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The publishers and staff of The Somerville News

The king-men on Kingman Road



Flooding on Kingman Road has been a chronic problem for residents through the years. They are looking to city officials to seek relief from the ongoing dilemma.

By Harry Kane

Ed Hardy and Thomas Ryan have been neighbors for some 30 years. They are the proverbial kings who live on Kingman Road in the Union Square neighborhood. But, every so often there's a storm that causes their houses to sink a few inches.

Kingman Road is a dead end private way. It's in the lowlands down by the railroad tracks. And during a major storm, waters rise from the sewer pipes and sometimes flood the residents' basements.

Cellars flood and washers and dryers are ruined. It's a natural disaster that some residents feel could be remedied with better engineering.

Thomas Ryan, 72, is a former DPW garage mechanic and has lived at 17 Kingman Rd. for past 50 years. Ryan has had numerous run-ins with the floods.

Back 10 years ago Ryan leveled his house and gave it a new foundation. It cost him \$48,000 and some change.

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Argenziano School Chorus brightens the holiday season

By William Collins

Donning belled green and red caps and huddled cheerfully in front of the World War I stone monument in Union Square, a group of fourth through eighth graders from the Albert F. Argenziano school sang a variety of Christmas carols, from *Jingle Bells* to *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer* on Wednesday afternoon.

Comprised of students from the afterschool program, the group of about twenty-five youngsters were cheery and well-rehearsed, singing happily to an audience of friends, family and passersby over the rumbling din of late afternoon traffic.

Taking requests from the crowd, as well as making their own requests, the red-nosed youngsters didn't seem to feel the cold on the windy and gray day and, led by music director Paul Barringer, their voices and presence made a happy surprise for residents waiting at bus stops or walking through

Continued on page 15



The Argenziano School Chorus brought a joyful sound to Union Square last week.

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NEWTALK

Happy New Year to everyone! May the blessings be upon all of us Somervillens both here and wherever they may be spread across the country. May 2013 be an exciting year, prosperous and healthy for everyone.

The 237th annual "Grand Union" flag-raising ceremony at Prospect Hill Park will be held next Tuesday, January 1, at 12:00 p.m. A procession led by a re-enactor portraying General George Washington on horseback will leave from the City Hall Concourse at 11:30 a.m. As always, members of the public are invited to participate, and are encouraged to wear traditional colonial clothing. The annual ceremony commemorates the raising of the nation's first official flag, featuring thirteen red and white horizontal stripes, atop Prospect Hill on New Year's Day, 1776. At the time, Prospect Hill was a key site in a string of fortifications created by Washington and the Continental Army in their siege of British troops in Boston during the first year of the American Revolution. For more information, or to receive a free, commemorative program, contact Brandon Wilson, Executive Director at the Historic Preservation Commission at 617-625-6600 ext. 2532 or Bwilson@somervillema.gov.

Are you retired or semi-retired? Have time on your hands? If you're looking for a unique learning experience, we hear there's a wonderful program right here at Tufts University. Their Osher Lifelong Learning program offers dozens of peer-led study groups that give you an opportunity to learn, participate, and socialize. As a member, you can register for classes not only at the Medford campus, but also at Brookhaven at Lexington, the program's satellite location. You'll also get a weekly e-news bulletin, access to Tisch Library, invitations to events at Tufts and Brookhaven, admission to the Lunch & Learn lecture series in the fall and spring, participation in a variety of clubs (movie club, history club, dine-out club, you name it!) and more. Registration is going on now for the winter term.

Continued on page 8

TheSomervilleNews.com Comments of the Week

Response to Newstalk – December 19

Correction says:

As far as the Ward-one situation Maureen did recommend a replacement to her colleagues. A young man living in the neighborhood about 8-9 years, very active in the community as a member in a couple of neighborhood organizations, as well as the Capuano School PTA Council, and has two young children in Somerville schools. He attends most Ward-one neighborhood meetings and is concerned in the quality of life in Somerville. He would be a very good representative on the School Committee. It is too bad the School Committee did not accept Maureen's recommendation and instead opted to create a three-ring circus.

Henry says:

this is another reason why the Mayor and Board of Alderman should do away with the School Board, what a bunch of bozo's and how sad is that they even suggested that the Superintendent of Schools be involved in this silly process whatsoever. If Maureen really presented her choice to take her place and the school board said no, hopefully my fellow residents of the city send a message to their representative on the school board next November. If this is true then shows the lack of respect and contempt for Maureen on the present school board doesn't it? Throw them them out and lets see their resumes.

Dicky Birdy says:

Guess I am on the outs?

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 agree with the way the School Committee is handling the hiring process for Maureen Bastardi's replacement or should she have been the one to select the right candidate to replace her. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto The-SomervilleNews.com.

Do you agree with the way the School Committee is handling the hiring process for Maureen Bastardi's replacement or should she have been the one to select the right candidate to replace her?



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Somerville Arts Council's Switchbox Project helps to beautify city streets

By Blake Maddux

The Switchbox Project began 1997 in an effort to put art on the streets of Somerville. Fifteen years later, various artists have painted more than two dozen switchboxes, with many more waiting to serve as the canvas for another painter's inspired design.

Rachel Strubb is the Program Manager for the Somerville Arts Council (SAC), with which she has been affiliated for 11 years. "As we all are here at the Arts Council, I'm a big advocate of public art," she said. "And I think that switchboxes are a good way to transform kind of mundane objects into public works of art. So now they have a dual function. They're functional switchboxes, but they're also public works of art."

The Somerville Arts Council may very well have been something of a trailblazer with the Switchbox Project. According to Strubb, "I certainly can't say we were the first arts council or town in the country that started doing this, but since we started the Switchbox program, Cambridge, Boston, and I think now Medford have started similar programs." Malden does as well.

The idea has not been confined to the Boston area. SAC Office Manager Heather Balchunas said that she once got a call about it from someone in Ithaca, New York.

"It was something that they had found out about and they were reaching out to us and thought it was a great project and wanted to know how we did it," Balchunas said. "I gave them some of our applications, and said that they could adapt them however they wanted to."

Anyone, practicing artist or not, may submit the Somerville

Arts Council's application to paint a switchbox. All interested parties must provide the location of three available switchboxes and submit images of the design that they plan to use. The application initially goes to the SAC, but the mayor's office must sign off on it before the artist may begin his or her work.

"We report to the mayor personally," Strubb explained. "We're a government agency."

Balchunas said, "We want to make sure that the designs are appropriate because it is public art. It is open to the public, so that is always a concern."

Artists whose applications are successful receive a \$100 honorarium.

Grace Durnford, a 2005 graduate of the Rhode Island School of Design, was a recipient of an Artist Fellowship grant, which the Somerville Arts Council awards in conjunction with Massachusetts Cultural Council. She has also been volunteering at the SAC for several years. She painted the switchbox on Holland Street this past September in order to fulfill the community benefit requirement of the fellowship award.

"I would say that 75% of the switchboxes are painted by artists who have won grants through the Arts Council," Rachel Strubb said.

Durnford was very happy to be able to paint a switchbox that is near where she lives.

"If I had picked on farther from my house," she said. "I'm not sure that I'd be able to do it. I had a ladder and all my supplies, which I was walking back and forth with everyday for a week."

Durnford added, "I got a lot of attention. A lot of people with their kids stopped by to watch. People were watching it like a television serial: 'Oh, you've really done a lot since yesterday!' The



High art is coming to a switchbox near you, thanks to the Somerville Arts Council's new innovative program.

level of how excited about it people were was kind of surprising."

There is another switchbox by the firehouse across from P.J. Ryan's in Teele Square that Durnford said that she would also like to design.

Heather Balchunas believes that the Switchbox Project benefits from being fairly simple: "It gives the community the ability to have public art with limited funds. It's not very time-consuming, it's easy to do, and the end result benefits everybody."

Grace Durnford agreed, saying, "The fact that they're decorated demonstrates that somebody cares about this public space. This isn't just a random box. It demonstrates a level

of community engagement."

The Somerville Arts Council Switchbox application, pictures

of painted boxes, and other information is available at www.somervilleartscouncil.org.

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Arts at the Armory Café

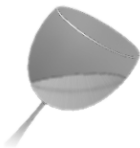


The Arts at the Armory Café announces its **new fall hours**. The Café is open Monday through Saturday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., evenings and Sundays during events. Serving a menu that includes sandwiches on artisan breads, salads, quiche, fresh-baked desserts, craft beers and delicious wines. Introducing home-baked goodies from Michelle, our new pastry chef.



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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Assault victim reports abusive boyfriend

A woman came to the Somerville Police Station last week, reporting that she had been assaulted by her boyfriend on the previous day, according to reports.

The woman reportedly told police that her boyfriend, Luis Fernando Gonzalez, 32, assaulted her in their Broadway apartment.

She stated that Gonzalez had been drinking and became argumentative for no apparent reason, police said. The woman

reportedly said that Gonzalez began hitting her and also held her neck and attempted to strangle her.

After she fell to the floor, Gonzalez reportedly continued drinking as he took her cell phone from her and placed it in his pocket. He left the apartment shortly thereafter, according to the alleged victim, although he returned briefly to pack a bag, whereupon he left the apartment once again.

The alleged victim said she had no way of calling police at the time and that she was afraid of leaving her apartment because of the possibility that she might encounter Gonzalez again.

The alleged victim was advised of her rights and encouraged to check into the hospital to have her injuries examined.

An arrest warrant was prepared, charging Gonzalez with assault and battery, witness intimidation, and assault to murder.

Violent, intoxicated father arrested

Police responded to a reported domestic violence incident at a Boston Ave. residence last week.

Upon arrival, the alleged victim reportedly told officers that she had been in an altercation with her father, Robert Kneeland, 61, who she said was intoxicated and had grabbed her violently by the arm and raised his fist towards her in a threatening manner.

The officers said that they

were aware of a similar incident between Kneeland and the alleged victim earlier in the year.

Upon questioning Kneeland, officers noted the odor of alcohol and that his speech was slurred, indicating intoxication, according to reports.

Kneeland was placed under arrest and charged with assault and battery and witness intimidation.

Ill-gotten goods recovered

Police responded to the Marshalls on McGrath Hwy. last Wednesday on a report of a suspected shoplifter being detained there by the store's loss prevention personnel.

In questioning the store staff, it was reported that a woman, Claudia Depaula, 19, was spotted putting items into a bag and

attempting to leave the store, accompanied by a female companion, without paying for the merchandise.

Store personnel intercepted Depaula in the parking lot area and asked her to return to the store for questioning about the items that she had reportedly taken, according to reports. Her companion

reportedly fled the scene without being apprehended.

The bag that Depaula used, which was also store property, contained Marshalls merchandise reportedly valued at over \$300, police said.

Police placed Depaula under arrest. She has been charged with larceny over \$250.

Police received a call from loss prevention personnel at the Kmart at 77 Middlesex Ave. last Friday on reports of a suspected shoplifter running through the store, attempting to escape capture through an emergency door at the rear of the building.

As police arrived they were informed that the suspect was detained by store personnel and was being held in the loss prevention office.

The loss prevention officer reportedly told police that the sus-

pect, Maurice Bedard, 47, of Bedford, was observed taking three MP3 players, each valued at over \$63, and cutting them out of their packaging, then concealing them on his person.

When confronted by store personnel, Bedard reportedly fled through the store towards the rear exit. He was apprehended by staff and held until police arrived.

Bedard was placed under arrest and charged with shoplifting by concealing merchandise.

CRIME TIP HOTLINE: 617-776-7210
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SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Robert Kneeland, 61, of 78 Boston Ave., December 17, 4:51 p.m., arrested at 80 Boston Ave. on charges of assault and battery and witness intimidation.

A juvenile, December 18, 10:00 a.m., arrested at 91 Highland Ave. on a charge of witness intimidation.

German Hernandez, 25, of 8 Montgomery Ave., December 18, 2:46 p.m., arrested at 220 Washington St. on warrant charges of disorderly conduct, carrying a dangerous weapon, and miscellaneous municipal ordinance violation.

Matthew Closs, 19, of 454 Washington Ave., Chelsea, December 18, 6:14 p.m., arrested at 91 Highland Ave. on multiple warrant charges of receiving stolen property over \$250.

Claudia Depaula, 19, of 5 Walter Terr., December 19, 11:57 a.m., arrested at 22 McGrath Hwy. on a charge of larceny over \$250.

Carlos Carrion, 19, of 13 Pine St., Cambridge, December 19, 1:13 p.m., arrested at 75

Mystic Ave. on warrant charges of larceny from a building, receiving stolen property over \$250, and shoplifting over \$100 by concealing merchandise.

Michael Ferrala, 42, of 10 Garrison, December 19, 8:18 p.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of felony nighttime breaking and entering and conspiracy.

