

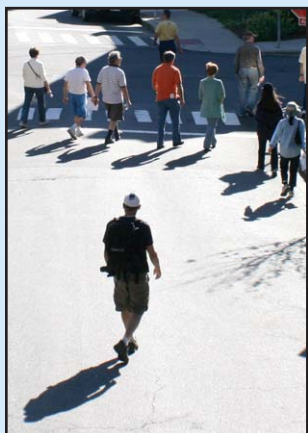


Inside:



All shucking, no jiving

page 3



A walk through history

pages 12-13



For the sake of Cash

page 21

Newstalkp.2
The Week in Crime ...p.4
Commentaryp.8-9
Beacon Hill Roll Call ..p.10
TV Logsp.22
Off The Shelfp.23

Fire on Pearl Street



Photo courtesy of Somerville Fire Dept.

Firefighter Melvin Dominique works inside a charred bedroom on the first floor of 167 Pearl Street, where a fire broke out at a three-unit apartment building on Tuesday. Details on page 3.

Discussion of Union Square Revitalization Plan continues

By Cathleen Twardzik

The discussion about the Union Square Revitalization Plan continued at a recent Housing and Community Development Committee, Committee of the Whole meeting.

The meeting "was a public hearing. Various topics from the public [were] discussed related to the redevelopment plan," said Maryann Houston, Alderman of Ward 2 of Somerville.

The urban renewal plan, which spans 117 acres in the Union Square area, includes seven development blocks which are slated for acquisition by the city after a period of several years. It would implement the development vision.

Interested individuals may view a copy of the plan at <http://www.somervillema.gov/sites/default/files/UnionSquareRevitalizationPlan-DRAFT-2-EDITS-1pm-9-21-2012.pdf>.

Thomas P. Champion, Executive Director of Communications and Cable of the City of Somerville thinks that the plan is a good idea for copious reasons. First,

Continued on page 14

Milk Row Cemetery opens to the public

By Maria A. Cortes

Historic Somerville, Inc., in collaboration with Somerville Historic Preservation Commission, opens the gates of the oldest burial ground in the city, Milk Row Cemetery, for public tours on three Sundays this fall. Although locked most of the time, the cemetery, with its rich historical background, has aroused curiosity among many Somerville residents. That curiosity now gets a chance to be satisfied.

Founded in 1804 by Samuel Tufts, Milk Row Cemetery was originally intended to be a private burial ground for his family members, friends, and neighbors. The vault tombs of Samuel and Timothy Tufts, as well as the first owners of the cemetery, can be seen in the grounds' southwest corner. The cemetery's name can be explained by its location on Milk Row Street, now Somerville Avenue. The street was the primary route for transporting products from the nearby dairy businesses to Charlestown and Boston.

Milk Row cemetery played an important role for Somerville residents during the Civil War, being the city's only burial

Continued on page 3



Photo by Maria A. Cortes

Historic Milk Row Cemetery will be open to the public for tours on three Sundays this fall.

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NEWTALK

This Saturday, the 29th, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m, in Union Square, Blast off! Marshmallow Fluff is out of this world and lighter than air. So for the seventh annual “What the Fluff?” festival we explore Fluff in Space! Fluffernutters were served at the International Space Station (it's true!) and we're bringing that glorious space dust down to earth. What the Fluff? - A Tribute to Union Square Invention - honors the illustrious Fluff creator, Archibald Query, who concocted the gooey sticky spread right here in Union Square in 1917. Local artists, musicians, theatrical performers, inventors, and humorists pay madcap tribute to the creation of this great American foodstuff on two stages. Fluff games and shenanigans will spread the sticky goodness throughout the Union Square. Rick Linnaean, the Massachusetts-born, Fluff-loving astronaut, is sending us some special prizes to give away at our spacey fluff games, and yes, there will be a moon bounce!

This Sunday also is the Tufts Community Day from 11 a.m. to 3p.m. “Education and entertainment for all ages” co-sponsored by the cities of Somerville and Medford. It's the 10th annual event being held on the green at the top of the hill. Parking at 419 Boston Avenue. For more information go to <http://cday.tufts.edu>.

Principal Sophia Carafotes of the Somerville Adult Evening School is still accepting students for the fall semester. She's worked very hard to get classes together that would be of interest to a wide variety of people. Check it out online, register, and pay at www.somerville.k12ma.us/eveningschool.

Also coming up on October 10, 6-8 p.m., the Prospect Hill Academy will be holding a “state of the school address.” The public is invited to the Early Childhood Campus at 15 Webster Avenue behind St. Joseph's church in Union Square.

Continued on page 8

TheSomervilleNews.com Comments of the Week

Response to *Unlimited liquor licenses nixed*

Ray Spitzer says:

I am glad that MA made that decision. Less alcohol around = fewer alcoholics and obnoxious drunks on the streets. Pretty basic math.

Ron Newman says:

I'm not glad. Each city should be able to make this decision on its own. There is no reason for the state to be involved in such local issues.

CityShouldDecide says:

I agree with Ron.

@Ray: I understand your concern about alcoholics but I don't think the number of restaurants that serve alcohol directly reflect the number of alcoholics. The simple math that we as a city need to be concerned about is that fewer liquor licenses mean fewer businesses setting up Somerville. Many restaurants have a hard time turning a profit without alcohol sales. I wish it weren't true (I don't drink), but it is.

Meme says:

@ Ray. Sorry I missed the part where there is now less alcohol available. Someone that wanted a drink before will not be able to find a place to get it with this law?

I'm not glad. Each individual should be able to make this decision on its own. There is no reason for the state to be involved in such personal issues.

A Moore says:

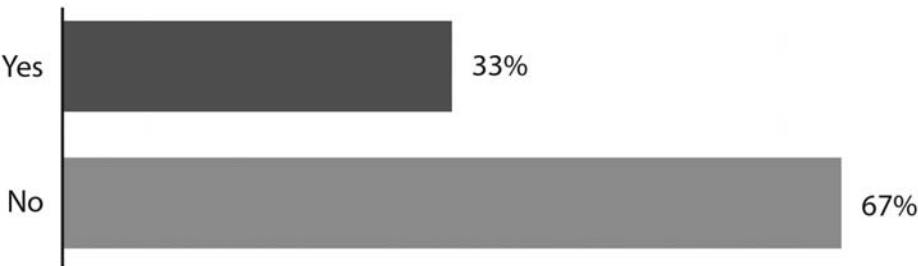
Personally I do not drink but I think a lot of people would like to have something with their meals. I think they should all be able to serve whatever goes with the meal. I am not talking bar restaurant place. Just the same as if someone had say a coke with their meal. I think the thing is way over government controlled anyway. But certainly someone wanting some red wine with their pasta should not be a big deal unless they let them consume gallons of it at the table. Somebody wants a beer with their pizza they go to the place that has beer. Probably never happen anyway. Maybe some kind of meal license?

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 state legislators should be allowed to determine how many liquor licenses the city can have?. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleNews.com.

Should State Legislators be allowed to determine how many liquor licenses the city can have?



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No action on Armory request

By Donald Norton

What looked like a possible resolution and vote this past week before the ZBA on the fate of the Armory's request for easing of restrictions on hours of operation and other issues was not to be.

The ZBA board heard a request by Alderman Jack Connolly on behalf of Sean O'Donovan and Tom Taylor to delay the vote and have the neighbors and the Arts at the Armory go back and hopefully come up with some agreement.

The Zoning Board of Appeals voted to delay the vote until October 17.

One source at the hearing said it would almost be a miracle if the Arts at the Armory didn't go out of business, as the whole



The Zoning Board of Appeals ruled that the matter of easing restrictions for the Armory would be taken up again on October 17.

process has been stretched out so long.

The large turnout at the VNA on Lowell Street where the board met showed that disappointment was felt on both sides.

The Somerville Fire Department responded at 9:46 a.m. on Tuesday to a reported building fire at 167 Pearl Street. This is an occupied three-unit apartment building.

Upon arrival, firefighters found a fire in the rear of the first floor apartment with a heavy smoke condition. The tenant in the first floor apartment where the fire originated suffered from smoke inhalation and was transported to the hospital by Cataldo Ambulance. Her injuries do not appear serious at this time.

Four engines, two ladders, the Rescue and a deputy chief responded to the fire. The blaze was quickly contained to the rear of the structure mostly in the first floor with slight spread to the second floor. Smoke damage occurred throughout all floors of the building.



Somerville firefighters work to control the house fire.

Two first floor residents and five third floor residents have been displaced. The second floor was vacant. The building cannot be occupied at this time. Somerville firefighters also found and removed a cat from the third floor apartment. The cat was treated for smoke inhalation on the scene by firefighters using a special oxygen mask designed for pets. The an-

imal control officer responded and placed the cat in a carrier and turned the cat over to the building owner.

The fire is under investigation by the Somerville Fire Department, Fire Investigation Unit. At this time in the initial investigation the fire does not appear suspicious.

— Deputy Fire Chief Charles Breen

Milk Row Cemetery opens to the public CONT. FROM PG 1

ground. In 1863, with the help of citizens, the Civil War Soldiers Monument was erected in the cemetery. It is believed to be one of the first monuments in the country honoring fallen Civil War soldiers. The names of

sixty-eight Somerville volunteers who died in the Civil War are inscribed on the sides of this marble memorial.

In order to introduce this unique historical site to Somerville residents, Historic

Somerville organized costumed tours at the Milk Row Cemetery. One of its members, Emma Forest of Somerville, dressed as a 19th century woman and impersonating a member of the Somerville Improvement Soci-

ety (that took control over the cemetery in 1892), was guiding a tour last Sunday. The City welcomes interested individuals to become volunteers to participate in historic performances, lectures and other events in order

to educate Somerville residents of their city's historical heritage.

Milk Row Cemetery will be also open on October 21 for The Ghost of Somerville event and on November 12 for the Veteran's Day Lecture.



Emma Forest, a volunteer with Historic Somerville, guides a tour at the Milk Row Cemetery.

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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Argument leads to knifing attack

Police responded to numerous reports of a fight occurring at the intersection of Pearl and Walnut Streets on Thursday afternoon. Alerts were given that weapons such as a baseball bat and a knife were involved in the altercation.

As officers arrived on the scene they were approached by two males, both of which had blood on their clothing, while one of them was bleeding from his

hands. The two were then detained on the spot and questioned.

The man with the hand wounds was identified as Moises Rodriguez, 19, of Malden. The other individual was identified as a juvenile, age 17, of Medford.

Police called for an ambulance because of the severity of the wounds on Rodriguez. An ambulance was also called for the alleged victim of the stabbing

which had taken place at 109 Gilman St.

A witness who claimed to have observed the entire event came forward and identified the two individuals as the ones involved in the fight in which the alleged victim was stabbed.

Upon questioning, Rodriguez reportedly told police that he and his companion went to the Mystic Housing Development to visit Ro-

driguez's girlfriend, who was not at home. After leaving that location, Rodriguez said that he was confronted by the alleged victim and asked if he had a problem. A fight soon broke out between the three individuals, and Rodriguez reportedly said that the stabbing victim pulled out a baseball bat and struck Rodriguez on the arm, at which time Rodriguez said he struck back at the man

with a knife.

A bloodied knife was found in the bushes near the area where the two suspects were initially spotted by police.

Rodriguez's wounds were treated on the spot by EMT personnel and the two suspects were then placed under arrest, charged with assault and battery with a dangerous weapon and armed assault to murder.

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Marc Russell, 31, of 2 Mt. Vernon St., September 18, 6:30 a.m., arrested at Broadway on a warrant charge of unarmed robbery.

Carl Barnhill, 44, of 23 Windsor Rd., September 18, 12:35 p.m., arrested at 1364 Broadway on charges of possession of a class A drug and resisting arrest, and on a warrant charge of larceny over \$250.

Jillian Latham, 29, of 8 Sibley St., Gloucester, September 18, 3:35 p.m., arrested at 15 Weston Ave. on warrant charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs, possession of a class E drug, possession of a class C drug, child under 6 without a car seat, and registration not in possession.

