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# Merry Christmas

From the Publisher and Staff of  
The Somerville Times

## Board of Aldermen examine Union Sq. zoning, open space planning



The Board of Aldermen heard a report last week updating the city on efforts to finalize Union Sq. zoning, as well as formulate a definitive plan for use of open space.

By Jim Clark

The City of Somerville Board of Aldermen held a Special Meeting on Tuesday, December 13, to hear and discuss the most recent report of the Committee on Land Use.

City Planning Director George Proakis picked up the discussion of the zoning for Union Square and open space and gave a brief description of what is contained in items 5 through 10 of the zoning outline and said that those items will be available online at [www.somervillema.gov/unionsquarezoning](http://www.somervillema.gov/unionsquarezoning).

Alderman-at-Large and Board President William A. White Jr. asked about ways that other communities have funded infrastructure improvements on large developments. *Continued on page 4*

## Illuminations Tour lights up Somerville

By Rebecca Danvers

On Saturday, December 17, residents and visitors took part in the Somerville Arts Council's Illuminations Tour.

Participants gathered to celebrate the folk artistry of residents who transform their houses and yards with lights, illuminated ornaments, and shrines of devotion and fantasy.

Guides led trolleys past some of the city's most spectacular displays of holiday lights, sharing stories about the families that decorate and providing local historic trivia en route.

Tours departed from the City Hall Concourse every 45 minutes beginning at 4:30 p.m., while refreshments, choral music and craft activities were available inside City Hall.

If you were unable to make the tour pick up, an Illuminations Tour Map is available for anyone to create their own self-guided tour.

For more information about the Somerville Arts Council's Illuminations Tour and to find out where to get a map, commemorative book and beautiful tour memorabilia, visit [www.somervilleartscouncil.org](http://www.somervilleartscouncil.org).



Festively decorated Somerville homes were the featured attraction as the Somerville Arts Council's Illuminations Tour took to the streets last weekend. More photos on page 17. — Photo by Claudia Ferro

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Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a big Happy New Year to all our readers, looking forward to a great 2017 year here in the city of Somerville. We're on vacation (at least some of us are), so *The Somerville Times* will not be publishing the week between Christmas and New Years. This will be the last edition for the year. There will not be a paper on the 28th, but we will keep up with things online. A vacation is needed to rev up for the coming new year. 2017 looks to be a good year for us all.

\*\*\*\*\*

The 241st Flag Raising takes place January 1, 2017 at Prospect Hill. Gather at City Hall and march to Prospect Hill, where the first American Flag was flown. Procession begins at 11:30 a.m., and the program begins at 12:00 p.m. Once at Prospect Hill, learn about the important role our city played in the American Revolution, join in patriotic songs, and enjoy light refreshments. Tri-corner hats and colonial garb are encouraged. For more information, including ideas for Colonial period clothing, or for a free, commemorative program, contact **Brandon Wilson**, Executive Director of the Historic Preservation Commission at (617)625-6600, ext. 2532, bwilson@somervillema.gov, or www.somervillema.gov/historicpreservationcommission.

\*\*\*\*\*

Don't forget to park on the EVEN side of the street this winter during snow emergencies. The Board of Aldermen voted to alternate every year, and this year it is the EVEN side. So scramble to get your spot as soon as they declare. Hopefully, the city won't be calling any false alarms. **Commissioner Stan Koty** will give the signal when it's about to snow.

\*\*\*\*\*

Happy Birthday to a couple of our friends and fellow Villens here this week: Happy Birthday to **Jim Henry**, who is very well known around these parts politically. We hope he has a great day for himself. Happy Birthday to **Christina Correia**. We hope she has a great time this week.

\*\*\*\*\*

Good Gas on Pearl and Medford Streets is fully open now that the construction has stopped, at least

Continued on page 11

# TheSomervilleTimes

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## TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

### Response to: Board unanimously approves GLX funds

Matt says:

Too bad they could not have made it contingent on the state holding to the current schedule.

LindaS says:

It's sad that the GLX seems to take precedence here over all other necessary projects for the city. There is just so much more we need to be done here that seems more important than the GLX. Maybe I should think ahead to the future, but it's hard to do that when so much financial burden is being put on us that it's difficult to believe I will still have one.

It just would have been better if we could have taken care of our own needs here first before committing to something that may or may not have as much beneficial impact on us as we are told.

A. Moore says:

The real cost is the problem. It will be more as it goes on like it usually does. For a number of us it means we have to pack our bags and go as the financial burden of this administration put on us that can't grant ourselves large raises. The .03% raise this year is just not going to cover this. If they had been wiser all along and cut out the bloat here it would not be that bad.

MarketMan says:

Agree Matt. I'm concerned that we are agreeing to pay for this, not because I don't think the project should be completed, but because the residents shouldn't be footing the bill. AND I'm more concerned that we'll pay and the schedule will continue to drag out another decade.

ovr\_taxed says:

A Moore – you couldn't give yourself a \$16,000 raise like the Aldermen for their part-time job? GLX has too many problems to name, but my favorite is that 3 miles of track will cost \$2.3 billion. Vote the same leaders in, and you get the same results – rubber stamp of spending with stories about "tax savings" if we just do this or that.

Aldermen huff and puff, but approve everything Mayor wants.

Blue-collar Somerville dying a little more each day and becoming hipster-ville.

Here's a novel idea – say no to next project – what is it – \$100 million for Union Square – not likely.

Matt says:

MarketMan, Spot on. I'm all for paying for investments, but we need to hold contractors accountable to their contract, no more of this cost plus BS.

### Response to: MassDOT highway construction leaves Somerville residents in the dust

LindaS says:

Apparently, this is the new norm: gentrification, taking away as much space as possible to create living space to attract even more people to come in here.

When is enough enough? Even rats can't stay in closed quarters for long without turning on one another. It's only a matter of time for us.

Maybe that's how the rats will leave here after all: when there's no more room for them to breed.

Jen Fries says:

If there are politicians at the state level who do not feel moved to protect their constituents' quality of life in the face of such unfair treatment, they should be taught the error of their ways at the next election. Enough is enough.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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# 12 students with disabilities graduate from self-advocacy program at Somerville High School

By Ariana Colozzo

On Tuesday morning, 12 students in two classes at Somerville High School graduated from Triangle’s 2016 IMPACT:Ability program. As people with disabilities are much more likely to face bullying, abuse and other significant barriers than those without disabilities, IMPACT:Ability works to empower these individuals by giving them the tools they need to lead safe and productive lives.

The program teaches students self-defense techniques based on each student’s individual needs. Through a partnership with Triangle’s Empowering People for Inclusive Communities (EPIC), IMPACT:Ability provides self-advocacy training, helping them to stand up to abuse and lead independent lives. Students learn to establish safe boundaries with others, defend themselves with hands-on protection skills, discourage potential threats and report unsafe situations to paraprofessionals and other trusted adults, using assistive technology and com-

munication devices if necessary. Additionally, the program works with the community to battle abuse against those with disabilities. It offers abuse reporting and response classes for teachers, nonprofit staff and state employees to help them identify and effectively report abuse to the proper authorities and teach them how to give abuse survivors the support and referrals they need.

IMPACT:Ability has had a great effect on these students. One student used the skills he learned to stop a robbery, and another student participating in a summer employment program used them to stop a coworker from touching her inappropriately, and then immediately reported the situation to her supervisor.

Parents are also grateful for the experience. One parent of two daughters with Autism Spectrum Disorder was thrilled that her daughters kept using the skills months after IMPACT:Ability ended. While teaching one of her daughters to take public transportation, she was able to calmly tell the person

waiting behind her to board a bus – without her mother’s help – that he was standing too close and diffuse the situation.

She said, “As a parent, I feel reassured that my daughters can learn how to handle challenging and potentially unsafe situations. With just a small amount of training, they have been able to put IMPACT:Ability skills into practice in the real world. This program is impactful, both to individuals with disabilities and to those who love them and want to keep them safe.”

Triangle was established in 1971 by business leaders and families who believe everyone has ability. Triangle started off providing employment opportunities and community homes for people with disabilities, so they could work and live in the community. However, since 2001, Triangle has rapidly expanded and now has ten community homes and hosts a series of programs to help those with disabilities start careers and live safe, independent lives.

In 2015, Triangle was selected from more than 350 applicants

12 special needs students took part in and graduated from Triangle’s 2016 IMPACT:Ability program this week, where they learned vital self-protection skills aimed at empowering and enabling them for better educational opportunities.

during a very competitive review process as one of 100 local nonprofits to receive grants through Cummings Foundation’s annual \$100K for 100 program. Grant recipients that year represented a wide variety of causes, including mental health, STEM education, veteran’s services, healthcare, hunger relief and homelessness prevention.


Through this place-based initiative, Cummings Foundation has awarded more than \$140 million in grants to nonprofits based in Greater Boston,

providing vital funding to local charities working to improve the lives of community members where its staff and clients live, including many other Somerville organizations.

“The Foundation is incredibly grateful to nonprofits like Triangle that are working diligently for the benefit of local communities,” said Joel Swets, Cummings Foundation’s executive director. “Triangle’s IMPACT:Ability safety classes have a powerful impact on the lives of the people they reach.”

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Somerville’s Christmas


Holiday Schedule

Christmas is on a Sunday this year, but the City is observing it on Monday, December 26. City offices will be closed. Trash and recycling pick up will be on a one-day delay all week. There will be no street sweeping and meter and residential permit parking will not be enforced on December 26.

For more information contact 311 or 617-666-3311



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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

# The parable of the shoes and the puddle

Police officers were dispatched to City Hall, at 93 Highland Ave., in the early morning hours of December 17 on reports of a motion alarm having been set off in the building.

Upon their arrival, the officers checked the perimeter of the building, including all accessible windows and doors but reportedly found nothing out of the ordinary. An audible alarm was reportedly sounding, but reset before the officers left the scene.

Shortly thereafter, the officers received a call for a drunken person in front of 95 Highland Ave. They found the man, later identified as Joshua Joyce, outside in the snow with no jacket or shoes on.

Joyce reportedly told the officers that the last thing he remembered was waking up on what he thought was a pew in a church, vomiting.

According to reports, Joyce said he left the church and was outside in the street when he flagged down a car that was driving by. He reportedly stated that he had been out drinking with friends from work at the Thirsty Scholar when he blacked out.

Joyce said did not remember when he left the bar or how he got to the church, according to police. Joyce also reportedly said that an alarm was going off when he left.

Joyce denied medical attention and said that he just wanted to go home.

The officers dropped Joyce off at his home on Sycamore St. in the care of his roommates.

Afterwards, the officers conducted a follow-up investigation at City Hall and were able to determine that a panel on a door that was attached to the fire escape in the Aldermanic Chambers had been broken and the door was unlocked.

A pair of shoes and a large puddle of vomit was also found in the Chamber.

The officers went back to Joyce's residence and placed him under arrest. He was asked to take a look at the pair of shoes that were found at City Hall and Joyce reportedly said that they were in fact his.

Joyce was subsequently taken in for booking, charged with misdemeanor breaking and entering and malicious wanton defacement of property.

Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210

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SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG			
<b>Arrests:</b>			
<b>Ruben Quinones</b> , of 30 Fremont St., Arlington, December 15, 10:07 a.m., arrested at Bay State Ave. on warrant charges of marked lanes violation, uninsured motor vehicle, and leaving the scene of property damage.		ton St. on warrant charges of conspiracy to violate drug law, carrying a firearm without a license, armed assault to murder, carrying a firearm with ammunition, distribution of a class D drug, distribution of a class B drug, fugitive from justice, and ammunition without FID card.	
<b>Martin Acosta-Rosario</b> , of 20 River Rd., December 15, 7:00 p.m., arrested at Washing-		<b>Kara Barowski</b> , of 202 Powder House Blvd., December 16, 1:45 p.m., arrested at	
		Middlesex Ave. on multiple warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.	
		<b>Joshua Joyce</b> , of 116 Sycamore St., December 17, 4:06 a.m., arrested at Highland Ave. on charges of misdemeanor breaking and entering and malicious wanton defacement of property.	
		<b>Rohan Bharati</b> , of 7 New	
		Hampshire Ave., December 18, 2:58 a.m., arrested at Cross St. on charges of alcohol from an open container, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, marked lanes violation, speeding, and unregistered motor vehicle.	
		<b>Ricky Stanley</b> , of 103 Howard Ave., Dorchester, December 18, 7:28 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on charges of	
		negligent operation of a motor vehicle, operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.	
		<b>Ruth Oliveira</b> , of 23 Roseclair St., Dorchester, December 19, 2:55 a.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor and alcohol from an open container.	

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## Board of Aldermen examine Union Sq. zoning, open space planning

CONT. FROM PG 1

Ward 1 Alderman Matthew McLaughlin requested that information about eminent domain under the old vs. new zoning be provided in January.

