession to distribute.

Anthony Borges, 39, December 7, 7:09 p.m., arrested at Ames St. on warrant charges of felony nighttime breaking and entering, carrying a dangerous weapon, and receiving stolen property.

Sanjeev Kumar, 41, of 324 McGrath Hwy., December 7, 6:47 p.m., arrested at home on a charge of assault and battery.

Karly Trainor, 28, of 90 Morrison Ave., December 7, 8:48 p.m., arrested at 4 College Ave. on charges of assault and battery on a police officer and resisting arrest.

David Seibel, 28, of 728 Auburn St., Whitman, December 7, 8:48 p.m., arrested at 4 College Ave. on charges of assault and battery on a police officer, resisting arrest, and shoplifting by concealing merchandise, and on warrant charges of destruction of property under \$250, assault and battery, and conspiracy to violate drug law.

Jefferson Joseph, 24, of 132 Summer St., December 8, 2:39 a.m., arrested at 70 Summer St. on a charge of operating a mo-

tor vehicle under the influence of liquor.

Jose Vasquez, 19, of 489 Medford St., December 8, 7:06 p.m., arrested at Glen St. on a warrant charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Michael Mandarini, 21, of 9 Albion St., Medford, December 9, 1:13 a.m., arrested at 255 Elm St. on charges of violation of city ordinance open container, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest.

Incidents:

Theft:

December 4, 9:25 a.m., police reported a theft at Pearl St.

December 4, 9:59 a.m., police reported a theft at Josephine Ave.

December 4, 3:24 p.m., police reported a theft at Broadway.

December 4, 4:11 p.m., police reported a theft at Josephine Ave.

December 5, 3:11 p.m., police reported a theft at Hancock St.

December 6, 3:29 p.m., police reported a theft at McGrath Hwy.

December 6, 6:09 p.m., police reported a theft at 270 Washington St.

December 6, 7:23 p.m., police reported a theft at Bow St.

December 6, 9:24 p.m., police reported a theft at 200 McGrath Hwy.

December 7, 8:39 a.m., police reported a theft at Atherton St.

December 7, 11:14 a.m., po-

lice reported a theft at Perry St.

December 7, 4:24 p.m., police reported a theft at Broadway.

December 7, 11:36 p.m., police reported a theft at Orchard St.

Robbery:

December 4, 12:07 a.m., police reported a robbery at Broadway.

December 5, 7:37 p.m., police reported a robbery at Arlington St.

Breaking & Entering:

December 4, 12:21 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Prichard Ave.

December 5, 8:58 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Broadway.

Vehicle Theft:

December 7, 9:00 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Holland St.

Assault:

December 7, 12:34 p.m., police reported an assault at Kent St.

December 7, 6:47 p.m., police reported an assault at McGrath Hwy.

December 7, 8:48 p.m., police reported an assault at 4 College Ave.

Drug Violation:

December 4, 5:56 p.m., police reported a drug violation at 532 Medford St.

December 7, 4:35 p.m., police reported a drug violation at Pearl St.

Somerville Police arrest shooting suspects

Shortly before 9:15 p.m. on Saturday evening, December 1, Somerville Police received multiple reports of gunshots in the area of Evergreen Avenue and Marshall Street. Police units responded and were directed to a nearby residence where they located a 24-year-old male suffering from a gunshot wound. He was transported to Mass. General Hospital.

Somerville Police Detectives, working with investigators from the Medford Police Department and the FBI Violent Crimes Task Force, began to

follow leads that quickly associated the Evergreen Avenue incident with a stabbing that was reported in Medford about thirty minutes after the Evergreen Avenue incident.

Working together, the investigators were able to connect the two incidents, which resulted in identifying both suspects in the Somerville shooting incident.

On December 5, Somerville Detectives Alex Capobianco and Jonathan Thermidor obtained warrants to arrest Joshua Sullivan, age 18, with a last known address in

Somerville, and Khyam Mayes, age 29, who is listed as homeless, for armed assault with intent to murder and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. Both suspects were arrested by Somerville Police.

Chief Thomas Pasquarello praised the work of the investigative team, who quickly solved this violent incident that occurred on a quiet residential street and acknowledged the support of the neighborhood residents, especially the Evergreen Community Alliance.

Communities of Somerville join forces to support victims of Hurricane Sandy

The communities of Somerville, Massachusetts, Somerville, New Jersey, and Summerville, South Carolina are joining forces this month to support victims of Hurricane Sandy along the Jersey Shore, in an effort coordinated by Somerville, NJ Mayor Brian Gallagher.

With supplies from around the nation already reaching the Shore over the past several weeks, efforts are being redoubled by the Somer/Summervilles in advance of the holiday season, and to address changing needs as residents begin to clean up and reoccupy homes.

In Somerville, MA, the donation drive will begin Monday, December 10 and last through Friday, December 21. Needed items are: canned, non-perishable foods; household [cleaning] products; toiletries; baby items such as wipes and diapers; hy-

giene items; and pet food. Please, no clothes.

Donation locations are as follows:

- City Hall, 93 Highland Ave. For hours of operation: www.somervillema.gov
- City Hall Annex, 50 Evergreen Ave. For hours of operation: www.somervillema.gov
- Somerville Police Department(s). Main Station: 220 Washington Street; East Substation: 81 Broadway; West Substation: 1114 Broadway
- Somerville Public Libraries. Main Branch: 79 Highland Ave.; West Branch: 40 College Ave.; East Branch: 115 Broadway. For hours of operation: www.somervillepubliclibrary.org
- Somerville Council on Aging: 167 Holland St.

"Hurricane Sandy was a devastating storm for so many communities along the east coast,

particularly along the New Jersey coastline, and in its immediate wake so many residents and employees in our community were eager to help. In speaking with Mayor Gallagher from Somerville, New Jersey, it was clear that there was a very specific need for supplies, and that we could be helpful in the weeks and months to come," said Mayor Curtatone. "In the midst of the holidays, as many of us prepare our homes and purchase gifts for our loved ones, it's important that we remember how many people are left without shelter, food, and so many other items this year. Please consider joining me in making even a small donation to victims of Hurricane Sandy, and help us make a difference in the lives of others this Christmas."

Supplies will be delivered to Somerville, NJ on Saturday, December 22 by a delegation from Somerville, MA, and will then be distributed to residents along the Jersey Shore as necessary.

Additional holiday drives ongoing in the City of Somerville, MA include the annual Toys for Local Children drive coordinated by the Somerville Council on Aging. Donation boxes for new, unwrapped toys are available at all municipal buildings, and will be distributed to children in Somerville families for the holiday season.

Brune honored by Secretary of State and Registers Association



Register of Deeds for Southern Middlesex County Eugene C. Brune was recently honored by the Registers Association of Massachusetts. After forty-three of public service including ten years as Mayor of the City of Somerville and twenty-four years as Register of Deeds Gene Brune is retiring at the end of this year. He will certainly be missed by his employees, though he plans to remain very active in community affairs, charities and city organizations. Pictured left to right: Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin, Register Brune and Registers Association President Barry Amaral, Register of Bristol South.

Federal Realty signs agreement for IKEA parcel

By Jim Clark

It was announced on Tuesday that Federal Realty has signed a purchase and sale agreement for the 12 acres of land being sold by IKEA in the Assembly Square district of Somerville.

While subject to final approval by both parties, Federal Realty has stated that it will use the next several months to complete its due diligence on the property and its potential development.

In a statement issued by Federal Realty, Senior Vice President for Development Don Briggs said, "The 12 acres being sold by IKEA is extremely well located real estate, less than two miles from downtown Boston and serviced by transit. Assembly Square is closer to downtown Boston than most of Boston and sits in the heart of the innovation talent pool. The vision for the 12 acre parcel would include mixed use buildings including office, medical office, residential, and a regional grocer as a major element in the overall design plan."

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone commented on the matter saying, "Federal Realty has already demonstrated that it shares the city's vision for the Assembly Square district as a true urban neighborhood. I think their preliminary development approach for the IKEA parcel will

enhance the future of the entire district as a thriving community and a multimodal destination for shopping, dining and entertainment. No other developer in the country has more experience with projects based squarely on smart-growth, sustainable, mixed-use, transit-oriented development. The speed at which Assembly Row project is already moving confirms that the development model embraced by the city and Federal Realty has already begun to maximize the project's value as a source of private sector growth, jobs, and long-term revenues for investors, tenants, the city and its residents. I could not be more delighted about this announcement, including the grocery store component. We were sorry to lose IKEA, which has been a responsible development partner, but Federal's plan will be even better for our city."

"We are excited by the possibility of adding to our real estate holdings here which includes Assembly Square Marketplace and Assembly Row, and further enhancing our vision of a connected urban environment for the professional, residential, retail and local community. We believe that great environments lead to a better quality of life and we are striving to create just that," said Briggs.

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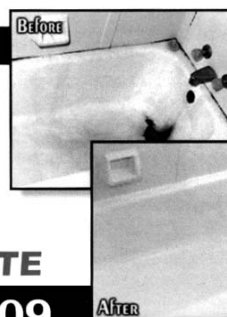
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Robby Krieger's Jazz Kitchen serves up a hearty fusion of sound at Johnny D's

By Blake Maddux

Although they certainly have marquee value, it probably is not necessary for venues to use the words "Doors Guitarist" in front of Robby Krieger's name. Anyone who knows the name knows the person to whom it belongs.

Most people probably do not consider Krieger's guitar to have been the lead instrument in the music of The Doors. That distinction would most likely go to Ray Manzarek's keyboards. However, The Doors was not a typical rock 'n roll band, and Krieger's varied musical interests added tasteful jazz, blues, and flamenco textures to the band's sound. Of course, Krieger also knew how to rock when the song called for it.

At Johnny D's Uptown on Friday night, Robby Krieger was far and away the most famous of the distinguished group of musicians on the stage. In terms of talent and musical pedigree, however, he was simply first among equals.

In a bygone era, certain genres had bandleaders for whose

groups the most ambitious of aspiring musicians wished to play. If you were a soul or funk player, you aimed to play with James Brown. If jazz was your thing, then Miles Davis was your man. If you were a rocker whose goals were loftier than fame and fortune, you auditioned for Frank Zappa's band. These were the Ivy League institutions of musicians' bands.

Joining Krieger in his Jazz Kitchen on Friday night were three alumni of the Zappa school: the stoic pony-tailed bassist Arthur Barrow, the bespectacled mad scientist keyboard player Tommy Mars, and the baby-faced 52-year-old drummer Chad Wackerman. Playing saxophone was Larry Klimas, who joined the highly eclectic band War in 1980 and - as Krieger pointed out while introducing him - also works with, among many others, Neil Diamond.

That this band was going to sound more like Frank Zappa than The Doors was hinted at by the first song of the set, which was the 1970 Zappa jam *Chunga's Revenge*. Krieger mimicked



Legendary guitarist Robby Krieger's latest musical project brought jazz flavored rock to the house at Johnny D's last week.

Zappa's manic, high-speed shredding beautifully on his trademark cherry-colored Gibson SG guitar.

Two other Zappa tunes also made the setlist: *Cosmik Debris*, from the classic 1974 album *Apostrophe (')* and *The Meek Shall Inherit Nothing* from 1981's *You Are What You Is*. As vocalists, Arthur Barrow and Tommy Mars did an impeccable job of aping Frank Zappa's wisecracking, tongue-in-cheek voice and unique cadence. Mars did the same on the hilarious Zappa-esque song *Screen Junkie*, on which he asks "Why not turn off the screen?" to a "texting, tweeting fool."

The first musical reference to The Doors came just past the midway point with an obscure number called *Under Waterfall*. Several songs later came "One you might recognize" as Krieger

put it, which turned out to be an instrumental take on *You're Lost Little Girl* from the 1967 Doors recording *Strange Days*.

After finishing up that song, Krieger - who had long since shed his long sleeves in favor of a James Dean T-shirt - told the enthusiastic and enraptured crowd that it was the best one of the tour.

Early in the show, Krieger and company did a cover of *Snake Oil* by the legendary jazz drummer Tony Williams. Apart from that and the Doors and Zappa material, much of the set consisted of selections from the 2010 Jazz Kitchen album *Singularity*. These included the lengthy *Russian Caravan* and the closing number *Trane Running Late*, the title of which paid tribute to jazz legend John Coltrane, the man who was clearly a major influence on Krieger's sax player

Larry Klimas.

Although the rest of the band left the stage after that song, keyboardist Tommy Mars remained seated with what apparently turned out to be a cut or sliced finger. The other guys soon returned for an encore, at which time Krieger asked, "What do you want to hear?" The set lists taped to the floor indicated that it was going to be one of two Doors songs: *Roadhouse Blues* or *Riders on the Storm*. In the end, the former won out.

Many audience members, several of which sported Doors or Frank Zappa shirts, stayed around for handshakes, pictures, and autographs. One particularly devoted fan had Tommy Mars sign his guitar, which was already covered with the signatures of many of his former Zappa colleagues.



Robby Krieger's Jazz Kitchen, featuring (L to R): Arthur Barrow, bass; Larry Klimas, saxophone; Chad Wackerman, drums; Robby Krieger, guitar; and Tommy Mars, keyboards.

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COMMENTARY

TALES OF SOMERVILLE

Illustrated by Jim Clark



So, let's get to work, shall we?

