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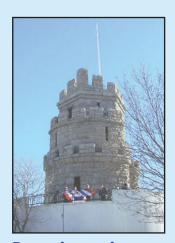
The Somerville Times

VOL. 3 NO. 51

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2015

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



Restoring a city landmark page 3



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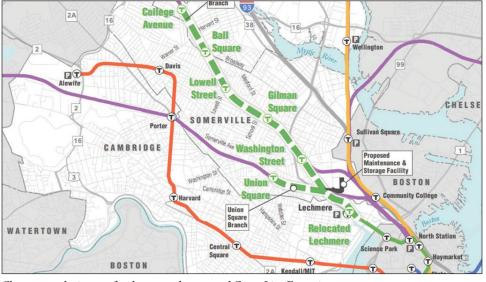


Farming in the schools

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TETTI STITLE THE Somerville Times

Green Line Extension in turmoil, facing overhaul and possible cuts



Changes may be in store for the currently proposed Green Line Extension routes.

By Haley ED Houseman

Plagued with enormous cost overruns and questions about feasibility, the MBTA Green Line Extension Project (GLX) now faces possible abandonment and loss of the previously allocated federal financial aid. The project is legally mandated as a way to offset air quality concerns centered on the effects of the Big Dig, and was intended to be implemented by 2011.

Facing a break in trust with the public, and the loss of nearly a billion in federal aid, the MBTA is looking at plans to reduce costs, cut proposed services, or even cancel the project entirely. Ongoing roadblocks to its implementation have come to the forefront most Continued on page 4

Walking into Taza

By Glad Auguste

Walk into Taza and you'll find people tethered to the shelves trying to reconcile the canyon of samples between them. This is chocolate.

Established in 2005 by Alex Whitmore and Kathleen Fulton, Taza Chocolate owes its being to Oaxaca, Mexico. That is where Whitmore tried stone-ground chocolate for the first time and where he apprenticed under a molinero, or miller. When he returned to his home in Somerville he opened a factory, the result of that venture is a company that exports its product in virtually every state in the country.

At present, there are 65 employees who produce roughly 40,000 bars a week, from bean to bar. The backs of which are filled with certifications: USDA Organic, Non-GMO Project verified, Gluten-Free, Dairy-Free, Soy-Free and Vegan. It is a middle ground for the intolerant; oddly transparent for a company that produces dark-chocolate but that's the crux.

The stories here are not spun, they are told. Taza Chocolate is responsible for



Continued on page 3 Taza Chocolate, a big local favorite, has its roots in Mexico.

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We, the owners, staff and all associates of The Somerville Times would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and a prosperous New Year for 2016. We want to thank all our readers and fans for their support in helping to make *The Somerville Times* the largest circulating community newspaper here in Somerville. We have worked hard to fill the paper with Somerville people and their stories over these past several years, and we're proud of what we have accomplished. We hope you continue to support us over the new year and, once again, from our family to yours, God bless everyone and thank you.

There has been a lot of concern about the airplane noise coming over the city when they re-route the planes. Alderman At Large Mary Jo Rossetti has been the leading force taking on the cause to get some noise relief from the planes being re-routed over our city. There is currently a survey being conducted by MS Walker, Doctoral Candidate Dept. of Environmental Health, and Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. The survey was primarily set up for the city of Boston, but Somerville has been added to it. It's another avenue that could assist the cities argument with Massport and the impact of the air traffic. Alderman Rossetti is asking all those who are reading this to go online an take the survey, and tell your friends and family members to do so as well: www.noiseandthecity.org/english.

Happy Birthdays this week to some of our Villen and friends as well as friends of *The Times*: Happy birthday to our good friend and sometime photographer, Kevin Dickinson, who's always around in Union Square snapping pictures. We hope he has a great day for himself. Happy birthday to Jim Henry, a political guy, well known in many circles here in Somerville and Cambridge. We hope he has a great day as well. To all the others out there celebrating this week, we hope you have a great day for yourselves.

Our condolences to the family of Lt. Paul Sullivan of the Somerville Fire Department, who recently Continued on page 11

The Somerville Times.com Comments of the Week

Response to: Somerville property owners file major lawsuit to stop unconstitutional land grab

A Moore says:

Good for them. Having been through the process myself it is not fair or right. Glad to see they could get together and fight for their rights. The city had clearly overstepped their authority and things should be set right.

Uncle Rocco says:

I love that little house on Franklin Street. I don't know the people who live there. But I can tell that whoever does, has got some stones.

JAR says:

f this is true, then the Mayor has little business complaining of the misadventures of Donald Trump. This kind of thing, when it does not involve reasonable public use (as in a fire station or some other public safety infrastructure improvement) is totally wrong. Let the free market decide which properties get bought/consolidated/developed. Stick the "master plans" where they belong—in the circular file. Otherwise, The City is acting as agent provocateur. We don't need no Rapaports in Somerville!

Villenous says:

No one walks away from \$1.3 billion in federal money. If anyone of that's been spent, the state would have to give it back if the project got nixed. The GLX will happen, though they may chuck the contractor. I suspect not building it would trigger a massive class action lawsuit from Somerville residents and businesses.

Matt says:

This is completely insane. Eminent domain should be reserved strictly for public projects (roads, bridges, railroad, etc. and should only be used as a very last resort after all other planning around used spaces, and attempts to legally purchase the necessary few properties needed have failed.

If you ask me, any politician trying to use eminent domain for private projects belongs in jail.

Besides, "luxury condominiums" is the very last thing we need more of in the greater Boston area. Any "luxury condominium" should be outright blocked on principle, with or without the need for eminent domain.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

The Somerville Times.com poll of the week

In addition to breaking news, sports and opinion, TheSomervilleTimes.com also features a daily poll in which you, the reader, tell us where you come down on local issues. Last week's poll concerned your views on whether or not you are in favor of having a marijuana treatment facility in your neighborhood. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com.

The Somerville Times

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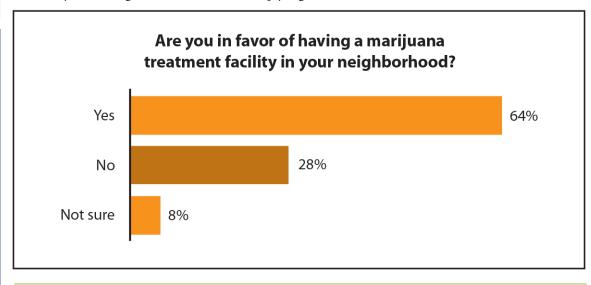
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Restoring Prospect Hill Tower

By Josie Grove

The granite tower looming over Union Square is just over one hundred years old, but its symbolic significance is much older. Prospect Hill was strategically important during the American Revolution, and is the site of first raising of the thirteen-striped Great Union Flag, unfurled on January 1, 1776. In honor of this occasion, the mayor of Somerville hikes to the top of the tower every year on January 1 to raise a flag.