Guilherme Zumak, 24, of 300 Governors Dr., Winthrop, December 20, 2:06 p.m., arrested at Broadway on a charge of license revoked.

Daniel Percival, 30, of 46 Marshall, December 20, 2:49 p.m., arrested at Broadway on a warrant charge of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Luis Fernando Gonzalez, 32, of 148 Broadway, December 20, 9:21 p.m., arrested at home on charges of assault and battery, witness intimidation, and assault to murder.

Timothy Quill, 40, December 21, 11:07 a.m., arrested at 220 Washington St. on warrant charges of conspiracy and felony nighttime breaking and

entering.

Daniel McLean, 55, of 268 Washington St., December 21, 4:16 p.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of abuse prevention order violation and trespassing.

Maurice Bedard, 47, of 200 Springs Rd., Bedford, December 21, 4:18 p.m., arrested at 77 Middlesex Ave. on a charge of shoplifting by concealing merchandise.

Steven Milonopolos, 44, of 25 Canal Ln., December 21, 7:17 p.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of threat to commit a crime, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest.

Incidents:

Theft:

December 18, 3:31 p.m., police reported a theft at Bow St.

December 18, 11:31 p.m., police reported a theft at Alpine St.

December 19, 11:25 a.m., police reported a theft at Church St.

December 19, 11:57 a.m., police reported a theft at 22 McGrath Hwy.

December 19, 12:49 p.m., po-

lice reported a theft at Wisconsin Ave.

December 20, 8:55 p.m., police reported a theft at Cross St.

December 20, 10:41 a.m., police reported a theft at Vinal Ave.

December 21, 10:41 a.m., police reported a theft at Pennsylvania Ave.

December 21, 10:42 a.m., police reported a theft at 179 Summer St.

December 21, 11:44 a.m., police reported a theft at 91 Highland Ave.

December 21, 4:18 p.m., police reported a theft at 77 Middlesex Ave.

December 22, 10:22 p.m., police reported a theft at Washington St.

December 22, 1:19 p.m., police reported a theft at Rogers Ave.

December 22, 2:56 p.m., police reported a theft at Berkeley St.

Robbery:

December 19, 10:12 a.m., police reported a robbery at Mystic Ave.

December 21, 9:12 p.m., po-

lice reported a robbery at Lowden Ave.

Breaking & Entering:

December 18, 7:45 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Adrian St.

December 19, 12:03 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Wyatt St.

December 19, 12:07 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Prospect St.

December 19, 6:37 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Derby St.

Vehicle Theft:

December 20, 3:17 a.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Putnam Rd.

Assault:

December 18, 10:07 a.m., police reported an assault theft at Mystic Ave.

December 19, 8:23 a.m., police reported an assault theft at Broadway.

December 20, 1:57 a.m., police reported an assault theft at Benton Rd.

December 22, 10:20 a.m., police reported an assault theft at Jackson Rd.

SPD joins convoy to deliver cards to boy battling cancer



Several weeks ago the Somerville Police Department learned about the dying wish being made from six-year-old Nathan Norman, who is fighting brain cancer, and is from Rustburg, Virginia.

Nathan's wish was to be a police officer or firefighter and he was requesting Christmas cards from police and fire departments from throughout the U.S.

Thanks to the Burlington, MA Police Department, the idea was hatched that instead of mailing the cards to Nathan, local police departments from throughout New England would form a "blue" convoy and hand deliver the cards to Nathan at his home in Virginia.

We are proud to say that the Somerville Police Department, by far, had the largest representation with (10) officers that embarked on this 20 hour round trip. In reality, many more officers volunteered but a limit was established to ensure that appropriate staffing levels would be maintained in the city during the holidays.

These officers did not receive any compensation, overtime or reimbursement. All expenses for the trip were borne by the officers and from contributions made by the Superior Officers and Patrol Officers Union.

Chief Thomas Pasquarello and Mayor Joseph Curtatone made Nathan an Honorary Somerville Police Department Officer and Nathan will be presented with a plaque.

The SPD is always there to protect and serve and this mission was no different. Please keep Nathan and his family, as well as the victims of the Newtowne tragedy, in your thoughts and prayers.

- from *The Somerville Police Department*

Somerville man indicted on armed assault to murder charge

A Somerville man has been indicted on a charge of armed assault to murder in connection with a November 11 shooting that left a victim with life-threatening injuries, Middlesex District Attorney Gerry Leone informed the public today.

Santano Dessin, 33, of Somerville, was indicted by a Middlesex Grand Jury on charges of armed assault to murder, mayhem, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon causing serious bodily injury, assault and battery, discharging a firearm within 500 feet of a dwelling, unlawful possession of a firearm and unlawful possession of ammunition.

The defendant is scheduled to be arraigned on January 7, 2013 in Middlesex Superior Court.

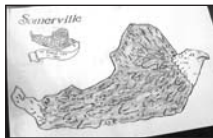
According to authorities, at approximately 11:30 p.m. on November 11, Somerville police responded to 196 Broadway for a report of a shooting. Upon their arrival, officers found a 28-year-old male victim, evidencing a gunshot wound to the neck. He was transported to Mass General Hospital with life-threatening injuries where he currently remains in serious condition, with a bullet lodged in his neck.

Somerville Police and State Police assigned to the Middlesex District Attorney's Office launched an immediate investigation into the circumstances of the shooting. It is alleged that the defendant shot the victim following a verbal argument.

These charges are allegations and the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

The prosecutor assigned to the case is Assistant District Attorney Chris Tarrant. The Victim Witness Advocates are Susie Marshall and Nadia Guevara.

The Somerville News Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #16

New Year - New Beginnings

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Next week, New Year's Day, 2013 arrives. As we complete the 13th year of the new millennium and begin the next, a flag with 13 stripes representing the 13 original colonies will be raised in Somerville. The annual re-enactment commemorates January 1, 1776, where the first American flag was raised on Prospect Hill.

On the momentous day, George Washington's troops ran the American flag up the side of a pole which, quite fittingly, was a 76-foot mast from the captured British war ship, Diana. While the British forces that occupied Boston initially thought that the flag symbolized the colonists' surrender, they soon found out that, much to the contrary, it signified liberty and the unrelenting resolve of the Americans.



On New Years' Day, 1735, Paul Revere was born in Boston. Forty years later and nine months before the Prospect Hill flag raising, the most famous horse ride in American history commenced when, in April of 1775, he made his fateful race through Somerville on his way to Lexington and Concord. He was almost captured by British cavalry about one mile from Prospect Hill, near what is now the Holiday Inn on Washington Street. Cutting over and through marsh and thickets to what is now Broadway, he successfully evaded the British troops.

Betsy Ross entered the world on new Year's Day, 1752, and grew up to be a Philadelphia seamstress. While visiting the city during the war, Washington and his troops asked her to alter the Grand Union flag. She did this by replacing the British contour with a circle of 13 stars.

New Year's Day, 1892, saw the opening of Ellis Island, welcoming countless new immigrants to our nation. The architect, Edward Lippincott Tilton, designed the first phase of these new buildings for the U.S. Immigration Station at Ellis Island and also designed Somerville's Central Library on Highland Avenue.

The freedom of the colonists who seceded from Great Britain may have been declared on Prospect Hill on January 1, 1776, but Somerville has continued to champion freedom for people of all nations, cultures and creeds far beyond that day. If you drive through Union Square today, you will see a wide array of ethnic restaurants and businesses. On that first New Year's Day flag raising in 1776, Somerville became a sanctuary for all Americans and hasn't looked back since.

Happy New Year!

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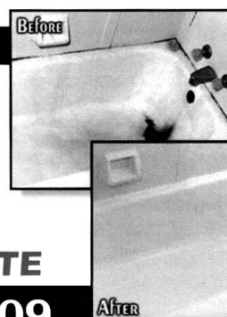
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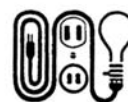
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Somerville Open Studios 2013 registration opens

Artists, sign up now to participate and open your studio for the premier visual arts event of Somerville. Registration for SOS 2013 is now open and runs until January 31.

The event, on May 3, 4, and 5 is attended by many thousands of art lovers, admirers, patrons, and collectors, and is open and free to all. If you are a Somerville visual artist, you are eligible. All visual art media; beginning, emerging and established artists are encouraged to participate.

Registering online is easy and costs a small fee. Membership in



this volunteer-run event brings many benefits. See the SOS website for details at www.somervilleopenstudios.org. SOS showcases more than 400 artists in what may be the largest single-weekend open studios event in the nation. With multiple sites and happenings, it gets better each year.

Somerville business participates in gift drive



Employees from ABM, a facility management services provider in Somerville, proudly display their donations to Youth Villages' Holiday Heroes Gift Drive. ABM collected toys and other holiday gifts for children receiving help from Youth Villages for emotional, behavioral and mental health issues. This was ABM's first time to participate in the Holiday Heroes Gift Drive, which helped provide holiday gifts to more than 400 children and families across New England.

Somerville's 237th annual 'Grand Union' flag-raising ceremony



Photo by Donald Norton

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and Historic Preservation Commission Director Brandon Wilson announced that the 237th annual "Grand Union" flag-raising ceremony at Prospect Hill Park will be held on Tuesday, January 1, 2013 at 12:00 p.m. A procession led by a re-enactor portraying General George Washington on horseback will leave from the City Hall Concourse at 11:30 a.m. As always, members of the public are invited to participate, and are encouraged to wear traditional colonial clothing.

The annual ceremony commemorates the raising of the nation's first official flag, featuring thirteen red and white horizontal stripes, atop Prospect Hill on New Year's Day, 1776. At the time, Prospect Hill was a key site in a string of fortifications created by Washington and the Continental Army in their siege of British troops in Boston during the first year of the American Revolution.

The afternoon's program will

include songs, readings, and participants from the Ancient and Honorable Company (first chartered in 1638), as well as the Charlestown militia. This year's celebrations will once again include His Majesty's 10th Regiment of Foot, who will be representing the British Army and will be bringing a message from King George III. The American Legion Post 19 Honor Guard will lead a military salute as a commemorative flag is raised atop the Prospect Hill Tower.

Light refreshments will be served, and miniature replicas of the Grand Union Flag, both as a flag and a lapel pin, as well as colonial-era tricorn hats and historic Somerville books commemorating the event will be available for purchase.

For more information, or to receive a free, commemorative program, contact Brandon Wilson, Executive Director at the Historic Preservation Commission at 617-625-6600 ext. 2532 or Bwilson@somervillema.gov.

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COMMENTARY

TALES OF SOMERVILLE

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Happy New Year, Somerville!

The View From Prospect Hill



A new year brings us thoughts of recommencement, fresh starts, and evaluating what we have experienced and accomplished in the recent past.

It is a time for both reflection and consideration of what must be done in the year ahead of us. It's a great opportunity for advancing our general well being, should we choose to embrace the spirit it embodies.

Our community has experienced much change and endured a few challenges in the past year. Both things are inevitable facts of life, in any year. Overall, we can look back and feel proud of what we are and where we are headed. That's what matters the most. That we can stand up and say we are who we are, and do it with conviction and a sense of pride.

Our Board of Aldermen welcomes a new member this year, as an old friend moves forward, taking on new challenges of his own.

Civic initiatives, such as the redevelopment of some of our most important city squares and the further development of our public transportation system, have been set in motion and will be moving forward as well.

From the smallest of endeavors, to the greater enterprises that will be pursued, our city is set on making itself even better than before, as it has always done.

That is the very essence of renewal at its best. To take sure and well-conceived plans and make them a reality.

By following this almost sacred tradition we can feel confident that ringing in the new will mean a happier future for us all.

And so, may the new year bring us the wisdom and fortitude we need to follow through successfully. We know we can and will.

News Talk CONT. FROM PG 2

For more info, call 617-627-5699 or check out their website (<http://ase.tufts.edu/lli>). You won't regret it!

Word around the city is that the school committee's recent denial of outgoing Ward One member Maureen Bastardi recommendation was all started by Ward Five School Committeeman Mark Niedergang and Ward Six Committeeman Paul Bockelman, along with Ward Seven Committee-women Mary Jo Rossetti, were the main forces behind the scenes to sabotage Ms. Bastardi's recommendation. It figures that it would Mark Niedergang leading the charge to slap the residents of Ward One. They want resumes submitted to the Superintendent of Schools and then they will vote on the recommendation. Who's recommendation? And who are they to decide who represents Ward One? This is another attempt by elitist members to get another vote on the Club's Board, probably to make sure that the Superintendent's 200K plus contract renewal has enough votes to renew?

Give it up, no matter what the process, a lot of people around the city, particularly in Ward One, are outraged that the School Board did this!

Some shake ups at city hall are coming real soon, we hear. Maybe a few department heads, maybe not. But definitely some shake-ups. We'll have more about it as the weeks run by.

