VOL. 2 NO. 50

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2014

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

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Students and workers unite page 3



Sweet stuff for Somerville

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## An hour of coding goes a long way



Somerville school kids were treated to a special hour filled with learning some fundamentals of computer programming. More on page 13.

## **BOA** supports Somerville **Overcoming Addiction** proposals

#### By Jim Clark

A proposal sponsored by Ward One Alderman Matthew McLaughlin and Alderman At Large Mary Jo Rossetti that the Somerville Board of Alderman support the proposals of Somerville Overcoming Addiction regarding opiate abuse was approved at the last regular meeting of the Board on Dec. 11.

The proposals put forward by SOA include: bringing a detox/recovery center to Somerville; the possibility of a recovery High School in Somerville, similar to other Commonwealth programs; that city officials should receive text message updates on overdoses, similar to other emergency texts; and bringing back the opiate task force, with a focus on prevention and rehabilitation as opposed to prosecution.

Additionally, the promotion of Good Samaritan laws is proposed, Continued on page 6

## Illuminations Tour lights up Somerville

#### By Douglas Yu

The houses in Somerville tried to out do each other as the 18th Illuminations Tour kicked off on Saturday night. Each house seemed brighter than the one before it. Six trollies lined up outside of City Hall, ready to entertain over a thousand participants with the festive lights and Christmas-themed features that decorate the houses in the neighborhoods and stories about the history of the city.

Many people and their loved ones were already waiting in the City Hall's concourse with the tour maps an hour before the tour officially started. They were excited to find out that each trolley goes to different part of the city.

Peter Heller, who has lived in Somerville for 25 years, was one of the tour guides at the Illuminations Tour.

"I've been volunteering for five or six years now," Heller said. "This year is different, because these are Thalia Tringo's buses. She's a local realtor, and she hires the buses. She offers commentary, and she really knows about the city."

Heller, at one moment Continued on page 17



Residents and visitors to trolleys and bicycles this weekend to soak up the illuminated atmosphere of the city's festively decorated neighborhoods this year's Illuminations Tour kicked off.

## Winter Special

Off The Shelf . . . . . . p.23

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Open House! Visit the Pets In Need Animal Shelter this weekend at 2 Bradley Street, Somerville, MA 02145, from noon to two on Saturday and Sunday.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Happy Birthday this week to some of our readers: To a good guy who reached the age of 50 this week, Douglas Carriger. What a nice guy he is, and with a great family. We wish him the very best and welcome him to the new 50, which is actually more like 40. Although we didn't mention it last week because she's goes nuts on us, our own Bobbie Toner here at the paper celebrated her birthday. She's a great lady and she's the glue - along with Jim our Editor - that holds the paper together. Happy Birthday, even though it's a week later - but it was a nice breakfast! A big Happy Birthday to Maria Curtatone this week. Everyone knows Maria. She's a great lady, always smiling. She's the Register of Deeds for Middlesex County and we hear she's doing a great job. A Happy Birthday this week to Pam (Lewis) DeMaria from Somerville, now in Malden. We wish her the very best this week. Another nice person, lifelong resident Cheryl Callahan. We wish her the very best this week on her birthday. A specially nice lady who used to work in the Election Dept. here in Somerville, we wish Ann Cassesso Ercolini the very best this week as well. Another good friend who used to live in Winter Hill, Ron Lakerveld, currently in No. Carolina but making a move to Central America very soon if not already. He reads us all the time. We wish him the very best. And finally, long time friend and realtor Mike Seaver. If you're looking for a house in the Franklin area, make sure you use him at ERA Key Realty service.

## The Somerville Times

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The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday







## TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

#### Response to: Illuminations Tour booked solid

#### mystery says:

Merry Holiday! Has anyone ever solved the mystery of why people put these lights up every year? I'm glad we go out and look at them even though we have no idea why they're there. well anyway merry holiday everyone!

#### business as usual says:

Follow all the publicity for these events and i never see a word on if it's accessible to people with disabilities. I called one year and was offered a map so i could go on my own. Real inclusive, somerville! I don't drive, and it just doesn't sound fun to go on my own. I do, however pay taxes that help pay for this, so that seems fair......

#### Wally says:

Well of course...it's the winter solstice!

#### Ron Newman says:

If you'd like to take your own tour using the trolley route, maps are available for \$3 at Blue Cloud Gallery in Ball Square or Magpie in Davis Square, starting tomorrow (Monday 12/15).

If you'd like to take your own bicycle tour, here's the route we rode last night: https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=zjRA9wVuyl1A.kuEZbmahXT30

#### josie says:

Yes, another event supported by our tax dollars that excludes the disabled. I have no doubt that if a group of Urdu speakers were going to take this tour they would go out and hire a translator. But if you're disabled? You're on your own. It's time to eliminate city funding for the Arts Council.

#### business as usual says:

Ron, the point is taking the tour alone shouldn't be the answer. Very glib of you while ignoring the point. This is easily fixed if anyone cared

#### Ron Newman says:

In the trolley that I rode (7:30 "B"), I saw what looked like a wheelchair lift. So I think these tours are accessible.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

## The Somerville Times.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 find the weekend road race street closures a nuisance. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com.





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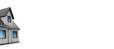














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## Janitor layoffs prompts Tufts sit-in

#### By Rebecca Danvers

Students at Tufts University staged a sit-in on their campus last week, in protest of the university administration's move to ask their janitorial services contractor, DTZ, to lay off several part time janitors who have been working throughout the Tufts system.

The Tufts Labor Coalition has been working to persuade the administration not to administer these cuts.

On Tuesday and Wednesday of last week Tufts Labor Coalition students conducted a 33hour long sit-in in the Tufts administration building.

Students made the demand that



Tufts students stood up for contracted service workers last week, and achieved their goal of stopping layoffs of janitorial staffers.

there be no cuts until the contract renewal period arrived and slept overnight in the building.

An agreement not to lay off any workers until at least April 2015

was signed by Executive Vice President Patricia Campbell.

Additional agreements regarding transparency and accountability were also signed.

## City looks to CPA funding for affordable housing

#### By Tom Bannister

The Community Preservation Committee and Mayor Curtatone will be requesting that the Somerville Board of Aldermen appropriate some \$2 million from the CPA's funds for the Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Fund's efforts to bolster affordable housing initiatives in the city.

According to the city, the Community Preservation Committee voted in August to empower the Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Fund, which has 25 years of experience preserving, creating, and supporting afford-

able housing in Somerville, to serve as the housing arm of the Committee. The Committee will recommend granting the Trust CPA funding annually, which the Trust will allocate to CPA-eligible affordable housing projects and programs. In August, the Committee voted to recommend granting the Trust 45% of FY14 and FY15 CPA revenue of \$4.9 million and gave the Trust the option to apply for additional funding if needed. Appropriations of CPA funding to the Trust must be approved by the Board of Aldermen.

The city also explains that in anticipation of receiving CPA

funding, the Affordable Housing Trust released a request for information (RFI) in November alerting the affordable housing community of the potential for a new funding source for the Trust and soliciting information on upcoming funding requests. The Trust is now officially accepting applications for CPA funds, contingent upon Board of Aldermen approval of the appropriation request. Applications are due no later than 12:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 16. Failure to submit a response to the RFI does not preclude an organization from submitting a funding request application. The Trust will continue accepting applications for development projects requesting non-CPA Trust funds on a rolling basis and will hold its annual competitive process for housing programs and the Tenancy Stabilization Program in the spring of 2015.

Mayor Curtatone weighed in on the matter saying, "When the voters of Somerville passed the Community Preservation Act by a nearly unprecedented 76% in 2012, they sent a strong message of supporting investment in our community. With unprecedented regional housing market pressures, an increased investment in housing affordability is vital. The Community Preservation Committee's recommended appropriation of over \$2.2 million to the Trust to support affordable housing is a key step to ensuring our community remains vibrant and accessible to all." Continued on page 6

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#### **Monday December 22**

Shawn Carter's Cheapshots Comedy Jam 7 p.m. Marley Mondays with Duppy Conquerors 10 p.m.

#### **Tuesday December 23**

Kristen Ford December Residency featuring stellar guests 8 p.m.

#### **Wednesday December 24** Merry Christmas

**Thursday December 25** Merry Christmas

#### **Friday December 26**

Tuna Rangers 6 p.m. Hear Now Live presents Diana DeMuth, Ivory Wax, Miscellaneous Mischief \$10 cover 9 p.m.

#### **Saturday December 27**

Patsy Hamel Band 6 p.m. Black Dog Brother, Jiblantos \$5 cover 9 p.m.

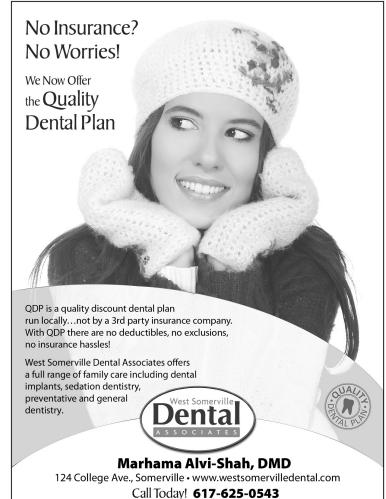
#### **Sunday December 28**

Mark Brine with Chuck Parrish and Larry Flint 5 p.m. Natalie Flanagan Band, Leon Rich, Trusty Sidekick 8 p.m.



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## WEEKIN CR By Jim Clark

## McDonalds patron not lovin' it

Police were called to the Mc- 31, of Cambridge, appeared Donalds restaurant at Twin City Plaza on Friday in response to complaints that an unwanted person was refusing to leave the establishment.

After police arrived, the manager of the restaurant told them that the person in question, James Killackey,

to be drunk and was bothering other customers inside the store.

As officers approached, Killackey reportedly assumed a defiant and confrontational stance, according to police reports.

The officers advised Killackey that the restaurant's management wanted him to leave and that he needed to do so immediately. Killackey reportedly responded by thrusting his hands into his coat pockets and behaved in a manner that the officers interpreted as defiance of their request for him to leave. He further stated that no one had asked him to leave before, police said.

Killackey was asked to remove his hands from his pockets, for the officers' safety, but he reportedly refused to do so.

At this point the officers proceeded to lead Killackey away forcibly, which he resisted. He reportedly struggled and argued

with the officers, who eventually took him to the floor and handcuffed him.

Killackey reportedly had two cans of beer in the back pockets of his pants. He was eventually removed from the restaurant and placed under arrest for disorderly conduct and trespassing.

#### Counting threads in jail now

Police were called to the Kmart store on Middlesex Ave. last Sunday afternoon on reports of an alleged shoplifter being detained there.

Upon arrival, police were in-

formed that the suspect, Richard Woods, 54, of Charlestown, had been observed gathering packages of 800 thread sheets from the stores shelves and then taking them to the customer service desk without paying for them.

Loss prevention personnel reportedly watched Woods as he "returned" the sheets for store credit.

After the transaction had been completed the security personnel

intercepted and detained Woods before he could leave the store.

Woods had reportedly taken three packages of sheets valued at \$39.95 each to the customer service desk for a return.

When asked by police why he had done this, Woods reportedly told them that he was "broke."

Woods was placed under arrest and charged with shoplifting by asportation.

## otline: 617-776-7210

#### $(\circ)$ 0 0

#### **Arrests**:

A juvenile, December 8, 2:30 p.m., arrested at Derby St. on a charge of larceny from a building.

Sarah Whitlock, of 50 College Ave., December 11, 2:20 p.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of assault and battery and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Tania Silva, of 41 Michigan Ave., December 11, 8:49 p.m., arrested at 16 Indiana Ave. on a charge of abuse prevention order violation.

