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## Vinfen updates plan for group home

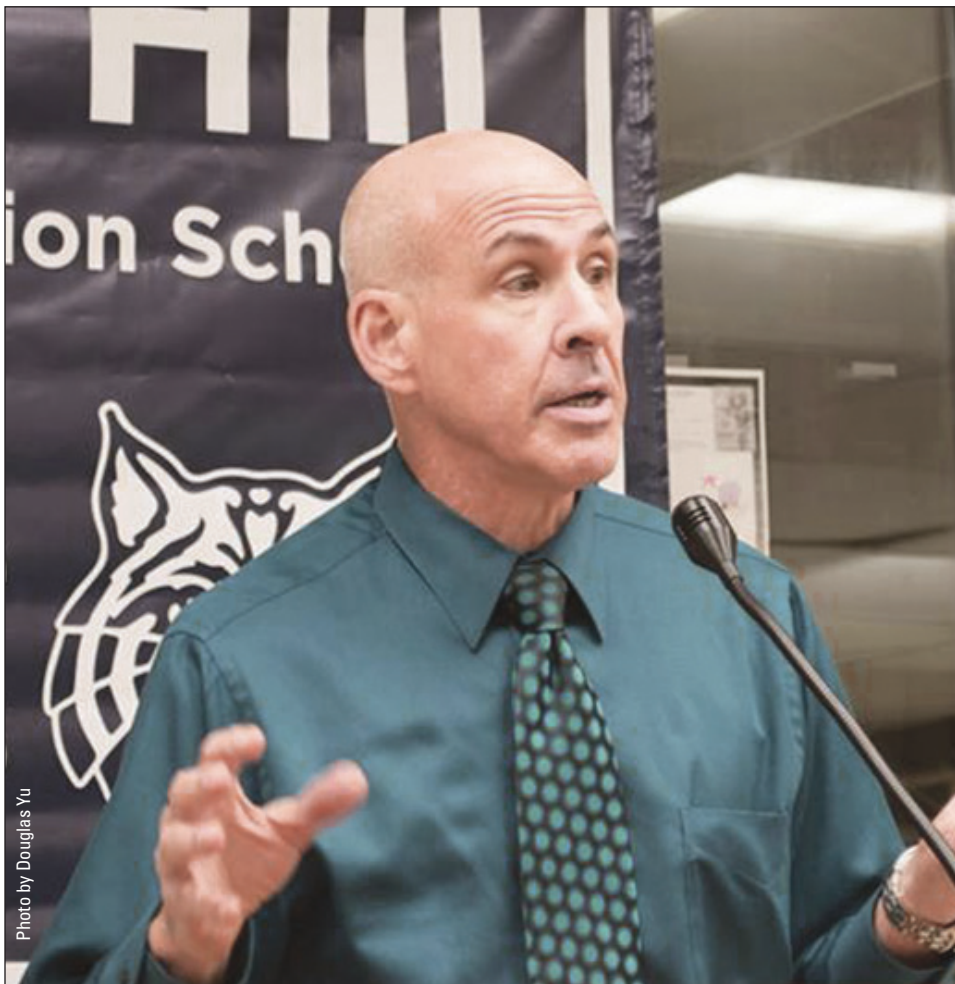


Photo by Douglas Yu

DMH Medical Director David Hoffman explained the intricacies of accurately assessing the suitability for patient placement in group homes such as the Central St. facility to attendees at the latest public safety meeting on the matter last week.

By Douglas Yu

Vinfen outlined an improved action plan to make sure Somerville residents' safety at the latest public safety meeting on the matter at Winter Hill Community School on Dec. 2.

The action plan resulted from the demand within the neighborhood after an assault by one of the facility's residents occurred last month. The incident involves a woman who was brutally attacked by the 35-year-old Allen Harmon, a resident of the Central Street group home. Vinfen, a health and human service organization, owns 15 group homes throughout Cambridge and Somerville, and the Central Street group home is one of them.

At the recent meeting, Vinfen reportedly promised to remove all the short-term residents in their group home on Central Street to somewhere else. Vinfen's CEO, Bruce Bird apologized to the Winter Hill residents at the meeting for the company not involving itself with the community as it could have, and also admitted their negligence since Vinfen received the complaints against Harmon a week before the incident.

Patricia Kenny, Area Director of Department of Mental Health (DMH), said, "We are implementing an audit process

*Continued on page 7*

## Where to Shop Local this winter

By Gabriela C. Martinez

The Somerville Winter Farmers' Market is back for its fifth year at the Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave.

The market will be open every Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. until March and it will include produce vendors from previous years, such as Winter Moon Farm, Heron Pond Farm, Misty Brook Farm (which also has grains and meat) and Apex Orchards.

Lilac Hedge Farm, Jordan Brothers and Stillman's at the Turkey Farm, who sell meat and seafood, will also be back this year.

Hosta Hill, a newcomer to Somerville Farmers' Market, is small-scale food producer from Stockbridge, MA that elaborates lacto-fermented vegetables, such as sauerkraut, crimson kraut, and spicy kimchi.

You can use the interactive map (<http://maps.managemymarket.com/1610>) and product search (<http://managemymarket.com/api/productsearch.aspx?orgid=584>) to see which vendors will be at the market each week and what products they will have available.



Photo by Gabriela C. Martinez

No need to do without your Farmers' Market visits through the off-season. The Arts at the Armory is once again playing host to the winter market from now until March of next year.

### Winter Special

Looking to increase business over the winter season? Run your ad with The Somerville Times. We are now running a 6-week advertisement Winter Special. For more details call:

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Don't forget the Christmas tree sale at Foss Park. The proceeds go to the Next Wave and Full Circle Alternative School here in the city. Please consider stopping off and helping the kids out and buy your tree locally.

Happy Birthday this week to some of our readers: A big Happy Birthday to Irene Bremis of the famous Real Estate family. Irene is very well known here in the city, a nice lady involved with the community and is always smiling happily. We wish her the very best on this her birthday. Happy Birthday to Stacey Hershey Buckley here in the city. Stacey is a nice lady. We hope she has a great day and her husband Mike had better take her to a nice place for dinner, Happy Birthday and best wishes Stacey. A very special friend of the paper, Mr. William Murphy, a lifelong resident and a very special guy celebrates this week. We wish him all the best on his birthday. Happy Birthday to another good guy, David Bell, who grew up here in the Ville. We wish him a great day. Happy Birthday to lifelong resident and popular guy as well Ray Zonghetti, who is also celebrating this week. Another old friend of the paper, Marlin Whitney, is celebrating this week. We wish him a great day.

Our condolences to the family of James E. Mello, 62, of Somerville, who recently passed away. He was a past veteran of the Air Force, and electrician with W.R. Grace. He leaves a large family here in the city. A sad loss at such a young age. Services will be at Doherty's Funeral Home this Thursday from 4-8 p.m.

Our condolences to the family of Lester A. Doucette, 89. The retired clerk for B&M Railroad and longtime resident of Somerville passed away on December 2. Lester was the beloved husband of 68 years to Evelyn I. (Cabral).

Don't forget we are having a contest here over the next few weeks. We are asking anyone here in the Ville who would like to write a poem on the Christmas holiday and what it means to them to send it in to us. Deadline is Friday, December 12. You can email it to news@thesomervilletimes.com, mail it or drop it off at 699 Broadway, Somerville 02144. Poems will be selected by the *The Times*

Continued on page 11

# TheSomervilleTimes

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## TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

### Response to: What's on Somerville Neighborhood News

Freebie says:  
The residential tax exemption is pretty significant and it also increased this year. Given how much our homes have appreciated over the last 3 years, that tax hike was actually minimal.

Matt C says:  
Freebie, I'm happy to see the exemption increase, however the underlying question is about city expense budget growth and are we getting more or better services today than we did 5 years ago when home value assessments were 30-40% lower.

dave says:  
Freebie, you just proved an excellent point. Everything has gone up, and we have the increased appreciation and assessment of our homes. However, that increase generally hurts the homeowner in the form of higher property taxes. It is only beneficial if you are selling or refinancing your home.

love it here says:  
what are you all complaining about? property taxes on my house will go up \$250.....thats \$20 per month.....lots of properties are multi family and you are collecting the highest rental income ever....dont hear you complaining about that.  
property value assessments have NOT increased 30-40% in the past five years....and if they have, what are complaining about? so your equity went up \$200.000 and you're complaining about \$240.00  
love this city...been here my whole life and never leaving  
haters hate

S. W. says:  
loveitthere, you miss the point. I am glad that \$240.00 does not impact your budget. If you were elderly, disabled, or raising several kids it just might. When your equity goes up it hurts you because your taxes go up. You don't reap the benefit unless you sell your home. Then you are accused of selling out to make money. And by the way, I have a multi-family home and charge very low rates. Not everyone is greedy and bleeding people for every dollar they can get out of them. Please stop painting everyone with a broad brush because it fits your concept of reality.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

## TheSomervilleTimes.com poll of the week

In addition to breaking news, sports and opinion, TheSomervilleTimes.com also features a daily poll in which you, the reader, tell us where you come down on local issues. Last week's poll concerned your views on whether or not you plan to shop locally for the holidays. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com.



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# Assembly Row welcomes Partners Healthcare

By Douglas Yu

Assembly Row is already one of the biggest construction projects in the state. In addition, however, Assembly Row developer Federal Realty kicked off the construction of 750,000-sqaure-foot office headquarters for Partners Healthcare on Monday, Dec. 1.

Situated between the 73-acre proposed area of development, which includes Assembly Square Marketplace, a Home Depot, a large office building and other retail businesses, and the newly built MBTA station, the new 13-floor office building will bring more than 4,500 administrative, finance and IT employees to this area within two years time.

These employees are now spread out across 14 sites that partnered with Partners Healthcare around the Commonwealth.

"Now Somerville residents can take the advantage of Partners' career and workforce development programs," Somerville Mayor Joe Curtatone said during the groundbreaking event. "Their programs focus on youth, community members and current employees."

Assembly Row is one of the Somerville's transformative areas, and the new Partners office building is a milestone for Somerville as it validates a long-range planning approach to regional economic enhancement, Curtatone pointed out.

As early as this past summer, Assembly Row looked like an



The groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the new Partners Healthcare headquarters took place last week at Assembly Row.

underdeveloped ares, spotted with isolated buildings such as public storage facilities and the Kmart Store. One could hardly find a place to enjoy a meal. After the first grand opening, this thriving area seems more like Black Friday every day, as more than 30 nationally branded outlet shops, bars and movie theatres have been added.

The fact that the new Partners office is to be completely union-built won a round of applause from Somerville residents at the groundbreaking event.

"Just half of the Assembly Square will create more than a net new 20,000 jobs for Somerville and Massachusetts," the mayor said.

President and CEO of Partners Healthcare, Dr. Gary Gottlieb, said the new facility is transit accessible and that it will bring a lot of convenience for the future employees. "We are going to save \$10 to \$15 million a year and be able to turn dollars to delivering healthcare rather than sup-

porting those resources and administrations over a period of time," he said.

Don Briggs, an executive of Federal Realty Investment Trust told the Boston Globe that the company has explored buying additional property within the adjacent 73 acres, but so far they have not found a seller yet.

In addition to the 13-floor office building, Federal Realty is also going to build a parking garage that will be attached to it. The first floor of the building will be leased out for more stores and restaurants.

When asked how the massive development of Assembly Row affects the housing situation in the neighborhood, Curtatone acknowledged the fact that there are more and more people are willing to live in urban centers.

"SomerVision outlines the plan to build an additional 9,000 units of housing in the next 20 years," Curtatone said of the demand for more housing in Somerville. "There is not enough, so we need to do more."

# Skipper selected as new Superintendent of Schools

By Tom Bannister

Mary Skipper was unanimously selected by the Somerville School Committee Tuesday night to serve as the city's new Superintendent of Schools.

Skipper has been serving as Network Superintendent for High Schools for the Boston Public Schools. In that capacity she has overseen the district's 34 high schools representing 19,500 students.

Skipper will be stepping in as the new Superintendent after Tony Pierantozzi steps down from the position in July 2015.

Mayor Curtatone praise the decision saying, "Mary Skipper's track record of bringing innovation to diverse neighborhoods is a terrific match for what we're doing here in Somerville. From

her time as TechBoston Academy's founding headmaster, to her current role as Boston Schools' network superintendent, Mary has understood the importance of students developing problem-solving skills and the use of transparent, data-based decision-making to drive schools forward. All three finalists were fantastic candidates, and I'm grateful we had such a tough decision before us. I look forward to working with Mary and building upon Somerville Public Schools' great recent successes."

Skipper has been credited with leading Boston high schools to achieving the lowest drop-out rates and highest graduations in the history of the system.

Previous to this, Skipper served as Chief Education Officer/Headmaster of TechBos-

ton Academy (TBA). She has also served as Assistant Academic Superintendent for Pilot Schools, and Technology Project Manager within the Office of Instructional Technology.

She holds a Bachelor's Degree in English and Latin from Tufts University, a Master's Degree in Latin and Greek from Tufts University, a Master's Degree in Education from Harvard University, and is currently working toward her Doctorate in Urban Leadership from Teacher's College at Columbia University.

"Mary Skipper is an outstanding leader who will be committed to Somerville and who will challenge and inspire us all in our work," said Paul Bockelman, Ward 6 School Committee member and Chair of the selection process.

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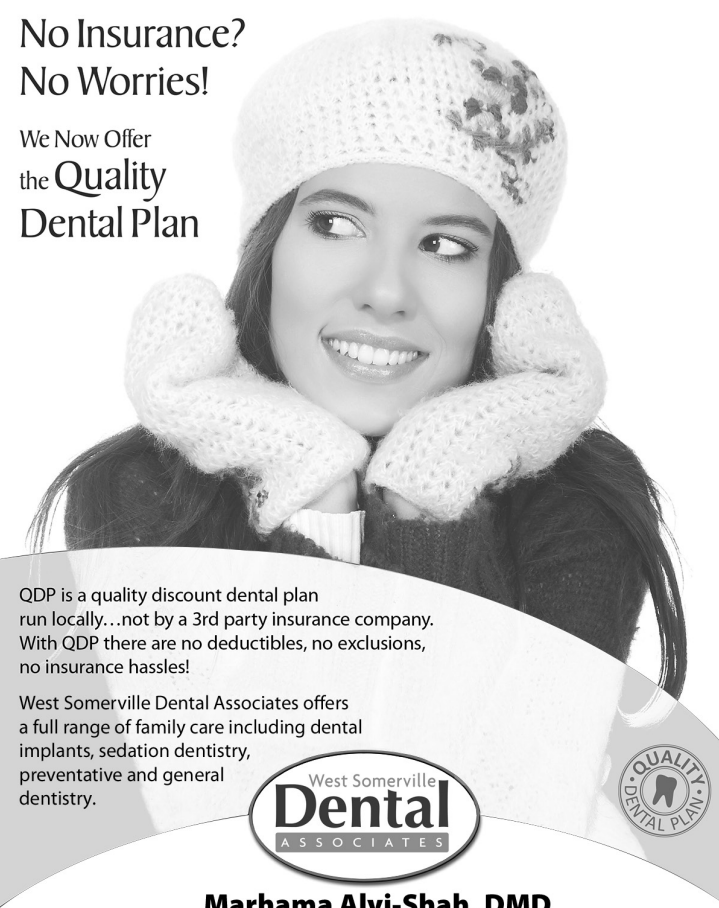
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# THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

## Kmart ‘shopper’ takes it a little too far

Police responded to a reported case of larceny at the TJ Maxx store on Middlesex Ave. last week.

Upon arrival, officers were met by the store’s loss prevention personnel and were led to where a woman, Mary Moore, 45, of Roxbury, had been detained for allegedly stealing items from the

store. A Kmart shopping cart full of merchandise was also being held for evidence.

A loss prevention employee reportedly explained to police that he had observed Moore behaving suspiciously as she passed through the store, sometimes removing merchandise from shelves and not returning

it, and behaving as she was placing items into bags inside of the shopping cart.