Michael Manning, 44, of 4039 Washington St., Roslindale, September 19, 9:29 a.m., arrested at Newton St. on warrant charges of use of a motor vehicle without authority, destruction of property over \$250, possession of a burglarious instrument, larceny over \$250, larceny under \$250, trespassing, failure to wear a seat-belt, operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, and concealing a motor vehicle thief.

Marcus Robinson, 22, of 392 Columbia Rd., Dorchester, September 19, 5:32 p.m., arrested at 84 Washington St. on charges of disorderly conduct and violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon.

Nicole Papa, 18, of 16 Broadway, September 19, 9:41 p.m., arrested at home on a charge of assault and battery.

James Papa, 44, of 16 Broad-

way, September 19, 10:13 p.m., arrested at home on a charge of assault and battery and on warrant charges of negligent operation of a motor vehicle, operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs third offense, and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

John Igo, 50, of 252 Powder House Blvd., September 20, 12:31 p.m., arrested at 175 Fellsway on a charge of trespassing.

A juvenile, September 20, 3:11 p.m., arrested at Pearl St. on charges of armed assault to murder and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Moises Rodriguez, 19, of 380 Ferry St., Malden, September 20, 3:11 p.m., arrested at Pearl St. on charges of armed assault to murder and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Diego Morales, 32, September 20, 5:20 p.m., arrested at 299 Broadway on charges of disorderly conduct and violation of city ordinance open container.

John Ahern, 60, of 20 Everett Ave., September 20, 7:37 p.m., arrested at home on a warrant charge of statutory rape of a child.

Quinn McLean, 30, of 244 Kennedy Dr., Malden, September 21, 1:29 p.m., arrested at 14 Broadway on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license and possession of a class B drug.

Stephen Marcelin, 18, of 17 Cedar St., Cambridge, September 21, 5:59 p.m., arrested at 1040 Broadway on warrant charges of unregistered motor vehicle and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Aaron McGee, 21, of 15 Glenwood Rd., September 21, 7:32 p.m., arrested at 1366 Broadway on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, threat to commit a crime, and resisting arrest.

Louis Walker, 37, of 444 Harrison Ave., Boston, September 21, 8:30 p.m., arrested at 33 Memorial Rd. on warrant charges of abuse prevention order violation, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, assault and battery, and failure to dim headlights.

Kevin Newton, 50, of 240 Albany St., Cambridge, September 22, 1:45 p.m., arrested at 243 Elm St. on charges of abuse violation of city ordinance open container, resisting arrest, and shoplifting by asportation.

Daniel Joseph, 21, of 34 Willow St., Cambridge, September 23, 3:24 a.m., arrested at 297 Medford St. on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Evanildo Morte, 40, of 705 Chelmsford St., Lowell, September 23, 5:18 p.m., arrested at 30 Washington St. on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Joseburg Oliveira, 31, of 49 Wicklow St., Malden, September 23, 5:56 p.m., arrested at 30 Washington St. on charges of disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Richard Medeiros, 33, of 300 Parkview Ave., Lowell, September 23, 5:41 p.m., arrested at 78 Marshall St. on a charge of assault and battery.

Incidents:

Theft:

September 18, 2:26 p.m., police reported a theft at Prichard Ave.

September 18, 3:08 p.m., po-

lice reported a theft at Ames St.

September 18, 4:34 p.m., police reported a theft at Beacon St.

September 19, 5:22 p.m., police reported a theft at Lexington Pkwy.

September 21, 12:50 p.m., police reported a theft at Perkins St.

September 21, 4:12 p.m., police reported a theft at 180 Somerville Ave.

September 22, 12:42 p.m., police reported a theft at Ten Hills Rd.

September 22, 1:35 p.m., police reported a theft at Washington St.

September 22, 1:45 p.m., police reported a theft at 243 Elm St.

September 23, 1:25 a.m., police reported a theft at Powder House Blvd.

September 23, 7:30 p.m., police reported a theft at 14 McGrath Hwy.

September 24, 10:44 a.m., police reported a theft at Washington St.

September 24, 2:47 p.m., police reported a theft at Pinckney St.

Robbery:

September 24, 3:38 a.m., police reported a robbery at Cross St.

Breaking & Entering:

September 18, 11:18 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Fellsway W.

September 19, 9:06 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Park St.

September 19, 5:32 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Hall Ave.

September 21, 9:13 a.m., police reported a breaking & en-

tering at 40 Joy St.

September 22, 9:42 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Pearl St.

September 22, 7:44 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Avon St.

September 22, 9:42 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Pearson Ave.

Vehicle Theft:

September 19, 12:16 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Russell St.

September 21, 10:14 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Myrtle St.

September 23, 10:06 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Elm St.

September 24, 4:07 a.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Cross St.

Assault:

September 19, 7:26 a.m., police reported an assault at Highland Ave.

September 19, 10:13 p.m., police reported an assault at Broadway.

September 20, 9:41 a.m., police reported an assault at 91 Highland Ave.

September 20, 3:11 p.m., police reported an assault at Pearl St.

September 21, 7:32 p.m., police reported an assault at Broadway.

September 23, 12:01 a.m., police reported an assault at Medford St.

September 23, 5:41 p.m., police reported an assault at Marshall St.

Drug Violation:

September 18, 12:35 p.m., police reported a drug violation at 1364 Broadway.

Kids learn the joys of fresh, locally grown foods

Somerville Public schools served locally grown food last week to the kids at school.

Somerville Public Schools students were invited to shuck corn at breakfast on Thursday, September 20, with the Somerville Public Schools Food and Nutrition Services department, Groundwork Somerville and UMass Extension.

This event took place supporting Somerville's Shape Up Somerville initiative.

Farm fresh corn on the cob from Lanni Orchards was served at lunch and everyone agreed that there's nothing else better.



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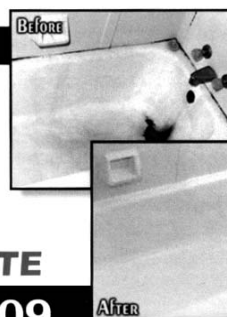
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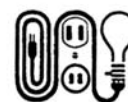
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Somerville Museum undergoes major repair

By Barbara Mangum

If you drive by the Somerville Museum at One Westwood Road, you may not recognize her. She is hidden by scaffolding and shrouded in black netting to catch the debris from the roof. After four years of anticipation and fundraising, the museum has begun to replace its original slate roof, which is more than 85 years old.

"With proper roof support, the new slate should last more than 75 years," stated the contractor, Garret Laws of Copper and Slate Co., Inc. Laws, a specialist in the repair and replacement of original slate roofs is working with Morse Construction, Inc., a firm noted for fine detailing in wood. Morse is repairing and replacing damaged sections of the original wooden gutters in keeping with the historic nature of the 1925 building, which is located in the Westwood Historic District of Somerville. Both Morse and Laws are longtime residents of Somerville. The project's cost has risen from \$176,000 to \$226,000, requiring the Museum to raise \$50,000 in new funds.

The work of taking care of the building has always presented the museum with a challenge. The Somerville Historical Society, the original name of the organization, began building the structure as a place to meet and hold lectures in 1925. Construction progressed well until

the Great Depression hit in 1929. It took until 1935 to finish the building.

Being a private local art and history museum, run by volunteers and supported primarily by donations from its members, the organization has no endowment for building repairs or employee salaries. Volunteers of exceptional commitment have kept the Museum open and the building in shape over its history. That is until the extensive patching of the slate roof and gutters just would not hold anymore, and the museum interior was threatened by the possibility of continuous leaks.

The first capital funding opportunity came in 2008, when the museum received a matching grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund (MCFF) for \$104,500 to undertake the replacement of the roof and repair of the deteriorating windows and trim. Unfortunately, this coincided with the Great Recession, making raising the matching funds difficult. Even so, by December 2011, approximately \$50,000 had been raised. With a major deadline of February 14, 2012 looming, a direct appeal to the members of the Somerville public, charitable organizations, foundations, and businesses raised the additional \$54,500 required for the match. The donations came from over 400 individuals and organizations, who gave an average of \$100 each. The median amount



The Somerville Museum is undergoing some much-needed structural repair.

of an individual donation was an unprecedented \$50, showing great community support for the museum.

Once replacement of the original slates began, it became evident that the roof required stiffening to keep the new slates from flexing. This and other smaller change orders such as re-pointing the masonry at the roofline, adding a chimney cap, and undertaking more painting of trim have raised the project cost by \$50,000.

If you would like to contribute to the care and keeping of the Somerville Museum, you can do so online at <http://www.somervillemuseumbuildingfund.org> or you may write a check out to the Somerville Museum Building Fund and send it to: Evelyn Battinelli, Somerville Museum, One Westwood Rd, Somerville, MA 02143. All donations are tax-deductible as charitable contributions to a 501c3 organization.

The museum wishes to acknowledge financial assistance from the Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund, the Massachusetts Historical Commission and the 430+ individuals, organizations, and businesses whose contributions have made this project possible.

For information about the Somerville Museum and the Building Project contact Barbara Mangum, 617-331-7726, or Evelyn Battinelli, 617-666-9810.

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COMMENTARY

TALES OF SOMERVILLE

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Is the state legislature power-drunk?

The View From Prospect Hill



We marvel at the audacity of those who would lead us by our hands, regarding us as lost and wayward children, unable to think for ourselves and behave responsibly.

The culture of the Nanny State has proliferated to the point of sheer absurdity in these modern times. Big Brother is not only watching you, he

is clocking your rate of speed, checking your credit rating, and, above all, regulating every possible civil code and ordinance that he can lay his well oiled hands on.

Dare we to muster the gump-tion and back-sass the big brass, we might get our wrists slapped. One way or another.

We think it's time for our state

legislators to back off and allow us to be the self-determined, responsible adults we know ourselves to be.

Allowing municipalities to regulate the issuance of liquor licenses within their own communities should be a no-brainer. It should, in fact, be considered a fundamental right.

Who can better determine

what is good for a city than the citizens and their elected officials themselves? Why should one city be granted such a privilege while another is forced to go begging for the same consideration?

This is about the economic health of our community, not the making of ourselves into one big frat house party.

We are adults. Wizedened by our experience and sense of responsibility to ourselves and to one another. We promise not to wreck the neighborhood or ourselves in the process of tending to the business of running our own lives.

Come on, Bro. Lighten up and just let it go.

Pleeeeeeeeeeease?

News Talk CONT. FROM PG 2

Big time Happy Birthday to a lot of people here in the 'Ville, but to our Publisher Emeritus Robert Publicover, we admire his courage and fortitude as well as his spirit to have gone through a lot of major operations early this year and to continue his fight. He is surely an inspiration to us all. Happy Birthday Bob and many more.

Also in the 'Ville this week, we have Ida Azzolino, who turns 100 years old this past week. Her family and friends will be celebrating with her this Saturday. Her son-in-law Ross is cooking up a feast for everyone to come and celebrate with Ida.

Another local 'Villen celebrating 100 years (must be in the water?) is Somerville resident Wilber Smith. We hear that President Obama sent a letter of congratulations to Wilbur signed by him and Michelle. We also hear that the elected officials have something real nice planned for Wilbur. Our best to him on his 100th.

Others in the 'Ville and from the 'Ville are Lori Pino, Julie O'Gorman, Frank Ricardo, Pader Acres, Bill Donahaey,

Phyllis Grenier, Jane Doucette, Joann Crosby, and Somerville Police Officer Bob Hickey, along with is older brother Joe as well as his sister Eileen Hickey (big family celebrating going on in that family this week. To everyone else - and it seems like September was the month for a lot of 'Villens - Happy Birthday!

Best of luck to our good friend Paul Acciavatti and his lovely new wife who recently wed this past week. We wish them both many happy years and lots of little Acciavatti's running around soon.