Roberto Pereira, of 31 Dexter St., Medford, December 11, 9:17 p.m., arrested at Dartmouth St. on charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Jerry Shead, of 156 Bow St., Everett, December 12, 1:42 p.m., arrested at 622 Somerville Ave. on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended registration.

Jose Dos Santos, of 154 Grove St., Orlando, FL, December 12, 3:00 p.m., arrested at 84 Cross St. on charges of uninsured motor vehicle and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

James Killackey, of 66 Fifth St., Cambridge, December 12, 5:11 p.m., arrested at 14 Mc-

Grath Hwy. on charges of disorderly conduct and trespass-

Joshua McCutcheon, of 447 Cartier St., Manchester, NH, December 13, 2:14 a.m., arrested at Medford St. on charges of uninsured motor vehicle or trailer and disorderly conduct.

Brittany Callahan, of 20 Woodbury St. Arlington, December 13, 3:38 a.m., arrested at 338 Somerville Ave. on warrant charges of number plate violation and uninsured motor vehicle or trailer.

Corey Rhode, of 186 Elliot St., Brockton, December 13, 6:06 p.m., arrested at Bond St. on a warrant charge of shoplifting by concealing merchandise.

Ashley Joseph, of 101 Vernon St., December 13, 7:30 p.m., arrested at 180 Somerville Ave. on a charge of larceny over \$250.

Xhane Jackson, of 16 Rowena St., Dorchester, December 13, 7:30 p.m., arrested at 180 Somerville Ave. on a charge of larceny over \$250.

Robert Grasso, of 54 Adams St., December 13, 7:31 p.m., arrested at 3 Dante Terr. on a charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Stephen Murphy, of 108 Josephine Ave., December 14, 11:51 a.m., arrested at Bristol Rd. on charges of negligent operation of a motor vehicle and operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs.

Richard Woods, of 49 Chap-

ee St., Charlestown, December 14, 5:46 p.m., arrested at 77 Middlesex Ave. on a charge of shoplifting by asportation.

Justin Baltran, of 805 Huntingtom Ave., Boston, December 14, 6:00 p.m., arrested at 499 Foley St. on a warrant charge of carrying a firearm with ammunition.

Benabed Imad, of 88 Morris Ave., Everett, December 14, 8:21 p.m., arrested at 220 Washington St. on charge of assault and battery.

#### **Incidents**:

#### Theft:

December 8, 10:49 a.m., police reported a theft at Highland Ave.

December 8, 1:18 p.m., police reported a theft at 250 Elm St.

December 8, 2:30 p.m., police reported a theft at Derby St.

December 8, 7:19 p.m., police reported a theft at 775 Mc-Grath Hwy.

December 10, 2:50 p.m., police reported a theft at Washington St.

December 10, 6:37 p.m., police reported a theft at 91 Highland Ave.

December 11, 5:41 a.m., police reported a theft at Orchard

December 11, 11:43 a.m., police reported a theft at Mt. Vernon St.

December 11, 5:18 p.m., police reported a theft at Walnut

December 12, 1:49 p.m., police reported a theft at 118 Broadway.

December 13, 7:30 p.m., police reported a theft at 180 Somerville Ave.

#### Breaking & Entering:

December 8, 5:52 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Tufts St.

December 11, 3:09 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Derby St.

December 11, 8:09 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Clifton St.

December 12, 10:26 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at 93 Highland Ave.

#### Assault:

December 9, 9:42 p.m., police reported an assault at Snow Terr.

December 12, 5:53 p.m., police reported an assault at Bonair St.

December 12, 8:23 p.m., police reported an assault at 282 Somerville Ave.

December 13, 7:31 p.m., police reported an assault at Dante Terr.

#### **Destruction of Property:**

December 8, 9:21 a.m., police reported a destruction of property at Prescott St.

December 9, 6:12 a.m., police reported a destruction of property at 47 Beacon St.

December 10, 1:55 p.m., po-

lice reported a destruction of property at Somerville Ave.

December 14, 1:35 p.m., police reported a destruction of property at College Ave.

December 13, 2:11 p.m., police reported a destruction of property at Mansfield St.

#### Trespassing:

December 12, 5:11 p.m., police reported a trespassing at 14 McGrath Hwy.

#### Counterfeiting/Forgery:

December 8, 1:37 p.m., police reported a counterfeiting/forgery at Summer St.

December 12, 4:12 p.m., police reported a counterfeiting/ forgery at Washington St.

#### **Disorderly Conduct:**

December 8, 1:12 a.m., police reported a disorderly conduct at 24 College Ave.

December 13, 2:14 a.m., police reported a disorderly conduct at Medford St.

#### DUI:

December 11, 9:17 p.m., police reported a driving under the influence at Dartmouth St.

December 13, 10:21 p.m., police reported a driving under the influence at Broadway.

December 14, 11:51 a.m., police reported a driving under the influence at Bristol Rd.

#### **Drug Violation:**

December 14, 6:15 p.m., police reported a drug violation at 698 Assembly Row.

## 'Jingle Bell' cop car crash

#### By Jim Clark

While on duty blocking traffic in support of the 'Jungle Bell Run' marathon race last Sunday, a Somerville police officer's cruiser was smashed into by another vehicle while the race was underway.

The officer's cruiser was parked in the street with the blue lights on at Bristol Rd. and Broadway, blocking through traffic for the runners' safety.

Just before noon, the officer noticed a car stopped at the intersection that seemed to be waiting for the light to turn green. When the vehicle failed to move after the green light the officer approached and saw that

the driver, later identified as Stephen Murphy, 47, appeared to be asleep at the wheel.

After getting no response from tapping on the driver's side window, the officer flagged down a passing EMT unit in case the driver was found to be in need of medical attention.

After repeatedly rapping on the vehicle's windows, the officer and EMT personnel finally managed to wake Murphy who immediately accelerated the car and broadsided the parked police cruiser.

According to reports, Murphy seemed to have fallen asleep again while still pressing the vehicle's accelerator peddle, although the car was smashed



A Somerville police officer's routine duty turned a bit harrowing on Sunday when an apparently impaired driver smashed into – Photos by Donald Norton the side of his cruiser.

against the officer's cruiser.

At that point the officer smashed the driver's side window in order to turn off the ignition and remove the keys, for the safety of everyone in the vicinity.

After Murphy regained consciousness the officer asked him if he was all right but he did not answer. When asked what had happened Murphy still did not speak.

The officer asked Murphy to step out of the vehicle, at which time it was reportedly apparent that he was having trouble maintaining his balance.

The officer reportedly helped

Murphy walk to a nearby parked vehicle that he leaned on as the officer continued his questioning.

When asked whether or not he was diabetic, Murphy reportedly said "yes" in a slurred manner. However, the ambulance crew members reportedly found that Murphy's glucose level appeared normal after administering a test.

When asked whether or not he had been drinking, Murphy said that he had not. When asked where he had just come from he reportedly said "home," and when asked where he was going he also said "home," according to reports.

The officer reported that he detected a strong odor of mouthwash on Murphy's breath.

Although some initial witness reports suggested that Murphy had smashed into the police cruiser out of frustration due to the blockage of the roadway, it was ultimately determined that the incident occurred because of the impaired state of Murphy's ability to remain conscious while driving.

Murphy was placed under arrest and charged with negligent operation of a motor vehicle and operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs.

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#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Readers are invited to send letters to the editor to The Somerville Times. Please email your letters to News@ The Somerville Times.com or mail them to 699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144. The Somerville Times Reserves the right to edit letters for style, grammar and length. All letters must include an name and contact information. Contact information will not be shared with the public. We look forward to hearing from you.

Once again Somerville has surrendered a giant plot of prime real estate to luxury condos, in this case the property behind the Stop and Cross Street. The city was supposedly obligated to reserve this parcel for commercial use, but after two and a half years of haggling, the planning board finally threw in the towel last Thursday. There will be NO commercial use at the Cross street site, none, zero. The lone dissenting vote was from Joseph Favaloro, and he prefaced it by emphasizing that many citizens of East Somerville still bitterly oppose this project, even after years of marketing and greenwash from the developers.

One might be forgiven for thinking that the SomerVision plan is a sham. The residential zones seethe with infill development, as developers brag about "appetite" and devour every property they can get their hands on. They tar-

get the outsized and corner lots first, just as they did in Brooklyn and San Francisco, and the result will be the same: a heartless gat-& Shop, between Garfield Ave ed citadel. Our administration has the nerve to pronounce that "a rising tide lifts all boats," but with economic stratification surpassing Gilded Age levels, this brazen defense of plutocratization is an outrageous insult to our collective intelligence.

> Meanwhile, as the unaffordable McMansions metastasize, our green space disappears beneath concrete and asphalt. Despite Somerville's claims to be a "tree city", in reality Somerville offers no protection whatsoever for trees on private property. This is particularly egregious since the majority of our remaining trees are located on private property. Our lack of policy stands in stark contrast to the tree-protection ordinances enacted by many of our neighboring towns and cities.

Cambridge, Newton, and Lexington all have tree ordinances that protect large privately owned trees against damage or removal by the property owner.

Mature trees are exquisitely valuable for dozens of reasons including energy conservation, runoff management, and climate change mitigation. We must follow in our neighbors' footsteps quickly, while we still have trees to protect. A zoning amendment has been proposed that would withhold special permits from developers who destroy shade or fruit trees during condo conversions. Residents who care about keeping Somerville green should contact their alderman and aldermen at large, and urge them to vote in favor of this amendment.

#### Chris Korda

Somerville Development Watch http://somervilledevelopmentwatch.org/

## The Somerville Times

## BOA supports Somerville Overcoming Addiction proposals CONT. FROM PC

which will encourage residents to report overdoses, as well as incorporation of Good Samaritan public awareness programs to educate residents and police of the importance.

Cooperation with pharmacies to encourage drug take back bins would help to take excess medications off the street, according to the findings of the Aldermen sponsors. Also, it has been proposed that local pharmacies should be encouraged to stock Narcan and make available without a prescription. Working with pharmacies to ensure they are participating in the prescription monitoring program was also mention as a desirable addition to the pro-

posed efforts discussed.

City participation in Red Ribbon Week is also advised, as is encouraging Somerville schools to have monthly guest speakers on substance abuse related activity.

The city should implement a guidance/employment center targeting 18 to 25 year olds, according to the SOA recommendations, including a prison reentry program for newly released residents.

Better outreach from the office of prevention to support community volunteers is also an important component of the proposed program. Staffing the office of prevention with at least one person that is in long term recovery to provide outreach to at risk communities is also seen as a highly desirable goal.

According to SOA recommendations, the office of prevention should do greater outreach and hire youth organizers who are more closely connected to drug problems in the city.

It was also suggested that the city of Somerville should also help SOA with the process of non-profit status, similar to the boxing and football programs.

Alderman McLaughlin and Alderman At Large Rossetti have been working with SOA over the past 8 months, attending meetings and going over the fine points of the propos-



Ward One Alderman Matthew McLaughlin urged the pass the proposal to support SOA's recommendations for opiate addiction treatment and prevention.

als that were submitted to the nization in its mission to find Board last week. better solutions for dealing

The approval of support for the SOA proposals will help bolster the efforts of the organization in its mission to find better solutions for dealing with opiate addiction within the community, according to the aldermen.

## City looks to CPA funding for affordable housing CONT. FROM PG 3

Chair of the Community Preservation Committee, Michael A. Capuano, likewise advocated for the allocation saying, "The Community Preservation Committee's recommendation to the Board of Aldermen demonstrates our deep commitment to supporting housing affordability in Somerville. Our City is fortunate to have an Affordable Housing Trust Fund with such a breadth and depth of expertise and experience, and we look forward to collaborating with the Trust as they take on the role of the housing arm of the Committee."