The employee further stated that Moore affected her exit from the store by taking some handbags that she said she didn’t want to the returns counter and then attempted to leave the store while allegedly secreting out

merchandise that had been hidden away in the shopping cart.

When asked if Moore had provided any identification the store employee produced an ID card that Moore had reportedly given him. The police officers reported that the picture on the ID did not match the suspect at all, and a subsequent search of her purse

turned up several pieces of ID that proved who she really was.

Moore was placed under arrest and charged with larceny over \$250 and shoplifting over \$100 by asportation.

Police also returned several items to the Kmart store where they were reportedly identified as store property.

### SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

**Arrests:**

**Kyle Pollard**, of 16 O St., South Boston, December 1, 11:34 a.m., arrested at 611 Assembly Row on charges of larceny over \$250 and shoplifting by asportation.

**Kelly Murray**, of 90 Bowdoin St., Malden, December 2, 2:38 p.m., arrested at 260 Elm St. on a charge of possession of a class A drug.

**Lynn Winn**, December 2, 2:38 p.m., arrested at 260 Elm St. on a charge of possession of a class A drug.

**Mary Moore**, of 196 Norfolk Ave., Roxbury, December 2, 5:44 p.m., arrested at 106 Middlesex Ave. on charges of larceny over \$250 and shoplifting over \$100 by asportation.

**Tania Silva**, of 41 Michigan Ave., December 2, 8:37 p.m., arrested at 16 Indiana Ave. on a charge of abuse prevention order violation.

**Robert Johnson**, of 20 Brighton St., Charlestown, December 3, 10:37 a.m., arrested at 220 Washington St. on warrant charges of abuse preven-

tion order violation and assault and battery.

**Kevin Graham**, of 75 Myrtle St., December 3, 10:48 a.m., arrested at 23 Cummings St. on a warrant charge of trespassing.

**Nelito Oliveira**, of 286 Lexington St., East Boston, December 4, 8:54 a.m., arrested at 75 Cross St. on a charge of aggravated assault and battery.

**Keith Brooks**, of 240 Albany St., Cambridge, December 5, 3:06 p.m., arrested at 77 Middlesex Ave. on charges of shoplifting by concealing merchandise and violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon, and on warrant charges of drug possession to distribute and distribution of a class C drug.

**Luis Rodriguez**, of 2 Silk St., Chelsea, December 6, 9:18 p.m., arrested at 77 Middlesex Ave. on a charge of larceny over \$250.

**Matthew Amsler**, of 2 Myrtle St., Chatham, December 7, 10:36 p.m., arrested at 40 Talbot Ave. on charges of disor-

derly conduct, resisting arrest, and trespassing.

**Incidents:**

**Theft:**

December 2, 8:43 a.m., police reported a theft at Ten Hills Rd.

December 2, 5:44 p.m., police reported a theft at 105 Middlesex Ave.

December 3, 3:25 p.m., police reported a theft at Bromfield Rd.

December 4, 7:53 a.m., police reported a theft at Marshall St.

December 4, 9:32 p.m., police reported a theft at Raymond Ave.

December 5, 9:24 a.m., police reported a theft at Oliver St.

December 5, 7:55 p.m., police reported a theft at Beacon St.

December 5, 4:33 p.m., police reported a theft at Prospect St.

December 5, 12:25 p.m., police reported a theft at 180 Somerville Ave.

December 5, 8:27 p.m., police reported a theft at Beacon St.

December 6, 11:17 a.m., police reported a theft at 105

Middlesex Ave.

December 6, 4:19 p.m., police reported a theft at Columbus Ave.

December 6, 9:18 p.m., police reported a theft at 77 Middlesex Ave.

**Breaking & Entering:**

December 2, 7:27 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at College Ave.

December 2, 8:46 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at College Ave.

December 3, 4:27 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at School St.

December 5, 5:10 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at North St.

**Vehicle Theft:**

December 3, 5:27 a.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Campbell Pkwy.

December 4, 2:07 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Howard St.

December 5, 3:44 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Appleton St.

December 7, 10:07 a.m., po-

lice reported a vehicle theft at Broadway.

**Assault:**

December 3, 4:50 a.m., police reported an assault at Somerville Ave.

December 3, 11:54 p.m., police reported an assault at 622 Somerville Ave.

December 4, 8:54 a.m., police reported an assault at Cross St.

December 4, 5:14 p.m., police reported an assault at Mystic Ave.

December 4, 9:08 p.m., police reported an assault at Pearl St.

December 4, 10:31 p.m., police reported an assault at Adams St.

**Destruction of Property:**

December 3, 7:18 a.m., police reported a destruction of property at Broadway.

December 4, 4:54 p.m., police reported a destruction of property at Willow Ave.

**Drug Violation:**

December 2, 2:38 a.m., police reported a drug violation at 260 Elm St.

## ‘Black Lives Matter’ protest in Davis Square

By Donald Norton

At about 5 p.m. on Friday, December 5, a crowd of 200–250 students from Tufts University marched down College Avenue into Davis Square, chanting “Black lives matter” and other phrases of protest.

In what appeared to be a well-organized peaceful demonstration, protesters marched into Davis Square blocking traffic for about 10-15 minutes, many even lying down in the middle of the square.

The police were apparently very prepared, with Tufts Police marching with the students down into the square where City of Somerville and Transit Police

were waiting.

The transit police temporarily closed down the T station while protesters marched by, interfering with rush hour traffic both on the T and in the streets.

The demonstration was very peaceful once the participants reached the square center, where they laid down in silent protest in sympathy with the Ferguson demonstrations and as a reaction to latest Grand Jury decision returning no indictment against the NYPD Police in the matter of the chokehold death of Eric Garner.

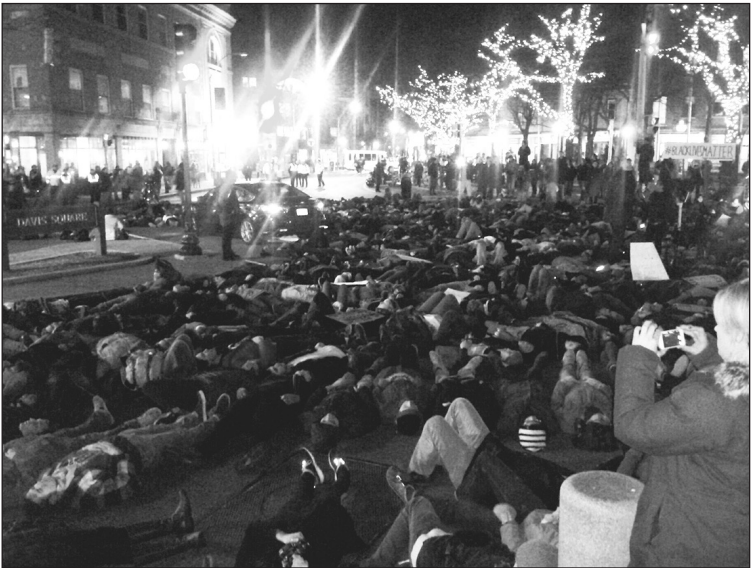
A large crowd of onlookers, nearly as many as the numbers of protesters, gathered in silence.

Once back on their feet, they marched in unison down Elm Street into Cambridge. The entire demonstration was peaceful and well organized.

The police were well aware that the protest was being organized since yesterday when information about it was posted on Facebook.

The Somerville police were present in force as were the transit police. The Police Department was prepared and ready to act in case the crowd got out of hand. As it turned out it was completely non-violent event and appeared to be very well organized.

Two or three individuals were leading the crowd with a mi-



A peaceful protest march was organized and carried out by demonstrators who marched through Somerville last week.  
— Photo by Donald Norton

crophone telling them where to go, when to lie down and when to get up and move on. What the police did not know was the crowd’s ultimate destination, which they kept to themselves.



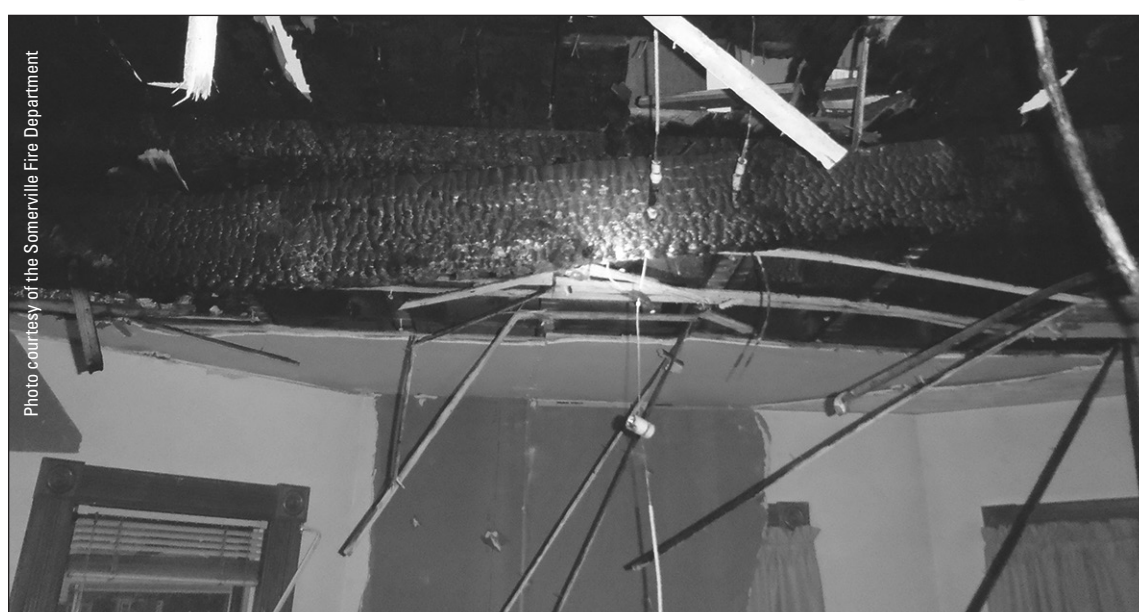
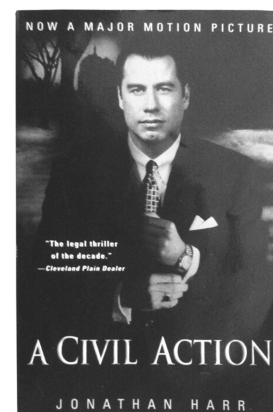
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Eagle feathers #67



A black and white photograph of the Hotel de Ville in Innsbruck, Austria. The building is a large, multi-story structure with a prominent gabled roof and a covered entrance area. The architecture features a mix of traditional and modern elements, with a large, dark, gabled roof section on the left and a more modern, flat-roofed section on the right. The entrance area is covered by a large, light-colored awning. The building is situated on a street corner, with a curved sidewalk in the foreground. The sky is clear and blue.

Anne's suspicions and persistent detective work brought to light a cluster of child cancer cases *Continued on page 16*



Two firefighters sustained minor injuries while battling the blaze.

**FAX 617 623-7990**



# Holiday toy drive in Somerville

By Rebecca Danvers

A toy drive to benefit children of military personnel is taking place now through Dec. 18. The effort is sponsored by Operation Homefront and is being represented locally by West Somerville Dental, here in Somerville. Donations of toys can be brought to West Somerville Dentals office at 124 College Ave.

Operation Homefront (OH) provides emergency financial and other assistance to the families of our service members and wounded warriors.

Through generous, widespread public support and a collaborative team of exceptional staff and volunteers, OH aspires to become the provider of choice for emergency financial and other assistance to the families of our service members and wounded warriors. Where there is a need that they do not provide, they will partner with others for the benefit of our military families.

In 2013, OH met over 165,000 needs for military families, including active duty, Guard and Reserve members from all branches of service. Since its inception, Operation Homefront has provided more than \$158 million dollars of funding to programs to benefit military families and have met more than 780,000 needs.

Operation Homefront provides direct services to alleviate a military family's or individual's actual/complete emergency financial burden, as well as counseling and/or recovery support. Emergency financial assistance is in the form of checks paid directly to mortgage lenders, auto mechanics, contractors, hospitals, doctors, dentists and other providers.

Other emergency funding assistance, which an applicant receives within 24 to 72 hours, includes: financial assistance, emergency food, emergency home repairs, critical baby items (formula, food and diapers), home and appliance



Somerville residents can help to bring a little cheer to some needy kids of service personnel.

repair, furniture and household items, local moving assistance, community events and Wounded Warrior Transitional Family Housing.

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, Operation Homefront was formed in February 2002. It was developed to support the families of deployed service members immediately following 9/11. Operation Homefront is headquartered in San Antonio, Texas, and has evolved into a major nonprofit. The organization currently provides services to military families across the nation through a network of field offices. The national office handles cases in states that do not have local field offices. The majority of our clients are the lowest-paid service members, the E-1 through E-6 enlisted ranks.

The target population is American military personnel and/or their families who have unmet needs due to financial hardship, death, injury, or physical or mental detriment as a result of service in Iraq or Afghanistan. These may include active duty, Reserve, National Guard and veteran service members. They are a di-

verse ethnic group (64 percent are minorities): approximately 20 percent are African-American; 5 percent Asian-American; 34 percent Hispanic/Latino; 5 percent Native American; and 36 percent Caucasian. Roughly 75 percent live at an income level 80 percent below the median income for the communities in which they reside. Nationally, \$0.93 of every dollar donated to Operation Homefront goes to programs.

Their Morale programs include the Back To School Brigade (BTSB), which provides backpacks full of school supplies to military children, and the current Holiday Toy Drive (HTD), which provides toys and stocking stuffers to military children in December.

OH's Homefront Villages allow a family to live with its wounded warrior while he/she is rehabilitating and transitioning out of service, while their Homes on the Homefront program provides mortgage-free homes to service members and wounded warriors.

Contact West Somerville Dental for office hours and further information regarding the Holiday Toy Drive.

# Illuminations Tour booked solid



The perennial Somerville favorite holiday event for so many, the Illuminations Tour, set for Saturday, December 13, has unfortunately sold out. But that doesn't mean one can't get out and enjoy the sights and sounds on their own throughout the holiday season. A stroll through the wonderland of decoration in lights is available to anyone willing to burn a little shoe leather. Just stay warm and dry in the process!

# 'Jingle Bell' donation



The Marathon Sports "Somerville Jingle Bell Run" and Somerville Striders Athletic Club donated \$10,000 last week at the annual Somerville Toys For Local Children Fundraiser at the Holiday Inn. Alderman at Large Jack Connolly presented the check to Somerville Toys For Local Children Executive Director Cindy Hickey.

Martin B. Dropkin  
Nancy G. Matza



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# Annual Next Wave/Full Circle tree lot opens

By The Times Staff

Hopes are high for the students and staff at Somerville's Next Wave and Full Circle Alternative School. For nineteen years their annual tree lot fundraiser has provided a wonderful service to students, the community, and the school. However, last year many trees were left over due to inclement weather and the school suffered a loss. This year the staff and students are optimistic.

The lot raises money for the school and proceeds go to supporting student activities, trips,

scholarships, and behavioral management programs. Solely operated by teachers and students, they volunteer their time on evenings and weekends. "I'm glad that we are standing in the cold for a good cause, the school benefits immensely from this fundraiser and I am glad I am apart of it," said Vera Ventura, a first year media teacher at NW/FC.

The tree lot is a combination of community service and hands-on business training for the students who have volunteered to sell trees and wreaths at Foss Park. It is a great learning experience for students, and

they are happy to keep the tips. "It taught me how to have responsibility and be respectful to customers who appreciate when I cut the stump, put the tree into the car...I tie a mean knot" said Terrell McCall, a 12th grade student at Full Circle.

Despite the loss last year, they haven't raised their prices. Trees start at \$19 and go up to \$49. Students unloaded 250 healthy trees raised by Wilson Farms, Lexington last week. The trees are being sold until December 22, between 4 and 8:30 p.m. during the week and from 10:00 am to 9 p.m. on the weekends.