Since the tower's construction in 1903, the top platform has grown weathered and became unsafe, imperiling the annual flag raising. But tradition will continue on January 1, 2016, once the first phase of the tower's restoration is complete.

To make the top platform stable again, Mike Mellado, president of restorers MJS Construction Services, says he had to essentially start from scratch. "That was all deteriorated and unstable. We had to demolish the top floor 100%, put in new I-beams, new rebar, and re-pour the concrete."

The repairs extend well below the top platform. "We're cutting and pointing the masonry joints, setting any loose stones with epoxy and rebar, and stabilizing everything," said Mel-

lado. Cutting and pointing is a process of grinding down old mortar and replacing it with new mortar. Mortar becomes porous as it ages, allowing water to enter the joints between stones and exposing the masonry to possible damage.

"We are restoring the exterior granite to its original look." Mellado has been repairing cracks in the granite with epoxy, and reinforcing loose stones. He believes the look of the tower is just as important to Somervillians as the flag-raising function. "It brings in a lot of people, we noticed throughout the project. Once, we had to take down all the staging so a couple getting married could have their photos taken."

The aged aesthetic of the building presents an interesting challenge for masons. "With historic buildings, you're bringing the existing conditions to make it look like when it was built," says Mellado. He uses a combination of historical research, consultations with preservationists, and his own knowledge. "We've done so much [preservation], we know the look."

Since the tower's appearance has not changed much over the years, restoration is more a matter of repair than altering the look of the tower. "Even though it's cracked and broken,



The city's most familiar historical landmark is undergoing some much needed shoring up and refurbishing, thanks to the expert work being provided by MJS Construction Services.

you know what you're bringing it back to."

Mellado can refer to the original mortar, visible just below the surface, to see what he aims to replicate. "The mortar was cracked and it was falling out, but there were areas where you could see what the condition was." Mellado and his team made several different samples of the mortar to see how they could best match the existing color and texture. Once they settled on a match, "We would use that every single time. Every day, we would use that exact same mix, with the exact same speck, so that it looks uniform. We use a mortar with a special speck in it and a little color to keep its original look, that aged look." Mellado explains that mortar that has been exposed to the elements for a century looks rockier than smooth new mortar, and he

wanted to maintain the patina of the mortar on the tower. "When you get into historic, the rocks [in the mortar] start to show, so we brought out and raised the rocks to make it look historic."

The repairs are meant to blend seamlessly with the hundredyear-old stones. "It's like we never were there." The renovations are to be completed by next week, just in time for the mayor to raise the flag once again.

Walking into Taza **CONT. FROM PG 1**

the first third-party certified Direct Trade cacao sourcing program in an effort to ensure humane work conditions. In the past year, they have spent 68 days at the sites of origin, planted 110,587 cacao seedlings and have paid \$500 above market prices - a 15-20% premium. Krysia Villon, Factory Store and Tour Manager, asserts, "It's about people, not commodity.'

Taza offers tours that further endorse the transparency of the company and with that comes facts. The first major revelation is that chocolate comes from a fruit, and that the aforementioned staple treat is mainly a seed that has been winnowed, ground and coated in sugar. Children might lose interest until they see the sacks of coffee beans, the Molinas and the treasure trove of treats lying at the end of the tour. Strangely informative in the way that one might discover the word terroir, a word from the lux graces of many wineries. It is the condition for which something is grown or produced and which give it its



characteristics. They tell you this, in addition to having you wear hair and beard nets so that the affair feels partly revealing but uniformly festive.

"All arms of the staff are incredible. The team of people are so committed to cacao. It's infectious," says Villon. Chocolate takes on a different color with the fervor in which they describe the harvesting, the grounding and the funny faces people make after their first real venture into dark chocolate.

It is a place that is "perfectly-unrefined" and incredibly accessible, both the 66 and 69 bus stop by it. For more information regarding Taza chocolate, visit them at 561 Windsor St. in Somerville. Celebrate the product, the farmers and the retail workers clad in coffee-colored aprons, because they will teach and feed you, and that is something to keep in mind during the holidays.

New electric cars for city





The City of Somerville is taking the lead in reducing emissions to zero by the year 2050 with its recent purchase four electric Ford Focus Hatchbacks. The vehicle in the photos is assigned to the Traffic & Parking Department. Other departments that will be utilizing these environmentally friendly cars and what further investments are being made are yet to be announced by the city. The "Sustaina Ville" logo on the cars reflects the city's commitment to continuing this movement and one day having a zero emission fleet.

By Jim Clark

Angry shoplifter defiant to the end

Police were dispatched to the Target store on Somerville Ave. last week on reports of a suspected shoplifter who was behaving erratically.

The store security personnel reportedly advised police by phone that a man, later identified as Donald Frost, of Malden, had been observed concealing store merchandise on his person over a four hour period. They further stated that Frost was behaving in an aggressive manner, at one point crashing into another customer with his shopping cart. The officers arrived just as Frost was being intercepted at the store's exit, after paying for only a few items.

Frost reportedly became agitated as he was being led to the loss prevention office, and punched a hole in a wall with his fist.

Police retrieved a folding knife from Frost's pocket, according to reports, and several pieces of store merchandise were discovered on his person as he was patted down by police.

Frost reportedly resisted attempts by police to handcuff

him and attempted to kick them. Frost was placed under arrest and charged with malicious wanton defacement of property, violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon, shoplifting by asportation, and

SOMERVILLE

Arrests:

Crystal Bielakowsky, of 158 Everett St., East Boston, December 14, 6:53 p.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of shoplifting by concealing merchandise and furnishing a false name or Social Security number.

Robert Silva, of 55 Spring-field St., December 15, 10:00 a.m., arrested at Webster Ave. on warrant charges of indecent assault on a person 14 or older, sexual conduct for a fee, and trespassing.

Michael Carter, December 15, 5:01 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on charges of larceny under \$250 and receiving stolen property under \$250, and on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, receiving

a stolen motor vehicle, and speeding.

Jennifer Stacey, of 494 Willard St., Quincy, December 16, 3:53 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on charges of larceny over \$250 and receiving stolen property over \$250.

Keith Dasilva, of 494 Willard St., Quincy, December 16, 3:53 p.m., arrested at Canal St. on charges of larceny over \$250 and receiving stolen property over \$250.

Derrik Pannesi, of 35 Jaconett, Newton, December 16, 5:07 p.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, failure to stop or yield, and motor vehicle operator giving a false name or Social Security number, and on warrant charges of failure to stop or yield and operation of a

motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Domingo Peters, of 362 Rindge Ave., Cambridge, December 16, 5:34 p.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on a warrant charge of assault with a dangerous weapon.

Donald Frost, of 346 Ferry St., Malden, December 16, 11:47 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on charges of malicious wanton defacement of property, violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon, shoplifting by asportation, and resisting arrest.

Jose Soto, of 44 Harrison St., Boston, December 17, 5:40 p.m., arrested at Grand Union Blvd. on warrant charges of distribution of a class A drug and drug possession to distribute.