Ward 5 Alderman Mark Niedergang asked about green space requirements separate from open space. Director Proakis responded that one of the biggest challenges with open space is determining what to include and what not to include. Minimum green space was added to all civic spaces. Most developments include in their open space, landscape areas, walkways and public sidewalks, roof top gardens, green roofs, etc. Some even count open bodies of water.

Niedergang expressed his feeling that open space should not include as many things and he favors reducing development to create additional open space.

Several aldermen agreed that the city's open space should be increased. Ward 6 Alderman and Committee Chairman Lance Davis pointed out that great open spaces come at a cost. He suggested looking at open space outside of the context of developers' percentages. He would like to lay out the open space in advance to create what is envisioned in the neighborhood.

Civic spaces and their uses were also discussed. Proakis spoke about the Pedestrian Circulation Space metric presented in the July draft and the changes made since then. He provided different scenarios showing ways that increasing the percentage of high quality civic space would reduce commercial and residential square footage development and how that loss could be recovered by altering some development.

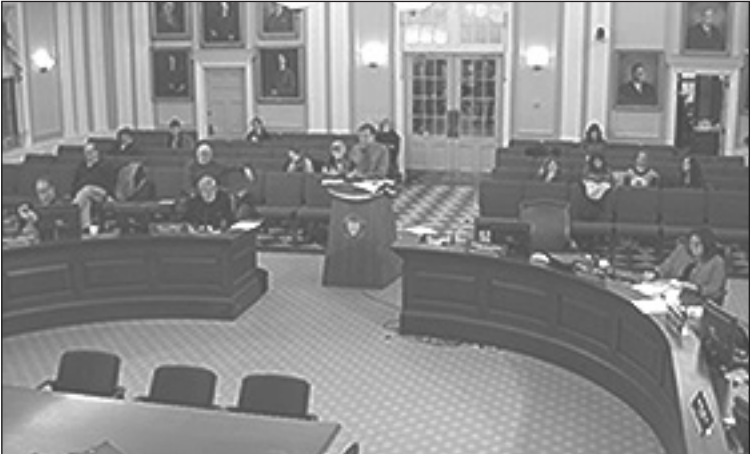
Alderman Niedergang asked that Director Proakis look at moving the three floors of commercial space being recovered in one of the scenarios to other parcels.

Ward 2 Alderman Maryann M. Heuston inquired about a parcel, owned by the MBTA, that would be suitable as open space. Proakis said that the MBTA purchased it for the GLX project, but that once the station there is built, the MBTA would not need part of it, and possibly the city could negotiate for ownership of it.

Alderman White said that the BOA should have had community meetings first and then decided on what it wanted. That plan should have been presented to the developer(s) to be realized. He suggested that the current process is backwards, as the city is trying to work around the developer. White also said that the BOA needs to know if a DIF will be necessary for the Union Square development.

Alderman Heuston suggested that the entire team, working on the zoning proposal, be present at future committee meetings on the subject. Legislative Liaison Annie Connor assured Heuston that her suggestion would be addressed.

Chairman Davis asked that concrete answers and plans be provided at the next committee meeting so that things may move forward.



City Planning Director George Proakis walked attendees at last week's special meeting of the Board of Aldermen through the current state of Union Sq. zoning issues.

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# Gift drive provides holiday cheer for CHA patients

**By Nathan Lamb**

Staffers from Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) are stepping-up to help local children in-need this holiday season.

Coordinated in partnership with Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) the SCES gift drive is providing more than 50 presents for children from eight local families. SCES Director of Clinical Services Annie Fowler said it's a relatively new tradition that the agency has wholeheartedly embraced.

"It's really popular with our staff," she said. "When I put out an email asking if people wanted to be involved, I got about 10 or 15 responses within a couple of minutes."

Fowler said the SCES Gift Drive grew out of the agency's ongoing collaboration with CHA's Complex Care Management teams, which combine the perspectives of nurses, social workers and community health workers to provide better care. Fowler meets with CHA staffers regu-

larly through the program and said a discussion with pediatric social worker Julie Ain really got the ball rolling.

"Last November she made a comment about how this is a hard time of year for her, because she sees so many families that either miss the deadlines for toy donation programs or are just slightly over the eligibility requirements," said Fowler. "I remembered we had a toy drive in the past, and told her we'd try to help out."

Fowler found that plenty of staffers were willing to help out, and Ain supplied them with wish lists from patients who needed warm clothing and toys. Overall, Ain said it's been a great arrangement.

"We would like to thank the staff at SCES for their wonderful collaboration with us on behalf of our families," said Ain. "This can be such a difficult time of the year for so many of our families. We are so grateful for their tireless efforts."

SCES and CHA also have an ongoing collaboration through the Transitions program, which helps patients avoid



Staffers from Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services donated more than 50 gifts for local children, as part of an annual toy drive in collaboration with Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA). The staffers purchased wish-list items provided CHA social worker Julie Ain.

— Photo by Nathan Lamb

unnecessary hospital re-admissions by coordinating medical and social services efforts. Transitions facilitates access to a variety of community service programs that support independence and well-being in a community setting, and is provided for free to patients with Medicare A&B.

SCES Case Worker Cassie Cramer has supported the gift drive in each of the

past two years, and said it's just one of many ways the two organizations are doing good things in the community.

"We partner with Cambridge Health Alliance in many ways to support individuals and families that are at risk and/or disadvantaged," she said. "It is wonderful to be able to participate in the gift drive together- this is truly what the holidays are all about."

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SeniorPet seeks donations  
for Sampson the Dog


The SeniorPet program at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) is seeking donations to help a local elder with limited means defray burdensome veterinary bills.

The pet is Sampson, an 8-year-old male dog who is very dear to his owner. Sampson recently went for a checkup and the vet found two tumors, in the mouth and rectum. The tumors were removed and sent for a biopsy, but SeniorPet Manager Marie Mazzeo said the bill presents a challenge for the owner, who put \$1,150 on a charge card, knowing that Sampson still needs more medical care to come.

Mazzeo asked that people looking to give back locally this holiday season consider helping Sampson.

"If you are looking to help someone in need, any SeniorPet donations that can help Sampson would be greatly appreciated," said Mazzeo. "If you know an animal lover who has everything, there's a good chance they'd be happy to know somebody supported a good cause in their honor."

SeniorPet helps clients defray the burdens of pet ownership by providing food, supplies and affordable medical care. The program runs on both donations and volunteerism, by enlisting community support to arrange for basic pet services and taking up collections to help cover more expensive medical needs. For more information about SeniorPet, call 617-628-2601 ext. 3051 or email mmazzeo@eldercare.org.



Sampson the Dog recently had two tumors removed, and the SCES SeniorPet program is collecting donations to help the owner defray the veterinary bills.

Beacon Hill Roll Call



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Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Somerville:



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



**Rep. 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.

**THE SENATE:** There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week.

This week, with the end of the 2016 session only weeks away, *Beacon Hill Roll Call*, in the third and final in a

series of special reports, looks at some of the bills that were approved by the Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Charlie Baker in the 2016 session. All but one of the new laws in this week’s report were approved by the House on a roll call vote but by a voice vote in the Senate.

**DISCLOSE TOP FIVE DONORS (H 543)**  
House 146-10, Senate 34-6, approved a new law that requires the names of the top five contributors who donate over \$5,000 to a super Political Action Committee (PAC) and other groups or political committees to be listed on all campaign billboards and mailers. Prior law required the listing of the top five donors only on television, Internet and print ads.

Super PACs are created to help candidates and are often run by the candidate’s former staffers or associates who use the PAC to fund positive ads about the candidate and/or negative ads against the candidate’s opponents. There is a limit on how much money can be donated to a candidate’s own election committee but super PACs can legally accept unlimited donations. The new law was in effect for the 2016 election.

Supporters say the new law increases transparency and allows more voters to see who is funding these influential PACs. They say it shines the light on this “dark” money.

Opponents say the new law does not go far enough on several counts to make true campaign finance reforms. They note it still allows unions to contribute excessive money to campaigns.

(A “Yes” vote is for the new law. A “No” vote against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

**ALLOW MORE CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS (H 542)**  
House 151-0, (no Senate roll call) approved a new law that allows donors to contribute the maximum \$1,000 twice per year to a candidate who runs for the Legislature in a special election and a regular election in the same year. Prior law only allowed donors to give a maximum of \$1,000 in any calendar year. The new law was in effect for the 2016 election.

Supporters say it is unfair for a candidate who runs in a special election and then runs for re-election in the same year to be limited to \$1,000 per donor for the entire year. They argue that prior law gave an advantage to some candidates who were only running in the regular election.

(A “Yes” vote is for the new law.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes

**NEWSPAPERS MUST PUBLISH PUBLIC NOTICES ONLINE (H 1566)**  
House 153-0, (no Senate roll call) approved a new law that requires newspapers that are paid to publish official state and local public notices in the paper’s print edition to also include them on the paper’s website at no additional cost. In addition, the new law requires papers to include the notices, at no extra charge, on a new statewide website, created and operated by a joint venture of

Massachusetts newspapers.

Supporters say that readership of print copies of newspapers is down. They argue the addition of the papers’ websites and a new statewide website results in many more people seeing these important notices.

(A “Yes” vote is for the new law.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes

**REGULATE UBER AND LYFT (H 4570)**  
House 142-15, (no Senate roll call) approved a new law that regulates Uber, Lyft and other Transportation Network Companies (TNCs). The new law establishes a new division within the Department of Public Utilities, funded by the companies themselves, to oversee the licensing of the companies and drivers, enforcing penalties and all other issues. A key provision requires drivers to pass two annual background checks – an internal one by the company and one by the state.

Under the new law, a driver’s record cannot contain any crimes of violence, sexual abuse, drunken driving, hit and run, felony robbery or felony fraud. In addition, anyone with one major traffic violation or four minor traffic violations within the past three years would be ineligible to drive.

The new law also requires TNCs to pay a tax of 20-cents per ride into a new Municipal Transportation Infrastructure Trust Fund. The fund distributes some of the money to provide financial assistance to small businesses operating in the taxicab, livery or hackney industries and some to cities and towns to address the impact of TNCs on municipal roads, bridges and taxis.

Another provision prohibits surge pricing in weather emergencies and requires drivers to carry certain levels of auto insurance.

Supporters say these new regulations were compiled after extensive input from both the TNCs and taxi industries. They say the new law fosters growth and competition while protecting consumers.

Opponents are divided into two groups. Supporters of Uber and Lyft say the regulations hurt the consumer by limiting consumer choice and restricting competition. Supporters of the taxi industry say the regulations are minimal, do not level the playing field and will do nothing to help cab drivers who have seen much of their business taken away by these new companies.

(A “Yes” vote is for the new law. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes

**ENERGY (H 4568)**  
House 157-1, (no Senate roll call) approved a new law requiring utilities to competitively solicit and contract for 1,200 megawatts of clean energy generation including onshore wind and solar supported by hydropower and standalone onshore wind and solar. It also allows the procurement of 1,600 megawatts of offshore wind. The new law establishes a commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program that enables commercial and industrial property owners across the state to

Beacon Hill Roll Call

continued



finance comprehensive energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades that are repaid through a property tax assessment on their building.

Supporters say the bill provides power without pollution and will diversify the state’s energy portfolio and replace some of the power the state will be losing from dirtier sources that will eventually be shut down. They note that the offshore wind requirements will enhance a new industry in Massachusetts, help the economy and create jobs.

The lone opponent did not offer any arguments.

(A “Yes” vote is for the new law. A “No” vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes

HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS (H 4022)

House 151-0, (no Senate roll call) approved a new law allowing a home improvement contractor to pay his or her registration fee to the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation using a credit card. The contractor is also responsible for paying any transaction fees charged by the credit card company. Prior law allowed these fees to be paid only by check.

Supporters say this pro-small business bill costs the state nothing while expediting this process and bringing

this payment system into the 21st century.

(A “Yes” vote is for the new law.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

REQUIRE REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS TO BE LICENSED (H 4766)

The House gave initial approval to a bill that would require that all real estate appraisers be licensed or certified. The bill would not repeal a current law that allows unlicensed individuals like real estate brokers, salespeople, certified public accountants and business brokers to give their opinions on the value of a property to a consumer as long as the opinion is not referred to as an appraisal.

Supporters said that Massachusetts is one of a handful of states that allow unlicensed individuals to provide appraisals for non-bank transactions including estate settlements, divorces, litigation and tax abatements. They explained that the bill would close that loophole and require that all appraisers possess the appropriate appraisal education and experience.

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 12-16, the House met for a total of five hours and 10 minutes while the Senate met for a total of 27 minutes.