The View From Prospect Hill



Time takes its toll on all things, no matter how much we wish that it would not. This is the nature of life and material things that exist in our world. The city is now faced with the important question of whether or not to pursue a plan to build a new high school in the near future or to renovate the existing building, thereby assuring the safety and comfort of our students and teachers and buying us time

while the best plans are laid for the eventual construction of a replacement. It's true that the old school building has sustained much damage and deterioration over the course of its existence. Building a new facility is inevitable, but is it the right time to move forward with it? The costs of putting up a new campus will be enormous. Estimates of what it will take to overhaul the present structure

have run upwards of \$10 million. This is a lot of money, but does it compare to what the proposed replacement may cost? More importantly, perhaps, is the issue of seeing to it that our students have an adequately equipped school in the short term while plans and proposals for a new one are studied and debated. The recently convened Task Force on the matter has already stated that its initial findings

won't be readied until the end of next year. Further planning and the eventual implementation could - and probably would - take even longer. Meanwhile, the present building is where our kids and teachers will be doing what they must do. It seems that the least we can do for now is to make sure that they are provided with the best facility that we can offer until such a time comes when we can build and dedicate a new

Somerville High School. Time is running out for the hallowed halls of SHS. But we feel that she can still provide a satisfactory home for our high school program for the time being. All she needs is some tender loving care, and the will of the community to keep her going. It appears as though this is the only viable option for us, considering the importance of what's at stake for our kids.

News Talk CONT. FROM PG 2

'Ville. The Carrigers have lived here in the 'Ville for a few generations.

Congratulations to Matthew Kreimeyer who was recently elected to the position of Secretary of the New England Pest Management Board last week. The board serves the five New England States. He continues to be active in the NEPMA. Of course, Matt is the son of Rod and Nancy Kreimeyer, founders of Best Pest on Elm Street, a great company with a wonderful reputation for good work. Rod and Nancy are off to sunny Florida and leave the business in very capable hands with Matt.

Happy Birthday this week to some of our fans here in the 'Ville: Ray Zonghetti, a well-known and popular guy in the Chamber of Commerce here for many years. A good friend to a lot of businesses as well. We wish him a good day. Good old guy and professor of Real Estate here in Somerville, Bill Mur-

phy of Colony Real Estate. Sharon Borges Colleran is also celebrating. Happy Birthday to our good friend Joe Naggie, who waits patiently at the Police Station for the paper every week. Also, Mary Snow, another avid reader of The News and fan as well. A big special Happy Birthday to our own Bobbie Toner, the left and right hand of The News. Nothing gets by Bobbie, she's the best and she's very special to us. We certainly wish her the best on her birthday. Long time friend and 'Villen before "Villen" was even used as a phrase, is our good buddy Bob McGowan, who grew up here back in the 50's and 60's and is still here as one loyal friend, great guy, nice personality and always a positive person. He loves Somerville. Happy Birthday to Stacey Hersey Buckley, celebrating her birthday this week. She's the better half of Mike Buckley, but we also remember Stacey's Herseys. The Herseys are long time 'Villens going way back. Originally, some of us even remember them out of South Portland.

It's sad that another business has decided to leave the 'Ville recently, and one with about 12 employees. It seemed like the Zoning Board of Appeals went against neighbors, the Ward Alderman, and the planning staff, and voted down the request for the property located in Teele Square on Holland Street. So we now have a vacant building because the ZBA Board members were more concerned about parking than what the Alderman, the neighbors, and the planning staff had to say, so they voted it down. Now the building is empty and the businesses planned on being there has left and moved to Cambridge in disgust, after all that money they spent upgrading the property. Maybe that's what we get when we have a retired two time government employee chairing the board. Maybe it's time for a change?

Apparently, the Johnnies Foodmaster store up in Clarendon Hill is being strongly considered by a fairly large su-

permarket chain. Negotiations are ongoing, we hear, and hopefully all the residents up in that area will have some good news soon. Alderman Bob Trane is very interested and will keep the residents posted as to what's going on. We hear something will happen very soon.

Speaking of vacant storefronts, still no news on the Winter Hill Star spot. What a shame. It's a great location. Hopefully, Alderman Lafuente is on top of it. All the business owners along Broadway are very interested in seeing something coming there as well.

Our condolences go out to the family of our friend Paul Wolinsky who sadly passed away this week. Paul was a very nice person and will be sadly missed.

Guess it's finally happened, the pure lack of interest of our Aldermen who wish to run for President of the Board next year,

COMMENTARY

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

For the Green Line, a milestone; for Assembly Square, an upgrade



By Joseph A. Curtatone

For Somerville, it's been another very big week in the news. On Tuesday, Governor Deval Patrick and MassDOT Secretary Richard Davey came to town to mark the start of construction on the Green Line Extension from North Point in Cambridge to Route 16 in Medford.

Let me put that another way: the state is starting actual construction on the Green Line Extension as part of its commitment to open a light rail transit station in Union Square by the spring of 2017. Despite the delays and the doubters, de-

spite all the foot-dragging and hand-wringing by opponents of transportation investment, the people of this city have won a major victory that will go on to generate economic and quality-of-life benefits across the region and for decades to come.

In Union Square, MassDOT and the MBTA are honoring the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement they signed with us back in August. The revitalization plan approved by our Aldermen and our Planning Board will be fully supported, just as promised, by the restoration of transit service. The role that the city has agreed to play by assembling the parcels needed to provide a site for the station (and to take full advantage of the development opportunities afforded by the coming of the Green Line) has been justified.

As anyone knows who has ever worked on a project of this magnitude, for every day that work goes forward it becomes a lot harder to retreat. And now that work is starting.

For Somerville and the entire metro region, today's announce-

ment was a huge milestone in a year of milestones.

The Governor has shown considerable courage and exceptional leadership by launching this project at the same time that he goes to the legislature to ask for a permanent funding fix for the state's chronically underfunded transportation system. He is acknowledging in the clearest possible terms that the success of our regional economy depends both on fixing what is broken and building for the future, that this is not an "either/or" proposition.

Meanwhile, across town at Assembly Square, Federal Realty Investment Trust - the master developer of the Somerville's new multi-use, transit-oriented, riverfront neighborhood - announced that it had signed a purchase and sale agreement with IKEA to acquire the 12-acre site after the international furniture giant decided not to build a second store in the Boston area. Federal Realty announced that it would use the added acreage to extend the larger concept for the district (a con-

cept the city promoted and shares) by building additional office and housing facilities with ground-level retail space. That's the same type of dense, multi-use construction already under way at Assembly Row, although in this case Federal also intends to add a regional grocer to the mix, which is great for the development as a whole, and adds another type of destination retail sure to be popular with visitors.

And all of these new features will further enhance the Assembly Square district as a thriving, walkable urban community served by a new Orange Line stop (also already under construction).

Federal's acquisition of the IKEA parcel and its vision for how to use the land represent a major upgrade for the future of Assembly Square and the city as a whole. It is the smashing victory of the dense, urban mixed-use neighborhood over the superstore.

In both squares - Union and Assembly - public investment is leveraging far greater private investment. In both squares, transit

is an essential element in creating a fertile environment for sustainable economic growth. In both squares, we are seeing the renaissance of the urban core coming to fruition before our eyes.

In both squares, we are seeing what happens when residents are directly engaged in a vital and ongoing discussion about how to create a city where they want to build their lives. We are seeing the advantages of deciding - together - where we want to go instead of just sitting back and watching what happens.

We should hold no illusions that we can start to ease off now: there is still plenty of work to be done in order to make certain that these development initiatives reach their full potential.

And we should remain determined to extend the promise of these thriving projects to every corner of our community, to every square and every neighborhood.

But anyone who thinks this hasn't been a year of extraordinary progress for our city and its people just hasn't been paying attention.

On The Silly Side by Jimmy Del Ponte

Our favorite holiday movies



Remember sitting around the TV with your brothers and sisters or maybe your cousins watching *Mr. Magoo's Christmas Carol*? I sure do. Five years ago I purchased it on DVD so I can watch it whenever I want to. It's my favorite Christmas special of all time. It came out in 1962 when I was nine. Among the actors are David Cassidy's father Jack, doing the voice of Bob Cratchit, while the lovable Jim Backus portrayed Mr. Magoo. That was the first of the classic group of Christmas cartoons that were released. *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer* and *A Charlie Brown Christmas* came out in 1964 and 1965 respectively, with *Frosty The Snowman* debuting in 1969.

I polled a good number of Somerville residents to come up with their favorite holiday movies of all time, animated and otherwise.

Holiday Inn with Bing Crosby, and Fred Astaire was introduced to audiences in 1942 giving us our first real introduction to Irving Berlin's classic song *White Christmas*. *It's a Wonderful Life* with

James Stewart and Donna Reed was made in 1947, but I really don't recall watching it when we were kids.

In that same vein were movies such as *Miracle On 34th Street*, which also came out in 1947, starred a young Natalie Wood. *White Christmas*, starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye and Rosemary Clooney, made its debut in 1954. *A Christmas Story*, featuring the antics of Ralphie and his wish for a Red Ryder BB gun emerged in 1983 and became an instant favorite. 2003's *Elf*, starring Will Ferrell, made a lot of people's most loved holiday movie lists. One of my perennial favorites is Chevy Chase in *Christmas Vacation*. I actually watch that several times during the year. Bill Murray's *Scrooged*, *Polar Express* and *A Nightmare Before Christmas* were mentioned by some folks too. Tim Allen's *Santa Clause* movies just squeaked onto our list.

The animated version of *Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer* gave us some of the most memorable and popular characters of all time. In the cartoon version, Burl Ives portrayed Sam the Snowman who acted as the narrator. Rudolph, Hermey, Charlie-in-the-box, Clarice, Yukon Cor-

nelius and, of course, the Abominable Snowman, have become part of our holiday culture. Stuffed toys, ornaments, calendars and figurines of these lovable characters still fill the stores every Christmas season. "Rudolph" started out as a book written by Robert L May in 1939 and was published by department store mogul Montgomery Ward. Singing cowboy Gene Autry recorded the song version written by Johnny Marks in 1949. Marks also wrote *Rocking Around the Christmas Tree* and *Run Rudolph Run*.

How many of us think of Charlie Brown's pathetic little Christmas tree when we see a scrawny evergreen? It's funny how things stay with us. I feel obligated to mention the following suggestions made by some friends although they do not make my list of favorites. They are *The Bells of St. Mary*, *The Little Drummer Boy*, and *The Christmas Shoes*.

A friend tells me that she has already watched *A Charlie Brown Christmas* three times this year.

I saw *It's a Wonderful Life* last week and recalled a bit of trivia that some of you may find interesting. In the movie, the policeman's name is Bert, and the

cab driver's name is Ernie. Get it? Bert and Ernie?

Whenever I watch my favorite, *Mr. Magoo's Christmas Carol*, which has been named the granddaddy of all animated Christmas specials, I can see my sister, brother and cousins sitting on the floor around the TV laughing and singing along. When the toothless thieves sing *We're Despicable (Plunderer's March)*, tons of memories abound. Tears actually fill my eyes when I hear *The Lord's Bright Blessing*, but then again, you all know that I'm a big softie. I love Christmas, and I love the traditions of the season. All of our favorite movies, cartoons and songs are icing on the fruitcake.

Please send me your ideas for articles and stories. You can go to my Facebook page, email me at jimmydl@rcn.com or leave a message at 617-623-0554.

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Beacon Hill Roll Call



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THE HOUSE AND SENATE. There were no roll call votes in the House or Senate last week.

Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Somerville:



Rep. Denise Provost

DISTRICT REPRESENTED: Twenty-seventh Middlesex. - Consisting of precinct 3 of ward 2, all precincts of ward 3, precinct 3 of ward 4, and all precincts of wards 5 and 6, of the city of Somerville, in the county of Middlesex.



Rep. Carl Sciortino

DISTRICT REPRESENTED: Thirty-fourth Middlesex. - Consisting of all precincts in wards 4 and 5, precinct 1 of ward 7, and precinct 2 of ward 8, of the city of Medford, precincts 1 and 2 of ward 4, and all precincts of ward 7, of the city of Somerville, both in the county of Middlesex.



Rep. Timothy Toomey

DISTRICT REPRESENTED: Twenty-sixth Middlesex. - Consisting of all precincts of ward 1, precinct 1 of ward 2, precincts 1 and 2 of ward 3, and precinct 1 of ward 6, of the city of Cambridge, and all precincts of ward 1 and precincts 1 and 2 of ward 2, of the city of Somerville, both in the county of Middlesex.



Sen. Sal DiDomenico

DISTRICT REPRESENTED: MIDDLESEX, SUFFOLK AND ESSEX. - Cambridge, ward 3, precinct 2, wards 6 and 7, ward 8, precincts 1 and 2, ward 9, precinct 1, ward 10, precinct 2, Everett and Somerville, ward 1, precinct 1, ward 2, precinct 1, in the county of Middlesex; Boston, ward 2, ward 21, precincts 4, 6 and 7, ward 22, precincts 1, 2 and 5, Chelsea and Revere,

ward 6, in the county of Suffolk; and Saugus, precincts 2, 6 and 10, in the county of Essex.



Sen. Patricia Jehlen

DISTRICT REPRESENTED: SECOND MIDDLESEX. - Medford, Somerville, ward 1, precincts 2 and 3, ward 2, precincts 2 and 3, and wards 3 to 7, inclusive, Woburn, ward 2, and Winchester.