Leandro Amancio, December 18, 9:35 a.m., arrested at

Warner St. on a charge of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Rigoberto Salguero, of 40 Central St., Everett, December 18, 9:51 a.m., arrested at Washington St. on a warrant charge of harassment prevention order violation.

Casey Brown, of 173 Lafayette St., Salem, December 18, 1:03 p.m., arrested at Chetwynd Rd. on warrant charges of larceny over \$250 and felony nighttime entry.

Derek Rose, December 18, 2:17 p.m., arrested at Mystic Ave. on warrant charges of larceny over \$250 and destruction of property under \$250.

Raul Landaverde, of 11 Alston St., December 18, 3:54 p.m., arrested at home on charges of drug possession to distribute, distribution of a class D drug, and conspiracy to violate drug law.

resisting arrest.

Manuel Cruz, of 22 Glendale St., Dorchester, December 18, 7:05 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on a warrant charge of larceny over \$250.

Tyler McLean, of 59 Fountain St., Medford, December 19, 1:15 a.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of resisting arrest and disorderly conduct.

Brad McLean, of 59 Fountain St., Medford, December 19, 1:15 a.m., arrested at Broadway on a charge of disorderly conduct.

Ramon Miranda, of 444 Harrison Ave., Roxbury, December 20, 5:22 p.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on warrant charges of vandalism, threat to commit a crime, and larceny over \$250.

Green Line Extension in turmoil, facing overhaul and possible cuts

CONT. FROM PG 1

recently in a scathing study conducted by the Berkeley Research Group.

In August, it was estimated the project would cost \$3 billion to complete the project, \$2 billion more than the original cost estimate. The Berkeley Research Group (BRG) conducted a study of the GLX project after projected cost rose so sharply. The study found that the project management by the MBTA and its contractors failed to properly implement the particular combined design and construction plan that was passed by the state legislature, resulting in a lack of oversight and rapidly rising costs. This procedural model is being used for the first time in Massachusetts. Called "Construction Manager/General Contractor" project delivery model, it's designed to shift risk to the contractor and away from the MBTA, but the process backfired due to poor implementation.

Noting in a presentation on December 2 to the MassDOT Board of Directors, which oversee the Department of Transportation and the MBTA, the research group found the project progress was "excessively schedule driven," which in part caused a major failing of the implementation of the agreed-upon process. The GLX project was also affected by absence of a properly secured budget, something one of the research group's leaders Terry Yeager said the T should have produced in 2012. According to the report, a reliable budget has yet been produced. Other issues called out by report was that the MBTA involved minimal amounts of its staffers in the process — just four — effectively disengaging from the collaborative process and missing an opportunity to gain institutional knowledge of the process and effectively track the project.

These issues were caused in

part by the bidding, which despite the CM/GC process, allowed the group of primary contractors working on the project, White Skanska Kiewit (WSK), to qualify its multiple bids. In the presentation, it was noted that the contractors worked the system to their advantage, and allowed WSK obtain the highest payment possible for the contracts. One of the key problems BRG found with the MBTA's procurement process for the Green Line extension is that it did not allow the agency to review accounting or limit indirect costs.

Governor Baker, commenting on the situation on WBUR, is concerned about the needs of MBTA riders in general, and the need to balance the investments the MBTA is making in service. Says the governor, "I'm not going to be comfortable stealing, borrowing, taking hundreds of millions of dollars out of the investments we need to make in a

system that serves a million people for a spur. It's an important spur, and I support the project at a certain price...[We] need to put some serious money into it—and we are."

Last week, officials unani-

mously approved a resolution calling for a redesign and new cost estimate for a reduced plan to determine whether or not the project will move forward, expect in the spring. Commonwealth magazine has reported the MBTA is planning on suing the contractors involved in the Green Line Extension. The four contracts to WSK have been terminated and the department is actively searching for a new project manager. To prevent any GLX-related spending, the Fiscal and Management Control Board voted to take over administration of the project from MBTA staff for at least 90 days. MASS-DOT Secretary of Transportation Stephanie Pollack has

noted that a process to rectify the many missteps doesn't not rule out cancelling the project altogether if costs cannot be brought under control.

With the new \$3 billion cost estimate, the Green Line Extension is set to be the most expensive rail extension project in the country per mile, according to federal data presented to the MassDOT and MBTA boards. The 4.7 mile project running through Somerville and Medford would serve one of the most populous areas of New England, and expects heavy usage. Though plagued with issues, the project also is generally politically supported. It is planned to run along existing rail right-of-ways, and has already acquired almost \$1 billion in federal funding. The original plans for the extension called for the 2017 opening of two new stops in Somerville, plus a relocated Lechmere station in East Cambridge.

Pedestrian hit by stolen car in Somerville

By Jim Clark

Two suspects were arrested Friday after fleeing in a stolen vehicle and crashing it into a median at Lombardi Way under Interstate 93, at which time a pedestrian who was crossing the street was struck by the vehicle.

According to reports, a state trooper queried a vehicle traveling along Mystic Avenue at approximately 3:30 p.m. and learned that it was reported as stolen. Before the trooper could affect a stop, the vehicle (a Jeep) took off as if evading pursuit of police.

The trooper who initially spotted the stolen vehicle began following in the direction in which it fled.

A short time later, the crash occurred and the two individuals fled from the scene on foot. The were immediately apprehended by police, who arrived on the scene in time to make the arrests.

The occupants of the stolen

Jeep were both placed under arrest. They have been identified as Arthur L. Woods IV, 18, of Arlington, and Elvira C. Sanchez, 19, of Malden.

Woods will be facing charges of receiving a stolen motor vehicle, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, failure to stop for police, leaving the scene of a crash causing personal injury, leaving the scene of a crash causing property damage, possession of a class A Substance with intent to distribute, possession of a class A cubstance, disorderly conduct, and speeding.

Sanchez is being charged with receiving a stolen motor vehicle and disorderly conduct. She was also booked on two outstanding warrants.

Both suspects are set to be arraigned in Somerville District Court this week.

The victim, a 26-year-old Somerville man, reportedly sustained non-life threatening injuries and was taken To Massachusetts General Hospi-



The crash took place at Lombardi Way under Interstate 93.

tal for treatment.

Preliminary reports suggest that troopers were never in active pursuit of the stolen Jeep, but per routine policy of the State Police, the investigation re-

mains ongoing to determine all the facts related to the incident.

Somerville Police and State Police are currently investigating the incident. The investigation is being conducted by Troop A of the Massachusetts State Police with the assistance of the State Police Crime Scene Services Section and the State Police Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Readers are invited to send letters to the editor to The Somerville Times. Please email your letters to 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.

Dear Sirs & Madams/To whom it may concern;

I am writing this document for both Nursing & Rest Home Residents! The present amount of \$72.80, is not enough to exist on. Many of our residents have no outside support, no one to turn to for assistance. Many of our families cannot give us aide.

We have the same needs as every one of you. We should not be forced into abject poverty simply because we are elders!

