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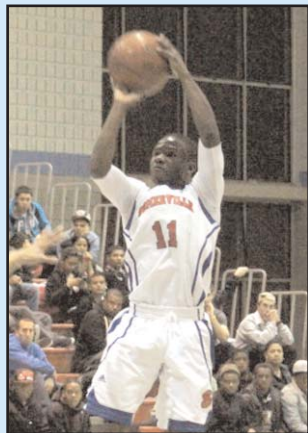
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Sciortino, Patrick celebrate Transgender Bill

By Andrew Firestone

Thursday, January 19, saw a host of state politicians and activists rally around Rep. Carl Sciortino (D - Somerville), as he acted as master of ceremonies for the celebratory signing of a bill he wrote and sponsored, "An Act Relative to Gender Identity" by Gov. Deval Patrick.

The law was signed around noon in the Senate Reading room, which was the Senate Chamber in years past. Joining the throng of politicians that turned out to the event, including Rep. Denise Provost of Somerville and Sen. Jamie Eldridge of Acton were State Auditor Suzanne Bump, formerly a state legislator, Kara Suffrendi, the Executive Director of Mass Equality, and activist Gunner Scott of the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition.

Sciortino has been working to get the law passed since 2007, and finally succeeded in November of 2011. Qualifying the process had a "rollercoaster feel," Sciortino was in high spirits when he called to the podium the Governor, whom he called "a hero and a legend on behalf of LGBT equality."

Patrick was in full swing,

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From left to right: Attorney General Martha Coakley, Sen. Benjamin Downing, Rep. Carl Sciortino, and Gov. Depaval Patrick joined together to celebrate the passage of the new bill.

Firefighters strike deal, library stays open

No immediate layoffs from city

By Harry Kane

Last minute closed-door negotiations have saved the day this week. The West Branch Library, two police substations and the Lowell street fire station will remain open.

What the city will have to do in the current fiscal year is raise a total of \$3.3 million. Curtatone's administration now has to come up with another \$1.9 million to cover the agreement. Funds from vacant jobs that had been budgeted for, also known as "lag money," have been pointed to as a proposed replacement. A small portion of that money could be allocated from cash reserves without having a negative affect on the city's credit ratings or bond rating.

The new collective bargaining between firefighters union Local 76 agreement extends for another three fiscal years. There are no layoffs or service cuts associated with this new collective bargaining agreement. In this new accord, the firefighter union agreed to defer the rolling of their stipends into their base

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The West Branch Library was among several City of Somerville institutions spared the axe as negotiators came up with a plan to accommodate the new accord with the firefighters union.

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NEWTALK

The Somerville High Evening School is just off to another semester. The head of the evening school, Sophia Carafotes, is making a final check to see if anyone would like to register for the many fine courses she has going. One in particular is the real estate licensing course that is still looking for potential students. This course offered by the City School Department is much cheaper than from any one of the other real estate schools around. If you've thought about getting into real estate full time or part time, now is your chance to get your license for the rebounding economy that will need many more agents out there. Go directly up to the high school or call the evening school and register this week, anytime in person after 5:30 p.m. in the main office off the concourse. And remember, there are dozens of other courses available as well.

Tonight, Wednesday, January 25, from 6p.m. to 8p.m. at the High School Auditorium, 81 Highland Avenue, the MBTA will be having a meeting to talk about the Green Line extension work and its progress. The public is welcomed.

It appears that local attorney and popular lady Maria Curatone is securing herself for a good run for the Middlesex County Register of Deeds post being vacated by Eugene Brune. One popular guy stepping down and hopefully one popular lady taking his place. We hear she's everywhere all over the county.

Watch for a popular name over in Medford to step into the State Representatives race this year, presently held by Carl Sciortino. Carl has two wards here in Somerville and South Medford. We hear that the potential

Continued on page 8

TheSomervilleNews.com Comments of the Week

Response to *City plans face-lift for Foss Park*

Lance C says:

This is long overdue. Also maybe we can have another pedestrian overhead walkway added. This park has been an eyesore for years. The Som Y has been a longtime fixture in the city and a private-public partnership would assure the property was properly maintained.

Winter Hill Barney says:

I'm not sure a new fitness facility is something that the city should be spending money on at all, frankly. There are several decent private options, plus the facilities available to students at the public schools.

But if there is a groundswell of support for a new building, PLEASE at least don't build it in Foss Park. It IS the largest open public space in the city? Why make it smaller? Move it up the hill a bit, along Broadway.

Libertarian says:

Want to make Foss Park safer and more attractive? Get MS-13 out of east somerville. Spending more money on a public property without fixing the root cause of its ruin is a sure-fire way to destruction.

Look up Pruitt-Igoe on wikipedia/google. There are many lessons to learn from this and other public properties that have had considerable funding put in place to provide a nicer place for people to ruin.

daphne c says:

When the city took over vets skating rink, they took away public skating hours during non school hours. When the city took over dilboy, they began charging for use of the pool. I used to be in favor of local control, but it hasn't really enhanced the life of our citizens, from what I've seen.

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 support the idea of having a YMCA built at Foss Park. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleNews.com.

Do you support the idea of having a YMCA built at Foss Park?



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Mayor will push for greater collaboration with schools

By Cathleen Twardzik

As part of an ongoing focus on the continued improvement of schools in Somerville, Mayor Curtatone recently announced that the city of Somerville will be pursuing greater collaboration between schools and city agencies, as well as nonprofits.

The goal is innovation, which fosters academic achievement.

Efforts will aspire to integrate effective and innovative library department and recreation department programs into school curricula, as well as to tap the resources at creative learning organizations, within the city, such as Artisan's Asylum, Sprout, and Parts and Crafts.

To further the plan, in his recent inaugural address Mayor Curtatone said, "I am prepared to offer city resources to work more closely with the School Department, with parent groups like Progress Together, and with families, throughout the city, to help define and make the tough decisions that will enable the Somerville Public Schools to achieve more dramatic successes. Indeed, we have already laid the groundwork for this kind of city-wide and regional collaboration through our SomerPromise initiative. Next week, in an unprecedented collaborative effort of the city, the schools, Tufts, and more than 15 other partners, SomerPromise will enter its implementation phase."

"Particular areas, such as arts programming, music, physical education and fitness activities, in collaboration with the city's recreation department [are] just a few areas where we will continue to increase collaboration between city and schools to ensure students have many opportunities to grow and succeed in our

public schools," said Jackie Rossetti, Deputy Director of Communications of the city of Somerville.

It is important to note that the schools and the city have always shared ideas and have collaborated about copious issues.

To round it out, collaborations already exist between nonprofits and community agencies.

Because of their work with Shape Up Somerville, four Somerville public schools won awards, which came under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Healthier US School Challenge, due to their physical activity and nutritional guidelines.

In addition, the city's arts and music programs are growing, and thriving.

Among additional activities, for four years, Somerville has been named a 100 Best Community for Young People. That resulted from the collaboration between numerous youth-serving agencies citywide and Somerville schools.

"The recent Martin Luther King, Jr. 'A Call to Action' celebration is a great example of how organizations from throughout the city come together to put on great events that will have a positive impact in our community," said Rossetti.

"There's a natural connection between the schools and both the library and recreation department," she said. As an educational resource, the library is invaluable for students. It presents programs, which are targeted at students, such as Half Day Wednesday Movies.

"The Somerville Public Schools (SPS) and library have an existing collaborative working relationship to make sure students are aware of these programs and to encourage student



Mayor Curtatone is seeking more cooperation and collaboration between schools, city agencies, and non-profit organizations.

participation. Similarly, the recreation department and SPS support each other in a number of ways, whether it's the mutual sharing of facilities or promoting recreational programs and events to students."

"The conversations to find additional ways to partner will continue, as we further explore expanding opportunities for student and family engagement in the many programs the city and schools offer," said Rossetti.

The collaboration and partnership with businesses and organizations permits students to experience more, positive occasions, which are not within the scholastic environment.

How does that collaboration help businesses? It creates an opportunity for them to increase their base of customers, as well as to become more deeply rooted

in the Somerville community.

Which other programs are being done to improve schools in Somerville? "The recent announcement of Somerville High School being named one of only six schools in the nation to be selected as a Verizon "Thinkfinity" pilot school is just one example of the School Department's commitment to establishing col-

laborations with a variety of private industry, community, higher education and other partners that enhance the students' learning experience. Another example would be the elementary school's partnership with Groundwork Somerville, which supports on-site school gardens for science and health instruction," said Rossetti.

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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Union Square mayhem

Somerville police officers were dispatched to 59 Union Square last week in response to a reported stabbing.

A witness reportedly flagged the officers down as they arrived on the scene and told them that someone had been “cut” and then led them to the alleged victim who was bloodied, kneeling down, and holding a paper tow-

el to his face, police said.

The officers asked to see the wound and were shown what appeared to be a six inch laceration running from the man's nose to his jawbone, according to reports.

The witness reportedly indicated that the alleged perpetrator had fled on foot down Washington Street, taking a

turn onto Hawkins Street. It was also reportedly stated that the man seemed to be followed by someone as he left the scene.

The officers left the scene to search for the alleged assailant as an EMS unit arrived to care for and transport the alleged victim to the hospital, police said.

A short time later the alleged

perpetrator was reportedly apprehended at his May Place residence. An additional witness emerged and made a “show up” identification of the suspect as the man who allegedly attacked the victim, according to reports.

Witnesses reportedly told officers how the assailant, Jose Miguel-Melgar, 26, had been

harassing patrons of the El Porto Restaurant and had followed the victim outside where an altercation eventually developed, ending with Miguel-Melgar allegedly cutting the victim, police said.

Miguel-Melgar was placed under arrest and charged with assault with a dangerous weapon, assault to murder, and mayhem.

Attempted murder on Washington Street

A reported case of assault was investigated last week as Somerville police officers responded to a call claiming that a man had committed an assault and was on Washington Street, sitting in a pickup truck.

Responding officers spotted the truck and as they engaged their emergency lights the man report-

edly exited the vehicle and approached the police cruiser. The man was asked to stand near his truck and reportedly responded by saying, “Go ahead, arrest me. I know that is why you are here,” according to police. The man was then handcuffed, for the safety of the investigating officers, while the alleged victim and a witness

were questioned about the reported incident, police said.

The victim reportedly said that an argument had developed between him and the alleged assailant. He further indicated that the intensity of the confrontation had escalated to the point where the suspect grabbed the victim's neck, choking him, ac-

cording to reports.

Police reportedly asked the victim if he was able to breath at that time and the victim said that he could not.

The victim stated that the suspect had let him go briefly, but began choking him once again, saying to the victim, “I could snap your neck right

now,” police said.

The suspect, Richard Mahoney, 38, of Magnolia, reportedly let the victim go once again and then made his way to his pickup truck, according to reports.

Mahoney was arrested and charged with assault and battery and attempted murder.

‘You’ll shoot your eye out’

At the behest of the Somerville Police Gang/Anti-Crime Unit, officers engaged two males last week who were walking in the area of Franklin Street near Broadway.

The individuals were reportedly asked to stop for questioning, but continued walking away. The officers caught up with them and reportedly heard a clanking metallic

sound on the ground near them.

One of the individuals, a 17-year-old, repeatedly refused to comply with the officer's commands to show his hands, police

said, and struggled when officers attempted to handcuff him.

A BB gun pistol was reportedly found on the ground at the scene. The juvenile suspect stat-

ed that he carried it for his own protection, police said.

He was subsequently charged with resisting arrest and being a minor in possession of a BB gun.

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Richard Mahoney, 38, of 4 Linden, Magnolia, January 16, 6:50 p.m., arrested at 60 Washington St. on charges of assault and battery and attempted murder.

Bernard Costello, 51, of 66 Simpson Ave., January 16, 10:14 p.m., arrested at home on charges of assault and battery on a police officer, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest.

Jose Miguel-Melgar, 26, of 1 May Pl., January 16, 11:36 p.m., arrested at 59 Union Sq. on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault to murder, and mayhem.

Wilson Leite, 25, of 76 Foster St., Everett, January 17, 1:30 p.m., arrested at 200 McGrath Hwy. on warrant charges of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and non-transparent window obstruction.

Christopher Nadeau, 35, of 83 Edward St., Medford, January 17, 1:51 p.m., arrested at 220 Broadway on a charge of possession of a class A drug.

A juvenile, January 17, 6:45

p.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of resisting arrest and being a minor in possession of a BB gun.

Deiby Felix, 28, of 33 Rockaway St., Lynn, January 18, 10:53 a.m., arrested at Temple St. on warrant charges of motor vehicle operator refusal to identify self, speeding, motor vehicle lights violation, exhibit another's license, and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

John Curtin, 55, January 18, 2:44 p.m., arrested at 220 Washington St. on warrant charges of drug violation near a school or park, drug possession to distribute, escape from municipal lockup, and conspiracy to violate drug

Trevor McSweeney, 20, of 58 Oak St., Stoneham, January 18, 8:29 p.m., arrested at 370 Medford St. on charges of misdemeanor breaking and entering, threat to commit a crime, and witness intimidation.

A juvenile, January 19, 10:12 a.m., arrested at 91 Highland Ave. on a warrant charge of receiving stolen property.

Debra Ward, 56, of 10 Winter Hill Cr., January 20, 12:05 a.m., arrested at home on a charge of assault and battery.

Frank Ward, 52, of 10 Winter Hill Cr., January 20, 12:05 a.m., arrested at home on a charge of assault and battery.

Carole Guerin, 45, of 2399 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, January 20, 1:37 a.m., arrested at 221 Beacon St. on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor and leaving the scene of property damage.

Brett Neumeister, 37, of 104A Highland Ave., January 22, 9:35 p.m., arrested at 93 Union Sq. on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, emergency vehicle obstruction, motor vehicle lights violation, marked lanes violation, and failure to signal.

Incidents:

Theft:

January 17, 4:18 p.m., police reported a theft at 630 Somerville Ave.

January 20, 8:25 a.m., police

reported a theft at Calvin St.

January 20, 11:37 a.m., police reported a theft at Bolton St.

January 20, 2:22 p.m., police reported a theft at Highland Ave.

January 20, 2:25 p.m., police reported a theft at Highland Ave.

January 20, 2:37 p.m., police reported a theft at Middlesex Ave.

January 21, 3:36 a.m., police reported a theft at Wheatland St.

January 21, 11:04 a.m., police reported a theft at 335 Somerville Ave.

January 21, 11:22 a.m., police reported a theft at Beacon St.