Working on some changes and a new look here at The Somerville News!

We heard several names in Ward One are thinking seriously about considering a run against newly appointed alderman Maureen. Calls are being made, commitments secured and some are quietly (not that quietly) organizing behind the scenes. By the first of the year we will have more concrete news, so keep watching. So far Ward One, Two, Three, Five and Seven have potential candidates running for ward seats. Let's see what shakes out of the tree come the first of the year. We even

hear that Mark the Shark (as he was known in his Tufts DJ days) has been making calls to some people. You'd think he'd know we're strong supporters of popular Ward Five Alderman Sean O'Donovan.

Our thoughts and prayers are constantly with our and everyone's good friend, former Publisher of this paper, Bob Publicover. He's hanging in there. He's a fighter, but this time we fear he can't beat it. Hopefully he will last to see the New Year. His fantastic sister Marilyn is in from Arizona. She, along with Bob's husband David, has been doing a great job staying on top of Bob's needs. He's a great guy and has been friends to many here in the city over the years. Say "Hi" to either him or David on Facebook.

Happy Birthday this week to just a few of our fans here in the 'Ville: A good friend and avid reader, Jim Henry. He does live in Cambridge and works for the state, but he's a real fan of The News. Another good,

friend Kevin Dickinson, who is relatively new to the 'Ville from Kentucky. He's a nice guy with a big positive attitude all the time. Also, another local who moved to NH, Paul Peddle. A nice guy, and a graduate of SHS 1981. Happy birthday to our good friend Terrissa Martin who has been celebrating her birthday since last week here in the 'Ville! Other fans celebrating this week are Jennifer Lavalley, Diane Nazzaro Haley, Karen Buonopane and CH Michael Casey Jr. We wish all these and many others end of the year birthday good wishes.

This coming Saturday at the Arts at the Armory, Jimmy Tingle live with a rare theatrical production, combining a screening of the acclaimed documentary film "Jimmy Tingle's American Dream," followed by a Q&A and live performance by Jimmy Tingle as he looks back on some of the hilarious high and low points of 2012, according to him. Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Avenue, starting at 7 p.m.

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.

News from all over



By Joseph A. Curtatone

Somerville municipal government tries hard to be a model for best practices and cost-effective innovation. We also try to engage our residents in a constant and productive dialogue about what they expect from their government and how they feel about they're receiving in the way of programs and services.

But even if that weren't so, Somerville would still be a creative, effervescent, innovative, dynamic and exciting place.

Somerville rocks, and that's entirely due to the amazing people, businesses, institutions and cultural traditions woven into the fabric of our community.

And Somerville isn't the well-kept secret it once was: The word is out on us and that word is pretty positive. In its December 16 "Best of the New: Food" compendium of best dining and drinking spots in the metro Boston area, the *Boston Sunday Globe Magazine* cited 59 successful new businesses. (They had special categories for coffee, pizza, Mediterranean, and Ramen - as well as a catchall category they called "singular standouts.") Eleven of their rave reviews were for Somerville businesses. That's a very healthy 17 percent of a list for the entire metropolitan region.

The Somerville Eleven were (in alphabetical order): Amsterdam Falafel; backbar; Casa B; Dowee & Rice; Dhosa Temple; IYO Café ; M3;

M.F. Dulock Pasture-Raised Meats; The Painted Burro; Q's Nuts and Other Cravings; and Saloon. Congratulations one and all - and congratulations to the foodies who will waste no time in flocking to your establishments and all of the other spectacular eateries, specialty shops and watering holes that make Somerville a major cuisine capital.

In fact, our reputation for the finest in food is now spreading far beyond our region. In a piece that appeared in last Sunday's *Washington Post Travel Section*, correspondent Robin Soslow writes that there's "A crafts explosion in Somerville, Mass."

Ms. Soslow isn't shy about reporting how much fun she had during her visit - and celebrating the range of activities and venues she sampled while she was here. "It's easy to walk this four-square-mile city," Soslow notes. "At Prospect Hill, steps up a turreted building nicknamed

'the Castle' lead to a panoramic view. Parks pulse with free events, bars hold 'best mustache' and other creative contests, and street sightings include accordion flash mobs, marching band parades and the 'SCUL' bicycle gang night-riding on illuminated hand-built contraptions."

And, like the *Globe Magazine*, Soslow is enthusiastic about the food. "Somerville brims with sensational small bites," she tells her *Post* readership, citing, "cider doughnuts (which sell out fast) and handcrafted foods at Saturdays at the Armory, True Bistro's sumptuous vegetable dishes, Journeyman's adventurous flavor and texture pairings" and the "Independent's neo-tavern cuisine [including] tangy peppers stuffed with avocado mousse and jicama salsa." Oh, and she likes the locally brewed Pretty Things beer, too.

Soslow makes it clear that her true passion is for chocolate, and that it's our own Taza Chocolate

that brought her to Somerville, but she seems to have appreciated almost everything else she saw. From Artisan's Asylum to the Somerville Theatre, from the Precinct to P.A.'s Lounge and from Third Life Studio to Theatre@First, she enthusiastically approves our music and culture scene.

She made me want to plan a trip of my own to Somerville, and I already live here.

My final press clip comes from overseas: In an article entitled "Somerville: the city where policies are based on how happy they make people," *Guardian Online* correspondent Sadhbh (pronounced "Syve" as in "five") Walshe describes the way the city has been using data to determine how to allocate resources, including data from last year's happiness survey, from 311 and from ResiStat feedback. Walshe notes that data collection has made Somerville more efficient and responsive, and

Continued on page 15

On The Silly Side by Jimmy Del Ponte

The best gift



My mother, Gerry, rest her soul, (rest most of the souls in this story) was always afraid that the three of us kids

would show a lack of perseverance and drive and settle for less in life. Although she was born and raised here in Somerville, she didn't want her kids to end up spending their whole lives here as she did. She wanted us to spread our wings and explore what the world had to offer. She had dreams of being a successful poet or singer when she was young. She wanted her kids to strive for the fulfilled dreams she never had. My mother was a great mom who loved her kids more than anything else and she wanted us to shoot for the stars.

My dad was born in the house that is across from the plaque at Del Ponte Square near the former Western Junior High School. He was an outspoken character who was well loved in the city he loved. He just wanted us to "keep our mouths shut, and mind your own business!" He would have done anything for his kids, his brothers and sisters and his friends, and often he did. He was the unofficial mayor of Davis Square. He bought the family home in 1961, worked his whole life at three jobs, and retired after 38 years at W. R. Grace.

Mom has to be proud that we all had the pioneer instinct that she so wanted

for us. I believe that growing up in a special and unique city like Somerville gave us the confidence we needed to pursue our dreams in earnest. It wasn't easy being a teenager back in the 60's, 70's, and 80's. A lot of us didn't survive, and those of us that did are stronger for it. Our parents passed on the Somerville spirit which is a special blend of cockiness and perseverance.

My brother Joe graduated from Harvard at the top of his class, and even when he knew was he terminally ill, received his master's degree from Columbia. He was born in 1956, and was three years younger than me. He lived in New York and France and was an intern on national news broadcasts before he fell ill. He was on his way to becoming what I believe would have been a very successful broadcast journalist. You can Google my brother, and see some of the spectacular things he accomplished in his all too short life.

My sister Christine, who was one year older than me, could have been the mayor of Somerville. She was friends with everyone and traveled with a colorful group of Somerville friends. Many of them were friends since the early grades of St. Clement School. She had a smile that could light up a room and a personality that anyone who ever knew her still misses. She had a little girl (see an earlier article called Nikki's story)

who she gave nine very difficult years to before leaving this world. But she instilled the Somerville spirit into this girl who is now an extremely strong and happy young woman. Christine was a true Somerville kid.

And then there's me. I was very lucky to have been on Boston radio for 23 years. I met and worked with hundreds of stars and had many exciting experiences. I got to travel a lot for my job, which was also fun. Another Somerville kid, Rich (Rocky) Buono, was very helpful in getting me on the radio. My Somerville spirit kept me going through a lot of very tough times. I feel very lucky to still be here considering some of the pitfalls and roadblocks I faced. I attribute my survival to that Somerville spirit that my folks passed on. It's the never say die attitude that us true 'Villens possess. It was drilled into us by our parents who grew up in Somerville before those little "Villens" stickers appeared everywhere.

This Christmas I finally did something I had planned on doing for the past five years. I put together scrapbooks for my three kids. I had been saving all the special school papers, photos, talent show programs, newspaper articles in large envelopes with each kid's name on it. Man, was that a trip down memory lane, glue-sticking those tidbits of life onto those pages. There were photos of my parents, my brother and sister and, of course, the

three kids, and granddaughter. There are a lot of photos on those pages of people no longer with us but their memories are still extremely strong. I got to really experience the Somerville spirit as I assembled those scrapbooks. I basically relived my loved one's lives through small pieces of paper. It was pretty emotional.

The family was started by two Somerville kids back in 1951 when they were married at St. Anthony's Church on Somerville Ave. Even though some of the lives were way too short, my mother has to be proud that we all did our best, and that there is still a lot of happiness to be had by the family she and dad started so long ago. It's been a bittersweet ride at times but I'm glad to report that things have never been better for the Del Ponte family! Long live the Somerville spirit!

I put those scrapbooks together for the kids for Christmas, but I was the one who got the best gift of all.

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.

Jimmy is available to host your event, play music, or just spice up any party or function. Call 617-623-0554 or jimmydel@rcn.com

You can email Jimmy directly at jimmydel@rcn.com.

Beacon Hill Roll Call



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Beacon Hill Roll Call can also be viewed on our Web site at www.thesomervillenews.com

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.

Gov. Deval Patrick in July signed a law restricting the use of electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards by welfare recipients. The law prohibits the cards from being used for strip clubs, products from adult bookstores and adult paraphernalia stores, firearms, ammunition, cruises, vacation services, body piercings, jewelry, rent-to-own stores and bail. Prior to this new law, only the purchase of alcoholic beverages, lottery tickets and tobacco products was prohibited.

The law also created a special Cashless Assistance Commission to study and report by December 31, 2012 on the development of a cashless payment system under which all bills, including utilities and rent, would be paid directly by the card. The commission's report is finalized but won't be officially issued until the end of December. The Ripples Group, a private consulting firm, was paid \$100,000 to conduct the study. It presented the commission with nine options ranging from making no changes to implementing a completely cashless system under which all bills paid and purchases made would be made by use of the EBT card. Other options included a cashless system except for \$100 cash per month; prohibiting card transactions at all ATMs; and prohibiting the use of cards out of state.

The commission took a pass on some of the tougher reforms and chose more education for cardholders, tougher enforcement of the current law, stiffer penalties for store owners, a "secret shopper" program in which sting operations would be performed by undercover shoppers to catch storeowners selling cardholders alcohol and other prohibited items. It also adopted the option of identifying and placing only high-risk abusers on a vendor payment system for rent, utilities and other necessities. Critics say that option does nothing new because it is currently a state law.

Supporters of the commission's recommendations said the proposed choice of reforms is fair and reasonable. They argued there is insufficient data to know how much abuse takes place. They also note that many of the options left on the table would have cost the state millions of dollars to implement during this time when the state is facing cuts to many programs including local aid.

Critics said the reforms are very weak and will do little to stem abuse. Commission member Rep. Shaunna O'Connell (R-Taunton) said, "The recommendations of the EBT commission are another window dressing that does not come close to addressing the issues of the inability to track \$415M in taxpayer money and ensure appropriate use of cash assistance. It is very concerning that the report of the commission was based on subjective,

anecdotal information that is not verifiable, such as a survey of only 46 EBT cash recipients when there are 77,000 families on assistance. This only proves further that we must transition to a system that can track and verify how this \$415M is spent."

This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* reviews local representatives and senators' votes on proposals from the 2011-2012 session that would reform the EBT card system.

RESTRICT USE OF CARDS (H 4100)

House 123-33, approved an amendment prohibiting the use of EBT cards by welfare recipients for the purchase of pornography, firearms, tickets to movies and theater shows, cosmetics, travel, jewelry, bond for defendants, tattoos, body piercings and gambling. The proposal also increases penalties for illegal use and trafficking of the cards.

Amendment supporters said it is time to crack down on the abuse of these cards and ensure that taxpayers' hard-earned dollars are used only for necessities like food, rent and utilities. They said the purchase of non-essentials is outrageous and noted the state also gives many other generous benefits to poor residents - including subsidized health care, low-cost transportation and legal assistance.

Amendment opponents said the amendment was nothing more than an attack on poor people who need help. They argued the restrictions go too far and cited the example of a woman who would be prohibited from buying lipstick to wear to a job interview. (A "Yes" vote is for the restrictions. A "No" vote is against the restrictions.)