The 2011-2012 legislative session is winding down and ends in early January. This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* continues a series of reports highlighting legislation approved by the House and the Senate and signed into law by Gov. Deval Patrick in the 2011-2012 session.

COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING (H 3808)

House 153-2, Senate 37-0, approved a law aimed at combating human trafficking. The bill creates the crimes of trafficking persons for sexual servitude and forced services, and imposes imprisonment for up to 20 years for violations. If the victim is a child under 18, the prison sentence increases to up to life in prison. Other provisions include one that creates a Victims of Human Trafficking Trust Fund, funded from fines and convicted human traffickers' forfeited assets to provide restitution to victims; and another that increases the punishment for individuals who pay prostitutes for sex. (A "Yes" vote is for the bill. A "No" vote is against it.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

OVERHAUL SYSTEM OF HANDLING RUN-AWAY AND TRUANT CHILDREN (S 2410)

House 155-0, Senate 39-0, approved a law that makes major changes in the current Children in Need of Services (CHINS) system of handling children who are runaways and truant.

The measure abolishes the current system, which brings most of these juveniles to court, and replaces it with a statewide community-based intervention network that would provide community services for these children and their families. Children would be diverted from the juvenile legal process and instead be given behavioral, medical and mental health treatment; special education evaluations; mentoring, family and parental support; after-school and out-of-school opportunities; and crisis management. (A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

CHANGES IN TRIAL COURT AND PROBATION DEPARTMENT (H 3644)

House 152-0, Senate 39-0, approved a bill that would overhaul the management of the trial court and the hiring process for the Probation Department.

The measure divides up the tasks currently performed by the Chief Justice for Administration and Management between a newly created "civilian" Office of Court Management and a Chief Justice of the Trial Court. The new civilian administrator would handle business functions and the Chief Justice would tackle all the judicial management responsibilities including assigning judges. Other provisions include removal of the unilateral hiring power from the Probation Commissioner; an entrance exam for the hiring and promotion of all probation and court officers; and requiring applicants for state jobs to disclose the names of all immediate family members who are state employees. (A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

CHANGES TO STATE GOVERNMENT (S 2342)

House 152-0, Senate 39-0, approved a law that makes major changes in the way state government operates. Key provisions include requiring monthly rather than quarterly distribution of unrestricted local aid; requiring each state agency to have a performance management system in place; and establishing a commission to make recommendations on the feasibility of moving the state from traditional maintenance-based budgeting to a modern zero-based budgeting process -- a system that would require all state departments to start with zero dollars and prepare and justify their budget regardless of what it was in prior years. (A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

1,000 NEW UNITS OF HOUSING (S 1967)

House 154-0, Senate 38-0, approved a law that would require the creation of up to 1,000 units of Supportive Housing in Massachusetts by 2015. According to the Citizens' Housing and Planning Association, Supportive Housing is defined as "affordable housing linked with supportive services designed to help tenants with modest incomes maintain housing stability and maximize their independence." (A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

POWER OUTAGES (S 2404)

House 153-0, Senate 26-0, approved a law regulating the actions of utility companies during and following power outages. A key provision gives the revenue from

Beacon Hill Roll Callcontinued



finest levied on public utility companies directly to ratepayers instead of to the state's coffers.

The law requires public utility companies to provide thrice-daily estimates to customers on when electricity will be restored following a 24-hour damage assessment period. It also requires the companies to set up a well-staffed call center in Massachusetts during major storms. (A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

MUNICIPAL HEALTH PLAN CHANGES (H 3580)

House 150-2, Senate 37-0, approved a law giving local communities more flexibility to make changes to health insurance plans of their public employees outside of the current full collective bargaining process.

The law includes expedited collective bargaining to negotiate a new health insurance benefit plan for employees. If the municipalities and unions fail to reach agreement within 30 days, the case is submitted to a three-person review panel. Municipalities use this process to adopt co-pays and deductibles, along with other cost-sharing health care plan features that are not higher than those offered by the Group Insurance Commission. (A "Yes" vote is for the law. A "No" vote is against it.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

SCHOOL EMERGENCY PLANS (S 2132)

House 154-0, Senate 35-0, approved a law that requires each school to have a written medical emergency response plan to "reduce the incidence of life-threatening emergencies and promote efficient responses to such emergencies." The measure is called "Michael's Law" in memory of 16-year-old Michael Ellsesser of Sutton, who died suddenly of cardiac arrest during a high school football game.

Provisions include requiring establishment of a rapid communication system linking all inside and outside parts of the school campus to the emergency medical service system and a method of providing access to training in CPR and first aid for teachers, coaches and other school staff. (A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS (H 537)

House 155-0, Senate 37-0, approved a law that expands protections for volunteer firefighters who risk being fired from their regular day job if they miss work or are late for work because of an emergency call. Current law defines an emergency call as one in which the employee

is responding to, working at the scene of or returning from a fire.

The bill expands the definition to include rescues, emergency medical service calls, hazardous material incidents or natural or man-made disasters. It also expands the protection currently enjoyed by volunteer firefighters to emergency medical technicians. (A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

HEALTH CARE CHANGES (S 2400)

House 133-20, Senate 35-2, approved a law making changes in the state's health care system. A key provision establishes a statewide cost growth goal for the health care industry tied to the growth in the economy.

Other provisions provide \$100 million over the next five years in community-based prevention, public health and wellness efforts; \$100 million to accelerate and facilitate the ongoing statewide adoption of new technology for expansion and maintenance of the electronic medical records system; and expanding the role of physician assistants and nurse practitioners to act as primary care providers in order to expand access to cost-effective care. (A "Yes" vote is for the bill. A "No" vote is against it.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

BUDGET CUTS AND \$9 MILLION LOCAL AID CUT - Gov. Patrick cut state spending by \$225 million in order to help address what the administration says is a \$540 million mid-year budget gap. The cuts include funding for many government agencies and programs, including \$5.25 million for homeless student transportation, \$1 million for regional school districts' transportation of students, \$11.5 million for reimbursements for districts with high-needs special education students, \$100,000 to help homeless people, \$25,000 for literacy programs, \$25,000 for a new state police class and \$157,462 for teenage pregnancy prevention programs.

Patrick also filed legislation asking the Legislature to allow use of \$200 million from the state's Rainy Day Fund and to give him the power to cut \$9 million in unrestricted local aid for cities and towns.

Patrick said the shortfall is a result of slower-than-expected tax collections and noted his actions address the projected shortfall in a sensible and sustainable manner. The governor said, "We have faced unprecedented fiscal challenges in recent years, but, working together, we have promptly and responsibly addressed these challenges. I am confident that we will again do so and keep the Commonwealth on sound fiscal footing while best preserving the services and programs on which the people we serve depend."

Republicans and others immediately attacked the plan. Rep. Bradford Hill (R-Ipswich) said, "Gov. Patrick and

the Legislature must not use reductions in local aid as a means to solve the state's budgetary shortcomings. Our cities and towns are already feeling the adverse effects of the impending 'fiscal cliff' and any further budgetary reductions would further diminish any hope of an economic recovery at the local level."

VIRTUAL SCHOOLS (S 2467) - The Senate approved a bill allowing and regulating "virtual schools" in Massachusetts. Virtual schools allow students to "attend" an online-only public school. The measure requires the Board of Education to give preference to proposals that focus on certain students, including students who have dropped out, students with special medical needs requiring a home or hospital setting or gifted and talented students. Students in these schools would be required to meet the same performance standards and testing requirements as those in other public schools.

Other provisions cap the per-pupil tuition paid by a school district to send a student to a virtual school at \$5,000, limits to ten the number of these schools that may operate at any one time and caps the total number of virtual school students at 2 percent of the state's public school population, or approximately 19,000 students.

The House has approved its own version of the bill and the Senate version now goes to the House for consideration.

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 December 3-7, the House met for a total of three hours and 40 minutes while the Senate met for a total of eight hours and 37 minutes.

Mon. December 3	No House session Senate 11:13 a.m. to 11:25 a.m.
Tues. December 4	House 11:05 a.m. to 2:19 p.m. No Senate session
Wed. December 5	No House session No Senate session
Thurs. December 6	House 11:05 a.m. to 11:31 a.m. Senate 11:05 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Fri. December 7	No House session No Senate session

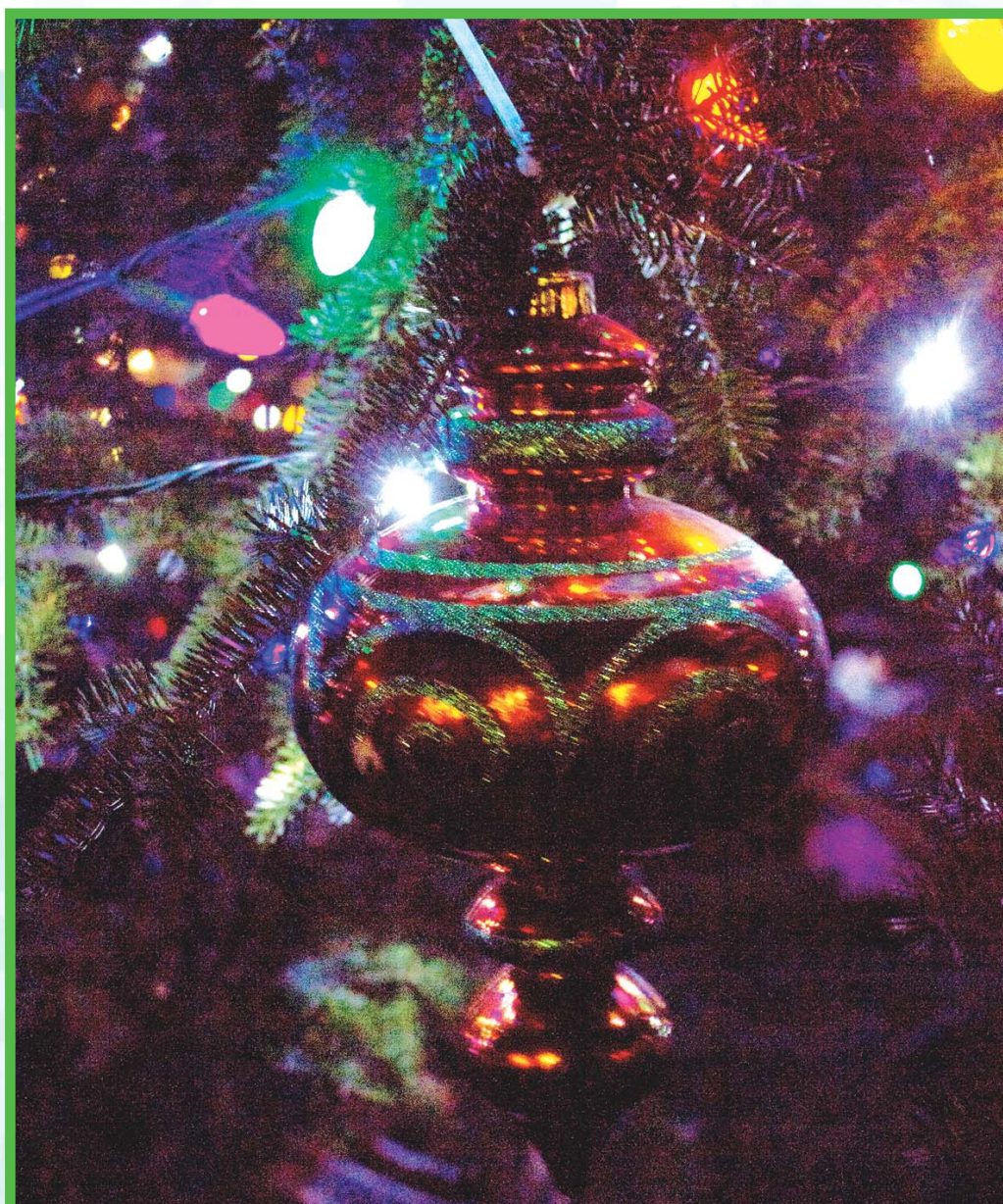
Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

Somerville's F

Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

The City's annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony took place Thursday, December 6 on the City Hall Concourse. The event also included a ceremonial lighting of a Hanukkah Menorah, which will remain on the concourse throughout the season.

The tree lighting ceremony featured musical entertainment by the Somerville High School Band; the SHS Chorus and the Somerville Community Chorus; and El Sistema Somerville, the City's new youth orchestra based on the international model. Special guest Santa Claus was escorted by the Somerville Fire Department for the ceremony and was available for photos following the tree lighting. All children attending the ceremony received a gift from Santa.



Photos by Kristen Hale

Holiday Events

Illuminations Tours

The next event to take place will be the Illuminations Trolley Tour. This is scheduled for Saturday, December 15, with tours departing from the City Hall Concourse beginning at 4:30pm. The 45-minute tours will showcase holiday light displays in our own Somerville. Tours leave from (and return to) Somerville City Hall where coffee, hot chocolate, and cookies are served. Entertainment at City Hall includes choral music, courtesy of the Somerville Community Chorus and craft activities for children.

Trolley Tour tickets are available at the Blue Cloud Gallery, 713 Broadway. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and seniors. For more information visit www.somervilleartscouncil.org.

The third annual Illuminations Bike Tour will also be held on December 15, a joint production of the Somerville Bicycle Committee and Somerville Arts Council.