Come and get your trees and wreaths at the Next Wave and Full Circle Alternative School tree lot at Foss Park and help a few well-deserving students at the same time.

## Vinfen updates plan for group home

CONT. FROM PG 1

in order to respond to residents' questions regarding who inspects the group homes and who does the ongoing assessment to Vinfen's clients."

The audit process includes the review of mental status changes, the training related to identification and reporting risk, and staff supervision among other things.

"We are also reducing the census in the house [Central Street group home]," Kenny said. "It has been a concern. It's one of the few programs that has double bedrooms. So the rooms will be automatically trimmed down to census of six instead of what was 12, and there will be single bedrooms." Kenny also mentioned that they were still in the process of removing those short-term residents. Currently, there are nine residents in the Central Street group home.

One of the Winter Hill residents questioned if there would be any tenants with criminal records living at the facility once the census comes down to six. Kenny said all six of the clients have been assessed and are clinically stable enough to live there.

Bird announced to the residents at the meeting that there would be additional staff at the group home over the weekends and overnight to supervise their clients.

"We've asked staff to be vigilant for any signs of disruptive client activity, including publicly drinking alcohol, trespassing, panhandling and littering. We've asked them to make observations for those reports," Bird said. "But since the last meet-

ing, we haven't heard of any incident from the Central Street group home."

Bird did mention that there was a tenant from another Vinfen property who wandered into a neighbor's yard recently.

Other than reducing the capacity of the group home and improving on-site supervision and support, Vinfen's action plan for their Central Street group home also includes continuous collaboration with Somerville police, quality reviews, community engagement and oversight changes.

Winter Hill resident Samuel Acevedo cited two other tragic incidents involving Vinfen clients in 2009 and 2012. He shared his concern that more incidents will happen in the future, because it is a systemic issue.

"What I don't see is any mention of consequences, should there be any deviance from the plan," Acevedo said. "A, what trigger the consequences? B, who would face the consequences?" Acevedo asked.

"If we have a failure in the system, whether it's a clinical system or whatever, we really work with the department and with anybody else that's involved, and try to figure out if we should make corrections. And we do that all the time," Bird responded to Acevedo.

Kenny also responded to Acevedo saying that the threshold is "not meeting the terms of the contract," and that Vinfen's action plan is "above and beyond the contract, and it's a higher standard."

David Hoffman, Medical Director of

DMH in Metro Boston Area, addressed the difficulty of assessing the patients and making decisions regarding who are qualified to live in the group homes.

"For people with assault and battery, for example, that can mean so many things," Hoffman said. "It could mean a brutal assault on a spouse. It could mean shoving a policeman who asked you to leave McDonalds when you were creating a disturbance. The reality is that we cannot predict things all the time, and we can only use our best judgment."

Hoffman said that some patients with criminal backgrounds could still get the referrals to live in a group home.

"You are looking at the likelihood of something happening again, but you also look at the severity of the type of thing that might happen again," Hoffman said. "Someone with one percent chance of murdering someone again, we feel it's riskier than someone with 20 percent chance of minor assault again."

It was noted that Harmon, who attacked the woman in Winter Hill, has a long criminal history of violence.

Bird avoided going into details of the assault case that happened last month because of confidentiality after a resident claimed that he knew about Harmon's drinking issue and questioned why counselors in the Central Street group home did not notice it earlier.

"We weren't seeing those signs as much in the house as you were seeing in the community," Bird said, while explaining that he was not blaming the community. "It's our fault for not having the communication system in the community," he said.

Agreement was evident throughout the meeting room as Acevedo said that those in control should be equipped to see what the community does not see.

"There should be warning signs," Acevedo said. "In this case, we all depend on DMH and other government departments."

Kenny said the Commonwealth of Massachusetts recently received some federal funding to expand the community resources to help those who are in need to recover.

"There are a lot of people sitting in hospitals, but they don't need to be in

hospitals, because we don't have enough community resources," Kenny said. "In the next six to eight months, we'll be adding 160 community placements for those people."

Bird promised the Winter Hill residents that Vinfen's staff has a pretty good understanding of their clients. But he added, "Sometimes people in the program are behaving very different there than they are in the community."

"That's one of the issues that we hope the new communications system can deal with," Bird said, referring to the daily review of the all the clients in the Vinfen group homes that has been added to ensure the safety of the neighborhood.

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DMH Area Director Patricia Kenny and Vinfen CEO Bruce Bird fielded questions and updated concerned attendees on the immediate plans for the Central St. Group home.



# Beacon Hill Roll Call



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Beacon Hill Roll Call can also be viewed on our website at [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com)

**THE HOUSE AND SENATE.** There were no roll calls 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. 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. Patricia Jehlen**  
**DISTRICT REPRESENTED:** Second Middlesex. - Consisting of the cities of Cambridge, wards 9 to 11, inclusive, Medford and Somerville, and the town of Winchester, precincts 4 to 7, inclusive, in the county of Middlesex.

**PANEL ISSUES REPORT ON PAY RAISES** - The Special Advisory Commission on the Compensation of Public Officials, created by the Legislature in June as part of the fiscal 2015 state budget, has issued its report and is recommending substantial pay raises for the governor and the state's five other constitutional officers, the speaker of the House and the Senate president.

Other hikes suggested by the panel include increasing each legislator's annual general expense allowance from \$7,200 to \$10,000 for members whose districts are within a 50 mile radius of the Statehouse and to \$15,000 for districts located outside of that radius; eliminating legislative per diem payments for meals and lodging reimbursements; changing the source and data on which current biennial legislative salary increases and decreases are based; and providing a \$75,000 annual housing allowance for the governor.

The panel recommends that the governor's salary be

increased by \$33,200, from \$151,800 to \$185,000; the lieutenant governor by \$30,068, from \$134,932 to \$165,000; the secretary of state by \$34,738, from \$130,262 to \$165,000; the treasurer by \$47,083, from \$127,917 to \$175,000; the auditor by \$25,575 from \$137,425 to \$165,000; the attorney general by \$44,418, from \$130,582 to \$175,000; and the speaker and senate president, by \$79,967 from \$95,033 to \$175,000.

It also recommends that that the six constitutional officers and the House speaker and Senate president be prohibited from earning outside income other than passive income from investments, as well as an end to legislative per diems, which are travel, meals and lodging reimbursements collected by the legislators. In 2013, legislators collected a total of \$291,216 in per diems and in 2014 have so far been paid \$177,067.

Some supporters of the per diems say the system is fair and note the rising costs of travel, food and lodging. They argue many legislators spend a lot of money on travel to Boston and some spend the night there following late sessions. Others say that some legislators accept the per diem but use all of the revenue they receive to support local nonprofit causes. They say that not taking the per diem would leave that money in the state's General Fund to be spent on who knows what.

Opponents argue most private sector and state workers are not paid additional money for commuting. They say the very idea of paying any per diem is outrageous when thousands of workers have lost their jobs and homes and funding for important programs has been cut.

While the commission recommends that the per diem should be eliminated, it also suggests that the annual general expense allowance for each legislator should increase from \$7,200 to \$10,000 for members whose districts are within a 50 mile radius of the Statehouse and to \$15,000 for districts located outside of that radius. The most recent increase in the office expense allowance was a hike from \$3,600 to \$7,200 in 2000. The allowance is used to support a variety of costs including rent of a district office, contributions to local civic groups and the printing and mailing of newsletters. Legislators are issued a 1099 from the state and are required to report the \$7,200 as income but are not required to submit an accounting of how they spend it.

The commission also calls for an annual \$65,000 housing allowance for the governor, noting that Massachusetts is one of only six states that supplies neither a governor's residence nor a housing allowance, even as Boston has the most expensive housing market of any of the state capitals.

Finally, the panel recommends changing the source and data on which current biennial legislative salary increases and decreases are based. In 1998, voters approved by a two-to-one margin a constitutional amendment requiring governors to calculate and announce an increase or decrease in legislative salaries every two years. The specific language requires legislative salaries to be "increased or decreased at the same rate as increases or decreases in the median household income for the commonwealth for the preceding two-year period, as ascertained by the governor."

The commission concluded that the methods used to make that adjustment vary from governor to governor because the decision by the governor has to be made in January, and the median household income figures pub-

lished by the Census Bureau from the prior year are not available at that time.

The panel said it has researched a number of options and data sources for calculating the change and recommends using data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) that measures the quarterly change in salaries and wages. The panel argues that the BEA figures are more up-to-date compared to the census ones.

Barbara Anderson, president of Citizens for Limited Taxation, has a different opinion. She told Beacon Hill Roll Call, "The Massachusetts constitution allows rank-and-file legislators' pay to increase with median household income. The commission's report changes 'median household income' to another determinant, which would allow a higher increase for legislators; but the change would require a constitutional amendment, which couldn't be approved by voters until 2018."

Michael J. Widmer, president of the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation, told Beacon Hill Roll Call that each governor has had to improvise to estimate what the figures would be for that second year and have sometimes been way off. "Since there is at least a nine-month lag in the median household income data published by the Census Bureau, governors have found it impossible to meet the constitutional requirement," Widmer said. "The BEA data provides a close approximation in a far more timely manner."

Anderson responded, "This was all discussed at the time yet they put 'median household income' into the constitution. Everyone agreed the governor could estimate a full year, then adjust the amount of the pay when the final number became available. What are they saying now, that they should violate the constitution in order to produce a more accurate result?"

The complete report of the commission can be found on the commission's website: [MassPublicComp.umb.edu](http://MassPublicComp.umb.edu).

**LEGISLATORS' CURRENT SALARIES AND OTHER BENEFITS**

In light of the commission's report, this week Beacon Hill Roll Call examines the salaries and other benefits currently received by the commonwealth's state senators and representatives in 2014.

**BASE SALARY** - The current base salary for legislators is \$60,032. Legislators have had their pay cut by \$1,406 since 2011. Until that time, their salaries had been raised every two years since 2001, an increase of \$13,622, or 29 percent, since the mandated salary adjustment became part of the state constitution.

**BONUS PAY FOR 102 LEGISLATORS** - Over the past several years, the Legislature has increased the total number of legislators who receive annual bonus stipends of \$7,500 to \$35,000 beyond their annual base salary. The latest figures show that at least 102, or more than half, of the state's 200 legislators receive a stipend. All 40 senators and 62, or more than 40 percent, of the representatives receive bonus pay for their service in Democratic or Republican leadership positions, as committee chairs or vice chairs and as the ranking Republican on some committees.

Supporters say legislators in these important positions should be appropriately compensated for their many added responsibilities and hard work.



# Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



Critics say the base salary is sufficient and is often automatically increased every two years.

**PER DIEMS** - Legislators are entitled to collect “per diems” to reimburse them for mileage, meals and lodging expenses for travel from their home to the Statehouse. These reimbursements are not taxable income and range from \$10 per day for legislators who reside in the greater Boston area to \$82 for Western Massachusetts lawmakers and \$100 for those in Nantucket. The Legislature in 2000 doubled these per diems to the current levels.

**\$7,200 FOR GENERAL EXPENSES** - Each legislator receives a \$7,200 annual general expense allowance. The Legislature in 2000 doubled this allowance from \$3,600 to \$7,200. This separate, flat rate expense allowance is not based on a lawmaker’s geographic distance from the Statehouse. It is designed to pay for some of the costs of legislators’ district offices and other expenses including contributions to local civic groups and the printing and mailing of newsletters. Legislators are issued a 1099 from the state and are required to report the \$7,200 as income but are not required to submit an accounting of how they spend it.

**PARKING SPACE** - Lawmakers are entitled to a parking space inside the Statehouse garage or at the nearby McCormack State Office Building. The first \$230 in monthly value of the space is a tax-free benefit under federal and state guidelines that apply to all public and private employees, not just state legislators. Any value of the space above this amount is treated as taxable income. The value of the parking spaces in 2014 was determined by the Bureau of State Buildings to be \$413 per month. Based on that figure, legislators would be taxed only on the excess \$183 monthly by the Internal Revenue Service and the state.

**HEALTH INSURANCE** - Legislators are eligible to choose from 11 health insurance plans offered by the state’s Group Insurance Commission, which manages the plans for over 420,000 individuals -- current and retired state and certain municipal workers and their dependents.

Total monthly full-cost premiums for family plans range from \$1,098 to \$2,183 with the employee share of the premium ranging from \$220 to \$619 effective July 1, 2014. Individual plans are available from \$461 to \$939 with the employee share of the premium ranging from \$92 to \$266. Lawmakers elected on or before July 1, 2003, pay 20 percent of the premium and the state pays 80 percent. Those elected to their first term on or after July 1, 2003 pay 25 percent while the state picks up only 75 percent. State and federal privacy regulations protect this information; it is not possible to obtain records about which plans individual legislators have purchased.

**LIFE INSURANCE** - Legislators who purchase a health insurance policy from the state are also required to buy the state’s basic \$5,000 life insurance policy. This costs employees \$1.28 to \$1.56 per month, depending on the date of hire. The same 20/80 25/75 formula used for health insurance also applies to this life insurance. Legislators also have the option to buy additional life insurance with a value of up to eight times their salary. The entire premium for the optional insurance is paid by legislators.

**LONG-TERM DISABILITY AND HEALTH CARE SPENDING ACCOUNT** - Legislators also have the option to open a Health Care Spending Account (HCSA) and Dependent Care Assistance Program (DCAP), and to buy long-term disability insurance. The HCSA allows legislators to set aside funds to pay for out-of-pocket health care expenses with

before-tax dollars while the DCAP allows them to set aside funds to pay for certain dependent care expenses with before-tax dollars. This participation reduces their federal and state income taxes. The entire premium for long-term disability is paid by legislators.

**DENTAL AND VISION INSURANCE** - Legislators are eligible to choose one of two dental/vision insurance plans. Current monthly employee premium costs for family plans range from \$14 to \$19, while individual plans range from \$5 to \$6. All lawmakers pay 15 percent of the premium and the state pays 85 percent.

**SOME LEGISLATORS DO NOT PAY FEDERAL TAX ON THEIR LEGISLATIVE SALARY** - Legislators who live more than 50 miles from the Statehouse are eligible for a special federal tax break. A 1981 federal law allows them to write off a daily expense allowance when filing their federal income tax return. The complicated system determines a daily amount, ostensibly for meals, lodging and other expenses incurred in the course of their jobs, which can be deducted for every “legislative day.”

Under the Massachusetts Legislature’s system and schedule, every day of the year qualifies as a legislative day. The Legislature does not formally “prorogue” (end an annual session) until the next annual session begins. This allows legislators to take the deduction for all 365 days regardless of whether the Legislature is actually meeting or not. Legislators do not even have to travel to the Statehouse to qualify for the daily deduction.

The amount of the deduction is based on the federal per diem for Massachusetts. It varies from year to year and changes annually on October 1. The daily per diem for legislators from October 2013 through September 2014 varies in different parts of the state and is seasonal. It ranges from \$153 per day to \$350 per day or between \$55,845 and \$127,750 annually. It is estimated that more than one-third of the state’s 200 legislators qualify for this deduction and are eligible to pay little or no federal income tax on their legislative salaries.

## ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

**ROSENBERG SENDS MEMO FOLLOWING BOSTON GLOBE STORY** - Senate Majority Leader Stanley Rosenberg (D-Amherst), 65, who several months ago locked up the votes to be elected Senate president, wrote a memo to the chamber’s 33 Democrats assuring them there is a firewall between his personal and work life. He sent the memo following a Boston Globe report that 27-year-old his partner Bryon Hefner “boasted to senators about his influence on key decisions on Beacon Hill.”

In the memo, Rosenberg said, “As you saw from my response, I was open and transparent as I have been in the past. I intend to lead the Senate in the same way ... I have enforced a firewall between my private life and the business of the Senate, and will continue to do so.”

Rosenberg said he has made it clear to his partner that he is not going to be involved in the business of the Massachusetts Senate. Hefner has worked since May at Regan Communications Group, a public relations firm. He had also interned in Rosenberg’s office before they began dating and later ran Rosenberg’s political committee.