Rep. Denise Provost	No
Rep. Carl Sciortino	No
Rep. Timothy Toomey	No

GOVERNOR STRIKES SOME RESTRICTIONS (H 4237)

House 1-152, rejected Gov. Patrick's version of a proposal, already approved by the Legislature, restricting the use of EBT cards by welfare recipients. The governor's version would delete several of the Legislature-approved restrictions and allow the cards to be used for vacation services, body piercings, jewelry, rent-to-own stores and bail.

The governor left many of the Legislature's other restrictions intact including strip clubs, adult bookstores, adult paraphernalia stores, firearms dealers, ammunition dealers and cruise ships.

The governor said some of the restrictions set by the Legislature were opposed by the special commission that researched and evaluated the illegal use of EBT cards. He noted he agreed with the commission's recommendation that the prohibitions be on usage in particular establishments, rather than prohibitions on particular items.

Opponents of Patrick's version said it is time to crack down on the abuse of EBT cards and ensure that taxpayers' hard-earned dollars are used only for necessities. They noted the purchase of non-essentials is outrageous. (A "Yes" vote is for the governor's limited restrictions. A "No" vote is against the limited restrictions.)

Rep. Denise Provost	No
Rep. Carl Sciortino	No
Rep. Timothy Toomey	No

Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



LIMIT CARDHOLDERS TO \$20 DAILY CASH WITHDRAWAL FROM ATM MACHINES (S 4)

Senate 11-25, rejected an amendment that would limit welfare recipients from using their EBT cards to withdraw more than \$20 per day from an ATM machine. The amendment also would implement a vendor payment system for the non-cash payment of rent and electric and gas utility bills for EBT card holders.

Amendment supporters said all restrictions that ban the use of cards for alcohol, tobacco and Lottery tickets and other non-essentials are meaningless and unenforceable because recipients can simply take as much cash for which they are eligible from an ATM machine and use it for the banned purposes.

Amendment opponents said the \$20 limit goes too far. They argued the state should find who is abusing the system and act accordingly rather than punishing people across the board. (A “Yes” vote is for the \$20 limit. A “No vote is against it.)

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	No
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	No

APPROVE COMPROMISE RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF CARDS (S 4)

Senate 38-0, approved an amendment prohibiting the use of EBT cards in liquor stores, casinos and strip clubs. The measure also mandates that the state implement a vendor payment system for the non-cash payment of rent and electric and gas utility bills of EBT card holders who are misusing their cash funds.

Other provisions require the MBTA to accept EBT cards for the purchase of public transportation fares and mandate that the state conduct a data match survey to uncover any information that is inconsistent with the information provided by the welfare benefit.

Amendment supporters said this is a step forward in cracking down on the misuse of EBT cards. Some supporters said they voted for this amendment but also favored harsher restrictions including prohibiting the withdrawal by welfare recipients of more than \$20 cash per day from ATM machines. (A “Yes” vote is for the amendment.)

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

ALLOW DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS TO BREAK THEIR APARTMENT LEASE (S 2402) -

The House approved a Senate-approved bill allowing victims of domestic violence to break their apartment lease without a penalty if they notify the owner in writing that they or a member of their household is a victim of domestic violence, rape, sexual assault or stalking. Only final approval is needed in each branch prior to the measure going to Gov. Patrick.

Supporters said the measure is designed to help victims move if their assailant knows where they are living. The measure also requires property owners to change the tenant’s exterior locks if the tenant or occupants reasonably believe they are in danger.

STERILIZE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS (H 4549) -

The House gave initial approval to a local option bill requiring that schools inform parents of children who are using a borrowed wind instrument that while the instrument has been sanitized, it may also be sterilized to eradicate all microbial life within the in-

strument. The school would arrange to have the instrument sterilized but the parent would be required to pay the cost. The law would only take effect in cities or towns that choose to adopt the law. Wind instruments include the flute, piccolo, clarinet, oboe, trumpet and trombone.

This bill replaced a stricter, earlier version of the measure that would have required all schools that opt into the law to sterilize each wind instrument and also pay the cost.

Supporters of the tougher version pointed to studies showing that bacteria which cause strep and staph infections can thrive for months inside the instrument.

Supporters of last week’s version argued it a reasonable compromise and noted there is no proof anyone has ever contracted an infection from a musical instrument.

PHONE INSURANCE (H 4351) -

The House approved and sent to the Senate a bill that would create a licensing framework for the sale of insurance for cell phones and other portable devices in Massachusetts. Currently, there is no statutory or regulatory structure that exists for the sale of this insurance. A key section gives a retail store an overall license to sell insurance and authorizes all its employees to do so. Other provisions would require many disclosures by the person who sell the insurance

Supporters said that without the bill, every salesperson in a store would have to be individually licensed insurance to consumers, a requirement that would be overly burdensome to insurance regulators and the business. They argued the measure is a fair one that provides crucial consumer protection.

POET LAUREATE (H 4543) -

The House gave initial approval to a bill that would create the position of Poet Laureate of the Commonwealth. The poet laureate would serve a two-year term and would act as a public emissary and advocate for poetry in the state. The unpaid position would be filled by gubernatorial appointment.

LAWS TAKING EFFECT -

Two bills approved by the Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Patrick in October have recently taken effect or are about to do so. Most approved new laws don’t take effect until 90 days after the governor signs them. The two laws are:

READ PROFICIENTLY BY THIRD GRADE (H 4243) -

Effective December 26, 2012: Creates an Early Literacy Expert Panel to advise the state’s education departments on strategies to have all students in the state reading proficiently by the end of third grade. The panel will make recommendations for the implementation of a language-rich curriculum, professional training of teachers, and family partnerships for improving the quality of interaction between homes and schools to support children’s language and literacy development.

Supporters say 39 percent of the state’s third grade students read below their grade level. They argued that studies show 74 percent of students who have a difficult time with reading in third grade often continue to struggle throughout high school and are four times as likely to drop out before graduation.

ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES (S 2381) -

Effective January 4, 2013: Revises the 2010 law that regulates the operation of off-road recreation vehicles, including all-terrain vehicles, dirt bikes and snowmobiles. The

changes exempt out-of-state drivers who are racing in Massachusetts from the requirement that a person under 18 must take a safety course before driving the vehicle and from being required to register their vehicles in Massachusetts; allow a vehicle manufactured before 1985 to meet only the emission and noise standards that were in place at that time; and exempt vehicles operated on a private track or closed course from noise and emissions restrictions.

Supporters say the changes were necessary because some provisions of the 2010 law had unintended consequences like discouraging races in Massachusetts and causing communities to lose tourism dollars.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Rep. Smith compromised the legitimacy of his races for public office by facilitating the casting of invalid ballots for ineligible and unaware voters. In doing so, he undermined the democratic process in Massachusetts and violated the public’s trust.” – *Assistant Attorney General Lanny Breuer on the agreement by Rep. Stephen Smith (D-Everett) to plead guilty to civil rights violations and resign his state representative seat for his role in submitting fraudulent absentee ballot applications and casting invalid ballots in multiple elections in 2009 and 2010.*

“Massachusetts continues to be a national leader in clean energy and energy efficiency. This project again marries energy and environment objectives, continuing our progress toward a clean energy future as we work to protect our state’s natural beauty.” – *Environmental Affairs Secretary Rick Sullivan at the groundbreaking ceremony for the state’s first public zero net energy building that includes 45,000 square feet of office, laboratory and meeting space; a geothermal heating and cooling system; and solar panels.*

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 17-21, the House met for a total of one hour and 40 minutes while the Senate met for a total of one hour and two minutes,

Mon. December 17	House 11:06 a.m. to 11:32 a.m. Senate 11:04 a.m. to 11:28 a.m.
Tues. December 18	No House session No Senate session
Wed. December 19	No House session No Senate session
Thurs. December 20	House 11:04 a.m. to 12:18 p.m. Senate 11:09 a.m. to 11:47 a.m.
Fri. December 21	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

2012 Somerville Seniors Christmas Party on the Water

By William Tauro

The Somerville Council on Aging's Annual Christmas Party was held last Wednesday at the Winter Hill Yacht Club in Somerville.

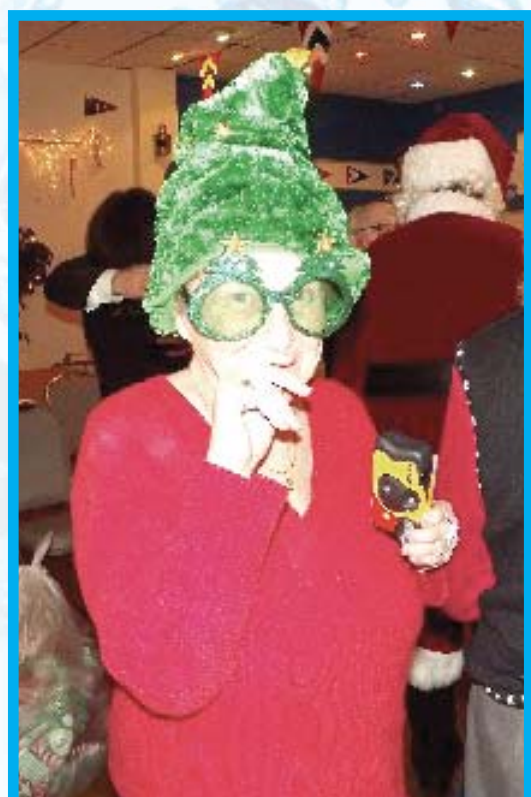
Over one hundred local Somerville seniors attended the holiday event that was hosted by the Winter Hill Yacht Club and Middlesex Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian, who's posse of volunteer deputies provided, prepared and served the entire home cooked meal from scratch at the yacht club.

Somerville Police Chief Thomas Pasquarello, as well as elected officials, were at the event where holiday minded seniors filled the banquet room. Santa Claus, aka Alderman Dennis Sullivan, also made his rounds among the crowd in his red suit and long white beard along with Alderman Bill White passing out gifts to the senior guest.

Newly appointed Alderman Maureen Bastardi was welcomed with open arms by seniors at the event as she made her first public appearance as an alderman in the city since being appointed last week.

Somerville Council on Aging Director Cindy Hickey and her staff did a wonderful job planning and setting up the event.

The Somerville Council on Aging Christmas Party has turned into an annual event at the Winter Hill Yacht Club for the past three years and has been a popular and enjoyable hotspot venue to hold the event for the Somerville seniors.





SOMERVILLE SPORTS

Lubin leads the way as boys hoops goes to 2-0 Swim team also wins

By Mike Stoller

With 28 points and an astounding 19 rebounds, senior forward John Lubin led the host Somerville boys' basketball team to a convincing 73-56 win over non-league foe Newton South last week, as the Highlanders improved to 2-0 on the campaign.

Somerville, which plays in the Greater Boston League, pulled away in the second half,

after leading, 31-26, at the break.

In addition to Lubin's spectacular outing, the Highlanders got huge contributions from Gustavo DeMoura, Roubins Guerrier, Rayoni Matos, and Richard Guerrier.

DeMoura, a senior guard, totaled 13 points, while Roubins Guerrier scored all of his 13 marks in the second half.

Matos poured in eight points, and Richard Guerrier had five,

but proved even more impressive on defense with seven steals.

"Our defense caused a lot of turnovers," Somerville head coach Mark Antonelli said. "It was a good effort, but we still need to clean things up. [We also had] a lot of turnovers."

Meanwhile, in the season opener at Peabody, Lubin (18 points), DeMoura (14), and Matos (10) all hit in double figures, while Richard Guerrier almost reached the mark with

eight to go along with another seven swipes, as the Highlanders held off the Tanners, 60-49, in nonleague play.

Somerville had led by even more than the final 11-point margin, but the Tanners rallied to make it a closer game.

"We hung on for a hard fought victory," Antonelli said.

Somerville will host Malden Catholic tonight.

Cam Rumrill, Ajay Tu-

lachen, Harrison Grams, Marissa Rafal, and Rafael Lima all won their respective events to help lead the Somerville swim team to an 80-71 win over Medford last week. Seniors Rumrill, Tulachen, and Grams took the 200 freestyle, the 50 free, and the 100 backstroke, respectively. Sophomore Marissa Rafal placed first in the 500 free, and fellow sophomore Rafael Lima won the individual medley.