Mon. December 12	House 11:02 a.m. to 11:19 a.m. Senate 11:04 a.m. to 11:19 a.m.
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Tues. December 13	No House session No Senate session
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Wed. December 14	No House session No Senate session
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Thurs. December 15	House 11:04 a.m. to 3:57 p.m. Senate 11:07 a.m. to 11:19 a.m.
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Fri. December 16	No House session No Senate session
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Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

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Recent Single Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:

Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
22 Billingham Street	10 room, 3 bed, 1f 1h bath Victorian	56	\$1,075,000	\$1,040,000
173 Willow Ave	8 room, 4 bed, 3f 0h bath Victorian	13	\$1,325,000	\$1,450,000
20 Elston St	7 room, 4 bed, 3f 1h bath Other (See Remarks)	26	\$1,399,000	\$1,389,000
133 Powder House Boulevard	10 room, 4 bed, 3f 2h bath Colonial	8	\$1,400,000	\$1,450,000

Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:

Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
30-32 Charnwood Road U:1	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath 2/3 Family	10	\$673,900	\$705,000
65 Oak Street U:2	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	19	\$675,000	\$681,000
21 Carlton U:1	4 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	29	\$695,000	\$695,000
7 Hodgdon Place U:N/A	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath Townhouse	186	\$698,000	\$675,000
197 Washington Street U:405	3 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	189	\$699,000	\$690,000
29 Oak St U:D	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Rowhouse	24	\$699,000	\$695,000
23 Mason St U:2	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath 2/3 Family	19	\$769,000	\$820,000
135 Willow Avenue U:9	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Low-Rise	58	\$769,000	\$769,000
135 Willow St U:7	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Garden	33	\$799,900	\$795,000
57 Pitman Street U:4A	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	31	\$899,900	\$875,000
11 Dresden Cir U:1	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	89	\$939,900	\$920,000
315 Highland Avenue U:101	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	90	\$1,295,000	\$1,295,000
223 Morrison Avenue U:223	8 room, 4 bed, 3f 1h bath Attached	17	\$1,345,000	\$1,375,000
315 Highland Avenue U:203	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	44	\$1,395,000	\$1,395,000

Recent Multi-Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:

Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
77 Walnut St	3 unit, 12 total room, 4 total bedroom 3 Family	16	\$869,000	\$900,000
18 Sycamore Street	2 unit, 12 total room, 5 total bedroom 2 Family	78	\$875,000	\$835,000
19 Russell Rd	2 unit, 11 total room, 4 total bedroom 2 Family	78	\$899,900	\$867,500
17 Prospect Hill Ave	2 unit, 10 total room, 5 total bedroom 2 Family	32	\$955,000	\$950,000
24-26-28 Marion St.	3 unit, 11 total room, 5 total bedroom 3 Family	28	\$979,900	\$1,053,000
18 Munroe St	2 unit, 13 total room, 6 total bedroom 2 Family	17	\$1,100,000	\$1,035,000

# East Somerville Community School Winter Concert



The East Somerville Community School and the Somerville Public Schools Music Department presented The East Somerville Community School Winter Concert 2016 on Friday, December 16 in the ESCS auditorium. Students in K through 8 grades participated in the concert. Go to [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com) for more photos. — Photos by Claudia Ferro

## The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #119

### A Tip of the Hat

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

“Hats off” is an expression that denotes admiration or respect. It is a silent acknowledgment of someone’s gratitude or appreciation. Spectators wave their hats during stadium events. Along parade routes, veterans and patriots can be seen placing their hats over their hearts as the American flag passes by. Each spring, college students toss their hats jubilantly into the air upon their graduation. In sports, fans toss their hats onto the ice or playing fields to honor the “hat trick,” a rare three-goal performance by one player.



In 1889, Boston’s strong-boy boxer, John L. Sullivan, threw his gauntlet or hat as it was termed, into the ring. His challenge was for the Heavyweight Boxing Championship of the world. Somerville’s Jake Kilrain held the crown at that time. After a grueling 75-round battle, surrounded by a sea of derby and straw hatted spectators, Kilrain lost. This was the last professional bare-knuckle heavy weight fight, and the first ever to be photographed.



Through the years, many different hats have donned the heads of notables who have lived in or visited Somerville. Senator Davy Crockett, promoter of the raccoon-skin cap and hero of the Alamo, rode the rails through Somerville to Lowell and back.

Both Presidents Lincoln and Kennedy were congressmen when they traveled through Somerville. Lincoln toured by train; and one hundred years later, Kennedy visited by automobile when he represented

Continued on page 15

## COMMENTARY

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

### 'Villens United by Chris Haskell

# MA marijuana legalization: The green rush



Reefer. Ganga. Sticky icky bud. Marijuana went legal in Massachusetts on December 15, 2016.

While there has been a lot of controversy over its proposed legalization, the people voted to legalize the drug that Feds still classify in the same category as heroin. The government spent year's demonizing marijuana and misinforming the public as to its effects; but the younger generation, many of whom had personally experienced the effects of smoking marijuana, are no longer buying the propaganda. I'm one of them.

For me, marijuana is medicine. When I was 19 years old I was hit by a car while I was riding my bike. I suffered a severe concussion and to this day I live with terrible joint and muscle pain from the collision.

That concussion was one of several suffered over my lifetime

and because of this I suffer from excruciating migraines occasionally. I had seen family members ruin their lives over painkiller addiction and early on I made an unwavering decision not to go down that road. Thanks to marijuana, migraines that I used to get once every few weeks are something that may only happen a few times a year.

There are many others with much more convincing medical testimonials as to the medical benefits of marijuana. Parents with children suffering from debilitating seizures have found marijuana with THC extracted has been a miracle cure for their kids. Recent scientific research even strongly suggests that chemicals found in marijuana help kill and prevent cancer cells. With all these potential medical benefits it makes you wonder why weed has been illegal all of these years while many Americans freely drink their brain cells away in bars and homes across America? Has beer ever cured epilepsy or cancer?

Many MA residents opposed to marijuana have no problem with alcohol being sold and

consumed, but misinformation about marijuana has them overly cautious. Beer and cigarettes are much more harmful for you than smoking marijuana. That's a scientific fact.

Like alcohol, marijuana should be regulated and enjoyed responsibly; and kept out of the hands of children. Parents and schools should make it a point to educate children with the correct information about marijuana. There are scientific and medical concerns over brain development in children that start smoking in their teens. Some parents are worried about the children becoming "addicts."

As far as marijuana being a gateway drug, I can tell you from personal experience that's simply not the case. It never made me want to try heroin or meth. As a matter of fact, it actually made me less interested in alcohol. Marijuana isn't really addictive. Sure, anyone can get addicted to anything they put into their bodies on a regular basis, but many times drug addiction is just covering up a more serious mental health issue. Have you ever seen a mar-



ijuana junkie? No because they don't exist. The worst thing that normally happens is you might eat an entire bag of Doritos and take a nice nap.

Alongside worries of underage marijuana use, there is also a public concern of drivers operating under the influence of marijuana. Regulations should be put into place to curb "toking and driving" and will likely be enforced same as an alcohol violation.

The mixing of weed and alcohol and getting behind the wheel is also a new concern for skeptics of legalization. Smokers should be cautious over the next few years as traffic police should be

keeping an eye out for stoners behind the wheel.

Despite the many concerns of the public, marijuana legalization looks to bring in millions of dollars in state revenue once dispensaries are up and running. If the wild financial success of Colorado is any indication, MA is about to experience a green rush that will far exceed other states.

Massachusetts is known for its colleges and prestigious universities. People from all over the nation and the world come to Boston for an education and many stay here after graduation.

Tourism is one of our greatest sources of income, which will only fuel this *Continued on page 16*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The views and opinions expressed in the commentaries and letters to the Editor of *The Somerville Times* do not reflect the views and opinions of *The Somerville Times*, its publishers or staff. Readers are invited to send letters to the editor to *The Somerville Times*. Please email your letters to [News@TheSomervilleTimes.com](mailto:News@TheSomervilleTimes.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.

To the Editor:

The purpose of this letter is to provide a response to the article entitled "MassDOT highway construction leaves Somerville residents in the dust" dated December 14, 2016.

The project referenced in this article is part of the Federally Funded Safe Routes to School Program. The goals of the program are to enable and encourage children to walk to school by making a safer and more appealing walking environment. The program also strives to improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption and air pollution in the vicinity of schools. In order for a school to be considered for the program, the municipality must submit an application and be subject to an assessment that reviews the merits of potential infrastructure projects that support these goals.

The application for this project was submitted by the City of Somerville in April 2010. During a site assessment conducted on June 15, 2010, with City

officials, School officials and Engineers, the intersection of Temple Street and Mystic Avenue was specifically identified as a safety concern for students walking to school. The project was fully vetted and ultimately approved for design and construction in March of 2014. In conjunction with the Safe Routes to School assessment a Roadside Safety Audit was also conducted by MassDOT and the City of Somerville in June 2014 to further evaluate safety measures that could be implemented at this location

Improvements proposed in this project as a result of the assessment and Safety Audit include removing the existing traffic island at the south west corner of Mystic Avenue and Temple Street, sidewalk reconstruction, traffic signal replacement signage, striping and also the construction of a new bus stops/turnouts on Mystic Ave (north-bound and south bound) that allows busses to be out of the flow of traffic while loading and unloading. No additional lanes are being added to the

roadway as part of this project.

The project was presented at a Design Public Hearing on January 28, 2015, after being advertised in the Charlestown Patriot and Somerville Journal. Direct contact with the owner of 422 Mystic Avenue was initiated by MassDOT's Right of Way Bureau in July of 2015. The design required that a portion of the front of this parcel be taken partly in fee and partly through a 5 year temporary construction easement for one of the bus turnouts and associated sidewalk improvements. The property owner met with the Right of Way Bureau individually and through their attorney on several occasions to discuss the proposed project. These discussions included a review of the Preliminary Right of Way Plans which depicted the proposed construction and the impacts to the property. The property owner has been awarded just compensation for these impacts, although at this time the property owner has not taken the necessary steps to accept the payment.

MassDOT staff met with representatives of the property prior to the work commencing on the affected parcel and met with the property owner in early December to review the project scope and schedule. At this meeting the property owner was provided with copies of the plans depicting the work. The property owner subsequently filed a preliminary injunction/restraining order to halt construction of this Safe Routes to School project. The Court conducted a hearing on this matter and denied the property owner's request for relief.

The Highway Division will diligently monitor the progress of this project to ensure that the work is performed in a manner that is respectful to abutting property owners and the community.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Tinlin  
Highway Administrator,  
MassDOT

## COMMENTARY

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## Keeping the holiday spirit alive year-round



By Joseph A. Curtatone

This past weekend I attended an event in Boston called Christmas in the City. The holiday party (thrown by the non-profit, all volunteer organization of the same name) treated approximately 4,000 kids and their families living in the Greater Boston region's homeless shelters to a much-deserved holiday party. This wasn't any ordinary holiday party. In addition to handing out 10,000 gifts, there was a stage with live entertainment, a visit from Santa Clause and Mrs. Clause, a parade of Disney and comic book characters, a Winter Wonderland area with carnival rides and games, and a variety of

health screenings.

Among the deserving families in attendance were some wonderful families from Somerville. I heard from a member of my staff who was there that one of Somerville's children in attendance said this was the first time he had ever received a Christmas gift. This boy's words, and the joy, love, and laughter that filled the Boston Convention Center helped keep things in perspective for me.

It reminded me of what's so great about this time of year. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, or another winter holiday, this is a time of giving, togetherness, and reflection. Now more than ever it's crucial that we all take part in those things, and I've seen firsthand members of our community doing just that. You have given to toy drives (the collection box at City Hall is overflowing and even has toys surrounding each side of it), food banks, and to each other.

Many of you have approached City staff to ask how you can give to help our neighbors in Cambridge after the fire there a few weeks ago. I've seen you come together this holiday season too. We had another successful and well-attended tree lighting earlier this month, and last weekend the Somerville Arts Council's Illuminations Tours were packed. Finally, you all have led the way on reflecting this season. You rallied around each other and our community values after the election, and many of you have made it clear you're ready to reflect on the work we've done already and what we can do better in the new year to keep those values at the forefront of everything we do.

I know I have said it before, but with everything taking place on a national level, it's so important that we continue to be distinctly Somerville. What could be more Somerville than embodying the spirit of the holidays and

the good it brings out in people year-round? Whether you make a donation, go out of your way to get to know your neighbors, or attend more community events and meetings, there are so many ways to keep the spirit alive.

You could donate your some of your time, talents, or hard-earned money to one of the several area non-profits. The Christmas in the City organization puts on more events in addition to the holiday party, and they accept donations all year long. Artisans Asylum is a local non-profit fabrication center that is dedicated to teaching residents of all ages about fabrication technology and practice – a marketable skill in the 21st century workforce. Then there is the Somerville-based, international organization YouthBuild. YouthBuild's programs work to provide alternative pathways to jobs and education for low-income young people. And these are just a very small sample of the excellent organi-

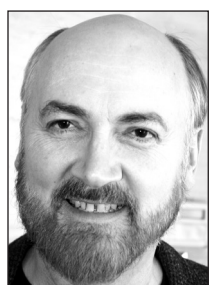
zations working hard to better the community every day of the year.