The guided group ride will be shorter this year so folks can spend more time looking at the lights and stay warmer. For those who would like to tour the longer route from last year, maps will be available. Those touring the longer route may continue after the short guided tour concludes, may meet with others at the suggested times below or tour the route on your own schedule with friends.

Illuminations by Bike

December 15, 2012

Guided Short Route

Meet Location: Somerville High School Main Entrance

Meet Time: 5:50 p.m.

Departure: 6 p.m.

Duration: 45 minutes, or less

Required: warm clothes and bike lights

Recommended: holiday lights, costumes and good cheer

Suggested: Donate \$5 to the Somerville Arts Council

Afterwards: Hot drinks and treats at City Hall

Unguided Long Route

Maps: available at city hall, donation recommended.

Suggested Meet Times: 7:15 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.



Photos by Bobbie Toner

SOMERVILLE SPORTS

Fit-4-Life for LBT seniors

Fit-4-Life is an award-winning nutrition and exercise program for seniors developed by the Jean Mayer USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts University.

This program is currently being run at the Holland Street Center for everyone in the community. Starting in January 2013, the Somerville Council on Aging will begin Fit-4-Life LBT for Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender women 55+ with hands-on exercise (1 hour, 2 x week) and nutritional (1 hour, weekly) programming.

The goal will be to improve LBT older adults' exercise and nutritional habits, reduce their burdens from chronic disease and help them maintain independence as they age. Diet and exercise plans will respect LBT values but also help to maintain

optimal weight and strength.

The program will create a comfortable and safe environment for discussing health issues, support LBT seniors in accessing the medical profession with confidence, and use alternative approaches such as yoga and meditation to address issues of mental wellbeing.

At \$10/month, with scholarships available on a sliding scale, Fit-4-Life LBT will be accessible, affordable and responsive to a Somerville population that currently has no health and fitness programming targeted toward them.

Classes will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the Ralph & Jenny Center, 9 News Washington Street. Call Lisa at the Somerville Council on Aging at 617-625-6600 ext. 2316.



Stay "Fit-4-Life" with this unique program offered by the Council On Aging at the Holland Street Center, and at the Ralph & Jenny Center for LBT participants.

WHCIS flag football champs



Winter Hill Community Innovation School recently won the Middle School Flag Football Championship. They defeated Argenziano School in the championship game 35 to 21. The team was coached by Chris Capasso, one of Bill Belichick's protégées.

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#347

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. What powers the sun? | 7. What song contains the words "I've travelled each and every highway"? |
| 2. Who wrote the book <i>Casino Royale</i> ? | 8. What state is called the treasury state? |
| 3. What aircraft was produced in the U.S. in 1942 by Sikorsky? | 9. In what movie did Alan Ladd have his first lead role? |
| 4. What two common fixtures are missing in a Las Vegas casino that are in almost in every room in America? | 10. Who was elected Senator in 1964 for New York? |
| 5. What U.S. President was in office during the attack on Pearl Harbor? | 11. What breakfast cereal did "Sonny the Cuckoo Bird" go cuckoo for? |
| 6. Why was the Animal Crackers box designed with a string for a handle? | 12. What nickname would the boxer William Whitaker also answer to? |

Answers on page 23

Jerry's

Liquor Store

Union Square

329 Somerville Ave • (617) 666-5410

Arts at the Armory Café



The Arts at the Armory Café announces its **new fall hours**. The Café is open Monday through Friday 8:00 am to 6:00 pm; Saturday and Sunday noon to 6:00 pm. Serving a menu that includes sandwiches on artisan breads, salads, quiche, fresh baked desserts, craft beers and delicious wines. Introducing home baked goodies from our Michelle, our new pastry chef.

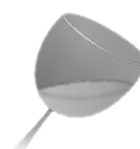


Your Host: Don Kallis 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

191 Highland Ave 617-718-2192

Live entertainment most nights

Bring this ad for a Free coffee!



D.A. collects for local shelters

Middlesex District Attorney Gerry Leone presented seven domestic violence organizations with much needed supplies for victims of domestic abuse who reside in local shelters on Monday.

The annual Domestic Violence Shelter Drive is an effort by the Middlesex District Attorney's Office to provide gift baskets to every domestic violence shelter in Middlesex County. DA Leone presented the baskets to the shelters today.

"All too often we see the devastating effect that domestic violence has on victims and families across Middlesex County," District Attorney Leone said. "This is especially hard during the holiday season when families in shelters are without the comforts of home. We hope these donations can ease the burden victims face. Helping victims overcome the barriers against disclosure and ending the cycle of domestic violence remains a top priority for this office. I'd like to thank everyone within the Middlesex District Attorney's Office who contributed to this important effort."

The gift baskets contain items such as toiletries, laundry supplies, baby clothes, diapers, formula and toys. These items are often in high demand



Jessica Brayden, Executive Director/Respond; Matt Foley, Director of Client Services/Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project; Michelle Fine-Nelson, Shelter Director/Voices against Violence; Ronit Barkai, Director of Long Term Housing & Community Partnerships/Transition House; Maria Crooker, Assistant Director/Alternative House; Laura VanZandt, Executive Director/REACH beyond Domestic Violence; Linda Chin, Executive Director/Asian Task Force; District Attorney Gerry Leone.

at shelters, as victims often are forced to leave all of their belongings behind when they flee an abusive relationship. The drive was conducted by the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, with contributions collected by its staff.

The shelters receiving gift baskets are: Alternative House in Lowell, REACH Beyond Domestic Violence in Waltham, RESPOND in Somerville and Malden, Transition House in Cambridge, Voices Against Violence in Framingham, the Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project, and the Asian Task Force

Against Domestic Violence.

Middlesex County is the largest county in Massachusetts and one of the largest counties in the country with 54 towns and cities and 26 colleges in urban, suburban, and rural areas, comprising over one quarter of the population of Massachusetts. The Middlesex District Attorney's Office has offices throughout the county, including communities such as Ayer, Cambridge, Concord, Framingham, Lowell, Malden, Marlborough, Natick, Newton, Somerville, Waltham and Woburn.

Kiwanis Club Annual Head Start Children's Holiday Party

The Kiwanis Club of Somerville recently hosted its Annual Head Start Children's Holiday Party at The City Club. Sixty-one children from the Somerville Head Start pre-school program attended along with their parents, teachers and administrators. Somerville Kiwanians sponsored the children by purchasing Christmas gifts for each. Pizza was supplied by Mama Gina's of Union Square. The hall was donated by The City Club.

Kiwanian Jim Bowdring of Superior Promotions organized and emceed the program and did a fantastic job entertaining the children while they awaited Santa Claus' arrival. Jim had everyone singing Christmas carols - not a shy kid in the house! Once Santa arrived the room came alive with excitement. Each and every child had the opportunity to sit on Santa's lap and receive their Christmas gift.

According to Somerville Kiwanis Club President Isaac Machado, "This is one of our favorite



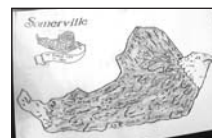
The Kiwanis Club of Somerville's Annual Head Start Children's Holiday Party created a joyous celebration for the children of the Somerville Head Start pre-school program.

programs of the year." Other community services supported by the Somerville Kiwanis Club include Reading is Fundamental, Thanksgiving Dinner for Seniors, Bike Safety Day, Summer Camperships at the YMCA, Historical Perspectives in the elementary schools, and college scholarship funds for Somerville High School students.

The Somerville Kiwanis Club has sixty-one members, all active

participants in the Somerville community. The Club meets weekly, every Thursday at 12:15 p.m. at the Mt. Vernon Restaurant on lower Broadway. The Club is in the midst of its Annual Appeal where 100% of funds donated are used for Somerville community programs. Donations to support these programs are appreciated, for information please go to: www.somervillekiwanis.org.

The Somerville News Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #15

A Christmas Carol

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Everyone has his or her own favorite Christmas stories, memories and movies. They can range from the classic *It's a Wonderful Life*, a story about the difference one person's life can make in the world, to the recent *The Polar Express*, a story about a special Christmas train.

One day in the winter of 1842, the year of Somerville's birth, a train rolled through the city carrying a young man who, shortly after his visit to America, would change the holiday of Christmas forever.

Upon his arrival to Boston, Charles Dickens travelled from the Commonwealth's capital to the city of Lowell, taking copious notes on everything that he saw. That train - the first American train he ever boarded - rambled past the base of Prospect Hill where the first American flag was flown.

The locomotives' first stop was at the intersection of Washington Street and Tufts Streets, near the McGrath Highway, which, at that time, was near the site of the McLean Asylum. The station is now gone, but the rails remain.



The train brought the legendary author past the snow-filled pastures of what is now the base of Central Hill and Winter Hill. Dickens saw a land that under the Puritanical law of Governor Bellingham, the successor of John Winthrop, the first governor of MA and a Somerville Ten Hills' resident, banned the Christmas holiday altogether citing "superstitious festivals held to the dishonor of God." This ban was in place for 22 years from 1659-1681. At the time of Dickens' journey Christmas was not, by any means, celebrated with the fervor that it is today.

On his trip to Lowell, he passed a Somerville factory that manufactured doornails and railroad spikes. His observations from the train would one year later be published in his work, *American Notes*, in which he described how the passengers huddled around the potbelly stoves for heat. The smoke generated by the stoves created what he described as an eerie ghost-like image throughout the train car.

In Lowell, he saw the arduous plight of many mill workers. Dickens had no trouble relating to them because he had been forced to work in a London blacking mill from the ages of 9-11 to help free his parents from debtors' prison. While the mill conditions in Lowell were difficult, he found them to be better than their English counterparts.

Dickens' train travelled back through Somerville at the end of the day, and he declared the Boston area to be his favorite of all in America. In fact, he was quoted as declaring the day he spent going to Lowell MA as "the most pleasant I spent in the country."

In 1843, Dickens published *A Christmas Carol*, which was wildly successful and critically acclaimed. It incorporated the themes of winter, ghosts and the social injustices of industry. The novella created the phrase: "Merry Christmas" and no fewer than nine motion pictures and countless other adaptations have been made based upon the treasured tale.

Merry Christmas...everyone.

LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notices can also be viewed on our Web site at www.thesomervillenews.com



THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION BY THE POWER VESTED IN IT THROUGH A SPECIAL ACT OF THE LEGISLATURE, CHAPTER 397 OF THE ACTS OF 1978, HEREBY AMENDS THE TRAFFIC ORDINANCES WITH THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC REGULATIONS:

- 2012-57 Article V Section 5-11 “Bus Stops” is amended with the addition of the following location: opposite 120 Middlesex Av
- 2012-58 Article V Section 5-5 “Parking Locations and Prohibitions” is amended as follows: Rescind 2012-55
- 2012-59 Article V Section 5-6 “Permit Parking Locations and Prohibitions” is amended as follows: Rescind 2012-56
- 2012-60 Article V Section 5-6 “Permit Parking Locations and Prohibitions” is amended as follows: seasonal removal (April 1 - Nov 15) of 2 parking spaces on Crocker St
- 2012-61 Article V Section 5-6 “Permit Parking Locations and Prohibitions” is amended as follows: seasonal removal (April 1 - Nov 15) of 2 parking spaces on Packard Av
- 2012-62 Article V Section 5-15 “Handicapped Parking” is amended as follows: Rescind a portion of 2012-37 (8 Melvin St) and 2012-47 (15 Adrian St) by removing the trial period from both regulations.

PROMULGATED: OCTOBER 18, 2012
ADVERTISED: DECEMBER 5, 2012
DECEMBER 12, 2012
DECEMBER 19, 2012
EFFECTIVE: DECEMBER 27, 2012

MATTHEW DIAS, ACTING DIRECTOR

12/5/12, 12/12/12 The Somerville News

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA. 02141
(617) 768- 5800

MIDDLESEX Division Docket No. MI07P1599AZ1

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Estate of:
Gedson D. Medeira

Date of Death: 03/12/2007

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by:

Patricia Madeira of Medford MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order that

Leliane K. Pereira of Somerville MA

be appointed as a Successor Personal Representative (s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00a.m. on 01/07/2013.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection. If you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

This estate is being administered under formal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but recipients are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

Witness, Hon. Peter C Di Gangi, First Justice of this Court.
Date December 10, 2012

Tara E. Di Cristofaro
Register of Probate

12/12/12 The Somerville News



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
RFQF 13-42

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department invites sealed proposals for:
Landscape Architect Consultant Services, Kenney Park

An Request for Qualification and Fee (RFQF) and specifications may be obtained at the Purchasing Department, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. 02143 on or after: **Wednesday, December 12, 2012**. Sealed Proposals will be received at the above office until: **Thursday, December 27, 2012 at 11:00 A.M.** at which time sealed proposals will be opened. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The contract term shall be for a period from January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014.

Please contact Karen Mancini, Asst. Purchasing Director, x3412, or email kmancini@somervillema.gov, for information and proposal packages.

Angela M. Allen
Purchasing Director
617-625-6600 ext. 3400

12/12/12 The Somerville News



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
IFB 13-52

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department invites sealed proposals for:
**Appraisal for Real Property.
Reassessment FY 2014**

An request for proposals (RFP) and specifications may be obtained at the Purchasing Department, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. 02143 on or after: **Monday, December 10, 2012**. Sealed proposals will be received at the above office until: **Thursday, January 3, 2012 at 11:00 A.M.** at which time sealed proposals will be open. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The Contract term shall be for a period of 2 years.