Get well soon shout out to Fred Caruso, who was recently hospitalized this past week. We wish him all the best for a speedy recovery!

Our condolences to Alderman Bill White on the recent passing of his mother. He was certainly devoted to her these past few years. We extend our sympathy to him and his family.

Also passing this week, we extend our condolences to the family of Virginia

Buttafucco, who sadly passed away last week. Virginia was a wonderful person.

Congratulations to the family of Richard Charles Clark on the dedication of his new memorial square located at the intersection of Miller & Sycamores Streets. Richard served during the Korean War era from '51 to '54.

Masonic Open House is Saturday, October 20, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 125 Highland Avenue (rear). The public is invited to tour and ask all the questions you might have. Light refreshments will be served as well.

Tuesday evening, later in October on the 23rd, starting at 6p.m. at the Somerville City Club (across from Holiday Inn), will be the annual meeting and celebration of the Community Action Agency of Somerville (CAAS), Somerville's own anti-poverty agency.

Tzom Kal and L'Shana Tovah to our Jewish friends on this Yom Kippur.

Somerville Community Access Television is starting a 10-session Next Generation Producers afterschool media club for Somerville middle school students. The club will meet on Wednesdays, beginning on October 3, from 3:30 to 5:30 at 90 Union Square. The students will create their own TV projects that may include working in a three-camera TV studio, documentaries about the community, and stop-motion animation. The students get hands-on training in all aspects of production, and their finished projects will be shown on SCATV Channel 3, and posted on-line.

Readings by Boston area contributors to the Wising Up Press anthologies will take place Saturday, Sept. 29, 2-5 p.m., at the Center for the Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Avenue, Somerville 02143. Wising Up Press is dedicated to exploring the challenges and rewards of living up close and personal with pluralism in social, family, religious and civic life, or, finding the "we" in "them." 19 contributors will read from their stories in "Illness & Grace" and other anthologies. Free, for more information visit www.universaltable.org.

COMMENTARY

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

SomerPromise: Working together to give our children the best possible start



By Joseph A. Curtatone

Two weeks ago, I wrote in this space about some of the exciting and innovative programs our schools have undertaken to improve life opportunities and out-

comes for Somerville's young people. I also promised that I would devote a future column to SomerPromise, a new initiative to harness and coordinate all of our local programs and resources - both public and private - to give our kids the best possible start toward a healthy and successful life.

As is usually the case for major public-private initiatives, the idea behind SomerPromise is simple, but the implementation will be complex and time-consuming. For one thing, the number of partners in the venture is large and growing: a partial list includes the Somerville Public Schools (especially the Superin-

tendent's Office, the Healey School staff, the Family Learning Collaborative, the Parent/Child Home Program, and the Somerville High School Mediation program); the Boys and Girls Clubs of Middlesex County; the Community Action Agency of Somerville (including Project HeadStart); The Welcome Project; Tufts University; the Somerville Housing Authority; the Cambridge Health Alliance; Raising a Reader; the YMCA; the Elizabeth Peabody House; the Mystic Learning Center; Somerville Cares About Prevention; Teen Empowerment, the Somerville Public Library and the City's

Recreation Department. The full list is even longer (I apologize to the folks I missed), but you get the idea.

What do these groups have in common? All of them have the capacity to make a positive difference in the lives of Somerville's at-risk and disadvantaged youth. As a result, that means that they also have the capacity to make a positive difference in the lives of every Somerville resident. After all, when more of our at-risk students get a good start in life, that change improves the learning environment and the pace of achievement for all our students. It improves the safety of our

streets. It improves and strengthens our local economy.

That is why the city and its many partners are working together to emulate the coordination and the results achieved in the world-famous Harlem Children's Zone: we want to coordinate the way we reach out to, and support, at-risk youth - and ultimately, all Somerville youth - and to measure the outcomes so that we know what works and what doesn't. We want to introduce the same data-driven approach that we've applied in municipal government (with programs like SomerStat and 311) to enhancing opportunities and support

Continued on page 19

Magoun Square at a crossroads

Part 1: The road thus far



By William C. Shelton

In cities built before the automobile, neighborhoods developed around commercial centers. So an urban dweller needed to walk no more than ten or fifteen minutes to purchase the necessities of daily living.

The pleasant, human-scaled

environment nourished amiable encounters among neighbors, providing opportunities to maintain the bonds of community around food, drink, entertainment, worship and associations.

Looking at Magoun Square's shuttered storefronts and transient enterprises, one might not guess that in past years it was one of Somerville's most vibrant neighborhood centers.

The city has invested \$2.5 million to provide an infrastructural foundation for reanimating the Square's vitality. And neighborhood activists have worked

toward that goal for 13 years.

Accurately diagnosing the tough challenges they face and crafting effective responses requires understanding what the Square was, and how it became what it is.

It's name comes from the son of a Revolutionary War soldier who came here from New Hampshire in 1817 at the age of 24 and got into the dairy business. His farm ultimately extended between what is now Central and Lowell Streets, and Broadway and Vernon Street.

He wed Sarah Ann Adams, daughter of Joseph Adams and

Sarah Tufts, and they spent their married life in the house that her parents had built in 1783. It still stands at 438 Broadway.

Active in civic life, Magoun served variously as Captain of the militia, Assessor, Justice of the Peace, School Committee member, and cofounder of the Unitarian Society.

Broadway was initially built to transport farm materials and products. In the early 19th Century, Medford Street was constructed because Broadway was too steep for horse teams to negotiate during icy winters.

Until about 1880, what is now the Square was just a dirt crossroads with a livery. And James Patrick Ryan, great grandfather of neighborhood activist Joe Lynch, had immigrated from Ireland in 1858, saved his money working in a Tufts-family brickyard, and had opened a hay and grain store there.

A seemingly bottomless well fed a watering trough near the Medford line and provided relief to thirsty horses that were driven by teamsters hauling cordwood and freight, or by farmers bringing their products to market. Three

Continued on page 15

On The Silly Side by Jimmy Del Ponte

Stephen James House



Here is the third installment of places that no longer exist. I didn't plan on it, but when I did the Woodbridge and Venice stories I also thought of the old Stephen James House. I tossed it out there on the social network, and reeled in some juicy stories about the old function hall/lounge/bowling alley.

The place was on Davenport St. near the Somerville Cambridge line. Many, many Somerville people frequented it during its run. Davenport is the street behind Star Market/Shaws in Porter Square. I personally played in the lounge for a while with one of my bands. You

could hear some pretty good country western music there too. The lounge was known for drawing divorced women and I can tell you there were always lots of well-dressed ladies there. The building is gone and there are apartments and condos there now.

The Stephen James House was a hot spot for weddings and sports banquets. If it was an important event, it was held at the Stephen James. There was a statue of an Indian at the bottom of a stairway (remember?). They had "stage coach" booths as one friend recalls. By the way, my name is James Steven, and one of the most memorable and huge family reunions my mother's side ever had was at the Stephen James House. I have some

great pictures of the event and, sadly, many members are no longer with us. It must have been around 1978 or so.

It was a fan favorite for last call also because it was open until 2 a.m. One guy tells us that his first job was at Stephen James, washing dishes for \$2.10 an hour in 1976. Someone else worked in the kitchen making \$1.10 an hour. My friend Phil, who was a member of the Amazing Sensations group, put on a show there and sold 450 tickets. That may have been an overcrowding situation but it was still...amazing! Somerville High School's class of 1979 had their 5th and 10th reunions there (so we know it was opened until at least 1989).

The prime rib was supposedly pretty

good eating and a lot of people commented on the mashed potatoes also. It was a very popular local place to have weddings. Many of my friends were married there. As a matter of fact, one of my friends actually married the owner's daughter (but the place was closed up by then). Did you ever take your kids to see the Easter Bunny there? Me neither, but I know someone who did. The bowling alley downstairs also had pinball machines. I know that the Alewife Brook Parkway Bowling League had two banquets a year there.

Banquet hall, lounge, bowling alley and dancing school? According to one of my contributors, it was called something like Ester's School

Continued on page 11

Beacon Hill Roll Call



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

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

Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Somerville:



Rep. Denise Provost

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



Rep. Carl Sciortino

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



Rep. Timothy Toomey

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



Sen. Sal DiDomenico

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

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



Sen. Patricia Jehlen

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

This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* examines the percentage of times local senators in 2012 voted with the Senate Democratic leadership on key roll call votes.

Beacon Hill Roll Call uses 135 key votes from the 2012 Senate session as the basis for this report. This includes all roll calls that were not on local issues.

The six senators, all Democrats, who voted with the leadership 100 percent of the time are Sens. Frederick Berry (D-Peabody); Stephen Brewer (D-Barre); Harriette Chandler (D-Worcester); Jennifer Flanagan (D-Leominster); Anthony Petrucci (D-East Boston); and Karen Spilka (D-Ashland).

The senator who voted the lowest percentage of times with the Democratic leadership is Sen. Bob Hedlund (R-Weymouth). He supported the leadership 72.1 percent of the time.

The next three who voted the least with the leadership are not surprisingly the Senate's other three Republicans: Sens. Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester), 73.3 percent; Michael Knapik (R-Westfield), 74.0 percent; and Richard Ross (R-Wrentham), 74.8 percent.

The two Democrats who voted with the leadership the lowest percentage of times are Sens. James Timilty (D-Walpole), 80.9 percent and Barry Finegold (D-Andover), 84.3 percent.

The other 33 Democrats all voted with the leadership more than 90 percent of the time.

Here is how local senators fared in their support of the Democratic leadership on 135 key roll calls.

The percentage next to the senator's name represents the percentage of times the senator supported the Democratic leadership.

The number in parentheses represents the number of times the senator opposed the Democratic leadership.

Some senators voted on all 135 roll call votes. Others missed one or more of the 135 votes. The percentage for each senator is calculated based on the number of roll calls on which he or she voted and does not count the roll calls for which he or she was absent.

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	98.5 % (2)
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	93.2 % (9)

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

READ PROFICIENTLY BY THIRD GRADE (H 4243) - The House and Senate approved and sent to

Gov. Deval Patrick a bill creating an Early Literacy Expert Panel to advise the state's education department on strategies to have all students in the state reading proficiently by the end of third grade.

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

MALE BREAST CANCER (H 4019) - With October just around the corner, Gov. Patrick signed into law a measure designating the third week in October of each year as Male Breast Cancer Awareness Week to raise awareness of the occurrence of breast cancer in men and to encourage regular screenings.

Various committees sealed the fate of several bills by recommending they go to a study committee. With few exceptions, all measures shipped off to a study committee are never actually studied and are essentially defeated. Here are some of the bills given the thumbs down and headed for a study committee.

BAN SHADOWS (H 1169) - Prohibits the construction of any new building that would cast a new shadow on Boston's Charles River Esplanade, Christopher Columbus Park, Commonwealth Avenue Mall, Copley Square Park, Magazine Beach Park or the Back Bay Fens. Supporters say some new construction would cast shadows on many Boston parks and interfere with enjoyment by people of scarce open space while benefiting a few wealthy property owners and developers. Opponents say the proposal is another example of government interference on issues that are often silly.

INSURANCE RECORDS FROM HOLOCAUST (S 416) - Requires all insurance companies to provide the state with their records on all policies that were issued and in effect in Europe between 1920 and 1945. Supporters say many victims of the Nazi regime and their families were never paid insurance claims for various policies they owned because the owners were killed and the families did not have proof of the policy. They note in many cases only the insurance companies still have records of these policies and they should be forced to release the records and either prove payment was already made or be required to pay now.

ELECT THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER (H 1208) - Provides that the state's insurance commissioner be elected rather than appointed by the governor. One of the commissioner's duties is to set auto insurance rates following a series of public hearings. Massachusetts is the only state in the nation that gives the commissioner this power; while other states set their rates by law or by a competitive free market.

