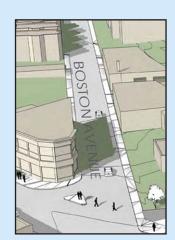


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Somerville's only independent community newspaper

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Inside:



Getting you involved in GLX page 3



A Persian celebration

page 12



All's Fair in science

page 13

Newstalkp.
The Week in Crimep.
Commentaryp.8-
Beacon Hill Roll Callp.1
TV Logsp.2
Off The Shelf n 2

Deanna Cremin remembered



Albert Rodgers, father of Deanna Cremin, speaks to Somerville Police Captain Charles J. Femino about the 17 year old case.

By Harry Kane

Friday March 30, 2012 marks the 17th anniversary of Deanna Cremin's brutal murder. She died on Jaques Street in Somerville in 1995.

A remembrance ceremony for what would have been Deanna's 34th birthday was held on March 26, near her former home.

Captain Charles Femino from the Somerville Police Department stated, "The investigation is open and active. It's a tragic memory, and we have the desire to have it solved."

The District Attorney's office collaborates with the police force to review any new information. A victim witness advocate from the DA's office was present at the remembrance ceremony.

"These are the types of cases that keep people up at night," said the victim witness advocate.

The month of March is not easy for the family of the deceased. "These are trying times for me and the family as we try to get answers," said Albert Rodgers, the father of Deanna Cremin.

Each year a wreath is placed on her street sign, not only to remember Deanna Cremin, but to remind people of the tragedy that had befallen upon her.

"This is something I do every year," said Rodgers. The family Continued on page 17

Mayor launches Fitness Challenge this Saturday

By Elizabeth Sheeran

The days are getting longer, the weather's getting warmer, and swimsuit season is just around the corner. Now Mayor Joseph Curtatone is challenging his fellow Somerville residents to join him in coming out of hibernation to slim down and shape up.

The third annual Mayor's Fitness Challenge kicks off this Saturday at Somerville High School and runs through the end of May. Over the next seven weeks, participants will push themselves and each other to reach personal fitness goals. And they will compete for prizes as individuals and in teams of 10, earning points for losing weight, improving their body mass index (based on their ratio of weight to height) and participating in healthy community events.

Mayor Curtatone said the Fitness Challenge is just one more way the city practices what it preaches when it comes to the Shape Up Somerville mantra of "Eat Smart, Move More."

"We want to get everybody Continued on page 3



Are you up to the challenge? Better eat your Wheaties and get signed up for the activities to come.

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NEWSTALK

This Friday night, 6:30 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Ring, the 10th Anniversary Guns & Hoses Hockey game will be played for the kids involved with Somerville Youth Hockey. Every year now for the past ten they have played and for 9 of the 10 the Fire Department has won. Maybe with our good friend Officer Rymill, who is stepping down from running this event, will leave on a high note and the Police will win. It should be fun, and what's better, the money raised goes to Youth Hockey. So go and enjoy.

Big Happy Birthdays this week go out to: Jimmy Halloran, who works for the state. Our past Editor, Andrea Gregory, is celebrating her birthday this week. One of the best accountants around and tax preparer, Ms. Diane O'Brien, whose offices are up over Mikes in Davis Square, is celebrating this week. Also celebrating is Marylynn McWaters Cabral and we wish her the best this week.

Condolences go out to the Rick Rollins family, a long time Somerville family, on their recent loss from a motorcycle accident this past week. We were told he was a great guy and was very well known. Our deepest sympathy to his family.

Back in the hospital to have some major surgery is local construction guy Steve Dalramplye who owns Steve's & Sons. Steve himself had a serious motorcycle accident over a year ago and still needs surgery. Steve is also the head of Medford Lions, and he is currently the Master of Somerville lodge which meets in Woburn. We wish him well and speedy recovery.

Long time 'Villen Charles - better known as Fred - Gill has been very ill lately. He is presently over at the Coolidge House in Brookline recuperating from his surgery and treatment. Fred's family has been here in the city a long time, going back generations.

TheSomervilleNews.com Comments of the Week

Response to In transportation, economics, fitness and more: Somerville plays to win

Harry Dunn says:

You failed to mention that Boston Magazine ranked the Somerville Public Shool system 118th out of 135 communities they tested.....But thank god we have bike lanes, and more parking meters/fees. I see where your priorities are.

HarryDunnoWhatHeSaying says:

School performance is mostly attributed to the students and their families, not city administration. I challenge you to name a government policy that has improved a city's school system.

Somerbreeze says:

Yeah, "Walkable city," where senior and disabled pedestrians must continually dodge the sidewalk cyclists that frequent Union Square with their dangerous behavior... What malarkey!

Charlie says:

Bicycling in business districts IS illegal in Somerville. The police do hand out warnings from time to time. While there is no question that bicyclists on sidewalks in business districts do pose a threat to pedestrians, more than anything they are an annoyance. The number of pedestrians injured by bicyclists on sidewalks or on the roadway is very low, especially compared to the rates of injury or death of bicyclists by motor vehicles.

The sidewalk bicycling problem in Union Square should go down in the near future as the City continues to connect the network of bicycle lanes and sharrows in the roadway, and more bicyclists feel safer bicycling there and feel less of a need to use the sidewalk to get away from cars.

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 proposal of re-zoning Elm St. to encourage commercial development on both sides of the street. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleNews.com.

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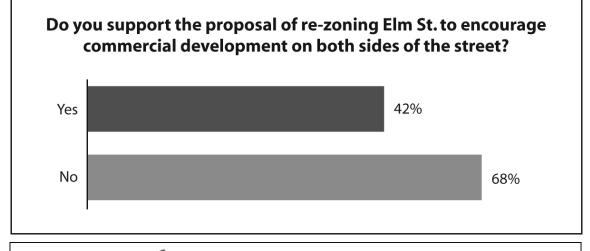
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GLX leaders seek community involvement

By Francisco L. White

A station design workshop for the Green Line Extension project was held at Medford City Hall on the evening of March 21, in the City Council Chambers.

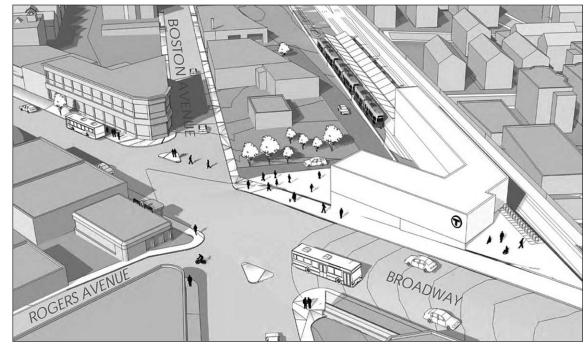
Designs for the Ball Square and College Avenue stations were presented to members of the Somerville and Medford communities. Karen Arpino-Schaffer, the deputy program director for HDR Engineering/Gilbane, began by explaining that the designs are "at thirty percent" and are "works in progress." HDR/Gilbane is in collaboration with Crosby, Schlessinger, Smallridge LLC, a Boston-based landscape architecture firm, for the station de-The contemporary structural and landscape plans were displayed prominently throughout the room, as various project contributors led the meeting with a compelling pow-

erpoint presentation. Among them was Michael Epp, an architect from Kleinfelder/SEA Consultants who is active in the design process. Epp said, "This is an amazing project and we are all blessed to be working on it."

Attendees were provided with two station workshop community involvement action lists, one for each of the station designs presented, containing comments from residents of the communities involved and any actions taken to address their concerns.

The designs, in their current state, appear to have taken community aesthetic, accessibility, and local business into consideration. Many trees sacrificed during construction will be replaced. In fact, College Avenue will feature a shade garden. Also, the stations will be quite accessible for people with disabilities, offering redundant elevators.

Project designers expressed a commitment to "meet or exceed



Design details for portions of the GLX extension were unveiled at last week's meeting at Medford City Hall.

Americans with Disabilities Act standards" in development of the seven stations that will complete the extension.

Bicycle riders will be pleased by ample accommodation as well; 72 enclosed spaces and 20 uncovered spaces for bikes are included in the College Ave. plans. Michael Epp pointed out that there is also a commitment to trying to acquire building materials from local companies "within a 500-mile radius, because that's just good business."

With daily ridership expected to reach nearly forty-five

thousand by the year 2030, community involvement in the project is not only welcome but essential. Schaffer stressed that the project's key figures can be expected to "work hand in hand with every neighbor" throughout the design and development process.

Mayor launches Fitness Challenge this Saturday CONT. FROM PG 1

out there moving, playing hard, being smarter about what they eat, and having a good time along the way," said Mayor Curtatone. "We're going to rock it out over the next couple of months. It's a great community exercise."

He said his personal goals for this year's challenge are to lose 10-15 pounds, to get back into running shape after some recent injuries, and to improve his athleticism and agility for participating in high intensity martial arts. But above all, he wants to have some fun.

Mayor Curtatone will also lead two of his own teams of 10 participants each, including residents who responded to an open call for people wanting to be on the mayor's personal team. The mayor said his teams will reflect a range of ages and fitness levels,

second place last year, and this year he's in it to win it.

"This year we're going for the brass ring," said Curtatone, a long-time assistant football coach at Somerville High School. "I need team members who are motivated and willing to participate to the best of their ability. This will be work, but I promise that it will also be

The mayor's going to face competition from last year's winner Orazio Deluca, who swept top honors in the 2011 Fitness Challenge as both the individual winner and the leader of the winning team. Deluca lost over 20 pounds in less than 2 months during last year's challenge, and he's upping the ante this year by targeting to lose at least 30.

The best part of winning last work hard. His team came in mayor's team," joked Deluca. other teammates. Or they can Challenge Kick Off event will Mayor's Fitness Challenge.

"But seriously, it was really good to have everybody know what you did and recognize your accomplishment."

But while winning is a plus, this is actually one of those times where every participant can come out a winner.

Emily Perrone said last year's challenge was the kick-start she needed to lose weight for her wedding last September. She may not have been on the winning team, but she developed habits that she kept up long after the final weigh-in, and she credited the team-based approach."It was a great experience being on a team with people that really encouraged each other to achieve their goals, and I can't wait to do it again this year," said Perrone.

Participants who don't have their own team can call City but his teammates can expect to year? "Honestly? Beating the Hall at 311 to get matched with The 2012 Mayor's Fitness Facebook at City of Somerville

sign up to compete in the Challenge as individuals. And residents don't need to formally sign up to participate in order to take advantage of the special events and programs the city is offering throughout April and May, to get Somerville eating smarter and moving more.

Freebies include walking clubs on Mondays and Wednesdays, and free morning boot camps at Dilboy Field on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Locals who participate in the Shape Up Somerville Road Race on April 14, or the April 28 Spring Clean Up, will earn Fitness Bucks that give them discounts at local businesses offering healthy food and gear for an active lifestyle. And the city will provide all kinds of resources, from exercise videos to healthy recipes.

take place on Saturday, March 31, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Somerville High Gymnasium. The day will feature complimentary fitness bags, exercise demonstrations, healthy snacks and other family-friendly activities and exhibits by Somervillebased organizations promoting a healthy lifestyle. And, of course, it's a day for Fitness Challenge participants to weigh in and get revved up to win.

"It's good clean fun," said Deluca, the reigning Fitness Challenge champ. "And it's always good to be healthier, to lose weight and maintain a healthier lifestyle."

More information about the Mayor's Fitness Challenge can be found on the City of Somerville website, www.somervillema.gov, or on

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WEEKINCE By Jim Clark

Police arrest suspected heroin dealer

The Somerville Police Department Drug Control Unit took action against a suspected heroin dealer last week.

Information had been gathered suggesting that Eric Stout, 35, of Everett, had been using the apartment of a Somerville resident to store and distribute heroin, according to reports.

Search warrants were obtained and surveillance units stationed near the Jaques Street apartment in order to observe the actions of Stout.

Police report that Stout had left the residence and walked along Derby Street at a given time and eventually met with someone who police investigators judged to be a drug customer.

Stout was confronted by officers at that time and secured at that location while search war-

rants were being served and a search for drugs proceeded at the Jaques Street residence.

The apartment's primary resident, Crystal Clifford, 35, was reportedly advised of her rights and shown the search warrant. Investigators subsequently proceeded to conduct their search.

Clifford advised investigators that Stout had been residing in her apartment for approximately six weeks and, according to reports, she admitted that she was aware of the fact that Stout had been selling heroin. She reportedly stated that she did not think that the dealing operation was as extensive as police officers had indicated to her.

As a result of the search of the room that Stout had reportedly been utilizing, a scale and packaging materials were found and seized. Also located inside the same room was a safe that contained approximately 50 grams of a substance believed to be heroin, according to reports.

Clifford was placed under arrest and charged with conspiracy to violate drug law and possession of a class E drug.

Stout was placed under arrest and chrged with conspiracy to violate drug law, heroin / morphine / opium trafficking, and drug violation near a school or park.

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Arrests:

Ashley Barberian, 20, of 5 Hamilton Rd., March 19, 6:59 p.m., arrested at North St. on warrant charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Julius Sanders, 23, of 375 Fellsway West, Medford, March 20, 2:07 p.m., arrested at 540 Broadway on a charge of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Maximillion Landry, 39, of 6 Alston St., March 20, 5:39 p.m., arrested at 46 Medford St. on a warrant charge of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Gilmar Deoliveira, 24, of 39 Summer St., March 20, 9:13 p.m., arrested at 20 River Rd. on a warrant charge of uninsured motor vehicle.