The holidays are hardly the only time we have community events going on in the City. Whether it's the flag raising at Prospect Hill Tower on New Year's Day, SomerStreets, PorchFest, or any of the numerous community meetings, there are plenty of opportunities to come together throughout the year. For more information and a schedule of events, be sure to keep up with the City calendar at [www.somervillema.gov/events](http://www.somervillema.gov/events).

I wish each of you and your families and friends the happiest of holidays, filled with love and laughter. May we all remember the reason for the season and remember that our work isn't done when December fades into January and one year becomes another. There will still be people who need our help and depend on that spirit of giving, togetherness, and reflection.

## A one-eyed view of how we got here

### Part 2: How the Democratic Party betrayed the working class



By William C. Shelton

The Democratic Party is the oldest political party on the planet, and protecting poor and working people became its historical mission. It sided with slave owners and their ideological heirs well into the 20th Century. But its New Deal, Fair Deal, and Great Society programs uplifted working people, outlawed de jure racism, and created what we think of as the middle class.

Yet, for the last forty years, the Party's leaders have betrayed working people to serve professionals and elites. Consequently, the 2016 election turned on White working people defecting from the Party, and working people of color staying home.

From 1936 onward, labor unions' organizing and money had been essential to every Democratic presidential campaign. They made their greatest

and most effective effort in 1968, turning that year's election from a Richard Nixon landslide to a Hubert Humphrey almost-win.

But post-1968 Democratic Party reforms mandated percentages for Convention representation. They included categories for young people, women, and minority delegates, most of whom were affluent. They consciously excluded a labor category.

This exclusion initiated three trends. It created the opportunity Republicans needed to begin wooing working-class voters with culture-war tactics.

It initiated a courtship with the professional class, who eventually displaced workers as Democrats' key constituency, and who have little respect for organized labor. The New-Deal and Great-Society coalitions were gradually abandoned, as their class-oriented policies became distasteful to "New Democrats."

And it began a pattern of Democrats' failing to oppose, or actually colluding with, Republicans' historical campaign against workers' rights to organize, redress their grievances, and influence public policy.

Working-class fortunes steadily declined, not merely because of forces like "globalization" and "technology," but because public policy makers failed to reckon with them, as opposed to their counterparts in countries like Germany.

Jimmy Carter ran as a post-Watergate reformer. Once elected, he snubbed labor, canceled major public works projects, enacted tax cuts for the rich, and commenced the first deregulation wave. His economic advisers were contemptuous of unions.

He, and succeeding Democratic nominees Walter Mondale and Michael Dukakis, presented themselves as "post partisan," relying on *expertise and innovation* for market oriented solutions. Voters rejected each of them.

Meanwhile, Democratic-controlled Congresses cooperated with Ronald Reagan's dismantling the social safety net, slashing taxes on the wealthy, taxing social security benefits, busting unions, endowing predatory cable communications monopolies, and further deregulating banks, setting up the Savings and Loan Crisis.

When Bill Clinton accepted

his party's presidential nomination, he did so "in the name of the hardworking Americans who make up our forgotten middle class." He went on to implement policies that savaged those hardworking people's lives.

His "triangulation" strategy was based on more than making up for the loss of working-class votes and contributions with those from educated Democrats, Republicans, lobbyists, and corporate America. He was wildly successful, accomplishing what Republicans had yearned for but could never achieve without a Democratic president as an ally.

He drove approval of the NAFTA trade agreement, promising increased exports to Mexico. Instead, the U.S. incurred a \$97.2 billion Mexican trade deficit by 2010 while two million Mexicans lost their farms. Working Americans lost 680,000 jobs, while their corporate employers obtained a powerful tool for beating down the wages of those still working. If those workers didn't like what they were offered, there was welfare or prison.

Or maybe not welfare. Clinton negotiated and signed leg-

islation that replaced a justly hated welfare system with a much worse one. The expanding investment-bubble economy masked the initial results. Since then, the poverty rate exploded, and the number of families living on \$2 per day or less increased by 160%.

Regarding prison, he pandered to the right, calling on Congress to produce the most extensive police-state bill in history when violent crime had been declining for several years. The gulag that it created imprisons more people than does any other nation on earth, while throwing off juicy corporate profits.

While Clinton's treatment of his party's traditional base was brutal, his response to Wall Street and the superrich was obsequious. His telecom deregulation encouraged monopolization and high consumer prices. His electricity deregulation produced the Enron fiasco.

His blessing stock-option compensation of executives boosted corporate fraud. Cuts of (capital-gains) taxes on income from speculation, combined with net increases of taxes on income from working, *Continued on page 17*

# COMMENTARY

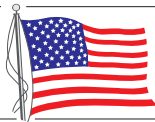
## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Somerville says Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah to all!

## Our View Of The Times



The holidays can be a pain for a lot of people. When it comes to this time of year, though, that headache should really serve as a kick-in-the-butt reminder of the importance of why sometimes the daily routine should come to a grinding halt for a greater spiritual good.

Many of us are rushing around trying to get everything done in time for Christmas. We all scramble day in and day out, though, with every deadline of our lives so seemingly critical. What this time of year should remind us of, however, is that sometimes it's OK, if not absolutely essential, to just put the routine on hold, take a step back and reassess what truly matters in our lives.

Whether your family is made up of your blood relatives or the friends who are there to celebrate your achievements with you and comfort you in your defeats, this is the time to simply pause, if just for a moment, and be thankful for them. Not everyone has money for the latest iPhone, but almost all of us at least have one thing that matters more to us than being at work at nine on the dot.

Whatever gifts you may receive this Christmas, and whatever gifts you may give, at least give yourself the gift of taking a second to take a breath and enjoy whatever it is in your life that brings you true happiness.

Carry these thoughts into the new year and we guarantee that the winter months will go by much more easily for you.

Newstalk

CONT. FROM PG 2

for now. Stop in and see **George**, who's one of the nicest guys around. **Edmund** is a great mechanic and all around nice guy. If your car needs some work bring it in and check them out. Great personalities, and they care. We send out a special thanks to Edmund, who helped one of us out this past week, and made sure the car was safe to drive, going above and beyond the call of duty.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Somerville Rotary** is looking for some new members. Rotary is a service club for businesses and local non-profits. Somerville Rotary meets at **12:15 p.m. every Tuesday at the Holiday Inn**. If you'd like to find out more about Rotary and what it does here both in the city and internationally, go to the their website at **www.somervillerotary.org**.

\*\*\*\*\*

Our Holiday Party was held this year at the **Mt. Vernon Restaurant**. The food was exceptional and the ladies were the best. If your company needs a place to have a function, don't miss out on the Mt. Vernon. Plenty of parking and, again, the food is great. And don't miss their Sunday brunch, which is the best in town. Let **Brett** and **Marty** know you saw it here.

\*\*\*\*\*

There's a new website in town. Check it out at **www.somervillema.com**. *The Somerville Times* is on the site. Also check out **www.medfordma.com**. Someone asked online why we keep these two websites in *Newstalk*. We guess it's because we like them.

\*\*\*\*\*

We heard at the **Department Heads Christmas Party** this past Monday night **Dean Martin** showed up and put on a fantastic vocal arrangement. You know him better as **Mayor Joe Curtatone**, who has a good voice, or so we hear from some that attended. **DPW Commissioner Koty** was just as good, but then he's smart enough not to beat out the boss. After all, the entire Koty family, who also works for the city, was present.

\*\*\*\*\*

For those that might be interested in obtaining certification for firearms should look up the **Lawrence Rod & Gun Club**. They provide an extensive program at the end of which you receive certification for Massachusetts/NRA Certified Firearm Safety Classes. They run a class once a month, which is limited to 10 people and we hear that this is the place to go to learn safety when handling guns. Email **gunclub@earthlink.net** for more information and or go to their website at **www.lawrencerodandgunclub.org** and read up about the course. We've been told that the course has seen a major increase in people applying for it, especially women. We can tell you first hand here that it's a great course and quite thorough. The same goes for this in *Newstalk*. The club has informed us that many residents of Somerville have called or gone to the club to find out about certification.

\*\*\*\*\*

It's that time of year again, when we're thinking of shoes and boots and much more. Head online to **www.shoebuy.com** for the best prices and fastest delivery right here in Somerville. We think Shoebuy is great. You go online to order, and within the next couple of days you get them delivered. Go see for yourself the vast inventory they have online for sale.

\*\*\*\*\*

When you're at home and looking for a place to go out to that is sort of like the Cheers of Somerville, head down to **Sally O'Brien's** on Somerville Avenue. Different entertainment every single night, from Open Mic to Texas holdem. Don't forget to order up a cheeseburger. We like Open Mic night – we like watching not participating – but for those hams out there, maybe you'd like to try out your talent.

\*\*\*\*\*

A big time **Christmas Party at Sally O'Brien's** tonight, **Wednesday, December 21, beginning at 6:00 p.m.** We hear some **Trump** supporters are going to show up. We will be there to take some pictures.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Arts at the Armory** is goaling to raise \$1500 to improve the stage lighting in the hall and the cafe and you can help by making a donation either in person or online at **www.justgive.org/shed-somelight**. A local lighting expert is volunteering his time and some equipment, so once enough money is collected, the project can move forward in early 2017. **The deadline to donate is December 31.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Join **Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone** and the City of Somerville on **Saturday, December 24**, for the city's annual ceremonial **Menorah Lighting**, in honor of the first day of Hanukkah. Meet on the City Hall Concourse, at the Menorah, at 5:30 p.m. for a brief speaking program led by Mayor Curtatone, and **Rabbi Eliana Jacobowitz of Temple B'nai Brith**, followed by the lighting

Continued on page 17



Season's  
Greetings



Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Merry  
Christmas



Alderman At Large  
Jack Connolly

Wish  
Me  
H

Love C  
Shan



Happy & Healthy  
New Year to All



Mary Jo Rossetti  
Alderman-At-Large

Wishing you a Happy  
and a Happy H



T  
V



Merry Christmas  
Happy Holidays and a  
Happy Healthy New Year



from  
Ward 3 Alderman  
Bob McWatter

WISHING YOU  
A HAPPY HOLIDAY  
SEASON AND A  
HAPPY HEALTHY  
2017!

Wishing you a  
Joyous Holiday Season



State Senator  
Christine Barber  
[www.ChristineBarber.org](http://www.ChristineBarber.org)  
617-410-6025



Happy

Wishing you a  
from everyone at

Ball Square Ca

708 Broadway, Somerv

Wishing you and yours a  
Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year!



Courtney O'Keefe  
with nieces,  
Mon and Shayne



# Happy Holidays



Alderman  
Dennis Sullivan  
and Family

Melissa, Jaclyn Rose  
& Nilla



Happy Holiday Season  
Healthy New Year!



Tony Lafuente  
Ward 4 Alderman

# Merry Christmas! The Norton Group Real Estate

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Wishing you a Happy  
Holiday Season and a  
Happy Healthy New



Alderman-At-Large  
William A. White Jr.



Wishing Everyone a  
Joyful and Happy  
Holiday season!



Maryann Heuston  
Ward 2 Alderman

# Happy Holidays

Happy New Year

the

café

Somerville



Colony  
Real Estate  
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Wishes everyone a  
Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year!

From the Publisher  
and Staff of  
The  
Somerville  
Times

SPORTS

The Bill Rodgers Somerville Jingle Bell 5k 2016

By Joe Ruvido

More than 3,300 people took part in the Bill Rodgers Somerville Jingle Bell 5k this Sunday in Davis Square. The forecasted rain held off for most of the event and a balmy 50 degree westerly wind gave the race an unseasonably spring-like feel. The event served as a fundraiser for local charities including Toys for Tots and Somerville High School sports teams.

Many people donned holiday themed outfits, costumes and ugly sweaters for the run. Starting and ending in Davis Square, the course took participants on a tour of the Somerville Wards 6 and 7 via Ball, Powderhouse and Teele Squares. This route meant that moderately challenging hills and some wayward

traffic posed additional challenges for runners.

Runners attended post-race parties held at a variety of Somerville Bars including The Burren and PJ Ryan's, where Harpoon Brewery offered up refreshments.

The race featured a \$1200 dollar purse split between the 3 fastest Santa Clauses and 3 Fastest Elves. Race director Paul Collyer held participants to strict costume standards – beards, hats, and belts for the Santas; pointy ears and striped socks for the Elves.