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#349

1. Who was the band-leader that popularized *Auld Lang Syne*?

2. What is the translation of *Auld Lang Syne*?

3. What two months contain equinoxes?

4. Who wrote *Roll Over Beethoven*?

5. When and why did making New Year's resolutions start?

6. What is the purpose of making New Year's resolutions?

7. What does the abbreviation "e.g." stand for?

8. On what sea were the Guns of Navarone trained?

9. What New York church housed the bomb that blew up Earth in *Beneath The Planet of The Apes*?

10. What was the period between The Fall of The Roman Empire and The Renaissance called?

11. What line precedes "and never the twain shall meet" - ?

12. How did January get its name?

Answers on page 17

Somerville Youth Softball Winter Clinic



By Bob Schofield
Somerville Youth Softball Organization, President

As the 2013 spring season begins to ramp up, SYSO has planned a Winter Softball Clinic. The clinic will be held from January 11 through March 22, Friday evenings from 7 - 9 p.m. at the Edgerly Education Center at 8 Bonair Street.

The City of Somerville and Somerville Recreation Commission have equipped the Edgerly

gymnasium with state of art batting/pitching cages through On Deck Sports.

Players will train in an environment similar to those found in professional facilities outside of Somerville. We are very excited about having been given use of the equipment for our players.

Join Somerville Youth Softball and Somerville Recreation for 10 sessions of instruction in hitting, pitching and fielding at all skill levels. Players will experi-

ence 2 fun hours of learning from outstanding coaches and players from around the area to help them develop the skills to be great softball players.

Advanced registration is required. The clinic fee is \$45 per player, plus a \$4.29 online processing fee. Credit and Debit card is accepted on www.somervillesoftball.com.

Please take the time to register players early to help us get the spring 2013 Softball Season off on the right foot.

Jerry's

Liquor Store

Union Square

329 Somerville Ave • (617) 666-5410

Be sure to visit us online at

www.TheSomervilleNews.com

and on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/thesomervillenews

Kennedy Pool holiday schedule

FAMILY SWIM	6:15 - 7:45 a.m.
December School Vacation Week Wednesday-Friday	1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
December 26, 27, 28	6:00 - 7:40 p.m.
Additional family swim hours are Wednesday-Friday	December 27 Thursday LAP SWIMMING HOURS
1-3:30 p.m.	1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Normal evening family swim will occur Tuesday +	6:00 - 7:40 p.m.
Thursday 6-7:30 p.m.	December 28 Friday LAP SWIMMING
CLOSED December 22 + 24 + 25 + 29 + 31 + January 1	6:15 - 7:45 a.m.
December 22 + 23 + 24 + 25	1:00 - 3:40 p.m.
CLOSED	
LAP SWIM	December 29 + 30 + 31 + January 1
December 26 Wednesday LAP SWIMMING HOURS	CLOSED

The king-men on Kingman Road

CONT. FROM PG 1

Neighbor Ed Hardy, 69, faces a similar problem; Hardy's house has been sinking inch by inch after large rainstorms.

"His house is leaning towards my house," says Ryan. And, it's estimated that Hardy's house has sunk between 5-8 inches on the right side.

"It ruins everything in the cellar," says Ryan. "It's not a priority for the politicians until someone gets hurt. If the mayor lived on this street, then it would get done."

While Ryan's house has been fixed, Hardy has some much needed work to be completed on his house.

Hardy has lived at 15 Kingman Rd. since 1979, and he remembers the cellar flooding many times. The water would

flood up to the electrical panel in the cellar, around 5 feet high.

"We had a couple of storms that were so bad everything was floating down there," says Hardy.

Hardy lost several of his appliances including his washer and dryer.

In the late eighties, when Hardy had a two-door hatchback Oldsmobile Firenza, it cost him 400 dollars to clean it out. Later on, in another storm, his 2003 Hyundai Elantra was "totaled."

FEMA awarded Hardy just \$1800 in relief from the floods back in the 80's. "I had to replace the boiler, the washer/dryer," says Hardy. "All the other stuff was just washed-up."

All storage was destroyed in



Photos by Ed Hardy

the flood. He's got nothing left: Just memories.

So to fix the flooding in his basement Hardy contracted his cousin and dug up his cellar floor. They replaced the cracked clay pipe with PVC piping, costing him roughly \$5000.

In recent years the city of Somerville has responded with various temporary solutions.

About 10 years ago former Mayor Dorothy A. Kelly Gay, along with former Alderman Kevin Tarpley, helped install check valves on Kingman Road, which helped control the problem. Yet, the street continued to flood during rainstorms.

So residents, like Hardy, continue to face the problem.

In order for Hardy to get his house jacked up, it's going to be "about a \$25,000 thousand dollar job," says Hardy. "I don't

have that kind of money."

Hardy spoke to the Housing and Community Development Committee to see if they had any grants available. Hardy wants a no-interest loan. That way it wouldn't cost any money until he sells the house. But he may not be able to receive the grant.

Ward 2 Alderman Maryann Heuston has been actively pursuing a solution for residents with this corrosion and flooding issue.

Many months ago Alderman Heuston formed a committee to explore the various methods of reaching a solution. They've been sifting through the options for some time now, trying to create a roadmap for the permanent fix, she says.

"If there's any way to help people out monetarily," says

Alderman Heuston. It is being discussed.

Over the years some strategies to rectify the flooding on streets like Kingman have been somewhat successful. Heuston points in particular, to some of the Somerville Avenue work that has allegedly helped to alleviate some flooding in Ward 2.

There's no price tag for the job to end the flooding on Kingman, but she says it could cost in the ballpark of \$10 million to rectify many of the problem streets like Kingman.

"The patchwork has helped, but it hasn't taken care of the root cause of the problem," she says. "It's a calamity for people who live in these areas. No one knows better than Ed Hardy and Tommy Ryan on Kingman Road."



Argenziano School Chorus brightens the holiday season

CONT. FROM PG 1

this pedestrian heavy square.

Barringer described the chorus as "a community organization that reflects the cultural richness and diversity of Somerville," adding "our children love to sing." Both of these statements were made apparent throughout, most especially when the children sang a bilingual version of Silent Night in English and Portuguese, out of respect for the neighborhood's diverse population.

"They nailed it!" a proud looking father exclaimed after a particularly rousing and jubilant version of We Wish You a Merry Christmas, and the children were given a warm reception by the smiling, if a bit chilly, onlookers.

It was a classic collection of wintertime favorites. People walking by could be seen singing along to themselves, or flashing quick smiles after catching first glance of the Argenziano students. Although it

was a smaller group of little carolers, the enthusiasm of this mixed bunch shone through, and they sang as children often do: happily.

As the days ticked off and we inched closer to Christmas, Somerville residents were more likely to wander into these festive scenes. As the cold creeps in and snow begins to fall, we can all take warmth from the voices such as those twenty-five students from the Argenziano School Chorus.

News from all over

CONT. FROM PG 9

she concludes with a little preview of what we'll be up to next year:

"It has now been almost two years since the first happiness survey was conducted and the city is gearing up for the next one, which will be distributed in spring. [Somerstat Director Daniel] Hadley and his team are already working on a new

set of questions using the results from the 2011 survey as a baseline. Their hope is that other municipalities will follow their lead and start measuring happiness so there will be a data set to compare it to. 'The happiness conversation is only getting started,' says Curtatone. If he has his way, Somerville will be a leading

voice in it."

It's fascinating and fun to see Somerville through the fresh eyes of new visitors. We've all been working hard in recent years to make our city a great place to (you guessed it) live, work and play. It's a treat when people beyond our borders - sometimes way beyond - take notice.



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



Monday December 31
Duppy New Year! Duppy Conquerors
and special surprise guests!

Tuesday January 1
Happy New Year!

Wednesday January 2
Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.

Thursday January 3
Spring Hill Rounders grassy Thursdays 7:30 p.m.

Friday January 4
Les Sampou Band 6 p.m.
Chris Paradise Group, Cloud Factory Band 9 p.m.

Saturday January 5
Family Jewels 6 p.m.
Jeremy Lyons Trio 9 p.m.

Sunday January 6
Mark Brine & Friends 5 p.m.
Amber Casares Band 8 p.m.




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www.sallyobriensbar.com



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Call 617-666-4010 and speak to the Assignment Editor

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on **Wednesday, January 9, 2013**, in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, at 6:00 p.m. to hear pending applications and to hold public hearings:

77-83 North St: (Case #ZBA 2012-68) Applicant and Owner Peter Stefanou seeks a special permit to greatly alter a nonconforming commercial structure under SZO §4.4.1 to construct two, three-story, semi-detached townhouses and associated parking. RB zone. Ward 7.

111-123 Heath St/34 Edgar Ave: (Case #ZBA 2012-81) Applicant and Owner Esmaeil Mahdavi seeks a Special Permit with Site Plan Review under SZO §7.2 to have more than one principle structure on a lot and §7.3 to have more than three dwelling units on a lot in order to construct four residential units in two semi-detached townhouses for a total of sixteen residential units on the site. Two of the sixteen units will be affordable as defined in §2.2.4. Four existing residential structures that will remain and the existing commercial structure on the site will be removed. The Applicant/Owner also seeks a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter windows, doors and construct a dormer on 34 Edgar Ave which is a nonconforming single-family dwelling. RB zone. Ward 4.

1-3 Benton Rd: (Case #ZBA 2012-101) Applicant and Owner MLM Realty Trust seeks a Special Permit under SZO §9.9.a, §9.13.b and §9.13.c to have two shared driveways and 3 sets of 2 tandem parking spaces in a garage for a by-right three-family dwelling. RB zone. Ward 3.

514A Medford St: (Case #ZBA 2012-102) Applicant, King of Wings, and Owner, Giuseppe Bologna LAB Trust, seeks a Special Permit under SZO §7.11.10.2.1.A in order to establish a fast order food establishment with no seats and a special permit under §9.13.e to modify the parking requirements for a nonconforming lot. NB zone. Ward 5.



167-169 Holland St: (Case #ZBA 2012-105) Applicant Rudi Pizzi, Director of Project Admin Tufts University and Owner Trustees of Tufts University seeks a special permit to alter a nonconforming structure under SZO §4.4.1 to replace the roof of the Tufts data center, increasing the height of the roof by two feet for a portion of the building that is not visible from surrounding area. RA zone. Ward 7.

Copies of these petitions are available for review in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30 pm; and Fri, 8:30 am-12:30 pm; and at somervillema.gov/planningandzoning. As cases may be continued to later dates, please check the agenda on the City's website or call before attending. Continued cases may not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to OSPCD, Planning Division, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; by fax to 617-625-0722; or by email to dpereira@somervillema.gov.

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant

Published in Somerville News on 12/26/12 & 1/2/13.

12/26/12 The Somerville News



SPACE SELF STORAGE
51 Mc Grath Hwy
Somerville, MA. 02143
Phone: (617) 629-4410

Notice is hereby given to the persons herein after named and to all whom it may concern. The contents of leased units are subject to our lien for non-payment of rent and other charges. You are denied access to that unit until payment is made in full.

Space Self Storage , will sell at Public Auction under Massachusetts Lien Law 105-A for cash only on **January 29 - 2013 at 9:30 AM** and on such succeeding days and times as may be necessary at 51 Mc Grath Hwy, Somerville, Massachusetts 02143 the property belonging to:

NAME	UNIT #	DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS	CHARGES DUE
Joshua Andujar	3	Boxes, Furniture, Electronics	\$ 560.00
Allon Garcia	70	Bags of Clothing	\$ 873.00
Rachel Doran	76	Boxes, Magazines	\$1, 581.40
Gladison M. Sandez	94	Boxes, Furniture	\$ 400.00
Abrar M. Ahmad	102	Boxes, Baby Furniture	\$ 541.80
Hargobind S. Sahola	109	Plastic Bins	\$ 726.40
Tim Pollard	221	Boxes, Houseware	\$ 339.00
Michael Stead	267	Furniture	\$ 510.80
Caleb Silva	459	Rear Projection TV	\$ 536.00
Nicole Rene Atchison	565	Boxes, Doll House	\$ 399.00
Seth Morabito	597	Mountain Bike, Boxes	\$ 643.21
Christopher Eerr	96	Bike, Books, Boxes, I-POD, Audio	\$ 326.00

12/26/12 The Somerville News

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court

Probate and Family Court
NOTICE AND ORDER:

Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor Docket No. MI 12P5518GD

In the interest of **Darrius Bullock**
of **Somerville, MA.**
Minor

NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

1)Hearing Date/ Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **12/11/2012 by Crystal M. Fowler of Somerville, MA** will be held **01/11/2013 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing** Located **208 Cambridge St Cambridge MA 02141 Courtroom #2**

2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response , you need to:

File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing;

3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

ORDER TO PETITIONER(S)

IT IS ORDERED THAT copies of this Notice and the Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a minor be served in hand on the minor (if 14 or more years of age and not the petitioner). the guardian, the parents of the minor, and any or other person if ordered by the Court, at least **fourteen (14)** days prior to the hearing date listed above.

If Service in hand cannot be accomplished on any interested party, **IT IS ORDERED** that copies of this Notice and the Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor be served on the interested party by leaving at and mailing by regular first class mail to last and usual place of residence of the interested party at least **fourteen (14)** days prior to the date of the hearing listed above.