The Trust Fund itself has voiced its enthusiasm for the move. "The Trust is very grateful for the Community Preservation Committee's strong support for meeting the affordable housing need in the City and for its recognition of the work of the Trust," said Mary Cassesso, Managing Trustee of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. "We are eager to work with the Community Preservation Committee to further the mission of creating, expanding, preserving and rehabilitating the stock of affordable housing in the City."

According to the city, in November 2012, Somerville vot-

ers overwhelmingly approved a 1.5% CPA surcharge on net property taxes. In FY2014, the City collected \$1.3 million in CPA revenue and appropriated an additional \$1.35 million in free cash to the City's CPA Fund. The City received over \$900,000 in matching funds from the state in November and anticipates collecting an additional \$1.3 million in surcharge revenue in FY2015, resulting in \$4.9 million being available for open space, outdoor recreation, historic preservation, and affordable housing projects.

The Community Preservation Committee opened a competitive application process for the distribution of CPA funds for open space, outdoor recreation, and historic preservation projects in August. On Dec. 1, the Committee received 15 applications totaling \$8.8 million in requests. The Committee anticipates making recommendations to the Board of Aldermen regarding which projects to fund in early March.

It has been widely noted that the Committee is seeking community input on which projects should receive CPA funding by holding two public meetings in the new year, one on Jan. 7 at 7 p.m. in the Board of Aldermen Chambers at City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., and one on Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. in the community room at the Visiting Nurses Association, 259 Lowell St., during which applicants will give a brief presentation on their project proposals and residents will have the opportunity to offer comments. Residents may also submit written comments on the proposals, all of which are available on the CPA website, through Jan. 31, 2015 by email to emonea@somervillema.gov or by mail to Emily Monea, SomerStat, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143.

For more information on the CPA, sign up for the CPA Email Newsletter by visiting the City's website at www.somervillema. gov/CPA and clicking "Sign Up Now for CPA News." Please contact Emily Monea at 617-625-6600 x2118 or emonea@somervillema.gov with comments or questions.

To access the Trust application, please visit www.somervillema.gov/departments/affordable-housing-trust-fund and click on CPA/Trust Application or contact Kelly Donato at 617-625-6600 x2560 or kdonato@somervillema.gov.

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## Spindler Confections - Somerville's Own Sweets

By Laura Stiffler

If you've ever been to Magpie, Formaggio or Dave's Fresh Pasta, then you've seen the rectangular white boxes with the delicate cursive 'Spindler Confections' label. Salted caramels, peanut brittle and caramel nut clusters; images causing this reporter to salivate like, well...a kid in a candy shop. All those and more, hand- made and packaged right here in Somerville.

Jeremy Spindler didn't plan on becoming a candy-maker. After years of schooling, a Bachelor's, two Master's and a PhD, Spindler was on his way to becoming a Music Professor. But like Lennon said, 'life happens when you're making plans'.

During the holiday season in 2011, Spindler decided to make batches of homemade candies for his close friends and family, a skill he learned from his mother while growing up in Indiana. His flavorful treats were a hit and word got out. Soon Spindler began receiving inquiries for his candies from people he did not know, and within months, Spindler Confections was born.

After becoming a Certified

Residential Kitchen in June of 2012, Spindler now works out of his Somerville home as the sole employee of Spindler Confections.

His candies are somewhat artisanal, yet largely old fashioned and made in micro-batches. They are naturally flavored using real extracts, oils, fruit, honey and maple sugar. The flavorings, oil and extracts come from Olive Nation, a local ingredient store in Charlestown, while most of the fruits used come from the Tougas Family Farm in Northborough or Russo's Market in Watertown. Spindler's candies contain no artificial preservatives or colorings, and although they are not organic, they contain a natural alternative with much more flavor than factory produced candy. Because no artificial preservatives make their way into the candy, Spindler advises consumption with a sell-by date; a feat that will not prove difficult once the first bite of sugary goodness hits the consumer's lips.

Spindler Confections can be found in many different locations around town. Every other Saturday, Spindler sets up a



 $Jeremy\ Spindler\ is\ bringing\ quality\ home-style\ confectionary\ delights\ to\ Somerville\ sweets\ lovers.$ 

booth at the Somerville Winter Farmers Market in The Center for the Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave. Stop by this Saturday December 20, and pick up a freshly made batch of chocolate covered caramels to satiate the family and in-laws visiting for the holidays. Additionally, one can find Spindler Confections at Magpie, Jade Moran Jewelry, Dave's Fresh Pasta, Formaggio Kitchen, Q's Nuts, Arlington Centered or Sherman Cafe and Market.

For further information or to purchase candies online, http://www.spindlerconfections.com/ or to place a special order, call Jeremy at (812) 550-2927.

Completely homemade, hand cut, hand wrapped, packaged and hand labeled, the delicious candies of Spindler Confections are truly a local Somerville delight.



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Let's face it we all need food to survive. That being said, why not enjoy your food?

Over the past 20-25 years eating habits have continued to evolve. Eating pre-packaged frozen meals, grabbing fast food or following the popular "fad" diet of the time has become our way of life.

Now, fast forward to the present day. We want to know what we are feeding our bodies. We also want foods that are not treated with pesticides, GMO's (genetically modified organisms), or growth hormones. We want to support small local farmers more, to give us fresh, sustainable and affordable foods. The bottom line for most of us is that we want to know where our food is coming from.

Boy, have times changed! I remember when eating out at a restaurant was a luxury, typically prompted by a celebration of some kind. These days, restaurant culture has changed immensely. We eat at restaurants more often. Choice, taste and lifestyles often motivate our choices everyday.

I was born in Somerville, and grew up in this very city during the 70's and 80's, in a typical Italian/Irish family. Food was a way of life at our house. I started cooking 24 years ago and thanks to public television and the Food Network, I found my niche. Cooking is a hobby of mine. I was a bakery manager at an artisan bread company where I gained experience in small batch bread making and catering for 5 to 300 people. I currently work as a personal chef where I cater to the individual requests of my clients. I have experience with writing my own recipes as well as adapting recipes to make them more healthful. You could say I'm a "self proclaimed foodie."

I would like to welcome you to Dorothy's Corner! I look forward to writing this column and sharing some of my own recipes as well as others I have adapted over time. I will also include local restaurant reviews and, well, pretty much anything about food. I encourage readers to write in and comment and/or ask me any of their food related questions. Just Ask Dorothy!

## **Beacon Hill Roll Call**



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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.

This week, with the end of the 2013-2014 session only weeks away, Beacon Hill Roll Call, in the first of a series of special reports, takes a look at some of the bills that were approved by the Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Deval Patrick in the 2013-2014 session.

#### **CHANGES IN ELECTION LAWS (H 4072)**

House 147-4, Senate 38-0, approved a law making changes in the state's election laws. Key provisions allow online voter registration; 16- and 17-year-olds to pre-register to vote and automatically be qualified to vote upon turning 18; and early voting beginning 10 business days before any primary or general election and ending two days before the election.

Supporters said it was time for Massachusetts to join the 19 states that allow online registration and the 32 that permit early voting. They argued both changes will increase voter turnout.

THE HOUSE AND SENATE. There were no roll Some opponents said the pre-registration of 16- and 17-year-olds is an unnecessary and unworkable idea that is opposed by many understaffed city and town clerks. They said many teenagers who pre-register will go away to college and find out they can't vote in their college town because they are already registered in their hometown. Others argued the proposal does not include a key safeguard requiring voters to show a picture ID in order

(A "Yes" vote is for the law. A "No" vote is against it.)

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

#### \$177 MILLION FOR MILITARY INSTALLA-TIONS (H 3930)

House 151-0, Senate 35-2, approved a law to provide \$177 million over the next five years to make improvements at and expand the state's six military installations.

Supporters said this ensures that Massachusetts provides funding for all its major federal military bases and may help persuade the federal government not to close the state's military bases if and when another round of closings occurs. They argued these military installations contribute more than \$14.2 billion to the state's economy and support more than 46,000 jobs.

Opponents said it is questionable whether state dollars should be used for a national purpose. They argued the money would be better spent on state problems like education, construction, health care and clean energy, all of which will also help create jobs.

(A"Yes" vote is for the law. A"No" vote is against it.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	No

#### **GAS LEAKS (H 4164)**

House 147-0, Senate 38-0, approved a law to require gas leaks to be repaired by the gas company in a time frame based on a three-tier classification system of dangerousness. Grade One leaks are most likely to cause an explosion and would have to be repaired immediately. Grade Two leaks are expected to create a hazard in the future and would have to be fixed within 15 months, while Grade Three leaks are non-hazardous and would have to be reevaluated every six months. Other provisions align civil penalties for pipeline facility and gas transportation safety violations with federal law and require gas leaks that are identified within a school zone to be prioritized.

Supporters said the state's gas delivery system is the second oldest in the nation and has 5,700 miles of leakprone distribution pipe and 20,000 known leaks. They noted the bill will help prevent gas leak tragedies, save lives and have a positive impact on the environment by reducing methane gas.

(A "Yes" vote is for the law.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Iehlen	Yes

#### **ANTI-BULLYING (H 3909)**

House 145-4, Senate 37-1, approved a law adding some provisions to the 2010 anti-bullying law that requires all public and private schools to develop and implement a plan to prevent bullying from occurring and to discipline bullies. The new law requires that each plan recognize that some students may be more vulnerable to become targets of bullying based on "race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, socioeconomic status, homelessness, academic status, gender identity or expression, physical appearance, pregnant or parenting status, sexual orientation, or mental, physical, developmental or sensory disability."

Other provisions include requiring schools to annually report bullying data to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the attorney general and the Legislature and inform the parents of the victim about the department's problem resolution system and the process for seeking assistance or filing a claim.

Supporters said these changes will enhance the law and save countless children from a lifetime of physical and emotional scars and worse.

Opponents agree that bullying must be stopped but said the bill is another unfunded state mandate that stretches administrative staff with additional unnecessary paperwork. Some said it is divisive to enumerate categories of students and said all students deserve a safe learning environment.

(A"Yes" vote is for the law. A "No" vote is against it.)

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

#### **BABY HEART SCREENINGS (S 1919)**

House 147-0, Senate 37-0, approved a law to require all newborns to have a test that will determine whether he or she has a congenital heart defect. The test would be required to be performed prior to the infant being discharged from the hospital.

Supporters said 27 other states have this mandate and noted the requirement will save lives.

(A"Yes" vote is for the law.)

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

#### WATER INFRASTRUCTURE (S 2021)

House 152-0, Senate 40-0, approved a law to address the water and wastewater infrastructure challenges facing the state. The measure expands the spending capacity of the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust from \$88 million to \$138 million; creates and allocates \$3 million for a technical assistance program to be used for the development of asset management plans and to identify green infrastructure opportunities; simplifies the regulatory burden of complying with Title 5; and encourages regional projects by allowing public entities to jointly apply for planning grants to develop water pollution abatement plans.

Supporters said the law would help keep the state's waters

#### **Beacon Hill Roll Call**

#### continued

clean in a responsible, efficient manner. They noted it creates jobs, puts resources into water technology innovation and will put Massachusetts at the cutting edge of this technology.

(A"Yes" vote is for the law.)

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

#### ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

#### FRESHMEN HOUSE MEMBERS' BOOT CAMP

- More than 20 freshman representatives who will take the oath of office in January spent three days last week at the Academy for New Legislators' "boot camp" orientation event hosted by House Speaker Robert DeLeo at the Amherst campus of UMass. The bipartisan semi-annual event offers advice and training on many subjects for this group of newly elected legislators including the rules of the House, how a bill becomes law, how the House works, ethics and campaign finance.