Some people exist on \$8 a month and others exist on \$12. A month! We need personal items-seasonal clothing etc. We can't afford to purchase necessities and going out to any form of recreation is out of the question, there is simply not enough money to allow such things. With prescriptions, co-pays and the ride to pay for

(for those who qualify) there is very little left.

Winter is upon us and freezing temperatures, we need coats, warm sweaters, warm shoes and socks etc.. We can't afford them on \$72.80. I ask this committee to increase our personal needs allowance to \$100; we haven't had Social Security increase in quite some time.

Television and newspapers speak about raises for Senators and other politicians up to thousands of dollars. One politician wrote that no one had the right to force him into poverty, what about us? We need a raise as well and we are in abject poverty!!!

We at the Somerville Home exist under the umbrella of a level 4 nursing home; we are called a "rest Home, Elderly Home, old age home and assisted living establishment". We live under the same amount as every other

nursing home establishment.

Assisted living receives more money than we receive, \$80 to \$100 a month.

Please find it in your hearts to increase all Nursing Home and Rest Home personal allowance.

Thank you!

Sincerely yours, Elena Lowry The Somerville Home Summer St, Somerville

It's that time of year and folks look stressed as they rush from shop to shop to create a holiday that exceeds expectations.

As current and past presidents of the Somerville Community Corporation (SCC), our wish lists have changed over the years. Instead of wishing for the newest tech toy, we hope for a future for Somerville in which people of all incomes can continue to co-exist and where everyone has a home they can afford, a job with a livable wage, and a network of peers to find support and build a movement to improve the community. We're sure you agree.

In order to do that, we hope you will consider investing in SCC's Social Equity Campaign by December 31st through the Community Investment Tax Credit (CITC) program. It's a powerful program with an exceptional means of leveraging social investment. Whether you are an institution, a non-profit, a business, or an individual and whether or not you are located in Massachusetts, CITC enables anyone who donates at least \$1,000 to get a 50% refundable tax credit in return from the Commonwealth of Massachu-

setts, in addition to the standard charitable deduction on your federal taxes.

No iPhone can deliver this fantastic return on investment: a 50% direct tax return plus standard federal deduction to the donor, and the social return of making a significant impact on the community and its economic development with an explicit mission of benefiting low-income residents.

Donations we receive through CITC for our Social Equity Campaign allow us to invest in new efforts, such as launching our First Source Jobs program,

and then to incubate the work to a level which can then capture the attention of larger funders. These donations help us provide continuity in program delivery by helping us maintain and expand our capacity. The donations allow us to invest our resources to directly address the priorities established by our

Please consider investing in our Social Equity Campaign this year through the Community Investment Tax Credit Program. The impact of your investment travels a long way and touches your friends and neighbors. Nothing could be more suitable for the holidays, and we can't emphasize enough how much we value your support.

For instructions on how to make a contribution, as well as other information about the Social Equity Campaign and CITC, please contact Meridith Levy, mlevy@somervillecdc.org, 617-776-5931x242.

With our gratitude this holiday season,

Fred Berman, Ezra Glenn, Janine Lotti, Stephanie Toews Moeling

Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/thesomervilletimes and follow us on Twitter at @somervilletimes

The Somerville Times Christmas Poem contest winner

The winner of our Christmas Poem contest for 2015, chosen by the staff of The Somerville Times, is Daniel Spinosa of Somerville. The winner will receive a gift certificate for Mount Vernon restaurant in the amounts of \$100. We thank everyone who participated and submitted their poems.

What XMAS means to me

When Christmas came on a day in December

The day we will always remember

As a child it was the thrill of my life

It kept me awake many a night

The thought of the day to come to me

What made me happy for what I was to see

Now that I'm at an older age

I'm ready to turn to the next page

A few days before xmas was the best of all

To make children happy as I recalled

The thrill and excitement that went thru my heart

Made me so happy and never to depart

This xmas day they waited for all year

Their smile and happy faces that made them cheer

Many days will come and go

But this is the one that makes them glow

To make them happy makes me shine

Hopefully then it will be their time

This is what xmas means to me

I'm very happy as you can see

— Daniel Spinosa Somerville, MA



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



Monday December 28

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

Tuesday December 29

Kristen Ford with The Ben Burns Trio 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday December 30

Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.

Thursday December 31

Rockin New Years Eve with The Condescendants, champagne toast, food specials \$15

Friday January 1

Saturday January 2 TBA

Sunday January 3
TBA



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NRBQ's Terry Adams celebrates new release

By Mark Casale

Pianist/founder of NRBQ Terry Adams chose to take a long and winding path to the recording of Talk Thelonious: NRBQ+ plays Terry Adams arrangements of Thelonious Monk Songs, his new album of compositions by jazz legend Thelonious Monk.

"I have so much respect for him," says Adams. "I spent a lot of time thinking about those songs, wanting to do them with the right spirit, but also make them sound different from what people have heard before." In Adams' case, "a lot of time" means nearly 50 years.

Adams, along with NRBQ, will be highlighting the new release with a show at Johnny D's on Tuesday, December 29 at 10:00 p.m.

"The first Monk song I heard was when I was about 14. It was Off Minor by his septet," says Adams. "I had begun to figure out some things about music I was hearing, such as the I, IV or V chord and then beyond. But after hearing Monk, suddenly I knew nothing. It was a great mystery that sounded wonderful." Adams recalls with a smile that "I wrote him a letter immediately asking for the chords to the bridge of Off Minor, but he



Terry Adams and NRBQ is set to perform at Johnny D's next Tuesday, December 29, presenting both Adams' solo works and band favorites. — *Photo by Dave Yandell*

didn't answer me."

Adams says, "There's an air about Monk's music that I feel should go beyond the written parts. You can hear it on his performances even when he's not playing. Some people don't approach it that way. This music is in a special place and the performer of it should be too."

Terry Adams formed NRBQ in 1966 with the express desire of having a band that "can play any song it wants, regardless of what that style is." Their self-ti-

tled first album on Columbia Records from 1969 contains songs that range from Eddie Cochran's C'mon Everybody all the way to Sun Ra's Rocket #9. Over the years, throughout countless live performance and many well-regarded recordings, NRBQ has succeeded admirably in espousing Adams' mission statement.

Enjoy Adams and NRBQ next week as they present their tribute to Monk as well as entertain with familiar favorites.

Dorothy's Corner



Tzimmes

On Christmas Eve, I will be serving tzimmes as a side dish to accompany a smoked ham. The sweet, salty and smoky flavors go so well together, it's sure to become a new favorite for you. Tzimmes is a Yiddish dish and is typically part of the Rosh Hashanah meal. There are many variations of this sweet dish most of which include carrots and dried fruit. I have researched different variations of recipes and adapted it to flavors of my liking. But I can tell you that this dish is so satisfying and delicious that no excuse of a holiday is needed to serve at your next gathering. It's so easy to prepare that you place everything in a crock pot and walk away.