If the identity or whereabouts of an interested party **is not known, IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that copies of this Notice and Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor be served on the interested party at least **fourteen (14)** days prior to the hearing date by publishing a copy of the Order and Notice once in **Somerville News, Somerville**, publication to be at least **Seven (7)** days prior to the hearing date.

If required, service on the United States Veteran's Administration and the Department of Children and Families may be accomplished by regular first class mail at least **Seven (7)** days prior to the hearing.

THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE: An important court proceeding that may affects your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for Legal advice.

Tara E. Di Cristofaro
Register of Probate

Date: December 11, 2012

12/26/12 The Somerville News

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www.TheSomervilleNews.com

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

MIDDLESEX Division **Docket No. MI 12P5487EA**

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of: Margaret A. Baker
Also known as: Margaret Baker
Date of Death: 11/05/2012

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by:

David W Walsh of Somerville MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order of testimony and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

And also requesting that:

David W Walsh of Somerville MA

be appointed as Personal Representative (s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

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 01/04/2013. 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.

Tara E. Di Cristofaro
Register of Probate

Date: December 07, 2012

12/26/12 The Somerville News



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
IFB # 13-55

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department invites sealed bids for:

Sewer Drain Cleaning and TV Inspection

An invitation for bids (IFB) and specifications may be obtained at the Purchasing Department, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. 02143 on or after: **Wednesday, December 26, 2012**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **Thursday, January 10, 2013 at 11:00 A.M.** at which time sealed bids 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.

Prevailing Wage Rates Apply. 5% Bid Deposit Required.

For Bid Packages and Information, please email Karen Mancini, kmancini@somervillema.gov or visit the City of Somerville web-site, www.somervillema.gov

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

12/26/12 The Somerville News

PATS TOWING

*******NOTICE TO OWNERS ONLY*******

The following abandoned and / or junk motor vehicles will be disposed of or sold, any questions regarding this matter please contact Pat's Towing.
Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm
Tel: 617-354-4000, Fax 617-623-4287

2002	Ford	F-150	Vin# 1FTRW08L12KB69665
1994	Chevy	Blazer	Vin# 1GNEK18K2RJ398977
1993	Ford	Escort	Vin# 1FAPP14J1PW126822
2005	Audi	A4	Vin# WAULT68E65A011221

Date of Sale: January 6, 2013
Time: 12:00 PM
Location: 160 Mc Grath Hwy. Somerville, MA 02143

12/19/12, 12/26/12, 1/2/13 The Somerville News

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

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (SHPC) shall hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 15, 2013 at 6:40 p.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room, City Hall (93 Highland Avenue) regarding a proposal by Applicant Gwen Simpkins to demolish the two-family dwelling at 82 Dover Street.

The subject of the hearing will be a review of the initial determination by the SHPC that under the City of Somerville Zoning Ordinance Section 7-28b(2), the structure is considered "Significant". Public testimony followed by discussion and a vote by the Commission will be taken regarding if the building should be "Preferably Preserved". For further information, please contact Commission Staff Kristi Chase at (617) 625-6600 x 2525 (kchase@somervillema.gov), or Amie Hayes at (617) 625-6600 x 2534 (ahayes@somervillema.gov).

12/26/12 The Somerville News

Ms. Cam's

Answers from page 14

Olio

Answers

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. It was written by Robert Burns, but popularized by Guy Lombardo, who first heard it sung by Scottish immigrants in his hometown of London, Ontario. When he and his brothers formed their band it was their standard. Lombardo played it in 1929 at the Roosevelt Hotel at a New Year's Party | return borrowed farm tools as it was around the time when their farming season began |
| 2. It means "old long since" translated "times gone by" | 6. The purpose of New Year's Resolutions are usually for made for self-improvement or to set goals |
| 3. March and September | 7. Exempli gratia, or for example |
| 4. Chuck Berry | 8. The Aegean Sea |
| 5. It began in pre-Christian times by the Babylonians in mid-March and changed by the Romans to January 1 - Babylonians used the resolutions to | 9. St. Patrick's Cathedral |
| | 10. The Middle Ages |
| | 11. East is East, and West is West |
| | 12. From the pagan god Janus, the two faced god who looks backward into the old year and forward into the new year. |

Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleNews.com and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/thesomervillenews

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

Belly Dancing is changing times. Beginning January 15, it will be during the day from 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. This is a fun class with great arm and core exercises. Take a chance and join us.

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

LGBT Game Night - There's nothing better than hanging out with friends both old and new playing cards, apples to apples, dominoes, musical chairs, connect 4. 6:00 - 8:00 pm Holland Street Center.

Navarasa Dance Theater is a contemporary dance theater company founded as 'Navarasa Natyalaya' by renowned dancer and choreographer, Aparna Sindhoor in 1991 in Mysore, India. In 1996, it was reconstituted as Navarasa Dance Theater in Somerville by Aparna Sindhoor and film director S.M.Raju. They have created over fifteen full length dance theater works and presented them at sold out shows to diverse audiences. They have toured extensively in North America, Europe and India, and has been invited to perform at various venues including the Jacob's Pillow and the Edinburgh Festival. Come join us on the 10th of January for an intergenerational dance event at Holland Street Center. From 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. RSVP is a must as limited space.

We are heading to Greece on January 24 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Join us for a wonderful talk by Tufts Professor Professor Ioannis (Yannis) Evrigenis. Sue Leach, our amazing belly dance instructor will be performing and we will also learn some greek dancing. An event not to be missed.

We would like to start a Photo Club. Any interest? Let us know.

Cultural Outings - Fuller Craft Museum in Brockton. \$25 fee includes transportation and customized museum tour. Lunch at the Stoneforge Grill in Easton is additional cost. Fuller Craft Museum is a dynamic

environment where craft is experienced through exhibitions, education, outreach, and collaboration. We explore the materials, techniques, and artistic expression that challenge the perception of craft, while honoring the achievements of the past.

Men's Club - Recently retired? Looking to connect with other men in the community? Join our Men's Group and connect with your old friends or come make some new friends. Wednesdays at Holland Street Center. 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Light refreshments will be served. All 55+ are welcome. Beginning February 9.

Hanscom Dinner & Bingo - January 9.

Lunch at Culinary Arts - January 22.

Hanscom Dinner & Bingo - February 13.

Fuller Craft Museum - February 15.

STAY ACTIVE:

QiGong - Wednesdays at Holland Street from 1:15 - 2:00 pm.

Flexibility & Balance - all three centers.

Strength with Geoff - Tuesdays at Holland and Thursdays and Ralph & Jenny.

December 26 - December 28

Holland Street Center

Lunch: 11:30 a.m.
167 Holland Street | 617-625-6600 x. 2300.

December 31

All Centers Closed

New Year's Eve Day Brunch & Bingo at Hanscom
January 1

Happy New Year!

All Centers Closed

January 2

Holland Street Center

Fit-4-Life Classes Groups A & B
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.
Crochet & Knitting | 10:45 a.m.
Bingo | 12:45 p.m.
9 New Washington Street | 617-666-5223

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FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Wednesday|December 26
Veteran's Memorial Rink
Free public skating
12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave
Friday| December 28
Veteran's Memorial Rink
Free public skating
12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave
Monday|December 31
New Year's Eve - Libraries Close at 6:00 p.m
Tuesday|January 1
New Year's Day- Libraries Closed
Wednesday |January 2
Veteran's Memorial Rink
Free public skating
12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave

MUSIC
Wednesday|December 26
Johnny D's
Hello Echo|Grimis|Craig Martinson
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
Serious Jack|Bugs Bunny|Steve Branson Band
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 27
Johnny D's
The Peacheters|Delta Generators
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004
Sally O'Brien's
Tom Hagerty Acoustic Band|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
Dizzy Bats|Max Weigert|Kyle Joseph
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
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
Noel Smyth

381 Summer St.
Somerville Theatre
Awkward Compliment's Thursday Night Comedy Night
8 p.m.|55 Davis Square
Radio Bar
UP: Bryan from Playgroung Presents: Mello Bravo, TBA
379 Summer St
Cantina la Mexicana
247 Washington St.
Friday|December 28
Johnny D's
80's cover bands|Power Of Love(Huey Lewis)|Van Railin (Van Halen)|Gunpowder Gelatine (Queen)|Obi Fernandez(of Westbound Train)|DJ Ken Cmar
17 Holland St|617-776-2004
Sally O'Brien's
Radioactive Rustlers |6 p.m.
SYM | 9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589
The Burren
Burren
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896
Orleans Restaurant and Bar
DJ
10 p.m.|65 Holland St
Precinct Bar
Electronic Night
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211
PA'S Lounge
Global Crash|Kangaroo Court|Somerville Mouth!|Gold Light Hour
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
Kaoroke/Dance party

381 Summer St
Casey's
Entertainment every Friday
173 Broadway|617- 625-5195
Cantina la Mexicana
TBA
247 Washington St.
Radio Bar
Private Party|upstairs
Downstairs: The Revival Heart, Stonehands, The Hideout \$5
379 Summer St
Saturday|December 29
Johnny D's
Mieka Pauley|Dave Crespo's After Party|Southern Lust
Club|Naughty Water
17 Holland St|617-776-2004
Sally O'Brien's
Wooden Leg |6 p.m.
Dave Alpert & The Blue Ribbons
\$5 cover |9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589
The Burren
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896
Precinct Bar
Marc Pinansky|Back Bar Justin Joyce (a variety show)
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211
Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Karaoke
65 Holland St
PA'S Lounge
Ovlov|Big Long Now|The Migs|Vegans
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557
On The Hill Tavern
Live DJ Music
499 Broadway|617-629-5302
Bull McCabe's
TBA
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
Horse Mode|Irukandj|The If|The Stilts|TKC
381 Summer St
Casey's
Entertainment every Saturday

173 Broadway|617- 625-5195
Cantina la Mexicana
TBA
247 Washington St.
Radio Bar
Midriff Records night featuring Eldridge Rodriguez, Guillermo Sexo, Do Not Forsake Me Oh My Darling, No Love 9PM, \$8, 21+
379 Summer St
Arts at The Armory
Jimmy Tingle: Live on Stage and Screen
7 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave
Sunday|December 30
Johnny D's
Open Blues Jam|4:30 p.m.
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004
Sally O'Brien's Bar
Frank Drake Sunday Showcase |5 p.m.
Thea Hopkins Trio with guest Ian Fitzgerald |8 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589
The Burren
Burren Acoustic Music Series
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896
PA'S Lounge
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
Roy Sludge Trio 4p-6:30p FREE.
Private Party 8 p.m.-1 a.m.
379 Summer St
Monday|December 31
Johnny D's
Booty Vortex New Years Eve Bash
17 Holland St | 617-776-2004

• • • • • **‘VILLENS ON THE TOWN** • • • • •

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Duppy New Year! Duppy Conquerors and special surprise guests!
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
New Year's Eve Party \$20 cover
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

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

Precinct Bar
Oh Snap! 80's/90's & Electronic DJ Dance Party!
70 Union Sq|617-623-921

Bull McCabe's Pub
NYE Bash|Music TBA
8 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Rosebud Bar
Karaoke Dance Party
New Years Eve
381 Summer St

Radio Bar
Up:New Year's Eve Party with Sidewalk Driver
Down:Sherman Burns, Whitey, Tenaflly Vipers, Daniel Costa
379 Summer St

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

Arts at The Armory
Jimmy Tingle: Live on Stage and Screen
7 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday|January 1
JohnnyD's
Live Jazz Brunch
Bar closed at 5 p.m.
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

The Burren
Back Closed
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

On The Hill Tavern
Stump Trivia (with prizes)
499 Broadway|617-629-5302

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

Precinct Bar
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

Highland Kitchen
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

Rosebud Bar

Closed
381 Summer St
PJ Ryan's
Pub Quiz
10 p.m.|239 Holland St.|617-625-8200

Radio Bar
379 Summer St

Wednesday|January 2
Johnny D's
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
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
379 Summer St

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

Arts at the Armory
Wiretape Wednesday Open Stage
7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

CLASSES AND GROUPS
Wednesday|December 26

Third Life Studio
Beyond beginning Belly Dance with Nadira Jamal
7:30 p.m.|Level 2|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com

Thursday| December 27

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

Saturday| December 29
Arts at the Armory
Winter Farmers' Market
9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

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

Sunday| December 30
Unity Church of God
Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon Family Groups
7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street
Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement.