SIX-YEAR CAREER PLANNING FOR SIXTH GRADERS YEARS (H 4527) - The House approved and sent to the Senate a bill that would create a committee to investigate and study the possible development and implementation of a six-year career planning project for each sixth grader. The implementation would begin in the 2016-2017 school year for all sixth graders and would be coordinated by licensed school guidance counselors. The committee would present the report to the Legislature with recommendations for any action it feels should be taken.

Supporters said the bill will help students receive the necessary education and develop the skills required to succeed in a career. They argued that it is important to empower students early in their academic careers so they can set clear goals.

TASK FORCE ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PREVENTION (H 4305) - The House approved and sent to the Senate a bill creating a task force on child sexual abuse prevention. The task force would develop strategies for incentivizing organizations serving children to develop and implement sexual abuse prevention and intervention plans. It would also develop a five-year plan for using community education and other strategies to increase public awareness about child sexual abuse including how to recognize signs, minimize risk and act on suspicions or disclosures. The task force would make recommendations to the Legislature.

DECAL FOR DRIVERS ON LEARNER'S PER-MIT (H 3681) - The House gave initial approval to a bill that would require a learner's permit decal to be clearly visible to law enforcement officers on the window of any vehicle being driven by a driver with a learner's permit. The size, cost and other details would be determined by the Registry of Motor Vehicles, and a violation of the requirement would result in a \$50 fine.

Supporters said this would warn other drivers that the novice driver is inexperienced and encourage them to take extra caution. They said the requirement would reduce the frustration of and honking by other motorists.

Opponents said the bill is a solution in search of a problem that doesn't exist. They noted that families with more than one car would have to get one decal for each car. They argued that experienced drivers would often be driving the car with the decal and mistaken for a novice.

#### HOMELESS YOUTH UNDER AGE 24 (H 4517) -

The House approved and sent to the Senate legislation creating a commission to study and make recommendations to provide adequate resources for unaccompanied homeless youth under the age of 24. The state would then enter into contracts with organizations and agencies to provide housing and support services to these youths.

Supporters said there are thousands of youths who are living on their own without adequate food and shelter. They argued there is desperate need for increased housing and shelter options and noted homelessness often leads to poor health, exposure to violence, susceptibility to exploitation, high-risk behaviors and a dependence on public systems and benefits.

SELL LIQUOR AT CONTINUING CARE COM-MUNITIES (S 2407) - The Senate approved a bill allowing the sale of alcohol at continuing care communities, retirement communities and assisted living facilities.

Supporters said many of these communities already offer top notch in-house restaurants but noted that the facility is not allowed to serve liquor. They argued that allowing alcohol is simply an extension that will benefit residents and make profits for the homes.

HAZARDOUS WASTE (S 2105) - The House and Senate approved and sent to Gov. Patrick legislation that amends the current law that requires companies responsible for hazardous materials spills to reimburse the city or town for the cost of its emergency response. The measure would expand current law and require reimbursement even for the "threat" of release of the materials. Another provision releases private homeowners and renters from reimbursing the community for the cost of any cleanup of oil or hazardous material on their property if they notify the local fire department of the incident immediately, the home was only used as a residence, and the owner or renter was not grossly negligent and did not illegally possess oil or hazardous materials.

Supporters said currently communities use lots of re- Wed. December 10 sources and dollars to respond to these calls but are not reimbursed unless there is an actual spill. They noted that non-commercial private homeowners and tenants should not be liable for cleanup costs if they meet certain conditions.

ENERGY EFFICIENT TRAINING FOR BUILD-ING MANAGERS (H 4020) - The House approved and sent to the Senate a bill requiring the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council and the Greater Boston Real Estate Board to develop recommendations for in-depth energy efficiency education and training programs to be offered to commercial building managers and operators.

Supporters said these programs would be invaluable to these managers and would result in more energy efficiency and a cleaner environment.

**QUOTABLE QUOTES** - "By the Numbers" Edition"

"1795" — The year a time capsule, removed last week, was placed in the granite cornerstone of the Massachusetts State-

"\$475" — The estimated cost for each incoming freshman legislator to attend last week's semi-annual orientation class held by House Speaker Robert DeLeo at UMass Amherst's Marriott Center.

"\$35 million" — The amount of money that MassHealth paid in "questionable and unallowable medical claims" according to an audit by Auditor Suzanne Bump. MassHealth provides access to healthcare services for an estimated 1.4 million eligible low- and moderate-income individuals.

#### 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 8-12, the House met for a total of 52 minutes while the Senate met for a total of three hours and eight minutes.

Mon. December 8 House 11:02 a.m. to 11:28 a.m.

Senate 11:03 a.m. to 11:26 a.m.

No House session Tues. December 9 No Senate session

No House session No Senate session

Thurs. December 11 House 11:04 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Senate 2:16 p.m. to 5:01 p.m.

No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com







Fri. December 12

## **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.

## Moving forward on campaign finance reform



#### By Joseph A. Curtatone

In September, I vetoed an ordinance that sought to set tough restrictions on campaign contributions from developers and others not because I disagreed with the intentions, but because I believed that as written the ordinance would be unenforceable. We should be grateful that Somerville has such a progressive Board of Aldermen that won't wait for others to undertake the reforms that our state and nation so badly need. We share the same values: That elected officials should represent everyone, not only the biggest campaign contributors, and that even the appearance of influence can negatively impact our community.

In the case of this particular ordinance, I did not seek to put an end to Somerville's efforts around campaign finance reform, but only to give us time to work with the Board and put forward a law that is enforceable, effective, and comprehensive. Last week, I submitted a revised ordinance built upon the laudable work already undertaken by the aldermen that aims to achieve our shared goals and reflect our shared values.

The revised ordinance puts in place an enforcement mechanism in the form of a contracted, independent auditor who would collect contribution disclosure forms from all candidates for public office, current elected officials, and anyone defined as an "applicant." That includes developers seeking approval for projects of 10,000 square feet or more, keeping in place the restrictions put forward in the first draft of this reform. It also includes anyone seeking to enter a contract with the City that isn't required by law to go to the lowest qualified bidder, anyone looking to buy or sell real state from or to the City, and anyone seeking financial assistance from the City.

Anytime someone puts in an application for a special permit for a large enough project, or seeks a contract with the City, or anything else covered under the ordinance, the auditor would review disclosure forms and campaign finance reports. Anyone who has made a contribution of more than \$250 to a sitting elected official in either the current or preceding year will be ineligible to receive the permit, contract or other award or approval from the City.

This keeps in place the inten-

tion of the original legislation, while putting the responsibility of enforcing it on appropriate officials—the independent auditor and the City Ethics Commission. Now instead of City staff in our Planning and Zoning Division putting campaign donation information in front of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals—which under state and case law are required to review specific projects and not applicants themselves—we will have an independent auditor working under the purview of a City commission that already exists to review any potential conflicts of interest in City government. It keeps the Planning Board and Continued on page 16

### The fatal flaw in the city's initiative affordable housing



By William C. Shelton

In October, Mayor Curtatone announced "Sustainable Neighborhoods," an initiative to maintain Somerville's housing affordability and economic diversity. The good news for me is that the city will finally mobilize the full range of tactics that Mayor Capuano's Affordable Housing Task Force recommended sixteen years ago.

The bad news is that the plan sets a goal of building 9,000 new housing units in Somerville over the next sixteen years. The 2012 SomerVision plan had previously set a goal of 6,000 new units, which was bad; 9,000 would ensure that our city becomes less affordable and diverse than it is today.

I like dense urban life. I loved living in Manhattan for two years. But Somerville is already New England's densest city. Among Massachusetts' 351 cities and towns, we have the worst jobs-to-workers ratio and the least amount of open space per 1,000 residents.

If we're going to increase our total housing stock by 27% over sixteen years, we ought to have good reasons. Maintaining housing affordability and population diversity are not credible ones.

The rationale for explosive housing growth seems to be that (1) increasing the supply of available units relative to demand will ease price pressure, and (2) other elements of the Neighborhoods Sustainable plan, like expanded inclusionary zoning requirements, will make a significant portion of the new units "affordable."

The problem with the first assumption is that the affordable housing crisis is regional. There is no amount of market-rate new units that could realistically be crammed into our city over sixteen years and be sufficient to equilibrate supply and demand at prices lower than we see today.

The problem with the second assumption is that adding 9,000 units would worsen the city's structural fiscal deficit to the point that we could not pay for other elements of the Sustainable Neighborhoods plan, or for all the other municipal services that sustain affordability.

The City of Somerville is on welfare. Our property and excise tax collections cover only 64% of what we spend. We are one of Massachusetts' needy municipalities, relying on state aid to cover 24% of our budget.

A gross imbalance between the amounts of residential and commercial property in the city fully explains our deficit. Residential property is taxed at 61% of the rate at which commercial property is taxed, but it generates twice the rate of city expenses. The total assessed value of Somerville's taxable commercial property is only one-eighth the value of its taxable residential property, and the trend is in the wrong direction.

As Somerville deindustrialized, previous city administrations Continued on page 19

## Life in the VILLE by Jimmy Del Ponte

## Do you hear what I hear?



borrowed from articles of Christmas past.

For years I wrote Christmas parodies with my counter-

part Tom Doyle formerly of WROR. My songs have graced the airwaves of Kiss 108, Eagle 93.7, and Oldies 103. It was a great run! You can see some of my silliness on A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas on city cable channels 13 and 22, and by following this link: youtube. com/somervillecitytv.

Some of my past Christmas favorites have been: Go Shave Ye Hairy Gentlemen, We Three Kids from Orient Heights, Waiting For a Win at Wonderland and I'm

Reprinted, revised and Fleeing in A White Bronco - sung in my best "OJ" voice back in 1994. A favorite from my Kiss days was Dingle-Balls On My I-ROC - sung to the tune of Jingle Bell

Here's one to the tune of Little Town of Bethlehem:

Oh little lounge in Somerville, you see a few here and there

In Teele, Magoun and Ball Square too, and many in Davis Square

Oh how we miss Pat Connelly's, Frascatis and Pine Tree

Rail Side is gone, but going strong is Rosebud and Johnny D's

How about The 12 Days of Christmas

On the 12th day of Christmas my true love

gave to me:

12 coats from Cummings,

11 ties from Gorins,

10 belts from Kresge's,

9 coats from Parke Snows,

8 cards from Woolworths, 7 bras from Bradlees,

6 toys from Lechmere's,

5 scarves from Grants!

4 shirts from Mickey Finn's,

3 hats from Sparks, 2 meals at The Venice, and some smokey socks from Bargain Cen-

Here are some others that I thought of: All I Want For Christmas Is My Residential Tax Exemption

I'll Be At Home Depot For Christmas Deck the Guy Who Blocked My Driveway



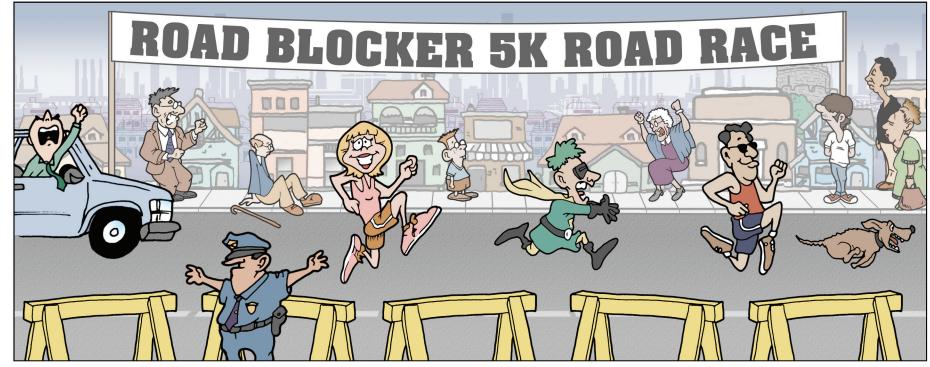
Frosty's At Sligo's Redbones The Red Meat Restaurant Rocking Around The Rotary We Three Aldermen I'll Have A Flashing Blue Christmas

Continued on page 16

## COMMENTARY

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

**Illustrated by Jim Clark** 



## The View Of The Times

A lot of Somerville residents are frustrated about all the road closures that come with all the road races.