“He’s not involved in making any of the decisions,” Rosenberg said. “All personnel decisions, all the chairmanships, are going through the normal internal processes.”

The *Globe* article also mentioned that Hefner “mocked outgoing Senate President Therese Murray on social media.”

**CUT IN THE INCOME TAX AND LONG-TERM CAPITAL GAINS TAX RATES** - The State Department of Revenue announced a reduction in the income tax rate and long-term capital gains tax from 5.2 percent to 5.15 percent for Bay State taxpayers effective January 1, 2015. Sufficient economic growth under the terms of a 2002 law triggered the reduction.

These tax cuts do not need the approval of the Legislature. They are part of a system devised by the Legislature when it approved a \$1 billion-plus tax hike package in 2002. The package set the long-term capital gains tax at 5.3 percent and froze the income tax rate at 5.3 percent instead of allowing it to drop to 5 percent in January 2003 -- a reduction that was approved by voters in 2000. The 2002 package also includes an automatic trigger that reduces both taxes by 0.05 each year that the state’s economic growth is at least 2.5 percent until each tax is reduced to 5 percent. The 2014 growth is 2.7 percent. The tax cuts are estimated to reduce state revenue by \$70 million between January 1, 2015, and the end of fiscal year 2015 on June 30, 2015, and then \$140 million for the next full fiscal year.

Senate GOP Minority Leader Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester) hailed the cuts. He said, “With state spending reaching historic levels, it’s important that we also consider the people that are paying the bills. That’s why this modest tax relief is an important part of the state budget equation. It also moves us closer to the income tax rate that people approved at the ballot box several years ago and offers a chance for the reinvestment our economy needs to produce a robust recovery.”

Noah Berger, President of MassBudget, criticized the cuts. He said, “While our Commonwealth could be making investments to expand opportunity for all of our children and improve lives in our communities, this automatic tax cut will primarily benefit the wealthy and it will likely force cuts in education, transportation and other investments in our people and our economy.” He also blamed Gov. Deval Patrick’s recent cutting of funding for school transportation, job training, health care and other areas on these tax cuts.

This is the third year that an automatic tax cut was triggered. The income tax rate and long-term capital gains tax rate were reduced from 5.3 to 5.25 in 2012 and then from 5.25 to the current 5.2 in 2014.

**ALLOW INTERNS TO GIVE SHOTS (S 2127)** - The Senate approved and sent to the House a bill allowing pharmacy interns to give immunization shots to consumers. Pharmacy interns are students who have completed at least two years at an accredited school of pharmacy registered by the state. The intern would only be allowed to give the shots under the direct supervision of a registered pharmacist.

Supporters said getting shots at pharmacies is easier, faster and less expensive than at doctors’ offices. They said allowing interns to give the shots will increase the number of customers the pharmacy can handle and free up the time of the pharmacist to focus on filling prescriptions.

**LIMIT ON HOW MUCH GAMBLERS SPEND ON SLOT MACHINES** - The Massachusetts Gaming Commission unanimously approved a pilot program allowing gamblers to voluntarily set a limit on how much they spend on the slot machines at the slots parlor scheduled to open in Plainville in 2015.

*Continued on page 20*



## COMMENTARY

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

## Ending Secure Communities strengthens police, public cooperation



By Joseph A. Curtatone

President Obama has ended Secure Communities, the misguided and ineffective program that we opted to limit in Somerville earlier this year. In some ways, Secure Communities' ignominious end was inevitable. A federal judge has already ruled that holding a person released by the courts—which the program required—violates the Fourth Amendment. Statistics showed that the majority of people deported because of Secure Communities had no criminal convictions. We were breaking apart families, which leads to more crime, in the name of a broken immigration system. Everyone knew this program was flawed and that it would end eventually, but faced with a Congress that

refuses to govern because they're more interested in winning elections than smart, evidence-based decisions, the President rightly acted within his power to end Secure Communities sooner rather than later. This is an important step because it shows that the federal government is now, finally, realizing what we already know in Somerville—that truly keeping a community safe requires the police and residents to work together.

Secure Communities undermined the trust needed for that kind of collaboration to happen between law enforcement and residents. Instead of targeting people who posed real threats to the community, it indiscriminately treated every person the same regardless of their history, save for one factor: their status in a broken immigration system that everyone knows is broken and is crying out for reform. That discouraged innocent immigrant victims and witnesses of crimes from reporting or cooperating with law enforcement due to fear of deportation. Police officers who rely on public

cooperation to solve crimes and maintain public safety found their jobs harder, not easier, because of this program that also burdened them with doing the job of federal immigration enforcement. Secure Communities weakened communities and left us anything but secure.

We knew that here. Since 2008, the Somerville Police Department has had an internal policy that they do not contact federal immigration enforcement unless they are holding a suspect for a serious crime such as assault, rape or weapons charges. Since enacting that policy, crime in Somerville has dropped by roughly one-third. Our residents knew that our police were focused solely on pursuing and convicting actual criminals. They knew they wouldn't be ripped from their families for doing the right thing.

The Somerville Police adopted that policy because the department is committed to community policing, and that community policing means more than a few community-oriented programs within the department or an

extra walking beat for an officer. It means true collaboration between our community members and the police department—two-way communication based upon mutual understanding and trust. Reporting information to the police is an important part of that, but it goes beyond victims and witnesses providing that information and cooperating with investigations. Problem-solving is the key here, and residents, local business owners and the wider community are a big part of that, because the problems that police officers face are often not as simple as “a bad person did a bad thing.” Many factors can lead to crime or incidents that our officers must respond to.

We can't arrest our way out of crime. Simply putting more officers on the street addresses the symptoms, not the disease. So we support strong family units—ending Secure Communities is part of that—and strong education. Our officers work to be part of the community, known to our residents and communicative. This all lays the foundation for community

collaboration, where the people in our community can help the police identify problems that deserve attention and draw the connections between the issues we face as a community. Secure Communities eroded that trust. Now it is over, and our community will be stronger for it.

When police collaborate with the community, it strengthens public safety through problem-solving—and it also challenges our assumptions. The community can challenge the police department's assumptions about the root causes of problems—and have their own assumptions about police officers challenged, too. The recent grand jury decisions in Ferguson and Staten Island, and the shooting of Tamir Rice in Cleveland, have put a spotlight on the issues of community and police relations, and the assumptions that groups can make about one another. Whatever you believe about the grand jury decisions, one lesson is clear: We must work on building mutual understanding and trust between our law enforcement

Continued on page 23

## Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

### Thanks, Santa!



I love Christmas! I love the songs, the TV commercials, the Christmas specials on the tube, and seeing cars with Christmas trees on the roof. I also love saying the words Merry Christmas!

Kids have already made their lists, and checked them twice, or three times maybe. I'm sure they asked for iPhones, iPads, laptops, PlayStations and Xboxes. You know where I'm going with this don't you? I'm heading right down a brisk and chilly, cheerfully illuminated street called memory lane to take a look back at what was on Santa's list before the onslaught of technology.

A Kenner Give-A-Show Projector allowed us to watch color images of Yogi Bear, Superman, and Mickey Mouse on our bedroom wall or on a sheet. We got instant Polaroid cameras and took pictures of our family that could see in minutes. Girls got Easy Bake Ovens and cooked cakes and cookies using a light bulb. We received record albums like The Beatles' *Magical Mystery Tour* and Elton

*John's Greatest Hits*.

We got those great table hockey games with the twist controls and the little puck. I can still hear the sound those games made when we were involved in a suspense filled match. We got air rifles and BB guns and thankfully didn't shoot our eyes out.

In 1965 Go-Go boots were all the rage and if Santa brought you a pair, he probably got them at Jordan Marsh or Filenes. In 1968 fake rabbit fur jackets were a hot item and if you got one you were a very happy lady. I can still see the girls at The Western Junior High School wearing their two toned rabbit fur jackets and white Go-Go boots!

We got ice skates, baseball gloves and our first stereo with speakers and a turntable. That was a huge gift! After all, we needed a slick set up to play our new Beatles album on right?

There were lots of dolls under those Christmas trees of yore. Dolls like Thumbalina, Toodles, Chatty Cathy and Tressy. Chatty Cathy said phrases when you pulled her string and Tressy's hair grew by using the button on her back. My sister had Tressy and my cousin had

Chatty Cathy.

An English Raleigh 3-speed bicycle cost a fortune in the 60's. When my friend finally got one for Christmas after begging his dad (I mean Santa) he wiped out and bent the fork. He had to struggle to try to ride it normally in front of his dad, but it automatically would just go in circles. Too funny.

A lot of my friends got their first musical instrument for Christmas. The guitar I got in 1965 changed my life. If you got a drum set you were on your way to becoming the next Ringo Starr, hopefully. A lot of instruments came from Sears, Raymond's in Boston or Butler Music in Davis Square.

Back then stores weren't the only place to buy Christmas gifts. Some of our parents found some very good bargains in ... barrooms. Yes, I know it sounds sleazy but it is what it is. There was always a guy or two in a local gin mill who had great deals on ... merchandise. I know for a fact that guitars, jewelry and, yes, even a dog was purchased in a local speak easy. You had better hoped that whatever you bought in one of those joints was the right gift because they



didn't come with a sales slip and there no returns. If the cops busted the operation it brought a whole new meaning to “blue light special.”

Of course, the Christmases back then weren't all sunshine, lollipops and rainbows. A friend of mine was very excited when she got her Chatty Cathy doll. Two weeks after Christmas she gave her a bath. Unfortunately her excitement quickly turned to sadness. After the bath, Chatty Cathy never chatted again. Happy shopping!



COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Happy holiday shopping – and shop local!

The View Of The Times



Roll out the red carpet and start hanging the tinsel. Here comes the holiday shopping season once again, and we are ready to embrace the opportunity to celebrate the only way we can: with enthusiasm and optimism.

Let the political and economic pundits doom and gloom themselves into their usual perpetual state of the doldrums.

We know how to lift ourselves, to rise to the occasion and make the most of what we have, in spite of whatever challenges may confront us.

While the Thanksgiving holiday reminds us to be grateful for the blessings we have received, likewise, the Christmas holiday allows us the opportunity to share our bounty and to take stock in all the good things that life here in the ‘Ville has to offer.

Whatever our personal circumstances, we know that prosperity of spirit is far more important than the material wealth that may elude us from time to time. It may sound trite, but when you really think about it seriously the truth of it becomes clear.

As always, “local first” applies to our friends, families, and the occasional stranger as much as it does to our local economy. It’s a time to be a little kinder, and a little gentler with one another.

We are certain that the rewards to be gained from this will soften the effects of whatever excesses we may experience along the way.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

staff and the three top winners will have their poem published in time for Christmas. The best one submitted will receive a \$100 gift certificate for the Mt. Vernon Restaurant, a \$50 Mt. Vernon certificate for second choice and a \$25 Mt. Vernon gift certificate for third place. Submit your poem to be published by *The Somerville Times* in time for the holiday.

\*\*\*\*\*

Also, if you’d like to send a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays greeting to your special person or to anyone across the city, we’re going to have a section in the December 24 edition set aside for your holiday greetings. Mail your greeting or deliver to *The Somerville Times*, 699 Broadway, Somerville 02144. The cost is only \$5 for 25 words. The deadline for entry for the Christmas edition is December 19. Cash or check is due when submitting your greeting. Here’s your chance to show your loved ones and family or friends how special they are to you!

\*\*\*\*\*

The Somerville School Committee voted unanimously Monday evening to offer Mrs. Mary Skipper the Somerville Superintendent of Schools position. Mrs. Skipper currently serves as the Network Superintendent for High

Schools for the Boston Public Schools.

\*\*\*\*\*

Tonight, Wednesday, December 10 at 6:00pm a fundraiser for Ward 1 Alderman Matt McLaughlin is being held at Casey’s Bar 173 Broadway, Somerville. Matt’s another alderman who has been fighting hard for the people of East Somerville. So much so that he hasn’t had a fundraiser yet. Please attend and donate so that he can continue to represent the people.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Argenziano School at Lincoln Park PTA is pleased to announce the Argenziano Craft Fair will take place on Friday, December 12, 2014 at 290 Washington St, Somerville. This free event will run from 6:30-9:30pm. Shoppers are sure to find holiday gifts as they browse a variety of handmade goods ranging from one-of-a-kind jewelry, homemade ornaments, scarves, handmade candies, soaps and more. Visitors can also try their luck with a raffle ticket for a chance to win handmade wares or services from the local community. Pizza and drinks will also be available for purchase. The Argenziano Craft Fair is no ordinary event; it is one for children as much as shoppers. Be sure to visit our free Crafts and Cocoa tables

where you can meet old friends and make some new ones, while children of all ages build their own cards and crafts. Monies raised from the Craft Fair will help the Argenziano PTA support our students, families and staff to organize school-wide events and provide funding for field trips, enrichment, and supplies not covered by the school budget.

\*\*\*\*\*

Tickets are now being sold for the Somerville High School production of Aida. Three performances of this Elton John/Tim Rice collaboration are scheduled for February 2015 at Somerville High School’s newly renovated Centennial Auditorium. Performances are at 7:00 p.m. on February 5 and 6, and 2:00 p.m. on February 7. Ticket prices through December 31, 2014 are: \$8 for adults, \$6 for any PK-12th grade student and any young child not in school who requires his/her own seat; and \$6 for senior citizens. Ticket prices will increase to \$12 after December 31. To purchase tickets, mail a check (payable to SHS Performing Arts) to: Rosemary Sears, SHS Musical Producer, Somerville High School, 81 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143. Theater tickets make great gifts. Pay for your

tickets by December 31 and you’ll pay last year’s prices. Tickets will be mailed out in January. Be sure to indicate the number of Adult, Youth and Senior Citizen tickets you’re ordering on your check. Please contact Rosemary Sears, Producer, [atrsears@k12.somerville.ma.us](mailto:atrsears@k12.somerville.ma.us) with any questions about this year’s musical production or for ticket purchase information. For information on SHS Musical sponsorship opportunities, visit [www.somerville.k12.ma.us/musical](http://www.somerville.k12.ma.us/musical).

\*\*\*\*\*

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone is having a “Family Holiday Party” at the Holiday Inn, 30 Washington St., on Tuesday December 16, 6-8p.m. They will also be collecting toys for local children at the event.

\*\*\*\*\*

Just in Time for the Holidays: Gift Giving Special-10% off All Adult Evening School Classes. Give the gift of education and save. For a list of current Adult Evening School course offerings and to register, visit <http://register.asapconnected.com/Default.aspx?org=3830>. Classes meet Tuesday and Thursday nights at Somerville High School, 81 Highland Ave. Questions? Call Evening School Principal Sophia Carafotes at (617) 628-2594.



# Tree Lighting at City Hall

The annual tree lighting ceremony took place on Dec. 4 on the City Hall Concourse, followed by a meet and greet with Santa Claus in the Somerville High School Highlander Café.

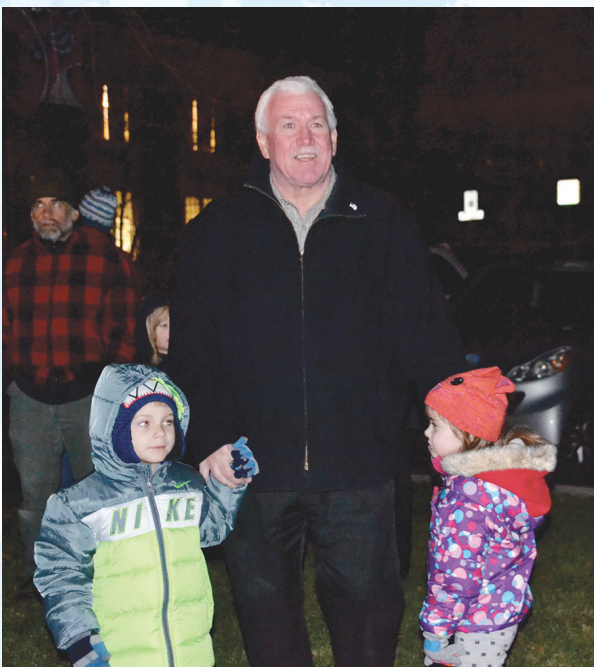
Santa Claus was escorted by the Somerville Fire Department for the ceremony and was available for photos following the tree lighting. All children attending the ceremony also received a gift from Santa.