January 21, 1:37 p.m., police reported a theft at Powder House Blvd.

January 22, 7:38 a.m., police reported a theft at Broadway.

Robbery:

January 20, 10:31 a.m., police reported a robbery at 125 Broadway.

Breaking & Entering:

January 17, 6:15 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering

at North St.

January 17, 6:47 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at College Ave.

January 18, 3:42 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at College Ave.

January 18, 9:25 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at College Ave.

January 19, 2:41 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Concord Ave.

Vehicle Theft:

January 22, 11:57 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Sycamore St.

Assault:

January 17, 2:41 a.m., police reported an assault at Wilton St.

January 18, 2:41 p.m., police reported an assault at Highland Ave.

January 20, 12:05 a.m., police reported an assault at Winter Hill Cir.

Drug Violation:

January 17, 1:51 p.m., police reported a drug violation at 220 Broadway.

Bryce Miller: A life at full measure

By Harry Kane

Every so often one of us bucks the trend. Bryce Miller is one of those individuals who has successfully gone out into the world and taken the bull by the horns, riding his way towards a promising future.

Miller, 29, has been coming to the Walnut Street Center for nine years. The center offers support to adults with disabilities. Four years ago Miller was able to get a job at Macy's in Belmont Center. "I have to clean the store by vacuuming before the customers start coming in," says Miller. "When the customers are coming in, around ten, I would clean the class doors and sign out. I also help at the loading dock at Macy's."

Miller enjoys working and has even taken on a second job cleaning the Walnut Street Center after hours. And, recently Miller has taken on a third position volunteering at the Creative Union, a gallery and store where many of the artists from the Walnut Street Center display and sell their artwork.

The Director of Day Services at the Walnut Street Center is impressed with Bryce's unbridled enthusiasm. Craig Fletcher has been working at the center for the past 19 years and has watched Miller grow up. "Bryce is someone who has a multitude of interests. He does everything from cross-stitching to weight lifting to ballroom dancing. He loves to learn new things



Bryce Miller, holding one of his nature photographs.

and his social life is far more busy than mine," says Fletcher.

On occasion, Miller may go see a live music show, perhaps at the Precinct in Union Square or at Middle East in Central Square. He may open the Creative Union Store and run the cash reg-

ister or go on an excursion and take nature photographs. These are the types of things that Miller hopes to do more of, and the more he does, the more he wants to do. Getting out in the world, meeting new people and experiencing life to the fullest is what Miller aims to

do as he excels up the ladder of manhood one step at a time.

"He's persevered and is now independently working," says Fletcher. In Somerville, Bryce Miller continues to work at Macy's by day and reach for the stars by night.

Firefighters strike a deal, library stays open CONT. FROM PG 1

salaries until July 1 of this year.

With this change, there is no retroactive bulk payment called for, which would have immediately cost the city. There will instead be eight successive pay raises of similar amount. City spokesman Tom Champion also said that going forward, the union took a couple stipends off the table so not all the official pay raises will be rolled into the base effective July 1. Those are advantages that will save the city about \$467,000. Conversely, the city has agreed to fund wage increases for the next three years.

The city had \$2.4 million dollars remaining in the salary contingency fund, which is set up to pay for collective bargaining.

Last week, as the city sought to hammer out the details of a \$4.3 million dollar back payment to the Somerville Firefighters Union, there was some uncertainty as to where the funds would come from, causing this tenuous situation.

As a result of a decision made by the Massachusetts Joint Labor Management Committee (JLMC) that was to award to Local 76 a back-pay award, on January 12, the Mayor and the city administration was required to submit a plan to the Board of Aldermen on how they could fund the additional \$4.3 million dollar expense.

Curtatone's plan raised eyebrows when it was found it involved layoffs of approximately 30 individuals and the closure of the West Branch library. There were a number of other closures that would have had to occur as a result of the plans to pay for this appropriation in the current fiscal year.

The main focus is to protect the cities fiscal flexibility for the future, thus not spending so much out of Somerville's cash reserves to fund current operating expenditures that it undermines the bond rating and the ability to make future investments at a cost in interest payments that the city could afford.

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Broadway comes to Highland Avenue

Somerville High presents 'Guys and Dolls'

By Elizabeth Sheeran

"Luck, be a lady tonight." "I've got the horse right here, his name is Paul Revere." "A person ... can develop a cold."

Memorable lyrics have helped keep *Guys and Dolls* high up on the list of classic American musicals for over six decades. And Somerville High School students are about to bring it to life once again, for three performances, from February 2 through 4.

"I love the music. The story is just timeless, I think. It's funny. It's sad. It's sentimental. I love it," said Gwen Kolb, a senior who was one of the students who lobbied for the school to do the musical, after she saw a production of it last summer.

Guys and Dolls, which premiered on Broadway in 1950, with music and lyrics by Frank Loesser and a book by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows, has been revived countless times from Broadway to Beijing, and was immortalized in a 1955 movie starring Marlon Brando and Frank Sinatra.

Based on the short stories of writer Damon Runyon, and set in a stylized version of 1940s Times Square, the show at its core is a story of colorful characters: Sky Masterson, the big time gambler who just wants to preserve his winning streak; Nathan Detroit, the small-time gambler who just wants to keep

his floating crap game one step ahead of the police; Adelaide, the showgirl who just wants Nathan to settle down and marry her; And Sarah Brown, the missionary who just wants to save all of their souls.

For the three dozen cast members in the Somerville High production, it is all about making these characters come to life.

"It's fun being Sky Masterson. His persona. His mindset. He is the gambler that runs New York. He's the big guy," said senior Jack Stambaugh. "I think it's a lot of fun to try to portray a totally different character than you are in real life, to really tell a story, and just be characters in a different world. I think that's a really cool concept."

Audry Hiaoui, a senior who plays Adelaide, agrees that becoming someone different on-stage is part of what makes it both fun and worthwhile. "She's kind of a drama queen. She's over the top. I'm not really over the top... I don't think," said Hiaoui. "That's what acting and theater is all about, just adjusting to what you're given and that's how you grow within it."

Sarajane Mullins, who is co-directing the show with Richard Romanoff, said the students found it challenging at first to adapt to the unfamiliar landscape of *Guys and Dolls*, with a script that can seem dated, particularly the very stylized dialogue. But un-



Somerville High students rehearse a scene from *Guys and Dolls*. (Standing, left to right): Thomas Kennedy, Nicholas Sahlas, Brian Andreck, Jack Stambaugh, Dor Kaminka, Ruthie Grossman. (Crouched, in front, left to right): Michael Kemp, Michael Buckley, Loic Fitandides.

derneath it all, they found a story that felt very familiar.

"It's very classical and very timeless," said Mullins. "We see this in the movies all the time: Boy meets girl. Boy's friend makes a bet that he can't get girl. He gets girl and they fall in love anyway and then everyone gets confused about what the bet is."

And Mullins said that despite the dated setting, there is plenty in the story that the high school students can relate to, which only makes the show better. "It has a brightness of youth with this cast that I haven't seen with other casts of older professional ac-

tors," said Mullins. "It's an entire story line of wanting to do something but no one lets you. It's a 'you against the world' type of theme that I think most teens probably identify with very well."

Kolb, who plays the head of the mission, said the story delivers an inspiring message for teens. "To not be afraid to be yourself and don't give up on your dreams. Like how Adelaide gets so angry with Nathan all the time, but she never gives up on him and in the end it all works out. There's hope."

"I love the underlying themes," said Breanna Xavier, a

sophomore, who plays Sarah Brown. "I love the romance in it, it's so captivating. I'm kind of a romantic fool. I love the end, because they do end up changing, that's what's so great."

Senior Thomas Kennedy, who plays Nathan Detroit, said *Guys and Dolls* offers something for everyone. "There's a whole bunch of elements to it that I think anyone can relate to," said Kennedy. "It's a very lively musical. Everything about it is lively. It's a play that keeps moving. It's funny. It's entertaining. I think it's the essence of entertainment. It hits you

Continued on page 17

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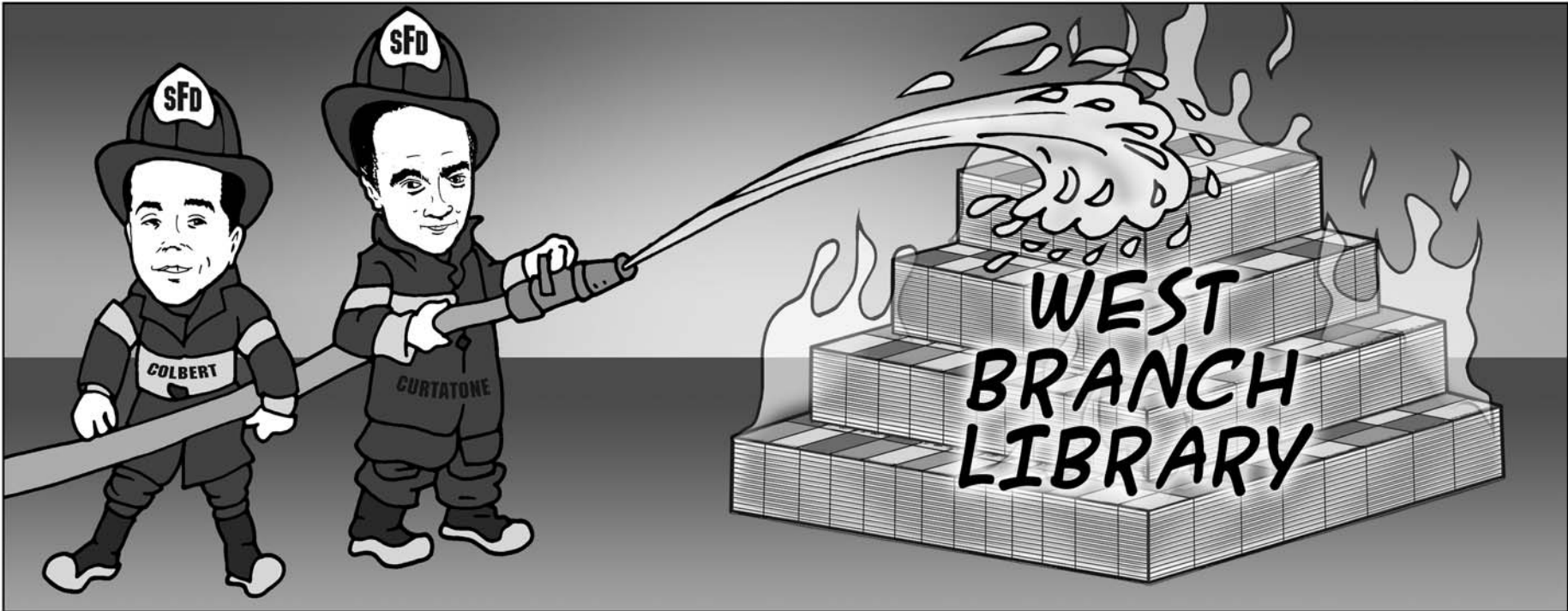
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COMMENTARY

TALES OF SOMERVILLE

Illustrated by Jim Clark



“Just saving a few books, folks.”

The View From Prospect Hill



We feel a great sense of relief as severe cuts in city services were fortunately averted this past week. The city’s negotiators managed to hammer out an equitable deal with the firefighters union Local 76, while assuring at the same time that many essential services and institutions would remain intact. For the time being at least. The West Branch Library is a special place for many a Somervillian. Its doors will remain open, children will learn, and lives will be enriched by its continued existence in our midst. We are truly grateful for this. Likewise, we are fortunate that the two police substations and fire station that were once on the block will be preserved and remain operational. These entities are essential for the safety and general well being of our community. Losing them would have marked a serious decline in the quality of life here. We are certainly grateful for their preservation. Many jobs are likely to be saved as well as a result of the plan being forged and implemented. This could be the most important benefit of all. As the economy gradually continues to move toward recovery, we need our people at work more than ever. We applaud the efforts and ultimate results of officials and negotiators on all sides of these issues. For now, at least, we can look forward to continuity in the services we find so important to us all.

News Talk CONT. FROM PG 2

candidate to run is going to start making calls here in Somerville pretty soon, particularly to some people in Wards 4 and 7.

Big Happy Birthday to Deputy Police Chief Michael Cabral who is celebrating this week, as well as Joey DelPonte, the son of Jimmy. Also in the 'Ville this week celebrating are two fine ladies up in Ward 7, great 'Villens and popular at that: both Dorothy DiMarzo and her long time partner Lynne Lenoir. We certainly like to give special congratulations to them both. Former City Hall guy and life long 'Villen Philip Ercolini is celebrating his birthday in retirement. A very special lady and good friend Maria Nella Nunes is celebrating this week as well. We hope Bruce takes her someplace special for dinner instead of ordering take out. And finally, Ms. Denise Cosby, a great lady and extremely good friend, is celebrating. She told us last week that her book is almost done that she has been writing for awhile. She even hinted of someone at The News being mentioned just a wee bit.

Happy 5th Wedding anniversary to our good friends Helen and Mike Ricci. They are a very nice couple and we wish them all the best this week.

Our condolences to the family of Florence Ciampa who sadly passed away on Friday. Many of you remember that Florence used to own the old Supreme Hardware and Paint in Ball Square with her husband Ted and other family members. Florence was a wonderful woman and will be sadly missed.

Save the date of February 14, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. for the Council on Aging's Annual Valentine's Day Party that is being held at the Winter Hill Yacht Club located at 78 Foley Street behind the Assembly Square Mall in Somerville. This year as a special treat Middlesex County Sherriff Peter Koutoujian and his Deputies will be cooking up a delicious home cooked recipe pasta dinner for the special occasion! So don't miss out. Call the Council on Aging for your reservations at 617 625-6600 x 2300. Of course, some of us Newstalkers will be there serving the food and taking pictures as well! Oh, and of course, it is FREE of charge but seating is very limited. Call now.

The Somerville Lions club has launched their annual “Wheel Barrow Full of Cheer Charity Raffle”! It consists of a shiny new wheel barrow filled with hundreds of dollars of top shelf liquor for you to win, providing that you're over 21 and you buy a ticket! So get your tickets for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Last year our favorite Somerville DPW, Miss Brown, was the lucky recipient who got to take it home! This year it may be you! Raffle tickets are available by calling the Somerville Lions club at 617 293-2016 or you can buy them at the Mount Vernon Restaurant on Lower Broadway as well.