John Mellone, 31, of 10 Montgomery Ave., March 21, 6:39 a.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of unarmed robbery.

Crystal Clifford, 35, of 37 motor vehicle. Jaques St., March 22, 12:37 p.m., arrested at home on charges of conspiracy to violate class E drug.

Eric Stout, 35, of 190 Schute St., Everett, March 22, 12:37 p.m., arrested at 37 Jaques St. on charges of conspiracy to violate drug law, heroin / morphine / opium trafficking, and drug violation near a school or park.

Murillo Rechetnicou, 26, of 38 Albion St., March 22, 5:12 p.m., arrested at 175 Fellsway on a warrant charge of abuse prevention order violation.

Jonathan Da Silva, 23, of 17 Evergreen Ave., March 22, 6:16 p.m., arrested at Crescent St. on warrant charges of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and leaving the scene of property damage.

Rodrigo Marcolino, 23, of 58 Linwood St., Medford, March 22, 7:59 p.m., arrested at 299 Broadway on a charge of unlicensed operation of a

Jessica Harris, 19, of 116 Porter St., March 22, 11:07 p.m., arrested at 381 Sumdrug law and possession of a mer St. on a warrant charge of assault.

> Maximino Marquez, 49, of 69 Empire St., Allston, March 23, 9:59 a.m., arrested at 25 Mystic Ave. on warrant charges of unsecured / uncovered load and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Christian Mingea, 41, of 11 Highland Ave., March 23, 12:17 p.m., arrested at home on a charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Shane Tresilian, 38, of 15 James St., Malden, March 23, 2:12 p.m., arrested at 373 Highland Ave. on a charge of abuse prevention order violation and on a warrant charge of assault and battery.

Robert Mathurin, 46, of 100 Cove Way, Quincy, March 23, 4:19 p.m., arrested at 97 Cross St. on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended registra-

tion and uninsured motor vehicle or trailer.

Sonya Podymaitis, 42, of 22 Cross St., March 24, 2:58 a.m., arrested at 215 Broadway on charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor and marked lanes violation.

David Siebel, 28, of 90 Morrison Ave., March 24, 2:19 p.m., arrested at home on charges of assault and battery and destruction of property under \$250.

Isidro Modesto, 48, of 25 Canal Ln., March 24, 3:39 p.m., arrested at 23 Cummings St. on a charge of assault and battery.

Incidents:

Theft:

March 22, 8:13 a.m., police reported a theft at Jaques St.

March 22, 9:55 a.m., police reported a theft at 77 Middlesex

Robbery:

March 24, 2:11 a.m., police reported a robbery at 81 Broad-

Breaking & Entering:

March 22, 3:50 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Jaques St.

March 23, 5:49 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at George St.

March 20, 9:33 a.m., police reported an assault at 5 Marshall

March 22, 9:15 a.m., police reported an assault at Wellington

March 23, 12:17 p.m., police reported an assault at Highland

March 23, 11:46 p.m., police reported an assault at Moreland St.

March 24, 2:19 p.m., police reported an assault at Morrison

March 24, 3:39 p.m., police reported an assault at 23 Cummings St.

Drug Violation:

March 22, 12:37 a.m., police reported a drug violation at Jaques St.



Additional funds for homeless prevention

By Harry Kane

The U.S. Department of Housing and Development offered an Emergency Solutions Grant to the city of Somerville in the amount of \$70,741 to be allotted for rapid re-housing and homeless prevention.

"HUD did acknowledge that this is a very short turnaround from the notice of the funding to the time that we have to submit these written standards," said Dana LeWinter, Director of Housing.

City officials have a limited time to draft a proposal, get local feedback, and submit their application for approval before the May 15 deadline.

In order to accept the money from HUD the city of Somerville needs to do an amendment to their one-year action plan that they previously submitted.

"We do a one-year action plan for HUD, which is basically a plan and a budget for our community development block grant, our home and our emergency solutions funds each year," said LeWinter.

The one-year plan is guided by the priorities set forth in the 5 year consolidated plan.

Previously the grant was called the Emergency Shelter Grant, and for this fiscal year Somerville was awarded a sum total of \$125,761. Those funds were allocated to emergency shelter operations, street outreach and administrative services.

As of Jan. 4 HUD renamed it, the Emergency Solutions Grant. With this transition also came the additional allocation of funds, i.e. the \$70,741.

> "We are counting hearts"

Pending the amendment needed to secure the funds, HUD will allow the city of Somerville to use the second allocation for 4 main areas. These areas are Rapid re-housing, to help those families who are living on the streets or in shelters to become housed; homeless prevention, to help families or individuals remain stable; administration costs; and HMIS, which are consultants that help with policy, procedures, traintroubleshooting preparing reports.

"We hope to be able to rapidly re-house 10 persons, and with the homeless prevention fund we hope to be able to provide prevention services for as many as 20 people," said Penny Snyder, Project Manager for Public Services and the Emergency Solutions Grant.

When both funds are combined it equals a total of \$196,502.

Within the Emergency Solutions Grants Program the proposed budget breakdown is as follows: The Homelessness Prevention program would be allocated \$38,741, the Rapid Re-Housing program would be allocated \$16,000, the HMIS program would be allotted \$5000, and the total administrative costs would come to \$11,000.

This would breakdown to roughly a 70 percent addition in funds for homeless prevention and a 30 percent addition in funds for rapid re-housing programs.

Some feedback has already been noted as residents are concerned that too much of the new funds are being allocated to the administrative costs. Snyder says, "someone did ask, 'how locked in are we to these numbers.' I did check with our finance director and he said 'there is some flexibility,' so something like that [a reduction in administration costs] could conceivably happen."

Susan Hegel, manager at Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services, said, "I think it's much more cost effective to do the prevention."

Hegel said she sees a "steady stream of evictions" because landlords are raising prices, landlords may be selling their properties, or if it's subsidized living the landlords are claiming the residents did not pay the rent.

Hegel thinks that the \$16,000



The City of Somerville is looking to amend its one-year action plan in order to receive the HUD funding that has been offered to help fight homelessness.

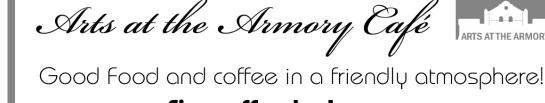
allocated for re-housing 10 people is fairly ambitious. She feels that these funds would only be able to help 5 people. "A lot of the rapid re-housing are single people, where as, a lot of the preventions are going to be families," said Hegel.

Lisa Davidson, The Director of Housing from Somerville Homeless Coalition said she was "very happy with the money for prevention; it's going to help a lot of families stay housed."

Davidson, however, made a point of saying the prevention program, while aimed at helping families and households, actually is helping 20 individuals.

"We are counting hearts," said Penny Snyder.

With these new funds that could be allocated to homeless prevention and rapid re-housing, 30 people may soon be rescued from the streets and given a second chance to make a life for themselves.



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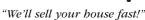
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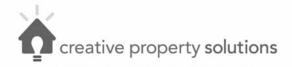
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Non-profit merger ensures stability

By Jeremy F. van der Heiden

In a faltering economy and with a high national debt, many of the less-visible, federally funded services have fallen by the However, wayside. Somerville Mental Health Association recently announced a merger with the local Riverside Community Care that will ensure the continuity of its services and programs.

The Somerville Mental Health Association (SMHA), a staple in the city since 1964, was created to assist residents through myriad hardships. Some of its programs include adult mental health treatment, a court clinic, and suicide prevention services at the public schools. The nonprofit additionally assisted outpatient care, homeless shelters, public housing developments and childcare centers to further support those in need of aid.

The organization's Head Start program focuses on assisting children and parents of non-English speaking homes work through the laborious task of assimilating to a new culture, a tough job market and entering public schooling without a firm grasp on the language used.

While the SMHA has no doubt assisted many residents through hard times, it was at risk of losing many of its employees and programs after a substantial piece of federal funding was no longer available. The decision by board members Michael Dwyer, Ed Smith and Michael McHugh was to seek out a partnership to alleviate the financial burden and continue offering its many crucial amenities.

The merger of the SMHA with Riverside Community Care (RCC) has been in the making for one year, and has strengthened the offerings of both nonprofits. One of the reasons the partnership took so long was because of the Head Start program, as the federally funded license to conduct the services was put back to auction. The RCC was among the bidders, and eventually attained the license, finalizing the transference from the SMHA to RCC.

> "...they have come through with everything they've suggested they would"

RCC is a well known non-profit that continues to evolve and grow in spite of disparaging fiscal times in the nation.

The RCC services approximately 20,000 individuals annually, in 70 Massachusetts cities and towns with more than 100 programs aimed at assisting residents with mental and physical health ailments. Some of its amenities range from early childhood services and developmental disabilities to mental healthcare, addiction treatment and traumatic brain



The Somerville Mental Health Association's impending merger with Riverside Community Care well strengthen the organization's ability to continue operations and provide essential services in spite of cutbacks in federal funding,

injury programs.

In the negotiations, the SMHA board of directors worked to ensure that none of its employees or services would be lost as a result of the merger. Michael Dwyer, a general practice attorney and homegrown Somerville resident who was one of the SMHA board of directors and now member of the board at RCC, expressed his excitement for the partnership.

"What we've received has been the benefit of Riverside's management personnel, who have stepped in and done a wonderful job," said Dwyer, who is also a member of Somerville's board of mental health. He went on to say, "They came in and promised us we wouldn't lose any of our employees, and to maintain all of our programs for at least a

year following the merger, and they have come through with everything they've suggested they would."

Dwyer explained that the SMHA was in need of improved management pracand modernized systems, as well as guidance regarding essential tasks such as navigating the state tax and billing processes. He also cited his gratitude for RCC President Scott Bock, who was paramount in the decision to join forces, who

helped facilitate the merger and assisted the SMHA through trying times.

All three of the former board of directors for the SMHA are now acting members of the board at RCC, and will continue to work with the non-profit to strengthen its practices, services and programs.

Residents looking for the services of each non-profit, can now find them all at one central location at Riverside Community Care's website: http://www.riversidecc.org/



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COMMENTARY

TALES OF SOMERVILLE

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Unsafe to bike in the streets? What about walking the sidewalks?

The View From Prospect Hill



Common sense, common decency, and the most fundamental knowledge of municipal regulations should provide the average citizen with the clear understanding that one does not ride a bicycle on a public sidewalk unless there is clear official signage stating that this is permissible. Under no circumstances, short

of prevention of imminent injury, should this ever happen.

Still, we are hearing of ongoing problems involving cyclists using pedestrian walkways, often causing anxiety and fear of injury to those very pedestrians for whom those sidewalks were intended.

This is indeed ironic, considering the fact that the primary purpose of the sidewalk is to provide a zone of safety that separates pedestrians from vehicular traffic. Add a moving vehicle into the safety zone and that sense of safety is no longer in effect. This is not rocket science.

We understand and sympathize with cyclists' needs and concerns. More bicycle lanes would provide the safety and convenience that they also require. Adding them to our streets can be costly and difficult, yet the city continues to do so. We would like to see cyclists return the favor by obeying long established laws and respecting those whose rights are just as sacrosanct as their own.

A senior citizen or disabled person has little or no chance of dodging an oncoming bike as it wends its way through the public walkway. Nor should these innocent parties be put through the worry of it. Ever.

It's a no-brainer. Show some brains. Have a heart. Do what's right. Agreed?

News Talk CONT. FROM PG 2

This past Monday would have been the 34th birthday of Deanna Cremin, whose murder still goes unsolved. Her entire family and friends still wait for the day justice is served and the killer is discovered. A small ceremony took place in remembrance of her at corner of Temple and Jaques Street. We stand with her family and friends in seeking justice, and hopefully soon.

Our good friend and past Somerville Lions President John Sullivan passed away this past Friday. John has been a member of the Lions Club here in Somerville since 1964. He was awarded the Massachusetts Lion Site Award, was past President of the Lions Eye Mobile Program, a distinguished recipient of the Melvin Jones Award, as well as the head of the Lions Computer Outreach Program that provided computers to children across the state. John was a great guy, as we all know, and he will be sadly missed by his family and in particular by his family at the Somerville Lion's Club house on New Washington St.

Next Thursday, April 5, The Somerville Chamber of Commerce "Business After Hours" will be held at the Mount Vernon Restaurant, 14 Broadway, 5 to 7 p.m. The sponsor this month is Zonghetti Consulting. This is an excellent networking opportunity for fellow local businesses. Free appetizers, free business card drawing, and a cash bar. RSVP with the name(s) and affiliation(s) of you and your guest(s) to smackey@somervil-

Somerville/Boston News Group keeps growing. It's now over 70 online/print papers and we have more good news coming up in the near future. Go to www.bostonnewsgroup.com to view all cities and towns.

The Somerville News online video ads started this week with Ball Square Café owners Mike and Omar telling everyone what they have to offer. Visit the video, which received over 600 hits the very first day online. This is new to The Somerville News and is a very inexpensive way to reach your market if you're selling to the public. Call The News and speak to Bobbie Toner.