It's an issue that won't go away – in spite of all the running that's going on.

Many local residents have voiced extreme dissatisfaction with the number and frequency of road race events sanctioned by the city that result in the temporary closure of public streets.

It can't be denied that there are plenty of them going on. Right up to onset of winter, as witnessed by last weekend's "Jingle Bell Run." The push and pull at play here is the juxtaposition of benefits vs. liabilities in the eyes of those concerned on both sides of the issue.

Many are distressed over the street closures that create detours and delays for motorists and pedestrians alike. Some argue that emergency vehicles are blocked from getting through, while others complain that there are times when they cannot even come and go from their homes during these events.

There is the additional concern that public monies are being used in support of these races.

On the other side, proponents of these events cite that they are almost exclusively organized as fundraisers for worthy causes, and that claims of extensive road access blocking are greatly exaggerated.

Further, the assertion is made that the public funding in question is negligible,

and constitutes goodwill participation by the city in supporting worthwhile fundraising efforts that benefit the entire community in the long term.

And so the debate continues. Maybe it is time for civic leaders and elected officials to work with the public to get the situation factually assessed and dealt with once and for all.

The truth is out there somewhere. And after all, you can run but you cannot hide.

#### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

will be selected by the staff of *The Times* and the three top winners will be published in time for Christmas.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

It appears that last years East Somerville re-union was such a success that Dan Rogovich is going to make plans for another one and book the City Club in June of 2015 for the Second Annual East Somerville re-union. This gives those who missed last year's event the opportunity to plan ahead and mark their calendars.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

The Brown School Winter Concert takes place on Monday, December 22, 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Somerville High School Auditorium, 81 Highland Avenue. The Concert will feature performances by the Kindergarten-grade 3 general music classes, grade 3-6 string students, grade 5-6 band students, Junior Chorus, and Senior Chorus. Students will share what they have learned so far this year in their music classes.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Looking for the perfect holiday gift to show your Somerville pride? Look no further! The city is now offering a brand new, full color, and machine washable afghan, that highlights many local historic landmarks and events, including the Raid on the Powder House; the Round House; Somerville High School, West Branch Library; Somerville Museum; and other special assets. The afghan can be seen on the Historic Preservation Commission's website (www.somervillema.gov/historicpreservation) and on display at City Hall. Afghans can be purchased for \$65, with fifty percent considered to be a tax deductible donation that will benefit City preservation projects including the Historic Plaque Program, Preservation Awards Program, and numerous heritage education projects. They are available for purchase by contacting or visiting Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue. Checks should be made payable to "City of Somerville-Historic Celebration Fund." Afghans are also available at the Somerville Museum, 1 Westwood Road (by appointment: 617-666-9810), and current Somerville Museum members are eligible for a 10% discount. For more information, contact the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development at 617-625-6600 x2525 or x2532.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and Historic Preservation Commission Di-

rector Brandon Wilson announced that the 239th annual "Grand Union" flag-raising ceremony at Prospect Hill Park will be held on Thurs., Jan. 1, 2015 at 12 p.m. A processional led by a re-enactor portraying General George Washington on horseback will leave from the City Hall Concourse at 11:30 a.m. As always, members of the public are invited to participate, and are encouraged to wear traditional colonial clothing.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Due to pre-scheduled meetings, there will be no walk-in flu vaccination clinic at the City Hall Annex on Thursday, Dec. 18. A clinic will be held on Saturday, Dec. 20 at the Winter Hill Community School cafeteria (please use the Medford St. entrance) from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Clinics are open for residents and non-residents ages five years and older. While there is no charge for vaccinations, attendees are asked to bring an insurance card if available. Attendees requiring additional assistance or other accommodations should contact the Somerville Health Department at 617-625-6600 ext. 4300.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, Ward 2

Alderman Maryann Heuston, Ward 3 Alderman Robert McWatters, and the Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSP-CD) invite all interested community members to the latest in a series of meetings and public forums to discuss future roadway and utility improvements for Union Sq. on Thurs., Jan. 8, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Argenziano School cafeteria at 290 Washington St., and will focus on the draft interim design for Webster St. and Prospect St. For more information, contact Hayes Morrison at 617-625-6600 ext. 2522, orHMorrison@somervillema.gov.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

The City of Somerville invites all interested community members to join in a discussion and submit feedback on the Recreation Department's programming and activities. The City will host a public forum on Wednesday, Jan. 7, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Argenziano School cafeteria (290 Washington St.). For more information about the Task Force and its recommendations, visitsomervilleresistat.blogspot.com/p/rectaskforce. html, or contact Stephanie Hirsch at SHirsch@somervillema.gov.

## **ESCS Winter Concert**

The East Somerville Community School Winter Concert took place on Friday, Dec. 12 in the ESCS Auditorium. Student work from general, vocal, and instrumental music classes, grades K-8, was presented at the free-of-charge performance.











Photos by Claudia Ferro

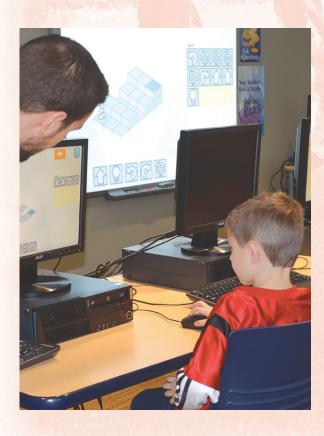


## An Hour of Code

Kids from all over the school district were invited to East Somerville Community School last week to participate in the "Hour of Code" event presented with the goal in mind of introducing students to the principles of computer programming.













Photos by Claudia Ferro



## **SPORTS**

## Marathon Sports 'Somerville Jingle Bell Run' 2014



## Ms. Cam's ) Lio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

- 1. Where did the Christmas tree originate?
- 2. What were the first artificial Christmas trees made from?
- 3. When do most Americans put up a Christmas tree?
- 4. Who wrote the song White Christmas in 1942?
- 5. What is the scent used for an artificial hare at greyhound racing tracks?
- 6. What was invented by Dr Edward Land in 1947?
- 7. Which band started their notorious career

- with Anarchy in the UK?
- 8. Which film had the line "We're on a mission from God"?
- 9. What was the name of the first seeing eye dog in the US?
- 10. What is the stage name of the rock singer Reginald Kenneth Dwight?
- 11. What was the number of the mobile hospital unit Hawkeye Pierce and Hot Lips Houlihan belonged to on TV's M\*A\*S\*H?
- 12. What color were ETs eyes? Answers on page 16



The 5 Kilometer Marathon Sports "Somerville Jingle Bell Run" was held on Sunday, December 14. The top 20 finishers were:

Place	Time	Name	City
1	15:54	David Wilson	Brookline MA
2	16:14	Hansruedi Mathys	Cambridge MA
3	16:37	Peter Gilmore	Allston MA
4	16:47	Rafer Dannenhauer	Shutesbury MA
5	16:54	Kyler Evitt	Somerville MA
6	16:54	Dan Chruniak	Beverly MA
7	16:58	Frank Doyle	Lexington MA
8	17:11	Sean Prinz	Wantagh NY
9	17:16	Russell Leino	Belmont MA
10	17:17	Aaron Ladd	Waltham MA
11	17:27	Steven Carnevale	Quincy MA
12	17:28	Breno Melo	Brighton MA
13	17:31	Colin Savage	Holly Springs NC
14	17:36	Stephen Hennigar	Rye NH
15	17:40	Ryan Miling	Somerville MA
16	17:41	Deniz Karakoyunlu	Boston MA
17	17:50	Dylan Perry	Beverly MA
18	17:54	Eric Ahern	Somerville MA
19	17:56	David Robb	Allston MA
20	18:01	Patrick Rooney	Brighton MA

#### **APARTMENT RENTALS**

#### **COLONY REAL ESTATE**

#### 1258 Broadway, Somerville

Somerville, Arlington, Cambridge -All Areas-

617-776-0044

colony.re@rcn.com

## **Belmont St. fire** displaces 5

#### By Tom Bannister

The Somerville and Cambridge Fire Departments responded to a two-alarm fire at 83 Belmont St. at approximately 9 a.m. on Tuesday morning.

There were no reported injuries but 5 residents of the two-family building have

been displaced due to the extensive fire damage in the basement and first floor areas of the home.

Firefighters reportedly extinguished the fire within 40 minutes of their arrival. A cause for the blaze has not yet been determined. Investigators say the fire seems to have started in the basement area.

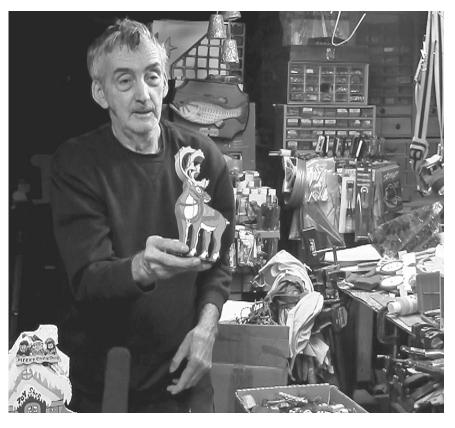




## Jake off those cleats and **Mary Flynn Murphy** Dance Studio 730 Broadway Somerville, MA Looking to join a competition team?! We have 5 teams still accepting dancers! Weekday and Saturday Recreations classes available!! Wiggle Worms 15 months to 2.9 years old Spots still open, Call for availability! (617) 628-6727 www.MFMDanceStudio.com

## What's on Somerville **Neighborhood News**

Go behind the scenes to meet some people who decorate their homes for the Illuminations Tour, learn about Somerville's bid for the Audi Urban Future Award, get the latest on the law that would limit overcrowding of Tufts student apartments, learn what kind of changes might be in store for the Brickbottom neighborhood and walk with the hundreds of students and neighbors in the December 5th march from Davis to Central Square that blocked traffic and said "Black Lives Matter!"



These stories and more on Somerville Neighborhood News #29 on Dec. 16th. You can watch it on Channel 3 if you have cable TV, or online at http://www. somervilleneighborhoodnews.org.

## ATTENTION HOME BUYERS

For your home buying process contact us today, talk to an experienced Buyers Agent who will represent your interest and guide you through the buying process. We make the process of home buying easy.

> Contact us today or register for free on www.nortongroupre.com

And for buying a home through the Norton Group receive a FREE Home Warranty for the first year in your new home as a thank you.



#### **LEGAL NOTICES**

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



#### **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,

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

12/10/14, 12/17/14 The Somerville Times

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

PH: 617.666.4010 FAX: 617.628.0422

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

#### **INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

MIDDLESEX Division

Petitioner Charles M.

Docket No. MI 14P5942 EA

Derry

Derry

(City/Town)

(State)

Estate of: Stanley Victor Stanlon **First Name Middle Name Last Name** Also Known As: Stanley V. Stanlon Date of Death: October 19, 2014 To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of

Stanlon of

First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) [x] a Will has been admitted to informal probate. Charles M. Stanlon

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve

[ ] with [x] without surety on the bond.

First Name M.I. Last Name

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner

12/17/14 The Somerville Times



#### CITY OF SOMERVILLE **PURCHASING DEPARTMENT** RFP # 15-60

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

**Design Services for Draw Seven Park** 

Nature and scope of work: The City of Somerville is seeking to procure a Consultant for a full range of wrap-around social services

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 17, 2014.

Sealed proposals will be received at the Purchasing Department, 1st Floor, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143 until January 5, 2015 at 11:00 a.m..