The prize money attracted fast competitors from the Boston running scene, running in costumes that defied the light, wind-resistant race kits typically worn at races. Brian Harvey of Boston took home the prize



Rain or shine, the Bill Rodgers Somerville Jingle Bell 5k always brings the best of Somerville's runners out to compete in the holiday season marathon festivities. — Photo courtesy of BA Event Promotions

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#558

1. How many points does a snowflake traditionally have?

2. Which was the first state in the United States to recognize Christmas as an official holiday?

3. Which two reindeers are named after weather phenomenon?

4. What is the name of the Grinch's dog in the Dr. Seuss story *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*?

5. What were the first artificial Christmas trees made from?

6. What is a tree with fake snow called?

7. What is the all time best selling Christmas song?

8. What was the miracle of Hanukkah?

9. Where should the menorah be placed?

10. What chant is traditionally sung during the lighting of the Menorah?

11. From which direction to which direction is the Menorah candles lit?

12. How many blessings are said on the first night of Hanukkah?

Answers on page 23

[www.somervillema.com](http://www.somervillema.com)  
[www.medfordma.com](http://www.medfordma.com)

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Bobbie Toner: 617-666-4010

for top Santa, covering the 3.1 miles in 15:04. He was followed by Amos Sang of Chicopee (15:32) and John Shilkowsky of Roxbury (15:47). On the female side Rachel Shilkowsky won the elf competition in a brisk 17:11, followed by Allison Davis of Concord, NH (18:48) and Molly Shanley of Somerville (18:56). The Race is named after Running Hall-of-Fame member and Boston Marathon Champion Bill Rodgers. Rodgers was on hand for the start of the race and the post-race festivities. "I'll see you at the celebration after – that's what it's about right?" shouted Rodgers to the crowd at

the 11am start before finding a place in the pack at the starting line. The 68 year-old clocked a 29-minute time for the run. Somerville Alderman-at-Large Jack Connolly also emceed the start of the race, thanking organizers and Rodgers for another sold-out event. "This is a great event for Davis Square and the City of Somerville. It benefits more than 10 causes," remarked an effusive Connolly moments after finishing. Connolly is a strong supporter of the running community in Somerville. A recent effort on his part helped prod the MBTA to fix the broken lights

outside of the Davis square T station near the bus stop, which was left dangerously dark this fall as daylight shortened. The bus station is the through way to the community path frequented by runners, walkers, cyclists and others in Somerville. Connolly, a runner himself, covered the course in 34 minutes on Sunday. Next year's Jingle Bell Run will be held on Sunday December 17. For those eager to try their hand at the course before then, the Ras na Heireann 5k race uses the same route and takes place on St. Patrick's Day weekend.

The Bill Rodgers Somerville Jingle Bell 5k 2016 Top Ten Finishers

Place	Div	Div	Time	Pace	Name	Age	Sex	Race#	City/state
1	1	MOPEN	15:04	4:51	Brian Harvey	29	M	4394	Boston MA
2	1	M1829	15:32	5:00	Amos Sang	28	M	4838	Chicopee MA
3	2	M1829	15:48	5:05	John Schilkowsky	25	M	2808	Roxbury MA
4	3	M1829	16:05	5:11	Scott McArthur	26	M	3709	Cambridge MA
5	1	M3039	16:52	5:26	Nicholas Holowka	31	M	1417	Cambridge MA
6	4	M1829	16:53	5:26	Gihan Amarasiriwardena	28	M	4351	Amherst MA
7	5	M1829	16:59	5:28	Joe Ruvido	29	M	4086	Somerville MA
8	6	M1829	17:03	5:30	Christopher Skeldon	18	M	2901	Wakefield MA
9			17:11	5:32	Connor Oropeza		M	2809	
10	7	M1829	17:17	5:34	Brian Frake	26	M	1094	Cambridge MA

For full results go to: [http://www.coolrunning.com/results/16/ma/Dec18\\_Marath\\_set1.shtml](http://www.coolrunning.com/results/16/ma/Dec18_Marath_set1.shtml)

ESCS Holiday Store



East Somerville Community School held its annual Holiday Store event in the ESCS Atrium December 12-15. Toys, crafts, and lots of surprises were offered for shoppers looking for unique gifts for the holiday season.

What’s on Somerville Neighborhood News

On the current episode of *Somerville Neighborhood News*...



- The Green Line Extension is back on track with some slight adjustments to the original plan.
- The City of Somerville forms a partnership with the Concussion Legacy Foundation to help prevent youth concussions.
- Marijuana is legalized in Massachusetts.
- A local nonprofit has received a 10 million dollar grant to build a super school in Somerville.
- SCATV invites its neighbors into the studio to record holiday greetings.



Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 8

Somerville. On the day of his inauguration, President Kennedy saluted his father and Lincoln by wearing and waving his stove top hat. Later, he honored the United States Special Forces by authorizing them to wear the Green Beret.

Hats off...

- to the first Governor of Massachusetts and Ten Hills’ resident, John Winthrop. He and his Puritan/Pilgrim hatted followers established Boston and created America’s first college, Harvard.
- to Philadelphia’s Temple University and its founder, Somerville’s Dr. Russell Conwell.
- to Paul Revere who waved his cocked hat while on his famous ride through Somerville.
- to the milkmen of H.P. Hood & Sons, the dairy kings of Milk Row, who were builders of a mission and mansions.
- to General George Washington and his troops, as they raised America’s first flag on Prospect Hill. They did this while waving their tri-cornered hats in celebration. Today, the official folding of the American flag symbolizes the shape of Washington’s tri-cornered hat.
- to Somerville’s Charles Taylor and his son John, the original owners and creators of the name “Boston Red Sox,” and the developers of Fenway Park. They



would be proud of their team’s history.

Through the years, the wearing of hats has gone in and out of vogue. The “All American” hat of today is the baseball cap. Even football players sport them on the sidelines along with thousands of fans. Baseball caps seem to promote everything to everyone in every place.

Most of all, kudos to Somerville and its citizens who last year won the All-America City award for the third time, honored in 1972, 2009 and 2015. Somerville is a city to be proud of and a great place to ... hang your hat!

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

**MICHAEL F. GLAVIN**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
*PLANNING DIVISION*

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
**OF PUBLIC HEARING**

A **public hearing** for all interested parties will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on **Wednesday, January 4, 2017** at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

**1 McGrath Highway: (Case #ZBA 2016-124)** Applicant, Somerbridge Hotel, LLC , and Owner, The 245 Monsignor O'Brien Highway Realty Trust, Anthony Previte, Trustee, seek a Special Permit with Site Plan Review (SPSR) under §5.2, §5.3, and §7.11.10.5.b and a Variance under §5.5, §8.5.F , §9.5, and §12.4 to construct a 120 room extended stay hotel. IA zone. Ward 2.

**225 Powderhouse Boulevard: (Case #ZBA 2016-138)** Applicant and Owner, Karen A. Errico, seeks a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to construct a dormer within the required left side yard of a nonconforming structure. RA zone. Ward 7.

**191 Beacon Street: (Case #ZBA 2015-79-R1-11/16)** Applicant, Well Built Construction Company, Inc., and Owner, Beacon/Park, LLC, seek a revision to a Special Permit under SZO §5.3.8 to replace decks with balconies, install a fence, landscape features, and noise screening devices, and designate space for trash storage within the commercial units. RA zone. Ward 2.

**231 Lowell Street: (Case #ZBA 2013-79-E1-11/16)** Applicant & Owner, 231 Lowell Street, LLC, seeks a time extension of a Variance under SZO §5.5 and M.G.L. Ch. 40A pursuant to Case # ZBA 2013-79, approved on February 3, 2016 that was for the number of parking spaces and for dimensional requirements related to the split zoned lot such as FAR, ground coverage, and lot area per dwelling unit. RC and RA zones. Ward 5.

**352 Washington Street: (Case #ZBA 2016-146)** Applicant, Sasha Craine, and Owner, Mai Luo, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.5.1 to change a nonconforming use, an auto supply store, to another nonconforming use, a for-profit school for instruction in arts, skills, or vocation training . RB zone. Ward 6.

**10 Florence Terrace: (Case #ZBA 2016-130)** Owner, 10 Florence Terrace, LLC, and Applicant, Fernando Dalfior, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 by finishing the basement and parking relief under SZO §9.13. RB zone. Ward 4.

**5 Montgomery Avenue: (Case #ZBA 2016-131)** Owner, 10 Florence Terrace, LLC, and Applicant, Fernando Dalfior, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 by finishing the basement and parking relief under SZO §9.13. RB zone. Ward 1.

**44 Medford Street: (Case #ZBA 2016-93)** Applicant, Block Properties LLC, seek a Special Permit with Site Plan Review under SZO §5.2 for new construction of a mixed-use building with 1,120sf of Commercial use and 12 residential units (including 2 affordable), a Variance under SZO §5.5 and §8.5 for lot area per dwelling unit, and a Special Permit under SZO §9.13 for 3 off-site parking spaces and SZO §9.5 for parking relief. BA Zone. Ward 2.


**Per Somerville Zoning Ordinance (SZO) section 13.3.3, the Board will review and vote upon policy changes to facilitate the creation of affordable homeownership opportunities under the inclusionary housing program. The first change would revise the calculation establishing the purchase price of units available to households at or below 80%, 110% and 140% of Area Median Income (AMI). The second change would revise the basis for the interest rate to be used in calculating the monthly mortgage loan amount a household can afford. Section 13.3.3 of the Ordinance calls for the Special Permit Granting Authority to conduct a public hearing to receive comment prior to adopting any change in these standards.**

Applications are not posted online. Copies of these applications are available for review in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD), located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30 pm; and Fri, 8:30 am-12:30 pm. Reports, plans and decisions, when completed, are posted online at [www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning](http://www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning). As cases may be continued to later dates, please check the agenda on the City's website or call before attending a meeting. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to OSPCD, Planning Division, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; by fax to 617-625-0722; or by email to [dpereira@somervillema.gov](mailto:dpereira@somervillema.gov).

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant

As published in The Somerville Times on 12/14/16 & 12/21/16.

12/14/16, 12/21/16 The Somerville Times



A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Licensing Commission** on **Monday January 9, 2017** at the Senior Center, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at **6:00PM** on the application of Winter Hill Brewing Company for an Entertainment by Performers License at 328 Broadway, Somerville, MA

For the Commission  
Andrew Upton  
Vito Vaccaro  
John J. McKenna

**Attest: Lori Jean Batzek**  
**Administrative Assistant**

12/21/16 The Somerville Times

**Nellie's Wild Flowers**  
*When you want something unique*



JOYCE MCKENZIE  
72 Holland Street  
617.625.9453



A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Licensing Commission** on **Monday January 9, 2017** at the Senior Center, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at **6:00PM** for a Transfer of an All Forms Alcohol Package Goods License, from Sasha Gabriella Wood Enterprises Corp. d/b/a Woody's Liquors at 594-596 Somerville Ave., Somerville, MA to Kajal and Kevin II, LLC d/b/a Liquor Junction, at 14 McGrath Hwy., Somerville, MA and a Change of Location and a Change of D/B/A

For the Commission  
Andrew Upton  
Vito Vaccaro  
John J. McKenna

**Attest: Lori Jean Batzek**  
**Administrative Assistant**

12/21/16 The Somerville Times

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MA marijuana legalization: The green rush

CONT. FROM PG 9

impending green rush coming to the Bay State. All that money can be put towards improving infrastructure and constructing more buildings, which also brings more jobs to our communities.

Somerville will be a great city to welcome and foster this future green rush the state is about to experience. Somerville's hip

young artistic scene and fun festivals that bind our community together will be the perfect environment to lead the way for MA marijuana marketing.

I personally believe that some cities should be granted dispensaries, while others shouldn't. Cities with high crime rates and drug epidemics should not host

these dispensaries in my opinion. While implementing marijuana retail shops in this state we must take the proper precautions and protect the integrity of our state marijuana industry if we want to reap the future financial rewards.

Regardless of which side of the fence you are on, marijuana

is going to play a large part in our state income over the next five years and our lives in general. Enjoy the wonderful aromas wafting through the air and embrace the green rush.

**Know the law, 'Villens:**

- + You are allowed to grow up to 6 adult marijuana plants for personal use and gifts, not for sale

- + You must be 21+ to enjoy marijuana, same as alcohol
- + You can possess up to one ounce of marijuana, not for distribution
- + Dispensaries will not starting legally selling to the public until early 2018

*Later 'Villens ... Invest in Green Gold!*

Illuminations Tour lights up Somerville

CONT. FROM PG 1



Go to [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com) for more photos

— Photos by Claudia Ferro



A one-eyed view of how we got here

CONT. FROM PG 10

massively increased economic inequality.

His deregulation of interstate banking, repeal of the Glass-Steagall Act, and approval of the Commodity Futures Modernization Act led directly to the global financial meltdown, 2.6 million working Americans losing their jobs in 2008 alone, and about 7 million losing their homes.

He was even secretly working with Newt Gingrich to partially privatize social security. Monica Lewinsky and impeachment ended that collaboration.

The Clintons dominated Democratic Party apparatus, think tanks, big donors, and “super delegates” for the next quarter century. The resulting hope for change felt by many who accounted for Barak Obama’s historically high 2008 vote count was the hope that he would return the Democratic Party to its economic populist roots and change the policies that were hollowing out the middle class.

Instead, these voters got more of the same—what Maureen Dowd calls “an Ivy League East Coast cerebral elitist who hung out with celebrities, lectured Congress and scorned the art of political persuasion.”

He came into office with a Democrat-controlled Congress, and a public outraged by the bankers and politicians who had brought them the great recession. But he had raised more from Wall Street campaign donors than his opponent had, and more importantly, they were comfortably of his elite professional class. So he appointed the same officers and advisers whose policies had created the financial crisis.