The City's 3rd annual "Mayor's Fit-

ness Challenge" will kick off with an event on Saturday, March 31 at the Somerville High School field house, 81 Highland Ave. The Fitness Challenge encourages community members to pledge to embody the Shape Up Somerville motto, "Eat Smart, Play Hard, Move More," by making smarter food choices and increasing daily physical activity. Individuals may participate in one of two ways: 1) by forming or joining teams of up to 10 people. At the end of the Challenge, teams will be judged by weight loss and change in Body Mass Index (BMI), and winning teams and individuals will receive prizes. 2) By signing a "Lifestyle Pledge," vowing to make daily lifestyle changes in terms of healthy eating and activity levels. Those signing the Pledge will also receive incentives throughout the program. The kickoff event will be held at the Somerville High School Gymnasium from 11 am - 2 pm on March 31, and all members of the public are invited. The Fitness Challenge will run through Sunday, June 3, when

winners will be announced at the City's first SomerStreets event of 2012 on East Broadway. The kickoff event will include fitness demonstrations by local "boot camp" and selfdefense studios, face painting, arts and crafts, recreational opportunities for kids and adults, healthy snacks, recipes and healthy cooking demonstrations featuring local chefs. Individuals choosing to participate in the Team Challenge will be weighed and measured for BMI index at the beginning and end of the Fitness Challenge.

The Duhamel Education Initiative (DEI) will hold its 16th Annual Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, March 31 from 8:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m. in the parish hall of the First Congregational Church,89 College Avenue. Donations are \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors, \$5 for children 10 and under, and \$25 maximum per family. The Annual Pancake Breakfast is a great way to see old friends and meet the DEI supporters, as well as financially support the work of drop-out-prevention programs in the Somerville Public Schools.



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.

Musings about love

Part 1: What it isn't



By William C. Shelton

I don't believe that romantic love has much to do with truly loving. We see romance in movies that evoke our longing, inspire delight, and gratify our hope that two characters will realize they are meant for each other and find happiness.

We don't see many movies that go back five years later and discover that the two are not so happy. Statistical studies indicate that they won't even be together.

We hear about romantic love in so much of popular music. But the blues are a more accurate expression of romantic love's lived experience, although they offer scant insight as to how to live and love differently.

I do hear fewer giddy pop songs today than I heard in my youth. I fear that this is less about a latter day increase in realism about love than it is a lowlevel and unconscious despair. The difference between the two is a belief, supported by persuasive evidence, that there exists a means for sustaining love.

I have a number of acquaintances who came together in arranged marriages. The proportion of them that is happy in their relationships is greater than the proportion of my acquaintances who came together by means of romance.

Those cultures where we find romantic love are overwhelmingly cultures in which infants have only one caretaker. Writing forty years ago, the social psychologist Phillip Slater suggested that at its roots, romantic love is Oedipal love.

Not in the sense that we want to have sex with our caretaker. Rather, that our first experience of love shapes our taken-forgranted expectations of what love is. And in that first experience, we were loved even though we were helpless, demanding, and pooped in our pants.

Of course, not all of us got that kind of love. But the longing for it, and the expectation that we'll receive it in a romantic relationship endures.

No adult can receive the kind of love that a caring parent can bestow on an infant. The means of emerging from addiction to that illusion is to recognize it as such and fully grieve its loss. We will never again experience it, in the same way that we will never again interact with a dead loved one. Deep acceptance of that opens us to the rich possibilities for genuine love that are all around us.

But we often don't recognize such possibilities unless they resemble the particular shape and pattern of that first infantile love relationship. What we call love is more about chemistry than clear recognition of the loved one. The catalyst for such chemistry is often those specific resemblances.

They can be negative as well as positive. We are often drawn to someone who treats us in the same way our first caretaker did, whether it was good or bad. We respond passionately in the powerful but unconscious hope that this time we can get it right. This time we can evoke his or her caring. This time, we can be the kind of person whom she or he will always love.

But the loved one is drawn to us for the same reason. So each of us restimulates the behavior patterns that the other evolved to manage the distress and disappointment of the first relationship. Because we are unconsciously acting out patterns, we can't clearly see the other's uniqueness. We attribute meaning to the other's behavior that may have little to do with his or her true intentions.

Our acting out these misperceptions, in turn, fuels the other's patterns and growing hopelessness about being seen, until we eventually give up, end the relationship, and find a new one in which we recreate the same patterns.

We can't love what we don't know. And knowing means setting aside our need-driven misperceptions and the fantasies that we project onto the other. But when we do have deep knowledge of loved one, we see how hard they are trying, given their past and present circumstances. Then, it is hard not to love someone.

I hear people talk about falling in love as if it's something that just happened to them. Regrettably, no longer being in love is something that just seems to happen as well. If we're falling, we're powerless. We don't have the ability to clearly choose whom to love, how to love, and how to sustain and deepen it.

I also hear people talk about love as if they are economic players in a capitalist love market. And this market is located within an economy of scarcity. They must horde their love and make the right investment. If they don't, they risk losing love and becoming emotionally impoverished.

No matter how materially poor or wealthy we are, we have the capacity to love. Nor is there a fixed limit to how much we can love. Loving and being loved can help to soften poverty's brutal impacts. And no matter how wealthy we are, without love, we are poor.

Writing to the Corinthians, Saint Paul told us what love is not: "It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not selfseeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs."

How about some movies and songs about that kind of love?

On The Silly Side by Jimmy Del Ponte

A (Rose) budding hoarder



When you look around your house do you see clutter? Is your home starting to look like an indoor yard sale? I recently purchased a

beautiful original watercolor painting of the Rosebud Diner in Davis Square. It cost me just \$12 dollars but the point is that it was the last thing I needed to buy. My house is like a museum already.

In my den there is a piano, a framed front page of the Record American declaring the Red Sox as pennant winners from 1967, an old restored arm chair, a coffee table, an overstuffed bookcase, a smaller bookcase packed with small collectibles (junk) and a pot belly stove. There are also various boxes of assorted bric-a-brac, books and old newspapers. That's just one room. The stove came from an old drawbridge in Gloucester. I had to have it and believe you me, it cost a lot more than 12 bucks. Like The Cars said... "just what I needed."

The old railroad spittoon I bought in

an antique shop in New Hampshire also falls into that category. My son picked up an antique railroad lantern at a yard sale for five bucks. It is worth at least 35-50 bucks. He gave it to me as a birthday gift. He is following in my footsteps as a junk collector.

I got the Rosebud sketch at a train and collectible toy show at the Shriner's Auditorium in Woburn. I paid seven bucks admission to see tons of old Matchbox cars, Tonka Toys, Lionel and American Flyer train sets and railroad memorabilia. I knew that I far surpassed my limit for purchasing antiques, old things, theme items and "junque" in general. I also simply ran out of space to house it all. Plus, I don't have the luxury of a disposable income that allows me to blow cash on every old and interesting piece I come across. My son and I are seriously considering starting an antique business because we accumulated so many pieces. It may be time to sell off some of it. (Then we can

afford to buy more!) It's somewhat of a

sickness, and an obsession but we are hooked on old stuff. My vintage Somerville collection has been displayed in the window of Wedgewood Crane and Connolly on College Ave. The collection includes old postcards, embossed milk bottles from Somerville dairy farms, and even a coat check tag from the old Jumbo Lounge in Teele Square.

Those hoarding shows on TV are scary, especially if you're someone who has trouble throwing things away. I have lived in the same house in Somerville since 1961. That's a long time to be collecting and housing things. Let's look down the cellar. As you come down the stairs we see the kitchen table that my parents bought when they got married in 1951. Right next to it is part of their bed frame. My parents are long gone but not their relics. In a corner is part of my sisters' wooden doll crib. Close by is a New Kid's on the Block footlocker packed with my daughter's stuff.

My boys are teenagers but there are at least three huge plastic containers filled

with their toys. We are filthy with Elmos. I will never throw these things away because of sentimental reasons. I feel like I would be throwing away a memory. But I will consider selling some of the things down there.

I got the antique dealer bug when I made my first profit on one of my old items. Eight years ago I bought a Secret Sam Spy case made by Topper. It was a plastic case with a collapsible rifle, and plastic bullets, a periscope that could see around corners, and a camera that could take pictures from inside the case. It cost \$6.88 brand new in 1965, and I had one when I was a kid. I bought another one on eBay for \$250 in 2006. In 2010 I sold it for \$821. I was blown away and also hooked on selling old stuff. Now I want to sell off more of the antiques that have been piling up. In the kid's old playroom I had a shelf with a groove installed that runs the length of the walls and ceiling. That's where my collectible plates of the Beatles, Elvis, the Three Stooges, Sinatra, and the

Continued on page 23

Beacon Hill Roll Call



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THE HOUSE AND SENATE. Beacon Hill Roll Call records the votes of local senators on two roll calls from the week of March 19-23. There were no roll calls in the House last week.

Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Somerville:



Rep. Denise Provost

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



Rep. Carl Sciortino

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



Rep. Timothy Toomey

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



Sen. Sal DiDomenico

DISTRICT REPRESENTED: MIDDLESEX, SUFFOLK AND ESSEX. - Cambridge, ward 3, precinct 2, wards 6 and 7, ward 8, precincts 1 and 2, ward 9, precinct 1, ward 10, precinct 2, Everett and Somerville, ward 1, precinct 1, ward 2, precinct 1, in the county of 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 MID-DLESEX. - 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.

RESTRAINING ORDERS WOULD INCLUDE PETS (S 2184)

Senate 33-0, approved an amendment that would allow the inclusion of pets in temporary restraining orders. The measure would allow the court to temporarily award the possession of an animal to the victim and to prohibit the accused abuser from abusing, threatening or taking the pet.

Supporters pointed to cases in which animals are abused or even killed by the abuser in order to threaten the victim. They pointed to a study that showed half of battered women delay leaving a violent situation because they fear for their pets. (A "Yes" vote is for the amendment.)

Sen. Sal DiDomenico Yes Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

COUNT PETS WHO ARE LICENSED (S 2184)

Senate 4-29, rejected an amendment that would require the state's Division of Agricultural Resources for five years to file an annual report with the Legislature detailing the number of dogs, cats and ferrets that have been licensed in each city and town during the previous year.

The amendment was proposed to a bill that changes some of the state's animal control laws including allowing cities and towns to set their own fees for dog licensing. Current law sets a statewide uniform fee of \$3 for a male dog, \$6 for a female dog and \$3 for a spayed female dog.

Amendment supporters said requiring a report on the number of licensed animals will give legislators an idea of whether people choose not to register their pets when the fees are too high.

Amendment opponents said the report is unnecessary and just another example of more government bureaucracy that provides no public benefit. (A "Yes" vote is for the reporting requirement. A "No" vote is against it.)

Sen. Sal DiDomenico No Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

INDICTMENT OF PROBATION DEPART-MENT OFFICIALS - U.S. Attorney Carmen Ortiz announced the indictment of three former state probation department officials. Former Probation Commissioner John O'Brien and his two top aides William Burke III and Elizabeth Tavares are charged with racketeering and mail fraud as part of a widespread hiring scheme in which it is alleged that unqualified candidates recommended by state legislators were hired instead of more qualified candidates without political connections.

The indictment states, "Through hiring and promoting individuals who were sponsored by members of the Legislature, while also maintaining the facade of a merit-based hiring system, the defendants and the co-conspirators sought to increase their ability to obtain favorable votes on their budget requests and other interests."

The indictments came as a result of a November 2010 release of a report on possible wrongdoing in the state's Probation Department. Independent Counsel Paul Ware, the author of the report, concluded that corruption in the hiring and promotion process is rampant throughout the system and has been "thoroughly compromised by a systemic rigging of the interview and selection process in favor of candidates who have political or other personal connections."

Ware's report includes a top ten list of legislators who sponsored the most job applicants and their success rate in their candidate being hired or promoted. At the top of the list is Sen. Mark Montigny (D-New Bedford), who sponsored 54 candidates including 12 who were successful.

The rest of the list includes Sen. Stephen Brewer (D-Barre), 11 successful candidates out of the 44 he sponsored; former House Speaker Sal DiMasi, 24 out of 36; former Senate President Robert Travaglini, 16 out of 28; Sen. Marc Pacheco (D-Taunton), 6 out of 24; former Sen. Robert Creedon, 6 out of 22; Sen. Jack Hart (D-Boston), 9 out of 21; Sen. Thomas McGee (D-Lynn), 11 out of 21; former Rep. Stephen Tobin (D-Quincy), 2 out of 20; former Sen. Steven Panagiotakos (D-Lowell), 5 out of 20; Rep. Thomas Petrolati (D-Ludlow), 7 out of 17; and House Speaker Robert DeLeo (D-Winthrop), 7 out of 12.

There has been speculation that specific legislators were and might still be targets of indictments. Ortiz said she did not want to comment on that because it would lead to "greater speculation."

"Our responsibility is to determine whether or not federal criminal laws were violated ... There's a lot of patronage that was clearly going on, but patronage in and of itself is not illegal."

HIKE MINIMUM WAGE (S 951) - The Committee on Labor and Workforce Development has given a favorable report to and recommended passage of legislation that would raise the minimum hourly wage from \$8 to \$10 over three years. The wage would rise to \$8.75 the first year, \$9.50 the second year and \$10 in year three. The measure also provides that the \$10 wage be automatically raised annually to reflect increases in the Consumer Price Index.