Girl Scout Troup 71318 out of Davis Square will be holding a fundraiser to help raise funds for a trip to Washington DC to celebrate 100 years of Girl Scouts. The event will take place at Flatbread, 45 Day Street, Somerville on Tuesday January 31 from 4:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Flatbread will donate \$3.50 for every large Pizza and \$1.75 for every small pizza. Eat in or Take out. There will be raffles from local businesses 50/50 along with the sale of Girl Scout cookies.

A Community Meeting hosted by Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and Alderman William Roche to review plans for the New Harris Park will take place tonight, Wednesday, January 25 at 7 p.m. at the Cross Street Senior Center. They will discuss preliminary designs with the landscape architects, GroundView, a firm located in East Somerville. They welcome your feedback. For more info, contact Luisa Oliveira, Senior Planner-Landscape Design, Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning & Community Development, 617-625-6600, LOliveira@somervillema.gov.

This Sunday, January 29, Somerville will be hosting College Goal Sunday. College-bound students and their parents can receive free assistance in filing the federal financial aid application, 2 p.m. at Somerville High School, 81 Highland Avenue. College Goal Sunday's team of volunteer financial aid and higher education experts will offer information on the many viable post-high school options. For more information go to www.Mass-CollegeGoalSunday.org.

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.

A deal we can live with



By Joseph A. Curtatone

Back in the days when I was a full-time attorney - and had to handle the occasional civil suit or divorce - I used to advise my clients to ask two questions about potential settlements. The questions were "What do you want?" and "What can you live with?" The recently con-

cluded eight-year deal between the City and its firefighters represents a compromise for both sides - and because we compromised, each side got something it could live with.

For the City, the new agreement means we don't have to find a way to come up with a \$4.3 million appropriation in the current fiscal year in order to fund retroactive wage increases for the firefighters, who had been without a contract since 2007. Instead, we'll have to come up with a \$3.3 million this year and approximately half a million next year. That's still a major undertaking, but we won't have to lay off workers and cut back on services in order to do it.

It also means that we get three more guaranteed years of predictable and manageable wage

increases (through FY2015).

On the other side of the ledger, the firefighters get a series of annual increases that most workers in either the public or private sectors would be very happy to have - especially in an era of low inflation and economic recession.

For both sides, the settlement we reached last week means the end of a long collective bargaining struggle that has included negotiation, special arbitration and lawsuits. It's a relief for all of us to move on.

Emotions run high in long disputes like this one, but nobody should hold it against union leadership that they pushed for the best possible deal for their members - or hold it against the City that it pursued the best possible deal for its taxpayers. In

fact, once it was clear that the recent arbitration award from the state's Joint Labor Management Committee carried a price tag that would require the city to cut staffing and services to finance the deal, it was the firefighters who stepped up, and approached the City with an offer to reopen negotiations. Since state law required that I support the JLMC award and submit an appropriation to pay for it, we should all be grateful that the union extended that offer.

By the time the general public began to understand and protest the layoffs and service cuts associated with fully funding the JLMC award, the firefighters and the City's negotiating team were already back at the table and hard at work on a compromise settlement.

No one is happier than I am that we won't have to shutter our two police substations, the new SFD Rescue Unit or the West Branch Library in order to pay a retroactive compensation agreement. And to be fair, no one in the firefighters union wanted to see those things happen, either.

So now we can look forward to the FY2013 budget that we will submit to the Board of Aldermen later this spring. The way ahead won't be easy: we still have difficult choices before us. The good (or at least not-so-bad) news is that the Patrick Administration has just announced that it is level-funding non-education local aid and, by entering the state's Group Insurance Commission health plans, we've been able to roll back the rate of growth in

Continued on page 17

The Massachusetts film tax credit



By Rep. Denise Provost

There has been an active discussion in the press lately about the Massachusetts film tax credit. Since that program's start in 2006, we taxpayers spend hundreds of millions of dollars rewarding film companies for doing business in Massachusetts. The allure of Hollywood is undeniable - but are film subsidies good economic develop-

ment policy?

How Massachusetts Tax Credits Work:

A tax credit is a direct subsidy to of up to 25% of the expenditures that film productions make in our state - for instance, the cost of shootings scenes here. A form of an "IOU" from the state, credits may be redeemed by recipients for a face value credit against taxes owed to the Commonwealth. But what if a film producer doesn't owe taxes in the Commonwealth, or owes an amount of tax less than the value of the credit?

No worries for the film produced, because these tax credits are also "transferable" - they can be sold. There is an active market for these tax credits, which

buyers can then redeem by applying them to their own taxes. The Boston Globe recently ran a story about how these credits benefit banks, WalMart, and other big businesses - but do the credits also benefit us?

How Our Film Tax Credit Has Worked Out:

The Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR) has good data on the film tax credit for Fiscal Year 2009. Massachusetts taxpayers spent \$100 million on subsidies for the film industry in that year. While this expenditure has undoubtedly led to both direct and indirect jobs, it only generated \$17.5 million in tax revenue. The result was a loss to the state of \$82.5 million.

According to DOR, the 2009

employment attributed to the tax credit, including temporary and part time jobs, amounted to the equivalent of 1,064 full time jobs for Massachusetts residents. DOR recently estimated that the net cost to us as taxpayers to generate each full-time-equivalent (FTE) job was \$88,000. Film-related FTE jobs paid, on average, about \$68,000 to Massachusetts residents - meaning that taxpayers were spending \$20,000 per job more than each such job paid - even if offset by new tax revenue.

DOR estimated that the amounts Massachusetts would be obliged to pay out for film tax credits that had already been issued. Moreover, our investment in these job subsidies only main-

tained FTE jobs for the equivalent of one year - it hasn't created permanent, full-time jobs, and every dollar spent on these temporary jobs from the film industry is one less dollar the state has to invest in creating permanent jobs for Massachusetts residents, or educating our people to fill jobs that exist.

DOR data from July 2009 show that, for the \$113 million in spending for the film tax credit the previous year, 18% of wages were paid to Massachusetts residents and 82% to out-of-state workers. Additionally, 27% of wages that qualified for tax credits went to people who earned more than \$1 million annually. It is hard to justify the investment

Continued on page 17

On The Silly Side by Jimmy Del Ponte

16 candles



My son turned 16 on Monday. Okay, I know that some of my friends that are my age have grandkids close to 16 years old but that doesn't matter. I can be this dad and his grandfather! I got a late start, but it's all good. It keeps me young and I am up for the challenge.

How things have changed since I was 16. The things that are strangely alike are the hair styles. We both had the same long hair style even though it has been

43 years since I was 16. He has iPads where we had crash pads. He has an iMac and we had Big Macs. We are also both musicians, and we both were given a younger brother. I weaned him on The Beatles, Bowie and Joel. He is now into Coldplay, Weezer, and Foster the People. Every so often he gives me a glance of approval when I can actually identify one of his songs. My son now writes his own music and performs it with the band Stainless, along with his younger brother and a friend. They have performed at Artbeat, as well as at The Somerville

Theatre in the Holiday in The Ville show. He is president of his sophomore class, which is pretty cool. He was very interested in the Occupy protests and is very concerned about all this piracy and illegal downloading of music and videos on the Internet.

When I was his age we were having walkouts and demonstrations at the high school. We were protesting the dress code. I also took off for a weekend and went to Washington DC with a VW bus full of hippies to protest the war in Viet Nam. If my son did that to-

day I'd freak out...maybe. I can't even remember what cockamamie story I told my parents in order to be away from home for a whole weekend. My son also writes short stories and makes films and videos with his brother.

It seems like yesterday that I swapped my Camaro Convertible for a double baby stroller. My boy was little and all he cared about was Barney, binkies and sippy cups. And when he was almost two he got a little brother and he was, and still is, a very good big brother.

When I was his

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Beacon Hill Roll Call



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THE HOUSE AND SENATE. *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records the votes of local representatives on two roll calls and local senators on four roll calls from the week of January 16-20.

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 Middle-

sex; 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.

\$131 MILLION SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET (H 3878 and S 2108)

House 155-1, Senate 35-0, approved similar versions of a fiscal 2012 supplemental spending package. A key section blocks a scheduled \$220 per employee increase in unemployment insurance premiums paid by businesses. The payments, called by many a tax on employers, go into a fund that pays benefits to laid-off workers.

Other provisions include \$21 million for low-income heating assistance, \$20 million for county sheriffs' operations, \$35 million for adult day health programs, \$20 million for information technology systems and funding of various collective bargaining agreements.

A conference committee likely will draft a compromise package of the House and Senate versions.

Supporters said the package is fiscally responsible and funds important programs including several that are running out of money. They noted that freezing the unemployment insurance premium will save employers a \$529 million increase.

The lone opponent offered no arguments. (A "Yes" vote is for the package. A "No" vote is against it.)

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

DELAY MEALS TAX HOLIDAY (H 3878)

House 116-39, approved a Democratic-sponsored amendment indefinitely delaying a Republican-sponsored proposal that would exempt diners from paying the state's 6.25 percent meals tax between March 18, 2012 and March 23, 2012. The amendment would require the Tax Expenditure Commission established in 2011, to examine the issue of tax holidays, including a meals tax holiday, and give the Legislature a report by July 31, 2012. The report would include the impact of tax holidays on the state's economy, tax revenue, transportation infrastructure, local aid, business growth and ancillary economic activity.

Some supporters of the study said they oppose the meals tax holiday and acknowledged the study kills the proposal while avoiding a direct vote on it. Others said the state simply cannot afford the \$8.8 million revenue loss.

Opponents of the study said rising food costs, high fuel prices, high unemployment and a poor economy have hurt the restaurant industry and resulted in fewer customers. They argued the "study" is a blatant, age-old tactic by Democrats to kill tax relief by studying it "to death" and avoiding an up or down vote on it. They noted past experience shows that none of these "alleged" studies are actually done, and the tax holiday will be defeated without representatives having to take a direct vote on it. (A "Yes" vote is for the delay and essentially against the meals tax holiday. A "No" vote is against the delay and essentially for the meals tax holiday.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes

UPHOLD CHAIR RULING PROHIBITING CONSIDERATION OF A MEALS TAX HOLIDAY (S 2108)

Senate 31-4, upheld Senate President Therese Murray's ruling that a GOP-sponsored supplemental budget amendment that would exempt diners from paying the state's 6.25 percent meals tax between March 18, 2012 and March 23, 2012 was out of order. Murray stated the budget does not have any tax provisions in it, and as a result is not a "money bill" and amendments dealing with taxes are not allowed to be offered.

Some opponents of the ruling said the bill does not have to be a money bill because the amendment temporarily suspends the meals tax but does not technically raise or lower the rate. Others said the ruling said the budget does have tax provisions in it because it includes a section that blocks an increase in unemployment insurance premiums paid by businesses. They called the premiums "essentially a tax on employers" that go into a fund which pays benefits to laid-off workers.

Murray said the premiums are an assessment, not a tax, on employers. (A "Yes" vote supports Murray's ruling prohibiting consideration of the meals tax holiday amendment. A "No" vote is against Murray's ruling and supports the meals tax holiday amendment.)

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

WELFARE FRAUD (S 2101)

Senate 7-28, rejected an amendment that would require State Auditor Suzanne Bump to examine her office's Bureau of Special Investigations (BSI) and provide a report on cost-effective ways to improve and enhance the bureau's functions. BSI's responsibility is to investigate fraud within the state's public assistance programs, including welfare and food stamps.

Amendment supporters commended SBI for its "fine work" including identifying \$4.3 million in fraud in the last fiscal year. They said the amendment would simply help find whether tools, additional funding or other things would help the bureau uncover even more fraud.

Amendment opponents said there is already a commission working on some aspects of this. They noted there is also pending legislation dealing with the BSI. (A "Yes" vote is for the amendment requiring the auditor to look into ways to enhance the BSI. A "No" vote is against the amendment.)

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	No
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	No

Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



NEW MBTA EXPANSION (S 2108)

Senate 31-3, approved an amendment prohibiting the creation of any new commuter line service until a plan is submitted to the Legislature describing the Patrick administration's plan to pay for the expansion and how it will affect existing services and infrastructure.

Amendment supporters said the MBTA is \$5.2 billion in debt and faces a \$160 million budget gap in the budget that begins July 1 and is considering fare hikes and service cutbacks. They said it's time for the Legislature to exert some control and criticized expensive expansion projects including the Greenbush Commuter Rail Line and a rail line to connect Boston with Taunton and Fall River.

Opponents said the provision was redundant because reporting requirements already exist. (A "Yes" vote is for the amendment prohibiting any new commuter line service until a plan is submitted to the Legislature. A "No" vote is against the amendment.)

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

BAN TRANSGENDER DISCRIMINATION - Gov. Deval Patrick and hundreds of others celebrated passage of the bill outlawing discrimination in employment, education, housing and credit against transgender persons beginning July 1, 2012. The bill was signed in November but Patrick called sponsors and supporters back to the Statehouse for a ceremonial signing last week.

CHILD ABUSE (H 50) - The House gave initial approval to a bill adding school bus operators to the current list of professionals required to report instances of the abuse, sexual abuse or neglect of a child under 18. The current list of mandated reporters includes doctors and medical personnel, teachers and educational personnel, police officers, firefighters and many human service professionals.

REQUIRE SCHOOLS TO STERILIZE BAND INSTRUMENTS (H 1048) - The Education Committee has recommended passage of a bill that would require all public and private schools to change the way they sterilize musical wind instruments before giving them to students to use. Currently, most schools sterilize the mouthpiece of these instruments. The bill would require schools to sterilize the entire instrument. Wind instruments include the flute, piccolo, clarinet, oboe, trumpet and trombone.

Supporters of the bill point to studies showing that bacteria which cause strep and staph infections can thrive for months inside the instrument and that should be sterilized too.

Opponents argue the bill would be very costly for already financially strapped schools. They note there is no proof anyone has ever contracted an infection from a musical instrument.

Other bills given a favorable report by the committee in-

clude requiring all school coaches to complete a course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) from the American Heart Association, American Red Cross or other state-approved agency (S 201) and establishing a special commission to investigate and study strategies for child suicide prevention and the resources necessary to assist elementary and secondary schools identify and assist children at risk (H 1922).

MASS RANKS FOURTH IN ANIMAL PROTECTION LAWS - Massachusetts came in fourth place in The Humane Society of the United States "Humane State Ranking" that rates all 50 states on a wide range of animal protection laws. California ranked first and South Dakota came in last. The ratings are based on many laws including animal cruelty codes, equine protection standards, wildlife issues, animals in research and farm animal policy.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH CARE NEEDS (S 33) - The Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities held a hearing on a bill that would establish a Children's Health Policy Council to study and report on the specific health care needs of children in Massachusetts. Supporters say children's needs are unique but too often get mixed in with adult needs.