6 large carrots, peeled and sliced into 1/4" rounds

1 medium onion, medium chop

2 sweet potatoes, peeled and sliced into 1/4" rounds

1 1/2 cups of dried fruit combined (prunes, apples and apricots)

2 1/2 cups orange juice



3/4 cup packed brown sugar 2 teaspoons of ground cinnamon 1/8 teaspoon of freshly ground nutmeg Pinch of salt 1/4-1/2 cup water if needed *see below

Place the carrots, onion, sweet potatoes and dried fruit into the crock pot. In a separate bowl, combine the orange juice, brown sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt and mix thoroughly. Pour the liquid into the crock pot and mix well. Depending on how much liquid is in the crock pot, you may need to add some water or orange juice to just cover the mixture. Put your crock pot on high temperature for 4 hours. Serves 6-8 people.

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Somerville deepens commitment to food education

By Haley ED Houseman

With the award of a USDA grant to expand Somerville's farm to school programming across the district, the city's school system is set to lead the way in connecting students to local foods. From school gardens to regionally sourced ingredients in school lunches, the program directly impacts students eating habits daily, in the classroom and in the lunchroom.

Karyn Novakowski, the Somerville Farm to School Project Director, notes that the programing is indirectly tied into the city's sustainability and carbon neutrality goals through partnerships with Shape Up Somerville and by involving students more directly with local food advocates and climate change activists. Novakowski says that schools are excited and supportive of providing local foods, and getting students hands-on experience with food.

The City of Somerville has

vironmental policies, but few have resulted in such tangible results as the farm to school programming in schools across the district. The district was previously the recipient of a USDA Farm to School planning grant in 2014 that helped formalize existing partnerships into a more cohesive network. Now, with the receipt of a \$100,000 grant to serve two years, which will go toward increasing local foods in school menus and investing more into K-8 nutritional education.

"Students love being out in the garden getting their hands dirty and watching things grow from seed"

There are other projects brewing as well, including a school farm network, the building of a Massachusetts Farm to



Somerville students are getting their hands dirty while getting their minds enriched with first-hand experience in agricultural and nutritional education.

The district will also work on developing a process for local food procurement bids. The goals of the program are extensive, says Novakowski. In addition to sourcing local foods and building networks to sustain the program, the district hopes to continue to educate students and families about Massachusetts and regionally grown foods and increase the use of curriculum-based nutrition education in classrooms and school gardens.

Simca Horwitz is a program director for Massachusetts Farm to School, one of the districts partners. She notes that Somerville has been engaged in some form of farm to school activity for many years, included school gardens and serving locally grown food in the cafeteria. "They put together a really great, diverse team of people to work on this planning process." Mass. Farm to School was a part of this team, which included many school officials and representative from local organizations. The program will likely be expanded under the new grant to include more effective local food procurement for the school meal program, including working with distributors to source local produce and seafood, with a focus on good taste and continuing to meet federal nutritional requirements.

Other local groups involved in the districts programming include Groundwork Somerville, which has helped to implement and maintain school gardens for over 10 years. These gardens are fundamental to the educational aspect of the Farm to School mission. They ingrain food and agriculture education deeply into the school culture and give school a sense of ownership of food processes to the students. Novakowski says "students love being out in the garden getting their hands dirty and watching things grow from seed." Every school in Somerville has a garden, except one nearby a community garden.

Most efforts focused on K-8 students, as the high school manages its own garden at the moment. Not every student directly in contact with garden programming, but each can count on least one or two exposures to the agricultural education in their time with Somerville schools. And every student in the district receives the benefits of the local purchasing for school menus. The Somerville Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) program is recognized around the nation for its innovative approach to healthy eating in a diverse community.

Officials are hopeful that this grant open up opportunities for the school district to serve as a model for integrated agricultural and nutritional education. Susana Hernandez Morgan, the director of Communications and Grants for Somerville Public Schools, noted that the grant is designed to foster long term investment in sustainable farm to school practices. Hernandez Morgan says the grant will continue to foster "an appreciation for healthy eating and general wellness, while enhancing students' educational experience."

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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 HOUSE AND SENATE: There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week

This week, Beacon Hill Roll Call examines the voting records of local senators on GOP Gov. Charlie Baker's

95 vetoes during the 2015 session. A two-thirds vote is required to override a gubernatorial veto in the 40-member Senate that includes 35 Democrats and only five Republicans. The governor needed the support of 15 senators to sustain a veto when all 40 senators voted -- and fewer votes if some members were absent. Baker fell far short of that goal. Six votes were the most support he received on any veto. The Senate easily overrode all 95 vetoes, including 37 that were overridden unanimously.

The vetoes had little support among Democrats in the Senate. Only three of the chamber's 35 Democrats voted with Baker to sustain any vetoes. The Democratic senator who voted with Baker the most times was Sonia Chang-Diaz (D-Boston), who supported the governor 17 times. Sens. Mark Montigny (D-New Bedford) and Cynthia Stone Cream (D-Newton) each supported Baker only once.

The GOP senator who voted with Baker the most times was Sen. Ryan Fattman (R-Webster), who supported the governor 41 times.

Other Republican senators and how many times they supported Baker include Sens. Vinny deMacedo (R-Plymouth), 40 times; Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester), 37 times; and Robert Hedlund (R-Weymouth) and Donald Humason (R-Westfield), 32 times each.

PERCENTAGE OF TIMES LOCAL SENATORS SUPPORTED THE GOVERNOR

Here is how local senators fared in their support of Baker on the 95 budget vetoes. The percentage next to the senator's name represents the percentage of times the senator supported Baker. The number in parentheses represents the actual number of times the senator supported Baker.

Sen. Patricia Jehlen 0 percent (0)

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

AUTOMATIC INCOME TAX AND LONG-TERM CAPITAL GAINS CUT ON JANUARY

1 - The state's Department of Revenue confirmed that sufficient economic growth in 2015 under the terms of a 2002 law will result in a tax cut for millions of Bay State taxpayers in 2016. The cut will come from a reduction in the income tax rate and long-term capital gains tax from 5.15 percent to 5.10 percent effective January 1, 2016.

The tax cuts do not need the approval of the Legislature. They are part of a system devised by the Legislature when it approved a \$1 billion-plus tax hike package in 2002. The package set the long-term capital gains tax at 5.3 percent and froze the income tax rate at 5.3 percent instead of allowing it to drop to 5 percent in January 2003 -- a reduction that was approved by voters in 2000. The 2002 law also includes an automatic trigger that reduces both taxes by one-half of one percent each year that the state's economic growth is at least 2.5 percent until each tax is reduced to five percent. The 2015 growth is 5.37 percent, more than twice the amount necessary for the cut. The Department of Revenue estimates that the tax cuts will reduce state revenue by \$74 million in fiscal year 2016 and \$152 million in fiscal year 2017.

PUNISH "SANCTUARY" CITIES AND TOWNS (H 1856) - The Municipalities and Regional Government Committee held a hearing on legislation that would withhold local aid from any cities or towns that

do not enforce federal immigration laws. The withholding would also apply to communities that have established themselves as "sanctuary" cities or towns that offer protection in a variety of ways to illegal immigrants.