Please contact Alex Nosnik, Asst. Purchasing Director, x3400, or email anosnik@somervillema.gov, for information and bid packages.

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

12/17/14 The Somerville Times

Legal Notices can be downloaded from our Web site: www.TheSomervilleTimes.com



#### Moving forward on campaign finance reform CONT. FROM PG 10

ZBA separate from any politics, perceived or otherwise, while creating a way to make sure that applicants are properly reviewed to avoid even the appearance of undue influence.

This legislation is enforceable, and it is comprehensive. It expands the disclosures required of those seeking approval from the City to make sure that others—whether family members or others working for the same company—are not making contributions on their behalf, and doing an end-run around the restrictions we're putting in place. It requires that neither the applicant nor anyone disclosed in connection with the applicant who is awarded a contract or receives approval for a special permit makes a contribution of more than \$250 to any elected official for the next two years.

It puts shared responsibility on elected officials, too, by requiring myself and my fellow incumbents to return donations that exceed what's allowed under the ordinance, if requested by an applicant who wants to go forward with seeking approval of a permit or awarding of a contract with the City. That way, the people who make political contributions are held responsible—and the people who received political contributions are held responsible.

This revised ordinance is enforceable, comprehensive, and I believe it will be effective. It accomplishes the original goals of the proposed ordinances submitted last year by myself and members of the Board of Aldermen, while adding additional requirements that will allow us to effectively enforce and implement what will be the first campaign finance reform legislation of its kind in Massachusetts. I want to thank the Board of Aldermen for pushing for this kind of reform, and I hope that we can pass an ordinance that reassures the community that our government is accountable to one value, and one value only: What is best for the people of Somerville.

#### Do you hear what I hear? **CONT. FROM PG 10**

Chickens Roasting At McKinnon's

I Saw A Parking Control Officer Ticketing Santa Claus It Came Down Rt. 16 From Revere

Grandma Got Run Over By A Jogger

This year Mayor Joe Curtatone assembled The Mayors Carolers to serenade local VNA's and nursing facilities. Singers from our senior chorus The Moonlighters as well as a few aldermen and City Hall workers visited several locations singing their hearts out and spreading holiday cheer. A great time was had by all.

No matter what your favorite holiday song is, you can bet that you will hear it over and over again on the radio, on TV commercials and in stores. Of course, you can do what I do and play your own holiday music. If you do download your own songs, don't forget Elvis. For me, the best Christmas song of all time is The Singing Dogs barking their version of Jingle Bells!



#### HAPPENING

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:

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:

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

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

#### **IMPORTANT NEWS**

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

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

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.

#### **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-reg-

#### **Upcoming Schedule**

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

#### 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

#### Thursday December 18

10:00 Free Holiday Concert with the Powers School of

10:00 Blood Pressure Screening (H, RJ)

10:00 Cards (RJ)

10:00 Knitting Scarves for Soldiers (RJ)

10:00 Current Events (H)

11:00 Computer tutorial with Barbara (by appointment only) (H)

11:30 Lunch (H, RJ)

12:45 Bingo (RJ, H)

#### Friday December 19

10:30 Brain Games (H) 11:30 Lunch (H) 12:45 Bingo (H) Ralph & Jenny Center Closed

#### Monday December 22

10:30 Brain Games (H) 11:30 Lunch (H) 12:45 Bingo (H) Ralph & Jenny Center Closed

#### **Tuesday December 23**

11:30 Lunch (H) Cross Street Center Closed Ralph & Jenny Center Closed

#### Wednesday December 24

Cross Street Center Closed Ralph & Jenny Center Closed All Centers close at Noon - No Bowling

#### DID YOU KNOW?

We have a Facebook page. Check us out at www.facebook.com/somervilleCOA.

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.

#### Illuminations Tour lights up Somerville **CONT. FROM PG 1**

during the tour night, was the perspectives about the restauthe extravaganza of lights. Every time the driver rang the bell as a compliment to those decorations, the owner of the house would stand out on the their porches, waving at the passengers and taking pictures.

Tringo, the president of the Thalia Tringo Real Estate, made Somerville foodies' mouths water when she introduced them to the multicultural restaurants around the neighborhood. Tringo pointed out her favorite Chinese, Turkish and Portuguese eateries when the bus took turns through the most neighborhoods, prosperous such as Davis Square.

"So Tringo brought her own

guide on Bus D, the one that rants, and that was really fun," went to the western part of the Heller said. "The tour is what 14 years ago, there were 10 tours city. The bus stopped when the makes Somerville special. It's in total. And now, we have 29 passengers oohed and aahed at celebrating our culture and the tours that go out." diversity of our culture. Everybody is just very happy about it." In addition to those shining and sparkling lights, the passengers constantly applauded the giant lit-up snowmen, spinning bears, hand waving Santa

> time of year. The Somerville Arts Council, a cultural council that organizes multiple cultural events across the city, including ArtBeat, started the Illuminations Tour program 18 years ago.

> Clauses, and running deer that

brighten the city at the darkest

"The illuminations Tour was started by our predecessor Cecily Miller, and it's grown," Director of Somerville Arts Council,

Gregory Jenkins said. "When I first started organizing the tour

In previous years, only the neighborhood of East Somerville was part of the event. Four years ago, Jenkins said, the tour was expanded to the western part of the city.

"The whole point of the tour is celebrating the holidays, and looking at the folk art of lights, and all the creations that all the people put into the holidays," Jenkins said. He mentioned that all the residents decorated their houses voluntarily, and the Somerville Arts Council merely identified the aesthetics and creativity of people in the community.

Jenkins explained the intricacy of designing the tour map. He said the tour is usually limited to all the passengers got on board. 45 to 50 minutes.

figure out the best route, and Once again, Jenkins had to make how to not double and how to sure that everyone, young and keep together, so there is consistency." Jenkins said. "Occasionally, we added streets, because certain streets dropped off. And also, there are a lot of houses that dropped off, so sadly, there are probably less houses decorated."

"Somerville is just an amazing place for people to come out and to be festive and civic-minded," Jenkins added. To add to the celebration, the Somerville Bicycle Committee has also for the past three years organized a bike tour each year that falls on the same day as Illuminations Tour.

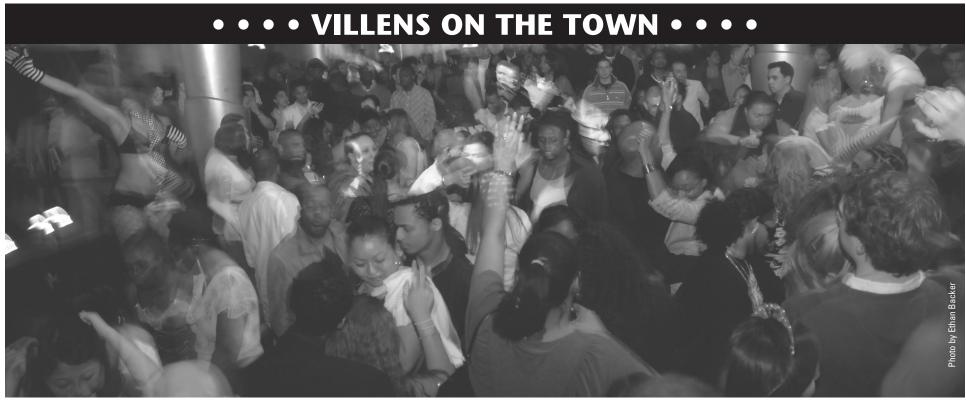
Jenkins was a busy guy during the event. For every round of the tour, he had to make sure that

Once a bus started its tour, an-"What we have to do is to other bus might just finish. old, safely got off the bus.

"It's my work," Jenkins said, smiling. He said that Somerville residents decorated their houses with more plastic figurines and blow-ups over the years, instead of just lights in the past.

"Certain houses seemed to be adding more decorations," Jenkins remarked about his expectations for next year's event. "So it involves changes every year."

If you are unable to make the tour pick up an Illuminations Tour Map and create your own self-guided tour. Available at: Blue Cloud Gallery, 713 Broadway, Ball Square and Magpie, 416 Highland Ave., Davis Square. Map \$3.



#### **CHILDREN AND YOUTH** 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

#### Thursday December 18

#### **Central Library**

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

**East Branch Library** 

Holiday Storytime! Meghan Forsell|617-623-5000 x2970

6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

#### Friday December 19

#### **Central Library**

Preschool: Storytime for 2 year

10:30 a.m,-11 a.m.|79 Highland Avenue

#### **East Branch Library**

Fun Friday with The Music Man! Meghan Forsell-617-623-5000

11 a.m.-12 p.m.|115 Broadway

## Wednesday December 24

**Christmas Eve - Libraries Close** at 12:30

#### **MUSIC** | ARTS 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-

#### 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 Hammerman|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 Avel617-440-6045

#### **Highland Kitchen**

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

#### Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-

#### 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

#### Thursday December 18

#### Johnny D's

Private Event

17 Holland St|617-776-2004

#### Sally O'Brien's

Spring Hill Rounders 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|North Star Renaissance|Happy Time Harry|The Sunpilots|Bees Deluxe 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-

#### 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

Castle of Comedy 8 p.m.| Café|191 Highland Ave

#### **Davis Square Theatre**

Strange Behavior 8 p.m.|255 Elm Street

#### Friday December 19

#### Johnny D's

James Montgomery Band with Marissa Licata and Grace Kelly The Gravel Project plus Qwill 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

#### Sally O'Brien's

Larry Flint & The Road Scholars 6 p.m.

Shaun England, Junky Love, Trick Wallace Trio \$5 cover |9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

#### The Burren

Front Room Irish Session|9:30 p.m. **Back Room** Jimmy's Down

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

### **Orleans Restaurant and Bar**

10 p.m.|65 Holland St

#### PA'S Lounge

WEMF Radio|Southbound Outlaws|Fiesta Melon|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

#### Dave Wells & Friends

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

#### Joshua Tree

DI 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

Richard Cambridge's Poetry Theatre

8 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

#### Saturday December 20

#### Johnny D's

Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast Guitar Jeff Jam Dance Party Tribute to THE BAND featuring The Band Rock Bottom plus Tsunami of Sound

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

Johnny Come Latelies |6 p.m. One Thin Dime |9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

#### The Burren

**Back Room Red Square** 

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

#### **Orleans Restaurant and Bar** Karaoke

65 Holland St

#### PA'S Lounge

1557

WEMF Radio|The Mags|The Ungraded|Blackwater|The Jack Widows 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-

#### On the Hill Tavern

Live DJ Music

499 Broadway|617-629-5302

#### **Bull McCabe's**

Ronan Quinn Band 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

#### **Davis Square Theatre**

The Uncle Petey Christmas Special 8 p.m.|255 Elm Street

#### Sunday December 21

#### 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

Frank Drake Sunday Showcase|5

Tom Hagerty Acoustic Band |8 335 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-

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

#### **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

The Somerville Flea

10 a.m.-3 p.m.| Performance Hall Extremely Casual V: Superjolly 7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

#### Monday December 22

#### Johnny D's

Johnny D's Comedy Showcase Presents: Tight 5 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

## • • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

#### PA'S Lounge

Amerciana Monday 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-

#### **Bull McCabe's Pub**

Stump! Team Trivia 366A Somerville Avel617-440-

#### Arts at the Armory

Youth Arts Arise: End of Session Showcase

6 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

#### **Tuesday December 23**

#### Johnny D's

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-

#### **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

Pub Sing at the Armory Café 7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

#### Wednesday December 24 Johnny D's

17 Holland St|617-776-2004

#### Sally O'Brien's Bar

Merry Christmas

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-

#### 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-

#### 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-

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

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

Joshua Tree Bar & Grill

8:30 p.m.|256 Elm Street|(617) 623-9910

#### **CLASSES AND GROUPS** 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

#### **Thursday** December 18

#### 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

#### Saturday December 20

#### 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 21

#### **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

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com

#### **Tuesday | December 23**

#### 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.

#### 7 p.m. - 9:15 p.m. 33 Union Sq

Wednesday December 24 **Christmas Eve - Libraries Close** at 12:30



## PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

#### The fatal flaw in the city's affordable housing initiative CONT. FROM PG 10

allowed factories and other commercial properties that had hosted jobs and generated higher taxes to be converted to housing. More recently, city officials blessed a wave of condo conversions, multi-unit projects forced onto protesting neighbors, and large high-priced residential de-

Collectively, these policies reduced the stock of family housing and rental housing while escalating housing prices. Unbalanced by vigorous growth in commercial property, each new housing unit incrementally widens the structural deficit.