OTHER BILLS - Other measures on the Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities Committee's hearing agenda included a pilot program that would provide up to a \$10,000 one-time, state-funded low interest loan to help 30 individuals in the state pay their expenses incurred as a result of their child being diagnosed with a terminal illness (H 978); creating a special commission to investigate, study and make recommendations about the economic, public safety, education, health, social service and housing impact, both positive and negative, of illegal aliens living in the state (H 1857); and adding licensed marriage and family therapists to the list of licensed mental health professionals required to be recognized by health insurance companies (S 72). The current list includes psychiatrists, psychologists, independent clinical social workers, mental health counselors and nurse mental health clinical specialists.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"A representative form of government is supposed to give us all a voice at the table so the interests of our constituents are adequately represented, but when all power is put in the hands of one person, it corrupts that process and opens the door to abuse ... A Speaker now determines everything in the Massachusetts House. He determines which bills come to the floor for a debate, and he appoints his paid and unpaid leadership team that constitutes a majority when the Republicans take themselves out of the picture. When in his favor, he may give members good office space, additional staff or, more importantly, allow budget amendments to pass." – *Rep. Will Brownsberger (D-Belmont) in January 2010, criticizing Speaker Bob DeLeo. Brownsberger was part of a group of eight state representatives pushing for changes in the way the Massachusetts House operates.*

"Mr. Speaker, let me say to you that we've have done a lot together, a lot I am very proud of. It has been a privilege to be associated with you. As I have always felt that you are someone who wanted to listen, that wanted to hear from the members, someone I could talk to. I have always felt that you are someone who is a straight-shooter who is trying to understand the truth, wanting to speak the truth." – *Brownsberger in January 2012 praising Speaker Bob DeLeo. Brownsberger was bidding House colleagues farewell as he gets ready to be sworn in to fill the seat left vacant by former Sen. Steven Tolman, who resigned to become president of the Massachusetts AFL-CIO.*

"The text of this bill was e-mailed to the members at approximately 2:10 p.m. And I hope the record will reflect, Madame President, that it is now 2:15 p.m." – *Senate Republican Leader Bruce Tarr suggesting consideration and voting on a \$131 million supplemental budget be delayed for several days because senators first received the bill five minutes ago.*

HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION? *Beacon Hill Roll Call* tracks the length of time the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say 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 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 January 16-20, the House met for a total of six hours and 33 minutes while the Senate met for a total of three hours and 37 minutes.

Mon. January 16	No House session No Senate session
Tues. January 17	House 11:00 a.m. to 11:10 a.m. Senate 11:02 a.m. to 11:06 a.m.
Wed. January 18	House 10:58 a.m. to 5:07 p.m. No Senate session
Thurs. January 19	House 11:05 a.m. to 11:19 a.m. Senate 1:01 p.m. to 4:34 p.m.
Fri. January 20	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

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

Once in Valhalla

An endless locavore feast amongst the Aesir Gods and Valkyries in Odin's mighty hall

By Harry Kane

The once a year Viking culinary feast brought locals to the Armory this past Saturday for a ten-course meal. Upon entering Valhalla, dinner guests (the newly deceased) were greeted by gnomes for this inaugural banquet.

A garden gnome named Flower was stationed by the threshold of Valhalla, ushering the newly deceased into the hall. Flower explained that in Norse Mythology people who have died nobly in battle are brought to Valhalla to party with the Gods.

Personal Chef JJ Gonson, a.k.a Flower, runs a company called Cuisine en Locale that catered the one night culinary event. Gonson gets the food from all over. "I have a relationship with several farmers, we talk to each other frequently." Gonson has read a lot about Viking food and tries to create the types of meals that would have been served during that epoch. "We make local food with super super super super fresh local ingredients and it's not super fancy."

The menu for the feast included a smorgasbord of foods: Liverwurst, charred veal liver, fresh ME butter, elderberry cured mackerel, fermented black radishes, pickled fiddleheads, brined watermelon radishes, and clear flour volkenbrot.

Next came fire roasted stillman leg of lamb, red fire beets and Sophia's yogurt. Then cider maple glazed VT ham and cheesy onion oat porridge. After that, green river ambrosia mead poached new deal pollock with butter sauce and chioggia beets with thyme. And the slumbrew Porter Sq porter braised VT Beef cheeks stew and rather crafty oatcakes.

There was also a boat of island greek oysters with green apple minionette, a parsnip bisque soup and for desert there was Sophia's yogurt, honey and blood of the gods.

Joseph Mulkern, a.k.a. Rogoshak the Viking warrior was drinking out of his cow horn. "Rogoshak is now thirsty," he said as he marched off to find the alcohol.

The show also encompassed a bit of a theater and speeches from the Gods. The Director Allegra Libonati was thrilled with the turnout. "We had such a great response, and it was fun seeing the audience. A lot of people came in costume and had their hats from last year," Libonati said.

Costumes were made by Mary Rooney during the previous event and were adapted for the cast this year.

"One of the difficult parts is deciding which parts of the Norse mythology to include because it's so vast and the stories are so rich. I feel like it's a really great use of theater to pair with this meal and this dinner. It's an amazing communal event that's a joy to work on and create," Libonati said.



One of the Honored Dead.



Thor and his dad, Odin.



Janna's 15th ONCE.



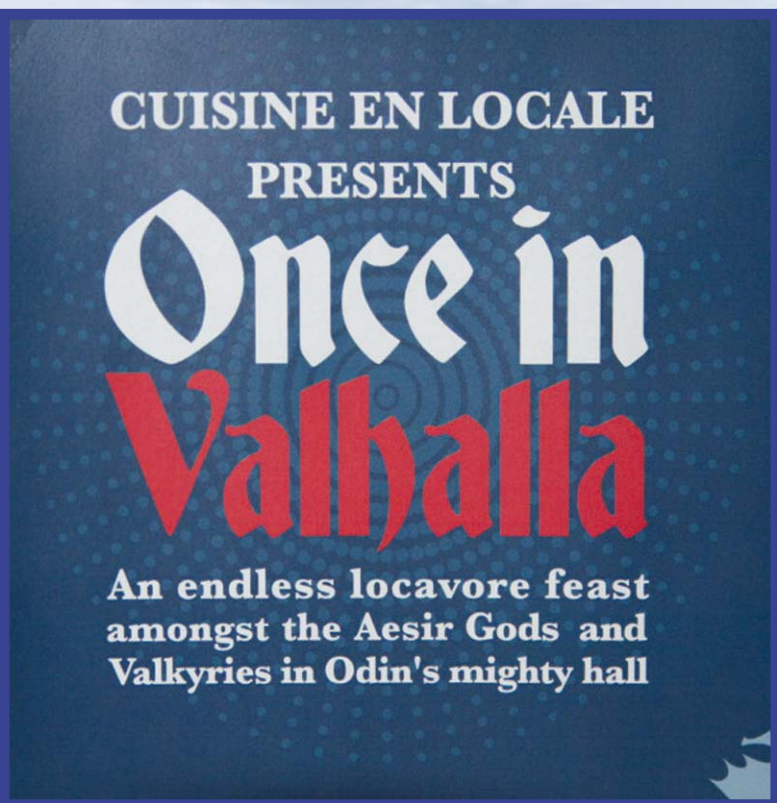
Monsters.



Valkyries.



In the green is the goddess, Freya, and on the right is the god, Thor.



Photos by Harry Kane



Goddess Gerd, with honored dead guests.



Odin with Fenris, the wolf.

SOMERVILLE SPORTS

Highlanders take on Jets

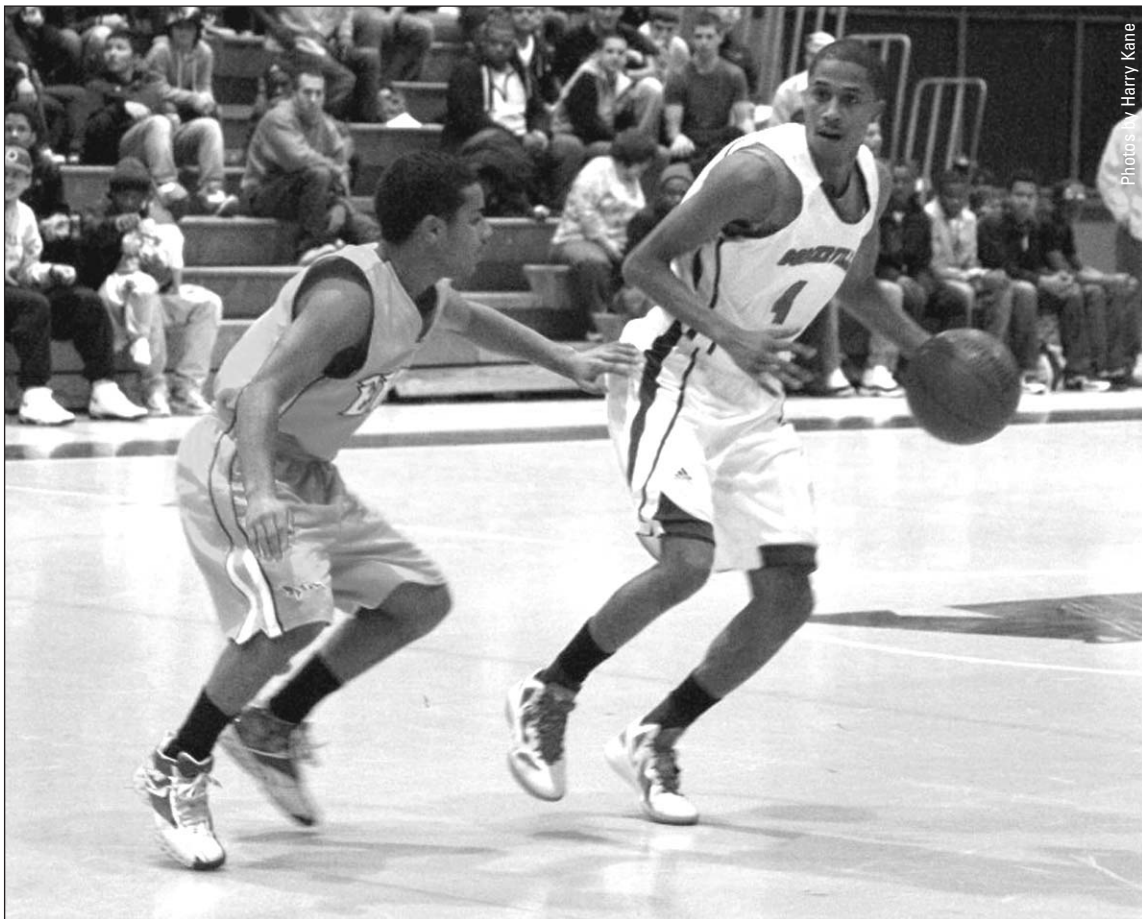
By Harry Kane

The Highlanders were defeated in game ten of a thrilling basketball match with their arch nemesis, the East Boston Jets. Coming off a two game winning streak the Highlanders were flying high with self-confidence as they took the court on a cold evening in January.

After the first period East Boston was on top 13-7. A junior and forward, John Lubin,

who holds the Somerville leading rebound record with an 8.4 rpg went for back to back lay-ups in the second period helping the Highlanders, and cutting the Jets' lead down to 4. At half time the score was 30-26 in favor of East Boston.

Billy Bonnet was on fire with 21 points in the game but that was not enough to climb back for a victory; Somerville fought hard until the final buzzer. The final score was EB 58- SHS 45.



Billy Bonnet (right) takes to the air and Kevin Silva (above) charges the field, yet the Highlanders tasted defeat by the Jets.

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#302

1. An "oxlip plant" resembles what perennial?

2. What product was John Cameron Swayze the spokesperson in 1950's to 1970's?

3. What bird is featured in the logo for *Birds of Australia*?

4. What breed of dog is "Eddie" on the TV show *Frasier*?

5. How many electoral votes are needed to win the presidency?

6. What singer's original name was Reginald Dwight, before he changed it?

7. What is the name of

the university that administers the Pulitzer Prize Awards?

8. Who was the first Vice President that didn't go on to be President?

9. At whose inauguration did Maya Angelou read the poem *I Shall Not Be Moved*?

10. What TV show was *Keep Your Eye on the Sparrow* the theme song for?

11. What are the first names of the Blues Brothers?

12. What was the number of the only Amendment to be repealed by Congress?

Answers on page 21

"Best of Somerville"
2009 & 2010

**Eat-In
Take-Out**

COLD BEER & WINE

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St. Clement sports update

Girls Basketball

The St Clement Lady Anchors secured a huge win against the Cathedral Panthers 50 -45 to bring their Catholic Central League record to 2-5. At their first meeting in December, the Lady Anchors lost by 25 points, but this time they would not accept defeat. Trailing by 11 with 3 minutes left in the 3rd quarter, St Clement fought back to go up by 6 with just a minute left in the fourth quarter. After some key free throws to put the game out of reach by 8th grader Katie Monestime (Somerville) and Freshman Jessica Popken (Medford), the Lady Anchors pulled out the win. Jessica Popken dominated offensively scoring 32

points and grabbing 9 rebounds, while Elva Martinez (Somerville) continued her team leading rebounding with 11 boards. Allison Caloggero (Medford) had a great night defensively, holding Cathedral's star to just 6 points in the second half. St Clement now takes on Mount St Josephs Academy in Brighton on Tuesday January 24 at 5:15 and Trinity Catholic on Friday January 27th at 5:30.

Boys Basketball

The St Clement Anchormen evens their overall record to 6-6 after capping off a week with 2 losses and a dramatic win on Friday night over the Matignon Warriors. Kevin Foley (Medford) continues his remarkable

season hitting a jumper with 1.9 points left to beat league rival Matignon 45-43. Earlier in the week, Foley racked up 50 points and 12 assists against the Marian Mustangs and the Cristo Rey Knights. Foley capped his amazing week with 61 points. The young St Clement Anchormen will take on the Trinity Catholic and Maimonides Academy this week.

Boys Hockey

The Anchormen beat the East Boston Jets 8-4 at Porazzo Rink t to set their overall record to 3-9. Junior center Kevin Flanagan (Charlestown) scored a hat trick. The Anchormen will face Nashoba Tech and Trinity Catholic.