Supporters say the hike would give Massachusetts workers the highest minimum wage in the nation and would help many low wage earners. Opponents say the hike would hurt many small businesses and efforts to stimulate job growth and result in higher prices being passed on to consumers.



Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



The most recent hike in the minimum wage was approved by the Legislature in July 2006 when it raised it from \$6.75 to the current \$8. That hike took effect over two years -- 2007 and 2008. Former Gov. Mitt Romney vetoed the increase, but the House and Senate unanimously overrode his veto. At the time, Romney said he supported a smaller hike to \$7.

REGULATE ROBO CALLS (H 870) - The Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy Committee has endorsed a bill to restrict robo calls, automated phone calls that use a computerized autodialer and deliver a computer-generated pre-recorded message to the person called. The law would allow consumers to sign up for a "no robo calls" list and fine companies, groups or individuals up to \$5,000 if they call someone on the list. Robo calls are most often used by candidates running for public office.

The measure is modeled after the 2002 law that bans telemarketers from calling consumers who sign up for the Do Not Call Registry. Other provisions in the bill restrict robo calls to between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. and allow an individual on the list to sue for up to \$5,000 any person or company that violates the list by calling him or her more than once a year.

Exempted from the ban are any messages from school districts and cities or towns to residents, employers advising employees of work schedules and correctional facilities advising victims. Calls to individuals with whom the caller has had a business relationship within the last two years are also exempt.

Supporters say this long overdue bill would allow people to put a stop to these annoying invasions of privacy and will restore some peace and tranquility to homes, especially during the dinner hour when many robo calls are made.

The bill was first filed in 2010 in response to the millions of robo calls made during the special election that Sen. Scott Brown (R-Massachusetts) won to succeed the late Sen. Edward Kennedy.

RETIREMENT PLAN FOR NONPROFIT EMPLOYEES (H 3754) - Gov. Deval Patrick signed into law a bill that would allow employees of nonprofit organizations to establish a retirement account that would be administered by State Treasurer Steve Grossman's office. Contributions would be made on a pre-tax basis and all earnings would be tax-deferred. The treasurer already administers the SMART plan, a similar arrangement with some \$5 billion in assets, for 300,000 state and local employees.

Supporters say this would help an estimated 14 percent of the Massachusetts workforce -- 460,000 people -- who work in the nonprofit sector. They note that many smaller nonprofits are unable to afford the cost of setting up any type of retirement plan. Some argue the lack of retirement benefits at nonprofits hurts their ability to attract top-notch employees, who instead choose jobs in the public or private sector that offer retirement plans.

Opponents say this sets a bad precedent and note the state should not be administering plans for what are essentially private, nongovernmental organizations -- particularly when the state's pension plans have their own problems. They argue this policy would actually cost taxpayer dollars to administer and might expand to the point where the state is administering retirement plans for companies and individuals in the private sector.

NO LIMIT ON TIME TO FILE CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE CHARGES (H 469) - The Judiciary Com-

mittee has recommended passage of a bill abolishing the statute of limitations that limits the time that child victims of sexual abuse can file civil or criminal suits. Current law allows a suit to be brought for 27 years after the victim first reports the crime or 27 years after he or she turns 16.

Supporters argue many children who are victims of sexual abuse are not emotionally ready to confront the situation until many years later. They say that current law is unfair and allows many sexual predators to get away with their crimes.

Opponents say the bill goes too far because evidence and memories are often hazy, unclear and unreliable after many years. They argued that the bill would result in many people being wrongly convicted.

"RIGHT TO REPAIR" BILL (H 3882) - The Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure held a packed hearing on the controversial bill that would require auto manufacturers to sell to non-dealer repair shops the complete repair information and diagnostic tools currently only provided to franchised dealer service centers. The measure was approved by the Senate in 2010 but died in the House.

Supporters said auto companies refuse to give the information to independent repair shops, and consumers are forced to have repairs done at the more expensive dealer service centers. They argue this pro-consumer bill would lower the cost of repairs for consumers by fostering competition and allowing them to go to independent repair shops.

Some opponents said the proposal would force auto manufacturers to disclose trade secrets and other proprietary information to their competition. Others argued independent shops already have access to most of the information they need to repair vehicles.

The measure has cleared initial hurdles to appear on the 2012 ballot. The Massachusetts Right to Repair Coalition has already gathered 68,911 signatures, which brought the measure before the committee. If both the House and Senate do not approve this or a compromise proposal by May 2012, proponents must gather another 11,485 signatures by July 2012 in order for the question to appear on the November 2012 ballot.

BAN BULLHOOKS ON CIRCUS ELEPHANTS

(S 1706) - The Committee on Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development sent to a study committee a bill that would ban the use of bullhooks and chains on circus elephants. Violators would be punished by up to a \$5,000 fine and/or a year in jail. A bullhook is a weapon that resembles a fireplace poker, with a sharp steel hook at one end. Most measures that are shipped off to a study committee are never actually studied and are essentially defeated.

Supporters of the ban argue circus elephants are abused and routinely beaten with bullhooks inserted into their skin. They showed a photo gallery of cruel training sessions that were provided by a former Ringling Bros. elephant trainer.

Opponents argue bullhooks simply help guide and train elephants. They argued the circuses are already subject to strict federal, state and local animal welfare and cruelty laws.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"There are thousands upon thousands of working class folks out there trying to do the right thing and not taking advantage of our welfare system. They're out there playing by the rules and working and they don't have a wage base that's allowing them to meet their needs." – Sen. Marc Pacheco (D-Taunton), sponsor of the bill to raise the minimum hourly wage from \$8 to \$10.

"It's too aggressive and at the wrong time. Right now we need to be focusing on growing jobs and growing payroll, not encouraging employers to reduce payroll by hiring less people and reducing hours." – Jon Hurst, President of the Retailers Association of Massachusetts and opponent of the minimum wage hike.

"The accurate reporting of campaign contributions and expenses is critical to ensuring the integrity of our campaign finance system and preventing the misuse of campaign funds." – Attorney General Martha Coakley on ordering Former Rep. Brian Wallace (D-Boston) and his treasurer Timothy Duross to pay fines and restitution for failing to report \$6,345 in campaign contributions in 2010.

"There is a growing consensus that there should be no arbitrary hiding place for those who murder children's souls by sexually abusing them. That consensus does not include (Rep.) Gene O'Flaherty (chairman of the Judiciary Committee)." – Boston Globe columnist Kevin Cullen on his own support for and O'Flaherty's opposition to the bill abolishing the statute of limitations that limits the time that child victims of sexual abuse can file civil or criminal suits. O'Flaherty, on that same day, reported the bill out of his committee with a favorable vote.

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 March 19-23 the House met for a total of 36 minutes while the Senate met for a total of three hours and 21 minutes.

Mon. March 19 House 11:03 a.m. to 11:12 a.m. Senate 11:02 a.m. to 12:10 p.m.

Tues. March 20 No House session No Senate session

Wed. March 21 No House session No Senate session

Thurs. March 22 House 11:04 a.m. to 11;31 a.m. Senate 1:01 p.m. to 3:14 p.m.

Fri. March 23 No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall



Region IV Science Fair

By Harry Kane

For 36 consecutive years the Region IV Science Fair has been held at the Somerville High School. On March 24, high school students from around the bay area exhibited their science projects to the judges and the public.

Director of the Region IV Science Fair, Sebastian LaGambina, welcomed and congratulated all the participants. "The projects each year become more and more amazing."

LaGambina thanked the Region IV awards Chairman, Joseph Tarello, noting he is one of the founders of the Massachusetts State Science and Engineer Fair; and Tarello has been part of the Region IV Science Fair for the past 36 years.

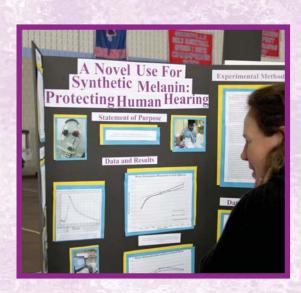
Superintendent Tony Pierantozzi said, "In a technological age where we communicate so much electronically, so much communication is non-personal; it has actually caused the emergence of direct interpersonal communication to become more important because we do it for fewer hours historically.

"What we see here today is a result of that high quality, scientifically-based interpersonal communication on a direct level. What you have developed creating these exhibits is something that will translate dramatically into the work force."

Third Prize went to Eugenia Kim from Lexington High School. Her science project was entitled, Applied regulation of characteristic historical events and auricular discord through lexicon mining to calculate. She will receive a check for \$250. District Gas Company will give the award at a special ceremony in the month of May.

The Second prize was awarded to Emily Hu from Lexington High School. Her science project was entitled, Perception, action and outcome: The effects of mindful decision making on post decision affect. She will receive a \$350 award from District Gas Company at the ceremony in May. Hu will have the honor of being the representative to the International Science and Engineering Fair in Pittsburgh.

The Grand Award Winner was a team project combining the efforts of Surya Bhupatiraju and Hao Shen from Lexington High School. Their science project was entitled, *Investigating the spread of influenza a virus: A Phylogenetic analysis of the H1N1 Subtype*. District Gas Company will award them \$500. Bhupatiraju and Shen will also go on a trip to the International Science and Engineering Fair.

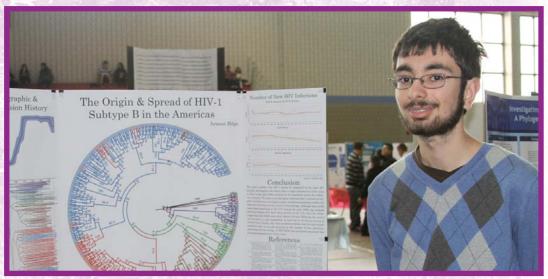














Persian Celebration

By Harry Kane

On Monday the monthly cultural celebration at the Somerville Council on Aging filled 70 people with some "wonderful music" said Lisa Heyison, the Outreach Coordinator.

The visitors were entertained with musical performances by Garo Papazian and Hagop Garabedian performing Persian, Armenian, Turkish and Klezmer music.

Mr. Papazian played on his doumbek, a kind of drum, and Mr. Garabedian played on his keyboard.

"I enjoyed the music and the food, and the conversation at the table," said Margaret Durkin.

Durkin was sitting with a woman from Iran, a woman from Columbia and a man from Greece. "We had a league of nations at the table."

Chef Hamid of Kolbeh Restaurant in Cambridge prepared a meal of hummus, pita bread, salad, chicken kabob and rice with Baklava for dessert.

Chef Hamid shared with the group how his family celebrated the New Year when he was growing up in Iran. He spoke of the beauty of his culture and the fond memories of family and friends getting together to celebrate the New Year.

Nowruz, which means New Day, is also widely referred to as the Persian New Year. It marks the first day of spring and the beginning of the year in the Iranian calendar falling on the Spring Equinox.

Next month on June 11 the Brazilian culture will be celebrated.













Photos by Harry Kane

SOMERVILLE SPORTS

Somerville Youth Softball adds registration and tryout date

After an overwhelming response to the Somerville Youth Softball registration and tryouts this past weekend at Trum Field, the SYSO is adding one last tryout/registration date at Trum Field on Tuesday, April 2, from 6-7 p.m.

This past Sunday more than 40 girls turned out for the second day of tryouts and registration. Bob Schofield, President of SYSO said the feedback from parents was encouraging, "Parents shared how thrilled they were that the program will focus on instruction, giving the girls the opportunity to learn to play the game."

"It was fun getting to be with other people, and it was fun learning from CJ [Azubine]," Nevalee Hawkins, fourth grader, said of her time on Sunday. CJ was one of a dozen volunteers, including girls from the Somerville Varsity and Junior Varsity softball teams, that assisted with the tryouts on Sunday.

The Somerville Youth Softball Organization, new this year, is launching the program in partnership with the Somerville Department of Recreation and Youth and will run from mid-April through the latter part of June.

The program features an Instructional League for girls in 1-3 grades, a Minor League for girls in 4-6 grades, and a Major League for girls in 7-9th grades. The Major League will play half of their games against Somerville teams and half against Major League softball teams from Medford.

For more information or to register online visit www.somervillesoftball.com or email the league at info@somervillesoftball.com.



Additional SYSO tryouts will be held on Tuesday, April 2, from 6-7 p.m. at Trum Field.

Ms. Cam's

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#310

- 1. What Texan ended up with one delegate after spending 12 million dollars of his own money?
- 2. What are Macaroni, Gentoo, Chinstraps and Emperor the types of?
- 3. What singer was born John Henry Deutschendorf?
- 4. What is a group of chickens called?
- 5. What was the tragedy in 1998 that blighted Omagh, Northern Ire-
- 6. Who was the first black tennis player to win the U.S. Open?

7. Why can pet parrots

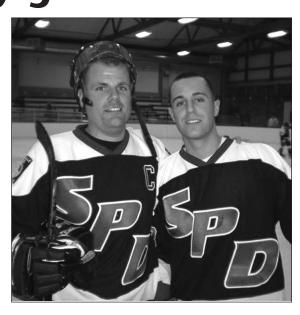
- eat any common people food except chocolate and avocados, which can be fatal to them?
- 8. A group of geese on the ground is a flock or a gaggle, but what do we call a group of geese in the
- What name was William Cody better known as?
- 10. What is the translation of "Ich bin ein Berliner" said by John F. Kennedy in 1963?
- 11. Henry Ford said "History is ____
- 12. What is the abbreviation of Mississippi?