According to Aspen Law Offices, a New York City-based law firm that specializes in immigration issues, "sanctuary city" is a name given to a city in the United States that follows certain procedures that shelter illegal immigrants. The term most commonly is used for cities that do not permit municipal funds or resources to be applied in furtherance of enforcement of federal immigration laws. These cities normally do not permit police or municipal employees to inquire about one's immigration status.

Aspen also notes that Massachusetts currently has five sanctuary cities and towns: Cambridge, Chelsea, Northampton, Orleans and Somerville.

Supporters of the bill said cities and towns that encourage law-breaking are hurting this nation. They pointed to recent terrorist attacks and argued the state should do everything it can to dissuade those who seek to come here illegally.

Opponents of the bill said the proposal is mean-spirited and noted that some individuals are here because of political asylum. Others said they oppose sanctuary cities but do not support cutting off local aid as punishment.

HOMELESS BILL OF RIGHTS (H 1129) - The Housing Committee has given a favorable report to legislation that would establish a bill of rights for homeless persons. The measure prohibits denial of any person's rights, privileges or access to public services solely because he or she is homeless. Specifics include guaranteeing a homeless person's right to use and move freely in public spaces, including sidewalks, parks and public transportation buildings; equal treatment by all state and municipal agencies; access to emergency medical care; the right to vote; and a reasonable expectation of privacy of his or her personal property to the same extent as if he or she were in a permanent residence.

Supporters say there are more than 20,000 homeless people across Massachusetts and many have complained of discrimination. They argue that homeless people should have the same rights as everyone else.

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASES TO \$10 PER HOUR ON JANUARY 1 - The state's current \$9 per hour minimum wage increases to \$10 on January 1. The wage will then go to \$11 in 2017. The new law also raises the minimum hourly wage for tipped employees from \$3 to \$3.35 on January 1 and to \$3.75 in 2017.

MANDATORY INSPECTION OF HEALTH CLUB EQUIPMENT (H 3736) - The Public Health Committee held a hearing on a measure requiring every health club to be inspected for defective exercise equipment at least once every six months. The cost of the inspections would be funded by a yet undetermined annual fee paid by the club owners.

Club owners would be required to remove or prohibit the use of any exercise equipment determined to be defective or unsafe. Owners who do not remove the equipment would be subject to a \$100 per day fine to a maximum of \$5,000.

CREATE NEW OFFICE OF CONDOMINIUM

13

Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



OMBUDSMAN (H 1110) - The Housing Committee held a hearing on a bill creating a new state Office of Condominium Ombudsman in the attorney general's office. The office would investigate and resolve complaints received by unit owners, boards of directors, board members, community associations and other parties. The measure also creates the Condominium Mediation Pilot Program, including mediators who will try to work out the differences between these parties. The funds to run this new office would come from a new \$50 fee to be paid at the time of sale by the seller of any condo in the state.

MEDICAL ASSISTANTS CAN GIVE FLU SHOTS (H 3895) - The House gave initial approval to a bill that would allow certified medical assistants who work in a doctor's office to give flu and other immunization shots to patients. A certified medical technician is an individual who is a graduate of a post-secondary medical assisting education and performs basic administrative, clerical and clinical duties under the direct supervision of a doctor.

Supporters said this will free up time of doctors and nurses so they can work on more urgent medical issues.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"Meeting the requirements needed to reduce the income tax rate is a sign that the Massachusetts economy remains strong. Allowing citizens across the Commonwealth to keep more money in their pockets will allow the state's economy to continue growing in 2016." — Gov. Baker on the reduction in the income tax and capital

gains tax from 5.15 percent to 5.10 percent.

"CarMax is playing recalled car roulette with the public's safety." — Rosemary Shahan, president of the Consumers for Auto Reliability and Safety Foundation, on a joint report issued by her group and MASSPIRG indicating that CarMax, the nation's largest retailer of used cars, is endangering lives in Massachusetts by selling recalled vehicles with potentially lethal safety defects.

"Younger homebuyers, especially millennials, have increasingly wanted to get information through video rather than some of the traditional ways we have provided material about the home buying process. In the age of YouTube, we believe this series of videos will expand our ability to educate potential homebuyers of any age on the steps they should take that will help ensure they become successful homeowners." — MassHousing Executive Director Thomas Gleason on a new video series, now available on masshousing.com and on the agency's YouTube channel, giving homeowners advice on buying a home.

"For low-income families in Boston and surrounding cities and towns, people struggling every day to pay their rent, buy groceries and cover the bills, public transportation isn't a casual consideration, it's their only option."

— Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) President/CEO John J. Drew endorsing the MBTA's exploration of means-tested fares for low-income, senior and disabled riders.

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 leg-

islators 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 14-18, the House met for a total of 40 minutes while the Senate met for a total of two hours and 44 minutes.

Mon. December 14 House 11:04 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Senate 11:06 a.m. to 11:22 a.m.

Tues. December 15 No House session
No Senate session

Wed. December 16 No House session

No Senate session

No Senate session

Thurs. December 17 House 11:02 a.m. to 11:31 a.m. Senate 11:04 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.

Fri. December 18 No House session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

Healey Buddy Bench helps create a 'Ripple of Kindness'

By Charles Lane

The Healey School tot lot has an exciting new addition, The Buddy Bench. Thanks to a donation from The Joseph Middlemiss Big Heart Foundation and Ms. Conley's facilitation of the process, students at the Healey School now have a beautiful resource to help them in fostering inclusion and friendships. Developed by a student named Christian, the Buddy Bench concept came from the

idea of a designated place where students could sit if they were looking for someone else to play with, and where other students could go to invite someone to play. Christian worked with his principal to make his idea a reality and now schools around the world have added Buddy Benches to playgrounds.

The Joseph Middlemiss Big Heart Foundation was established by the parents of Joseph Middlemiss to honor the memory and spirit of their son. After losing their son to a cardiac condition, Joseph's parents began a journey to honor their son by carrying out acts of kindness. Their journey eventually led to the establishment of The Joseph Middlemiss Big Heart Foundation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, to help them carry on "Joseph's legacy of love." The organization is dedicated to demonstrating the power of kindness through educational outreach,

random acts of kindness, and support for patients and families on the cardiac floor of Boston Children's Hospital.

Among the work that The Joseph Middlemiss Big Heart Foundation does is share what they've learned about the potential of kindness to change lives through "Creating a Ripple of Kindness" youth presentations. Earlier this month, Healey School students in Grades K-3 participated in a "Ripple of Kindness" presentation by Kate

Middlemiss, Joseph's mother, learning how a "kindness journey" can have a lasting impact and how the Buddy Bench helps in that journey. The presentation highlights the impact that individual choices can have on the larger community, and is designed to promote the core values of kindness, friendship, empathy, and inclusion. To learn more about The Joseph Middlemiss Big Heart Foundation, visit http://www.jmbigheart.org/.