Ad Agent

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SOMERVILLE SPORTS

SHS girls track rolling on

In the Division 1 relays held on Saturday, January 21, at the Reggie Lewis Center, the girls finished 9th with 16 points.

Scoring: 4x200m relay was third at 1:48.39 by Alison Kaba, Gelynn Berger, Michel-le Meranda and Nicole Genard. That was the fourth fastest time in all of the divisions statewide. The Dash Relay was also third with the same girls. The Long Jump Relay was fourth, with Gelynn Berger, Michel-le Meranda and Nicole Genard. There was a nice big throw from Natalie David to win the shot.

The next two big meets coming up are Malden on Wednesday, January 25, and Cambridge the week afterwards.



Your SHS girls track standouts - from left to right: Gelynn Berger, Nicole Genard, Michel-le Meranda and Alison Kaba.

Gold's Gym Silver Award

Tom Champion: Member of the Year



In February 2011, Tom decided to utilize his spare time "focusing on his health and getting back into shape." He hired a trainer named Amy from Pro-Fit in order to build lean muscle and get results without a strenuous diet. As a result, Tom has lost over 50 pounds and has made exercise a part of his everyday lifestyle. Tom continues to work out regularly.

Soldier from Somerville awarded for service in Afghanistan



Somerville resident Capt. Keith Donahue reads to children at an orphanage in Kabul during an Operation Outreach Afghanistan trip on December 19, 2011. Donahue served as the construction contract and contractors officer in charge for Task Force Yankee in Kabul since April 15, 2011.

- U.S. Army Photo by 1st Lt. Kelly Sullivan, Task Force Yankee Public Affairs

Treat Yourself to a Massage and Help some Deserving Kids at the same time

On Friday, January 27, 2012 from Noon to 8 PM

The Massage Clinic at Lincoln Technical Institute is raising money for the kids at the Somerville Youth Development and Boxing Club by offering their Professional Massage Services at extremely low prices.

All of the money raised will go directly to the Youth Development and Boxing Club to fund its programming (*academic tutoring, substance abuse prevention, and physical conditioning*), equipment needs for the kids (*mouth guards, gloves, hand wraps, etc.*) and incidental expenses.

All massage treatments will be performed by Experienced Certified Alumni of Lincoln Tech who work professionally in this field and are coming back to participate in this worthy cause.

Enjoy the following treatments in the warm, clean, friendly and professional environment of the Lincoln Tech Massage Clinic located at Assembly Square:

Full Body Swedish Massage	50 Minutes	\$30
Full Body Deep Tissue Massage	50 Minutes	\$30
Full Body Hot Rock Massage	50 Minutes	\$30

Full Body Massages are by appointment only

*Call (617) 776-3500 ASAP to reserve a time that's best for you
Tell them you are calling regarding the Boxing Club Fundraiser*

Walk-In services include:

Chair Massages, Hand Scrubs and Parafin Wax Dips \$20

The Lincoln Tech Massage Clinic is located at 5 Middlesex Avenue in Somerville on the same floor as Planet Fitness (Next to Home Depot)

Treat Yourself or Surprise a Friend
A Great Gift Idea for just after the Holidays

The Somerville Youth Development and Boxing Club is a recognized 501 (c) (3) Public Charity

February Swim Lesson's

Monday & Wednesday
FEBRUARY 1-27, 2012
5:15-5:45pm for levels 1
AND
5:15-6pm for
Levels 1½, 2, 3 & 4



Registration begins at
3:00pm on the following
dates...

Tuesday & Thursday
FEBRUARY 2-23, 2012
4:30-5pm OR
5:15-5:45pm for levels 1
AND 5:15-6pm for
Levels 1½, 2, 3 & 4

Non Somerville Residents:
January 10

Somerville resident:
January 3

ONCE YOUR REGISTRATION TIME BEGINS, YOU MAY REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE LISTED CLASSES DURING OUR OFFICE HOURS:
October 2011-June 2012 : Mondays-Thursdays 3-5pm + 6-8:30pm and open Saturdays from 12:00-3:30 pm.

* * Note: All dates and office hours are subject to change * *

Somerville Resident Cost: \$50 Non-Somerville Resident Cost: \$65

617-666-6600 x6676

www.somerville.k12.ma.us/pool

LEGAL NOTICES

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

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Elisee La Brecque and Eadwine P. Abrams to "MERS", Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a separate corporation that is acting solely as nominee for "Lender", Countrywide Home Loans, Inc. and its successors and assigns dated February 8, 2005 and recorded with the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 44611, Page 473, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction at 10:00 AM, on February 10, 2012**, on the premises known as **7 Quincy Street, Somerville, Massachusetts**, the premises described in said mortgage, together with all the rights, easements, and appurtenances thereto, to wit:

the premises known as 7 Quincy Street, Somerville, Massachusetts, further bounded and described as follows:

the land with the buildings thereon situated in Somerville in said County of Middlesex, being the premises now known as and numbered 7 Quincy Street in the present numbering of said street, and shown as a portion of Lot 33 on a plan entitled "Plan of Building Lots in Somerville belonging to the heirs of Robert Vinal", A.F. and N. N. Sargent, Surveyors, dated May 1, 1869, and recorded in Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 16, Plan 67, and bounded and described as follows:

- NORTHWESTERLY: by Quincy Street, forty (40) feet;
- SOUTHWESTERLY: by Lots 34 and 35 on said plan, ninety (90) feet;
- SOUTHEASTERLY: by Lot 37 on said plan, forty (40) feet; and
- NORTHEASTERLY: by the remaining portion of said Lot 33 and by a line parallel with and twenty feet distant from the dividing line between Lot 33 and Lot 32 as shown on said plan, ninety (90) feet.

For title reference, see deed at Book 44579 Page 298.

Terms of Sale: These premises are being sold subject to any and all unpaid real estate taxes, water rates, municipal charges and assessments, condominium charges, expenses, costs, and assessments, if applicable, federal tax liens, partition wall rights, statutes, regulations, zoning, subdivision control, or other municipal ordinances or bylaws respecting land use, configuration, building or approval, or bylaws, statutes or ordinances regarding the presence of lead paint, asbestos or other toxic substances, sanitary codes, housing codes, tenancy, and, to the extent that they are recorded prior to the above mortgage, any easements, rights of way, restrictions, confirmation or other matters of record.

Purchaser shall also bear all state and county deeds excise tax. The deposit of \$10,000.00 is to be paid in cash or bank or certified check at the time and place of the sale, with the balance of the purchase price to be paid by bank or certified check within thirty (30) days after the date of the sale, to be deposited in escrow with Guaetta and Benson, LLC, at 229 Billerica Road, Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by foreclosure deed to the second highest bidder or, thereafter, to the next highest bidders, providing that said bidder shall deposit with said attorney, the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within five (5) business days after written notice of the default of the previous highest bidder.

Other terms, if any, are to be announced at the sale. Present holder of said mortgage

Bank of New York Mellon as Trustee for the Certificate Holders of CWALT, Inc., Alternative Loan Trust 2005-14, Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2005-14 by its Attorneys
Guaetta and Benson, LLC
Peter V. Guaetta, Esquire
P.O. Box 519
Chelmsford, MA 01824
January 12, 2012

1/18/12, 1/25/12 The Somerville News



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
IFB # 12-50

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department invites sealed bids for:
(1) 2012 MACK GRANITE GU813 (10) TEN WHEEL TRUCK WITH HOOK LIFT SYSTEM AND MULTIPLE BODIES.
for the City of Somerville, Department of Public Works

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: **Monday, January 23, 2012**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **Monday, February 6, 2012 at 11:00A.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.

The contract term shall be for a period from 2/20/2012 through 12/31/2012.

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

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

1/25/12 The Somerville News



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

PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Somerville Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **February 2, 2012** at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers of Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

130 Broadway: (Case #PB 2011-02-R1-(1/2012) Applicant, Bernard H. Pucker, and Owner, S & B Realty Trust, seek a revision to Special Permit PB 2011-02 (SZO \$5.3.8) in order to alter a condition to keep an existing curb cut on Glen St. The original permit was to alter the façade of the building including window and door openings and a special permit to establish Medium Retail and Service uses in the building totaling approx 18,000 sf. The proposal also includes site renovations to the rear parking lot where 19 parking spaces would be located. CCD 55 zone. Ward 1.

230 Somerville Ave: (Case #PB 2012-01) Applicant George Moussallem and Owner TYR TWO Realty Trust, seek a Special Permit under SZO \$7.13. Use Cluster A to establish a research and development use of approximately 11,000 square feet. CCD 55 zone. Ward 2.

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 www.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 will not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide comments to the Planning Board 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: Kevin Prior, Chairman

To be published in the Somerville News 1/18/12 & 1/25/12.

1/18/12, 1/25/12 The Somerville News



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
IFB # 12-49

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department invites sealed bids for:
On Call Locksmith for all Municipal Buildings

An Invitation for Bid (IFB) and specifications may be obtained at the Purchasing Department, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. 02143 on or after: **Tuesday, January 17, 2012**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 12:00 P.M.** at which time sealed bids will be opened. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The contract term shall be for a period of 1 year, from 02/01/2012 through 01/31/2013, with two (2), one-year options to renew.

Please email Orazio DeLuca, odeluca@somervillema.gov for bid packages.

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

1/25/12 The Somerville News

PATS TOWING

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

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

2001	Ford	Taurus	Vin # 1FAFP55S01A268609
1999	Madza	B 2500	Vin# 4F4YR12C8XTM11037
2002	Mercury	Sable	Vin # 1MEFM50U32A629505
2007	Dodge	Caliber	Vin# 1B3HB28B57D5671983

1/18/12, 1/25/12, 2/1/12 The Somerville News



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, February 1, 2012**, at the **Visiting Nurses Association, 259 Lowell Street, 3rd Floor Community Room** at 6:00 p.m. to hear pending applications and to hold public hearings:

99 Dover St: (Case #ZBA 2012-01) Applicant, Bright Horizons Family Solutions, and Owner, 99 Dover St, LLC, seek a Special Permit under SZO \$9.13.b to modify loading design standards in order to establish a by-right child care facility. CBD zone. Ward 6.

33-35 Dimick St: (Case #ZBA 2011-98) Applicant and Owner Steven Courtemanche, seeks a Variance under SZO \$5.5 for relief from the rear yard setback requirement and a Special Permit under SZO \$4.4.1 to enclose porches in the side and rear yards of an existing three-family dwelling. RB zone. Ward 2.

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 1/18/12 & 1/25/12.

1/18/12, 1/25/12 The Somerville News



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
IFB # 12-48

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department invites sealed bids for:
On Call Painter for Municipal Buildings

An Invitation for Bid (IFB) and specifications may be obtained at the Purchasing Department, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. 02143 on or after: **Tuesday, January 17, 2012**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 11:00 A.M.** at which time sealed bids will be opened. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The contract term shall be for a period of 1 year, from 02/01/2012 through 01/31/2013, with two (2), one-year options to renew.

Prevailing Wages apply to this contract.

Please email Orazio DeLuca, odeluca@somervillema.gov for bid packages.

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

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PATS TOWING

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

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

2007	Lincoln	MKX-	Vin#-2LMDU88C57BJ17018
1999	Oldsmobile	Alero	Vin#-1G3NL12E0XC328572
1998	Honda	Accord	Vin# 1HGC66674WA048251
1999	Ford	Escort	Vin# 1FAFP13P5XW195501
2002	Nissan	Sentra	Vin# 3N1CB51A22L554922
2006	Ford	500	Vin# 1FAFP26186G153331

1/25/12, 2/1/12, 2/8/12 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

LEGAL NOTICES

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

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

MIDDLESEX DivisionDocket No. MI 12P0004EA

In the Estate of: Gerald F. Sullivan a/k/a Gerald Francis Sullivan

Late of: Somerville, MA. 02143

Date of Death: 10/28/2011

NOTICE OF PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, a petition has been presented requesting that a document purporting to be the last will of said decedent be proved and allowed and that

Eamon Sullivan of Somerville, MA
be appointed executor/trix, named in the will to serve

Without Surety

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT; **Cambridge** ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK (10:00 AM) ON: **02/14/2012**

In addition, you must file a written affidavit of objections to the petition, stating specific facts and grounds upon which the objection is based, within (30) days after the return day (or such other time as the court, on motion with notice to the petitioner, may allow) in accordance with Probate Rule 16.

WITNESS, HON. PETER C. DIGANGI, First Justice of this Court

Date: January 17, 2012

Tara E. De Cristofaro
Register of Probate

1/25/12 The Somerville News

Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleNews.com

Broadway comes to Highland Avenue

CONT. FROM PG 7

in so many different ways.”

Caitlin Lewis, a sophomore who gets a front row seat at every rehearsal as the production stage manager, said that all adds up to a show worth watching. “I think people should come see it because it's interesting and it's funny. It makes you sad and then happy. Of

course our actors are great and they're great singers. It's good,” said Lewis.

Somerville High School will present Guys and Dolls in its Highland Avenue auditorium at 7 p.m. on Thursday, February 2 and Friday, February 3, and at 2 p.m. on Saturday, February 4.

Tickets are \$8 for general admission and \$6 for students or seniors, and can be purchased at the door or reserved in advance by contacting producer Rosemary Sears at 617-625-6600, extension 6265. More information is at www.somerville.k12.ma.us/musical.

A deal we can live with

CONT. FROM PG 9

our health insurance expenditures. But many of our other costs have continued to rise, and we can't assume the new fiscal year will be any easier than the last.

I can't guarantee that other factors won't force us to contem-

plate future service cuts or layoffs. But I can guarantee that they won't happen as a result of this settlement.

Oh, and one more thing. I am well aware that, at several points in this opinion piece, I have violat-

ed the grammatical rule that says you're not supposed to end a sentence with a preposition. But I also know that, in this context, I don't care. Just think of it as another compromise - a compromise we can all live with.

The Massachusetts film tax credit

CONT. FROM PG 9

we are making in the film industry when our state gets so little benefit - in addition to the tax credit, for instance, film productions are exempt from paying any sales tax.

Where Next?:

Film tax credits are the only tax credits issued by Massachusetts that are not subject to a cap, making them a serious budget liability, especially at this precarious stage of economic recovery. There are

probably situations where state investment can leverage job creation - but we need to make sure that the investment doesn't exceed the benefit. The data coming in from DOR helps us to evaluate the effectiveness of this program, which appears to need considerable adjustment.