Angela M. Allen
Purchasing Director
617-625-6600 ext. 3400

12/12/12 The Somerville News

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www.TheSomervilleNews.com

THE
NORTON
GROUP

APARTMENT RENTALS

Arlington - 1 Bedroom - 1 Bath

Lower level apartment. Rent includes heat. Laminate flooring. Gas stove. Closets. On street parking. Tenant pays Electricity. No Smoking. No Pets. **Available Now! \$1,200**

Medford - 1 Bedroom - 1 Bath

1 Bedroom plus office. 1 Bath. Living room, Dining room. Hardwood floors. 1st floor unit. Oil Heat, Gas stove. Built in Hutch in Dining room. Easy access to Rt 93. **Available Now! \$1,200**

Somerville - 2 Bedrooms - 1 Bath

First floor apartment located in East Somerville, just minutes way from Sullivan Sq. (MBTA). The second bedroom is smaller and could also be used as an office space. A huge backyard and separate basement storage space with washer & dryer hook-up. Hardwood floors throughout. **Available Now! \$1,300**

Somerville - 3 Bedrooms - 1 Bath

Two levels of living area. Two bedrooms on third floor with electric heat. Modern kitchen and bath. Close to Sullivan Square station. **Available Now! \$2,200**

Bedford - 4 Bedrooms - 1 Bath

Single Family Home for rent. New Kitchen. Garage parking. Screen house. Large Shaded yard. Hardwood floors. Gas heat. Gas stove. Utilities are not included. Small dog ok. **Available Now! \$2,000**

Somerville - 4 Bedrooms - 1 Bath

Close to Highland Ave. Large 4 bedrooms, lots of closet space 1 Bath. Two levels of living area. 2nd and 3rd floor. Living room, Dining room, Built in Hutch, Eat in kitchen. Dishwasher, Disposal. Lots of lighting, ceiling fans. Front and back porch. Pets are negotiable. **Available Now! \$2,400**

Somerville - Commercial Space

Magoun Square, commercial space that could be used as an office, retail etc. no restaurant. Two stores with retaining wall that can be taken down to make one large area. Lots of outlets and phone jacks. On Busline. **Available Now! \$2,000**

Many others! Visit our website: www.thenortongroupe.com

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News Talk CONT. FROM PG 8

except for Bill White and for Vice President is Jack Connolly. Any Alderman we talk to isn't interested. We figured since Bill is going to be President of the board that his “ride buddy” and neighbor Alderman Dennis Sullivan would at least run for Vice President. You know, to save on gas for Dennis. Yes, we know Bill has a car, but it doesn't seem to move much since he's moved over to the Ten Hills, across the street from Dennis who just happens to live across the street.

Alderman at Large candidate Sean Fitzgerald is in the race. He's running everywhere all over the city, and he's seen everywhere. We also hear that Mike Capuano Jr. might throw his hat in the race, as well as a couple of other names being bandied around for At Large. A few more names and

we will have a real primary for Alderman at Large. Won't that be exciting? We just need some people, though, who understand all aspects of the real world. You know, non-government hacks! We're not complaining. It would be nice to see a primary for Alderman at Large.

Congratulations are in order for Alderman Rebekah Gewirtz's, who recently got engaged, and for her good friend Rep. Carl Sciortino, who got engaged as well. No, don't be silly. Not to each other. They're very good friends. We hear they recently went on a trip to Palestine together. We do wonder if it will be a double wedding ceremony. You know, to save money?

Robert E. Invernizzi passed away De-

cember 4 after a brief illness. The World War II and Korean War veteran was recently honored with a square dedication on October 17 at the corner of Porter St. and Gussie Terrace. He was one of Somerville's most highly decorated war veterans. He was a lifelong resident of Somerville and was a draftsman at MIT, where he worked on guidance systems for the Space Program, and General Electric in Lynn where he designed Aircraft Engines. He was the widower of Claire (Breen) Invernizzi and is survived by 7children and 16 Grandchildren. Services were held at Roger's Funeral Home on December 6. He and his wife were laid to rest at the Massachusetts Veteran's Cemetery in Agawam, MA with full military honors. Donations may be made in his honor to the VFW post 19 or the MSPCA. He will be deeply missed.

TO PLACE LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS
IN THE SOMERVILLE NEWS,
CONTACT CAM TONER
BY 12 PM MONDAY
PH: 617.666.4010
FAX: 617.628.0422

Mayor and Traffic and Parking assemble transportation team

CONT. FROM PG 1

systems and consumer services.

Members of the TRIP team include: Tony LaFuente, Ward 4 Alderman, Rebekah Gewirtz, Ward 6 Alderman, Mimi Graney, Executive Director of Union Square Main Streets, Carrie Dancey, Executive Director of East Somerville Main Streets, Lieutenant James Polito, Traffic Enforcement Unit of the Somerville Police Department, Joe Lynch, Founder, Magoun Square Neighborhood Association, Alyssa Rosen of the Young Somerville Advisory Group, Tim Talun of the Somerville Bicycle Committee, Ian Judge, Manager, Somerville Theatre, Gregory Coughlin, Owner, Olde Magoun Saloon, Mark Chase, Transportation and Planning Consultant, Courtney Koslow, Founder, Somerville Parking Advocacy and Reform Coalition and Todd Easton, Independent Travel Consultant.

"Over the past two years, Traffic and Parking has made tremendous progress in improving parking procedures, services and technologies, and we've continued to advance the expansion of bike lanes, bike sharrows and locations for bike corrals, as well as easier and more convenient parking permits and payment options at parking meters throughout Somerville. But with the Hubway bike rental kiosks coming to town this spring, with construction about to begin at Assembly Square on the Orange Line station, with design moving ahead on the Green Line Extension, and with some of Somerville's MBTA bus service still threatened by future service cuts, it's time to take a fresh look at our various transportation systems," said Mayor Curtatone.

Parking regulations were "reformed" in 2009. "This time, the mayor wants to cast the net more widely and embrace modes and technologies that contribute to the convenience and mobility of Somerville residents, visitors and businesses. The TRIP team will research, analyze and then

advise us, on the applicability and cost-effectiveness of any and all technologies, relating to all of our transportation modes," said Matthew Dias, Acting Director of Traffic and Parking.

Within smaller working groups, The TRIP team is spread among four dissimilar topics. Transit will involve transit options, which include alternative transit and non-traditional modes and improvements for populations with special needs. Next, parking will include parking policies and parking demands and capacity. A third issue with which the team will deal involves pedestrian and accessibility to create a more satisfying pedestrian experience in Somerville, as well as to address accessibility concerns. Lastly, Traffic Management & Roads will improve flow, way-finding and safety on public ways for motor vehicles and bicycles.

Copious issues will be analyzed. At present, the TRIP team is collaborating with city staff to delve into three specific questions, which arose during its initial two meetings.

The first query is, "Are 'all-way' pedestrian crossing signals inefficient?" according to Thomas P. Champion, Executive Director of Communications and Cable of the City of Somerville and one of the city staffers assigned to work with the TRIP team. He has attended each TRIP team discussion. It must be noted that this first question also ponders the issue of whether alternating pedestrian walk signs with additional timing adjustments would assist pedestrians and motorists to navigate more safely, as well as effectively.

Secondly, "Should the city develop a pilot program to develop and promote alternative 'neighbor-way' routes from between squares that offer quieter, less-congested streets for pedestrian and bicycle traffic, thereby [reducing] bicycle-motor vehicle interaction on arterial roads? The pilot might involve special-

ized way-finding signage that not only [provides] directions, but [informs] pedestrians and cyclists about actual distances and approximate travel times," said Champion.

To round out the questions, the team is considering getting the city to create a pilot program that would unpave the street in no-parking zones, which abut fire hydrants. The reason is that the unpaved sections would not "impede access [to] fire vehicles, but they could potentially reduce runoff and flooding." Simultaneously, the appearance of the urban streetscape would be enhanced.

"The Mayor's charge to the TRIP team is to 'be abnormal.' In other words, to be as open, creative and innovative as possible," he said.

"For that reason, its recommendations won't generally [be] discussed publicly until after they have been reviewed by the mayor. This list is simply to provide a sample of the types and range of the ideas the TRIP team will explore in the months to come. It's early days yet, but it's been encouraging to see the levels of creativity, enthusiasm and cooperation that the membership of this informal advisory group has brought to the table," said Champion.

"The SomerVision comprehensive plan and our Happiness Survey both confirm that residents and businesses are strongly committed to the idea of Somerville as a truly multi-modal community. We want to make sure Somerville continues to maintain best practices and the intelligent use of technology in transportation, in much the same way as we have in administration, finance and communications. I've been telling leaders at the state level that the commonwealth needs a 21st century transportation system to support a 21st century economy, and I think we should be applying that principle at the local level, too. This group will help us do just that," said Curtatone.

Boy spreads cheer



Photo by William Tauro

Little Matthew Kreimeyer understands the true meaning of giving, and practices it in his own special way.

By William Tauro

Little 5-year-old Matthew Kreimeyer of Somerville saw his grandparents' and parents' donations to Toys for Local Children and other charities spread all throughout the office of Best Pest Control and decided that he wanted to do something and get more involved himself.

Matthew took his own allowance that he had been saving up and asked if he could go shopping to help other children in need.

So little Matthew went shopping and when he went to the

stores they were so impressed with him that they gave a discount so that he could buy more toys with his money.

When it was all said and done and he dropped off all the toys, as he was leaving the building he said to his Nanny (grandmother), "I better start saving for next year!"

Matthew, who is in Kindergarten, is also the student that raised the most money for the Book-a-thon.

With Matthew, the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. He has wonderful parents and grandparents that are always giving to the community.



Sally O' Brien's
335 Somerville Ave.
617-666-3589



Monday December 17

Cheapshots Comedy Club open mike 7:30 p.m.
Marley Mondays with Duppy Conquerors 10 p.m.

Tuesday December 18

Panda Bar 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday December 19

Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.

Thursday December 20

Cold Chocolate grassy Thursdays 7:30 p.m.

Friday December 21

Larry Flint & The Road Scholars 6 p.m.
End of the World Party
with Patsy Hamel and Johnnie Mac 9 p.m.

Saturday December 22

Jim Coyle & The Barroom Gentlemen 6 p.m.
Birds of Play with friends 9 p.m.

Sunday December 23

Frank Drake Sunday Showcase 5 p.m.
Natalie Flanagan Band, Trick Wallace 3,
Trusty Sidekick 8 p.m.



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FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Wednesday| December 12

East Branch Library
Preschool: Storytime
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

West Branch Library
Preschool: Babygarten
11 a.m.- 11:45 p.m.|40 College Avenue

Central Library
Book Group for Kids Ages 9-12
Cathy/2950
7 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Veteran's Memorial Rink
Free public skating
12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave

Thursday|December 13

Central Library
Preschool Storytime for 3 to 5 years old
10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

Central Library
Teen Game Day
Ron Castile/617-623-5000-2936
3 p.m.-5:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Friday| December 14

Central Library
Preschool Storytime for 2 years old
10:30 a.m.-11a.m.|79 Highland Ave

Veteran's Memorial Rink
Free public skating
12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave

Saturday |December 15

Central Library
Children's Book Author: Jef Czekaj!
Cathy/x2950
2 p.m.-3 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Sunday|December 16

Central Library
Altered Book Art with Diem Dangers
Cathy/x2950
2 p.m.-3 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Monday |December 17

Central Library
Sing-along with Steve
11 a.m.- 12 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Tuesday|December 18

Central Library
Homeschool Reading Group
Tammy McKanan
617-591-0216
10 a.m.- 2 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

West Branch Library
Preschool Storytime
11 a.m.- 11:45 a.m.|40 College Ave

Wednesday |December 19

West Branch Library
Preschool: Babygarten
11 a.m.- 11:45 p.m.|40 College Avenue

Veteran's Memorial Rink
Free public skating
12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave

MUSIC

Wednesday|December 12

Johnny D's
Bad Girls Upset by the Truth
starring Ad Frank & Lisa McColgan |Baker Thomas & Friends
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Pub Quiz 8 p.m.
Comedy 10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

On The Hill Tavern
Sports Trivia
499 Broadway|617-629-5302

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Trivia
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Precinct Bar
3penny Open Mic (No Cover)
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub
The Nephrok All Stars
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen
TJ The DJ Presents The People's Karaoke
10 p.m.|150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Samba Bar & Grille
608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Rosebud Bar
Free Pool|Game Night
381 Summer St

Radio Bar
Warp Speed Wednesday
379 Summer St

Cantina la Mexicana
Salsa Dance Night
7 p.m.|247 Washington St.

Thursday|December 13

Johnny D's
Annual Boston Christmas Cavalcade for the Homeless
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's
Flatt Rabbit grassy Thursdays
7:30 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Scattershot 80's Night
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge
Andrew Martin|Andrew Geano|Ben Bullocki and the Special Guests|Dr. Stromberg and the Nurses
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

On The Hill Tavern
Live DJ Music
499 Broadway|617-629-5302

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Precinct Bar
Jtronius|Revolutionary's with Driven|Johnny Voltik
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's
Dub Down Featuring The Scotch Bonnet Band
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-

6045

Joshua Tree
256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Samba Bar & Grille
608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Rosebud Bar
Mary Lou Lord|My own worst enemy|When particles Collide
381 Summer St.

Somerville Theatre
Slutcracker
8 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Somerville Theatre
Awkward Compliment's Thursday Night Comedy Night
8 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Radio Bar
379 Summer St

Cantina la Mexicana
247 Washington St.