Monday| December 31
New Year's Eve - Libraries Close at 6:00 p.m

Tuesday| January 1
New Year's Day - Libraries Closed

Wednesday| January 2
Central Library
Mystery Book Club
7 p.m.-9 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Third Life Studio
Beyond beginning Belly Dance with Nadira Jamal
7:30 p.m.|Level 2|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com



Photo by Ethan Backer

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Chelsea on Fire reunites for special show

By Max Sullivan

Boston based group Chelsea on Fire will be performing for the first time in over ten years next Friday night, as they open for Boston's own Cult 45 at the latter's CD release party at Radio in Somerville, MA.

Considered, "legends" of Boston's music scene, Chelsea on Fire found success in the late 90's as an opening group for Joan Jett with their unique blend of punk and alternative.

Amy Di Sciuillo, the band's bassist and a native of Union Square, said she's been extremely excited about the reunion, though she admits it's been a challenge to get back into the swing of things a decade after the fact.

"It wasn't really there," Di Sciuillo said. "It had been a long time since the three of us had played together or revisited that material. So, that's where the nervousness comes in."

According to Di Sciuillo, the

band first got together this year with no intention of a reunion show. It was more about testing the waters with old band mates. The group gathered for a meeting to talk first, then "gave each other homework", as in learning songs from their old catalogue.

It was Cult 45 that pushed the group to do the reunion show when they were asked to open on Jan. 4.

"We didn't really even have a plan to play the same material, we just did it because that's how we got reacquainted with each other," Di Sciuillo said. "So we ended up learning a bunch of original material that we had written before and we had sort of thought about a show, and then Bob from Cult 45 had sort of woke us up and asked us if we wanted to play a show with them."

"We were very unscheduled in our plan for the entire time we were playing until then," Di Sciuillo continued.



Chelsea on Fire rekindles its spark for the Cult 45 CD release party to be held at Radio Bar on January 4.

Di Sciuillo said that it was strange being in the practice room again for the first time with her former band mates.

"You feel embarrassed and shy, and it's weird to get back together," Di Sciuillo said, "But it quickly felt pretty good. It was really nice and it ended up being a lot of fun and really cathartic."

Di Sciuillo wouldn't reveal her favorite songs, in fear of giving away too much of the set list. She did admit, however, one song that will not be played, to her dismay.

"I would suggest a song (*Dry Eyes*) and Josey would say, 'Oh I hate that song,' and I would say,

'Oh, I never knew that', so we're picking songs that speak to each of us individually."

I might be able to convince her to go back there. Maybe she'll change something," Di Sciuillo added.

Now 43, Di Sciuillo said that the band is able to enjoy themselves much more than they could in the 90's. At the time, the success of being a favorite of the Boston music scene and touring with Joan Jett caused a great deal of stress. What should have been fun, according to the bassist, ended up becoming a serious burden at times. This time around, every-

one has cooled off, and the three band mates can relax and have fun with their music.

Di Sciuillo said the band is intending to write more material after the reunion show with Cult 45, but they don't know where they will end up beyond that. They are taking it one step at a time.

"After the show, we're gonna start writing new compositions, we already started that a little bit."

See Chelsea on Fire open for Cult 45 Friday, Jan. 4, at Radio in Union Square. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door.



Sharpen your fire safety smarts this season

How many strands of mini string lights can you safely connect? How many inches should you cut from the base of a fresh-cut Christmas tree before placing it in water? Not really sure? Then it's time to sharpen your holiday fire safety smarts with information and resources from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

"Many people simply don't know which activities and practices present hazards," said Lorraine Carli, NFPA's vice president of communications. "Project Holiday" points out where holiday fire risks lurk, along with a wealth of tips and guidelines to prevent them."

Across the board, the majority of holiday fires are the result of human error.

The holiday season is a time when there is an increased risk of home fires. NFPA is offering resources to help increase public awareness about fire risks during the holiday season, "Project

Holiday" features a quiz that checks just how prepared you really are for a fire-safe season. The site also includes free, online videos and downloadable materials to help parents protect their families, particularly those with young children, who are at greater risk to fires. In addition, an online toolkit is available with campaign materials that can be used to spread the word about fire safety throughout the community.

Sparky the Fire Dog is also pitching in with holiday-themed fire-safety materials for parents and educators on his website, including downloadable coloring and activity sheets and e-cards.

According to NFPA, many holiday traditions and festivities - from candle decorations and cooking to Christmas trees and holiday lighting - significantly contribute to the season's increased risks:

- December is the peak month for home candle fires. Almost

half of all home decoration fires were started by candles.

- Although Christmas tree fires aren't common, when they do occur, they're more likely to be serious.

- A heat source too close to the tree causes roughly one in five associated fires, with one of every three home Christmas tree fires caused by electrical problems.

- Almost half of all holiday lighting fires occur in December. Electrical failures or malfunctions were a factor in two-thirds (69 percent) of these fires.

- Cooking is the leading cause of home fires; unattended cooking is the leading cause.

To learn more about "Project Holiday" and its tips for a fire-safe season, visit www.nfpa.org/holiday.

NFPA is a worldwide leader in fire, electrical, building, and life safety. The mission of the international nonprofit organization founded in 1896 is to reduce the

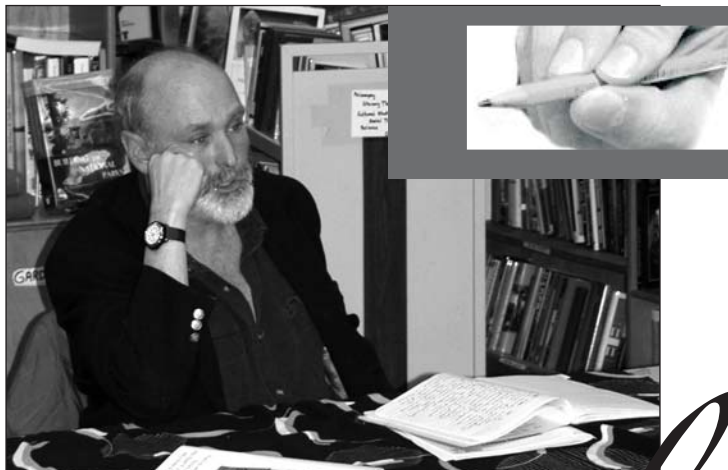


worldwide burden of fire and other hazards on the quality of life by providing and advocating consensus codes and standards, research, training, and education. NFPA develops more than

300 codes and standards to minimize the possibility and effects of fire and other hazards. All NFPA codes and standards can be viewed at no cost at www.nfpa.org/freeaccess.

Want to learn TV production? Final Cut Pro? Soundtrack Pro? Green-screen? Call us today for more info! 617-628-8826							
Wednesday, December 26							
12:00am	Free Speech TV	6:30pm	Somerville Arts Matters	1:00pm	Bongoman (LIVE)	11:00am	Nossa Gente e Costumes
6:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	7:00pm	The Literati Show	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	Noon	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
7:00am	Road to Recovery	7:30pm	Reeling the Movie Show	2:30pm	Esoteric Science	1:00pm	Ablevision
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (LIVE)	3:00pm	Tele Magazine	1:30pm	What the Fluff?
9:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	9:30pm	The Entertainer's Show	4:00pm	Boston Tango Festival	2:00pm	King of the 'Ville
10:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	10:00pm	Tonight's Special	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	2:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority
11:00am	Abugida TV	10:30pm	Somerville Rocks	6:00pm	Basic Buddha	3:00pm	Exercise with Robyn and Max
12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	Creepy Castle	6:30pm	Rooster Tails	3:30pm	Esoteric Science
1:00pm	Somerville Housing Authority	Friday, December 28		7:00pm	Couch's Corner	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
1:30PM	Henry Parker Presents	12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:30pm	Somerville Back in the Day	5:00pm	Culture Club
2:00pm	Culture Club	6:00am	Road to Recovery	8:00pm	David Parkman	5:30pm	Somerville Back in the Day
2:30pm	Somerville Back in the Day	7:00am	Culture Club	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)
3:00pm	Medical Tutor	7:30am	Physician Focus	10:00pm	Contemporary Science Issues & Innovations	6:30pm	Reeling the Movie Show
3:30pm	Inside Talk	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	Gay TV (Free Speech TV)	7:00pm	Critical Focus
4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	9:00am	Energy Theater	Sunday, December 30		8:00pm	Grill Dog presents
5:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking	10:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	12:00am	Free Speech TV	8:30pm	Play by Play
5:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez	11:00am	Somerville Back in the Day	6:00am	Program Celebrai	9:00pm	Dedilhando A Saudade
6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)	Noon	Critical Focus	7:00am	Flipside	10:00pm	Bate Papo con Shirley
6:30pm	Energy Theater	1:00pm	The Entertainer's Show	8:00am	Discovering Justice	11:00pm	Energy Theater
7:30pm	Basic Buddha	1:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority	9:00am	Effort Pour Christ	Tuesday, January 1	
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits (LIVE)	2:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking	10:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	12:00am	Free Speech TV
8:30pm	The Entertainer's Show	2:30pm	Cooking With Georgia	International Church of God	International Church of God	6:00am	Road to Recovery
9:00pm	Somerville Rocks!	3:00pm	Brunch with Sen. Bernie Sanders	Basic Buddha	Basic Buddha	7:00am	Outdoor Adventures (SCATV Special)
9:30pm	Shrink Rap	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	Somerville Newspaper Reading	Somerville Newspaper Reading	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
10:00pm	Play by Play	5:00pm	Couch's Corner	The Entertainer's Show	The Entertainer's Show	9:00am	Somerville News Reading
11:00pm	The Garage	5:30pm	Art @ SCATV	The Garage	The Garage	10:00am	Tele Kreyol
11:30pm	The Literary Scene	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)	Critical Focus	Critical Focus	11:00am	Somerville Most Interesting Places
Thursday, December 27		6:30pm	Groundwork Somerville	Energy Theater	Energy Theater	11:30am	Ablevision
12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:00pm	Real Estate Answer Show	Rompendo en Fe	Rompendo en Fe	Noon	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	7:30pm	Inside Talk	Dedilhando A Saudade	Dedilhando A Saudade	1:00pm	Reeling...the Movie Show
6:30am	International Church of God	8:00pm	Visual Radio	Ethiopian Satellite TV	Ethiopian Satellite TV	2:00pm	Healthy Hypnosis
7:00am	Physician Focus	9:00pm	The Garage	Abugida TV	Abugida TV	2:30pm	Somerville Arts Festival
7:30am	Grasping Nature	9:30pm	Play by Play	African Television Network	African Television Network	3:30pm	Henry Parker Presents
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	Somerville Rocks	Rooster Tails	Rooster Tails	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
9:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	10:30pm	What the Fluff?	Telemagazine	Telemagazine	5:00pm	Poet to Poet
10:00am	Active Aging	11:30pm	'Villeside Connections	Effort Pour Christ	Effort Pour Christ	5:30pm	Jeff Jam
10:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	Saturday, December 29		Nepali SCAT Studio Show	Nepali SCAT Studio Show	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)
11:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	12:00am	Free Speech TV	Somerville Rocks!	Somerville Rocks!	6:30pm	Contemporary Science Issues & Innovations
Noon	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:00am	Arabic Hour	Monday, December 31		7:30pm	Greater Somerville (LIVE)
1:00pm	Deusi Bhailo Music Program from Nepal	7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	12:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	Dead Air Live
2:30pm	Somerville Arts Festival	8:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	9:00pm	Literary Scene
3:30pm	Art @ SCATV	8:30am	King of the 'Ville	6:30am	Physician Focus	9:30pm	Watch This
4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	9:00am	Festival Kreyol	7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	10:00pm	Somerville Back in the Day
5:00pm	Ablevision	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:30pm	Tonight's Special
5:30pm	Culture Club	11:00am	Dead Air Live	9:00am	Rooster Tails	11:00pm	Creepy Castle
6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)	Noon	Reeling Movie Show	9:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show		
		12:30pm	Grasping Nature	10:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading		