Live entertainment for the event featured the Somerville High School Band and Orchestra, the Somerville Community Chorus, and El Sistema Somerville.

Refreshments were served at SHS.







Photos by Claudia Ferro





SPORTS

SYSL winter soccer programs kick off

By Tom Bannister

The Somerville Youth Soccer League (SYSL) has announced two winter soccer programs being offered by Somerville Recreation and SYSL beginning next Saturday, December 13. The program details are as follows:

**Indoor Soccer Clinic at the Somerville High School Gymnasium** – Sponsored by Somerville Recreation and SHS Girls Varsity Coach Tony Arias.

This clinic is designed specifically to improve a player’s individual skill – ball control, dribbling, passing, and scoring in a fun, learning environment. Saturdays 4:00-5:30 p.m. (U6, U8, & U10 Girls and Boys).

**Futsal Pick-up Games at the Somerville High School Gymnasium** – Sponsored by Somerville Recreation and Somerville Youth Soccer League (SYSL).

Pick-up games will be organized each Saturday based on age and gender, assuming there is enough of a turnout to charter teams. Volunteer coaches are needed – no prior futsal is required. Somerville Rec and SYSL will review game rules with coaches on the first Saturday. Saturdays 5:30-6:30 PM (U10 Boys); Saturdays 6:30-7:30 PM (U10 & U12 Girls); Saturdays 7:30-8:30 PM (U12 Boys).

These are pick-up games. Players must arrive 15 minutes before their scheduled time so that coaches can organize teams.

Indoor soccer clinic runs December 13 to February 14th. No clinics are scheduled for Dec. 27 or Jan. 3. Cost: \$50. Checks can be made out to Somerville Recreation Department. Please contact the Somerville Recreation Department for more information regarding this program.



SYSL continues its mission to provide playing opportunities for young soccer enthusiasts with its winter indoor program.



McGoldrick honored by Kiwanis

By Ross Blouin

The Somerville Kiwanis Club recently celebrated the accomplishments of one of its veteran members, President and CEO of the Winter Hill Bank Sandra McGoldrick, at its luncheon meeting on Thursday, December 4.

The club declared the meeting as “Sandra McGoldrick Red Jacket Day” in recognition of her service to the Somerville Kiwanis Club and the Somerville Community.

McGoldrick was presented a Kiwanis Red Jacket and a donation of \$1,000 was made in her honor to the Kiwanis Pediatric Trauma Institute at Tufts New England Medical Center.

Bob Nissenbaum, Secretary Emeritus Kiwanis Club of Somerville, spoke at the luncheon meeting saying, “Kiwanis Clubs all throughout New England show their support for KPTI by recognizing one or more of their members with



Sandra McGoldrick was honored with her own “Red Jacket Day” by the Somerville Kiwanis last Thursday.

a KPTI Red Jacket symbolizing high achievement and a very special thanks from the Kiwanis Club to that individual. Sandra is a woman of ‘firsts.’ Sandra was the first woman to be Club President.”

He went on to say, “You are kind as kind can be and as generous as I’ve ever seen. You are loyal to your friends, you are

loyal to Somerville Kiwanis. You have a heart bigger than anyone. You are humble and give praise unfailingly to others. Sandra, on behalf of the Board of Directors, on behalf of all the members, we’re proud of you and we thank you so much for all your time, and for all your time and for all your energy and for all your effort.”

Ms. Cam's  
**Olio**  
Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge #452

1. What planet did the Gallileo spacecraft slam into after orbiting for eight years?	7. Where was the highest temperature ever recorded in the U.S. and when?
2. How many sides does a snowflake have?	8. Who was the first president to have a Christmas tree in the White House?
3. What are the three countries that make up the “Low Countries”?	9. Is the olive a fruit or a vegetable?
4. What is green tea made from?	10. What is the total sum of “fourscore and seven years”?
5. What four letters on a keyboard follow the letters QWERTY?	11. Did George Washington go to college?
6. Who was the first and only U.S. president ever to resign?	12. In what country was the fortune cookie invented?

Answers on page 17

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# Friday Musical Entertainment at Highlander Café



The Somerville High School Highlander Café is featuring live piano musical entertainment on Friday afternoons during lunch, courtesy of Somerville High School music students. The Highlander Café is open for lunch Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Stop by for a delicious lunch in a lovely setting, prepared by Somerville High’s Culinary Arts students working under the guidance of Culinary Arts Instructors Jeffrey Stuart and Melissa Nova.  
— Photo by Claudia Ferro

## School Winter Concerts

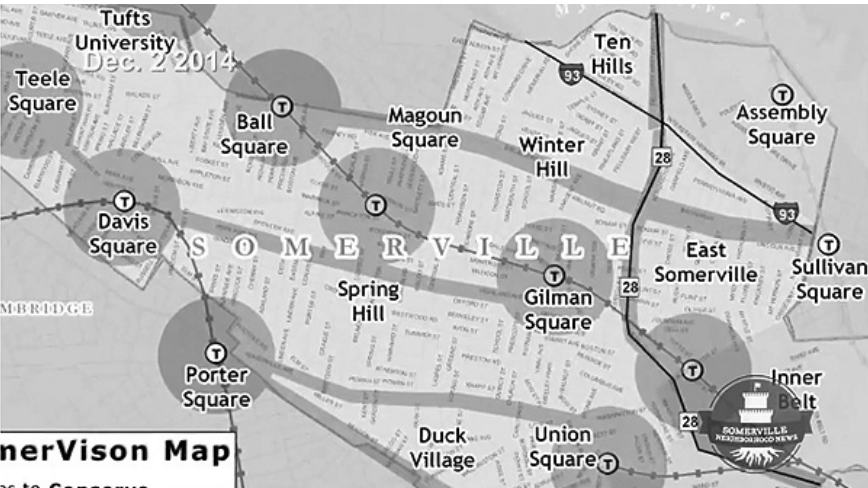
Don’t miss your children’s music winter performances. Check your calendar for winter concert dates, times and locations. The first Winter Concert is coming up on the 9th.

December 12, 2014, 8:45 am: East Somerville Community School Winter Concert  
December 17, 2014, 9:15 am: Winter Hill Community Innovation School Winter Concert  
December 17, 2014, 6:00 pm: Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert  
December 19, 2014, 8:45 am: West Somerville Neighborhood School Winter Concert  
December 19, 2014, 9:15 am: Healey School Winter Concert  
December 23, 2014, 9:15 am: Argenziano School Winter Concert  
January 13, 2015, 6:30 pm: Kennedy School Grades 4-8 Winter Concert  
January 23, 2015, 9:15am: Capuano Kindergarten Winter Concert

# What’s on Somerville Neighborhood News

**One thousand new units planned for the city**

Over a dozen medium- to large-sized residential developments, totaling around 1,000 units, are slated to be constructed over the next few years in Somerville. Most will be selling or renting for market rates, which continue to rise. But City Hall and residents don’t necessarily stand by and simply watch the construction. Boards like the Planning Board are involved, and residents can also take part in crafting what kind of developments go up in their neighborhoods.



“As individual projects come to Somerville, they typically go before our Design Review Committee, our Planning Board, or our Zoning Board and that board looks at it to try to make sure it’s consistent with our community’s goals, with where we want the community to be going, for how we want to grow,” Director of Planning George Proakis told Somerville Neighborhood News (SNN). All of the commercial and housing development in the city is meant to fit in with the Somervision Comprehensive Plan, completed in 2012, he added. Certain neighborhoods are currently zoned to stay more or less the way they are – single, double or triple-family residences. Others are slated for four- to five-story buildings. Some business districts are meant to be more supportive of local businesses while others – like Assembly Square – are slated for more radical change. The full story is found online: [www.somervilleneighborhood-news.org](http://www.somervilleneighborhood-news.org).

Take off those cleats and  
slip on some  
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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
City of Somerville  
Office of the Acting Treasurer/Collector

NOTICE OF TAKING

TO THE OWNERS OF THE HEREUNDER DESCRIBED LAND AND TO ALL OTHERS CONCERNED: YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that on January 9th, 2015 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning at the Collector's Office/Treasury, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, Section 53, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, the following described parcels of land will BE TAKEN FOR THE CITY OF SOMERVILLE for non-payment of the taxes due thereon, with interest and incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid in full **before that date**.

Signed: *Peter K. Forcellese, Jr.* Treasurer/Collector.

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **13 KINGMAN RD**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: EDUARDO FONTES  
DEMAND: **05/06/2013** PARCEL ID: **082-A.00005-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **06253015** SQUARE FEET: **2,096**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 46612, Page: 152.

Fiscal Year **2013** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$2,363.77**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$567.96**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$3,300.73**

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **13 KINGMAN RD**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: EDUARDO FONTES  
DEMAND: **05/05/2014** PARCEL ID: **082-A.00005-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **06253015** SQUARE FEET: **2,096**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 46612, Page: 152.

Fiscal Year **2014** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$2,390.88**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$212.24**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$2,972.12**

12/10/14 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **19 ELM**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: ESTATE OF MARY T. REID  
DEMAND: **05/06/2013** PARCEL ID: **036-C.00042-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **18568200** SQUARE FEET: **4,290**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 59239, Page: 324.

Fiscal Year **2013** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$1,929.62**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$447.73**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$2,746.35**

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **19 ELM**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: ESTATE OF MARY T. REID  
DEMAND: **05/05/2014** PARCEL ID: **036-C.00042-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **18568200** SQUARE FEET: **4,290**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 59239, Page: 324.

Fiscal Year **2014** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$2,802.82**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$203.35**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$3,375.17**

12/10/14 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **84 HINCKLEY ST**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: JANE RAO TRUSTEE OF 84 HINCKLEY STREET REALTY TRUST  
DEMAND: **05/06/2013** PARCEL ID: **033-C.00005-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **12394090** SQUARE FEET: **2226.75**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 31384, Page: 607 & Book: 46874, Page: 391.

Fiscal Year **2013** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$1,593.76**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$377.72**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$2,340.48**

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **84 HINCKLEY ST**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: JANE RAO TRUSTEE OF 84 HINCKLEY STREET REALTY TRUST  
DEMAND: **05/05/2014** PARCEL ID: **033-C.00005-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **12394090** SQUARE FEET: **2226.75**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 31384, Page: 607 & Book: 46874, Page: 391.

Fiscal Year **2014** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$3,334.75**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$457.75**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$4,161.5**

12/10/14 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **28 WALNUT RD**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: BERNARD J. DOHERTY & MAUREEN T. DOHERTY  
DEMAND: **05/06/2013** PARCEL ID: **071-B.00011-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **04203191** SQUARE FEET: **2835**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 57138, Page:352.

Fiscal Year **2013** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$2,020.18**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$510.64**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$2,899.82**

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **28 WALNUT RD**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: BERNARD J. DOHERTY & MAUREEN T. DOHERTY  
DEMAND: **05/05/2014** PARCEL ID: **071-B.00011-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **04203191** SQUARE FEET: **2835**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 57138, Page:352.

Fiscal Year **2014** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$583.49**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$56.62**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$1,009.11**

12/10/14 The Somerville Times

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LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **23 HAWTHORNE ST.**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: CONSTANCE M. MCMANUS TRUSTEE OF THE MCMANUS TRUST  
DEMAND: **05/06/2013** PARCEL ID: **025-C.00018-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **13420180** SQUARE FEET: **3,373**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Southern Middlesex Land Court Registry District, Document No.: 880232, Certificate No.: 194105 in Book: 01100 Page: 155 & Document No.: 80233, Certificate No.: 194105 in Book: 01100 Page: 155

Fiscal Year **2013** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$1,555.95**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$361.77**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$2,286.72**

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **23 HAWTHORNE ST.**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: CONSTANCE M. MCMANUS TRUSTEE OF THE MCMANUS TRUST  
DEMAND: **05/05/2014** PARCEL ID: **025-C.00018-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **13420180** SQUARE FEET: **3,373**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Southern Middlesex Land Court Registry District, Document No.: 880232, Certificate No.: 194105 in Book: 01100 Page: 155 & Document No.: 80233, Certificate No.: 194105 in Book: 01100 Page: 155

Fiscal Year **2014** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$1,787.44**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$170.55**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$2,326.99**

12/10/14 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **24 CHANDLER ST.**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: CONSTANCE M. MCMANUS TRUSTEE OF THE MCMANUS TRUST  
DEMAND: **05/06/2013** PARCEL ID: **016-C.00042-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **13420188** SQUARE FEET: **4,660**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 22376, Page: 446 & Book: 22376, Page: 432.

Fiscal Year **2013** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$2,858.74**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$670.63**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$3,898.37**

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **24 CHANDLER ST.**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: CONSTANCE M. MCMANUS TRUSTEE OF THE MCMANUS TRUST  
DEMAND: **05/05/2014** PARCEL ID: **016-C.00042-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **13420188** SQUARE FEET: **4,660**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 22376, Page: 446 & Book: 22376, Page: 432.

Fiscal Year **2014** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$2,925.88**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$281.02**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$3,575.90**

12/10/14 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **50 SPRINGFIELD ST.**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: MARY J. VICENTE  
DEMAND: **05/05/2014** PARCEL ID: **076-C.00014-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **19621180** SQUARE FEET: **3,320**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 57795, Page: 586.

Fiscal Year **2014** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$8,161.7**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$1,155.06**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$9,685.76**

12/10/14 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **69 HOLLAND ST., UNIT 69A**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: KENNETH W. BAUGHMAN  
DEMAND: **05/06/2013** PARCEL ID: **016-B.00001-00069A**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **93005013** SQUARE FEET: **0**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 58520, Page: 74.

Fiscal Year **2013** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$1,433.55**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$356.67**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$2,159.22**

12/10/14 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **55 HAWTHORNE ST.**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: CONSTANCE M. MCMANUS TRUSTEE OF THE MCMANUS TRUST  
DEMAND: **05/06/2013** PARCEL ID: **025-B.00009-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **13420185** SQUARE FEET: **2,207**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 22376, Page: 442 & Book: 22376, Page: 432.

Fiscal Year **2013** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$1,750.09**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$407.79**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$2,526.88**

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **55 HAWTHORNE ST.**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: CONSTANCE M. MCMANUS TRUSTEE OF THE MCMANUS TRUST  
DEMAND: **05/05/2014** PARCEL ID: **025-B.00009-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **13420185** SQUARE FEET: **2,207**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 22376, Page: 442 & Book: 22376, Page: 432.

Fiscal Year **2014** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$1,817.24**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$173.44**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$2,359.68**

12/10/14 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **282 BROADWAY**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: ANTHONY F. CINTOLO TRUSTEE OF THE BROADWAY NOMINEE TRUST  
DEMAND: **05/06/2013** PARCEL ID: **071-B.00001-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **03117168** SQUARE FEET: **3,584**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 25745, Page: 071 & Book: 25745, Page: 066.

Fiscal Year **2013** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$2,534.48**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$594.03**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$3,497.51**

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **282 BROADWAY**  
CURRENT & ASSESSED OWNER: ANTHONY F. CINTOLO TRUSTEE OF THE BROADWAY NOMINEE TRUST  
DEMAND: **05/05/2014** PARCEL ID: **071-B.00001-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **03117168** SQUARE FEET: **3,584**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 25745, Page: 071 & Book: 25745, Page: 066.

Fiscal Year **2014** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$2,539.04**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$243.48**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$3,151.52**

12/10/14 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **91 HIGHLAND RD # 1**  
CURRENT OWNER: JACOB RIGBY  
SUBSEQUENT & ASSESSED OWNERS: JONATHAN A. SCHWARTZ & LAUREN A. HITTNER  
DEMAND: **05/06/2013** PARCEL ID: **027-H.00022-000001**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **20051150** SQUARE FEET: **0**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds Book: 64232, Page: 486.