Arts at the Armory
Opening Reception: Looking Up! Inspired by the Art of the Weathervane
7 p.m.|Gallery Esthema- World Fusion Ensemble Live!
7:30 p.m.|Café

Friday|December 14

Johnny D's
Vandaveer|Patrick Coman & The Lo-Fi Angels|An American Christmas featuring Highway Ghosts|Brian Carroll|Coyote Kolb & more
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's
Radioactive Rustlers |6 p.m.
Mr Kowloski CD Release Party with guests |9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Cover Up
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
DJ
10 p.m.|65 Holland St

Precinct Bar
Oh Snap! 80's 90's DJ Dance Party!
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

PA'S Lounge
Adam PC|Jinsen's Goodtimes Band|Ghost Truckers|Holding Room
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

On The Hill Tavern
499 Broadway |617-629-5302

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
DJ starting at 10 p.m.
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's
Jess Tardy Band
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Joshua Tree
256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Samba Bar & Grille
Live music
9 p.m.|608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Rosebud Bar
Cali Cali|Fu's
381Summer St

Casey's
Entertainment every Friday
173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Cantina la Mexicana
TBA
247 Washington St.

Radio Bar
Upstairs: The Lights Out
379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory
Richard Cambridge's Poetry Theatre
7:30 p.m.|Cafe

Somerville Theatre
Slutcracker
8 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Saturday|December 15

Johnny D's
Jesse Williams Student Showcase|Skyfoot|Melodeego|Luxdeluxe
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's
Josh Lederman & The CSARs |6 p.m.
One Thin Dime|9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Swerve
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Precinct Bar
Hear Now Live Presents:Gold Blood & Associates|Strange Changes|Ellis Ashbrook|People with Instruments
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Karaoke
65 Holland St

PA'S Lounge
P.A.'s Holiday Party
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

On The Hill Tavern
Live DJ Music
499 Broadway|617-629-5302

Bull McCabe's
Ronan Quinn Band
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Joshua Tree
256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Samba Bar & Grille
608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Rosebud Bar
Electric Lighthouse
381 Summer St

Casey's
Entertainment every Saturday
173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Cantina la Mexicana
TBA
247 Washington St.

Radio Bar
Upstairs: The Lights Out
379 Summer St

Arts at The Armory
Looking Up! Inspired by the Art of the Weathervane
8 a.m.|Gallery Mass Appeal
3 p.m.|Café
2nd Annual Arts at the Armory Snow Ball!
6:30 Performance Hall
David Tanklefsky Residency
7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Somerville Theatre
Slutcracker
8 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Sunday|December 16

Johnny D's

Open Blues Jam|4:30 p.m.
Erin Harpe & Rosy|Memphis Bound Fundraiser|Danielle Miraglia|Delta Swingers|8 p.m.
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Frank Drake Sunday Showcase |5 p.m.
Boubacar Diabate & SambaLolo |8 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Burren Acoustic Music Series
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge
The Marine
Electric|Bookkeeper|Trophy Lungs|Yo, Ticonderoga
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

Precinct Bar
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub
Dub Apocalypse
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Rosebud Bar
Karaoke
381 Summer St

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Game Night
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Radio Bar
Up|Open mic comedy with PJ Westin 7:30-9:30p Free
379 Summer St

Arts at The Armory
Senior Tones featuring Tony Funches!
2 p.m.|performance Hall
Kielbasia's Holiday Spectacular
3 p.m.|Cafe

Somerville Theatre
Slutcracker
2 p.m., 8 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Monday|December 17

Johnny D's
Team Trivial|8:30 p.m.
17 Holland St | 617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Cheapshots Comedy Club open mike|7 p.m.
Marley Mondays with the Duppy Conquerors|9:30 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Bur Run|6:45 p.m.
Big Night Out|8 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

On The Hill Tavern
499 Broadway|617-629-5302

PA'S Lounge
Choose to Find|Lowman|Sonic Explorers
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

Precinct Bar
70 Union Sq|617-623-921

Bull McCabe's Pub
Stump Team Trivia
8 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Rosebud Bar
Closed Mondays
381 Summer St

Radio Bar
379 Summer St

• • • • ‘VILLENS ON THE TOWN’ • • • •

Arts at the Armory Mini Mid-Day Reception: Looking Up! Inspired by the Art of the Weathervane 11 a.m. Gallery 191 Highland Ave	Spelling Bee Night First Tuesday of the month 150 Highland Ave 617-625-1131	499 Broadway 617-629-5302	with Nadira Jamal 7:30 p.m. Level 2 33 Union Sq www.nadirajamal.com	7:00 P.M. 6 William Street Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement.
Somerville Theatre Slutcracker 8 p.m. 55 Davis Square	Samba Bar & Grille 608 Somerville Ave 617-718-9177	Orleans Restaurant and Bar Trivia 65 Holland St 617-591-2100	Thursday December 13	Monday December 17
Tuesday December 18	Rosebud Bar Karaoke 381 Summer St	Precinct Bar 3penny Open Mic (No Cover) 70 Union Sq 617-623-9211	Central Library Somerville Women's Commission Sonja Darai/625-6600 X2406 7 p.m.-8:45 p.m. 79 Highland Avenue	Third Life Studio Bollywood Dance!With Sarina 7:30 p.m. bostonbollywooddance@gmail.com
Johnny D's Wedding Band Showcase 17 Holland St 617-776-2004	PJ Ryan's Pub Quiz 10 p.m. 239 Holland St. 617-625-8200	Bull McCabe's Pub Dave Wells Presents 366A Somerville Ave 617-440-6045	West Branch Library Learn English at the Library! (Session 1) 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. (Session 2) 7:15 p.m.- 8:15 p.m. 40 College Avenue	Tuesday December 18
Sally O'Brien's Bar Panda Bar 8 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave 617-666-3589	Radio Bar 379 Summer St	Highland Kitchen TJ The DJ Presents The People's Karaoke 10 p.m. 150 Highland Ave 617-625-1131	First Church Somerville Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. 89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor). For more info call: 781-762-6629	Central Library Orientation Meeting for Avon Walk for Breast Cancer Susan 617-722-4140 6 p.m.-7 p.m. 79 Highland Avenue
The Burren Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan 247 Elm Street 617-776-6896	Arts at The Armory The First and Last Word Poetry Series 6 p.m. Cafe 191 Highland Cafe	Samba Bar & Grille 608 Somerville Ave 617-718-9177	Saturday December 15	Third Life Studio Vinyasa Flow Yoga & Meditation 9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m. 617-628-7884
On The Hill Tavern Stump Trivia (with prizes) 499 Broadway 617-629-5302	Wednesday December 19	Rosebud Bar Free Pool Game Night 381 Summer St	Illuminations Trolley Tour 4:30 p.m. City Hall Concourse	The Art of Singing Group 7 p.m.-9:15 p.m. 33 Union Sq 617-628-0916 srlibana@gmail.com
PA'S Lounge Open Mic - Rock, Folk, R&B, Alt, Jazz & Originals etc. Hosted by Tony Amaral 345 Somerville Ave 617-776-1557	Johnny D's Dan Bern Dan Blakeslee 17 Holland St 617-776-2004	Radio Bar Warp Speed Wednesday 379 Summer St	Arts at the Armory Winter Farmers' Market 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Performance Hall 191 Highland Ave	Wednesday December 19
Precinct Bar UnRegular Radio Presents 70 Union Sq 617-623-9211	Sally O'Brien's Bar Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave 617-666-3589	Cantina la Mexicana Salsa Dance Night 7 p.m. 247 Washington St.	Bagel Bards Somerville Writers and Poets meet weekly to discuss their work 9 a.m.-12 p.m. Au Bon Pain 18-48 Holland St	Central Library Veterans Memorial Skating Rink Public Information Meeting David Lutes/617-625-6600 x2106 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m. 79 Highland Avenue
Bull McCabe's Pub Skiffy & The Ghetto People Band 366A Somerville Ave 617-440-6045	The Burren Pub Quiz 8 p.m. Comedy 10 p.m. 247 Elm Street 617-776-6896	Arts at the Armory Rock Therapy with Brendan Boogie! 7:30 p.m. Café 191 Highland Ave	Sunday December 16	Third Life Studio Beyond beginning Belly Dance with Nadira Jamal 7:30 p.m. Level 2 33 Union Sq www.nadirajamal.com
Highland Kitchen	PA'S Lounge 345 Somerville Ave 617-776-1557	CLASSES AND GROUPS	Unity Church of God Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon Family Groups	
	On The Hill Tavern Sports Trivia	Wednesday December 12		
		Third Life Studio Beyond beginning Belly Dance		

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

Welcome to our centers! Everyone 55+ are encouraged to join us for fitness, culture, films, lunch and Bingo. Check out our calendar and give a call with any questions or to make a reservation. 617-625-6600 ext. 2300. Stay for lunch and receive free transportation.

Holland Street Center - 167 Holland Street

Ralph & Jenny Center - 9 New Washington Street

Cross Street Center - 165 Broadway

Some Council on Aging highlights in the coming weeks:

Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Women **Fit-4-Life** Fitness and Nutrition classes with certified instructors. Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting January 15. Call Lisa for more info at ext. 2316

A lunchtime series on **Stress Management & Self Care** comes to the Holland Street Center from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays beginning 12/4 - 12/18. 12/4 - Reiki; 12/11- Meditation; 12/18 Alternative Therapies No cost but RSVP required. Presented by Roberta Robinson of the Cambridge Health Alliance. Brown Bag (bring your own lunch). Light refreshments served.

FREE - Get ready for our **Holiday Cookie Celebration** on December 17 at Holland Street. Bring in a family or favorite recipe and some baked cookies to share. Stay and sample the best from Somerville with some tea, hot chocolate and eggnog. Stay for “Musical Conversation” as Alan brings back Natasha Folk Project for a musical hour of conversation. RSVP with Judy at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

Illumination Tour is December 15 at 4:15 p.m. For \$5, ride the trolley and view the sparkling lights.

Book Club - “Gone Girl” at Holland Street Center - December 21. All are welcome.

After the holidays we all need to relax and stretch. Join this great **Yoga/Meditation** 4-week session coming January 22. \$20 for the four weeks. Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m. Holland Street Center. RSVP.

Trip Corner:

Newport Mansion Tour - December 13.

Illuminations Tour - December 15.

Chinese Luncheon and Doo Wop - December 16.

Winter Wonderland at Aqua Turf Club - December 18.

Brunch and Bingo at Hanscom Field - December 31.

National Heritage Museum - January 2.

December 12

Hanscom AFB

Bowling at 1:00 at Flatbreads

Holland Street Center

Flexibility & Balance|9:30 a.m.

Qi gong|1:15 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Cross Street Center

Closed

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

December 13

Holland Street Center

Current Events|10 a.m.

Indoor Exercise|11 a.m.

Bingo||12:45 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Ralph & Jenny Center

Strengthening|10 a.m.

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Crochet & Knitting|10:45 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

December 14

Bazaar

Holland Street Center

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Cross Street Center

Closed

165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

Ralph & Jenny Center

Closed

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

December 17

Cookies and Music for the Holidays!

Free concert with Natasha Folk at Holland Street

Holland Street Center

Veteran's Group|9:30 a.m.

Singing|10:30 a.m.

English Conversation|10:30 a.m.

Cookies and Tea|12:30 p.m.

English Conversation|12:30 p.m.

Musical Conversation - Holiday|1 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x. 2300

December 18

Holland Street Center

Strengthening Exercise|9:15 a.m.

Shine by appt.|10 a.m.

Stress Management Meditation|12:30 p.m.

Belly Dancing|5 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x. 2300

Cross Street Center

Indoor Exercise|10:30 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards and Cribbage|10 a.m.

Flexibility and Balance|10:30 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

December 19

Centers Closed

Fit-4- Life classes will be held

Computer Tutorial - Retired computer teacher Barbara Marshall will be volunteering on select Thursdays from 11 - 12 at the Holland Street Center to provide individualized computer training. To schedule an appointment, call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

Check out our Facebook site for photos from our events and exercise and tips for everyday healthy living at www.facebook.com/somervilleCOA.

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LOST

REWARDLost WOMAN'S, Men's cut GOLD NUGGET WEDDING BAND WITH 13 SMALL STONES encrusted ON FRONT OF BAND, SAME WIDTH ALL THE WAY AROUND. In an act of Kindness on the #87 Lechmere Bus, Union Square, I am a woman of color, slipped off my finger while making change for a woman of color with a cart on the #87 and handed to her in money given her. Please contact me:617-595-1808, if you have or have seen the ring, do the right thing, it has 19 years of memories. If you find it, turn it in, no questions asked. REWARD

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GLX off and running CONT. FROM PG 1

“Transportation is always about economic growth. Not only does a reliable mass transportation system take cars off the road, it gets people to work, and makes whole neighborhoods accessible,” Patrick said. “Scores of families and young people have made the communities of Somerville and Cambridge and Medford their home, knowing this project is on the way.”

“Green Line extension means job opportunity, housing opportunity, and recreational opportunity,” Patrick continued. “This project is about more than transportation. It’s about opportunity.”

Somerville Mayor Curtatone

opened the event by emphasizing the importance of the day’s event as being “as momentous and transforming as any in the history of our great city.”