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COMMENTARY

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Cities Produce 70% of World's Greenhouse Gases – So What are We Doing About It?



By Joseph A. Curtatone

The holidays are upon us, but it seems all anyone can talk about is the weather. Yes, it's unseasonably warm out there. The good news is it isn't due to some radical shift in global climate. Yet it does serve as a reminder that man made climate change is taking place and the effects will be far more profound than being able to wear a t-shirt when you head out for a run on Christmas day.

Sometimes people ask me why I pay so much attention to this issue. It's called global climate change, so what makes it a local concern? The simple answer is that what happens on a global scale affects us too. We will be affected by radical climate shifts, the same as every other place on earth. We may not be able to sway planetary forces due our actions as one small city, but our stake in this is no less than

anyone else's. If cities around the world don't work together to lessen the effects of global climate change, if people try to sit this one out at the local level, the results could be catastrophic.

Climate scientists have explained that the recent warm weather is not cause for panic because it is mostly due to the El Niño effect fed by warm waters in the Pacific Ocean. They predict El Niño will dissipate and we'll probably get our share of cold, snowy weather later in the winter. It's wreaking havoc in other places. Wildfires are scorching Indonesia and eastern Africa is suffering through a severe drought. Yet for us it's taking the form of a mild winter. So this is not any sort of tipping point for New England. However, as with other natural

weather phenomena like hurricanes, tornadoes and snow, global climate change can exacerbate these events, making them more severe. We don't need our climate amping up the intensity of our weather. Brutal winters and sweltering summers create risk for our residents and our local economy and put a burden on city budgets. We saw this as our local businesses and city coffers were hit hard by last winter's historic snowfall. Cities have enough on their plates without having freakish weather patterns become the new norm. These risks and costs put us on the frontline of this issue now – not in some distant future.

Cities generate 80% of the world's GDP, produce 70 percent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, and house more than 50% of the world's population. Collectively, what we do matters. It's why I signed onto the Mayor's National Climate Action Agenda, which now represents more than 27 million Americans, and the Compact of Mayors, which includes more than 430 cities around the world. It's why I talk about the importance of the recent U.N. climate agreement in Paris and President Obama's Clean Power

Our political right has made the crazy decision to oppose any and all efforts to combat climate change, as if somehow what happens to this planet does not affect them. They espouse scientific quackery and are trying to repeal the Clean Power Plan. This is why municipal leaders like myself need to stand up and be heard on this issue. Not only is clean power generation the

right thing to do, it means more domestic jobs and national energy security. You'd think everyone could get behind the notion of not being dependent upon authoritarian governments who just happen to be sitting on large reserves of liquefied dinosaur otherwise known as oil.

At the local level, we continue to work toward full carbon neutrality by 2050. By the end of 2017, we will have cut our 2011 municipal energy use by 20 percent. By 2030 we plan to have half of all trips taken in Somerville to be by transit, bike or foot. We're undertaking a greenhouse gas inventory and assessing our vulnerability to climate change. We're upgrading our street lights to more efficient LED bulbs, which will also save us money in the long-term.

We're adding electric vehicles to our municipal fleet. We're conducting energy efficiency assessments for local homeowners. We're looking to create 125 acres of new green space as part of our SomerVision community plan. This is a multifront effort here in Somerville.

Humans triggered climate change by pretending our actions have no consequences. We can't pretend that anymore, and willfully ignoring the problem only will make it worse. It is impacting the abundance and variety of life on this planet, plant and animal, on the land and in

We need to make conscientious decisions. How do we create a growing economy that incorporates sustainability? How do we bring innovation together with conservation to spur an energy revolution? A sustainable city isn't just good for our carbon footprint: it's a greener, healthier, smarter, and safer place to live. Along the way, we should take every step we can in the right direction.

I don't want to be looking at my kids in 20 years and trying to explain how I couldn't be bothered to take action when the alarm got sounded.

Cities and nations are joining together to tackle this problem. I'm proud to say our city is at the leading edge of that movement. We're going to do the best we can for the only planet we've got. Humans unintentionally set climate change in motion, now we need to make positive difference in stemming its tide. This is as local as an issue gets. It just happens to be a local issue everywhere else on the planet too.

Board of Aldermen tackle economic inequality



By Rand Wilson

After a spirited public hearing on December 10, the Somerville Board of Aldermen voted unanimously to support four bills before the state Legislature which in a small way would help to address the problems caused by rising income inequality.

Today we live in an increasingly unequal society. Inequality is greater now than it has been at any time in the last century, and the gaps in wages, income, and wealth are wider in the U.S. than they are in any other democratic and developed economy.

Between 1979 and 2007, the

real incomes of the richest 1 percent almost tripled, while the real incomes of regular households inched up only about 25 percent - and that was almost all due to an increase in labor force participation and hours worked.

Meanwhile, the richest 1 percent - some call them the Billionaire Class - owns about a third of the nation's wealth; and the top 5 percent claim over 60 percent. Their share has grown steadily over the last generation. And since the Great Recession, almost all of the gains of the recovery have flowed only to the richest Americans.

Among the world's wealthy countries, the U.S. ranks dead last on all of the relevant inequality measures. And our inequality is growing at a faster rate than that of any other major country.

We don't have to go far to

see these trends in Somerville, where billion dollar corporations like Federal Realty claim that they can't afford union wages and benefits, where developers only want to build luxury housing for the rich and where far too many business owners still engage in wage theft and job misclassifications to avoid paying fair wages or providing good benefits.

Good Jobs Somerville (a loose grouping of local labor and community activists) collected more than 200 signatures from residents urging the Board of Aldermen to hold a public hearing on inequality which was backed by a broad coalition of unions and community organizations.

Supporters included: The Immigrant Service Providers Group/Health, Building and Construction Trades Council of the Metropolitan District, New England Regional Council of Carpenters, Restaurant Opportunities Center, Somerville Community Corporation, Somerville Municipal Employees Association, SEIU Local 32BJ, SEIU Local 888, Tufts Labor Coalition, UFCW Local 1445, Heat and Frost Insulators Local 6, Welcome Project, and the Jewish Labor Committee.

Speakers at the hearing testified about the seriousness of the problem and in support of four state initiatives that would benefit our community:

Gina Garro, a teacher and MTA member, talked about the need for a new amendment to our state's constitution to create an additional tax of four percentage points on annual incomes above one million dollars. The new revenue from this "Millionaire's Tax" would be invested in quality public schools, affordable higher education, and improvements in

public transportation.

Sagar Tivari, a fast food worker at Dunkin Donuts, described how hard it was to live in Somerville on low pay. Sagar seeks passage of new living wage legislation for employees of big box retail and fast food companies so that people like him who work full-time for large, profitable corporations can earn a living wage of at least \$15 an hour.