Answers on page 21

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

10th Annual 'Guns N' Hoses' hockey game

The annual "Guns N' Hoses" hockey game, between the Somerville Police Department and the Somerville Fire Department, will be held this year on Friday. March 30 at 7 p.m. at the Veteran's Memorial Rink on Somerville Avenue. In its 10th year, the theme is "The Youth of Somerville," and, fittingly, proceeds from the game will benefit the Somerville Youth Hockey Association. Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone will ceremonially drop the puck at the start of the game. There will be a gathering for all interested attendees immediately following the game at the Dante Club on Craigie Street. Refreshments will be served, and music and raffle prizes will be ongoing.





335 Sómerville Ave. 617-666-3589

Sally O' Brien's

Tuesday 4/3: Wednesday 4/4: Thursday 4/5:

Monday 4/2:

Friday 4/6:

Saturday 4/7:

Sunday 4/8:

Cheapshots Comedy Club open mike Marley Mondays with The Duppy Conquerors 9:30 p.m. Kristen Ford Band with guests 8 p.m. Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m. Spring Hill Rounders grassy Thursdays 6 p.m. Ryan Taylor Band grassy Thursdays 9 p.m. Stan Martin Trio 6 p.m.

Dave Sammarco Band 9 p.m.

Benefit for The Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester \$15 cover goes to The Clubs Glenn Yoder & The Western States • Sam Reid & the Riot Act o Highway Ghosts 6 p.m. Dirigible Ego, Rag Rock Rebels, Urban Myth \$5 cover 9 p.m. Frank Drake Sunday Showcase 5 p.m

Paul Ahlstrand Quartet 8 p.m.



NEVER A COVER!!! www.sallyobriensbar.com





Highland bakery figures out secret to success

By Max Sullivan

Two years doesn't sound like a very long time to spend searching for success as a bakery owner. Katie Rooney, part owner of 3 Little Figs bakery on Highland Avenue, sees it a little differently. "I guess it depends on your perspective," said Rooney. "For me it seems like it was a pretty long time."

Rooney, 31, has spent life engulfed in her family's Greek baking tradition. Now, after two years of networking in the Boston café scene, Rooney and her family have brought their tradition to the masses. Since its opening last Halloween, 3 Little Figs has gained a steadily growing customer base by blending bakery flavors with a dab of Rooney's Mediterranean heritage.

Rooney is grateful, to say the least. "It's surreal", she said. "It blows my mind on a daily basis that I could have an idea and work really hard to get where I am today."

Before taking it on professionally, Rooney and her family saw baking as way to bond together. "(Baking's) been passed down through the generations," said Rooney. "My grandmother taught my mother to bake, and she helped me to learn. It's been something we've always enjoyed doing together."

Two years ago, things changed for Rooney. Not only did she lose her advertising job, but she lost her beloved grandmother as well. In mourning and in need of a job, she saw fit to pursue a career path that honored her Yiayia (Greek for grandmother).

"I was thinking of a way that I could start a new career for myself and also pay tribute to my grandmother who meant so much to me," said Rooney. "My mother and I got together and said, 'Well, why don't we start taking some of what we love and try to get it there to the public."

And so it was decided. Rooney and her family would try selling homemade baked goods. Rooney got started by renting a kitchen space and going to the farmers' markets in the Boston area. One of many people pushing products, she found that it was difficult to turn a profit. On some days she felt like things were moving along, but there were plenty of times when Rooney felt discouraged. "(There are times when) you're sitting there at a farmers' market in the pouring rain," said Rooney, "And nobody's around, and you're like 'Why? Oh gosh, I'm crazy, I must be crazy to do something like this."

Rooney was persistent though. She handled adversity well.

"You had to keep some perspective," she

said." I basically had to say, 'I have some long term goals, and there are steps that I need to go through to get to those long term goals.' Farmers' markets were a stepping stone for me."

Things gradually picked up for Rooney. She became acquainted with local cafés. This led to wholesale offers, and soon she was delivering her products to cafés all over Boston.

"I eventually got some wholesale customers," said Rooney. "Cafés who were looking to carry my products and sell them with their coffee, so then I started delivering my wholesale treats all around the city of Boston, and I had built a nice clientele of about six cafés."

Rooney decided to take the final step, opening her own shop. While at the Somerville Winter Farmers' Market last year, Rooney stumbled upon Highland Avenue for the first time. She loved the setting and the people. She and her family decided it was the perfect location for her new business.

Rooney is amazed at how far she's come from the long, rainy days at the farmers'

"Now I'm sitting in my own café," said Rooney. "I'm not even sitting because I can't find a seat because it's so busy, and people are really enjoying themselves."

According to Rooney, 3 Little Figs is more about blending familiar tastes with a slight Mediterranean twist. There are plenty of foods that feature classic Greek flavors, but this café is not limited strictly to Greek cuisine.

"If you're looking for flavor infusion and some really delicious spinach pie, this is a great option for you," said Rooney.

Rooney said there's plenty of great coffee. That, along with the décor, is handled by Rooney's husband, Andy. And it's her family, like Andy, that plays the biggest role in shaping the workplace for Rooney.

"There's never a dull moment." Said Rooney. "It's nice to have such an intimate relationship with the people that you work with."

"On the other hand, we all have our moments," she added, laughing.

Rooney said the name "3 Little Figs" was chosen partly for its Mediterranean connection, but mostly because the play on words fits the three women running the shop: herself, her mother, Kathy, and her sister, Caroline.

"We wanted something cute that would make people smile and represent the underlying theme of what we did, which was just to be happy."

Visit Three Little Figs at 278 Highland Avenue. You can find them on the web at www.3littlefigs.com.



Andy and Katie Rooney's '3 Little Figs' is off and running, ready to take your order.



Scrumptious desserts are the specialty of the house.

Somerville Person of the Week



Meet Margie McKenzie, a lifelong resident here in Somerville. She's 87 years young, a graduate of Somerville High and married 63 years to her lifelong best friend and husband John McKenzie. Right up to when John passed away a couple of years ago they served this community together for many years. In particular, cooking and serving at the local community church, which was open to anyone who just came by and dropped in. You can find Margie most every day down at the florist shop Nellie's Wild Flowers on Holland Street, which is run by Joyce her daughter. Margie grew up and lived here all her life in the Davis and Porter Square area. What's so unique about Margie is her oh so pleasant personality and huge smile she has for everyone. You can tell she likes everyone and is such a joy to talk to about Somerville and its past and present. Margie worked a long time for the old Boston Safe Company, but we hear her favorite job of all was being a homemaker and raising her daughter with her husband John. She is truly one of the most genteel and totally great ladies you will ever have the pleasure to meet. Walking in to her shop on Holland Street, you know that you have just met a very nice lady. Actually several, including daughter Joyce, who is always smiling. We have thought of Margie as a special lady for a long time, since we met her many years ago. We are proud to present her to you, our readers, as our choice as Person of the Week. Take a minute, stop in and meet her and find out why she's one of Somerville's hidden jewels.



Somerville Vews

LEGAL NOTICES

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



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, April 4, 2012, Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd floor at Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, at 6:00 p.m. to hear pending applications and to hold public hearings:

6-8 Beacon St: (Case #ZBA 2010-65-R1-2/2012) Applicant/Owner, Inman Square Lofts, LLC, seek a revision under SZO §5.3.8 from Case ZBA 2010-65 to remove a portion of the southeast wall and construct a fence. The original permit included Special Permits to construct six dwelling units (§7.11.1.c), to allow the expansion of an existing nonconforming commercial structure (§4.4.1), and a variance (§5.5) from required parking spaces (§9.5), RC zone, Ward 2.

181 Cedar St: (Case #ZBA 2012-05) Applicant and Owner 181 Cedar Street, LLC, seeks a Special Permit with Site Plan Review under SZO §7.3 to construct six dwelling units and a Variance under SZO \$5.5 from the parking requirements of SZO \$9.5 for relief from four required off-street parking spaces. RB zone. Ward 5.

844 McGrath Hwy: (Case #ZBA 2012-14) Applicant Sprint Spectrum and Owner Talp II, LLC, seek a Special Permit under SZO §7.11.15.3 and SZO §14 for the installation of wireless communications equipment consisting of the replacement of three existing antennas and related equipment and cables including one GPS antenna and two equipment cabinets. ASMD zone. Ward 1.

331-333 Broadway: (Case #ZBA 2012-15) Applicant Sprint Spectrum and Owner Anthony K. Paone, seek a Special Permit under SZO §7.11.15.3 and SZO §14 for the installation of wireless communications equipment consisting of the replacement of three existing antennas and related equipment and cables including one GPS antenna and one equipment cabinet. CCD 55 zone. Ward 4.

49 Davis Sq: (Case #ZBA 2012-16) Applicant Sprint Spectrum and Owner BF Properties, seek a Special Permit under SZO §7.11.15.3 and SZO §14 for the installation of wireless communications equipment consisting of the replacement of three existing antennas and related equipment and cables including one GPS antenna and two equipment cabinets. CBD zone. Ward 6.

57 Pitman St: (Case #ZBA 2012-17) Applicant and Owner Pitman Property Group, LLC, seeks a Special Permit under SZO §7.11.1.c to establish a five unit residential use and associated parking. BA zone. Ward 3.

11 Church St: (Case #ZBA 2012-18) Applicant Christopher Shachoy and Owner CMS Church Nominee Trust, seek a Special Permit to alter a nonconforming structure under SZO §4.4.1 to add additional square footage to the right rear of the third floor apartment and a Special Permit under SZO §9.13.a for relief from one parking space at an existing three-family residence. RC zone. Ward 2.

240 Summer St: (Case #ZBA 2012-19) Applicant Frank Fazzolari and Owners Salvatore and Lina Fazzolari, seek a Special Permit to alter a nonconforming structure under SZO §4.4.1 to erect an approximately 3.5 foot high railing on the left side of the second story of an existing single-

22 Endicott Ave: (Case #ZBA 2012-21) Applicant/Owner Tara Ten Eyck & Chetty Lovantheran seek a Special Permit to alter a nonconforming single-family structure under SZO §4.4.1 to alter the front entryway and stairs and slightly expand the side entryway. RB zone. Ward 7.

15 Weston Ave: (Case #ZBA 2011-85) Applicant Sprint and Owner Somerville Housing Authority, seek Special Permit Approval under SZO §7.11.15.3 and SZO §14 in order to replace, relocate and install wireless communications equipment. NB/RB zone. Ward 7.

114 Highland Ave: (Case #ZBA 2011-86) Applicant Sprint and Owner Somerville Housing Authority, seek Special Permit Approval under SZO §7.11.15.3 and SZO §14 for the installation (replacement) of a wireless communications facility consisting of six panel antennas and related equipment and cables. RC zone. Ward 3.

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 3/21/12 & 3/28/12.

3/21/11, 3/28/12 The Somerville News

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

311

Docket No. MI 12P1338FA

MIDDLESEX Division

Estate of: Mabel T Coleman Date of Death: 11/23/2011

MUPC SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE

To all persons who may have an interest in the above-captioned estate, the Division of Medical Assistance and, if interested, to the Office of the Attorney General and the United States Department of

Notice is being sent to you as you may have a legal interest in this case, in order to inform you of your rights.

Under the new Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code Inventory and Accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can Petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to Petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of the appointed Personal Representative.

Petitioner requests to be permitted to file a MUPC Bond

3/28/12 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 April 5, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers of Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

561 Windsor St: (Case #PB 2010-04-R1-302012) Applicant, Laurence Slotnick, Taza Chocolate, and Owner, Bart Bussink, Miller's River Development, seek a revision under SZO §5.3.8 to Case PB 2010-07 to change approved signage and landscaping and add windows on the back of the building. The original permit included Special Permits under SZO §6.5.D.5 to alter the façade, signage and site plan. TOD-135 zone. Ward 2.

331 Washington St: (Case #PB 2012-02) Applicant Jonathan Bornstein and Owner JZB Real Estate LLC, seek Site Plan Approval under SZO §5.4 and §8.8 in order to adjust a lot line to shift 1,884 square feet from one parcel to another. RB zone. Ward 2.

280 Broadway: (Case #PB 2012-04) Applicant Amos G. Winter and Owner Fred Camerato, seek a Special Permit under SZO §7.13. Use Cluster E to establish a single dwelling unit in the rear building and a Special Permit under SZO §6.1.22.D.5.a to alter the façade of the rear building to install a second egress. CCD 55 zone. Ward 4.

149 Broadway: (Case #PB 2012-05) Applicant/Owner Trustees of the College Avenue Methodist Church of Somerville seeks a Special Permit under SZO §6.1.22.D.5 to alter the structure and install signage for a by-right religious institution. CCD 45 zone. Ward 1.

73-75 Union Sq: (Case PB 2012-06) Applicant and Owner Independent Realty Trust of the Independent restaurant, seeks a special permit under SZO §6.1.22.D.6 to establish an outdoor seating area. CCD 55 zone. Ward 3.

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 3/21/12 & 3/28/12.