CREATE STATE-RUN BANK OF MASSACHUSETTS (H 1192) - Creates a state-run Bank of Massachusetts. Currently, North Dakota is the only state in the nation with a state-owned bank. Supporters say the North Dakota bank has worked well. They argue a Massachusetts state bank would be a partner, not a rival, of local banks. Opponents say this creates another unnecessary government bureaucracy that will unfairly

Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



compete with local private banks. They argue this will hurt these banks by being the only bank in which the state deposits its tax and other revenue.

BANKS MUST CASH STATE AND MUNICIPAL CHECKS (H3601) - Requires all banks and credit unions to cash checks issued by the state, cities and towns even if the customer does not have an account at that institution.

BANKS MUST PAY LATE FEES (H 3126) - Requires a bank to pay the late fees if it neglects to conduct an electronic transfer for a customer who is later charged a late fee by the intended recipient of the transfer.

CAP INTEREST RATE ON CREDIT CARDS (H 271) - Caps the maximum annual percentage rate on credit cards at 18 percent.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

“The August 2012 estimates show 3,229,600 Massachusetts residents were employed and 218,800 were unemployed.” – *Office of Labor and Workforce Development announcing that in August, the state lost 4,800 jobs and the unemployment rate rose from 6.1 percent to 6.3 percent.*

“Main Street businesses ... provide our citizens with full- and part-time jobs, are the core of the local commercial tax base, and form the vibrant center of our community downtowns. They support the local little league and soccer teams, the school fundraising campaigns, the July 4th fireworks and myriad other causes.” – *From a letter to*

Gov. Patrick from eight Massachusetts mayors urging the governor to take steps to force Amazon.com to collect the 6.25 percent state sales tax they are currently exempt from collecting.

“It is clear that there was insufficient quality monitoring, reporting and investigating on the part of supervisors and managers surrounding the former Department of Public Health drug lab in Jamaica Plain, and ultimately, as commissioner, the buck stops with me.” – *Former Department of Public Health Commissioner John Auerbach on his resignation following the shutdown of the state drug lab where chemist Annie Dookhan is accused of mishandling drug samples and putting in question an estimated 34,000 drug conviction cases.*

“His thoughtfulness, compassion and commitment to promoting the health of Massachusetts have made the Commonwealth a healthier place for all of our residents.” – *Harold Cox, Associate Dean at Boston University School of Public Health, reacting to Auerbach's resignation.*

“If you ask people how they are going to manage when they are older, most people say the state is going to take care of me. The state can't afford to do that.” – *Sen. Harriette Chandler (D-Worcester) on her proposed legislation that sets new regulations and added consumer protections on long-term care insurance.*

HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION?
Beacon Hill Roll Call tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of

the Legislature's job and that a lot of important work is done outside of the House and Senate chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that have been filed. They note that the infrequency and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late night sessions and a mad rush to act on dozens of bills in the days immediately preceding the end of an annual session.

During the week of September 17-21, the House met for a total of 28 minutes while the Senate met for a total of 38 minutes.

Mon. September 17	House 11:02 a.m. to 11:18 a.m. Senate 11:04 a.m. to 11:19 a.m.
Tues. September 18	No House session No Senate session
Wed. September 19	No House session No Senate session
Thurs. September 20	House 11:02 a.m. to 11:14 a.m. Senate 11:05 a.m. to 11:28 a.m.
Fri. September 21	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

Stephen James House CONT. FROM PG 9

of Dance. My friends Tom and Mary Ann got married there and tell me that in some of their wedding pictures there is a bull with horns. She thought they should have removed it for the wedding and that's no bull. The bride saved the menu and the family style roast beef dinner cost a whopping \$10.95 per person. The wedding package included the cake, pictures, and the

first night's stay at a hotel. P.S. they are still happily married!
Star Market also had a lot of Christmas parties at the Stephen James. Here's a blast from the past: My friend worked at Zayre in Cambridge and had his Christmas party there, also with hypnotist Sam Levine as the entertainment.
I don't think there is anyone in Somerville or Cambridge over the age

of 40 who didn't go to a banquet, wedding reception, or some kind of function at the Stephen James House. As I think back now, I can't remember if the family reunion we had was actually at Stephen James, or Igo's on Mass Ave. I'll have to get back to you on that one.
Please send me your ideas for articles and

stories. You can go to my Facebook page, email me at jimmydl@rcn.com or leave a message at 617-623-0554.
Jimmy is available to host your event, play music, or just spice up any party or function. Call 617-623-0554 or jimmydel@rcn.com
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Walking through the streets of Somerville

Historical tour of Union Square

By Maria A. Cortes

One of the several events planned and sponsored by The Historic Preservation Commission this fall, The Union Square walking tour, took place last Sunday, September 23, in Somerville. Led by Edward W. Gordon, New England Chapter President of the Victorian Society of America, the tour explored the history behind Union Square buildings and its architectural features.

Around seventy people gathered by the Somerville City Hall on a beautiful Sunday last week, eager to learn about Somerville's history. Mostly Somerville residents, but also guests from Cambridge, Malden and Roslindale, were seemingly enjoying Ed Gordon's comprehensive lecture about the development of the city and its important historical events that found its representation in architecture.

Starting by the City Hall, the tour covered buildings of the Somerville High School and Public Library, as well as several monuments of Central Hill. Moving towards Prospect Hill, Mr. Gordon explained how distinctive architecture of 19th century houses on Walnut, Boston, and Munroe streets, along with Prospect Hill Park and Memorial Observatory, embodied the historical spirit of the development of the Prospect Hill area. Columbus Avenue houses were presented as an example of the Mansard, or Second Empire style. Observing the architecture of the Union Square, Ed Gordon captured everybody's attention by "revealing" the hidden in the trees St. Thomas Episcopal Church, designed in the Gothic Revival style. It was impossible to guess that an old wooden building at 321 Washington Street, where Washington Street Art Center holds its unique exhibition at the moment, was one of the distribution facilities of famous Fresh Pond Ice Company, back in 1882. History of Lincoln Park with George Wyatt's brickyards appeared as the reminder of brick industry that was one of the major elements of Somerville's economy from 1820-1880.

The two and a half-hour tour finished on a pleasant note at the newly opened Café Tango (16 Bow Street in Somerville) that served South American pastries with Argentinean twist for tired but happy walkers. The tour guide, Edward Gordon, together with members of the Historic Preservation Commission, Brandon Wilson and Kristenna Chase, were ready to answer any questions, as well as accept words of appreciation for a well-organized and remarkably informative tour that was free of charge.

For more tours and events planned by the Historic Preservation Commission, check www.somervillema.gov.





Photos by Maria A. Cortes

SOMERVILLE SPORTS

St. Clement Sports update

Girls Volleyball

The St. Clement Lady Anchors improved their record to 6-2 with convincing wins over Cristo Rey of Dorchester, St. Mary's of Lynn and Boston International. The Lady Anchors dominated Cristo Rey by beating them 3-0. Meghan Berg (Medford) had 17 service points and 11 aces while senior captain Kristina Ofoedu (Methuen) lead the team with 20 service points and 15 aces. St. Mary's of Lynn went down 3-1.

Freshman Katie Monestime (Somerville) continued to shine playing at the varsity level and had 8 kills and 2 blocks. Senior Allison Caloggero (Medford) lead the team win with 16 service points, 9 assists and 15 digs, while Ofuedu pitched in with 10 service points and 11 kills. The Lady Anchors finished the week beating a much-improved Boston International team 3-0.

The wins inch the team closer to a second state tournament playoff berth. The Lady Anchors will host Maimonides Academy and league rival Lowell Catholic this week.

Football

The St. Clement Anchormen are tied for first in the Catholic Central League as they improve their record to 3-0 with a convincing 33-6 win over the Mystic Valley Eagles. Junior Oyaronbi (Chelsea) had 3 touchdowns an interception, 11 tackles and 159 all-purpose yards. QB Jamie Thompson (Somerville) ran for 83 and passed for 77 and 2 touchdowns to help lead the Anchormen. Thompson connected with Oyaronbi in the Anchormen's opening drive to take the lead, which they never relinquished.

In the second quarter, Deron Hines scored the second



St. Clement Football is holding a tie for first place in the Catholic Central League.

touchdown for St. Clement with a 10 yard run, leaving the score 14-0 at the half. Oyaronbi opened the third quarter with an 82 yard kick return giving the St. Clement a commanding lead. Mystic Valley answered with a 7 yard rush from Rob DeSantis, but the

Anchormen quickly answered with a 31 yard rush from Junior Nick Codair (Stoneham). Mystic Valley could not answer and struggled against a solid St. Clement defense lead by Paul Catalano (Roslindale), Casey Baptiste (Medford) and Captain John Posada (Charlestown).

Oyaronbi capped off the game with his third TD of the game with an 11 yard reception from Thompson.

The Anchormen enter their bye week and will prepare for an away game against Pope John Paul II of Hyannis Friday, October 5, at 7 p.m.

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#336

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. What is the farthest planet from the sun? | 7. Who replaced Timothy Dalton as James Bond? |
| 2. How many muscles are there in the human body? | 8. Where was Glenn Miller flying to when his plane went missing? |
| 3. How is energy measured? | 9. What state is called the Gem State? |
| 4. Texas is the only U.S. state to have been what? | 10. What musical featured the song <i>Sit Down Your Rockin' the Boat</i> ? |
| 5. What U.S. state produces two-thirds of America's iron-ore? | 11. What singer in the 70's had a No. 1 with the song <i>You've Got a Friend</i> ? |
| 6. What mineral production exceeds that of oil in Nevada? | 12. Who wrote <i>The Great Gatsby</i> ? |

Answers on page 20

Discussion of Union Square Revitalization Plan continues

CONT. FROM PG 1

"the Union Square Revitalization Plan is the culmination of a lot of work done by city officials and residents going back many years, most recently with the SomerVision Comprehensive plan and the rezoning of Union Square."

He believes that the plan is "a logical and necessary step" to maintain the MBTA's MassDOT's partnership with the city. That will ensure that the Green Line Extension continues to progress.

Ultimately, the project may generate 4,300 jobs, as well as provide 850 residential units.

"The plan helps the city honor its end of the Memorandum of Agreement between the city and MassDOT/MBTA to supply available land for the Green Line stop at Union Square. At the same time, it implements the zoning approved by the BOA in 2009 to allow for more growth in Union Square. Both of these items greatly enhance the poten-

tial for long-term, sustainable, economic development in Somerville," said Champion.

"If the plan is approved, [then] there are no immediate plans to acquire the parcel that includes the CrossFit Gym location, and it is unclear whether any specific properties will be acquired in parcels not directly related to the site of the new Green Line station, even if they are included in designated acquisition areas under the plan," he said.

The Union Square Revitalization Plan was not approved at the meeting, according to Heuston. "Nothing [was finalized], it was a public hearing," she said.

"The hearing was a chance for the public to present their views to the aldermen and put their opinions on the record. It was not designed to finalize the proposal," said Champion. "The plan was sent back into Committee on Housing for discussion. If approved on

Tuesday night, the plan will be brought before the Board of Alderman on Thursday night for a final vote."

As for the next steps in the process, after having heard residents' questions, "[the BOA Committee on Housing and Community Development] will, then, decide whether to report out the plan for a full vote at the scheduled regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen on Thursday," said Champion.

On Thursday, if it is then approved, it will be sent to the state's Department of Housing and Community Development "for review and approval at the state level."

After that, beginning from the date from which it was submitted, the department will be allowed 60 days to render its decision. "That would be the final step before the city could begin implementing a fully-approved plan," according to Champion.



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Magoun Square at a crossroads CONT. FROM PG 9

establishments served beer and liquor to thirsty two-legged travelers.

Meanwhile, real estate developers were building grand houses in East Somerville and on top of Winter Hill, marketing the area to affluent Bostonians as a leafy and genteel suburb. In the 1890s, the West End Street Railway built an electric trolley running from the beginning of Highland Avenue, along Medford Street, and ending at the Square.

Between 1882 and 1900, the national economy went through four recessions. Following a panic and banking collapse in 1893, and another panic in 1896, business activity dropped by 37% and 25% respectively.