The rationale for these policies, though never publicly stated, is that residents of the expensive new units probably won't have children, and therefore won't contribute to our schools' costs, which make up 30% of the city budget. So they won't have as much of a negative fiscal impact as adding lower-cost and family housing units would.

But a consequence of this pol-

icy is that childless occupants of the pricy new units tend to be transient and much less likely to involve themselves in the life of the community. There are some wonderful exceptions, and I've written a series of columns about them. But they remain exceptions, while the snowballing displacement of long-term residents who are priced out of Somerville continues to unravel the fabric of our community.

A good portion of affluent newcomers who do choose to remain will eventually reproduce. So they will either leave the city, increasing transiency and housing price escalation, or buy into our diminishing stock of family housing, outbidding and displacing'Villens.

Either way, the residential/ commercial imbalance continues to worsen, with dire consequences. One of them is that we have two working residents for every job, while Boston and Cambridge have two jobs for every worker.

The best affordable housing program is a job that pays enough for a worker to afford market-rate housing. Building affordable housing is expensive. Preparing young people and limited-skilled workers for available jobs is less expensive.

Because of Boston's and Cambridge's commercial/residential property balance, their spending on city services is 40% and 83% more per resident, respectively, than ours is. Those cities can not only provide more training, education and placement to people who need jobs, they can pay for more services that support housing affordability.

If Somerville allows construction of 9,000 new housing units, it will have a very hard time paying for the most basic of municipal services, much less those proposed in the Sustainable Neighborhoods plan.

Somerville budget amounts to a little over \$6,300 per housing unit in the city. Res-

idential property taxes bring in about \$3,100 per unit. That's a difference of \$3,200.

If we were to add 9,000 units, the increased budget gap might well be less than \$3,200 per new unit, because some existing costs will remain fixed as we grow, and others are nonlinnew schools to accommodate a couple thousand additional kids who would live in the new units. We might require a new fire station in addition to the one that we already need but don't have. We would require additional infrastructure.

So for the sake of argument, leave the budget gap at \$3,200 per new unit. That's a \$29 million shortfall, with no identifiable revenues to make it up.

Or, if you think that this calculation is to simplistic, assume that the shortfall is only half of what I suggest. Making the cuts or ratcheting up property taxes to fill that gap would make Somerville much less affordable

than it already is.

Critics will point out that SomerVision calls for a lot more commercial development and job creation to balance housing growth. It does. And it's not happening.

Our big new increase in commercial property is the Partners Healthcare campus. As a nonprofit, Partners will make much smaller payments to the city than the city will spend to provide municipal services to

So my response to city officials who dismiss the foregoing analysis is this: If you're serious about ensuring that commercial development in the "transformational areas" will achieve SomerVision's goals, then ration the issuance of permits for unaffordable housing, based on one new unit for every five new jobs created in taxable developments. Maintain that policy until our commercial/ residential and jobs/workers inequities are rebalanced.

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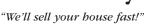
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Nednesday	y, December 17	5:00pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	12:00pm	Honk Festival	7:30am	Eckankar
5:30am	Road to Recovery	5:30pm	Eat Well Be Happy Cooking Show	12:30pm	Taking Back Your Health	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
7:00am	Somerville Film Group	6:00pm	Tails of the City	1:00pm	Somerville Times and Journal Reading	9:00am	The Stephanie Miller Show (Free Speech TV)
7:30am	Life Matters	6:30pm	Health is Wealth	1:30pm	MAPS Health Connector	10:00am	Bay State Biking News
3:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:00pm	Taking Back your Health (Live call-in)	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	11:00am	Nossa gente e Costumes
9:00am	SCATV Presents Potluck and Lecture Series	7:30pm	Active Aging:	3:00pm	Telemagazine	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
0:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (Live call-in)	4:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	1:00pm	Somerville Film Group:
0:30am	Art at SCATV: Dixie Manley	9:30pm	The Steve Katsos Show	4:30pm	Culture Club	2:00pm	Exercise with Robyn and Max
1:00am	Abugida TV	10:00pm	Somerville Film Group: Ways to Live Forever	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	2:30pm	Esoteric Science
	The Big Picture with Thom Hartmann Show	11:00pm	Bay State Biking News - Rerun	6:00pm	SCATV Presents Telethon	4:00pm	Free Speech Television
:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	Friday. D	ecember 19	7:00pm	Somerville Film Group	5:00pm	Henry Parker Presents
2:00pm	Physician Focus	6:00pm	Somerville Film Group	7:30pm	Fluff Festival	5:30pm	Literati Scene
2:30pm	Race, Community, and Police Relations	7:30am	Shrink Rap	8:00pm	David Pakman (Free Speech TV)	6:00pm	Ville Pirates
3:30pm	What the Fluff Festival	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:30pm	Youth Programing
1:00pm	Free Speech Television	9:00am	SCATV Presents Potluck and Lecture Series	10:00pm	Open Line News with Davey D	7:00pm	The Somerville Line
5:00pm	Energy Theater	10:00am	ArtBeat 2014	11:00pm	Gay News USA (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	Abugida TV
6:00pm	Trance: A Romantic Journey	11:00am	The Art of Animation: a series of Karen Aqua	Sunday, De	ecember 21	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
6:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority	12:00pm	Brunch with Sen. Bernie Sanders	6:00am	Program Celebrai	10:00pm	Bate Papo com Shirley
7:00pm	Inside Talk	1:00pm	Race, Community, and Police Relations	7:00am	Rompendo em Fe	11:00pm	The Entertainer's Show
	Crossroads: a Search for An American Dream	2:00pm	SCATV Presents Honk Festival	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ		Docombou 22
3:00pm	Somerville Pundits	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	7:00am	December 23
3:30pm	The Steve Katsos Show	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	10:00am	International Church of God	8:00am	The Struggle Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:00pm	Bay State Biking News	5:00pm	Somerville Jazz Festival 2014	10:30am	Active Aging	9:00am	The Struggle
0:00pm	Art at SCATV: Dixie Manley	5:30pm	Mystic Learning Center: Variety Hour	11:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	10:00am	Shrink Wrap
0:30pm	SCATV Presents Honk Festival	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	11:30am	Taking Back Your Health	11:00am	Wicked Sober
1:00pm	Visual Radio	6:30pm	Art at SCATV: Dixie manley	12:00pm	Inside Talk	11:30am	
		7:00pm	Somerville Film Group:	12:30pm	Somerville Film Group		Ablevision
	December 18	8:00pm	Friday Shorts	1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
5:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	9:00pm	Energy Theater - haunted Halloween	1:30pm	Somerville Times and Journal Reading	1:00pm	What the Fluff Festival?
7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	9:30pm	The Steve Katsos Show	2:30pm	Life Matters	2:00pm	Art at SCATV: Dixie Manley
3:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	The Somerville Line	3:00pm	Rompendo em Fe	2:30pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show
9:00am	Cancer Explained!	11:00pm	Acronym TV (Free Speech TV)	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	3:00pm	Tele Galxie
9:30am	Girls Talk	11:30pm	Somerville ArtBeat 2014	5:00pm	Race, Community, and Police Relations	4:00pm	Ring of Fire (Free Speech TV)
0:00am	Dead Air Live			6:00pm	Abugida TV	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer (L)
1:00am	Greater Somerville	-	, December 20	7:00pm	African Television Network	5:30pm	The Literati Scene
1:30am	Ablevision	6:00am	Arabic Hour	8:00pm	Tele Magazine	6:00pm	Tails of the City
	The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)	7:00am	The Somerville Line	9:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	6:30pm	Culture Club
:00pm	Chef's Table Series	8:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	10:00pm	Farrakhan Speaks	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
2:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking w/ Candy	8:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show		•	7:30pm	Greater Somerville (L)
2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez	9:00am 10:00am	Festival Kreyol Tele Galaxie	6:00am	Pecember 22 Ablevision	8:00pm	Dead Air Live
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)					9:00pm	Energy Theater
1:00pm	Free Speech Television	11:00am	Dead Air Live	6:30am	Creating Cooperative Kids	11:00pm	The David Pakman Show (Free Speech TV)

#### Caple 1 v Schedule for the week CILY

Aldermen at Work

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Talking Business

Aldermen at Work

Voices of Somerville

SomerViva en Espanol

Senior Circuit

SomerViva en Espanol

Unearthing Lost Somerville

Unearthing Lost Somerville

Interfaith Panel & Discussion

Unearthing Lost Somerville

Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking

A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas

Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking

A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas

The Mayor's Report – Year in Review

Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus

A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas

Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults

The Mayor's Report – Year in Review

A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas

Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus

Winter Hill Charrette: Housing

SomerViva em Portugues

Voices of Somerville

Senior Circuit

<b>CITY TV 13/22</b>	
Wednesday, December	21

9:00am: SomerViva em Portugues 9:30am: Aldermen at Work 12:00pm: School Committee Meeting -REPLAY OF 12.15.14 3:00pm: A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas 6:30pm: Talking Business 7:00pm SomerViva en Espanol 7:30pm: Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte 8:00pm: The Mayor's Report – Year in Review 8:30pm: A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas 8:15pm: Veterans Day Observance 8:30pm: Connecting Communities – Somerville PD Interfaith Panel Discussion 9:00pm: 10:00pm: Somerville ROCKS!