City Cable TV Schedule for the Week							
CITY TV 13/22							
Wednesday, December 26							
9:00am:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	12:40pm:	Illuminations Tour	1:25pm:	GLX Gubernatorial Press Conference	12:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest Rd. 2
		1:10pm:	Veterans' Day Ceremony	2:00pm:	Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest	1:30pm	Winter Hill Community School Concert
		1:35pm:	Highlander Forum	7:00pm:	Senior Circuit	2:30pm	East Somerville Community School Concert
		2:05pm:	Chamber of Commerce Dinner	7:30pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	3:30pm	Kennedy School Holiday Concert
		7:00pm:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	7:40pm:	Illuminations Tour	7:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest Rd. 2
12:00pm:	GLX Gubernatorial Press Conference	7:10pm:	Congressional Update	8:10pm:	Clean 'Ville of Health	8:30pm	Winter Hill Community School Concert
12:35pm:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	7:40pm:	Illuminations Tour	8:25pm:	GLX Gubernatorial Press Conference	9:30pm	East Somerville Community School Concert
12:45pm:	The Mayor's Report	8:10pm:	Veterans' Day Ceremony	9:00pm:	Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest	10:30pm	Kennedy School Holiday Concert
1:15pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	8:35pm:	Highlander Forum	12:00am:	Senior Circuit	Sunday, December 30	
1:40pm:	Chamber of Commerce Dinner	9:05pm:	Clean 'Ville of Health	12:30am:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	12:00am	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest Rd. 2
7:00pm:	Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest	9:20pm:	Chamber of Commerce Dinner	12:40am:	Illuminations Tour	1:30am	Winter Hill Community School Concert
8:00pm:	The Mayor's Report	Sunday, December 30		1:10am:	Clean 'Ville of Health	2:30am	East Somerville Community School Concert
8:30pm:	Talking Business	12:00am:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	1:25am:	GLX Gubernatorial Press Conference	3:30am	Kennedy School Holiday Concert
8:50pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	12:10am:	Congressional Update	2:00am:	Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest	12:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Newton South
9:15pm:	Congressional Update	12:40am:	Illuminations Tour	EDUCATIONAL CHANNEL 15		1:30pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Acton Boxborough
9:45pm:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	1:10am:	Veterans' Day Ceremony	Wednesday, December 26		3:00pm	SHS Winter Concert
Thursday, December 27		1:35am:	Highlander Forum	9:00am	Brown School Winter Concert	7:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Newton South
12:00am:	Joe's Jazz & Blues Fest	2:05am:	Clean 'Ville of Health	12:00pm	Boys Basketball vs Malden Catholic 12/21	8:30pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Acton Boxborough
1:00am:	The Mayor's Report	2:20am:	Three Paths to Italy	1:30pm	Winter Hill Community School Concert	10:00pm	SHS Winter Concert
1:30am:	Talking Business	9:00am:	The Mayor's Report	2:30pm	East Somerville Community School Concert	Monday, December 31	
1:50am:	The Aldermen's Hour	12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	3:30pm	Brown School Winter Concert	12:00am	SHS Boys Basketball vs Newton South
2:15am:	Congressional Update	12:30pm:	Line Dancing at Capen Court	4:00pm	Kennedy School Holiday Concert	1:30am	SHS Girls Basketball vs Acton Boxborough
2:45am:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	1:05pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	7:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Matignon 12/15	3:00am	SHS Winter Concert
9:00am:	Congressional Update	1:30pm:	Somerville By Design #2	8:15pm	El Sistema Somerville Winter Concert	9:00am	SHS Winter Concert
12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	2:40pm:	The Mayor's Report	9:00pm	West Somerville Neighborhood School Concert	12:00pm	Argenziano School Winter Concert
12:30pm:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	7:00pm:	Senior Circuit	9:30pm	SHS Holiday Concert	12:45pm	Healey School Winter Concert
2:10pm	Chamber of Commerce Dinner	7:30pm:	Line Dancing at Capen Court	Thursday, December 27		1:15pm	West Somerville Neighborhood School Concert
7:00pm:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	8:05pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	12:00am	SHS Hockey vs Matignon 12/15	1:45pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Newton South
8:40pm:	The Mayor's Report	8:30pm:	Three Paths to Italy	1:15am	El Sistema Somerville Winter Concert	3:15pm	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest - Rd. 2
9:10pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	9:25pm:	The Mayor's Report	2:00am	West Somerville Neighborhood School Concert	6:00pm	Argenziano School Winter Concert
9:35pm:	Prospect Hill to Salisbury Prison	9:55pm:	Somerville By Design #2	2:30am	SHS Holiday Concert	6:45pm	Healey School Winter Concert
Friday, December 28		Monday, December 31		12:00pm	SHS Holiday Concert	7:15pm	West Somerville Neighborhood School Concert
12:00am:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	12:00am:	Senior Circuit	1:30pm	Healey School Winter Concert	7:45pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Newton South
1:40am:	The Mayor's Report	12:30am:	Line Dancing at Capen Court	2:00pm	Argenziano School Holiday Concert	9:15pm	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest - Rd. 2
2:10am:	The Aldermen's Hour	1:05am:	The Aldermen's Hour	2:40pm	Kennedy School Winter Concert	Tuesday, January 1	
2:35am:	Prospect Hill to Salisbury Prison	1:30am:	Three Paths to Italy	3:15pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Newton South	12:00am	Argenziano School Winter Concert
12:00pm:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	2:25am:	The Mayor's Report	7:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest ROUND 1	12:45am	Healey School Winter Concert
12:10pm:	Congressional Update	9:00am:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	10:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest ROUND 1	1:15am	West Somerville Neighborhood School Concert
12:40pm:	Illuminations Tour	12:00pm:	Illuminations Tour	Friday, December 28		1:45am	SHS Boys Basketball vs Newton South
1:10pm:	Veterans' Day Ceremony	12:30pm:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	12:00am	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest Rd. 1	3:15am	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest - Rd. 2
1:35pm:	Chamber of Commerce Dinner	2:10pm:	The Mayor's Report	1:30am	SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden Catholic	9:00am	SHS Band & Drumline Fall Compilation
2:55pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	7:00pm:	Congressional Update	3:00am	SHS Hockey vs Matignon	12:00pm	Argenziano School Winter Concert
7:00pm:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	7:30pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	9:00am	Kennedy School Winter Concert	12:45pm	Healey School Winter Concert
7:10pm:	Congressional Update	7:40pm:	Illuminations Tour	12:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden Catholic	1:15pm	West Somerville Neighborhood School Concert
7:40pm:	Illuminations Tour	8:10pm:	Clean 'Ville of Health	1:30pm	Winter Hill Community School Concert	1:45pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Newton South
8:10pm:	Veterans' Day Ceremony	8:25pm:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	2:30pm	East Somerville Community School Concert	2:15pm	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest - Rd. 2
8:35pm:	Chamber of Commerce Dinner	Tuesday, January 1		3:30pm	Kennedy School Holiday Concert	6:00pm	Argenziano School Winter Concert
9:55pm:	Somerville Gives Back	12:00pm:	Congressional Update	5:30pm	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest ROUND 2	6:45pm	Healey School Winter Concert
Saturday, December 29		12:30pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	7:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest ROUND 2	7:15pm	West Somerville Neighborhood School Concert
12:00am:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	12:40am:	Illuminations Tour	9:00pm	Winter Hill Community School Concert	7:45pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Newton South
12:10am:	Congressional Update	1:10am:	Clean 'Ville of Health	10:00pm	East Somerville Community School Concert	9:15pm	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest - Rd. 2
12:40am:	Illuminations Tour	1:25am:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	11:00pm	Kennedy School Holiday Concert	12:00am	Argenziano School Winter Concert
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1:35am:	Chamber of Commerce Dinner	12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	12:00am	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest Rd. 2	2:15am	West Somerville Neighborhood School Concert
2:55am:	Somerville Gives Back	12:30pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	1:30am	Winter Hill Community School Concert	2:45am	SHS Boys Basketball vs Newton South
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12:00pm:	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	1:10pm:	Clean 'Ville of Health	4:00am	Kennedy School Holiday Concert		
12:10pm:	Congressional Update						



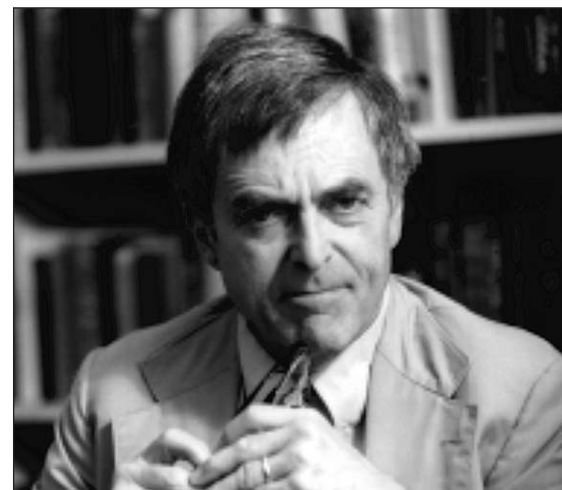
OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

An afternoon with the Atlantic fiction editor

The Wilderness House Literary Retreat Hosts Atlantic fiction editor C. Michael Curtis

I was a founding member of the Wilderness House Literary Retreat started by Steve Glines in Littleton, Mass. Although the retreat lasted only a few years I got to interview and write about a lot of interesting folks. Here is one of them.



On a sweltering early summer morning Somerville poet Linda Haviland Conte and I were ferried by golf cart up a long and winding forested hill to the "Wilderness House Literary Retreat," in Littleton, Mass, to spend the day with C. Michael Curtis the fiction editor of "The Atlantic" magazine. "The Atlantic" is moving from its long-time home in Boston to Washington, D.C. It will now be publishing its fiction and poetry in one large annual issue; rather than individual issues. C. Michael Curtis, who will edit this annual, gave the group in attendance a sneak preview of the issue and an illuminating discussion of his life in the rarefied environs of the literary world.

Curtis was peppered with many questions from an inquisitive audience. He was asked about his relationship with late poetry editor of "The Atlantic," Peter Davison. Curtis met Davison in 1961 at Cornell University when Curtis was a student. It seems that Davison was in town for an Anne Sexton reading. Curtis managed to arrange a dinner meeting with Davison. He showed him a few of his poems, and the poetry editor took them back to Boston. Favorably impressed, Davison offered Curtis an intern or as it was called then a "summer reader," position. This led to Curtis' long affair with The Atlantic. He left Cornell just shy of his PhD, and never went back. Curtis remained friends with Davison over the years in spite of breaking Davison's rib in a touch football game one Cambridge afternoon.

In his long career at the magazine Curtis has edited the works of many notable authors. On one rare occasion he had to tell John Updike that one of his pieces "didn't work." Fortunately Updike was in agreement. A young John Sayles, (the noted indie filmmaker), was very offended by some minor changes Curtis made in his manuscript. It seems that Sayles had substituted dashes for quotations. Curtis naturally changed them back to standard quotes. Sayles took strong exception; telling Curtis that he does everything for a reason. Sayles was ready to withdraw his work. Curtis left the dashes in.

After a hearty lunch with retreat participants, Curtis talked about what he looks for in a manuscript. Since "The Atlantic" gets up to 12,000

submissions a year, quick decisions must be made. Curtis said there are a few things that will undermine a writer's chances. Misspelled words, bad grammar, adjectives in front of every noun, putting words in caps, overuse of the ellipsis, and the use of the present tense. Curtis feels that the use of the present often makes the work seem affected. Curtis said that in the cover letter that accompanies the manuscript the writer should never explain his story. This is a sure mark of an amateur. A good writer will realize the reader will discover this on his own. Oddly enough Curtis has received manuscripts that included a number of rejection slips from top shelf magazines. This, he said, is a poor advertisement for a writer's work. Curtis also made it clear that he is not impressed by trendy writing. But he always likes to see well-constructed and coherent sentences. He also looks for an authentic voice and authentic dialogue in the work he reviews.

Curtis believes that an editor can make enormous improvements to a book. Curtis works on the grammar, syntax, and transitions in a story so it will flow. However, he is careful not to edit out the "voice" of the writer. He feels that it is possible we may never know the true voice of authors like Thomas Wolfe, who was heavily edited by Maxwell Perkins.

For the aspiring writer, Curtis is strongly in favor of MFA writing programs. He said: "A lot of the stuff we publish comes from writers in MFA programs. Writers in MFA programs are the ones who are going to stay with it."

As Linda and I left the retreat, we were met by a group of wild turkeys that had roamed on to the grounds. Perhaps they heard about this literary talk. After all, I've heard it said more than once that "Literature is for the birds."

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Our poet this week is Will Sayre aka Billy Carlos. He writes *The News*: "I am a New England artist, born in Cambridge, MA. I spend my time writing, drawing, cooking, thinking, and playing music. Through my art I attempt to illuminate the limitations of boundaries imposed by upbringing and each person's interpretation of their ultimately subjective life, as well as to demonstrate the connections we all share through similarly perceived experiences." Will is also a student at Endicott College and just got back from studying abroad in Spain.



Old Furniture's Tales

Arm wrestling
a grandfather clock
"Good-luck!" smirks
his reflective face-
as I crave a taste of nostalgia.
Exhausted,
Weighted by the monarch
of time travel
I fall on our couch,
tales of memory escape
the creases of squeaking leather.
I contemplate,
Perhaps it's better
the present replaced-
-the past-
-has lobbed me floating in space.
Like a helium filled beach ball
A wind wound buffoon
Ungrounded and robbed
of a moments peace, avoiding
a roused famished maroon

Happiness is found in presence
reminds the supple foot rest,
Evade lurking reminiscence
be mindful,
steady steps.

– Will Sayre

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

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