Fiscal Year **2013** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$2,311.94**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$579.86**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$3,260.80**

12/10/14 The Somerville Times

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: **25 HAMLET ST.**  
CURRENT OWNER(S): DIANA JONG AND CHRISTOPHER P. PLONSKI; LI SU.  
SUBSEQUENT & ASSESSED OWNER(S): DIANA JONG AND CHRISTOPHER P. PLONSKI; JUN YANG AND LI SU  
DEMAND: **05/09/2012** PARCEL ID: **072-B.00030-000000**  
ALT. PARCELS/TAX ACCOUNT: **04200150** SQUARE FEET: **6,413**  
TITLE REFERENCE: Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Book: 57973, Page: 1; Book: 57928, Page: 72; and Book: 62534, Page:319.

Fiscal Year **2012** Taxes Remaining Unpaid **\$746.52**  
Interest to Date of Taking **\$26.34**  
Incidental Expenses and Costs to Date of Taking **\$369.00**  
**Total for which Land will be Taken \$1,141.86**

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Historical Fact of the Week CONT. FROM PG 5

in her neighborhood and beyond. Her untiring work eventually led her to testify in Washington, D.C. The complicated, landmark case of the 1980's generated a number-one best-selling book by Jonathan Harr, *A Civil Action*, which took 8 ½ years to research and write. This, in turn, generated a major, star-studded motion picture with the same title. The cast included John Travolta, Robert Duvall, James Gandolfini, Kathleen Quinlan, and a bit part by talk-show host and former Somerville resident, Howie Carr.

Because of the efforts of Anne Anderson and her colleagues for over a decade, a superfund and the Massachusetts Cancer Registry were established.

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



LEGAL NOTICES

Legal Notices can also be viewed on our Web site at [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com)



NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)

NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS (NOI/RROF)

Date of Publication: December 10, 2014

Responsible Entities City of Somerville

Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning  
and Community Development  
93 Highland Avenue, 3rd floor,  
Somerville, MA 02143  
Tel: 617-625-6600, x. 2527, 2585

These notices shall satisfy two separate, but related, procedural requirements for activities to be undertaken by the City of Somerville (The City), acting by and through the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (SPCD).

On or about December 29, 2014 The City will submit a request to the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Boston Office, for the release of HOME Investments Partnerships Program funds under Title II of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act, 32 U.S.C. 12701 et seq., as amended, to undertake a project known as the 163 Glen Street Homeownership Initiative located at 163 Glen St., Somerville, MA. for the purpose of acquisition, adaptive re-use and new construction of up to 17 homeownership units, 66% of which will be priced to be affordable to low/moderate and middle income buyers. Total development cost, including acquisition, remediation, construction, soft costs, utility related and other site work, and development fees, is estimated at \$4,123,148, of which The City's share is estimated at \$2,239,960.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The City has determined that the project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at SPCD, 3rd floor, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143 and may be examined and/or copied Monday-Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Thursday from 8:30 a.m - 7:30 p.m.; and Friday from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the The City at the address given above. All comments received by the end of the business day on December 26, 2014 will be considered by The City prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The City certifies to HUD/Boston that Joseph A. Curtatone, in his capacity as Mayor and Certifying Officer of the City of Somerville, consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD/Boston's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under NEPA and related laws and authorities, and allows The City to use Program funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

HUD/Boston will accept objections to its release of funds and The City's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officers of the The City; (b) the The City has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, or incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD/Boston.; or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to: HUD/Office of Community Planning & Development, Thomas P. O'Neil Jr. Federal Building, 10 Causeway Street, 5th floor, Boston, MA 02222-1092. Potential objectors should contact HUD/Boston (617-994-8200) to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

Joseph A. Curtatone, Mayor of the City of Somerville

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



Salter  
McGowan  
Sylvia &  
Leonard

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by RICHARD A. PRUDENCIO a/k/a RICHARD PRUDENCIO and GRACE D. PRUDENCIO a/k/a GRACE PRUDENCIO a/k/a GRANCE D. PRUDENCIO to CORNERSTONE MORTGAGE CORP. dated August 13, 2004, recorded with the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 43519 at Page 382, of which mortgage TD BANK, N.A. (successor by acquisition to Boston Federal Savings Bank, successor by assignment from Cornerstone Mortgage Corp. by virtue of an assignment of mortgage dated August 13, 2004 and recorded with the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 43519 at Page 406) is the present holder, or is authorized by the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises known 25 Kensington Avenue, Unit 1, Somerville, Massachusetts will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 P.M. on January 7, 2015, on the mortgaged premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage substantially as follows:

Unit No. of the 25 Kensington Avenue Condominium, situated in Somerville, Middlesex County, Massachusetts and created pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 183A, by Master deed dated November 14, 2002 and recorded with the County Registry of Deeds in Book 40121, Page 206

Said Unit is shown on the "Site Plan" and "Floor Plans" referred to in the said Master Deed and any amendments thereto, creating said Condominium and made a part thereof, and on a copy of said Floor Plans is affixed the verified statement of a Registered Land Surveyor in the form required by Section 9 of said Chapter 183A.

Said Unit is conveyed with an undivided percentage of the common elements of the 25 Kensington Avenue Condominium established by the aforesaid Master Deed as amended.

Being the premises conveyed to the mortgagors, Richard A. Prudencio and Grace D. Prudencio a/k/a Grance D. Prudencio, by deed of Asif and Pervin Babu, dated November 21, 2003 and recorded with the Middlesex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41512, at Page 67.

The premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, reservations, conditions, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. The premises are also sold subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) by cash, certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The Mortgagee and its authorized representatives shall not be required to pay the deposit to bid. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at the law offices of Salter McGowan Sylvia & Leonard, Inc., 321 South Main Street, Suite 301, Providence, RI 02903 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt of the full purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

TD Bank, N.A.,  
Present holder or authorized by the present  
holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,  
Salter McGowan Sylvia & Leonard, Inc.  
321 South Main Street, Suite 301  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 274-0300

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT  
RFP # 15-55

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

Design, fabrication, and installation oversight services for a custom seating area and public art on a new City plaza.

Nature and scope of work: The City of Somerville is seeking to procure a Consultant for design, fabrication, and installation oversight services for a custom seating area and public art on a new City plaza to be constructed near Davis Square in Somerville.

The RFP will be available form 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Thursday, 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon, Fridays, at the Purchasing Department, 1st Floor, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143 starting Friday, December 12, 2014.

Sealed proposals will be received at the Purchasing Department, 1st Floor, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143 until January 30, 2014 at 11:00 a.m..

Please contact Alex Nosnik, Asst. Purchasing Director, x3400, or email [anosnik@somervillema.gov](mailto:anosnik@somervillema.gov), for information and bid packages.

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

12/10/14 The Somerville Times

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
The Trial Court  
Middlesex Probate and Family Court  
208 Cambridge Street  
Cambridge, MA. 02141

Middlesex Division

Docket No. MI13P5735GD

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS  
OF A GUARDIAN

In the interests of: Mary Santos  
Formerly of Somerville

RESPONDENT

Incapacitated Person/Protected Person

Of: Worcester, MA.

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Dept. of Mental Health of Westborough, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to determine that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have a right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return day of 01/12/2015. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. Edward F Donnelly, Jr., , First Justice of this Court

Date: November 17, 2014

Tara E. De Cristofaro  
Register of Probate

12/10/14 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT  
IFB # 15-56

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

Refurbishment of City's Fleet of Big Belly Trash  
and Recycling Receptacles

Nature and scope of work: The City of Somerville is seeking to refurbish the City's Fleet of Big Belly Trash and Recycling Receptacles

The RFP will be available form 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Monday through Thursday, 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon, Fridays, at the Purchasing Department, 1st Floor, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143 starting Wednesday, December 10, 2014.

Sealed bids will be received at the Purchasing Department, 1st Floor, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143 until December 24, 2014at 11:00 a.m..

Please contact Alex Nosnik, Asst. Purchasing Director, x3400, or email [anosnik@somervillema.gov](mailto:anosnik@somervillema.gov), for information and bid packages.

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

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Ms. Cam's

From on page 14

Olíio

Answers

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Jupiter                                    | reached 134°F  |
| 2. Eight                                      | 8. President Pierce                                  |
| 3. The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg    | 9. It is a fruit it grows on an olive tree           |
| 4. Unfermented tea leaves                     | 10. 87 years   |
| 5. UIOP                                       | 11. No, actually he had very little formal education |
| 6. Richard Nixon                              |  |
| 7. Death Valley, CA in 1934 – the temperature | 12. It was an American invention                     |



• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Wednesday|December 10

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

**East Branch Library**  
Rosalita’s Puppets present The Nut-cracker  
Meghan Forsell-617-623-5000 x2970  
3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

**Central Library**  
Middle School Writers’ Den  
Alan Ball-617 636-9033  
6 p.m.-6:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Thursday|December 11

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

**West Branch Library**  
Lego Club  
Annamarie Almeida-617-623-5000 x2977  
3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.| 40 College Avenue

**Central Library**  
Middle School Writers’ Den  
Alan Ball-617 636-9033  
6 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Friday|December 12

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

Saturday|December 13

**Central Library**  
3D Snowflake Workshop  
Thy Toeum-617-623-5000  
2 p.m.-4 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Sunday|December 14

**Central Library**  
The Hampstead Stage Company  
Performs A Christmas Carol  
Cathy Piantigini-617-623-5000, x2950  
2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Monday|December 15

**Central Library**  
Middle School Writers’ Den  
Alan Ball-617 636-9033  
6 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Tuesday|December 16

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

**Central Library**  
Homeschool Reading Group for Ages 11-13  
Tammy McKanan617-591-0216  
9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Wednesday|December 17

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

**Central Library**  
Girl Scouts Information Session  
Kate Deming-617-352-0147  
5:30 p.m.-7:30p.m.| 79 Highland Avenue

MUSIC|ARTS

Wednesday|December 10

**Johnny D’s**  
Jan Marie & The mean Reds  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Exile on Elm  
Back Room  
Comedy@10  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**PA’S Lounge**  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

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

**Highland Kitchen**  
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

**Joshua Tree Bar & Grill**  
Pub Trivia  
8:30 p.m.|256 Elm Street|(617) 623-9910

**Arts at the Armory**  
Boston Music Collaborators Open Mic  
7p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Thursday|December 11

**Johnny D’s**  
The 10th Annual Boston Christmas Cavalcade for the Homeless  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s**  
Flatt Rabbit grassy Thursdays  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Acoustic/Bluegrass|9:30 p.m.  
Back Room  
Scattershot |10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**PA’S Lounge**  
WEMF Radio|Arbelist|Ladymob|Char-iot Brigade  
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

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

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

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

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

**Arts at the Armory**  
Todd Mack: Concert for FOLK New England  
7:30| Café|191 Highland Ave

Friday|December 12

**Johnny D’s**  
Squeezebox Stompers  
Aquanutz plus Gunpowder Gelatine  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s**  
Ish |6 p.m.  
HNL presents The Mountain & The Viper, The Sunbird CD Release, Pa-paShake \$10 cover |9 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Irish Session|9:30 p.m.  
Back Room  
Cover Up  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

**PA’S Lounge**  
WEMF Radio|TBA|Savory|Andrew Marks|Lee Preston  
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**  
Matt Charette & TC CostelloMatt Charette & TC Costello  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Joshua Tree**  
DJ McRiddleton  
256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

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

9177

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

**Arts at the Armory**  
Holiday Pops  
8 p.m.|Performance Hall  
It’s a Wonderful Life, A Live Radio Play  
8 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

**Davis Square Theatre**  
Merry Krampus featuring OTP the Daley Grimes  
9 p.m.|255 Elm St

Saturday|December 13

**Johnny D’s**  
Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast  
Guitar  
Albert Cummings  
AFROPOP NIGHT feat: The Macro- tones plus Fat Bradley  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s**  
Tom Hagerty Band |6 p.m.  
Chris Monti Band, Ivo & the Wave Wranglers, Alec K Redfearn & The Eyesores \$5 cover |9 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Back Room  
Spitting Vinnies  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar**  
Karaoke  
65 Holland St

**PA’S Lounge**  
WEMF Radio|Jed Crook|Civil Culture|-Passin Jack|Uncle Rusty  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

**Bull McCabe’s**  
The Johnny Come Latelies  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Joshua Tree**  
DJ El Sid!  
256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

**Samba Bar & Grille**  
Live Band & DJ  
608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

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

**Arts at the Armory**  
It’s A Wonderful Life, A Live Radio Play  
7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Sunday|December 14

**Johnny D’s**  
Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast  
Guitar  
Open Blues Jam! featuring Dr Grant & The Medical Marijuana Bandr  
Tinsley Ellis and Mike Zito  
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Hipswayers |6 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Sunday Americana with Sean Staples, Eric Royer, Tim Gearan, Dave Westner and Dan Keller|7 p.m.  
Back Room  
Burren Acoustic Music Series  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**PA’S Lounge**  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

**Highland Kitchen**  
Sunday Brunch Live Country & Bluegrass  
Sunday Night Live Music  
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

**Samba Bar & Grille**  
Live Band & DJ  
608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

**Arts at the Armory**  
Local is for Lovers Holiday Market  
10 a.m.-3 p.m.| Performance Hall  
Mass Appeal

7 p.m.|Mezzanine  
It’s A Wonderful Life, A Live Radio Play  
8 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Monday|December 15

**Johnny D’s**  
Johnny D’s Comedy Showcase Pres-ents: Storyteller Café  
Stump! Pub Trivia|8:30 p.m.  
17 Holland St | 617-776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Shawn Cater’s Cheapshots Comedy Jam |7 p.m.  
Marley Mondays with The Duppy Conquerors|10 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Bur-Run  
Helena Delaney, Johnny O’Leary & Friends Irish Session|9 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

**PA’S Lounge**  
Americiana Monday  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

**Bull McCabe’s Pub**  
Stump! Team Trivia  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Arts at the Armory**  
SAC Artist of the Month  
7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday|December 16

**Johnny D’s**  
Drum Fest Duel Night hosted by Joey Scrima  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Kristen Ford December Residency featuring stellar guests|8 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Jason Anick and the Swingers|8:30 p.m.  
Back Room  
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  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

**Bull McCabe’s Pub**  
The Ghetto People Band  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Highland Kitchen**  
First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling Bee Night  
hosted by Victor and Nicole of Egoart.  
The fun starts at 10:00p.m.  
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

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

**Arts at the Armory**  
First and Last Word Poetry Series  
7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Wednesday|December 17

**Johnny D’s**  
PRIVATE EVENT - Bar & Kitchen open to public  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Exile on Elm  
Back Room  
Comedy@10  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**PA’S Lounge**  
WEMF Radio|Max Bailey|Same Ham-merman|BCF  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

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

**Highland Kitchen**  
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

**Joshua Tree Bar & Grill**  
Pub Trivia  
8:30 p.m.|256 Elm Street|(617) 623-9910

**Arts at the Armory**  
Red Cross Blood Drive  
2 p.m.-7p.m.|Performance Hall  
Broad Appeal: Not your average lady comedy show!  
7:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

CLASSES AND GROUPS  
Wednesday|December 10

**Central Library**  
Improve your Skills and Career with Free Help from JVS  
Joyce Lin-(617) 399-3305  
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

Thursday|December 11

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

**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

**Third Life Studio**  
Roots and Rhythm  
33 Unions Sq.| www.libana.com

**Friday|December 12**  
**Central Library**  
Housing Lottery for Affordable Unit  
Kelly Donato-617.625.6600 x 2560  
9:30 a.m.| 79 Highland Ave

**Saturday|December 13**  
**Arts at the Armory**  
Somerville Winter Farmers’ Market  
9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

**Bagel Bards**  
Somerville Writers and Poets meet weekly to discuss their work  
9 a.m.-12 p.m.|Au Bon Pain| 18-48 Holland St

**Sunday|December 14**  
**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.

**Third Life Studio**  
Discover Belly Dance with Nadira Ja-mal 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com

**Monday|December 15**  
**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

**Tuesday|December 16**  
**Central Library**  
Learn English at the Library!  
6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.| 79 Highland Avenue

**Arts at the Armory**  
Prenatal Yoga  
7 p.m.|Mezzanine|191 Highland Ave

**Third Life Studio**  
The Art of Group Singing For Women with Susan Robbins, www.libana.com  
7 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.|33 Union Sq

**Wednesday|December 17**  
**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!



SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

**Welcome to our centers.** Everyone 55+ is encouraged to join us for fitness, culture, films, lunch and Bingo. Our centers are open to everyone from Somerville and surrounding communities. 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.