#### Thursday, December 18

SomerViva an Krevol Avisven 12:00am: 12:15am: Veteran's Day Observance Talking Business 12:30am: 1:00am: The Somerville Guard "Race to Laurel Hill" A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas 2:00am: 2:15am: Connecting Communities - Somerville PD Interfaith Panel Discussion 2:45am: 9:00am: A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas 9:10am: Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus 12:00pm: Senior Circuit 12:30pm: Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults 1:00pm: Aldermen at Work 1:30pm: Voices of Somerville 2:00pm: Seriously Somerville w/limmy Del Ponte 2:30pm: School Committee Meeting -Superintendent Selection 6:30pm: SomerViva em Portugues City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa 7:00pm: Claus 9:00pm: School Committee Meeting -Superintendent Selection

10:45pm: SomerViva an Kreyol Ayisyen Friday, December 19 12:00am: Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus 2:00am: Voices of Somerville SomerViva an Kreyol Ayisyen 2:15am: Somerville ROCKS! 9:00am: School Committee Meeting -Superintendent Selection Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking 12:00pm: 12:30pm: Illuminations Tour 2014 1:30pm: Voices of Somerville 2:00pm: Connecting Communities - Somerville PD Unearthing Lost Somerville 2:30pm: 6:30pm: SomerViva en Espanol 7:00pm: **Talking Business** Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking 7:30pm: 8:00pm: Illuminations Tour 2014 Voices of Somerville 9:00pm: Unearthing Lost Somerville 9:30pm: Saturday, December 20

12:00am: SomerViva en Espanol 12:30am: Illuminations Tour 2014 1:30am: Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking 2:00am: 2:30am: 9:00am: Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus Connecting Communities – Somerville PD Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner

12:00pm: 1:00pm: 2:00pm: 2:30pm: 3:35pm: 6:30pm: 7:00pm 8:00pm: 8:30pm:

9:00pm: 9:30pm:

9:45pm: Sunday, December 21 12:00am: 12:30am: Connecting Communities - Somerville PD

1:00am: 1:30am: 2:00am: 9:00am: Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults Connecting Communities - Somerville PD

12:00pm: 12:30pm: 1:00pm: 1:30pm: 2:00pm: 2:15pm: 2:45pm: 7:00pm: 7:30pm: 8:00pm: 8:30pm:

8:45pm: 12:00am:

#### Monday, December 22

Senior Circuit Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults 12:30am: 1:00am: The Mayor's Report - Year in Review 1:30am: A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas 1:40am: Veterans Day Observance 2:00am: Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus Illuminations Tour 2014 9:00am: 12:00pm: Interfaith Panel Discussion Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa Claus 1:00pm: 3:00pm: The Mayor's Report - Year in Review 3:30pm: SomerViva em Portugues 6:30pm: Somerville ROCKS! 7:30pm: School Committee -Superintendent Selection Voices of Somerville 9:15pm: 9:45pm: Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking

#### A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas 10:15pm: Tuesday, December 23

12:00am:

1:45am:

2:45am:

3:15am:

3:40am:

9:00am:

12:00pm:

School Committee -Superintendent Selection Interfaith Panel Discussion Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking Talking Business A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas The Mayor's Report - Year in Review Senior Circuit

12:30pm: Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults 1:00pm: Winter Hill Charrette: Housing 2:00pm: **Talking Business** Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner 2:30pm: Veterans Day Observance 3:30pm: 7:00pm: Illuminations Tour 2014 7:30pm: Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte 8:00pm: Aldermen at Work Connecting Communities - Somerville PD 8:30pm: 9:00pm: SomerViva em Portugues 9:30pm: Haitian Community Meeting 10:00pm: Interfaith Panel Discussion 12:00am: Senior Circuit Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults 12:30am: 1:00am: Aldermen at Work Connecting Communities - Somerville PD 1:30am: 2:00am: Haitian Community Meeting 2:30am: Interfaith Panel Discussion

#### **EDUCATIONAL CHANNEL 15** Wednesday, December 17

9:00 am: SHS Hockey v King Phillip - 12/13 11:00 am: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy ESCS Winter Concert 12/12 1:00 pm: All-City Middle School Winter Concert 2:00 pm: 3:00 pm: SHS Football v Cambridge RLS 6:00 pm: SHS Hockey v King Phillip - 12/13 8:00 pm: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy SHS Hockey v Matignon - 12/17 10:00 pm:

#### **Thursday, December 18**

12:00 am: SHS Hockey v Matignon - 12/17 SHS Football v Cambridge RLS 2:30 am: SHS Hockey v King Phillip - 12/13 9:00 am: 10:30 am: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy 1:00 pm:El Sistema -Community in Harmony Concert All-City Middle School Winter Concert 2:30 pm: 3:00 pm: Our Schools, Our City - Music in SPS -LIVE Connecting Communities- Somerville PD 4:00 pm: SHS Hockey v King Phillip - 12/13 4:32 pm: 6:00 pm: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy 8:30 pm:El Sistema -Community in Harmony Concert All-City Middle School Winter Concert 10:50 pm: Connecting Communities- Somerville PD

#### Friday, December 19

12:00 am: SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic 2:00 am: SHS Hockey v King Phillip - 12/13 9:00 am: SHS Hockey v Matignon - 12/17 10:30 am: Our Schools, Our City - Music in SPS 11:00 am:El Sistema -Community in Harmony Concert 12:00 pm: Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert 1:00 pm: All-City Middle School Winter Concert SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy 2:00 pm: 4:00 pm: SHS Hockey v King Phillip - 12/13 5:30 pm: Our Schools, Our City - Music in SPS SHS Hockey v Matignon - 12/17 6:00 pm: 8:00 pm:El Sistema -Community in Harmony Concert Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert 9:00 pm: 10:00 pm: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy

#### Saturday, December 20

12:00 am: SHS Hockey v King Phillip - 12/13 1:30 am: SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic 9:00 am: Our Schools, Our City - Music in SPS

10:00 am: Connecting Communities- Somerville PD 10:32 am:El Sistema - Community in Harmony Concert 12:00 pm: Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert 1:00 pm: All-City Middle School Winter Concert 2:00 pm: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy 4:00 pm: Our Schools, Our City - Music in SPS 5:00 pm: Connecting Communities- Somerville PD 5:30 pm:El Sistema -Community in Harmony Concert 7:00 pm: Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert 8:00 pm: All-City Middle School Winter Concert 9:00 pm: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy 11:00 pm: ESCS Winter Concert 12/12

#### Sunday, December 21

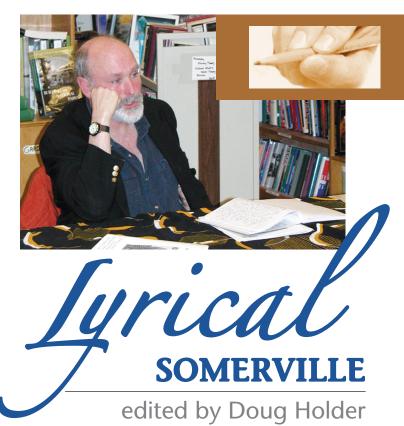
12:00 am: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy 2:00 am: SHS Hockev v Matignon - 12/17 9:00 am: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy WHCS Holiday Concert 12/17 11:00 am: 12:00 pm:El Sistema - Community in Harmony Concert 1:00 pm: SHS Hockey v King Phillip - 12/13 All-City Middle School Winter Concert 2:30 pm: 4:00 pm: Connecting Communities- Somerville PD 4:30 pm: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy 6:30 pm: WHCS Holiday Concert 12/17 7:30 pm:El Sistema -Community in Harmony Concert 8:30 pm: SHS Hockey v King Phillip - 12/13 10:00 pm: All-City Middle School Winter Concert 11:00 pm: Our Schools, Our City - Music in SPS

#### Monday, December 22

12:00 am: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy 2:00 am: SHS Hockey v Matignon - 12/17 SHS Hockey v King Phillip - 12/13 4:00 am: 9:00 am: WHCS Holiday Concert 12/17 10:00 am: Connecting Communities- Somerville PD 11:00 am:El Sistema -Community in Harmony Concert Our Schools, Our City - Music in SPS 1:00 pm: ESCS Winter Concert 12/12 2:00 pm: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy SHS Hockey v Matignon - 12/17 4:00 pm: 6:00 pm: WHCS Holiday Concert 12/17 7:00 pm: Connecting Communities- Somerville PD 8:00 pm:El Sistema -Community in Harmony Concert Our Schools, Our City - Music in SPS 9:00 pm: 10:00 pm: SHS Hockey v Cambridge - 12/22

#### Tuesday, December 23

12:00 am: SHS Hockey v Cambridge - 12/22 1:45 am: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy 9:00 am: SHS Winter Concert Our Schools, Our City - Music in SPS 10:30 am: 11:00 am: WHCS Holiday Concert 12/17 12:00 pm: All-City Middle School Winter Concert 1:00 pm: ESCS Winter Concert 12/12 2:00 pm: Connecting Communities- Somerville PD 3:00 pm: SHS Hockey v Cambridge - 12/22 5:00 pm: SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy 7:00 pm: SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic 9:30 pm: Our Schools, Our City - Music in SPS SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic 10:00 pm: 12:00 am: SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic SHS Hockey v Matignon - 12/17 2:00 am: 3:30 am: SHS Hockey v King Phillip - 12/13 SHS Boys' Basketball v Westford Academy 5:00 am:



Jason Wright is the founder of the online literary magazine Oddball.

#### How to Fix a Broken Life

First step is to realize that it is not your fault.

That everything happens for a

That to build yourself up sometimes you have to tare your self down.

Life is unpredictable, but you can predict somethings,

Like realizing that you are not always your thoughts

Though they condemn, and castrate you.

You are only as old as you feel. Don't smoke.

As hard as it is to resist tempta-

tion, don't smoke. Think of your family, the one you

are given and the one you created. Your

friends and family

want you to succeed.

They don't want to see you fail. Kick those depressing thoughts out the window

Say your negativity aloud, and then throw each thought

in the trash bin. Meditate, let the thoughts ease

out of your brain, and into the ether of the atmo-

I know you are sad now, but you can do this.

Pick yourself up from the depths of depression,

and find something tangible to hold onto.

Listen to your heart.

Not your head.

Sometimes your greatest fear, can become the motivating force to change your life.

If you are afraid, follow that fear, face it and conquer it.

Only you can really change your

If you are not good at things, work on them till you are good at them.



Sometimes you have to let go to find out who you are.

If you are afraid of darkness, or ghosts

Face the fear, head on. Empathize with others. Help others.

There are people who need help. There are people who struggle, No matter what, each person has their own journey.

There is always a reason, behind the wreckage.

To fix your broken life is to realize that it isn't broken at

Fractures, may split and be

painful. It's only a break when you com-

pletely give up. And life only ends, when your

heart stops,

That's when the body gives up. Its natural.

Don't give up before your body

Find strength inside you.

Keep going.

Make a plan, and stick with it. Set goals.

Smile, try to anyway.

There are a lot of things to be happy about.

The world is full of really good

and you are not the only one who struggles.

There are more broken lights out there to change

Change the lights, and enlighten. Make someone else smile.

Realize, that you are not alone. Write a poem, and tell the

— Jason Wright

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

## FF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

## Local writer releases a lyrical memoir of the civil rights movement

Molly Lynn Watt, a longtime member of "The Bagel Bards" (a literary group in Somerville) has released a lyrical memoir with Somerville's Ibbetson Street Press. The book concerns her work in the 1960s with the civil rights movement. Somerville resident Bert Stern has reviewed this book for Off The Shelf.

Molly Lynn Watt's On Wings of Song flies high

Review by Bert Stern

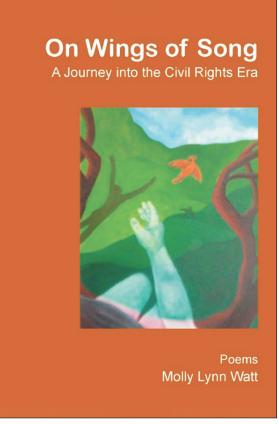
On Wings of Song (Ibbetson Street Press) is a cleareyed account of racial oppression in the US and of the people, black and white, who struggled to end it. What gives the book its special authenticity is the point of view, which is intimate – a positioning of the narrator's eye gained by Watt's own lifelong efforts in the struggle.

While the book is historical, it is also lyrical. Crayola World begins:

Robin draws sky-blue arches burnt orange sun sepia earth sprouts maroon father strums raw-umber guitar bittersweet mother hold pink flower purple sister suck plum thumb.

And it ends when the child-artist

... picks up black draws herself in the center that's me the most beautifulest.



Bushels full of poems have been written about Billy Holiday, but Watts' Billy Holiday Sings 'Strange Fruit' tops them all. It begins with a closeup picture of Billy herself, and ends, in an astonishing shift, with a first-hand account of an observer's experience at a lynching.

On Wings of Song is canonic. It restores for all of us the beating heart of an evolving conscience that may never be complete.

— Bert Stern Author of Silk, Steerage, and Winter in China.

## **Kiwanis Club Head Start Christmas Party**



The Somerville Kiwanis Club held its annual Head Start Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 9 at the Holiday Inn. Santa Claus greeted and met with seventy Head Start children and their families. All children were provided a gift sponsored by individual Kiwanis Club members. Pizza was provided and a good time was held by all.

MITERFEIT

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