3/21/12, 3/28/12 The Somerville News

The Somerville Historic Preservation Commission shall hold a Public Hearing on Tues., Apr. 17, 2012 at 6:40 p.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room, City Hall regarding a proposed demolition of the house at 146 Hudson Street, submitted by Applicant: Edward

The subject of the hearing will be a review of the SHPC's initial determination that under section 4.2 of the Demolition Review Ordinance #2003-05, the house is considered "significant". Public testimony followed by discussion and a vote by the Commission will be taken on whether the building should be "preferably preserved" per section 4.3. For further information, please contact the Commission's Staff via (617) 625-6600 x. 2525 or kchase@ci.somerville.ma.us.

3/28/12 The Somerville News

TO PLACE LEGAL ADVERTISMENTS IN THE SOMERVILLE NEWS, CONTACT **CAM TONER** BY 12 PM MONDAY

> PH: 617.666.4010 FAX: 617.628.0422

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Middlesex Probate and Family Court 208 Cambridge Street Cambridge, MA. 02141

MIDDLESEX Division

Docket No. MI 12P1338EA

In the Estate of: Mabel T Coleman Late of: Somerville, MA, 02143

Date of Death: 11/23/2011

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

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;

ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK (10:00 AM) ON:

04/19/2012

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

Register of Probate

www.TheSomervilleNews.com Tara E. De Cristofaro

Want to write local Somerville stories? Call 617-666-4010 and speak to the Assignment Editor

Legal Notices can be downloaded from our Web site:

3/28/12 The Somerville News



LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE Premises: 309 Beacon Street, Somerville, Massachusetts By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Amrik Pabla and Dalwinder Pabla to The New York Mortgage Co., LLC and now held by Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Soundview Home Loan Trust 2005-OPT3, Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2005-OPT3, said mortgage dated August 4, 2005, and recorded in the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 45806 at Page 74, as affected by Loan Modification dated May 29, 2008 and recorded in Book 51634 at Page 227 for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on April 4, 2012 at 2:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: A certain parcel of land with the building(s) thereon situated in Somerville, Middlesex County Massachusetts now being numbered 309-311 Beacon Street, and being shown as Lot 1 on a "Plan of Land in Somverville, Mass. Prepared for Kevin Emery", Marchionda & Associates, Inc. Engineering and Planning Consultants, recorded with Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 24055, Plan 574. Containing 4.154 square feet of land, more or less, according to said plan. The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication. For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated January 15, 2008, and recorded in Book 53783 at Page 493 with the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds. Also, see deed dated

January 15, 2008 and recorded with said Deeds in Book 53783, Page 493. TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveved subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any which take precedence over the said mortgage above described, FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000,00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale. Other terms to be announced at the sale. Marinosci Law Group, P.C., 1350 Division Road, Suite 301, West Warwick, RI 02893 Attorney for Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Soundview Home Loan Trust 2005-OPT3, Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2005-OPT3 Present Holder of the Mortgage (401) 234-9200 MLG File No. 10-03851FC-1, 930716 3/14, 3/21,

3/14/12, 3/21/12, 3/28/12 The Somerville News

Celebration of Greek Independence Day 1821

By Donald Norton

Mayor Joseph Curtatone, city officials, about 100 Greek residents and members of the community joined together Saturday to celebrate Greek Independence Day, March 24, 1821. The ceremony took place outside City Hall at the memorial of Somerville's hero George Dilboy, the first American Greek to receive the Medal of Honor during World War I. Mayor Curtatone and Ward 2 Alderman Maryann Heuston welcomed everyone. At the ceremony, The George Dilboy Humanitarian Award was presented by Somerville Fire Fighter Michael Marino to Somerville Police Officer, Mario Oliviera. The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented by Theodore Menounos to Frank Senesi, who recently retired as City of Somerville's Veterans Services Director. Members of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church here in Somerville were present with guest speaker Seminarian Stanatis Sfikas. Fr. Konstantinos Manetas, pastor of the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, conducted the memorial service at the George Dilboy Statute and a dance program was performed by the Children of the Greek School Program Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church. After the ceremony everyone was invited into the Alderman Chambers of City Hall for a reception.



Officials and citizens gathered to celebrate Greek Independence Day and to pay tribute to the memory of George Dilboy, and to honor others who have made significant contributions to the community.



Marc Strathmeyer: A metamorphosis

By Harry Kane

Marc Strathmeyer, 26, has overcome adversity through years of encouragement from the staff at a Somerville nonprofit developmental disability center.

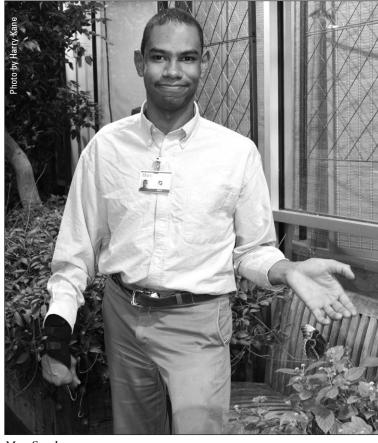
He has cerebral palsy, and walks with a limp. It wasn't easy for him in the beginning. He was shy and a recluse. Times have changed for Strathmeyer, though.

Four years ago he sat down with the Director of Day Services at the Walnut Street Center Craig Fletcher. Strathmeyer wanted a job, a position that would make him proud.

Fletcher set up an interview at the Museum of Science in Boston. "He was hired on the spot, which doesn't happen very often," said Fletcher.

Strathmeyer began working at the butterfly garden collecting tickets and greeting people. "When I first started working here I was really really shy...and now I feel like when I put the red sweater on I can help a guest out."

Strathmeyer also works at the Omni Theater, making announcements. He recalls one ex-



Marc Strathmeyer.

perience when he was working at the Omni Theater and there was a fire alarm. He had to evacuate everyone and the speakerphone was not functioning so he had to use his own voice and say, "Everybody needs to get out."

Two years ago he purchased a 2007 Toyota Corolla. "It's cool now to drive to work, and I don't

have to pay for parking."

The services provided at the Walnut Street Center helped Strathmeyer become more independent. He's gone through a metamorphosis. An Emerging butterfly, Strathmeyer has undergone a transformation, allowing him to fly towards a brighter future.

Deanna Cremin remembered

CONT. FROM PG 1

members visit the corner of Jaques Street and Temple Street, now renamed Deanna Cremin Square, and take a moment to remember her blithe spirit. "If something happens to me, my son will continue to carry on the tradition," said Rodgers.

Sandy Cowie, Deanna's aunt,

wanted to thank the Department of Public Works for hanging the wreath.

The untimely death of Deanna Cremin is an unfortunate piece of Somerville's history but the unsolved murder remains a preoccupation of the Somerville Police Department.

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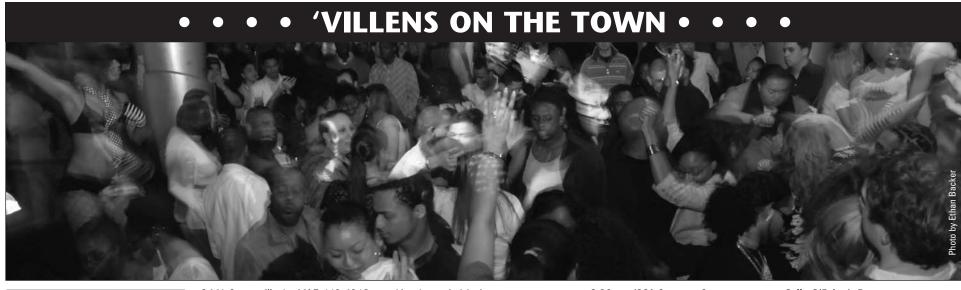
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FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH Wednesday | March 28

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

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

Thursday|March 29

Central Library

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

Friday | March 30

Central Library

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

Veteran's Memorial Rink

Free public skating 12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville

Monday|April 2

Central Library

Preschool: Sing Along with Jorden 11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.|79 Highland

Veteran's Memorial Rink

Free public skating 12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave

Tuesday | April 3

West Branch Library

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

Wednesday | April 4

East Branch Library

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

Veteran's Memorial Rink Free public skating

12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville

MUSIC

Wednesday | March 28

Iohnny D's

Birdsongs of the Mesozic|Goli 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 Ouiz 8-10

Comedy @10 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge Cowgill|Entin & Blum|Ryan Rivers Band|Ripe

345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

On The Hill Tavern

Sports Trivia 499 Broadway|617-629-5302

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Precinct Bar

W.C. Lindsay|Avoxblue 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub Kong - King of Funk 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen

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

Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Rosebud Bar

Interactive Trivia and Game Night|Free Pool, Darts, Night Videogames, Sports on TV, 8 Ball Tournament|Texas Hold'em 381 Summer St

Arts at the Armory

Somerville Arts Council Salon Series:

7:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave Thursday | March 29

Johnny D's

English Beat

17 Holland St. 617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

Max Jeffers|Loose Handle Band|Luke Mulholland Band | 9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

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

PA'S Lounge

Lucas Navarro|Faux Ox|Sara Radle|Gun Shop Daddy 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

On The Hill Tavern

Live DI Music

499 Broadway 617-629-5302

Orleans Restaurant and Bar Live music starting at 8:00pm from

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Precinct Bar

The Invisible Rays 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub

Dub Down Featuring The Scotch 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

Sounds of Aether 381 Summer St.

Arts at the Armory

Playtime with Knucklebones 10 a.m.|Performance Hall|191

Friday | March 30

Johnny D's

Highland Ave

Loose Change|Mamadou 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Radioactive Rustlers | 6 p.m. Will Davies & Jonah Sacks, Hillbilly Holiday, Sand Machine \$5 cover | 9

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Swerve

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

Live Acoustic Music 8 p.m.|65 Holland St

Precinct Bar

Golden Boy|Pray for Polanski 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

PA'S Lounge

Drifterswift|Full Time Dreamers|Paper Snakes|Talking About Commas 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

Joshua Tree

256 Elm St. |617-623-9910 Samba Bar & Grille

Live music 9 p.m.|608 Somerville Ave|617-718-

Rosebud Bar

Counterpoint 8:30 p.m.|381 Summer St

Casey's

Entertainment every Friday 173 Broadway 617- 625-5195

Arts at the Armory

Not So Silent Cinema presents: **Buster Keaton** 7 p.m.|Performance Hall||191 Highland Ave

Somerville Theatre Pride & Prejudice 8 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Saturday | March 31

Iohnny D's

Love Dogs | Peacheaters | DeltaGenerators 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

Les Sampou Band |6 p.m. Family Jewels |9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Red Square 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Precinct Bar

Hear Now Live Presents:Cardboard Mercenary|Satellites Fall|Action Camp|Todd Kramer|Hail Laveau 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

PA'S Lounge

28 degrees taurus|Glowfriends|Bundles of Joy|Sun

345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

On The Hill Tavern

Live DJ Music 499 Broadway|617-629-5302

Bull McCabe's Pub Paddy Saul with full band

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045 Joshua Tree

256 Elm St. |617-623-9910 Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Rosebud Bar Ferrano

8:30 p.m|381 Summer St

Casev's

Entertainment every Saturday 173 Broadway 617- 625-5195

Arts at the Armory

Michael Murray and Neil Lawrence play the Cafe - Free show! 7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Somerville Theatre Pride & Prejudice

2 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Sunday April 1

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

Sally O'Brien's Bar Kevin Byrne Band |5 p.m. Amber Casares Band |8 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Grunge Brunch|11 a.m.- 3 p.m. Burren Acoustic Music Series 247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

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

Precinct Bar 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub

Dub Apocalypse 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Rosebud Bar 381 Summer St

Arts at the Armory Roots Attached Revue featuring Thea

Hopkins and more! 3 p.m.|Café Frottages and Scrawls 2006 - 2012: Surrealist Drawings by Roger Clark

7 p.m.|Cafel191 Highland Ave

Monday April 2

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

Bur Run|6:30 p.m. Big Night Out|8 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

Precinct Bar

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

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:

Spinal Tap, Rutles double bill 7 p.m.|Cafél191 Highland Ave Tuesday | April 3

Johnny D's

Questionnairey 17 Holland St|617-776-2004 Sally O'Brien's Bar

Kristen Ford Band with guests |8 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave 617-666-3589

Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan|6:30 p.m.

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

499 Broadway|617-629-5302

On The Hill Tavern Stump Trivia (with prizes)

PA'S Lounge Open Mic - Rock, Folk, R&B, Alt, Jazz & Originals etc. Hosted by Tony

345 Somerville Avel617-776-1557

70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Precinct Bar

Amaral

Bull McCabe's Pub The Hornitz

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

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

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

Youth Open Mic Night 6 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Arts at the Armory

Wednesday April 4 Johnny D's

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

On The Hill Tavern

PA'S Lounge Primacy Effect|Tapestry|TBA 345 Somerville Ave 617-776-1557

499 Broadway|617-629-5302 Orleans Restaurant and Bar

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Trivia

Sports Trivia

Precinct Bar TÔMN with special guests Mike Maven and The Klezwoods 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub

Highland Kitchen

Kong - King of Funk 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

TJ The DJ Presents The People's

Karaoke 10 p.m.|150 Highland Ave|617-625-

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

Rosebud Bar

1131

Interactive Trivia and Game Night|Free Pool, Darts, Night Videogames, Sports on TV, 8 Ball Tournament|Texas Hold'em 381 Summer St

THINGS PLACES D 0 !