In March 2009, two months after inauguration, Obama reassured Wall Street CEOs that he would not prosecute them, restructure their industry, or change U.S. economic policy, thereby fueling the Tea Party movement.

He reneged on his commitments to allowing judges to modify bankrupted homeowners’ mortgages, and to the Employee Free Choice Act, which would have made workers’ collective bargaining easier. He declined to enforce laws prohibiting monopolies and oligopolies.

He did get the 2010 Dodd-Frank banking act passed. Like his other signature accomplishment, Obamacare, its accommodations to corporate interests made it incredibly complicated, difficult to implement, feeble in effect, and vulnerable to future Republican administrations.

By this July, administrators had written 22,000 pages of Dodd-Frank regulations and loopholes and still had 83 rules to write. It did not reinstate Glass Steagall. The too-big-to-fail banks are now bigger, while the number of community banks has shrunk by 14 per cent. And America is still vulnerable to reckless Wall Street speculators.

Before taking office, Obama had expressed support for both a Canadian-style single payer system and a “public option.” Instead, his administration dredged up the conservative Heritage Foundation’s plan from the 1990s. Obamacare mandates patronage of Big Pharma and big insurers. It relies on the cooperation of state governments, a majority of which want to kill it. And as predicted, Affordable Care Act care is increasingly unaffordable.

Throughout his tenure, Obama has been a remarkably passive president. He was disinclined not only to fight for his stated policy preferences, but for Democrats who could have supported them. His presidency will end with Democrats in possession of 11 fewer Senate seats, more than 60 fewer House seats, 15 fewer governorships, and more than 900 fewer seats in state legislatures than when it began.

He seems to have calculated that working people unhappy with his performance would have nowhere else to go. Enough working people decided that they did have somewhere else to go—or that choosing between two sets of false promises would make no difference in their lives—to put Donald Trump in the White House.

Since the election, Democratic establishment figures are at pains to attribute their failure to anything but themselves. In fact, Russian hacking, or an FBI Director’s letter, or racist appeals to working class voters would have nowhere near the potency required to swing an election in the absence of forty years of deepening working-class distress and betrayal by their historical party.

The excuse makers are like the proverbial blind person who grasps the elephant’s tail and demands our acknowledgement that an elephant is like a snake. But with elephants, as with all things, the truth is in the whole.

Newstalk

CONT. FROM PG 11

of the Menorah. Light refreshments will be served.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Somerville High School Counseling Department** is launching a newsletter this year. *The Counseling, College, and Career e-newsletter* will be filled with information about future planning, self-care, college applications, career paths, and event reminders. To keep up with all of the latest information from the School Counseling department, sign up to receive the newsletter at: <https://goo.gl/forms/gaYb51UGT38DJBow2>.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Middle School Writers’ Den** is for writers in grades 5-8 from every school in the district. Writer’s Den meets weekly on Monday evenings from **6:00-8:00 p.m. at the Healey School**, except when schools are closed. Fourth grade students who are ready for a writing group are invited to try it. Writer’s Den is free and is an informal, intense discussion and workshop group for students with a sincere interest in writing. Bring a short, completed work for sharing. Questions? Have parents email [happeningmagazine@yahoo.com](mailto:happeningmagazine@yahoo.com).

\*\*\*\*\*

The **City of Somerville** seeks qualified candidates to work as a **Crossing Guard** for the current school year. The morning shift is 7:15 – 8:30 a.m. and the afternoon shift is 2:30 P– 3:15 p.m. Assignments to specific work sites will be determined. Access to motor vehicle preferred. Must pass a pre-employment CORI and drug screen. Salary is \$34.33 per day for working both morning and afternoon shifts. Applications must be submitted to and are available at the City Hall Personnel Office, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville MA 02143. You can also fax (617-666-4426) or email resume to: [employment\\_opportunities@somervillema.gov](mailto:employment_opportunities@somervillema.gov) or to the Somerville Police School Safety Officer Sean Sylvester: [ssylvester@police.somerville.ma.us](mailto:ssylvester@police.somerville.ma.us).

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
Wednesday|December 21

**East Branch Library**  
Preschool Storytime  
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broad-  
way  
**Central Library**  
Cinema at Central: The Shallows  
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.|79 High-  
land Ave

**Thursday|December 22**  
**East Branch Library**  
Holiday PJ Story Time  
6 p.m.-7:45 p.m.|115 Broadway

**Friday|December 23**  
**Central Library**  
Teen Holiday Party!  
2:30 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.|79 High-  
land Ave

**Saturday|December 24**  
**Library Closed**

**Sunday|December 25**  
**Library Closed**

**Monday|December 26**  
**Library Closed**

MUSIC|ARTS  
Wednesday |December 21

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
resume next week for Free Poker,  
lots of prizes!  
8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-  
666-3589  
**Sally O’Brien’s 10th Annual**  
**Neighborhood Food Drive!** Bring  
non-perishable foods for Som-  
erville Homeless Coalition to Sally’s  
12/15 thru 12/22.

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Exile on Elm  
Back Room  
Backroom Series:  
Comedy Night With Jordan Han-  
dren-Seavey|10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**P.A.’s Lounge**  
Noel Smyth  
Tristan Bouchard  
Joe Skahan  
Josef Nocera  
TBA  
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

**Bull McCabe’s Pub**  
The A-Beez – Funk & Soul  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-  
6045

**Thunder Road**  
Bearly Dead – Wednesday Night  
Grateful Dead Residency|8 p.m.  
379 Somerville Ave

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

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

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

**ONCE Lounge & Ballroom**  
12th Annual Boston Christmas  
Cavalcade for the Homeless  
7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

**The Rockwell**  
Return of The Winemaker  
7 p.m.|255 Elm Street

**Thursday|December 22**

**Sally O’Brien’s**  
The Ways & Means Committee  
country hits|8 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-  
3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Lunchtime Concert Series|1-2pm  
Matt Borrello, Mike Verge &  
Company|9:30 pm  
Backroom Series Verdegree &  
Jodi Heights|7 p.m.  
Scattershots|10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**P.A.’s Lounge**  
Reggae Night  
345 Somerville Ave

**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**  
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

**Thunder Road**  
Baeja Vu (Funk/Rock)  
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

**ONCE Lounge & Ballroom**  
156 Highland Ave

**The Rockwell**  
Return of The Winemaker  
7 p.m.|255 Elm Street

**Arts at the Armory**  
The Loop  
7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

**Friday| December 23**

**Sally O’Brien’s**  
Tom Hagerty Acoustic Band |6  
p.m.  
Unnamed Colors, Secret Of  
Sound \$10 cover|9 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-  
3589

**The Burren**  
Backroom Series:  
Cover Up|10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**P.A.’s Lounge**  
Random Variety w/ Will Roos,  
Mickey PG & Watching It Burn  
345 Somerville Ave

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

**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**  
TBA  
10 p.m.|366A Somerville  
Ave|617-440-6045

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

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

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

**Thunder Road**  
Seth Rosenbloom (Blues Rock)  
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave  
**ONCE Lounge & Ballroom**  
Ladyfest presents a Karaoke  
Benefit  
9 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

**The Rockwell**  
Return of The Winemaker|7 p.m.  
Shit-Faced Shakespeare: Romeo  
& Juliet  
10 p.m.|255 Elm Street

**Saturday| December 24**  
**Sally O’Brien’s**  
Closed- Merry Christmas!  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-  
3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room:  
Bluegrass Session|2 p.m.  
The BagBoys|5 p.m.  
Irish Session|9:30 p.m.  
Back Room  
The Burren Backroon Saturday  
& Sunday Jazz Brunch with Tom  
Pendergast  
8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**P.A.’s Lounge**  
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

**Bull McCabe’s**  
TBA  
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

**Thunder Road**  
Pop Icon “How the Brunch  
Stole Christmas” Holiday Music  
Brunch|10 a.m.  
379 Somerville Ave

**ONCE Lounge & Ballroom**  
156 Highland Ave

**The Rockwell**  
255 Elm St

**Sunday| December 25**  
**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Closed- Merry Christmas!  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-  
3589

**The Burren**  
Merry Christmas  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**PA’S Lounge**  
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

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

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

9177  
**Thunder Road**  
379 Somerville Ave  
**ONCE Lounge & Ballroom**  
156 Highland Ave

**The Rockwell**  
255 Elm St

**Monday|December 26**  
**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Shawn Carter’s Cheapshots Com-  
edy|7 p.m.  
Marley Monday with The Duppy  
Conquerors reggae|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.  
Back Room:  
Stump Trivia|8:30 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**P.A.’s Lounge**  
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

**Thunder Road**  
379 Somerville Ave

**ONCE Lounge & Ballroom**  
156 Highland Ave

**Tuesday|December 27**  
**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
post-Christmas party with Raging  
|9 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-  
3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Jason Anick and the Swingers  
Swing/Jazz|8:30 p.m.  
Back Room:  
Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan|10  
p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**PA’s Lounge**  
Open Mic Night  
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

**Highland Kitchen**  
First Tuesday of the Month|Spell-  
ing 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

**Thunder Road**  
Thunder & Lightening Sessions  
feat. Petrina Foley and Prateek  
Poddar band  
7:30 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

**ONCE Lounge & Ballroom**  
156 Highland Ave

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

**Wednesday|December 28**  
**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Free Poker, lots of prizes!  
9 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-  
666-3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Exile on Elm  
Back Room  
Backroom Series: Sarah Donner  
& James Houlahan|7 p.m.  
Comedy Night With Jordan Han-  
dren-Seavey|10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**P.A.’s Lounge**  
Phileep  
Justin Arena Project  
As Seen From Space  
Sound Bandits  
Thee Sonomatics  
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

**Bull McCabe’s Pub**  
The A-Beez – Funk & Soul  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-  
6045

**Thunder Road**  
Bearly Dead – Wednesday Night  
Grateful Dead Residency|8 p.m.  
379 Somerville Ave

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

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

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

**ONCE Lounge & Ballroom**  
156 Highland Ave

**The Rockwell**  
255 Elm Street

CLASSES AND GROUPS  
Thursday|December 22

**East Branch Library**  
Drop in Knitting at the East  
Branch  
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|115 Broad-  
way

**First Church Somerville**  
Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step  
program for people with prob-  
lems with money and debt. 7  
p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89 College Ave  
(Upstairs Parlor).  
For more info call: 781-762-6629

**Saturday|December 24**  
**Somerville Winters Farmer**  
**Market**  
9:30 a.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 25**  
**Fourth Step to Freedom Al-**  
**Anon Family Groups**  
7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street  
Unity Church of God  
Enter upstairs, meeting is in  
basement.

**Wednesday|December 28**  
**Central Library**  
Mystery Book Club  
7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland  
Ave

# SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

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

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

**Holland Street:** 167 Holland Street

\*Monday through Friday 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

617-625-6600 Ext. 2300

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

**Cross Street Center:** 165 Broadway

Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.

Wednesday – 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. (Please note time change) (617) 625-6600 Ext. 2335.

**Ralph and Jenny Center:** 9 New Washington Street, Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. (Please note time change) (617) 666-5223.

**Join the SCOA's email group** – The email group is for Somerville Council on Aging Seniors and/or Care-givers who are interested in the latest information on resources, events, programming, etc., in and around the Somerville area. Use the link <https://groups.google.com/group/somerville-council-on-aging> - If you have any questions or need help joining please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email [DHiggins@Somervillema.gov](mailto:DHiggins@Somervillema.gov)

**Ageless Grace** – Ageless Grace, the Council on Aging’s new Fitness class for the body and mind. Held on Mondays at 4:00 p.m. at the Holland St. Center, the Ageless Grace program is an innovative wellness and fitness program done seated in a chair to upbeat music. Classes are playful, imaginative and different every time. All the movements are designed to focus on the healthy longevity of the body and the brain. Contact Chris at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315 for more information and to sign up. Cost is \$20.00 for 5 classes!

**Free Smoke Alarm/Carbon Monoxide Detectors** – The Somerville Council on Aging, The Health & Human Services Department partnering with The Somerville Fire Department are offering free smoke alarm / carbon monoxide detectors (they are one unit) to Somerville older adults and residents with a wide range of disabilities. To qualify you must be an older adult, 60 years of age or older, and live in Somerville (own or rent) or a Somerville resident with a disability (Photoelectric Alarms with ADA Compliant Strobe Light are available.) There is a brief application that will need to be filled out, signed and returned. Please contact Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at the Somerville Council on Aging, at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 to request an application. Don’t delay calling. This program is on a first come / first serve basis and will be ending December 31, 2016. This is a Federally funded grant.

**Free Groceries Every Month?** - You may be eligible for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program! CSFP is a once a month food distribution for individuals 60 years of age or older. You may be eligible to receive two free bags on food once a month containing healthy shelf stable products. Proof of identity and age are all that is required to apply. For more information or to apply please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 – applications are available at the front desk of our Holland Street Center.