The market for Somerville's elegant manses disappeared. Scrambling to stay profitable, developers bought up agricultural land and subdivided into tiny lots, with modest houses. Their market was immigrants, whose first great wave had been Irish, fleeing the 1845-52 potato famine. The tide slowed somewhat during the Civil War, and then resumed afterward, with Canadians joining the Irish. Many immigrants worked in Somerville's burgeoning industries, while the trolley enabled others to commute to Boston and work in service occupations.

Developers were making a killing. So much so that they began buying up the Winter Hill manses, razing them, and

building brick apartment buildings.

The 1910s marked a high point of Italian immigration to the U.S., and it continued into the 1930s. By 1920, Magoun Square was a thriving commercial center, serving a neighborhood dominated by Irish, Canadians, and Italians, with pockets of Eastern European Jews and Portuguese.

Into the 1960s, there were two grocery stores, a tailor, jeweler, shoe store, hardware store, drugstore, dry cleaners, seamstress, bank, penny-candy emporium, variety stores, and various eateries. Every building was fully occupied.

Parents were comfortable with letting their kids roam free. The Square's merchants were also residential neighbors, and they looked out for the young people.

Following World War II, economic forces began to transform cities throughout the U.S. The lure of the suburbs reduced Magoun Square's population. The same growth in car ownership that enabled suburbs, also facilitated regional stores and shopping centers that offered a broader array of goods than did the Square's merchants, and at lower prices.

When the trolley stopped running, people who had commuted on it were no longer in the Square twice every weekday. Somerville's factories closed, and for many families, economic necessity dictated that both adults work. Their after-work companions became televisions

rather than neighbors in the Square.

The decline began slowly. First National's grocery store succumbed to competition from larger chains. The A&P followed. One by one, specialty stores closed as their market dropped below their threshold of viability.

Some were replaced with bars like Danny's, Drake's, Mahoney's, Canty's, and others. Winter Hill Gang members and hangers-on frequented the bars, which too often were scenes of assaults and murders. Parents kept their kids out of the Square. By the 1990s, it was a wasteland, with many storefronts empty, and others occupied by 6-to-12-month tenants.

In 1999, a group of neighbors-Sheila Ehrens, Margie Polster, David St. Denis, and Joe Lynch-formed the Magoun Square Revitalization Group. They recruited other neighbors, engaged merchants, and asked the city for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) money for street improvements.

Then-mayor Dorothy Kelly Gay called on them when a developer wanted to buy five storefronts and replace them with a CVS drugstore. Three years of negotiating the footprint and design guidelines produced a CVS store that seemed to catalyze some new economic activity. Frank Privatera Jr. bought a block of storefronts and brought in some new businesses. A few new tenants moved in elsewhere.

In 2002, Mayor Gay submitted to the state a \$540,000 CDBG proposal. Bay Side Engineering, working with local new-urbanism expert Anne Tate, prepared the design.

But in October 2005, the Revitalization Group learned that Mayor Joe Curtatone

had withdrawn the CDBG proposal. He said he had done so because he wanted to submit a more comprehensive proposal that would include improvements to the Square's traffic congestion.

Ward 5 Alderman Sean O'Donovan said that he hadn't informed the neighbors because he was waiting for David Giagrande, the city's design consultant, to finish the new plan.

In fact, the plan was not completed for another three years. But at that point, the recession had hit, and there were no funds to implement it.

The activists believe that the Square's revitalization momentum ebbed during that period. Changes in merchants' attitudes, storefront occupancy, and tenant mix support this contention.

The Square got a break in 2010 when Congress passed the President's stimulus package. The city obtained \$3.1 million and invested \$2.5 million in road and streetscape improvements, supervised by MassDOT's Highway Division.

But last year, neighbors realized that sewer drains were sinking, the roadway was buckling, and sidewalks weren't compliant with disability guidelines. The project was redone. It is now complete.

Improved infrastructure is necessary, but by itself insufficient, to revitalize Magoun Square. And city government is only one stakeholder.

To breathe new life into the Square, all stakeholders must collaborate on formulating a revitalization plan, implementing its tactics, and maintaining commitment over the long term. In doing so, they can learn a lot from other communities that have been succeeded in such efforts.

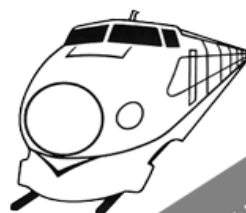
THE Somerville News **Person of the Week** September 26, 2012



Ida Azzolino, who turns 100 years of age this month, was born the same time as the opening of Fenway Park and the sinking of the Titanic. She went to school here, and grew up on the streets back in the day when horses were around and gas lamps needed to be lit. She has lived to see the first person on the moon. She is very nice lady who worked very hard as a young girl here, attended Somerville schools and was also in attendance at Saint Anthony's parish and later at St. Clements. Ida still goes to church every week at St. Clements and helped them to celebrate their 100 years serving the parish. Ida gets around with the help and devotion of her daughter Diane and son-in-law Ross Blouin. Ida still does her own shopping and we hear that she can manipulate a mean carriage up and down the aisles at the local Market Basket. She keeps herself busy at the Senior Center on Holland Street twice a week playing her favorite game, Bingo. We hear she is a pretty good cook and loves to make cakes and cookies, not just for herself and immediate family but for friends around the city. And from what we hear the lucky ones who get to taste them, they just love her baking. Ida still lives in her home in West Somerville and loves to watch her two favorite Boston sports teams, the Red Sox and Celtics. We hear she knows all the names of all the players. She has been on about 13 world cruises and is planning a cruise to Spain. Her family is giving her a huge birthday party this weekend at the Masonic Building at 125 Highland Avenue. Over 100 family members and friends, we hear, will be in attendance. We wish her the very best. She's a great lady, and a nice lady. So when you see her stop and say "Hi" and have a nice conversation with her. Ida is one lucky lady and we send our best wishes, Happy Birthday Ida. Many more and God Bless from the staff here at The Somerville News, our choice as The Somerville News Person of the Week, September 26, 2012.

BAKER TRAVEL

**Thanks, Somerville
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SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

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

Holland Street Center - 167 Holland Street

Ralph & Jenny Center - 9 New Washington Street

Cross Street Center - 165 Broadway

Coming up this week:

Musical Conversations - Thursday's (Sept 27) Musical Conversations program is "A Woman's Voice." We will listen to music sung by women, ranging from light opera to wherever the journey of music takes us. We'll also talk about my Musical Acts of Kindness program. The fun begins at 11:45 a.m. We're too young to stay up till midnight.

Cabaret: Tales of Autumn in Song - We invite you to our American Cabaret and Luncheon show with a performance by the Boston Association of Cabaret Artists on Monday, October 1st from 11:30 - 1:30 p.m. at Holland Street Center. Cost is \$5 and includes burgers with all the fixings and apple pie a la mode.

We know you have always wanted to learn Belly Dancing! Here's your chance. Beginner Adult Belly Dancing comes to Holland Street Center Tuesdays at 5:00 pm. Class is \$5.00 Get that core strong and help your back muscles get strong and stay strong. All levels.

Trip Corner:

Turkey Train - October 2

Suffolk Downs - October 17

Luciano's Restaurant Italian Festival - October 19

Join us in our exercise classes:

Yoga - Monday at 4:30. Holland Street. \$5. All levels welcome.

Belly Dancing - Tuesdays 5:00. Holland Street. \$5.

Zumba Gold - new class - Tuesday 11:30 - 12:30 Ralph & Jenny. \$5. All levels welcome.

Zumba Gold - Wednesday 5:15 - 6:15. Holland Street. \$5.

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

Flexibility & Balance - all three centers.

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

Indoor Exercises/Walking Club - all three centers

Walking Club has begun again! Check at each center for the schedule.

September 26

Bowling 1:00 at Flatbreads with Flo

Holland Street Center

Flexibility & Balance|9:30 a.m.

Qi gong|1:15 p.m.

Zumba Gold|5:15 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Cross Street Center

Closed

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

September 27

Musical Conversation with Alan at 11:45

Farmer's Market at Holland Street

Holland Street

Current Events - all welcome!|10 a.m.

Walking|11 a.m.

Farmer's Market|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

Tea Party - Event filled

Strength Exercises with Geoff|10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

September 28

Holland Street Center

Book Club - "50 Shades of Grey" - new

members welcome|10 a.m.

Indoor/Walking|11 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Cross Street Center

Center Closed

165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

Ralph & Jenny Center

Center Closed

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

October 1

Monthly Breakfast

Cabaret show

Holland Street Center

Singing - Moonlighters|10:30 a.m.

English Conversation|10:30 a.m.

Cabaret Luncheon|11:30 a.m.

Gentle Yoga is back!|4:30 p.m.

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

Cross Street Center

Closed

165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

Ralph & Jenny Center

Indoor Exercise|10:30 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

October 2

Turkey Train

Holland Street Center

Strengthening Exercises|9:15 a.m.

SHINE (Medical insurance) by apt.|10 a.m.

Belly Dancing|5 p.m.

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

Cross Street Center

Indoor Exercise|10:30 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards and Cribbage|10 a.m.

Flexibility & Balance |10:30 a.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

October 3

Holland Street Center

Flexibility & Balance|9:30 a.m.

QiGong|1:15 p.m.

Zumba Gold|5:15 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Cross Street Center

Closed

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

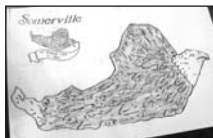
Bowling 1:00 at Flatbreads with Flo

100 years young!



Ida Azzolino turned 100 and the Holland Street Center got to celebrate with her. Ida was surprised at the end of Bingo on September 27 as they brought in a cake to celebrate her 100th birthday. Her friends joined her for a group photo after the singing. When Ida was leaving to go home she took the stairs, which impressed her younger friends. As one of them said, "That's how she got to be 100!"

Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #10

Somerville is a Perfect Ten

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Just as David Letterman has a Top Ten List that he shares with his audience on a nightly basis, Somerville has a top-ten list of fun and interesting facts that I'd like to share with you. Somerville is unique in that it is shaped like the American eagle. Since this the 10th edition of Eagle Feathers, I thought it might be fitting to honor the eagle this week by showcasing a top-ten list of Somerville firsts:

1. The Blessing of the Bay, the first ship built in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, was launched from the Ten Hills section of Somerville on July 4, 1631. The ship was the forerunner of the United States Navy.
2. The first American flag was flown on Prospect Hill, Somerville, January 1, 1776.
3. The first Governor of Massachusetts was John Winthrop. Winthrop lived in Ten Hills.



4. The first Governor of Connecticut was John Winthrop, Jr. He also lived in Ten Hills. Before moving from what is now Somerville (formerly Charlestown) to Connecticut, he founded the first iron works in the nation in Saugus, MA.
5. The first mansion built by Charles Bulfinch was the Barrow mansion on Cobble Hill, Somerville. In 1793, the structure was said to have been the most beautiful residence in New England.
6. McLean Hospital, which was also designed by Bulfinch and is one of the most renowned psychiatric hospitals in the country, had its beginnings on Cobble Hill, Somerville.
7. The first Civil War memorial in the country built with public funds was erected in the Somerville Cemetery in 1863.
8. The first outside telephone line in the world went from Court Street, Boston to #1 Arlington Street, Somerville. Phone numbers one, two, three and four were Somerville numbers.
9. America's first millionaire, Elias Haskell Derby, lived on Ten Hills and his driveway became Temple Street, Somerville. Derby Street, which is off of Temple Street, is named after him.
10. The first revolutionary forts used to oppose the British Army were built in Somerville. The first battle of the Revolutionary War was fought on April 19, 1775. It began in Lexington and ended in what is now Somerville.