**All clubs and groups welcome new members.**

**Holland Street:** 167 Holland Street  
Monday through Friday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
617-625-6600 Ext. 2300

**Cross Street Center:** 165 Broadway  
Tuesday & Wednesday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
(617) 625-6600 Ext. 2335

**Ralph and Jenny Center:** 9 New Washington Street,  
Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
(617) 666-5223

**Some exciting events in the coming weeks:**

**Illumination Of Lights** – Saturday, December 13th – Join the SCOA & the Somerville Arts Council for its annual tour of the holiday lights in Somerville. There is limited seating - \$5.00 fee – check-in time is at 4:15 P.M. at the High School concourse. Please call Connie at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300 to reserve your spot.

**Multicultural Day** – Wednesday, December 17 – At our Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway – from 10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. Learn more about different languages, music, foods and cultures. One day of international adventure begins with a music selections from the East Somerville Community School chorus, delicious food samplings, various exhibitors will be on hand to promote multiculturalism. For more information or to reserve a space please call Janine Lotti at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300 before Wednesday, December 11th.

**Free Holiday Concert** – Thursday, December 18 – At our Holland Street Center, 167 Holland Street – 10:00 A.M. Come and join the talented faculty members of the Powers Music School as they celebrate the season with old favorites from popular literature, and enjoy trying to “stump the band” by requesting a song the musicians may not know. The SCOA’s own senior choir, The Moonlighters, will be joining in on the fun as well. RSVP at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300.

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

Holiday Party at the WHYC scheduled for December 10 is **SOLD OUT**.

Huke Lau trip scheduled for December 16th is **SOLD OUT**.

The trip scheduled to Atlantic City on January 11 is **SOLD OUT**.

The trip scheduled to Wildwood, NJ on May 11 – 15 is **SOLD OUT**.

The Ralph & Jenny Center will remain closed on Mondays and will resume Mondays after the first of the New Year.

Our Holland Street Center will be serving lunch on Monday, Thursday & Fridays only until further notice.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

**The Ralph & Jenny Center** will remain closed on Mondays and will resume Mondays after the first of the New Year.

Our **Holland Street Center** will be serving lunch on Monday, Thursday & Fridays only until further notice.

**LGBT EVENTS:**

**LGBT Advisory Group** – Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month

**LGBT Dinner & Movie** – Monday, December 15th – 5:30 P.M. meal time - This month we will be showing the movie The Family Stone and there will be a pizza & salad dinner served for a \$5.00 fee. Must RSVP by 10:00 AM on Monday, December 15th. This event

happens the 3rd Monday of every month excluding City Holidays and snow emergencies.

**LBT Women Fit-4-Life** - Fitness and Nutrition Classes. Classes are Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting at 6 p.m. \$10 a month fee - scholarships available & it just might be covered under your insurance. We have available slots and would love to have you. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

**The Moonlighters**

Have you heard of the SunSetters? How about the Moonlighters? The Moonlighters are an older version of the Sunsetters! Interested in joining? Led by Somerville Youth Arts Coordinator, Jimmy Del Ponte, the Moonlighters meet every Monday at 10:30 at our Holland Street Center and sometimes take their skills on the road. This year the Moonlighters will be performing with the Powers School of Music for a Holiday Concert in December. Keep an eye open for more details.

**Back by popular demand are the Holiday Inn Dances.** Lunch and dance to music provided by Hank our resident DJ. All dances are on Mondays and from 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. December 15, January 26, February 23, March 23, April 13, May 18, June 29. A \$15.00 fee is required along with a RSVP so please contact Connie at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 to make your reservation or if you have any questions.

GROUP INFORMATION

**Caregiver Support Group** – Meets the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 to 7:30 P.M. Our Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Are you caring for a parent, relative, spouse or close friend? Feeling isolated or overwhelmed? You are not alone! Come share your experience and practical support. Open to all and new members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 and ask to speak to Suzanne.

**Gardening Club** – Meets the second Monday of each month starting at 9:00 A.M. and running for an hour most times. Our volunteer, Vilma Sullivan, facilitates this group. A different topic each month ranging from gardening tips & secrets to inexpensive “greenhouses.” Please contact Senior Project Manager, Janine Lotti at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2321 or jLotti@Somervillema.gov if you have any questions or require additional info.

**Low Vision Support Group** – Meets the second (2nd) Tuesday of each month from 10:30 to 11:30 A.M. Our Social Worker, Suzanne Norton, facilitates this group. Do you know someone who has trouble seeing? Do you have low vision? Join our Low Vision Support Group for educational and informative information and peer support in a confidential environment. Lunch and transportation may be available on request. Please call Suzanne at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 for info.

**Brain Games** – Meets the first Tuesday of each month starting at 10:00 A.M. This group is facilitated by our volunteers Eileen Jones & Jan Ciganelli. Engaging as a group in brain healthy activities. Proven that keeping the mind active can actually reverse the signs of aging and improve memory and cognitive functioning. Contact the main office at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 to sign up!

**Current Events Group** – Meets every Thursday from 10:00 to 11:00 A.M. Our Social Worker intern, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Join a group of your peers to discuss current events. Please call us at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 for additional information or if you have any questions.

**STAY ACTIVE:**

**Weekly Exercise Class Schedule**

**Holland = (H) Ralph & Jenny = (RJ) Cross Street = (C)**

**Mondays:**

Wii Bowling, noon, Free. (H)  
Fit 4 Life\* Group C, 1:00 P.M. (H)

**Tuesdays:**

Strengthening, 9:15 A.M., \$3 per class (H)  
Dalcroze Eurhythmics, \$2.00, 1:00 P.M., (H)  
LBT Fit 4 Life\*, 6:00 P.M., (H)

**Wednesdays:**

Fit 4 Life\* Group A, 8:45 A.M (H)  
Fit 4 Life\* Group B, 9:00 A.M. (H)  
Fit 4 Life\* Group C, Noon (H)  
Bowling @ Flatbreads, 1:00 P.M.  
Zumba for All, 5:15 P.M., \$3 per class (H)

**Thursdays:**

Strengthening, 9:30 A.M., \$3 per class (RJ)  
LBT Fit 4 Life\*, 6:00 P.M.

**Fridays:**

Fit 4 Life\* Group A, 8:45 A.M.  
Fit 4 Life\* Group B, 9:00 A.M.  
Fit 4 Life\* Group C 12:00 P.M.

\*All Fit 4 Life classes are \$10/month and require pre-registration.

Upcoming Schedule

**Holland = (H) Ralph & Jenny = (RJ) Cross Street = (C)**

Wednesday|December 10

**All Center are Closed**  
Winter Hill Yacht Club  
Holiday Celebration

Thursday|December 11

10:00 Knitting Scarves for Soldiers (RJ)  
10:00 Cards (RJ)  
10:00 Current Events Group (H)  
11:00 Computer tutorial with Barbara (H)  
11:30 Lunch (H, RJ)  
12:45 Bingo (RJ, H)  
HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Friday|December 12

11:30 Lunch (H)  
12:45 Bingo (H)  
HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Monday|December 15

9:30 Veterans Group (H)  
11:30 Lunch (H)  
5:30 LGBT Dinner & Movie Night (H)  
Dance

Tuesday|December 16

10:00 English Conversation (C)  
10:00 Cards (RJ)  
10:00 Knitting Scarves for Soldiers (RJ)  
11:30 Lunch (RJ, C)  
12:45 Bingo (RJ)  
6:00 Caregivers Support Group (H)  
Huke Lau

Wednesday|December 17

10:00 Multicultural Day at Cross Street Center (C)  
10:00 Cards (RJ)  
11:30 Lunch (Cross Street Center ONLY)  
12:45 Bingo (RJ)  
1:00 Whist (H)  
1:00 Bowling at Flatbreads  
Hanscom Air Force Base

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**You can receive our monthly newsletter** that is always filled with useful and important information. For a \$5.00 yearly fee you can receive it via the U.S. Postal service or a free version can be sent electronically. Please contact Connie at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 to sign up.



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Beacon Hill Roll Call

continued from page 9



Mark Vander Linden, the commission's director of research and problem gambling, has been pushing the proposal, which is the first of its kind in the nation. The commission rejected another Linden proposal that would require gamblers who want to raise their spending limit to be subject to a 24-hour "cooling off" period.

Gaming Commission Chairman Stephen Crosby said, "The law makes this a high priority (to) keep problem gambling to the barest possible minimum, and we're following the law and trying to do that."

QUOTABLE QUOTES - Special "Departing Senators Make Farewell Speeches" Edition

"I am a metalhead, and (Sen.) Bob Hedlund and I used to go to metal shows together." — Sen. Barry Finegold (D-Andover).

"(Thank you) to our photographer, who always makes us look good. I think he's just the best Photoshopper I've ever seen." — Sen. Gale Candaras (D-Wilbraham).

"She's been my most loyal supporter and frequent critic,

and she's been helpful and very patient throughout my career. She will always be the speaker of my house." — Sen. Richard Moore (D-Uxbridge), referring to his wife Joanne.

"After 35 years, it's the last forum for me. It's on to the next chapter, no more commuting from Barre." — Sen. Stephen Brewer (D-Barre).

"Is it a horse?" — Senate President Therese Murray (D-Plymouth), upon being informed by colleagues that they had a parting gift for her.

HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION?

Beacon Hill Roll Call tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of the Legislature's job and that a lot of important work is done outside of the House and Senate chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that have been filed. They note that the infrequency

and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late night sessions and a mad rush to act on dozens of bills in the days immediately preceding the end of an annual session.

During the week of December 1-5, the House met for a total of two hours and 20 minutes while the Senate met for a total of two hours 54 minutes.

Mon. December 1 House 11:01 a.m. to 11:12 a.m. Senate 11:01 a.m. to 11:10 a.m.

Tues. December 2 No House session No Senate session

Wed. December 3 No House session No Senate session

Thurs. December 4 House 11:03 a.m. to 1:12 p.m. Senate 2:16 p.m. to 5:01 p.m.

Fri. December 5 No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com



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Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

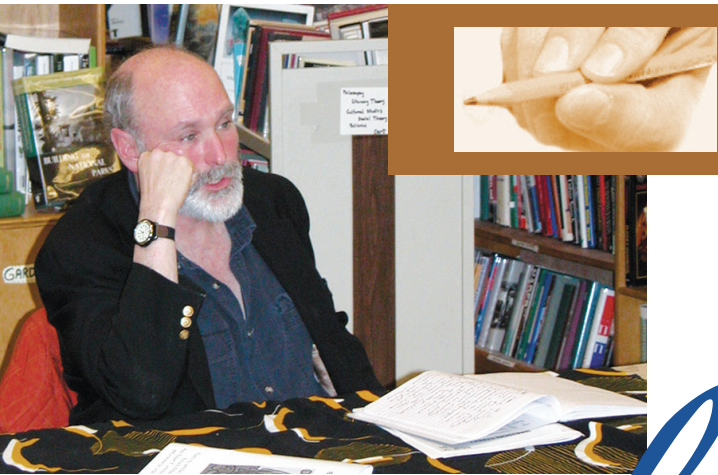
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<b>Wednesday, December 10</b>					
6:30am	Road to Recovery	5:30pm	Eat Well Be Happy Cooking Show	1:00pm	Somerville Times and Journal Reading
7:00am	Somerville Film Group	6:00pm	Tails of the City	1:30pm	MAPS Health Connector
7:30am	Life Matters	6:30pm	Health is Wealth	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:00pm	Taking Back your Health (Live call-in)	3:00pm	Telemagazine
9:00am	SCATV Presents Potluck and Lecture Series	7:30pm	Active Aging	4:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
10:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (Live call-in)	4:30pm	Culture Club
10:30am	Art at SCATV: Dixie Manley	9:30pm	The Steve Katsos Show	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol
11:00am	Abugida TV	10:00pm	Somerville Film Group: Ways to Live Forever	6:00pm	Down the Lynde
12:00pm	The Big Picture with Thom Hartmann Show	11:00pm	Bay State Biking News - Rerun	7:00pm	Somerville Film Group
1:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	<b>Friday, December 12</b>		7:30pm	Fluff Festival
2:00pm	Physician Focus	6:00pm	Somerville Film Group	8:00pm	David Pakman (Free Speech TV)
2:30pm	Tap Water - a SCATV Production	7:30am	Shrink Rap	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes
3:30pm	What the Fluff Festival	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	Open Line News with Davey D
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	9:00am	SCATV Presents Potluck and Lecture Series	11:00pm	Gay News USA (Free Speech TV)
5:00pm	Energy Theater	10:00am	ArtBeat 2014	<b>Sunday, December 14</b>	
6:00pm	Trance: A Romantic Journey	11:00am	The Art of Animation: a series of Karen Aqua	6:00am	Program Celebrai
6:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority	12:00pm	Brunch with Sen. Bernie Sanders	7:00am	Rompendo em Fe
7:00pm	Inside Talk	1:00pm	Tap Water	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ
7:30pm	Crossroads: a Search for An American Dream	2:00pm	SCATV Presents Honk Festival	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00am	International Church of God
8:30pm	The Steve Katsos Show	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	10:30am	Active Aging
9:00pm	Bay State Biking News	5:00pm	Somerville Jazz Festival 2014	11:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer
10:00pm	Art at SCATV: Dixie Manley	5:30pm	Mystic Learning Center: Variety Hour	11:30am	Taking Back Your Health
10:30pm	SCATV Presents Honk Festival	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	12:00pm	Inside Talk
11:00pm	Visual Radio	6:30pm	Art at SCATV: Dixie manley	12:30pm	Somerville Film Group
<b>Thursday, December 11</b>		7:00pm	Somerville Film Group:	1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	8:00pm	Friday Shorts	Somerville Journal & Times Reading	
7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	9:00pm	Energy Theater - haunted Halloween	Life Matters	
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:30pm	The Steve Katsos Show	3:00pm	Rompendo em Fe
9:00am	Cancer Explained!	10:00pm	The Somerville Line	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade
9:30am	Girls Talk	11:00pm	Acronym TV (Free Speech TV)	5:00pm	International School of Boston Presents: Cabaret
10:00am	Dead Air Live	11:30pm	Somerville ArtBeat 2014	5:30pm	Honk Festival
11:00am	Greater Somerville	<b>Saturday, December 13</b>		6:00pm	Abugida TV
11:30am	Ablevision	6:00am	Arabic Hour	7:00pm	African Television Network
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)	7:00am	The Somerville Line	8:00pm	Tele Magazine
1:00pm	Chef's Table Series	8:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	9:00pm	Effort Pour Christ
2:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking w/ Candy	8:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	10:00pm	Farrakhan Speaks
2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez	9:00am	Festival Kreyol	10:00pm	100-Second Film Festival
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	<b>Monday, December 15</b>	
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	11:00am	Dead Air Live	6:00am	Ablevision
5:00pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	12:00pm	Honk Festival	6:30am	Creating Cooperative Kids
		12:30pm	Taking Back Your Health	7:30am	Eckankar