**New Arts & Crafts Group** – Meeting every Thursday from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at our Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway. Join us as we learn about a wide range of arts & crafts from weaving to watercolor pencils. We have some pretty amazing ideas already and would love for you to join us. For additional information please contact Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

**Reminiscing Group** – Started on Tuesday, November 15, and running for six weeks at our Holland Street Center. Come and join the fun as we go back in time. If you have any questions or to RSVP please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

**Painting with Linda** – Fridays, January 27, February 3rd and February 10th from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. \$15 fee for supplies and materials – space is limited – registration is a must – please call Josephine or Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

**Diabetes Shoe Clinic** – Tuesday, April 18 at our Holland

Street Center from 9:00 a.m. to noontime. If you have Medicare and diabetes you should be eligible for a free pair of diabetes shoes every year. An appointment is a must so please call Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 to schedule yours.

**Happy Wedding Anniversary** – Monday, April 24th at 11:30 a.m. at the Somerville Holiday Inn located on 30 Washington Street. Are you a married couple celebrating 50 years or more of marriage? The SCOA is looking for couples to come celebrate this joyous occasion. We will be hosting an Anniversary Luncheon. Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to get on the list to join the festivities.

**Kentucky Derby** – Thursday, May 4th to Tuesday, May 9th - \$1,154 per person / double only – 6 days & 5 nights – Package includes roundtrip motor coach transportation, 5 nights accommodation, general admission to Kentucky Derby, Louisville Slugger Factory and so much more. Please contact Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 for additional information or to book your trip.

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

**Friendly Caller Program** - Do you know someone who could benefit from a friendly call? Maybe you are feeling isolated and want someone to talk to – or you just want someone to listen. Please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300 to sign up for our “Friendly Caller” Program. The trip to Atlantic City scheduled for Sunday, January 8th to Tuesday, January 10 is SOLD OUT.

**LGBTQ EVENTS:**

**LGBTQ Advisory Group** – Monday, January 9 at 4:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Holland Street Center. Please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 for additional information or questions.

**LBT Women Fit-4-Life** - Fitness and Nutrition Classes. Classes are Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting at 6:00 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

**LGBTQ Wine & Cheese Night** – Monday, December 19 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Daddy Jones Bar located in Magoun Square. For more information or to RSVP please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email Deb at [DHiggins@Somervillema.gov](mailto:DHiggins@Somervillema.gov)

\*If you require additional information or have any questions regarding the LGBTQ events or the Advisory Group, please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300

**GROUP INFORMATION**

**Men’s Group** – Meets the first Tuesday of each month from 10:30 to 11:30 A.M. This group is facilitated by our volunteer, Norbert DeAmato. Are you recently retired? Looking to connect with other men in the community? Join our men’s group where you can connect with old friends and make new ones. All men 55 and over are welcome. Come chat about what is on your mind! If you have any questions or require additional information, please give us a call at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

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

**Veterans Group** – Meets the third Monday of each month from 9:30 to 10:30 A.M. Our volunteer, Norbert DeAmato, facilitates this group. Are you a veteran? The Veterans Group is the perfect opportunity to socialize, have solidarity, to reminisce and to meet other veterans. If you are interested or require additional information, please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

**Bereavement Support Group** – Meets bi-monthly on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:00 P.M. at Holland Street Center. Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 and ask for Natasha.

**Low Vision Support Group** – Meets the second (2nd) Tuesday of each month from 10:30 to 11:30 A.M. Our

Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Do you know someone who has trouble seeing? Do you have low vision? Join our Low Vision Support Group for educational and informative information and peer support in a confidential environment. Lunch and transportation may be available on request. Please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 if you are interested in attending, have any questions or require additional information.

**Book Club** – Meets the third Friday of each month from 10:00 to 11:30 A.M. This group self facilitates. Group members choose both fiction and non-fiction titles on a quarterly basis. Books are available on reserve at the Central Branch of the Somerville Library. Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 if additional information is needed.

**STAY ACTIVE:**

**Walking & Talking Group** – Starting on Monday, May 4th at 8:30 A.M. – out of our Holland Street Center. We'll take a gentle 30 minute walk around the community every Monday – meeting in the downstairs lobby of the Holland Street Center. For more information or to sign up please contact Chris Kowaleski our Health & Wellness Coordinator at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315.

**Weekly Exercise Class Schedule**

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

**Mondays:**

1:00 Fit-4-Life Group C (H)

**Tuesdays:**

9:15 Strengthening - \$3 per class (H)

11:15 Fit-4-Life (C)

1:00 Dalcroze Eurhythmics\*\*\*

6:00 LBT Fit-4-Life\* (H)

**Wednesdays:**

8:45 Fit-4-Life Group A (H) – Exercise

9:00 Fit-4-Life Group B (H) - Nutrition

10:00 Fit-4-Life Group B (H) – Exercise

10:00 Fit-4-Life Group A (H) – Nutrition

12:00 Fit-4-Life Group C (H) - Nutrition

1:00 Fit-4-Life Group C (H) - Exercise

5:15 Zumba for All - \$3 per class (H)

**Thursdays:**

9:00 Yoga (H) (5 week series) – On hiatus till January

9:30 Strengthening - \$3 per class (RJ)

11:15 Fit-4-Life (C)

6:00 LBT Fit-4-Life\*(H)

**Fridays:**

8:45 Fit-4-Life Group A (H) - Exercise

10:00 Fit-4-Life Group B (H) – Exercise

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

One-on-one nutrition is on hiatus til further notice.

**Wednesday, December 21**

11:30 Lunch (RJ)

12:45 Bingo (RJ)

**Thursday, December 22**

10:00 Current Events (H)

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

11:30 Lunch (H, RJ)

12:45 Bingo (H, RJ)

**Friday, December 23**

11:30 Lunch (H)

11:45 Bingo (H)

**Monday, December 26**

All Centers Closed

City Holiday

**Tuesday, December 27**

11:30 Lunch (H)

**Wednesday, December 28**

11:30 Lunch (H)

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**We have a Facebook page.** Check us out at [www.facebook.com/somervilleCOA](http://www.facebook.com/somervilleCOA).

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# Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

Celebrating 30 years of making grassroots community media for Somerville

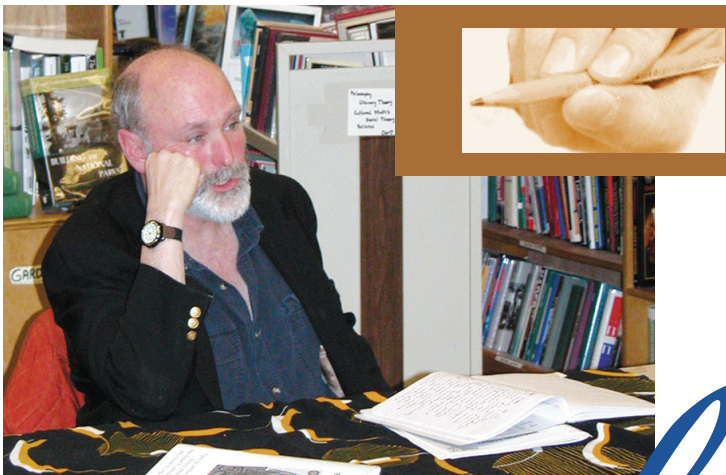
Want to learn TV production? Final Cut Pro? Soundtrack Pro? Green-screen? Call us today for more info! 617-628-8826							
<b>Wednesday, December 21</b>		5:30pm	Creative Somerville Series	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	11:30am	Art at SCATV
6:00am	Life Matters	6:00pm	Villain News Network	11:00am	Haitian Poetry	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
6:30am	Exercise with Robyn	6:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00pm	The Somerville Line	1:00pm	Infinite Momentum
7:00am	Poet to Poet	7:00pm	Taking Back your Health (Live call-in)	1:00pm	Start Up TV	1:30pm	Legacies
7:30am	Somerville Neighborhood News	7:30pm	Mass Climate Action Network	2:00pm	SCATV Presents: Duck Village Stage	2:00pm	The Literati Scene
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (Live call-in)	3:00pm	Telemagazine	2:30pm	SCATV Bulletin Board
9:00am	The Literati Scene	9:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	4:00pm	Chef's Table Series	3:00pm	Exercise with Robyn
9:30am	Mass Climate Action Network	10:00pm	Road to Recovery	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	3:30pm	MAPS
10:00am	Somerville Storytime	11:00pm	Simply Hanging with Pete and Nate	6:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	4:00pm	Free Speech Television
10:30am	Somerville Good Old Days	11:30p	Grown Up Storytime	7:00pm	Gay USA	5:00pm	Telegalaxie
11:00am	Chef's Table Series	<b>Friday, December 23</b>		8:00pm	Creative Somerville Series	6:00pm	The Struggle
12:00pm	Free Speech TV	6:00pm	The Literati Scene	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:30pm	Start Up TV
1:30pm	Physicians Focus	6:30pm	Life Matters	10:00pm	Open Line News with Davey D	7:30pm	Somerville Good Old Days
2:00pm	Road to Recovery	7:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	11:00pm	Gay News USA (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	The Somerville Line
2:30pm	Blokesworld	7:30am	Color in your life	<b>Sunday, December 25</b>		9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
3:30pm	SCATV Bulletin Board	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:00am	Somerville Story Time	10:00pm	Bate Papo com Shirley
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	9:00am	Middlesex Senate District Debate	6:30am	Eckankar	11:00pm	Visual Radio
5:00pm	Art At SCATV	10:00am	Middlesex Representative District Debate	7:00am	Nossa Gente's e Costumes	<b>Tuesday, December 27</b>	
5:30pm	Messier Mantra	10:30am	Somerville Good Old Days	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ	6:00am	Art at Scat
6:00pm	Haitian Poetry	11:00am	Somerville Story Tellers	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	6:30am	Esoteric Science
7:00pm	Creative Somerville Series	12:00pm	Free Speech TV	10:00am	Aging Well	7:00am	JuPrey Promotions
7:30pm	MAPS on TV	1:00pm	Health is Wealth	10:30am	International Church of God	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits	1:30pm	Aging Well	11:00am	Chef's table Series	9:00am	Chefs table Series
8:30pm	SCATV Bulletin Board	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	12:00pm	Middlesex Senate District Debate	10:00am	Eat well be happy
9:00pm	Bay State Biking News	2:30pm	Carven Salsa Dancing	1:00pm	Mlddlesex Representative District Debate	10:30am	Cooking with Georgia and Dez
10:00pm	SCATV Presents: Duck Village Stage	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	2:00pm	Mass Climate Action Network	11:00am	The Somerville Line
11:00pm	Warm up Wednesday	4:00pm	Gay USA (Free Speech TV)	2:30pm	Monday's at 9	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
11:30pm	Rare Groove Revolution	5:00pm	Reeling Review	3:00pm	Infinite Momentum	1:00pm	Aging Well
<b>Thursday, December 22</b>		5:30pm	Somerville Good Old Days	3:30pm	Greater Somerville	1:30pm	Somerville Pundits
6:00am	JuPrey Promotions	6:00pm	Words on Film	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	2:00pm	The Struggle
7:00am	The Struggle	6:30pm	Finger on the Pulse	5:00pm	Dead Air Live	2:30pm	Health is Wealth
7:30am	SCATV Bulletin Board	7:00pm	Beyond Boston	6:00pm	Abugida TV	3:00pm	Taking back your health
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:30pm	Fallon's Daily Toast	7:00pm	African Television Network	3:30pm	Physicians Focus
9:00am	Esoteric Science	8:00pm	CTBS	8:00pm	Telemagazine	4:00pm	Ring of Fire (Free Speech TV)
9:30am	Somerville Pundits	10:00pm	JuPrey Promotions	9:00pm	Cinema Somerville	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer
10:00am	Dead Air Live	11:00pm	Grownup Story Time	11:00pm	Simply Hanging with Pete and Nate	5:30pm	Duck Village Stage
11:00am	Greater Somerville	11:30pm	SCATV Bulletin Board	11:30pm	Grown Up Story Time	6:30pm	Beyond Boston
11:30am	Legacies	<b>Saturday, December 24</b>		<b>Monday, December 26</b>		7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	6:00am	Life matters	6:00am	Health is Wealth	7:30pm	Greater Somerville
1pm-3pm	SCATV Cooking Bloc	6:30am	Eat well be Happy	6:30am	Villain News Network	8:00pm	Dead Air Live
1:00pm	Chef's Table Series	7:00am	The Folkorist	7:00pm	The Struggle	9:00pm	Mondays at 9
2:00pm	Eat Well be Happy	7:30am	Wild Tales - Song of the River	7:30am	Aging Well	9:30pm	Infinite Momentum
2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia and Dez	8:00am	Villain news Network	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	Middlesex Senate District Debate
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:30am	Somerville Story Tellers	9:00am	Duck Village Stage	10:30pm	Mlddlesex Representative District Debate
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	9:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	10:00am	Baystate Biking news		
5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	9:30am	Henry Parker Presents	11:00am	Color in your Life		