S O M E R V I L L E
(1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8) (9) (10)

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

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Wednesday|September 26

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

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

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

Thursday|September 27

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

Friday|September 28

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

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

Saturday|September 29

What the Fluff?
3 p.m.-7 p.m.|Union Square

Monday|October 1

East Branch Library
How Many Pounds of Pumpkin?
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.|115 Broadway

Central Library
Sing-along with Liza!
Cathy Piantigini
617-623-5000 x2950
11 a.m.- 12 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Tuesday|October 2

Central Library
Homeschool Reading Group
Tammy McKanan
617-591-0216
10 a.m.- 12 p.m.|79 Highland

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

Wednesday|October 3

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

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

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

MUSIC
Wednesday|September 26

Johnny D's

Elizabeth Warren Trivia Night Fundraiser
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

The Burren
Pub Quiz 8-10
Comedy @10
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge
Oh the Humanity|Casanovas in Heat|The Hideout|Noah
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

Precinct Bar
3penny Open Mic
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

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

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

Rosebud Bar
Free pool|Game Night|Interactive Trivia
381 Summer St

Radio Bar
Radio Down: Geeks Who Drinks Trivia
379 Summer St

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

Thursday|September 27

Johnny D's
Hanggai
buy tickets now/Call 617-776-2004
after 4pm daily for dinner/seating reservation
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's
Tom Hagerty Acoustic Band grassy
Thursdays|7:30 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

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

PA'S Lounge
JAG|Big Ghost|The Minor Three
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

Precinct Bar
Arto Vaun|The dying falls|Plumeria
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

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

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

Rosebud Bar
Unregular
381 Summer St.

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

Radio Bar
Ed Gottlieb's Guestlisted presents:
While Jed's Guitar Gently Weeps - a benefit for the Animal Rescue League featuring Steve Mayone,Ward Hayden, Marc Pinansky,Jene Halstead, Paul Hansen,Keith Pierce,Kristen Ford and Dan Nicklin (of OldJack) 7:30pm, 21+, \$10
379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory
David Rogers, Classical crossover guitar
8 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Cantina la Mexicana
247 Washington St.

Friday|September 28

Johnny D's
The Hired Men|Playin Dead
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's
Radioactive Rustlers |6 p.m.
Jeremy Lyons Trio |9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

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

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

Precinct Bar
Tsunami of Sound
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

PA'S Lounge
Klugman|Answerman|Dadfight|Effzer o
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

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

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

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

Rosebud Bar
Van Burens
381Summer St

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

Cantina la Mexicana
TBA
8:30 p.m.|247 Washington St.

Arts At The Armory
SpeechLess at the Armory
7:30 p.m.|Café||191 Highland Ave

Radio Bar
Radio-UP: Soccer Mom, Guillermo Sexo, The Suicide Dolls \$8
Radio-DOWN: sherman burns, never got caught, manawi thorn-NY \$8
379 Summer St

Somerville Theatre
Beth Orton
7:30 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Saturday|September 29

Johnny D's
Amy Black Band|Playin Dead
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's
Birds of Play & guests|9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

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

Precinct Bar
Fluff Fest 2012
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Karaoke
65 Holland St

PA'S Lounge
Luddy Mussy|The Functional Alcoholics|Somos
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

Bull McCabe's Pub
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
Massmouth Story Slam|3 p.m.
Full Circle 9 p.m.
381 Summer St

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

Cantina la Mexicana
The Sarah Levecque Band
8:30 p.m.|247 Washington St.

Radio Bar

RADIO-UP: Eldridge Rodriguez MOE'S LOUNGE: New Million Box, Airport, Monophonic, 3dCosby
379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory
Readings from the Wising Up Anthologies
2 p.m.|café
David Tanklefsky Residency
7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Sunday|September 30

Johnny D's
Open Blues Jam|4:30 p.m.
For The Sake Of The Song:A Tribute to Johnny Cash|8:30 p.m.
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Frank Drake Sunday Showcase|5 p.m.
Natalie Flanagan Band, Trusty Sidekick, Trick Wallace Trio|8 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

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

PA'S Lounge
ViliFi|Full Blooded Mutt|Slobbies|TUNG
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

Precinct Bar
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

Highland Kitchen
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Rosebud Bar
Karaoke
381 Summer St

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

Radio Bar
Malayka House Benefit feat. Entrain, Adam Ezra Group, Batabazi 8pm, 18+ \$20
379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory
YELP Helps: Hop to it!
2 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Monday|October 1

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

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Stump Team Trivia
8 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Rosebud Bar
Sci-Fi meet up
381 Summer St

Radio Bar
379 Summer St

Arts At The Armory
Charmed Mondays
7p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday|October 2

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

The Burren
Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

PA'S Lounge
Open Mic - Rock, Folk, R&B, Alt, Jazz & Originals etc. Hosted by Tony Amaral
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Precinct Bar
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

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150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

Rosebud Bar
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381 Summer St

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

Radio Bar
379 Summer St

Arts At The Armory
October Fiction Seminar at the Armory
6 p.m.|Conference Hall
Youth Open Mic Night
6 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Wednesday|October 3

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

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

The Burren
Pub Quiz 8-10
Comedy @10
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

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

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

Precinct Bar
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

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

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

Rosebud Bar
Free pool|Game Night|Interactive Trivia
381 Summer St

Radio Bar
379 Summer St

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

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

**CLASSES AND GROUPS
Wednesday|September 26**

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

Thursday|September 27

East Branch Library
Director's Meet & Greet
Maria Carpenter
617-623-5000 x2914

6 p.m.-7 p.m.|115 Broadway

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

Swirl and Slice
5 p.m. - 8 p.m.|Union Square Plaza

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

Friday|September 28

West Branch Library
Director's Meet & Greet
Maria Carpenter
617-623-5000 x2914
10 a.m.- 11 a.m.|40 College Ave

Saturday|September 29

Central Library
Director's Meet & Greet
Maria Carpenter
617-623-5000 x2914
10 a.m.- 11 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

Central Library
Christine Mitchell of N'EastStyle
James Fox
3 p.m.-5p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Union Square Farmer's Market
9 a.m.- 1 p.m.|Union Square Plaza

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|September 30

Union Square Walking Tour
3 p.m.-5:30 p.m.

Meet at Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue

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|October 1

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|October 2

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

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|October 3

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

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

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

SomerPromise: Working together to give our children the best possible start

CONT. FROM PG 9

programs for our young people.

It's going to be even harder in an environment with many different agencies and many different funding sources, but it can still be done. And, as with almost everything we do in city government, we're beginning with a narrowly-focused pilot effort that will us help understand what approaches work best and how to scale up over time.

For SomerPromise, the pilot effort is occurring at the Healey School and is focusing on at-risk kids from the Somerville Housing Authority's Mystic View Development.

Initially, the pilot will look at two specific ways to help kids identified as at-risk. (The identification process includes all of our partner organizations.) The first way is the direct provision of services: in this case, the pro-

vision of tutoring outside the school day, but coordinated with the school curriculum, in order to improve academic engagement and performance. The second way is to improve coordination and communication between the various agencies that provide services to these children and their families. In the medical world, this concept is sometimes called "continuity of care:" here it means that each in-

teraction with a teacher, coach, after-school program coordinator, or tutor is informed by, and reinforces the work of all the others, and that (to the greatest extent possible) parents are active, well-informed participants in the programs that are helping their children learn and develop outside the home.

As we work both to expand direct services and to explore better ways to coordinate those

services over multiple providers, we'll measure what works and what doesn't. And then we will expand SomerPromise to other young people, other school populations and other neighborhoods. Like the kids it is designed to help, SomerPromise has boundless potential. Realizing that potential will take time, patience and hard work, but our kids, and our city's future, are worth it.

The Somerville News
Best of Somerville 2012
Cast your vote!

You have until October 3 to vote for your favorite category. To cast your vote, email us at thebestofsomerville@yahoo.com or call 617-666-4010 **M-F before 5 p.m.** to leave a message or mail in your ballot to The Somerville News 699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144. The winners will be announced Wednesday October 17, 2012. If you don't see your favorite category here, simply add it to this list.

**Best of Somerville
Foods & Restaurants**

Best Breakfast
Best Combination Breakfast & Lunch
Best Italian Food
Best Chinese Food
Best Mexican Food
Best Variety and all around Restaurant
Best Seafood
Best Irish Pub
Best Local Bar
Best Thai Food
Best Hamburg
Best Hot-Dog
Best Roast Beef Sandwich
Best Pizza
Best Bakery

Best Sub Shop
Best Coffee Shop Franchise
Best Coffee Shop local

Best of Somerville Services

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Best Electrician
Best Plumber
Best Attorney
Best Teacher
Best Politician
Best City Worker
Best Insurance Agent
Best Real Estate Agent/Realtor
Best Real Estate Rental Agent
Best Bank Teller
Best Bank Employee
Best Waitress
Best Waiter

Best Bartender
Best Cook
Best Barber
Best Hairdresser
Best Boss
Best Employee
Best Doctor
Best Nurse
Best Eye Doctor
Best Orthodontist
Best Mortgage Officer
Best Somerville Artist
Best Somerville Poet
Best Somerville Writer
Best Somerville Celebrity
Best City Elected Politician
Best City Employee DPW
Best City Employee City Hall/Annex

Best of Somerville Businesses

Best Somerville Bank
Best Real Estate Company
Best Insurance Agency
Best Creative Business in 2011
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Best Auto Body Shop
Best Tow Company
Best Law Firm
Best Convenient/Neighborhood Store
Best Travel Agency
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Ms. Cam's *Olio* Answers

Answers from page 14

1. Pluto, once considered a planet, now a planoid – Neptune is farthest	public	9. Idaho
2. 600 muscles	5. Minnesota	10. Guys and Dolls
3. Joules	6. Gold	11. James Taylor
4. An Independent Re-	7. Pierce Brosnan	12. F. Scott Fitzgerald
	8. Paris	

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'For the Sake of the Song' steps up for Johnny Cash

By Max Sullivan

Somerville's own music series *For the Sake of the Song* is celebrating its third year in existence with a big move, a new home at Johnny D's in Davis Square, and by filming the show for the first time for local broadcast and webcast.

The show, Sunday, September 30, will be a tribute to Johnny Cash and features local Americana bands John Colvert and the Brighton Fire, Highway Ghosts, and Adela and Jude.

Founder and MC Patrick Coman is very excited to see the show take this big of a step forward, both with the move to the bigger venue and with the opportunity to film it.

"It's a huge step. Every year we've made one step forward," Coman said. "That's our goal, really, to just keep in that direction and make this something that has some reach. Not just for the live show, but also throughout the region and even the country or the world."

Coman, who has been hosting the show at the cafe inside

Somerville's Arts at the Armory, had been looking at other venues, trying to generate interest. He found it in good friend Randi Millman, the entertainment booker at Johnny D's. She thought it would be a great idea to bring the show to the legendary Somerville venue.

"She was really eager to bring the series to Johnny D's, and it seemed like a good fit location wise, vibe wise as far as their history," Coman said.

Running a series that honors great songwriters of the past, Coman is thrilled to be hosting the show in a venue as steeped in tradition as Johnny D's is. Coman is particularly thrilled at the fact that the great Townes Van Zandt, who penned the song "For the Sake of the Song," the song from which the series derives its name, once performed there.

"It's this place that has this history and is a local institution, it's been there for more than thirty years, it's the right size, it's the right spot," Coman said, "So we're really excited about the move."

Coman is also excited about the opportunity to film the show for the first time. Working with the winning team in this year's 48 Hour Film Festival, Sunday's show will feature a three camera shoot. The audio will be tracked live. Coman hopes to have the footage put together into a 15 minute pilot by October for a viewing party.

For such a celebratory evening, one couldn't pick a more celebrated artist to feature than the Man in Black, Johnny Cash.

Part of the appeal for featuring Cash's music, Coman said, is that not only was he such a brilliant songwriter, but he was also known as a great cover artist.

"Obviously, Johnny Cash has some pretty famous songs that he's written, but he's also such a great interpreter of other people's material," Coman said. "We thought that would be a really great fit and a really great way to honor and just look back at the series, to take someone who is not only just a great writer but also a great interpreter of traditional material."