Declining state revenue due to the recession has forced us to make painful cuts to nearly every area of

state government, and our tax dollars must be spent wisely and effectively. Given the soberingly small benefits from our film tax investment to date, the legislature should reconsider the amount of credit, and bring it more in line with our life sciences tax credit and clean energy tax credit programs. In my view, state subsidies should be creating sustainable employment - not generating bonuses for the wealthy.

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.

The Olympics are here in Somerville with over 65 participants so far! Go for the gold by participating in 45 exercise classes between now and August 25th. You have lots of time to meet this goal and lots of exercise classes at all three of our centers. Everyone is welcome to join us. We will be having a grand medals luncheon in September to give out the gold, silver and bronze medals. To participate, just come to a class and our center directors will sign you up! Check out our classes below listed with an (*).

New exercise classes:

Chair Yoga – Tuesdays at the Ralph & Jenny Center from 9:30 – 10:30. \$5 per class. All levels welcome.

Zumba Gold – Join the craze and dance your way to fitness. Ralph & Jenny Center from 10:30 – 10:45 \$5 per class. All levels welcome.

January 25

Hanscom Air Force Base Bingo & Dinner

Holland Street Center

Flexibility & Balance with Janine*|9:30 a.m.
SHINE hours (by appt.)|10 a.m.
Computers are easy|10:30 a.m.
Womenís Group|10:30 a.m.
Qigong*|1:15 p.m.

Cross Street Center

Bowling*|1 p.m.
165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

Ralph & Jenny Center

Blood Pressure Screening|10 a.m.
Zumba Gold*|10:30 a.m.
Bingo|12:45 p.m.
9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

January 26

Holland Street Center

Indoor Exercise*|9:30 a.m.
Senior discussion|10 a.m.
Bingo|12:45 p.m.
167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Cross Street Center

Indoor Exercise|10:30 a.m.
Bingo|12:45 p.m.
165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

Ralph & Jenny Center

Bereavement Support Group (sign up ahead)|9:45 a.m.
Strengthening with Geoff|10 a.m.
Portuguese Lunch|11:30 a.m.
Bingo|12:45 p.m,
9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

January 27

Holland Street Center

Indoor Exercise*|9 a.m.
Bingo|12:45 p.m.
167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x. 2300

Cross Street Center

Flexibility and Balance with Didi*|10:30 a.m.
Bingo|12:45 p.m.
165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

Ralph & Jenny

Center Closed

January 30

Holland Street Center

Posture Screening – sign up ahead|9:30 a.m.
Somerville singing Seniors|9:30 a.m.
167 Holland Street

Cross Street

Closed

Ralph & Jenny Center

Indoor Exercise|10:30 a.m.
Bingo|12:45 p.m.
9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

January 31

Lunch at the Highlander Café at the High School Atrium

Holland Street Center

Strengthening with Geoff*|9:15 a.m.
167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x. 2300

Cross Street Center

Indoor Exercise|10:30 a.m.
Bingo|12:45 p.m.
165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

Ralph & Jenny Center

Chair Yoga*|9:30 a.m

Flexibility and Balance *|10:30 a.m.
Bingo|12:45 p.m.
9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

February 1

Holland Street Center

Flexibility and Balance*|9:30 a.m.
Women's Support Group|10:30 a.m.
QiGong*|1:15 p.m.
167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x. 2300

Cross Street Center

Bowling*|1 p.m.
165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

Ralph & Jenny Center

Zumba Gold*|10:30 a.m.
Bingo|12:45 p.m.
9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

Upcoming Events in January

1/30 Posture Screening? Are you having back pain? Do you feel like you slouch? Have our Chiropractor Dr. Molly Ouellette check it out for you! 617-625-6600 ext. 2300. 1/31 Holland Street (9:30 am)

1/26 Bereavement Support Group begins. Have you lost someone close to you? Maybe it has been a few months or several years but you still feel like it is yesterday. A bereavement support group can help you to express, understand and cope with difficult emotions associated with grief and loss and aid your healing journey. Pre-registration is required. 857-294-0052.

1/31 Luncheon at the Highlander Café at the High School Atrium. \$9.00 for Chicken Parm or Baked Haddock. Check in at 11:30 am. RSVP 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

Coming up in February

Twin Rivers! – Wednesday Febearuary 8th - \$16.00. Trip includes motorcoach transportation, \$7.00 food credit and \$10 free bonus play. RSVP at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300

“Talking with Dolores” – a one act play about aging, life-and death choices and saving room for dessert followed by sweets and conversation. February 9th 3:00 pm Holland Street – RSVP 617-625-6600 ext. 2300

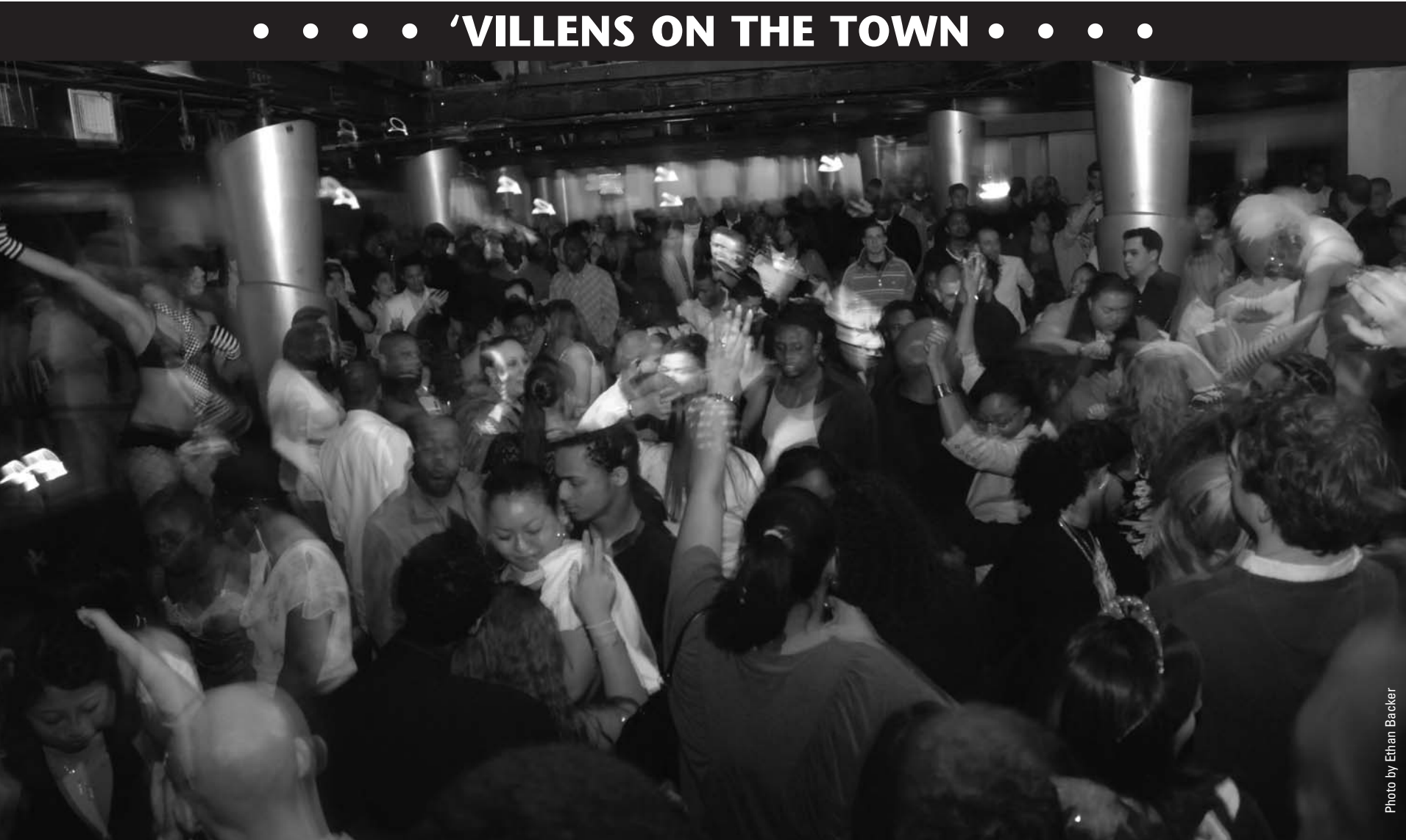


Photo by Ethan Backer

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Wednesday|January 25

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

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

Thursday|January 26

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

Friday|January 27

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

Saturday|January 28

Central Library
ABC Spanish in Motion
10 a.m.-11 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

Sunday|January 29

Central Library
Yoga Class for Kids Ages 4-7 with Janine Duffy
2 p.m. - 3 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Monday|January 30

Central Library
Preschool: Sing Along with Liza Kitchell
11a.m.-11:45 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

Tuesday|January 31

West Branch Library
Preschool:Storytime
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|40 College Ave

Wednesday|February 1

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

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

MUSIC
Wednesday|January 25

Johnny D's
Brad Byrd|Jeff Conley|Ryan Schmidt
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

The Burren
PUB QUIZ 8-10|Comedy@10
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge
Billy Wine|Talking About Commas|Preamble
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
Little Other|The Ward Eights
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub
Kong
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
Nick Palms Comedy Showcase
381 Summer St

Bloc 11
11 Bow St.|617-623-0000

Thursday|January 26

Johnny D's
Klezwoods|Trubaci|Racky Thomas
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's
Stan Martin Trio|9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

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

PA'S Lounge
Zip-Tie Handcuffs|Ready, Steady... Torpedo!|The Tenafly Vipers|Taiwan Typhoon
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Live music starting at 8:00pm from Maxi
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Precinct Bar
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub
Dub Down Featuring The Scotch Bonnet Band
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Bloc 11
11 Bow St.|617-623-0000

PJ Ryan's
Live Music
239 Holland St|617-625-8200

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

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

Rosebud Bar
381 Summer St.

Arts at the Armory
2012 Relay for Life Somerville Kick-off Party
6:30 p.m.|Mezzanine
Gordon Michaels in Black on Broadway!7 p.m.|Café||191 Highland Ave
Somerville Theatre

Awkward Compliment's Thursday Night Comedy Night
8 p.m.|55 Davis Square|617-625-5700

Friday|January 27

Johnny D's
Jabas|Playin Dead
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's
Jeremy Lyons Trio|6 p.m.
New Million Box, Highway Ghosts, Preacher Roe | 9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Spike The Punch
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Live Acoustic Music
8 p.m.|65 Holland St

Precinct Bar
Midnight Marquee|Drifting Son|Froggy and The Friendship|Strange Changes|JJF|Nothing To Rule
70 Union Sq|617 -623-9211

PA'S Lounge
James Houlahan (cd release)|Little War Twins|Audrey Ryan
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Live music starting at 8:00pm. Featuring Dave Scott and friends
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

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

Michael's Bar
Domestic Beer \$2.50
9 p.m. - 1 a.m.|no cover|97 Washington St|617-623-3364

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

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

718-9177
Rosebud Bar
381 Summer St

Bloc 11
11 Bow St.|617-623-0000

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

Saturday|January 28

Johnny D's
Beatlejuice
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's
Tom Hagerty Band |5:30 p.m.
Four-Point Restraints with Lousy Instruments, Worker Gorgy \$5 cover |9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

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

Precinct Bar
American Beauties|Dominic and The Lucid|Ross Phazor|The Disappointment|Zagnutt
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
DJ every Saturday
9p.m.|65 Holland St

PA'S Lounge
Performer Magazine Presents!|Hands & Knees|B for Brontosaurus|Double Stops
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

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

Michael's Bar
97 Washington St|617-623-3364

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

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

Rosebud Bar
381 Summer St

Bloc 11
11 Bow St.|617-623-0000

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

Arts at the Armory
Dylan Chace at the Arts at the Armory Cafe
8 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Sunday|January 29

Johnny D's
Open Blues Jam|4:30 p.m.|Decompression Sessions|8 p.m
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Frank Drake Sunday Showcase |5 p.m.
Lauren Bateman with special guest Mari & The Others|8 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Grunge Brunch
Sunday Night 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

Arts at the Armory
Drill Hall Flea Market
10 a.m.|Performance Hall
Ron Brunelle: Recent Paintings Closing Reception
2 p.m.|Gallery|19 Highland Ave

Monday|January 30

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

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

The Burren
Bur Run|6:30 p.m.
Set Dancing|8 p.m
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

PA'S Lounge
Joyce Raskin & Chick Granning|Lilia Halpern|Chris Colbourn|Brendan Little
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

Precinct Bar
70 Union Sq|617-623-921

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

Arts at the Armory
Monday Mini Cinema presents: Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds - Road to God knows Where
7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday|January 31

Johnny D's
Jon Herington
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Kristen Ford Band with guests
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan|6:30 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

PA'S Lounge
Open Mic - Rock, Folk, R&B, Alt,

Jazz & Originals etc. Hosted by Tony Amaral
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

Precinct Bar
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

Highland Kitchen
Spelling Bee Night First Tuesday of the month
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

Rosebud Bar
Karaoke
381 Summer St

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
"Beer and Mussels" Night
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Somerville Theatre
Thurston Moore/Kurt Vile
7:30 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Wednesday|February 1

Johnny D's
Julien Kasper
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

The Burren
PUB QUIZ 8-10|Comedy@10
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
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub

Kong
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
Nick Palms Comedy Showcase
381 Summer St

Bloc 11
11 Bow St.|617-623-0000

Arts at the Armory
Wiretap Wednesday Open Stage
7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

CLASSES AND GROUPS
Wednesday|January 25

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

Thursday|January 26

West Branch Library
Learn English at the Library
Session 1 (6 p.m.-7 p.m.)
Session 2 (7:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m.)
40 College Ave

West Branch Library
Mary Alexandra Agner Poetry Reading
6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|40 College Ave

Third Life Studio
Roots and Rhythm
33 Union Sq| drumzatlibana@gmail.com

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|January 28

Arts at the Armory
Somerville Winter Farmer's Market
9:30 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|January 29

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

Monday|January 30

East Branch Library
Learn English at the Library!
6 p.m.-7 p.m.(Session 1)
7:15 p.m - 8:15 p.m. (Session 2)
115 Broadway

Third Life Studio
Beginning Hawaiian Hula
6 p.m.| 781-729-2252

Tuesday|January 31

Central Library
Learn English at the Library!
6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Third Life Studio
Vinyasa Flow Yoga & Meditation
9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m.|617-628-7884

The Art of Singing Group
7 p.m.-9:15 p.m.|33 Union Sq|617-628-0916
srlibana@gmail.com

Wednesday|February 1

Central Library
Book Group: Mystery
7p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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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Sciortino, Patrick celebrate Transgender Bill

CONT. FROM PG 1

congratulating Sciortino and the other activists for getting the job done.
“This is what comes from turning to each other, rather than on each other,” said the Governor. “This is about what happens when people come together in common cause, for their own sake and for the sake of a principle, a very simple one, which is that people should come before their governments as equals. I am proud of you, and proud to be with you today.”
Patrick lauded the many mem-

bers present from both chambers of the house, including Reps. Robert DeLeo and Byron Rushing and Senators Sonia Chiang-Diaz and Benjamin Downing for their “act of political courage.” The bill classifies discrimination against transgender people as a hate crime under state guidelines, and protects transgender people against discrimination in housing, employment, credit and education.
“I sign this bill as a matter of conscience,” said Patrick. No individual should face discrim-

ination because of who they are. For that reason, this legislation is an achievement, not only for transgender people, but for all of those who stand up for and care about respect for basic human dignity.”
He echoed many of the speakers that day, calling the movement an “example for what it means when people decide to make advocacy personal, when they decide that you do in fact have all the power you need to make all the change you want if you work together,” and a “pow-

erful reminder for all those who work for you in public service.”
Also speaking was the second sponsor of the bill, Rep. Rushing of Boston, who spoke on the significance of the law, and its role in personal politics.
“When you come here, when anyone who has been discriminated, deprived of their rights in our society, when you come and demand those rights, you of course demanding those rights because you don't have them. You were born with these rights, you have always had these

rights,” said Rushing.
“What you come to government to do is to protect these rights, to acknowledge those rights, and that is the great work to do.”
Chiang-Diaz of Roxbury spoke of the inspiration the movement inspired. “We’ve refined our own voices, and we’ve re-remembered how to lead, and not just govern and what’s going to fly well in our district, but by what we believe and what we can convince others is just.”