City Cable TV Schedule for the Week

<b>CITY TV 13/22</b>					
<b>Wednesday, December 10</b>					
9:00am:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus	12:00pm:	Voices of Somerville	12:00am:	Senior Circuit
12:00pm:	Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking	1:00pm:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	12:30am:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults
12:30pm:	SomerViva em Portugues	1:30pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	1:00am:	Voices of Somerville
1:00pm:	Connecting Communities – Student Nursing	1:40pm:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus	2:00am:	Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking
1:30pm:	Talking Business	3:15pm:	Aldermen at Work	2:30am:	SomerViva em Portugues
2:00pm:	Interfaith Panel Discussion	6:30pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	<b>EDUCATIONAL CHANNEL 15</b>	
3:00pm:	Veterans in the ‘Ville	7:00pm:	Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking	<b>Wednesday, December 10</b>	
6:30pm:	Talking Business	7:30pm:	SomerViva em Portugues	9:00am:	Early Childhood Literacy Fair
7:00pm:	SomerViva an Kreyol Ayisyen	8:00pm:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus	10:00am:	Our Schools, Our City
7:15pm:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	9:30pm:	Aldermen at Work	11:00am:	Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS
7:45pm:	Greentech RFI Launch	10:00pm:	Voices of Somerville	11:30am:	Student of the Qtr Awards - Healey
8:00pm:	Aldermen at Work	<b>Sunday, December 14</b>		12:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City
8:30pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	12:00am:	SomerViva en Espanol	1:00pm:	Early Childhood Literacy Fair
8:15pm:	Veterans Day Observance	12:30am:	Aldermen at Work	2:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City
8:30pm:	BOA Agenda for 12.11.14 Meeting	1:00am:	Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking	3:00pm:	Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS
<b>Thursday, December 11</b>		1:30am:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus	4:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City
12:00am:	SomerViva an Kreyol Ayisyen	3:00am:	Winter Hill Charrette: Housing	5:00pm:	Connecting Communities- Somerville PD
12:15am:	Greentech RFI Launch	9:00am:	Aldermen at Work	6:00pm:	SHS Fall Sports Rally
12:30am:	Aldermen at Work	12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	7:00pm:	SHS Football v Cambridge RLS
1:00am:	The Somerville Guard “Race to Laurel Hill”	12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults	10:00pm:	SHS Auditorium Re-Opening Ceremony
2:00am:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	1:00pm:	Voices of Somerville	11:00pm:	Connecting Communities- Somerville PD
2:15am:	Talking Business	1:30pm:	SomerViva em Portugues	<b>Thursday, December 11</b>	
2:45am:	Congressional Update	2:00pm:	Winter Hill Charrette: Housing	12:00am:	SHS Fall Sports Rally
9:00am:	SomerViva em Portugues	3:00pm:	The Somerville Guard “Race to Laurel Hill”	1:00am:	SHS Football v Cambridge RLS
9:30am:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	7:00pm:	Senior Circuit	9:00am:	Our Schools, Our City
12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	7:30pm:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults	10:00am:	Connecting Communities- Somerville PD
12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults	8:00pm:	Aldermen at Work	11:00am:	Student of the Qtr Awards - WSNS
1:00pm:	SomerViva en Espanol	8:30pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting –	11:30am:	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy
1:30pm:	Voices of Somerville		REPLAY OF 12.11.14	12:00pm:	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano
2:00pm:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus	<b>Monday, December 15</b>		1:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City
8:30pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting – LIVE	12:00am:	Senior Circuit	2:00pm:	Connecting Communities- Somerville PD
<b>Friday, December 12</b>		12:30am:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults	5:00pm:	Brown School Winter Concert
12:00am:	Unearthing Lost Somerville	1:00am:	Aldermen at Work	6:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City
1:30am:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	1:30am:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	7:00pm:	Connecting Communities- Somerville PD
2:15am:	Voices of Somerville	1:40am:	Veterans Day Observance	8:00pm:	Student of the Qtr Awards - WSNS
2:45am:	SomerViva an Kreyol Ayisyen	2:00am:	Voices of Somerville	8:30pm:	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy
3:00am:	Somerville ROCKS!	9:00am:	SomerViva em Portugues	9:00pm:	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano
9:00am:	Aldermen at Work	12:00pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting –	9:30pm:	SHS Football v Danvers - 11/7
9:30am:	Somerville ROCKS!		REPLAY OF 12.11.14	<b>Friday, December 12</b>	
12:00pm:	Connecting Communities – Student Nursing	3:00pm:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus	12:00am:	Early Childhood Literacy Fair
12:30pm:	Interfaith Panel Discussion	5:00pm:	School Committee Agenda for 7pm Meeting	12:30am:	Playoff Football: SHS vs Marblehead
1:30pm:	Voices of Somerville	7:00pm:	School Committee Meeting - LIVE	9:00am:	Brown School Winter Concert
2:00pm:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	10:00pm:	Somerville ROCKS!	10:00am:	Early Childhood Literacy Fair
2:45pm:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus	<b>Tuesday, December 16</b>		11:00am:	Our Schools, Our City
6:30pm:	SomerViva em Portugues	12:00am:	SomerViva en Espanol	12:00pm:	SHS Fall Sports Rally
7:00pm:	Talking Business	12:30am:	Interfaith Panel Discussion	1:30pm:	Brown School Winter Concert
7:30pm:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus	1:30am:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	2:00pm:	Connecting Communities- Somerville PD
9:00pm:	Haitian Community Meeting	2:00am:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	3:00pm:	Brown School Winter Concert
9:30pm:	Aldermen at Work	2:45am:	Talking Business	4:00pm:	SHS Fall Sports Rally
10:00pm:	Veterans in the ‘Ville	3:15am:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	6:00pm:	All-City Middle School Winter Concert
<b>Saturday, December 13</b>		9:00am:	Congressional Update	8:00pm:	ESCS Winter Concert 12/12
12:00am:	SomerViva em Portugues	9:30am:	Talking Business	10:00pm:	Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy
12:30am:	Talking Business	12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	<b>Tuesday, December 16</b>	
1:00am:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus	12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults	12:00am:	SHS Auditorium Re-Opening Ceremony
1:30am:	Haitian Community Meeting	1:00pm:	Winter Hill Charrette: Housing	12:30am:	All-City Middle School Winter Concert
2:00am:	Aldermen at Work	2:00pm:	Talking Business	9:00am:	Connecting Communities- Somerville PD
2:30am:	Veterans in the ‘Ville	2:30pm:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	12:30pm:	Brown School Winter Concert
9:00am:	The Somerville Guard “Race to Laurel Hill”	3:30pm:	Veterans Day Observance	1:00pm:	ESCS Winter Concert 12/12
		7:00pm:	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus	3:00pm:	Connecting Communities- Somerville PD
		8:30pm:	School Committee Meeting –	6:00pm:	Brown School Winter Concert
			REPLAY OF 12.15.14	6:30pm:	ESCS Winter Concert 12/12
				7:00pm:	SHS Boys’ Basketball v Westford Academy-LIVE
				10:00pm:	SHS Boys’ Basketball v Westford Academy
				12:00am:	SHS Boys’ Basketball v Westford Academy





OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Interview with Andrew Sofer:

A poet involved with the theater  
and all that dark matter

Andrew Sofer grew up in Cambridge, England, and, after boarding school, studied at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Boston University, and the University of Michigan. His numerous poetry awards include *Southwest Review's* Morton Marr Prize; *Atlanta Review's* International Publication Award; First Prize in the Iambs & Trochees Contest; and New England Poetry Club's Gretchen Warren Award. *Wave*, his first book of poems, was named a finalist for the Morse Prize, the Donald Justice Award, and the New Criterion Prize. Andrew has acted and directed widely, and his writings on theater include the acclaimed book *The Stage Life of Props*. He teaches in the English department at Boston College. I had the pleasure to interview him on my Somerville Community Access TV show *Poet to Poet: Writer to Writer*.



that many props to speak of.

**AS:** I have always loved Beckett's plays. Props are talismanic for actors. They fight them, they love them. Beckett portrayed the struggle between the human and inanimate in his plays. Beckett has humans drop out of nowhere and they have to figure out what they are doing on stage. This is true of the props too. They are estranged and distorted. There is the comical struggle between the human being and the props or objects, in which the humans are trying to get the objects to serve them, and the object is basically saying, "I can't serve you." If you think of the famous tree in *Waiting for Godot* – the two tramps try using the tree to hang themselves – then try to get the tree to symbolize something, but it refuses. Beckett's work is comical. It is existential insult to humans who try to manipulate things.

**DH:** How do you write poems? Are you rooted in ideas or things?

**Doug Holder:** You have written about "dark matter" in the theater. So does dark matter – matter that you can't see on stage – really matter in the theater?

**Andrew Sofer:** Dark matter matters such that you can't have theater without it. Theater that does not engage with things you can't see is not stimulating the audience's imagination. What you don't show can be more powerful than what you do show. For instance in Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot* a character never appears. We imagine he is there but he is offstage. The theater is built up of things that we are shown and things that are not shown. And when they work in tandem you get something very powerful. Playwrights are attuned to the way the audience's imagination can build and build. Unlike film, theater leaves a lot of things to the imagination. This is what I was trying to explain in my book. The theater event is a collaboration of the actors on the stage, the imagination of the playwright, and the audience.

**DH:** Your poetry collection *Wave* (2010) deals with, among other things, the memory of your father. Do you find you see your father's face in the mirror and do you like what you see?

**AS:** That's a wonderful question. It is true my father died in his early 50s when I was nine years old. Now I am a couple of years shy of my late father's age of death. My father was an academic, a sociologist. The epigraph from my book is from Yehuda Amichai: "And for the sake of remembering, I wear my father's face over mine." My book in some ways is about the ways we wear our father's face, especially when we are older. I like to think that I carry on like him. He was a very engaged and passionate man.

**DH:** You have written about props in Samuel Beckett's plays. The sets are pretty threadbare. Not

**AS:** I don't write my poems based on ideas. I don't try to start with the concrete. My poems are rooted in place. I even research the place sometimes to get a sense of it. I would say my work is philosophical but I am delighted if I never use an abstraction. Seamus Heaney said, "Never use an abstraction when something concrete will do." For instance, if I know the name of a tree, I will name it. I try to be accurate in my poetry. The more concrete I am it invariably leads to conceptual dimensions. I want to first give an entry into reality – some ground to stand on – then I can branch out in many ways.

**DH:** You are Jewish and you teach at the Catholic college Boston College. How is this for you?

**AS:** I like the fact that my students take religion seriously. They have knowledge of the bible. It is difficult to teach English literature to kids that don't have a sense of the biblical template. The stories behind English literature are invested in biblical narratives. In terms of Boston College, we have a Jewish Studies Program and it is a Jesuit institution dedicated to intellectual openness. It has been a good intellectual environment for me.

Ending Secure Communities strengthens police, public cooperation

CONT. FROM PG 10

officials and the people who live in our communities. Ending Secure Communities is a positive step in building that understanding and trust. I hope to see in the months to come that,

after tragedy, we can again as a nation take positive steps to further build that understanding and trust, and make our communities safer for everyone.

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Jessica Gray is a freshman at Endicott College in Beverly, MA. She is currently studying two-dimensional studio art and is also minoring in music and creative writing. One of her pieces is currently being displayed in a student show on campus. The piece was part of a Graphic Novel workshop she participated in a few weeks ago. This poem is inspired by Robert Pinky's *Shirt* and the infamous Triangle Factory fire, focusing on the women and men who jumped from the building to their demises. The poem is meant to be relatable to people who feel as though they are spiraling down.

Brittle Bones

Away from the masonry wall  
he let her drop  
and she fell fast,  
the wind screaming  
in her ears,  
a howl  
to a deaf moon.

She dropped fast, faster, and even faster.  
Fingertips chilled and unable to thaw,  
as the ground pulled her in.

Or maybe the sky pushed her down.  
Spiraling into nothingness  
and unable to see through wild tendrils,  
biting her cheeks.

She fell blindly,  
hoping the end,  
the darkness,  
wouldn't sting like the tendrils or  
turn her bones brittle  
like the wind.

Or wring out her heart  
and stab nodes in her brain  
telling her what to do,  
what to say,  
what to think,  
How to look.

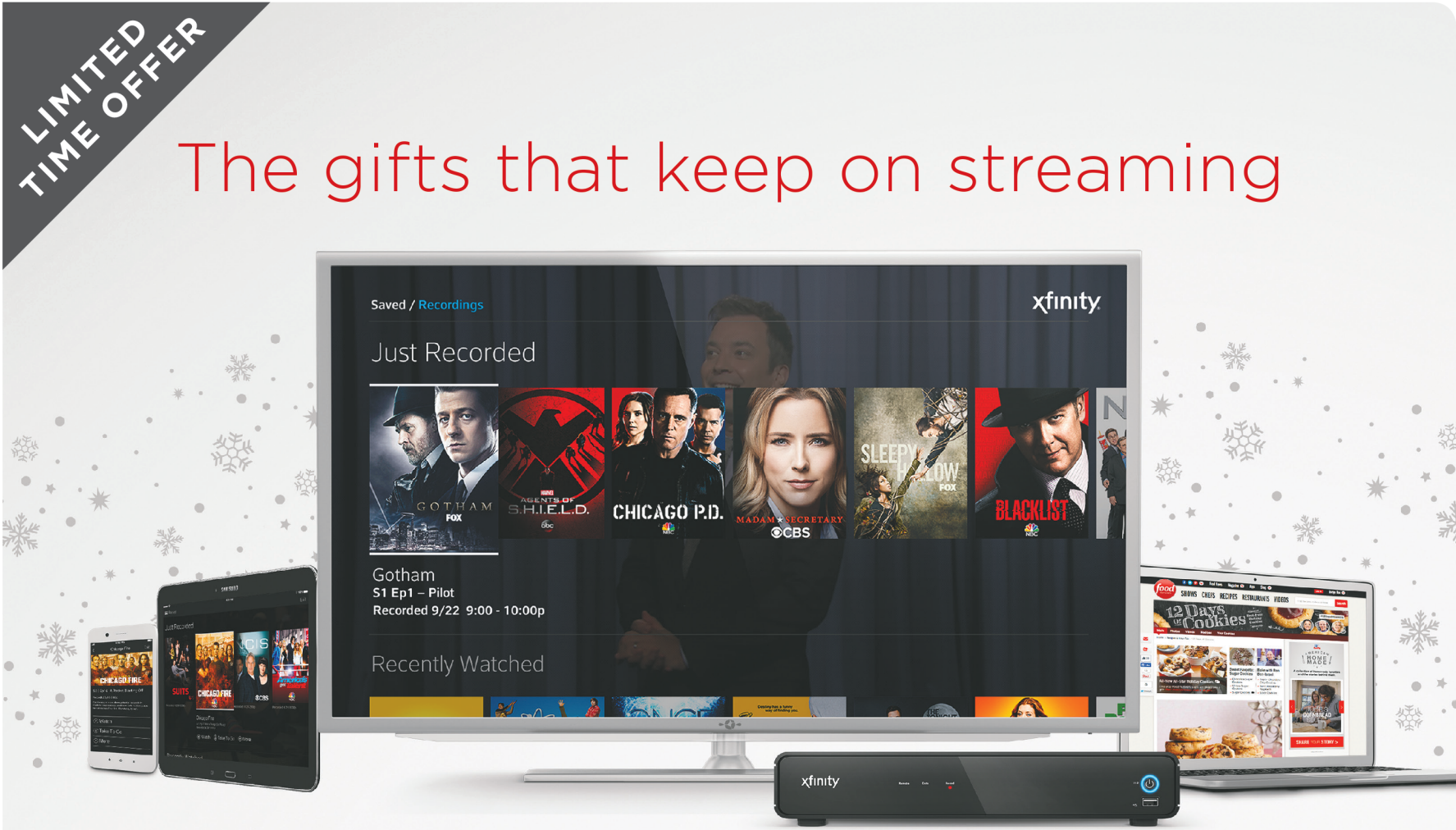
The end, she hoped, would bring silence  
And she would become the deaf moon  
And her heart would no longer shudder in agony.

— Jessica Gray

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

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