Patrick and Curtatone insisted that the beginning of this project, which supporters have been awaiting for the past 20 years, is a victory for the big picture plan that Patrick and other members of the left have for Massachusetts. While opposition to the project insist that it is unwise to spend money on the Green Line extension considering the current economic state, the governor and mayor stated that this kind of aggressive spending will

prove fruitful for these Boston suburbs in the long run.

“Of course there are naysayers, there always are,” Patrick said. “They say we should stop trying to extend the Green Line, shrink government, cut taxes, crush unions, and wait. All will be well. Even though that strategy has been disproved by history time after time.”

“The nay-sayers are focused on short term,” Patrick continued. “We need to be focused on longterm opportunity.”

“At a time of continuous debate about how best to foster a sustainable economic future for our commonwealth,” Curtatone

said, “This event underscores the crucial importance of public investment and public leadership in leveraging and enabling private investment.”

Alberto Cabre and Angelina Jockovich, owners of the restaurant Casa B, took the podium last to share their excitement for the new T stop in their neighborhood. Having recently opened their business in Union Square, they are enthralled that the extension will result in the new station to bring the square more business.

“When we opened the restaurant a year ago, we didn’t know where the Green station was go-

ing,” Yagovich said. “Finally, the station is coming to Union Square. It’s going to help continue developing the businesses of Somerville to make this square the best square of the city.”

“You cannot have a growing and sustainable, 21st century economy,” Curtatone insisted, “Without a growing and sustainable transportation system.”

MassDot Secretary and CEO Richard A. Davey, Congressman Michael Capuano, Mayor Michael J. McGlynn of Medford and Mayor Henrietta Davis of Cambridge also spoke Tuesday in support of the Green Line extension.

Radio killed the Spotify star

By Nick Moorhead

Last Friday night the CD release party for The Milling Gowns' *Something Dangerous That Loves Me* EP was held at Radio, a young bar renowned for drawing in creatives of all disciplines and like-minded friendly people.

"This is why I love Radio," Milling Gowns guitarist Kevin Heinold effuses. "This isn't a bar where people come just to drink. They're only open when there's a band playing, not on off nights just to take your money for beer." He gestured to the crowd, noting its diversity as a highpoint of both the venue Radio and Milling Gowns shows. He was right: there were punks, preppies, goths, bookworms, industry types, hipsters and hippies. Behemoth ex-jock professional types still wearing their suits from the day rocked out with emaciated, flannel-clad indie rock kids. "There's something about our music that draws people in," Kevin then mused. Right again.

The Milling Gowns, who play an intriguing blend of 90's shoe-gaze, 80's post-punk, and abstract noise - "Gloom Pop" is the relevant moniker - are shrouded in a haze of mystery. The lead singer goes by just M, lyrics are inscrutable, and in the past the act's line-up has altered as breezily as a Kardashians can scorch through a husband, though the line up is stable now, not unlike Yeezy's adoration for Kimberly.

"I morphed around a lot," M says, describing the first days of the band, when it was just him and his rock group fantasies. "I dreamed of forming a band while growing up in New Hampshire," M says. He moved to Boston in young adulthood with that ambition of assembling a group, but says "it was hard to meet people" and that he had difficulty "taking a chance" with musicians he didn't know. Within the past year the current group assembled itself, and M was able to realize the sounds of his childhood daydreams. "I like to take the pop mentality and f--- with it, and I do gravitate toward the sadder stuff, but I hate the 'sad bastard' tagging. There are other bastards way sadder than I am."

Bookended by the psych-pop of dreamy phenoms Plumerai and Boston super group Velah, The Milling Gowns killed it. Their set featured crisp, ear-bleeding sound, blistering intensity, and a set list of all their best songs: *Violet Wrist*, *Where the*

Ground is Rust With Needles, *Vanishes*, and more.

M had the stage presence of the late great Kurt Cobain, squirming about in his sweater with scrunched sleeves, brooding relentlessly, and generally looking as pained as can be while maintaining a graceful, powerful stage presence at the same time. With vocals so low in the mix of the majority of their recordings, hearing how commanding and iconic M's voice is when seeing the band live is a surprise of the best kind. He has epic pipes.

The band is a lesson in the balance of opposites. When the drums and guitars are decidedly terrestrial, M's voice introduces an alien feel to the track, and when the wild rhythm section is flailing about the psychedelic seas madly in squalls of dirge, M's voice steadies the manic guitar and bass like an anchor. The voice's ability to intoxicate and sober the audience in equal measure and often at the same time is astounding. That M's vocals are backed by a stellar drummer, a stylish bassist and a modern-day Hendrix of a guitarist does not hurt one bit. These guys are excellent. They recall shades of *Loveless*-era My Bloody Valentine one moment and *Ceremony*-era New Order the next. They actually cover the song on a recently released compilation. Track that record down.

The Milling Gowns were more than generous with the time they spent talking with me at the show. Most offered little help in way of unraveling the mysterious nature of the group, however. I talked with M for 45 minutes and walked away with less information about the band than I started with. Rumors were squashed, though no real new information was offered. Nonetheless, I felt significantly enlightened, like my IQ had shot up a couple points.

Conversing with M is like playing tennis with a backboard. You're going to achieve some self-improvement, but don't expect any feedback. For example, when asked if he was a perfectionist, M's reply is "yes and no." The reasoning is good, too. He is, because of the marathon studio times spent fine-tuning a track, and he's not, because he likes to leave in little mistakes or funny asides that keep the project sounding human. His answers dart off in one direction before doubling back on themselves, always leaving the interviewer with more questions by the end. Though frustrating for



The Milling Gowns' *Something Dangerous That Loves Me* EP release party was held at Radio Bar last Friday night.

an interviewer, these tendencies actually bode quite well for his career as a rock musician. What else than bipolar musings are you supposed to expect from a man who sings "I love myself, my ---- life I hate"?

Milling Gowns are now a four piece. There's M singing, Allen Esser on drums, Stoops as the bassist, and Kevin Heinold playing guitar. Though they have changed members countless times in the past for disparate reasons, M maintains none of these reasons were inner turmoil in the band, that everyone he's worked with are "fine professional people." This particular lineup, which has been constant for more than a year now, looks to stick. Their personalities all work well together. M is the rock star, Stoops the grizzled veteran, Kevin the fun loving partier, Allen basically Don Draper in a leather motorcycle jacket. It's like *Entourage* with them, except not corny, and nobody has to be Turtle. They're each supremely cool and terrifically grounded in their own way, and when they get together they make beautiful rock music.

The EP that spawned this release party is a dense, thrilling piece of work. The themes of *Something Dangerous Loves Me* are primarily human: blood and nature. Not blood in an overtly violent sense but as in lifeblood, and a deep red is the prevalent color in this release's art work. Nature in that classic Wordsworth way, and as an escape from the omnipresent influence of technology. I asked M about the intriguing title: what's the something? Why is it dangerous? He explained that the title refers to a spirit animal - half wolf, half bear - that he daydreamed

would protect him from bullies back in grade school. M may have been emotionally wounded back then, but he's emerged more resilient for it. This imaginary protective animal is a beautiful allegory for his tremendous voice, which is capable of being wielded as a weapon of self-defense.

Many of the songs on the new EP are difficult to parse, so I had to ask M about the meaning of many of them. He was reluctant to explain, preferring to leave interpretation up to the listener. "Songs come from my past," was his enigmatic reply. If you know that M is fascinated by nature, *Where the Ground is Rust With Needles* initially suggests a bucolic scene somewhere in the woods where pine trees grow. M later reveals that the song is about a friend he lost to heroin. Those aren't pine needles at all. And this is a recurring theme in the band's lyrics: ambiguous word choice that leaves a lot of interpretation open to the listener. You could almost argue they are just pine needles after all until you see the visceral pain M goes through performing the song live. Don't expect that bristling track to become a staple of their sets.

The *Something Dangerous Loves Me* EP was recorded with producer Richard Marr at the Galaxy Park studio over a year's period of time. Some bands avoid time in the studio like a medieval knight does the bubonic plague. Not so with The Milling Gowns. "We're one of those groups that see the studio as another member of the band," M explained.

Affording all that time spent in the studio is not an easy feat, unfortunately. M and several other members alluded to the band's

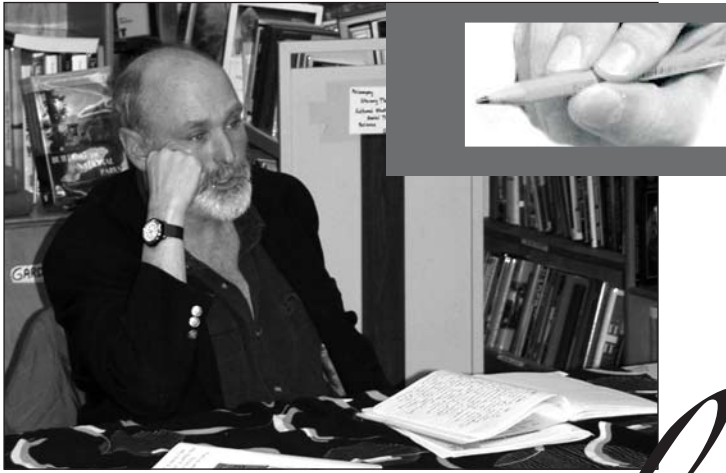
financial instability. It's not the world's biggest secret, or even the band's biggest, considering the new EP was funded through a Kickstarter campaign. M is grateful for the donations and Stoops specifically thanked the contributors at the end of the show. In addition to the Kickstarter resources, the band needed to funnel proceeds from shows and income from day jobs into the process as well. "This is what I love to do," Kevin says, an unusually bright version of his billion-watt smile spreading across his face naturally. "I work at a print shop by day so I can do this with my nights." M echoes this sentiment of sacrificing financially and personally for the music. So many musicians are beyond talented but in it for the money, or disarmingly passionate but totally awful, so to discover such a potent mixture of musical chops and unadulterated passion in the Milling Gowns is quite the find. You don't find musicians who are this good and care this much very often.

As closer *Vanishes* ended The Milling Gowns set with tribal drumming, grungy guitar, a thunderous bass and otherworldly, apocalyptic chanting for vocals, their innate ability to find heart-aching beauty in the bleakest aspects of life crystallized.

The Milling Gowns didn't play an encore because Allen Esser had to quit for health reasons. He had been in the hospital earlier that day for strep throat. That he played at all, let alone a full, bombastic set, is a testament to the sort of passion for music that this group possesses. "We're loving the music we make," Kevin explained. "And so we sink everything into it." As well they should.

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Wednesday, December 12		6:30pm	Discovering Justice: Know your rights	1:00pm	Bongoman	11:00am	Nossa Gente e Costumes
12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:00pm	The Literati Show	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	Noon	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
6:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	7:30pm	Rooster Tails	2:30pm	The SCATV Holiday show	1:00pm	Ablevision
7:00am	Road to Recovery	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (LIVE)	3:00pm	Tele Magazine	1:30pm	Poet to Poet: Marge Piercy
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:30pm	The Entertainer's Show	4:00pm	Fluff Festival	2:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority
9:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	10:00pm	Tonight's Special	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	3:00pm	Exercise with Robyn and Max
10:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	10:30pm	Somerville Rocks	6:00pm	Basic Buddha	3:30pm	Esoteric Science
11:30am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	Creepy Castle	6:30pm	Nepali SCAT Studio Show	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
12:30pm	King of the 'Ville	Friday, December 14		8:00pm	David Parkman	5:00pm	Culture Club
1:00pm	Somerville Housing Authority	12:00am	Free Speech TV	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	5:30pm	King of the 'Ville
1:30PM	Henry Parker Presents	6:00am	Road to Recovery	10:00pm	Poet to Poet: Marge Piercy	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV
2:00pm	Abugida Television	7:00am	Culture Club	11:00pm	Gay TV (Free Speech TV)	6:30pm	Literati Scene
3:00pm	Medical Tutor	7:30am	Physician Focus	Sunday, December 16		7:00pm	Critical Focus
3:30pm	Inside Talk	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	12:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	Grill Dog presents
4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	9:00am	What the Fluff?	6:00am	Program Celebrai	9:00pm	Dedilhando A Saudade
5:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking	10:00am	Somerville News Reading	7:00am	Flipside	10:00pm	Dead Air Live
5:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez	11:00am	Somerville Back in the Day	7:30am	Discovering Justice	11:00pm	Energy Theater
6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)	Noon	Critical Focus	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ	Tuesday, December 18	
6:30pm	Energy Theater	1:00	The Entertainer's Show	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	12:00am	Free Speech TV
7:30pm	Basic Buddha	1:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority	10:00am	International Church of God	6:00am	Road to Recovery
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits	2:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking	10:30am	Basic Buddha	7:00am	Nicole's Review Show
8:30pm	The Entertainer's Show	2:30pm	Cooking With Georgia	11:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	7:30am	The Literary Scene
9:00pm	Somerville Rocks!	3:00pm	Brunch with Sen. Bernie Sanders	11:30am	Somerville Housing Authority	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:30pm	Shrink Rap	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	Noon	The Entertainer's Show	9:00am	Somerville News Reading
10:00pm	Critical Focus	5:00pm	SCAT Holiday Show	12:30pm	The Garage	10:00am	Tele Kreyol
11:00pm	The Garage	5:30pm	Art @ SCATV	1:00pm	Critical Focus	11:00am	Somerville Most Interesting Places
11:30pm	The Literary Scene	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)	2:00pm	Energy Theater	11:30am	Ablevision
Thursday, December 13		6:30pm	Groundwork Somerville	3:00pm	Rompendo en Fe	Noon	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:00pm	Real Estate Answer Show	4:00pm	Dedilhando A Saudade	1:00pm	Critical Focus
6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	7:30pm	Inside Talk	5:00pm	Ethiopian Satellite TV	2:00pm	Healthy Hypnosis
6:30am	International Church of God	8:00pm	Visual Radio	6:00pm	Abugida TV	2:30pm	Outdoor Adventures
7:00am	Physician Focus	9:00pm	The Garage	7:00pm	African Television Network	3:30pm	Henry Parker Presents
7:30am	Grasping Nature	9:30pm	Bandwidth TV	7:30pm	Rooster Tails	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	Somerville Rocks	8:00pm	Telemagazine	5:00pm	Poet to Poet
9:00am	Somerville News Reading	10:30pm	Wine Inside & Out	9:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	5:30pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show
10:00am	Active Aging	11:00pm	Bread and Roses	10:00pm	Nepali SCAT Studio Show	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)
10:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	Saturday, December 15		11:30pm	Somerville Rocks!	6:30pm	Rooster Tails
11:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	12:00am	Free Speech TV	Monday, December 17		7:00pm	Art @ SCATV
Noon	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:00am	Arabic Hour	12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:30pm	Greater Somerville (LIVE)
1:00pm	Deusi Bhailo Music Program from Nepal	7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	8:00pm	Dead Air Live
2:30pm	Critical Focus	8:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	6:30am	Physician Focus	9:00pm	Literary Scene
3:30pm	Art @ SCATV	9:00am	Festival Kreyol	7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	9:30pm	Watch This
4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	Somerville Back in the Day
5:00pm	Ablevision	11:00am	Dead Air Live	9:00am	Rooster Tails	10:30pm	Tonight's Special
5:30pm	Culture Club	Noon	Reeling Movie Show	9:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	11:00pm	Creepy Castle
6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)	12:30pm	Grasping Nature	10:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading		