Collecting Massachusetts authors

By Kenneth Gloss

Some collectors think that by amassing only the works of writers associated with one regional area they are significantly narrowing their field of sought-after works. In fact, they may discover that a geographic collection still encompasses a huge body of material, including both the books by these particular authors as well as the books about them. For a good example of this, consider the possibilities of collecting only the works of authors who have some connection to the state of Massachusetts, whether they were born and raised here, educated here, or just lived and worked here at some point in their career.

One reason that the number of Massachusetts authors is so large is because the state was the literary center of America. When this country was founded, Boston had the money and equipment necessary to publish books and also the infrastructure and transportation needed to distribute them to the rest of the country. Nearby towns like Salem and Concord attracted a lot of philosophers and transcendentalists who happened to be writers. Harvard College provided a steady source of income for these people. The area supported the educational institutions, which supported the publishers, which supported the writers. *The Atlantic Monthly* magazine, which has been based in Boston since its beginning, also pulled a lot of great writers to the area, including William Dean Howells, who became assistant editor in 1866. In fact, at one time Boston was regarded as "The Athens of America."

Of course, some writers didn't need to depend on the economic

advantages offered by the Boston area, relying on the means of their family instead. Someone like Robert Lowell, whose family owned the mills that supported the town of Lowell, could afford to be a poet. Fellow poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, married into money that helped him a great deal. Outside of Boston were many farms, such as Brook Farm in West Roxbury, which also attracted many authors to the state. These were places where authors congregated in an effort to find an artist's Utopia. Eventually they found that they didn't want to live and work together forever, but the tradition of writers retreating to such places for a limited time has continued through the years.

The Cape Cod area has always attracted artists and writers with its physical beauty, from which many were said to draw great inspiration. Joseph C. Lincoln was a native of the Cape and used its people and surroundings as the basis for his writings of forty novels plus a book of poetry, *Cape Cod Ballads*. There are many authors who wrote some of their early works in Massachusetts even if they moved on to other places later in their career. Before playwright Eugene O'Neill won his Nobel Prize, he wrote and produced some of his early plays in Provincetown in association with the theatrical group known as the Provincetown Players.

Among the many who qualify as Massachusetts authors are the more well-known names of writers from the mid-1800s like Henry David Thoreau, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Emily Dickinson, Oliver Wendell Holmes, John Whittier and less widely known notables such as the first black American author,

Phyllis Wheatley, a slave who composed poetry. Each of these authors was published by the company now known as Houghton-Mifflin. Nowadays, one can find some real bargains of works from this time period. Some first editions from these authors cost only \$10 to \$20. In Massachusetts, you can find loads of books by these authors at estate sales and auctions.

Some of the great Victorian historians are also Massachusetts authors. Francis Parkman, born in Boston and educated at Harvard, was regarded as an authority on the American West after publication of *The Oregon Trail*, a book that chronicled his personal journey along the famous pioneer route. Another from the whole series of historical writers from Massachusetts was William Hickling Prescott, who wrote *The History of the Reign of Ferdinand and Isabella the Catholic*. Prescott, who wrote mainly about Spanish and Mexican history, was also a product of Harvard.

Eventually New York overtook Boston as the economic center of the country with much of the literary world's focus moving there as well. However, Boston has continued to boast of great support for writing and education. Even in more recent times one finds writers like John Phillips Marquand, author of the 1938 Pulitzer Prize winning book *The Late George Apley*; Jim Carroll, most well known for his book *The Basketball Diaries*, and John Updike, a prolific writer who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1982 and 1991 for the last two books in his *Rabbit* series. Writers continue to come to Boston for the universities as well as the mystique and atmosphere it offers.

Collectors will find that just as



Kenneth Gloss understands the ins and outs of book collecting.

the topics and time periods of the various Massachusetts authors have a wide span, so does the range of prices they will have to pay for particular books. Prices for works by authors such as Updike can be tremendous, running into the thousands for some of the more rare editions. But even a casual collector can afford to dabble in this area if they pick up works by Whittier, Lowell, Howell or Holmes, whose first editions often cost between \$10 and \$20. There are many books by many of these authors that are not rare and can easily be purchased in the \$20 or \$30 range.

Limiting a collection to the works of authors from a particu-

lar geographic location is an appropriate way of achieving the focus that every collector needs to have. One will still find a wide selection of genres, time periods and styles from which to choose, with a price range to fit any collector's budget.

Ken Gloss is proprietor of the Brattle Book Shop in downtown Boston, America's oldest antiquarian bookstore. 2011 is the 62nd year of Gloss family ownership. Ken has appeared on PBS' Antiques Roadshow on numerous occasions. For further information about the shop and Ken's frequent free and open lectures, visit the Web site at: www.brattlebookshop.com or call 1-800-447-9595.

16 candles CONT. FROM PG 9

age we had Bradlees, Woolworths and Lechmere Sales. Today they have Newbury Comics, Best Buy and Gamestop. I am very happy that he and his brother still enjoy going camping with me. It's not that they enjoy spending time with dad. You see, there are teenage girls at camp. Need I say more?

We also share an interest in going to as many antique shops and yard sales we can find. My boy inherited my love of junk. But this kid is brimming with ideas, plans, and determination. He can do whatever he wants to. I will try to keep him on the straight and narrow as much as a parent (and friend) can.

Today, I can fit into his clothes

and vice versa. His clothes are cool and mine are nerdy. Just the thought of being the same size is scary! Him and his brother are still growing and could crush the old man if they wanted to!...Maybe!

I don't know when that little boy all of a sudden turned into a 16 year old young man. I guess we were all too busy with the day-to-day stuff to see the transformation. But I have huge hopes for this kid. I am proud of him. I hope he gets a scholarship to college so I don't have to dip into my retirement fund. Better still, I hope he becomes famous with his band so that I can spice off him!

I am sure the next few months are going to be very interesting for our family. My 16-year-old son will be getting his learners permit soon. God give me and his mom patience! He will truly become a man when he is able to conquer the Powder House rotary. Oh, and Lord...please keep an eye on my boy! He is my right hand man. Happy Birthday Joe!

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.

Jerry's

Liquor Store

Union Square

329 Somerville Ave • (617) 666-5410

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Answers

Answers from page 14

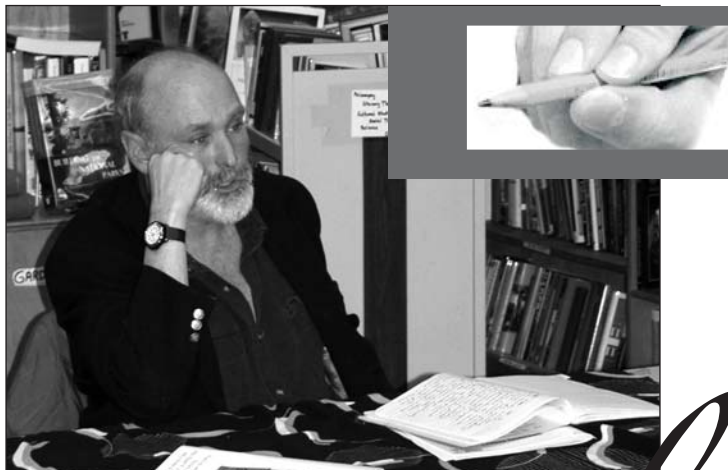
1. The primrose	7. Columbia
2. Timex	8. Aaron Burr
3. The emu	9. President Clinton
4. Jack Russell Terrier	10. Barretta
5. 270 electoral votes are needed	11. (Joliet) Jake and Elwood
6. Elton John	12. The eighteenth

SCAT Program Schedule for the Week

Wednesday, January 25		6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV	4:00pm	Most Interesting Place	2:00pm	Thom Hartmann Program
12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:00pm (LIVE)	SCATV ANNUAL MTG.	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	3:00pm	Robyn & Max Exercise
6:00am	Flip Side	7:30pm	Somerville Rocks	6:00pm	Tele Magazine	3:30pm	Esoteric Science
6:30am	The Struggle	8:00pm (LIVE)	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou	7:00pm	Recovery Roundtable	4:00pm	Somerville Rocks
7:00am	Drug Awareness	9:30pm	Physician Focus	8:00pm	SCATV ANNUAL MEETING	4:30pm	Somerville Back In The Day
8:00am	Democracy Now!	Friday, January 27		9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	5:00pm	Culture Club
9:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	12:00am	Free Speech TV	10:00pm	Wrestling Talk	5:30pm	Talking About Somerville
10:00am	Abugida TV	6:00am	SCATV ANNUAL MEETING	11:00pm	Sonic Lobotomy	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV
11:00am	Somerville News Reading	7:00am	SCATV Promos	12:00mid	Bongoman	7:00pm	Discover The Law
12:00noon	Democracy Now!!!	8:00am	Democracy Now!	Sunday, January 29		7:30pm	The Commonwealth Report
1:00pm	Back in The Day	9:00am	The Truth About Drugs	12:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	Right Here, Right Now
1:30pm	Most Interesting Place	9:30am	Creating Cooperative Kids	6:00am	Show de Fe	8:30pm	Steve Katsos Show
2:00pm	Thom Hartman show	10:30am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	7:00am	Vida Na TV	9:00pm	Dedilhando A Saudade
3:00pm (LIVE)	Medical Tutor	11:30am	Back In The Day	8:00am	In Season, Out of Season	10:00pm	Bate Papo con Shirley
3:30pm	Interesting Places	12:00noon	Democracy Now!	8:30am	Healer in Every Home	11:00pm	Visual Radio
4:00pm	Life Matters	1:00pm	The Expert Series	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	Tuesday, January 31	
4:30pm	Healthy Hypnosis	2:00pm	Thom Hartmann Program	10:00am	Christian Assemble Tabernacle	12:00am	Free Speech TV
5:30pm	Let's Talk About Hearing	3:00pm	Cooking W/ Georgie & Dez	11:00am	International Church of God	6:00am	Emerging Drug Trends
6:00pm	Al Jazeera	3:30pm	Somerville Rocks	11:30am	The Commonwealth Report	7:00pm	Perils For Pedestrians
7:00pm (LIVE)	Chita Tande	4:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking	12noon	Somerville Housing Auth.	7:30am	The Struggle
8:00pm (LIVE)	Somerville Pundits	4:30pm	SCATV and Free Speech	1:00pm	Waltham Philharmonic Orch.	8:00am	Democracy Now!!!
8:30pm	Culture Club	5:00pm	SCATV ANNUAL MEETING	2:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	9:00am	Somerville News Reading
9:00pm	Somerville Rocks	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV	3:30pm	Talk About Somerville	10:00am	Tele Kreyol
9:30pm	Shrink Rap	7:00pm	Somerville Rocks	4:00pm	Dedilhando A Saudade	11:00am	SCATV ANNUAL MEETING
10:00pm	The Smoki Dick Show	7:30pm	Working With Java	5:00pm	Ethiopian Satelite TV	12:00noon	Democracy Now!
11:00pm	The Garage	8:00pm	Visual Radio	6:00pm	Abugida TV	1:00pm	The Commonwealth Report
11:30pm	Art @ SCATV	9:00pm	The Garage	7:00pm	African TV Network	1:30pm	Somerville Housing
Thursday, January 26		9:30pm	Bandwidth TV	8:00pm	Tele Magazine	2:00pm	Thom Hartmann Show
12:00am	Free Speech TV	10:00pm	Portrait of Somerville	9:00pm	Watch This	3:30pm	Active Aging
6:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	11:00pm	Jeff TV	9:30pm	Grill Dog	4:00pm	Protrait of Somerville
8:00am	Democracy Now! b	Saturday, January 28		10:00pm	SCATV ANNUAL MEETING	5:00pm (LIVE)	Poet to Poet
10:00am	Active Aging	12:00am	Free Speech TV	11:00pm	Undercover TV	5:30pm	Jeff Jam
10:30am	Jeff Jams	6:00am	Arabic Hour	Monday, January 30		6:00pm	A Jazeera
11:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	7:00am	GAY USA	12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:00pm	Art @ SCAT
12:00noon	Democracy Now!	8:00am	Animal Agenda	6:00am	Show de fe	7:30pm	Greater Somerville W/ Joe Lynch
1:00pm	African TV Network	9:00am	Festival Kreyol	7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	8:00pm (LIVE)	Dead Air Live Show
2:00pm	Thom Hartmann	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	8:00am	Democracy Now!	9:00pm	Interesting Places
3:00pm	Somerville: Back in the Day	11:00am	Dead Air Live Show	9:00am	SCATV ANNUAL MEETING	9:30pm	Animal Agenda
3:30pm	Art@SCATV	12:00pm	Reeling, The Movie Review	10:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	10:00pm	Perils For Pedestrians
4:00pm	Lets Talk About Hearing	12:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority	11:00am	Nosse Gente e Costumes	10:30pm	The Gerry Leone Show
4:30pm	A Healer in The House	1:00pm (LIVE)	Bongoman	12:00noon	Democracy Now!	11:00pm	JuPrey Productions
5:00pm	Ablevision	2:00pm	SCATV ANNUAL MEETING	1:00pm	Ablevision		
5:30pm	Somerville: Most Interesting Places	3:00pm	Portraits of Somerville	1:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority		