Each of the three groups per-



Adela and Jude are among the select artists who will be performing the music of Johnny Cash at *For the sake of the Song* this Sunday at Johnny D's.

forming are expected to showcase a different side of Cash. Adela and Jude, a duo, will be performing classic Cash/Carter. Highway Ghosts, more of a classic country band, will be tearing through some of the more upbeat Cash tunes. John Colvert, known for his songwriting, will

be expected to draw from the singer/songwriter side of Cash's catalogue, including some of his darker material. See *For the Sake of the Song* in its new location at Johnny D's, Sunday, September 30. Show starts at 8:30, doors open at 8:00. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door.

'The House at the End of the Street'

A horror, a thriller, or neither?

Review by Maria A. Cortes

Do you expect to be scared off your seat when you buy a ticket to see a horror movie? Do you think that a mix of a horror and a thriller sounds exciting and makes it a better catch? Well, director Mark Tonderai and screenwriter David Loucka are ready to blow away all of your expectations with their new movie *The House at the End of the Street*, which opened last Friday at The Somerville Theatre.

Thirteen people - what a symbolic number! - gathered in the theater on Friday evening to watch this *Psycho* inspired horror-thriller starring a new Hollywood sensation, young but undoubtedly talented Oscar nominee, Jennifer Lawrence. To say that there might be a better way to spend your money than buying a ticket to see *The House*, even though it was a six-dollar deal from The Somerville Theatre, is to say nothing. Even a group of teenagers left the theater with puzzled and disappointed faces.

So, what went wrong in *The House at the End of the Street*? The story might seem familiar. It would appear that filmmakers

don't have much in the way of original ideas when it comes to horror movies. However, it is creepy enough to intrigue the audience. A newly divorced Sarah Cassidy (Elisabeth Shue) moves to the suburbs with her rebellious daughter Elissa (Jennifer Lawrence) to learn that the house next door has a dark history. Four years earlier, a daughter murdered her parents in that house and escaped into the woods. Her brother Ryan (Max Thieriot, with his signature facial expression of a sad rabbit), the only survivor, continues living alone in his family home and has a reputation as a "freak" in the neighborhood. That does not scare Elissa, who falls for the guy after discovering how shy, sensitive, and sweet he is. Besides all that, he has a little secret that will disturb the quiet life of a small town in the woods.

The House at the End of the Street looks as if it had lots of potential to be a great horror movie, if the people with a better sense of presenting this kind of genre were to make it. The story develops so quickly that on the race from one scene to another, all the expected - and desired - suspense vanishes right before

you were to jump in your seat, leaving you with that unsatisfying "hey-what-has-just-happened" feeling. Dialogues lack any expression and depth, often dying out to long periods of silence. Polished looks of the actors with perfect make-up - at some point, it feels like the plot turns for a sole reason of showing off Lawrence with different make-up and outfits - only intensify the sense of a fake, labored action, which even effortlessly natural Jennifer Lawrence cannot drag along on her beautiful shoulders. Moreover, the so-called horror-thriller fails to deliver "horrific" as well as "thrilling" part. Lacking scary moments, it gets tangled in a web of unnecessary pseudo-dramatic conflicts.

Plot lapses, weird shooting angles, annoying editing manner and an uninvited fly - who let the fly out? - calmly creeping on Thieriot in one the scenes, make *The House at the End of the Street* a shameful attempt to present a movie that was claimed to be one thing, but turned out to be something else.

The House at the End of the Street: Directed by Mark Tonderai. Starring Jennifer



The House at the End of the Street promises much, but delivers...? Now playing at the Somerville Theatre.

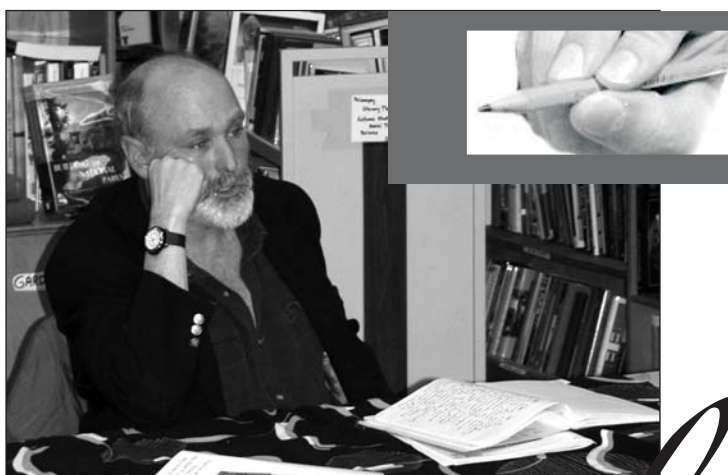
Lawrence, Elisabeth Shue, Max Thieriot, Gil Bellows, and Nolan Gerard Funk. Rated PG-13. Shows at the Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Sq., Somerville, MA 02144.

SCAT Program Schedule for the Week

Wednesday, September 26		5:30pm	Culture Club	1:00pm	Bongoman	Noon	Democracy Now!
12:00am	Free Speech TV	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV	2:00pm	Tele Kreyol	1:00pm	Ablevision
6:00am	Tonight's Special	6:30pm	Water: A Storymentary	3:00pm	Tele Magazine	1:30pm	Myths of Marijuana
7:00am	Drug Awareness	7:00pm	Shrink Rap	4:00pm	Most Interesting Place	2:00pm	Somerville: Most Interesting Place
8:00am	Democracy Now!	7:30pm	Myths of Marijuana	4:30pm	Somerville Back in the Day	2:30pm	Somerville Back in the Day
9:00am	Abugida TV	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou	5:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	3:00pm	Exercise with Robyn and Max
10:00am	Porchfest 2012	9:30pm	The Entertainer's Show	5:30pm	Myths of Medical Marijuana	3:30pm	Esoteric Science
11:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	10:00pm	Somerville Rocks!	6:00pm	Culture Club	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
Noon	Democracy Now!	10:30pm	National Wildlife Foundation	6:30pm	I Finally Did It	5:00pm	Culture Club
1:00pm	Somerville Back in the Day	11:00pm	Creepy Castle	7:30pm	Physician Focus	5:30pm	Physician focus
1:30pm	Somerville Most Interesting Place	Friday, September 28		8:00pm	David Parkman	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV
2:00pm	Culture Club	12:00am	Free Speech TV	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:30pm	Perils for Pedestrians
2:30pm	Life Matters	6:00am	Bed Bugs Summit	10:00pm	Sonic Lobotomy	7:00pm	Arts At the Armory Zoning Meeting
3:00pm	Medical Tutor	7:00am	Culture Club	10:30pm	Somervile Rocks	9:00pm	Dedilhando A Saudade
3:30pm	Inside Talk	7:30am	Physician Focus	11:00pm	Gay TV	10:00pm	Bate Papo con Shirley
4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show	8:00am	Democracy Now!	Sunday, September 30		11:00pm	Somerville Rocks!
5:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking.	9:00am	Drug Education	12:00am	Free Speech TV	11:30pm	Art @ SCATV
5:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez	10:00am	Somerville News Reading	6:00am	I Finally Did It	Tuesday, October 2	
6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV	11:00am	Somerville Housing Authority	7:00am	Flipside	12:00am	Free Speech TV
6:30pm	Water: A Storymentary	Noon	Open Air Circus	8:00am	Effort Pour christ	6:00am	Road to Recovery
7:00pm	Tonight's Special	2:00pm	Gerry Leone Show	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	7:00am	Perils for Pedestrians
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits	2:30pm	Commonwealth Report	10:00am	International Church of God	7:30am	The Struggle
8:30pm	The Entertainer's Show	3:00pm	Brunch with Sen. Bernie Sanders	11:00am	The Commonwealth Report	8:00am	Democracy Now!
9:00pm	Somerville Rocks!	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show	11:30am	Somerville Housing Authority	9:00am	Somerville News Reading
9:30pm	Somervile Biking News	5:00pm	National Wildlife Foundation	Noon	The Entertainer's Show	10:00am	Tele Kreyol
10:30pm	Shrink Rap	5:30pm	Art @ SCATV	1:00pm	Igreja Mundial do Poder de Deus	11:00am	Somerville Rocks!
11:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV	2:00pm	Water: A Storymentary	Noon	Democracy Now!
11:30pm	The Literary Scene	6:30pm	The Struggle	3:00pm	Rompendo en Fe	1:00pm	The Commonwealth Report
Thursday, September 27		7:00pm	Real Estate Answer Show	4:00pm	Dedilhando A Saudade	1:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority
12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:30pm	Neighborhood Cooking	5:00pm	Ethiopian Satellite TV	2:00pm	Healthy Hypnosis
6:00am	Live Response	8:00pm	Visual Radio	6:00pm	Abugida TV	2:30pm	Road to Recovery
7:00am	Physician Focus	9:00pm	The Garage	7:00pm	African Television Network	3:30pm	Active Aging
8:00am	Democracy Now!	9:30pm	Bandwidth TV	8:00pm	Telemagazine	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
9:00am	Somerville News Reading	10:00pm	Arts at the Armory Zoning Meeting	9:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	5:00pm	Poet to Poet
10:00am	Active Aging	Saturday, September 29		10:00pm	National Wildlife Foundation	5:30pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show
10:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	12:00am	Free Speech TV	10:30pm	Arts At the Armory Zoning Meeting	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV
11:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	6:00am	Arabic Hour	Monday, October 1		6:30pm	The Struggle
Noon	Democracy Now!	7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:00pm	Art @ SCATV
1:00pm	African Television Network	7:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	7:30pm	Greater Somerville
2:00pm	Tonight's Special	8:00am	Mystic Learning Center	6:30am	Physician Focus	8:00pm	Dead Air Live- Live
2:30pm	Somerville Most Interesting Place	9:00am	Festival Kreyol	7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	9:00pm	Somerville Biking News
3:00pm	Somerville Back in the Day	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	8:00am	Democracy Now!	10:00pm	Perils for Pedestrians
3:30pm	Art @ SCATV	11:00am	Dead Air Live	9:00am	Gay TV	10:30pm	The Gerry Leone Show
4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show	Noon	Reeling Movie Show	10:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading		
5:00pm	Ablevision	12:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority	11:00am	Nossa Gente e Costumes		