City Cable TV Schedule for the Week							
CITY TV 13/22		1:00am:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	Saturday, December 15	
Wednesday, December 12		1:15am:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	12:30pm:	Line Dancing at Capen Court	12:00am	Superintendent Awards - 1ST QUARTER
9:00am:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	3:00am:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	1:10pm:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	2:00am	Middle School Holiday Concert
12:00pm:	Congressional Update	9:00am:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	7:00pm:	Senior Circuit	12:00pm	Superintendent Awards - 1ST QUARTER
12:30pm:	Chamber of Commerce Dinner	12:00pm:	Somerville By Design - Meeting 2	7:30pm:	Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest	2:00pm	Middle School Holiday Concert
1:55pm:	Talking Business	1:00pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	8:30pm:	School Committee Meeting - REPLAY	7:00pm	Superintendent Awards - 1ST QUARTER
2:15pm:	The Mayor's Report	1:15pm:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	12:00am:	Senior Circuit	10:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Matignon - 12/15
2:45pm:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	3:00pm:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	12:30am:	Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest	Sunday, December 16	
7:00pm:	Congressional Update	7:00pm:	Somerville By Design - Meeting 2	1:30am:	The Mayor's Report	12:00am	SHS Hockey vs Matignon - 12/15
7:30pm:	Talking Business	8:00pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	2:00am:	From Prospect Hill to Salisbury Prison	1:30am	Middle School Holiday Concert
7:50pm:	Veterans' Day Ceremony	8:15pm:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	EDUCATIONAL CHANNEL 15		12:00pm	Our Schools, Our City
8:15pm:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	10:00pm:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	Wednesday, December 12		12:30pm	Kid Stuff
8:30pm:	BOA Meeting Agenda for 12/13/12	Sunday, December 16		9:00am	Our Schools, Our City	1:05pm	SHS football vs Medford - 11/22
Thursday, December 13		12:00am:	Somerville By Design - Meeting 2	12:00pm	Raising Families	3:05pm	SHS Band & Drumline Fall Compilation
12:00am:	Congressional Update	12:00am:	Somerville By Design - Meeting 2	12:30pm	Girls Soccer vs medford 9/14	7:00pm	Our Schools, Our City
12:30am:	Talking Business	1:00am:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	2:00pm	Football vs medford 11/9	7:30pm	Kid Stuff
12:50am:	Veterans' Day Ceremony	1:15am:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	7:00pm	SHS Football vs Dracut	8:05pm	SHS football vs Medford - 11/22
1:15am:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	3:00am:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	10:00pm	Highlander Forum	10:05pm	SHS Band & Drumline Fall Compilation
9:00am:	The Mayor's Report	9:00am:	Veterans' Day Ceremony	10:30pm	SHS Girls Soccer vs Methuen	Monday, December 17	
12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	Thursday, December 13		12:00am	Our Schools, Our City
12:30pm:	Domestic Violence Vigil	12:00pm:	The Mayor's Report	12:00am	SHS Football vs Dracut	12:30am	Kid Stuff
12:50pm	Chamber of Commerce Dinner	12:30pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	2:00am	Highlander Forum	1:05am	SHS football vs Medford - 11/22
2:25pm:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	1:00pm:	Seriously Somerville w/ Jimmy Del Ponte	3:30am	SHS Girls Soccer vs Methuen	3:05pm	SHS Band & Drumline Fall Compilation
7:00pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting - LIVE	1:30pm:	Senior Circuit	9:00am	Superintendent Awards - 1ST QUARTER	9:00am	Highlander Forum
Friday, December 14		7:00pm:	The Mayor's Report	12:00pm	Raising Families	12:00pm	Superintendent Awards - 1ST QUARTER
12:00am:	Congressional Update	7:30pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	12:30pm	Superintendent Awards - 1ST QUARTER	2:00pm	Middle School Holiday Concert
12:30am:	Somerville: Haven for Ingenious Minds	8:00pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting - REPLAY	2:30pm	Our Schools, Our City	4:00pm	Kid Stuff
1:45am:	The Mayor's Report	Monday, December 17		3:00pm	Our Schools, Our City - LIVE	7:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Matignon - 12/15
2:15am:	Somerville Gives Back	12:00am:	Senior Circuit	7:00pm	Our Schools, Our City	8:30pm	Middle School Holiday Concert
9:00am:	Clean 'Ville of Health	12:30am:	The Mayor's Report	7:30pm	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Malden - 9/19	10:30pm	Our Schools, Our City
12:00pm:	Somerville By Design - Meeting 2	1:00am:	The Aldermen's Hour	9:00pm	SHS Boys Soccer vs St. John's Prep - 11/11	Tuesday, December 18	
1:00pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	1:30am:	Board of Aldermen Meeting - REPLAY	10:50pm	Kid Stuff	12:00am	SHS Hockey vs Matignon - 12/15
1:15pm:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	9:00am:	Line Dancing at Capen Court	Friday, December 14		1:30am	Middle School Holiday Concert
3:00pm:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	12:00pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting - REPLAY	12:00am	Our Schools, Our City	3:30am	Our Schools, Our City
7:00pm:	Somerville By Design - Meeting 2	7:00pm:	School Committee Meeting - LIVE	12:30am	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Malden - 9/19	9:00am	SHS Band & Drumline Fall Compilation
8:00pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	Tuesday, December 18		2:00am	SHS Boys Soccer vs St. John's Prep - 11/11	12:00pm	Middle School Holiday Concert
8:15pm:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	12:00am:	Somerville By Design - Meeting 2	3:50am	Kid Stuff	2:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Matignon - 12/15
10:00pm:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	1:00am:	Congressional Update	9:00am	Kid Stuff	3:30pm	Superintendent Awards - 1ST QUARTER
Saturday, December 15		1:30am:	Somerville Gives Back	12:00pm	Superintendent Awards - 1ST QUARTER	7:00pm	SHS Boys' Basketball vs New Mission HS - LIVE
12:00am:	Somerville By Design - Meeting 2	1:45am:	Somerville: Haven for Ingenious Minds	2:00pm	Middle School Holiday Concert	10:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs New Mission HS
		9:00am:	From Prospect Hill to Salisbury Prison	7:00pm	Superintendent Awards - 1ST QUARTER	12:00am	SHS Boys Basketball vs New Mission HS
				9:00pm	Middle School Holiday Concert		



OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Poet Manson Solomon:

A well traveled poet with the wisdom of 'Solomon'

Early on Manson Solomon had a bad case of wanderlust – that brought him to many countries, advanced degrees, and a successful business. He is the rare bird that combines business acumen with artistic talent. Solomon wrote *The News*:

"I emerged from the womb with a mission to be a writer with a large trust fund. Said trust fund being inexplicably absent, I took the road more traveled, acquiring graduate degrees in Economics, Psychology and Philosophy from the London School of Economics, Columbia and Harvard,] engaging in various academic, artistic and entrepreneurial pursuits - in New York, London, Jerusalem, Johannesburg, Nova Scotia, Wellesley, Cambridge - I am currently a member of the Bagel Bards of Somerville, Mass."

Doug Holder: What was it like for a Jew in South Africa in the 1950's?

Manson Solomon: It was like living in Newton or Brookline. It was like a ghetto. People were from immigrant backgrounds who would cluster in the suburbs. As far as the literary scene here is a clue. When I left and had my farewell party--I read from Emerson and Thoreau. There was no one local worth reading. Now you have a couple of people like Nadine Gordimer, Fugard, etc... that I read.

DH: Why did you leave South Africa?

MS: I left when I was 20 or 21. All my interests, all my soul, simply were with Western culture...particularly American literature and music. I loved Gershwin and Berlin--all that spoke to me. Again I asked:" Why am I here?" I didn't know. South Africa was too provincial and confining for me.

DH: You had a sever case of the wanderlust. You traversed Europe--picking up degrees--probably picking up fodder for your poetry--did you have any mentors at the time?

MS: I don't think I had any mentors. I learned from people who might have listened to me, people whose work I read, but I can't point to a teacher and say this person inspired me to do one or the other thing.

DH: For a while you had a life in the academy.
MS: I did. I majored in economics and business because I figured I had to make a living and I thought how could I make a living from studying the literature and humanities?

DH: You left the academy, and poetry, when you started a family. Did the family life prevent you from having a creative one?

MS: For me there was no time to do anything creative. I had to pay the tuition bills. If I didn't have a family I probably would have explores a more creative life in writing and poetry.

DH: Do you think poets and writers are in need of more business acumen?

MS: Generally. I really didn't like business and economics but I came to learn it wasn't a bad thing.



I can make money much faster for projects than say an artist or academic who is going for a grant.

DH: You got your PhD in Philosophy from Columbia University. What did your dissertation concern?

MS: It was a study of what goes into making a judgment of something. If you are saying something is good are you describing it? Or are you approving it; urging someone to like it?. I tried to tease out the different parts of making a judgment. My great contribution to philosophy. (Laugh)

DH: Why did you leave Columbia?

MS: Well it was during the tumult of the 60s. I finished my course work, and then I secured a fellowship to Hebrew University in Israel to teach. Then I took off with friends to live off the land in Nova Scotia. When I finished my dissertation at Columbia, I came to Harvard as a visiting fellow in philosophy. I spent eight years at Harvard.

DH: You started a successful real estate business. Why did you switch paths in life?

MS: It was an accident. I wanted to get out of Cambridge for the country. I bought up distressed real estate, rehabbed it, and sold it for a profit.

DH: A lot of your poetry is infused with nature imagery. Who or what influences you?

MS: That's true. What influences me most is going to my house in Nova Scotia every summer. It overlooks the ocean. I have been doing that for 40 years.

DH: You have had a number of poetry publication credits since you retired 5 years ago.

MS: Yes. I have been in the Muddy River Review, Bagel Bards Anthology, Ibbetson Street, Lyrical Somerville, and others.

DH: How do you write a poem?

MS: I'm walking a long . I see something--something happens--I jot down ideas--go away--come back--after awhile I flesh it out.

Poet Charles S. Fradin briefly visited Somerville in the in the late fall of 2012. He spent a summer at Yaddo in Saratoga Springs as a young man. He decided to share a poem with us.

Despair

I had seen your face, fallen from unhappiness
A daily guest who became a lodger.

In coming to crosses in time
Where thoughts and actions diverge
Your appearance showed a great consistency.

Each day I tried to shake you from my person
Like the froth of children's' toys broken
Overflowing a fatigued plastic container.

You would pop up and out like charred toast
Forcing the lid open
Refusing to re-enter the circus box
Constructed for my well being.

Thievery brought you to the corner crease of my bedding
Where I would lay my head
To pray that tomorrow
The stars would align for my behalf
This being both untrue and selfish.

– Charles S. Fradin

To have your work considered for the Lyrical send it to:
Doug Holder, 25 School St.; Somerville, MA 02143. dougholder@post.harvard.edu

Ms. Cam's

Answers from page 14

Olio

Answers

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. A process called fusion | mas tree |
| – Hydrogen and Helium | |
| | 7. My Way |
| 2. Ian Fleming | |
| | 8. Montana |
| 3. The helicopter | |
| | 9. This Gun For Hire |
| 4. Windows and clocks | |
| | 10. Robert F. Kennedy |
| 5. Franklin D. Roosevelt | |
| | 11. Cocoa Puffs |
| 6. So they could be hung | |
| as ornaments on a Christ- | 12. Sweet Pea |

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