City Cable TV Schedule for the Week

Wednesday, January 25		1:30am: (13/16)	The Gerry Leone Show - Teenage Drug Use	Sunday, January 29		12:00pm: (13/16)	Board of Aldermen Meeting - REPLAY OF 1/26/12
9:00am: (13/16)	Shoveled Sidewalks: Winter Launch	9:00am: (13/16)	MLK Jr. Day Celebration	12:00am: (13/16)	Hard Target: Protecting Your Property & Possessions	1:15pm: (15)	Our Schools, Our City
9:00am: (15)	Kid Stuff	9:00am: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	12:00am: (15)	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Everett	1:45pm: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information
11:30am: (15)	SHS Boys' Basketball vs Cambridge	12:00pm: (13/16)	Hard Target: Protecting Your Property & Possessions	12:15am: (13/16)	MLK Jr. Day Celebration	7:00pm: (13/16)	BOA Committee of the Whole Meeting - 1/19/12
12:00pm: (13/16)	School Committee Meeting - REPLAY OF 1/23/12	12:00pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Basketball vs Medford	1:45am: (13/16)	BOA Committee of the Whole Meeting - 1/19/12	7:00pm: (15)	Highlander Forum
1:15pm: (15)	Middle School Ensemble Winter Concert	12:15pm: (13/16)	MLK Jr. Day Celebration	1:45am: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information	7:30pm: (15)	Kid Stuff
3:00pm: (15)	Our Schools, Our City - LIVE	1:45pm: (13/16)	BOA Committee of the Whole Meeting - 1/19/12	2:15am: (15)	SHS Hockey vs Lynn Classical HS	7:50pm: (13/16)	2012 Inauguration Ceremonies
7:00pm: (13/16)	2012 Inauguration Ceremonies	7:00pm: (13/16)	Hard Target: Protecting Your Property & Possessions	12:00pm: (13/16)	Senior Circuit	8:00pm: (15)	MLK Jr. Concert at Argenziano School
7:00pm: (15)	Highlander Forum	7:00pm: (15)	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Everett - LIVE	12:00pm: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	9:00pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Basketball vs E. Boston
7:30pm: (15)	Kid Stuff	7:15pm: (13/16)	MLK Jr. Day Celebration	12:30pm: (13/16)	Shoveled Sidewalks: Winter Launch	9:30pm: (13/16)	The Mayor's Report
8:40pm: (13/16)	MLK Jr. Day Celebration	8:45pm: (13/16)	BOA Committee of the Whole Meeting - 1/19/12	12:30pm: (15)	Highlander Forum	Tuesday, January 31	
8:00pm: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information	10:00pm (15)	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Everett	1:00pm: (13/16)	The Mayor's Report	12:00am: (13/16)	BOA Committee of the Whole Meeting - 1/19/12
8:30pm: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	Saturday, January 28		1:00pm: (15)	SHS Football Highlights 2011	12:00am: (15)	Highlander Forum
9:00pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Basketball vs Cambridge	12:00am: (13/16)	Hard Target: Protecting Your Property & Possessions	1:30pm: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information	12:30am: (15)	Kid Stuff
Thursday, January 26		12:00am: (15)	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Everett	2:00pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Basketball vs Cambridge	12:50am: (13/16)	2012 Inauguration Ceremonies
12:00am: (13/16)	2012 Inauguration Ceremonies	12:00am: (15)	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Everett	7:00pm: (13/16)	Senior Circuit	1:00am: (15)	MLK Jr. Concert at Argenziano School
12:00am: (15)	Highlander Forum	12:15pm: (13/16)	MLK Jr. Day Celebration	7:00pm: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	2:00am: (15)	SHS Boys' Basketball vs E. Boston
12:30am: (15)	Kid Stuff	12:00am: (15)	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Everett	7:30pm: (13/16)	Shoveled Sidewalks: Winter Launch	2:30am: (13/16)	The Mayor's Report
1:40am: (13/16)	MLK Jr. Day Celebration	12:15am: (13/16)	MLK Jr. Day Celebration	7:30pm: (15)	Highlander Forum	9:00am: (13/16)	2012 Inauguration Ceremonies
1:00am: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information	1:45am: (13/16)	BOA Committee of the Whole Meeting - 1/19/12	8:00pm: (13/16)	The Mayor's Report	9:00am: (15)	Highlander Forum
1:30am: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	1:45am: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information	8:00pm: (15)	SHS Football Highlights 2011	11:30am: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information
2:00am: (15)	SHS Boys' Basketball vs Cambridge	2:15am: (15)	SHS Hockey vs Lynn Classical HS	8:30pm (13/16)	Board of Aldermen Meeting - REPLAY OF 1/26/12	12:00pm: (13/16)	Senior Circuit
9:00am: (13/16)	The Gerry Leone Show - Teenage Drug Use	12:00pm: (13/16)	Hard Target: Protecting Your Property & Possessions	8:30pm: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information	12:00pm: (15)	SHS Hockey vs Lynn Classical HS
9:00am: (15)	SHS Football Highlights 2011	12:00pm: (15)	SHS Girls' Basketbll vs Everett	9:00pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Basketball vs Cambridge	12:30pm: (13/16)	MLK Jr. Day Celebration
11:30am: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information	12:15pm: (13/16)	MLK Jr. Day Celebration	Monday, January 30		1:20pm: (15)	Kid Stuff
12:00pm: (13/16)	Senior Circuit	1:45pm: (13/16)	BOA Committee of the Whole Meeting - 1/19/12	12:00am: (13/16)	Senior Circuit	7:00pm: (13/16)	Senior Circuit
12:00pm: (15)	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Malden	1:45pm: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information	12:00am: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	7:00pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Basketball vs Cambridge - LIVE
12:30pm: (13/16)	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill	2:15pm: (15)	SHS Hockey vs Lynn Classical HS	12:30am: (13/16)	Shoveled Sidewalks: Winter Launch	7:30pm: (13/16)	Shoveled Sidewalks: Winter Launch
1:30pm: (13/16)	The Mayor's Report	7:00pm: (13/16)	Hard Target: Protecting Your Property & Possessions	12:30am: (15)	Highlander Forum	8:00pm: (13/16)	Congressional Update
7:00pm: (13/16)	Board of Aldermen Meeting - LIVE	7:00pm: (15)	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Everett	1:00am: (13/16)	The Mayor's Report	8:30pm: (13/16)	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill
7:00pm: (15)	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Notre Dame Academy - LIVE	7:15pm: (13/16)	MLK Jr. Day Celebration	1:00am: (15)	SHS Football Highlights 2011	10:00pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Basketball vs Cambridge
10:00pm: (15)	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Notre Dame Academy	8:45pm: (13/16)	BOA Committee of the Whole Meeting - 1/19/12	1:30am (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information	12:00am: (13/16)	Senior Circuit
Friday, January 27		8:45pm: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information	2:00am: (15)	SHS Boys' Basketball vs Cambridge	12:00am: (15)	SHS Boys' Basketball vs Cambridge
12:00am: (13/16)	MLK Jr. Day Celebration	8:45pm: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information	9:00am: (13/16)	Hard Target: Protecting Your Property & Possessions	12:30am: (13/16)	Shoveled Sidewalks: Winter Launch
12:00am: (15)	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Notre Dame Academy	9:15pm: (15)	SHS Hockey vs Lynn Classical HS	9:00am: (15)	Kindergarten Registration Information	1:00am: (13/16)	Congressional Update
				11:30am: (15)	SHS Girls' Basketball vs Everett	1:30am: (13/16)	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill



OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

The Awful Rowing Toward Anne Sexton

by Lawrence Kessenich

Lawrence Kessenich is one of the managing editors of the literary magazine Ibbetson Street. He is also a former editor at Houghton Mifflin and worked with Diana Hume George and Diane Wood Middlebrook on the Selected Poems of Anne Sexton as well as a subsequent biography. He was generous enough to send this essay about his experiences to the Boston Area Small Press and Poetry Scene.



From the first time I read one of her poems, I was in love with Anne Sexton. She was the poet I wanted to be. Her work was original, profound, self-deprecating, spiritual—and had a sense of humor to boot:

God loaf around heaven
without a shape
but He would like to smoke his cigar
or bite his fingernails...

...

He does not envy the soul much.
He is all soul
but he would like to house it in a body
and come down
and give it a bath
now and then.

She played with words:

even its murders lined up like broken chairs

*

the skull with its brain like eels

*

they suck the childhood out of the berries

I was entranced by Sexton's skill, her brutal honesty, her humor. And when it came time to consider graduate schools in creative writing, I dreamed of forsaking Milwaukee for cosmopolitan Boston, of sitting at her feet in a Boston University lounge to learn how she worked her magic.

I was on the verge of applying to graduate schools—including BU—one fall day when I went shopping at the local market. There I ran into a fellow student from one of my poetry classes, a few semesters before. She asked how I was going about choosing the creative writing programs I would apply to. I told her that I'd been advised to seek out programs where poets I respected were teaching. She asked who those poets were, and I told her. When I mentioned Anne Sexton, she interrupted, saying, "Oh, it's too bad about her..."

At that point in my life, I wasn't paying much attention to the news, so I had no idea what she was talking about. "What do you mean?" I asked. "Didn't you hear?" she said. "Sexton committed suicide a couple weeks ago."

I was stunned. The thought of that vital life having snuffed itself out was profoundly disturbing. Yes, there was darkness in her poetry, but the humor that often accompanied it had led me to be-

lieve that she had a firm grip on life, despite its contradictions. I was deeply saddened by the fact that not only would I never study with her, but I would never even see her read her poetry in person. The kicker was that I later learned Sexton had committed suicide on my birthday, October 4th.

Flash forward almost two decades. I am an editor at Houghton Mifflin—Anne Sexton's publisher, as I am always proud to tell people. For years, I've read for Houghton Mifflin's annual New Poetry Series—including Carolyn Forché's first book—and my interest in poetry is known around the office. The editor-in-chief, Austin Olney, approaches me and asks if I'd like to work with two scholars, Diana Hume George and Diane Wood Middlebrook, who are putting together Selected Poems of Anne Sexton. Austin is a pretty reserved old Yankee, but I'm tempted to throw my arms around him and give him a hug.

I did not get to help select the Sexton poems that would go into the book—and, of course, having my own strong feelings about her poetry, I thought there were poems that should have been included and poems that could have been left out. But it was one of the great honors of my life to be the editor who guided the book through the publishing process at Houghton Mifflin—a book that is still in print, 24 years later.

Houghton Mifflin had also contracted with Middlebrook to write a biography of Sexton, and when the editor originally assigned to that book left, I was asked to take it over. For several years, I was Middlebrook's sounding board at Houghton Mifflin, and I will never forget one call from her. After we exchanged pleasantries, she got to the reason for her call. "You'll never guess what I have in a box under my desk," she said. I told her I couldn't imagine. "Tapes of Anne Sexton's sessions with her therapist." My reply was, "Well, you just guaranteed that the book will be controversial!" And indeed it was, though by the time it was published, I was no longer in the business.

I also met Sexton's daughter Linda during my involvement with these two books, and got comfortable enough with her to tell her the story of my wanting to study with her mother—and of the coincidence of Sexton's suicide occurring on my birthday. "Well, I've got an even more dramatic coincidence," she replied. "My son was born on the anniversary of the day she died."

So, despite my sadness over never getting to meet or study with Anne Sexton, I feel privileged to have played a small part in keeping her legacy alive. I believe she is one of our finest poets. Her work speaks to me as powerfully and eloquently today as it did more than three decades ago.

Well-Lindsay Slattery, one of my Creative Writing Students at Endicott College in Beverly, Mass., sent me a poem dedicated to Allen Ginsberg--the author of the groundbreaking poem Howl. Lindsay works at MASS LEAP, a Somerville-based literary outreach program founded by Jade Sylvan.

Alpha Coyote

In memory of Allen Ginsberg

I would have liked to touch your beard
Pick out the crumbs of dried marijuana leaves
The bits of paper and crumpled issues of Time
The resin and left over America blown to bits of bits.
And maybe when I got down to your chin,
I'd seal my eyes with the unreliable glue of wavering will
And maybe I'd feel Peter Orlovsky's final caress.
I'd know what it feels like to be somebody else's angel
In the vast watery tundra of a too-hot-too-cold glacial hell
In the narrow, busy streets and dank allies of an urban hell
In the nocturnal hours trapped inside the abnormal
Toes and fingers and belly button and genitals and
Screaming silently for whatever peace you found—hell.
And all any of us want is to exist without being spotted
Or pegged for dead because of the lead we take and
The balls we have to say "I don't have any plans for the future."
I don't want your founding fathers in my pockets
Or your dreams planted immovably behind my corneas
So kindly piss off and leave me to my silly words."
Silly words were all you needed. Silly words and love.
And even what you needed was never to be taken seriously
Because life is only about eighty years long, hopefully less.
And why waste eighty years being in a suit and tie,
Hetero sexual, a nurse, a phony, a bull dog, an asshole
Or anything other than the one who alternates walking
And running down the street, singing each to each a song
About being oneself and living sans fear and pissing off
Everyone who has the nerve to be asleep at three AM.
We've come to know no matter what anyone tells you, eighty years
Is a really long time, and we're not making the best of it
Because it's too short, we're making the best of a LONG struggle.
An honest to jehova zeus flying spaghetti monster struggle,
And by those three we'll spend it soaking up knowledge
If we can, and by those three we'll spend it ranting,
Mad as we might sound or little sense as we make...
We'll spend it like you did, high on Peyote and ink and quill.
We'll sop it up and waste it to everyone else and enjoy
The taste of the neon fruits you threw at our heads
Because they made us think. And we needed to think.

— Lindsay Slattery

To have your work considered for the Lyrical send it to:
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