'VILLENS ON THE TOWN •

Arts at the Armory

Wiretap Wednesday Open Stage 7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

CLASSES AND GROUPS Wednesday | March 28

Central Library

Meet, Mingle, Read: Fenway Park 7 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Third Life Studio

Beyond beginning Belly Dance with Nadira Jamal 7:30 p.m.|Level 2|33 Union

Sq|www.nadirajamal.com Thursday | March 29

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

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 | March 31

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 | April 1

Unity Church of God Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon

Family Groups 7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement.

Monday April 2

Central Library

Chess Night 7 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

East 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.) 115 Broadway

Third Life Studio

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

Tuesday April 3

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 April 4

Third Life Studio

Beyond beginning Belly Dance with Nadira Jamal

7:30 p.m.|Level 2|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com

SENIOR 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.

New exercise classes added! You asked - we listened! Three early evening classes are coming to the Holland Street Center starting April 2nd.

The Oscar-nominated movie directed by Steven Spielberg, "War Horse" is coming to Holland Street on April 24th at 12:30 pm. "Magnificent! Joyous! Uplifting" is how Roger Elbert described this epic movie. RSVP 617-625-6600 ext. 2300

Osher Lunch and Learn - Tufts University Osher Lifelong Learning Center has joined with us to present a lunch and learn series. You bring the lunch and we will provide the transportation. April 9th - Best Bees: Learn about creating Bee Best Bees(tm) is truly unique. They are the only organization that brings the amazing experience of owning a honey bee hive right to your yard and manages the bees for you. April 20th -Preserving Homes. RSVP 617-625-600 ext. 2300

Chair Massage - From 11:45 am - 1:15 pm Massage therapist Dell fisher will be giving chair massages at the Holland Street Center. \$15 will buy you 15 minutes of bliss and relaxation. Call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300 to book your appointments. Thursday April 19th Holland Street Center.

If you like to bowl and would like to meet new people, join Flo and a wonderful group of men and women at Flatbreads on Day Street at 1:00 - 3:00 pm. \$10 includes shoe rentals and dues.

Join us for our monthly breakfast on April 2nd at Holland Street at 9:30 am. Fire Department Chief Kevin Kelleher and Captain Mike Anzalone on fire prevention. Suggested donation is \$1.50 and reservations are required.

Dance at the Holiday Inn - April 9th will begin our celebration of Spring! Admission is \$10 for a wonderful lunch, music with DJ Hank and fun times with old friends and new! Doors open at 11:30 am.

Celebrate Brazil - Join us in celebrating Brazil with a delicious meal, musical entertainment and cultural speaker. The SheBoom is a Brazilian drumming group who will be performing for us! Reserve a space, call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300. Cost is \$2.00 for lunch.

You still have time to participate in our own **Olympics!** Go for the gold by participating in 45 exercise classes between now and August 25th. You have 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 (*).

Museum Club is going to the Somerville Museum April 23rd for a private tour with local historian Bob Doherty. These trips fill out quickly so get your name on the list. 617-625-6600 ext. 2321.

Book club - "Home Front" by Kristen Hannah. Contact Janine for a copy at 617-625-6600 ext. 2321. Book club is meeting at 10:00 am April 9th at Holland Street. New members quite welcome!

Bereavement Support Group - Have you lost someone close to you? A bereavement support group can help you to express, understand and cope with the difficult emotions associated with grief and loss, and aid your healing journey. We are offering an 8 week support group facilitated by Diane Christopherson D.

Min. The group will meet Thursdays at Holland Street Center from 12:15 - 1:45 from April 5th - May 24th. Lunch and transportation may be available upon request. Call Nancy at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317.

Join us in our exercise classes:

NEW EVENING CLASSES:

Gentle Yoga - Monday 4:30 - 5:30 at Holland Street \$5 Line Dancing - Tuesday 3:00 - 4:00 Holland Street \$5

Zumba Gold - Wednesday 5:15 - 6:15 Holland Street

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.

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

Flexibility & Balance - all three centers

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

Indoor Exercises - all three centers

March 28

Holland Street Center

Flexibility & Balance*|9:30 a.m. SHINE hours by appt. only 10 a.m. Women's Group - new members welcome 10:30 a.m. QiGong*|1:15 p.m. 167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Cross Street Center

Center Closed 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

March 29

Holland Street Center

Memoir Writing Class 9 a.m.

Current Events Group - new members welcome! Come join us as we discuss what's going on in Somerville, the United States and World events. | 10 a.m. Indoor Exercises* - note new time 11 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

Strengthening with Geoff|10 a.m. Portuguese Lunch|11:30 a.m. Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street 617-666-5223

March 30

Holland Street Center

Indoor Exercises* - note new time 11 a.m, Bingo|12:45 p.m. 167 Holland Street 617-625-6600 x 2300

Cross Street Center

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

Ralph & Jenny Center

Center Closed

9 New Washington Street 617-666-5223

April 2

Lunch and Learn: Chronicle

Holland Street Center

Monthly breakfast|9 a.m. Somerville Singing Seniors 10:30 a.m. English conversation 10:30 a.m. Haitian Coalition Luncheon 11:30 a.m. Gentle Yoga |4:30 p.m.

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

Cross Street Center

Closed

Ralph & Jenny Center

Indoor Exercise 10:30 a.m. Bingo|12:45 p.m.

April 3

Holland Street Center

Strengthening Exercise|9:15 a.m. SHINE by appt. 10 a.m. Line Dancing 3 p.m. Caregivers Series 6 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

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

April 4

Holland Street Center

Flexibility & Balance*|9:30 a.m. SHINE hours by appt. only 10 a.m. Women's Group - new members welcome 10:30 a.m. QiGong*|1:15 p.m. Zumba Gold|5:15 p.m. 167 Holland Street 617-625-6600 x. 2300

Cross Street Center

Center Closed 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

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

Veteran's History Project - Created in 2000, the Veterans History Project archives personal first-hand accounts/memoirs of American war veterans from World War I through the Afghanistan and Iraq conflict. In addition, those U.S. civilians who were actively involved in supporting the war efforts (war industry workers, USO workers, medical volunteers, etc.) are also invited to share their valuable stories. Please contact Suzanne at 617-625-6600 ext. 2318 if you are interested in participating.

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Teen Empowerment is handed the mic

By Max Sullivan

Teen Empowerment is encouraging youths in Somerville and beyond to connect with their creative side as their brand new monthly open mic night at Arts at the Armory's café continues next Tuesday night.

In collaboration with Books of Groundwork and Hope Somerville, Teen Empowerment is providing Somerville teens with their own open mic, one that is run by and for local kids. The open mic takes place on the first Tuesday of every month. Marlon Ramdehal, 32, Director Teen Empowerment's Somerville program, couldn't have been happier with the way it worked out at last month's opener on March 6.

"It was a great vibe," said Ramdehal, "Knowing that, here, you have a room full of young people, all sorts of ages, all sorts of risk levels - low risk, high risk that for an evening can sit down and have a really cool, positive environment and have a good time, and not have to worry about any problems or issues they might be facing in their own lives."

According to Ramdehal, approximately 35 to 40 kids and adults attended, filling the small Armory café. Kids from all backgrounds - black, white, Haitian,

Puerto Rican, Brazilian and beyond - and from all over Somerville made it to the event. It was a true cultural blend, he

"We get the real full mixture of the melting pot that Somerville has to offer," said Ramdehal, "It's not just hip hop. It's not just a particular type of spoken word. It's not just poetry. It's really just a fusion, and - particularly our youth - they love to experiment. They love to feed off of each other's talents. So, we've got some people that are rapping to acoustic guitar being played kind of rock and roll style, and they dig that, they dig that a lot."

Teen Empowerment works in the community to give teens a place to go for positive influence. With music and poetry being such a common passion for teenagers, the new open mic serves as a strong connector for young people.

"It just gives me an opportunity to put my voice out there," said Iesha Guerrier, 15, who was at the series opener last month. "The voice is the most powerful thing, and Teen Empowerment helps with that."

"One thing that really gets young people excited is knowing that they have a place like that to call their own," said Ramdehal, "As more youth in the city are



Is this thing on? Definitely so, as Teen Empowerment takes to the Arts at the Armory's café stage with its weekly open

kind of getting older, they're finding that they don't have as many things available to them, and so this is a great opportunity for folks...to really come together and continue to pull youth as far west and as far east as possible."

Teens do more than perform. With supervisors from Teen Empowerment, Books of Hope and Groundwork Somerville present, the kids run the whole event, from promotion to hosting on stage. Guerrier spread the word by passing out flyers at Somerville High School, where she is a freshman.

Guerrier, who shared a poem she wrote entitled Skin about the importance seeing beyond one's skin color, said Teen Empowerment is doing a great thing for kids in the community with this

"It's good for someone who might feel hopeless, or if someone has a great talent and doesn't have a way to get it out," said Guerrier. "I just think that [organizations like] Teen Empowerment and Books of Hope should be available [everywhere]."

The Teen Empowerment open mic will be back in session next week at Arts at the Armory's café, Tuesday, April 3, 6-8 p.m. Remdehal said it is encouraged that all those looking to participate arrive as close to 6 p.m. as

Call for Submissions: Somerville Open Cinema Film Festival

By Tatiana Kombo

The Somerville Open Cinema Festival, to be held on May 5-6th, is seeking short films submissions. Budding filmmakers are encouraged to submit video productions of under 10 minutes that, if chosen, may be broadcasted on the Somerville Community Access Televisions from experimental films to doc-

umentary shorts, and has no submission fee in order to create a "welcoming, open atmosphere where all types of film and video making can coexist."

As explained by Gordon Nelson, a film artist and teacher working at the Somerville-based SCATV, the upcoming Somerville Open Cinema Festival was (SCATV). The festival is open brought about by a suggestion to all genres of film, ranging from SCATV Board of Directors member Melitta King to

offer "greater representation of moving image and media artists during the Somerville Open Studios event." In reference to his goals for the exhibition, the latter stated that one of the main ideas behind the project is to "invite the community of film and video makers from Massachusetts to share their work with the Somerville community."

Nelson, who is experienced in both the creation and curation of

film exhibitions, noted that he hopes to create "engaging moving image programs that offer new and unusual experiences that people in Somerville will enjoy." He further commented on his desire to "build a greater awareness of community access television as a public resource and free speech outlet." Nelson's hope is that Somerville residents will use the SCATV facilities and resources to create and develop their own ideas and programs.

Film director Douglas Sirk said, "To produce films is to gamble." Indeed, there are no real guidelines on how to visually create a story that will inspire its audience, spark conversation or ignite change, but for Somerville residents, the time has come to pick up a camera and gamble conceptually.

For submission detals go to: http://somervilleopencinema.bl ogspot.com/. The submission deadline is April 5.

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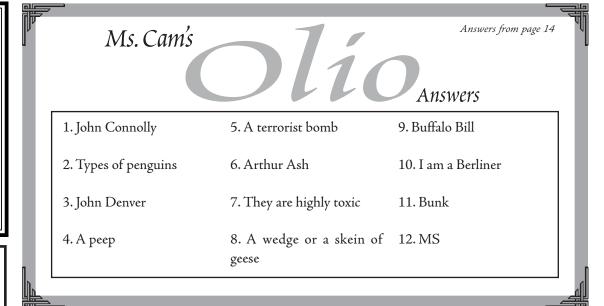
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SCAT Program Schedule for the Week