## CITY TV 22 (Comcast) | 13 (RCN) Schedule

<b>Wednesday, December 21</b>		10:32pm		SomerViva em Português		8:46pm		Illuminations Tour 2016		2:36am		Green Line Extension Community Meeting	
9:00am	Raising Families "Special Needs Education"	<b>Friday, December 23</b>				9:46pm		Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		9:00am		State Funding for Union Sq. Ceremony	
9:30am	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit	12:00am		Illuminations Tour 2016		10:53pm		Illuminations Tour 2016		9:30am	The Strange Career of General Charles Lee		
12:00pm	School Committee Meeting - 12.19.16	1:00am		State Funding for Union Sq. Ceremony		<b>Sunday, December 25</b>				10:15am	I Feira de Educaçao		
3:30pm	Raising Families "Special Needs Education"	1:30am		National Disability Employment Awareness		12:00am		Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		12:00pm	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		
4:00pm	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	9:00am		Illuminations Tour 2016		1:07am		Illuminations Tour 2016		1:07pm	I Feira de Educaçao		
6:30pm	SomerViva em Português 12.13.16	12:00pm		National Disability Employment Awareness		2:07am		Aldermen at Work - Tony Lafuente		1:15pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"		
7:00pm	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit	1:42pm		Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		2:36am		SomerViva nan Kreyol		2:04pm	State Funding for Union Sq. Ceremony		
8:07pm	Carolling with the Mayor	2:50pm		A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas		9:00am		A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas		2:30pm	SomerViva en Espanol		
8:36pm	Aldermen at Work - Tony Lafuente	3:00pm		SomerViva em Português		9:09am		Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		6:30pm	State Funding for Union Sq. Ceremony		
9:05pm	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	6:00pm		Raising Families "Special Needs Education"		10:17am		Carolling with the Mayor		7:00pm	National Disability Employment Awareness		
9:14pm	Rally Point	6:30pm		A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas		10:46am		Illuminations Tour 2016		8:42pm	Illuminations Tour 2016		
9:38pm	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	6:39pm		Rally Point		12:00pm		Senior Circuit "Exercise"		10:00pm	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		
10:40pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"	7:03pm		Veterans Day 2016		12:30pm		Carolling with the Mayor		<b>Tuesday, December 27</b>			
<b>Thursday, December 22</b>		7:18pm		Talking Business "Chill Ville"		1:00pm		Illuminations Tour 2016		12:00am	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		
12:00am	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit	7:36pm		Congressional Update		2:00pm		Rally Point		1:07am	The Strange Career of General Charles Lee		
1:07am	BOA Special Mtg. on GLX Funding - 12.6.16	8:07pm		Raising Families "Special Needs Education"		2:23pm		Raising Families "Special Needs Education"		1:53am	National Disability Employment Awareness		
9:00am	SomerViva em Português 12.13.16	8:36pm		BOA Special Mtg. on GLX Funding - 12.6.16		3:00pm		The Strange Career of General Charles Lee		9:00am	Congressional Update		
9:30am	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	<b>Saturday, December 24</b>				6:00pm		Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		12:00pm	Senior Circuit "Exercise"		
9:39am	Carolling with the Mayor	12:00am		Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		7:07pm		Senior Circuit "Exercise"		12:30pm	Carolling with the Mayor		
12:00pm	Senior Circuit "Exercise"	1:07am		Carolling with the Mayor		7:36pm		Carolling with the Mayor		1:00pm	Aldermen at Work - Tony Lafuente		
12:30pm	Carolling with the Mayor	1:36am		Raising Families "Special Needs Education"		8:05pm		A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas		1:30pm	Rally Point		
1:00pm	BOA Special Mtg. on GLX Funding	2:04am		SomerViva em Português		8:14pm		Talking Business "Chill Ville"		2:00pm	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner		
3:30pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"	9:00am		Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		8:33pm		SomerViva em Português		6:30pm	SomerViva em Português		
6:00pm	Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit	10:07am		Carolling with the Mayor		9:02pm		Illuminations Tour 2016		7:00pm	Senior Circuit "Exercise"		
7:07pm	Aldermen at Work - Tony Lafuente	12:00pm		Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		10:02pm		Veterans Day 2016		7:30pm	Green Line Extension Community Meeting		
7:36pm	Congressional Update	1:07pm		A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas		10:17pm		Push Ups for Veterans		9:37pm	Congressional Update		
8:07pm	Illuminations Tour 2016	1:17pm		Carolling with the Mayor		10:19pm		The Strange Career of General Charles Lee		10:08pm	Rally Point		
9:07pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"	1:46pm		Illuminations Tour 2016		11:04pm		A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas		10:32pm	Aldermen at Work - Tony Lafuente		
9:26pm	Rally Point	6:30pm		Raising Families "Special Needs Education"		<b>Monday, December 26</b>				<b>Wednesday, December 28</b>			
9:49pm	I Feira de Educaçao	7:00pm		Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		12:00am		Illuminations Tour 2016		12:00am	Senior Circuit "Exercise"		
9:57pm	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	8:07pm		A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas		1:00am		Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa's Visit		12:30am	Carolling with the Mayor		
10:07pm	State Funding for Union Sq. Ceremony	8:17pm		Carolling with the Mayor		2:07am		Carolling with the Mayor		12:58am	"It's an Even Side Season" PSA		

## Educational TV 15 Schedule

<b>Wednesday, December 21</b>							
9:00am	Healey School Winter Concert	8:30pm	Our Schools, Our City - Music!	5:00pm	Brown School Winter Concert	6:30am	SHS Boys Soccer vs Lincoln Sudbury
10:00am	SHS Winter Concert	9:00pm	SHS Football v Concord-Carlisle	6:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody	9:00am	Kennedy School Winter Concert
12:00pm	WHCS Winter Concert	<b>Friday, December 23</b>		8:00pm	SHS Hockey vamesbury	10:00am	Healey School Winter Concert
1:00pm	Our Schools, Our City - Music!	12:00am	WHCS Winter Concert	10:00pm	SHS Winter Concert	11:00am	SHS Winter Concert
2:00pm	All City Middle School Winter Concert	1:00am	Healey School Winter Concert	<b>Sunday, December 25</b>		1:00pm	Brown School Winter Concert
3:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Winchester	2:00am	Public Domain Theater - Dec 16	12:00am	Healey School Winter Concert	2:00pm	WHCS Winter Concert
5:00pm	Healey School Winter Concert	9:00am	SHS Winter Concert	2:00am	Brown School Winter Concert	3:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Matignon
6:00pm	SHS Winter Concert	11:00am	All City Middle School Winter Concert	3:00am	Public Domain Theater - Dec 16	4:30pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody
8:00pm	WHCS Winter Concert	12:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Winchester	7:30am	SHS Volleyball v Cambridge - 10.24.16	7:00pm	Kennedy School Winter Concert
9:00pm	All City Middle School Winter Concert	3:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Matignon	9:00am	SHS Winter Concert	8:00pm	Healey School Winter Concert
10:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Winchester	4:30pm	Our Schools, Our City - Music!	11:00am	All City Middle School Winter Concert	9:00pm	Brown School Winter Concert
<b>Thursday, December 22</b>				12:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Winchester	10:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody
12:00am	SHS Hockey vs Matignon	5:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Winchester	2:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody	<b>Tuesday, December 27</b>	
1:30am	All City Middle School Winter Concert	7:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody	4:00pm	Kennedy School Winter Concert	12:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Winchester
9:00am	Our Schools, Our City - Music!	10:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody	5:00pm	SHS Hockey vamesbury	1:30am	SHS Hockey vs Matignon
10:00am	All City Middle School Winter Concert	<b>Saturday, December 24</b>		7:00pm	SHS Winter Concert	3:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody
11:00am	SHS Hockey vs Matignon	12:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody	9:00pm	All City Middle School Winter Concert	9:00am	Kennedy School Winter Concert
12:30pm	Our Schools, Our City - Music!	2:00am	SHS Hockey vamesbury	10:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Winchester	10:00am	SHS Hockey vamesbury
1:00pm	SHS Football v Concord-Carlisle	3:30am	Public Domain Theater - Dec 16	<b>Monday, December 26</b>		12:00pm	Healey School Winter Concert
4:00pm	WHCS Winter Concert	9:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody	12:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody	1:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody
5:00pm	Our Schools, Our City - Music!	11:00am	SHS Hockey vamesbury	2:00am	Kennedy School Winter Concert	3:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Hampshire
6:00pm	All City Middle School Winter Concert	1:00pm	Healey School Winter Concert	3:00am	SHS Hockey vamesbury	5:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody
7:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Matignon	2:00pm	SHS Winter Concert	4:30am	Public Domain Theater - Dec 16	7:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Danvers



OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Stone Soup Poetry: a savory mix every Monday evening



A 20 pound rock, from 20 feet down. Good for making a poem, but not soup.

Many a poet has passed through Stone Soup Poetry founded by the late Jack Powers on Beacon Hill over four decades ago. I had the privilege of being the president of Stone Soup one short year, about 20 years ago. I also conducted a series of interviews with Powers, and the interviews are online, and one is in the video collection at the University of Buffalo. Somerville resident Kirk Etherton is the “interim host” of the venue now, so he offered to share a few words:

It’s an honor – and lots of fun – to be the “interim host” of this long-running series. Stone Soup was founded by the legendary Jack Powers. In recent years it’s been hosted by the talented and tireless Chad Parenteau. I agreed to take Chad’s place for a little while, when he needed to go on hiatus.

We meet Mondays, starting at 7:00 p.m. and go until 9:00 p.m. (at the very latest). There are a number of great “regulars,” including Carol Weston, Martha Boss, and Lee Varon. Deborah Priestly, a very fine poet and storyteller, is sort of the “co-host.” Cambridge Poet Populist Lo Galluccio has stopped by, and read some amazing work. Berklee Prof. Lucy Holstedt has recited poetry, and performed original music.

I knew this would be a good experience, but it’s far surpassed what I imagined. Stop by if you can. Read a poem that means something to you (original or not); sing a song; tell a story. Now, more

than ever, I think, we need to get out and do real things with real people.

Admission is only \$5.

— Kirk Etherton

Stone Soup Poetry, at Out of the Blue Gallery, 541 Mass. Ave., Central Sq., Cambridge. Come on down!



Somerville resident Kirk Etherton.

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Robert K. Johnson is a retired professor of English, Suffolk University/Boston. For many years he was the Poetry Editor for the Ibbetson Street Press. He has been widely published, both poetry and non-fiction.



WHEN I AWAKE TOMORROW

Like a restaurant’s  
between-courses treat  
that cleanses the palate  
of what came before,

let the dawn light  
purge my mind  
of my past’s  
bad-tasting moments

so I can still better  
enjoy  
the brightening day  
served to me  
now.

— Robert K. Johnson

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

Ms. Cam’s

Olio

Answers

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Six   | 7. White Christmas  |
| 2. Alabama in 1836   | 8. A menorah was lit and the oil lasted for eight days instead of the one day it was intended for |
| 3. Donner, which means thunder in German, and Blitzen, which means lightning | 9. Near a window  |
| 4. Max   | 10. Hanerot Hallalu   |
| 5. Goose feathers dyed green   | 11. Left to right   |
| 6. Flocked   | 12. Three   |

Syrup Season Returns To Somerville

Like every year for the past two decades or so, the Somerville Maple Syrup Project begins this coming January, culminating in the annual Maple Syrup Boil Down Festival on March 4 at the Somerville Community Growing Center. The season will kick off with the Tapping of the Trees on Saturday, January 28 at 2:00 p.m. outside Tufts University’s Tisch Library, followed by a Maple Brunch hosted by the Independent in Union Square on February 22, and finally the Boil Down Festival on March 4. Throughout this season, Groundwork Somerville is seeking volunteers to help collect sap, work with and teach 2nd grade students, and even start some early season boils. For information about or to volunteer for the 2016 Maple Syrup Project, the education series, or syrup production contact Eli Bloch at [Eli@groundworksomerville.org](mailto:Eli@groundworksomerville.org) or call 617-628-9988.

## Every Day is Christmas

Every day is Christmas  
when you have the kind of mind,  
That stores up all the goodness  
and the sweetness it can find  
When you don't need an occasion,  
to spread a bit of cheer,  
But just keep on a-giving,  
of yourself throughout the year

Every day is Christmas,  
with a gaily wrapped surprise,  
When you see the friendship,  
in someone else's eyes.  
When you try a little harder,  
and complain a little less,  
Holding fast to all the fervor  
of the faith that you possess

Every day is Christmas,  
when you've found that you can be  
More concerned with words like "you"  
and less with "I" and "me".  
When it's fun to do a favor,  
and to lend a helping hand,  
When being understood means less,  
than when you understand

Every day is Christmas,  
with a beauty deeply cast,  
When you find it doesn't matter,  
if you're first or if you're last  
When you can face your conscience,  
and be glad of what you are,  
Then every day is Christmas,  
with a stable and star.

— Anonymous

Merry Christmas from everyone at  
**The Norton Group Real Estate**