City Cable TV Schedule for the Week

Wednesday, September 26		12:00am: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	7:45pm: (13/22)	Dogfest 2012	1:15pm: (15)	Our Schools, Our City
9:00am: (13/22)	Congressional Update	12:15am: (13/22)	Somerville Fight Night	8:30pm: (13/22)	Director's Series: Colonel James Foley	1:45pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Everett
9:00am: (15)	Cradles to Crayons	12:30am: (15)	Kid Stuff	8:45pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Malden	7:00pm: (13/22)	School Committee Meeting - LIVE
11:30am: (15)	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Malden	1:00am: (15)	SHS Football vs Dracut	Sunday, September 30		7:00pm: (15)	SHS Football vs Havehrill
12:00pm: (13/22)	School Committee Meeting - REPLAY OF 9/24/12	3:00am: (15)	Special Olympics 2012	12:00am: (13/22)	Somerville Gives Back	8:45pm: (15)	String Camp Final Concert
1:00pm: (15)	Open Air Circus	9:00am: (13/22)	Somerville Fire Dept. Ride Along	12:00am: (15)	SHS Football vs Haverhill	Tuesday, October 2	
2:00pm: (15)	Project STAR	9:00am: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	12:15am: (13/22)	The Mayor's Report	12:00am: (13/22)	The Gerry Leone Show
7:00pm: (13/22)	Dogfest 2012	12:00pm: (13/22)	Somerville Gives Back	12:45am: (13/22)	Dogfest 2012	12:00am: (15)	SHS Football vs Haverhill
7:00pm: (15)	Kid Stuff	12:00pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Malden	1:30am: (13/22)	Director's Series: Colonel James Foley	12:30am: (13/22)	9/11 Vigil
7:30pm: (15)	SHS Girls' Soccer vs Cambridge	12:15pm: (13/22)	The Mayor's Report	1:45am: (15)	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Malden	1:45am: (15)	String Camp Final Concert
7:45pm: (13/22)	Somerville Gives Back	12:45pm: (13/22)	Dogfest 2012	12:00pm: (13/22)	Senior Circuit	9:00am: (13/22)	9/11 Vigil
8:00pm: (13/22)	Davis Sq. Streetscapes	1:30pm: (13/22)	Director's Series: Colonel James Foley	12:00pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Everett	9:00am: (15)	Project STAR
9:00pm: (13/22)	BOA Meeting Agenda for 9/27/12	2:05pm: (13/22)	Somerville Fight Night	12:30pm: (13/22)	Congressional Update	11:30am: (15)	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Everett
9:00pm: (15)	Open Air Circus	7:00pm: (13/22)	Somerville Gives Back	1:00pm: (13/22)	The Gerry Leone Show	12:00pm: (13/22)	Senior Circuit
Thursday, September 27		7:00pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Malden	1:30pm: (15)	Cradles to Crayons	12:30pm: (13/22)	Congressional Update
12:00am: (13/22)	Dogfest 2012	7:15pm: (13/22)	The Mayor's Report	2:00pm: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	1:00pm: (13/22)	Walking Tour of Union Square
12:00am: (15)	SHS Girls' Soccer vs Cambridge	7:45pm: (13/22)	Dogfest 2012	7:00pm: (13/22)	Senior Circuit	1:00pm: (15)	Cradles to Crayons
12:45am: (13/22)	Somerville Gives Back	8:30pm: (13/22)	Director's Series: Colonel James Foley	700pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Everett	1:30pm: (15)	SHS Girls' Soccer vs Cambridge
1:00am: (13/22)	Davis Sq. Streetscapes	10:00pm: (15)	SHS Football vs Haverhill	7:30pm: (13/22)	Congressional Update	2:00pm: (13/22)	Director's Series: Colonel James Foley
9:00am: (13/22)	Hubway Launch in Somerville	Saturday, September 29		8:00pm: (13/22)	The Gerry Leone Show	7:00pm: (13/22)	Senior Circuit
9:00am: (15)	Kid Stuff	12:00am: (13/22)	Somerville Gives Back	8:30pm: (13/22)	Board of Aldermen Meeting - REPLAY OF 9/27/12	7:00pm: (15)	Special Olympics 2012
11:30am: (15)	SHS Girls' Soccer vs Cambridge	12:00am: (15)	SHS Football vs Haverhill	8:30pm: (15)	Cradles to Crayons	7:30pm: (13/22)	The Mayor's Report
12:00pm: (13/22)	Senior Circuit	12:15am: (13/22)	The Mayor's Report	9:00pm: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	8:00pm: (15)	Kid Stuff
12:30pm: (13/22)	Somerville Gives Back	12:45am: (13/22)	Dogfest 2012	Monday, October 1		8:00pm: (13/22)	Riverfest 2012
12:45pm: (13/22)	Dogfest 2012	1:30am: (13/22)	Director's Series: Colonel James Foley	12:00am: (13/22)	Senior Circuit	8:15pm: (13/22)	Somerville Gives Back
1:00pm: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	1:45am: (15)	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Malden	12:00am: (15)	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Everett	8:30pm: (13/22)	School Committee Meeting - REPLAY OF 10/1/12
1:15pm: (13/22)	9/11 Vigil	12:00pm: (13/22)	Somerville Gives Back	12:30am: (13/22)	Congressional Update	8:30pm: (15)	Open Air Circus
1:30pm: (15)	Special Olympics 2012	12:00pm: (15)	SHS Football vs Haverhill	1:00am: (13/22)	The Gerry Leone Show	12:00am: (13/22)	Senior Circuit
7:00pm: (13/22)	Board of Aldermen Meeting - LIVE	12:15pm: (13/22)	The Mayor's Report	1:30pm: (15)	Cradles to Crayons	12:00am: (15)	Special Olympics 2012
7:00pm: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	12:45pm: (13/22)	Dogfest 2012	2:00pm: (15)	Our Schools, Our City	12:30am: (13/22)	The Mayor's Report
7:30pm: (15)	Kid Stuff	1:30pm: (13/22)	Director's Series: Colonel James Foley	9:00am: (13/22)	Congressional Update	1:00am: (15)	Kid Stuff
8:00pm: (15)	SHS Football vs Dracut	1:45pm: (15)	SHS Boys' Soccer vs Malden	9:00am: (15)	Cradles to Crayons	1:00am: (13/22)	Riverfest 2012
10:00pm: (15)	Special Olympics 2012	7:00pm: (13/22)	Somerville Gives Back	11:30am: (15)	SHS Football vs Haverhill	1:15am: (13/22)	Somerville Gives Back
Friday, September 28		7:00pm: (15)	SHS Football vs Haverhill	12:00pm: (13/22)	Board of Aldermen Meeting - REPLAY OF 9/27/12	1:30am: (15)	Open Air Circus
12:00am: (13/22)	9/11 Vigil	7:15pm: (13/22)	The Mayor's Report				



OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Writer Rachael Popek takes the *Write Step* with 100,000 Poets for Change

Rachael Popek is the producer for R Jeffreys' popular radio show *The Write Step* and is the Executive Coordinator, (working alongside Program Coordinator and Co-Chair R Jeffreys, and Coordinating Liaison and Co-Chair Kathleen Bitetti) for the *100,000 Poets for Change* event at the Boston Public Library, Copley Branch, Sept 29 at 1PM to 3PM. According to Popek's website the event will be "...the largest, single poetry reading in the history of the world. This event will also be archived, recorded and stored at Stanford University in California, and simulcast throughout the globe that day."

Popek is also a Master Pastry Chef working for MultiGrains Bakery as an R&D specialist and Quality Director. I talked with Popek on my Somerville Community Access TV show *Poet to Poet: Writer to Writer*.

Doug Holder: You are intimately involved in the *100,000 Poets for Change* event next month at the Boston Public Library in September. You are not a poet...how and why did you get involved?

Rachael Popek: I am not a poet. My good friend R. Jeffreys is the poet; I produce his radio show *The Write Step* on Blogtalk Radio. So when he decided to organize the *100,000 Poets for Change* event, I went along with it. And I have become absolutely enamored with it. It is amazing to me that something that is usually considered as benign as poetry can be used in an activist manner. Over the centuries people believed poetry was quiet, benign, artistic and eccentric. I'm learning about literary history. And I have found out to my surprise that poetry has been one of the motivating factors in our history.

DH: Any favorite poets?

RP: When I was a young girl it was Robert Frost. I love Frost, and I loved the stories he told through his poetry. My parents used to read Robert Frost to me. Later poetry had gone by the wayside in my life but now I have come back to it.

DH: Can you tell me about the *100,000 Poets for Change* event that you are involved with?

RP: On Sept. 29, 2012 there will be over 600 events and readings across the country that will be broadcast over the internet. The events will be taking place at many times throughout the day. It's going to be bigger than last year's event. The reading in Boston will be in the mezzanine of the Boston Public Library from 1PM to 3PM—and will be open to the public. Featured poets will be R Jeffreys, January O'Neil, Charles Coe, Harris Gardner, Doug Holder, Sam Cornish and Philip Robinson.

DH: You are the producer of the popular Blogtalk radio show *The Write Step* hosted by R Jeffreys. Tell me about the show and your duties.

RP: The show presents interviews with poets, artists, writers, and musicians. We discuss what it takes to write what they write. We cover their upcoming books, albums, etc... We explore their own personal process through their creative work. We ask questions like: What does it take for you to create?

DH: How do you find your guests?

RP: R Jeffreys has an intricate network of



friends. Some people come to us. Others we contact when we hear a new book is coming out.

DH: You are a Master Pastry Chef. That is very creative. How did you get involved with this?

RP: It started when someone dared me. Originally I was doing cooking at home. So someone said I should take the course and see if I could promote myself. My father who was a salesman, and traveled the world, told me he had a friend in France who would take me on as an apprentice. My two kids went with me. It was a great experience. I was in Paris every weekend. I was told to stay in France because America was not a good place for a pastry chef, especially for a woman. I didn't know how right this was. When I came back I couldn't get a job because I didn't have experience—it was a man-driven business.

DH: Can you make parallels between being a chef, and writing?

RP: Both start out with a summation. Writing consists of these questions: what is the story going to be about?—how am I am I going to break the story down?—what are the main characters, etc.?... You do the same thing when you build a cake—when you are going to build a reputation. You go from scratch. The story and the cake have a foundation layer—so you are writing a cake in a sense.

DH: You are working on a memoir *Living Beyond Cancer: Not Just Surviving*. Tell us about this.

RP: In Feb. 2012 I was diagnosed with cancer. I am a middle-aged, single mom—who without work would not have health insurance, and without insurance there would be no treatment. I wrote this book which is essentially about compartmentalization. I took out the unnecessary from my life so not only could I survive physically and financially, but I could live. I didn't want to be overwhelmed with debt. I worked throughout my treatment. I never missed a scheduled day of work. I was able to physically and mentally compartmentalize.

For the *100,000 Poets For Change* event go to: <http://100tpfcm.a.weebly.com/performing-poets.html>

Lyrical SOMERVILLE edited by Doug Holder

Our poet this week is the talented Andrea Le. She is a sophomore at Endicott College, majoring in English with a focus in Creative Writing and a minor in Studio Art. Le has won several awards for her drawing and painting. She has danced most of her life and teaches at the Boston Ballet School in Marblehead. Currently, she is an intern and writer for *Art Throb Magazine*.



Frost Farm

He picks me up
in an Arby's parking lot.
We drive
in silence.
Nervous
I wonder where
to put
my hands.
Focused on the road
Slouched back
One hand
on the wheel.
Backwards baseball cap
Cool as the New Hampshire air
Humming to the radio
Ego so large
I wonder how I fit
In the
Car
I see a sign
Exit 4: Robert Frost Farm
I have a sudden desire
To get lost
in the woods

September 29

Summer has gone
Pushed out by the swift biting September winds
Bringing with them the scents of winter
Undetectable to all but the wet nose of
The wolf.
His ears prick, eyes brighten.
He lets his paw sink into the rain soaked riverbed,
And lets out
A howl.

— Andrea Le

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

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Featured Listings

Burlington

Sold!



Sale Price \$415,500

Single family, 8 rooms,
4 bedrooms, 2 baths,
fireplace. Updated kitchen
with granite counters,
Viking stove.

Brockton

Reduced!



71414455 \$212,000.

Two family Colonial. 10
rooms, 4 bedrooms, 2
baths. Enjoy side porch
and huge yard. Great
rental property.

Somerville



71353759 \$419,000.

Two family, Winter Hill
area. 11 rooms, 4 bed-
rooms, 2 baths. Updated
roof and heating systems.
Minutes to Boston.

Malden

Reduced!



71407488 \$287,000.

Single family Colonial.
6 rooms, 3 bedrooms, 2
baths. Walk up attic,
finished but not heated.
Nice Fenced yard.

Somerville

Sold!



Sale Price \$365,000.

Single family on a dead
end street. Old Farm
House with barn. 6 rooms,
3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths.
Short walk to Harvard Sq
and Union Square.

N. Reading



71341549 \$160,000.

Condo. 4 rooms,
2 bedrooms, 1 bath.
Newer maple cabinets,
eat-in-kitchen.
Great Complex, pool, BBQ
area.

Somerville

Under Agreement



71426547 \$509,000.

Two family used as a
three since 1945, on
one lot. Second lot is 5
garages, both lots sold
together.

Somerville

Under Agreement



71418577 \$569,900.

Two family on tree lined
street walking distance to
Union Sq. 13 rooms, 6
bedrooms, 2 baths. Patio
area, above ground pool.

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