Wednesda	ny, March 28	5:30pm	Cooking w/ Georgia & Dez	12:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority	12:00noon	Democracy Now!
12:00am	Free Speech TV	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV	1:00pm (LIVE)	Bongoman	1:00pm	Ablevision
6:00am	Flip Side	7:00pm (LIVE)	Tele Magazine	2:00pm	SCATV Special	1:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority
6:30am	The Struggle	7:30pm	Nicole Show	3:00pm	Portraits of Somerville	2:00pm	Somerville Rocks
7:00am	Baby Boomers	8:00pm (LIVE)	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou	3:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	3:00pm	Robyn & Max Exercise
8:00am	Democracy Now!	9:30pm	Physician Focus	4:00pm	Most Interesting Place	3:30pm	Esoteric Science
9:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	10:00pm	Somerville Rocks	4:30pm	Back In The Day	4:00pm	Thom Hartmann Show
10:00am	Abugida TV	10:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	5:00pm	Culture Club
11:00am	Somerville News Reading	Friday, March 30		6:00pm	Tele Magazine	5:30pm	Somerville Back In The Day
12:00noon	Democracy Now!	12:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	SCATV ANNUAL MEETING	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV
1:00pm	Sen. Pat Jehlen' Bread & Roses	6:00am	Live Response	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	7:00pm	Discover The Law
2:00pm	Back in The Day	7:00am	Culture Club	10:00pm	Wrestling Talk	7:30pm	The Commonwealth Report
2:30pm	Life Matters	7:30am	Talk About Somerville	11:00pm	GAY TV	8:00pm	Right Here, Right Now
3:00pm (LI\	VE) Medical Tutor	8:00am	Democracy Now!	Sunday, April 1		8:30pm	Steve Katsos Show
3:30pm	Inside Talk	9:00am	The Truth About Drugs	12:00am	Free Speech TV	9:00pm	Dedilhando A Saudade
4:00pm	Thom Hartman show	9:30am	Creating Cooperative Kids	6:00am	Show de Fe	10:00pm	Bate Papo con Shirley
4:30pm	Healthy Hypnosis	10:30am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	7:00am	Vida Na TV	11:00pm	Visual Radio
5:30pm	Somerville Housing	11:30am	Back In The Day	8:00am	Eckankar	•	Visual Radio
6:00pm	Al Jazeera	12:00noon	Democracy Now!	8:30am	Healer in Every Home	Tuesday, April 3 12:00am	Free Speech TV
7:00pm (LI\	VE) Chita Tande	1:00pm	en. Pat Jehlen' Bread & Roses	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	6:00am	•
8:00pm (LI\	VE) Somerville Pundits	2:00pm	Somerville Housing	10:00am	Christian Assembly Tabernacle		Emerging Drug Trends Perils For Pedestrians
8:30pm	Culture Club	2:30pm	Neighborhood Cookin W/ Candy	11:00am	International Church of God	7:00pm	
9:00pm	Somerville Rocks	3:00pm	Brunch w/ Senator Sanders	11:30am	The Commonwealth Report	7:30am	The Struggle
9:30pm	Shrink Rap	3:30pm	Somerville Rocks	12noon	Somerville Housing Auth.	8:00am	Democracy Now!
10:00pm	The Smoki Dick Show	4:00pm	Thom Hartmann Show	1:00pm	Waltham Philharmonic Orch.	9:00am	Somerville News Reading
11:00pm	The Garage	4:30pm	Art@SCATV	2:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	10:00am	Tele Kreyol
11:30pm	Art @ SCATV	5:00pm	SCATV Promo's	3:30pm	Rompendo em Fe	11:00am	Congressional Report w/Capuano
Thursday,	March 29	7:00pm	Real Estate Answer Show	4:00pm	Dedilhando A Saudade	12:00noon	Democracy Now!
12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:30pm	Adventures of Scuba Jack	5:00pm	Ethiopian Satelite TV	1:00pm	The Commonwealth Report
6:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	8:00pm	Al Jazeera TV	6:00pm	Abugida TV	1:30pm	Somerville Housing
7:00am	Discovering Justice	9:00pm	The Garage	7:00pm	African TV Network	3:00pm	Groundwork Somerville
7:30am	Perils For Pedestrians	9:30pm	Bandwidth TV	8:00pm	Tele Magazine	3:30pm	Active Aging
8:00am	Democracy Now!	10:00pm	Jeff TV	9:00pm	Watch This	4:00pm	Thom Hartmann Show
9:00am	Sen. Pat Jehlen' Bread & Roses	11:00pm	Visual Radio	9:30pm	Grill Dog	5:00pm (LIVE)	Poet to Poet
10:00am	Active Aging	Saturday, March	31	10:00pm	SCATV	5:30pm	Jeff Jam
10:30am	Jeff Jam	12:00am	Free Speech TV	11:00pm	Undercover TV	6:00pm	Al Jazeera
11:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	6:00am	Arabic Hour	Monday, April 2	2	7:00pm	Art @ SCAT
12:00noon	Democracy Now!	7:00am	SCATV Promos	12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:30pm (LIVE)	Greater Somerville W/ Joe Lynch
1:00pm	African TV Network	8:00am	The Struggle	6:00am	Congressional Report w/Capuano	8:00pm (LIVE)	Dead Air Live Show
2:00pm	Baby Boomers: The Sandwich Generation	8:30am	Animal Agenda	7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	9:00pm	Somerville Biking News
3:00pm	Somerville: Back in the Day	9:00am	Festival Kreyol	8:00am	Democracy Now!	9:30pm	Perils For Pedestrians
3:30pm	Art@SCATV	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	9:00am	GAY TV	10:00pm	Animal Agenda
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9:00am: (15)	Our Schools, Our City
12:00pm: (13/16)	Somerville Gives Back
12:00pm: (15)	6th, 7th & 8th Grade Soccer Championship
12:15pm: (13/16)	Government Affairs Breakfast: MassDOT - Richard Davey
1:15pm: (13/16)	Voices of Somerville
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2:15pm: (13/16)	Memorial Day Fundraiser at SHS
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12:00am: (13/16)	Somerville Gives Back
12:00am: (15)	6th, 7th & 8th Grade Soccer Championship
12:15am: (13/16)	Government Affairs Breakfast: MassDOT - Richard Davey
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2:15pm: (13/16)	Memorial Day Fundraiser at SHS
7:00pm: (13/16)	Somerville Gives Back

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7:15pm: (13/16)	Government Affairs Breakfast: MassDOT - Richard Davey
8:15pm: (13/16)	Voices of Somerville
8:45pm: (13/16)	Congressional Update
8:50pm: (15) Ca	ndidate Search for SHS Headmaster
9:15pm: (13/16)	Memorial Day Fundraiser at SHS
Sunday, April 1	
12:00am: (13/16)	Somerville Gives Back
12:00am: (15)	6th, 7th & 8th Grade Soccer Championship
12:15am: (13/16)	Government Affairs Breakfast: MassDOT - Richard Davey
1:15am: (13/16)	Voices of Somerville
1:45am: (13/16)	Congressional Update
1:50am: (15) Ca	indidate Search for SHS Headmaster
2:15am: (13/16)	Memorial Day Fundraiser at SHS
12:00pm: (13/16)	Senior Circuit
12:00pm: (15)	WSNS Talent Show at Tufts
12:30pm: (13/16)	Sit & Be Fit - All American Workout
12:45pm: (15)	SHS Hockey Highlights 2011-12
12:55pm: (15)	Candidate Search for Next Wave Principal
1:00pm: (13/16)	The Mayor's Report
1:30pm: (13/16) V	Vomen's History Month Celebration
1:45pm: (15) C	andidate Search for WHCS Principal
2:15pm: (13/16)	Greek Independence Day
7:00pm: (13/16)	Senior Circuit
7:00pm: (15)	WSNS Talent Show at Tufts
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7:45pm: (15)	SHS Hockey Highlights 2011-12
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8:45pm: (15) C	andidate Search for WHCS Principal
9:15pm: (13/16)	Greek Independence Day
Monday, April 2	
12:00am: (13/16)	Senior Circuit
12:00am: (15)	WSNS Talent Show at Tufts
12:30am: (13/16)	Sit & Be Fit - All American Workout
12:45am: (15)	SHS Hockey Highlights 2011-12
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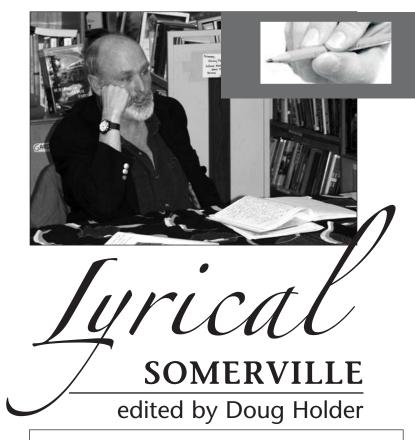
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2:00am: (15)	WSNS Talent Show at Tufts
2:30am: (13/16)	Sit & Be Fit - All American Workout
2:45am: (15)	SHS Hockey Highlights 2011-12
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SHS Hockey Highlights 2011-12 6th, 7th & 8th Grade Soccer 9:00am: (13/16)Greek Independence Day Celebration SHS Hockey Highlights 2011-12 9:00am: (15) 11:30am: (15) Our Schools, Our City 12:00pm: (13/16) Senior Circuit Candidate Search for 12:00pm: (15) Next Wave Principal 12:30pm: (13/16) Sit & Be Fit - All American Workout 12:45pm: (15) Kid Stuff 1:00pm: (13/16) Congressional Update 1:15pm: (15) Educational Forum at Argenziano 1:30pm: (13/16) Somerville Gives Back 7:00pm: (13/16) Senior Circuit 7:00pm: (15) WSNS Talent Show at Tufts 7:30pm: (13/16) Sit & Be Fit - All American Workout 8:00pm: (13/16) Voices of Somerville 8:30pm: (13/16) School Committee Meeting -REPLAY OF 4/2/12 Highlander Forum 8:30pm: (15) 9:00pm: (15) Candidate Search for Healey Principal 12:00am: (13/16) Senior Circuit WSNS Talent Show at Tufts 12:00am: (15) 12:30am: (13/16) Sit & Be Fit - All American Workout 1:00am: (13/16) Somerville Gives Back 1:30am: (15) Highlander Forum Voices of Somerville 1:15am: (13/16)

1:45am: (13/16) Women's History Month Celebration 2:00am: (15) Candidate Search for Healey Principal





B.Z. Niditch is a well-known poet in the small press. He dedicates his poem "No April Blues" to poet Ed Galing, who at 95 is still publishing his work in a variety of literary journals. The poem reeks with jazz... and I dig it.

NO APRIL BLUES

For Ed Galing

You carried me

and your sax

down five flights

of a fire escape

in a tenement

when I was a child

took me to hear

Ella Fitzgerald

and Armstrong

in the Village

up town

to a jam session

contending with a kid

with a heart murmur

through snowy streets

hearing beautiful

foreign tongues

and people reading

newspaper print

from right to left

causing us to stop

the music

at the Savoy

you rattle my first song

with me at the piano.

- B.Z. Niditch

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

THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Somerville Bagel Bard/Poet Linda Larson Nominated for St. **Botolph Emerging Artist Award**

For a number of years I have nominated poets and writers for The St. Botolph Emerging Artist Award. This award presented by the St. Botolph Club in the Back Bay of Boston is given to talented, emerging artists, or artists who have not received wide spread acclaim as of yet. This year I have nominated Ibbetson Street Press poet Linda Larson. We have published a fine collection of her poetry, and she has been in the magazine Ibbetson Street a number of times. She has survived many hardships and has become a superb poet...

The Emerging Artists Selection Process

Nominations are solicited in January from recognized professionals in the cultural community and St. Botolph Club Members, as well as from former Emerging Artists recipients in the fields of music, literature, and the visual arts. A letter of recommendation by the nominator is submitted on behalf of the candidate, who provides a writing sample, visual images, or performance recordings, along with a letter of intent and need. These materials are reviewed by three juries comprised of Board and Club members. From about 150 candidates, approximately fifteen are selected annually for individual awards of \$2,500. These awards are announced in June



Linda Larson was born and educated in the Midwest and spent childhood vacations and more than a decade of her adult life in Madison County, Mississippi. While in Mississippi, she worked as a feature writer for The Capitol Reporter and The Jackson Advocate. Larson relocated to the Boston/ Cambridge area where she has lived and worked for the past twenty years.

For five years she served as editor of and contrib-



utor to Spare Change News, a homeless newspaper based in Cambridge.

Over the years Larson has struggled with mental illness, homelessness and alcohol addiction.

She has been recognized by both houses of the Massachusetts Legislature for her advocacy work on behalf of people with mental illnesses.

As Larson's life has become more manageable, she has been able to realize her long-term goal in putting together a collection of poetry, Washing the Stones, published by Ibbetson Press, August, 2007. These poems go a long way towards recapturing her promise as a graduate of the Johns Hopkins University Writing Seminars in the Seventies and as a teaching fellow in the creative writing doctoral program at the University of Southern Mississippi.

A (Rose) budding hoarder **CONT. FROM PG 9**

Honeymooners are gathering dust. Here are some of my other prized "collectibles." Two original Beatles 45's of I Want To Hold Your Hand, an old Tonka truck, a Mattel Fanner Fifty cowboy pistol, an iron Squirrel nutcracker that my parents got as a wedding gift, an old Nintendo game, a Honeymooners lunchbox, autographed pictures of Paul McCartney, Jackie Gleason, Bruno Sammartino, and

Jimmy Piersall.

Maybe it's time to launch DelPonte and Sons, Antique Dealers. We are running out of space! We are what is known as picked up an old heavy wrought iron floor lamp that someone had put on the curb.

I enjoy doing silly shows on Somerville Cable, but I do not want to end up on an episode of Hoarders. On Sunday I took the

gang to the Flea market at the armory. I was proud of myself because I only spend two dollars on a pair of sunglasses for my son.

"pickers." Just this morning I 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.

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Somerville



2 Bedrooms ~ 1 Bath Ten Hills area, steps to Shore Dr. Eat-in-kitchen, hardwood floors, w/d in basement. Easy access to RT 93/walk to public trans. Available Now! \$1,550

Somerville



Commercial Rental 5,000 sf. Built to suit. Minimum 3yr lease. Triple net lease. Easy access to Boston.

Available Now! \$2,000

Arlington



1 Bedroom ~ 1 Bath Newly painted basement apartment. Laminated floors, microwave, heat included. On street parking. Available Now! \$1,200

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71353759 \$399,000. Two Family, 11 rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Updated roof and heating unit. All points highways, minutes to Boston.

North Reading



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Somerville



71339245 \$529,000. Condo, Teele sq area. 6 rooms, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, gas fireplace. Open floor plan, central a/c. 2 car under assigned park-

Somerville



71347792 \$1,250,000. Davis Square area, 4 family, 4/6, 4/6. Great for condo conversion. Call Donald Norton for showings 617-623-6600 **ext 11**