Alex Galimberti, a Somerville restaurant worker and local leader of the Restaurant Opportunity Center (ROC), reaffirmed the city's previous commitment to the elimination of the subminimum wage for tipped workers. ROC is supporting legislation at the statehouse to end the subminimum wage and provide restaurant workers with the same hourly minimum wage as workers in all other industries in Massa-Continued on page 16

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



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

passed away at a young age from cancer. He was a good guy and will be missed by his many family members and friends and as well his brothers and sisters of the Somerville Fire Department.

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.

Those who might be interested in obtaining certification for firearms should look up the Lawrence Rod & Gun Club. They offer 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.

Remember, there will be no paper between Christmas and New Years. The Somerville Times will be taking the week off between holidays. The last paper of the year will be this one, Wednesday, December 23 (Christmas week) and will return on Wednesday, January 6, 2016. It's always a slow week for news and this gives our hard working staff a week off to enjoy with their family and friends. If anyone has any questions you can call the paper at 617 666-4010.

Word of the Week: Self-aggrandizing. The act of increasing one's own power, importance, etc., especially in an aggressive or ruthless manner. Increase of one's own power, wealth, etc., usually aggressively. Self-aggrandizement is defined as exaggerating one's own importance or power. An example of self-aggrandizement is a person stretching the truth about him or herself. Sound familiar?

This week the city will be on a differ-

ent schedule because of the Christmas holiday. On Thursday, Dec. 24 City offices will close at 2 p.m. and meters and resident parking enforcement will not be in effect after 2. On Friday, Dec. 25 we'll be closed all day with resident parking enforcement and meters not in effect. Trash and recycling collection will also be delayed one day, so if your normal trash day is Friday put everything out on Saturday. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of next week the city will be on a normal schedule.

The Somerville Public Library (MA) is offering free technology classes to help residents feel at home on the world wide web. Visit the city's website, http:// www.somervillema.gov/, to learn more about the types of instruction available. To register for a class or for questions, please contact Heidi Downing, Technology Librarian, at 617-623-5000 x2920,

or hdowning@minlib.net.

The Somerville Winter Farmers' Market is back at the Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave from 9:30 a.m.- 2 p.m., with an amazing selection of produce, meats, cheeses, fish, pastries, and lots more - all from local farms and businesses. It's free. Every Saturday December through March.

Reminder: Street sweeping is in effect until Dec. 31, unless otherwise announced. In the past it had to be called off early because of snow, but that doesn't look to be the case this year.

The 239th annual "Grand Union" flag-raising ceremony at Prospect Hill Park will be held on Thurs., Jan. 1, 2016 at 12 p.m. A processional led by a re-enactor portraying General George Washington on horseback will

leave from the City Hall Concourse at 11:30 a.m. As always, members of the public are invited to participate, and are encouraged to wear traditional colonial clothing. The afternoon's program will include songs, readings, and participants from the Ancient and Honorable Company (first chartered in 1638), as well as the Charlestown militia. This year's celebrations will once again include His Majesty's 10th Regiment of Foot, who will be representing the British Army and will be bringing a message from King George III. The American Legion Post 19 Honor Guard will lead a military salute as a commemorative flag is raised atop the Prospect Hill Tower.

CareWell Urgent Care will open a new urgent care center in Somerville, today, December 23, located at 349 Broadway. This marks CareWell's 15th location to open since 2012. The expansion is part of the company's commitment to better serve the growing need for convenient and accessible healthcare in New England. In addition to this continued commitment to improving community health, Care-Well will be offering free flu vaccinations at the new Somerville location from December 23 until January 31.



Wishing you a joyous holiday and 2016



Dennis Sullivan, Alderman at Large

Season's Greetings



State Representative Timothy J. Toomey Jr. (D) 26th Middlesex District

Ha Holi

Wedgwo & Co Insurance 19 College A



Happy Holidays

Wishing you a Happy New Year

from everyone at the

Ball Square Café

708 Broadway, Somerville



Merry Christm



The Norton Gro

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Green Cab



Wishes you a happy holiday season



Wishing Everyone a Happy Holiday



Maryann Heuston Ward 2 Alderman

the Ker Am

Salo

Colony Real Estate



1258 Broadway





Wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



Wishing all Somerville families a fun, safe, and joyful holiday season! From Lee Erica Palmer, School Committee-Elect, Ward 3, and her son Andrew Wishir Merr Ha

Cour Shann ppy days!

od-Crane nnolly Agency, inc.

Best wishes of the season



from State Representative **Denise Provost** Wishing You a Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year

From US2

Your Partners In Union Square



las!

3-6600

Merry Christmas Alderman At Large Jack Connolly

Season's Greetings



Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone

Best Wishes for Holiday Season from

ko Do 735 Broadway Somerville

al Niccoli

731 Broadway

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year



from Ward 3 Alderman **Bob McWatters**

g you and yours a Christmas and ppy New Year!



tney O'Keefe th nieces, on and Shayne





Alderman Mary Jo Rossetti and family wishes your family a very Happy and Healthy New Year

SPORTS

Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds at ESCS

By Tom Bannister

On Wednesday evening of last week, more than 100 students, and their parents/guardians participated in a Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds event at the East Somerville Community School.

The workshop was a collaborative effort by the district's Community Schools afterschool program, the Somerville Family Learning Collaborative (SFLC), and Somerville's Physical Education Program (PEP). The Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds

Ms. Cam's

events are a way to bring families together to showcase the great things their children are learning in afterschool clubs, to learn about healthy eating while enjoying a healthy meal, and to engage in a variety of fun physical activities including Parkour, Chess, Basketball and SPARK.

Families actively participate alongside their students in the various activities and are introduced to new ways to be physically active. Students who initially expressed hesita-



The Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds event at the East Somerville Community School provided participants with an array of exciting activities designed to strengthen the mind and body.

110 cellaneous #50

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

- 1. The North Pole, said to be Santa's home, is located in which ocean?
- 2. "And all the bells on earth shall ring, on Christmas day in the morning..." is from which Christmas carol?
- 3. In the UK it is traditionally believed that eating a what each day of the twelve days of Christmas brings happiness the following year?
- 4. What is the surname of the family in the 1989 film National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation?
- 5. Which southern central US state was the last to recognize Christmas as an official holiday?
- 6. In the song The Twelve Days Of Christmas, how many swans were a-swimming?

- 7. What brand was the first singing radio commercial, which aired in the US on Christmas Eve?
- 8. In 2004, the post office of which country gave away twenty million free scented stickers to make Christmas cards smell like fir trees, cinammon, gingerbread or honey wax?
- 9. "Nadolig Llawen" means Merry Christmas in which western European language?
- 10. What does the word Hanukkah mean?
- 11. What chant is traditionally sung during the lighting of the Menorah?
- 12. What are the gifts called that children traditionally receive, in remembrance of the coins made by the new Maccabee state?

Answers on page 23

tion about eating roasted vegetables or other healthy food items were willing to "try" them at the event, and some even returned for seconds!

Stay tuned for information

about future Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds events, and plan to join the fun.

Learn more about Somerville PEP and ways in which you and your family can stay healthy and active year-round at www.somerville.k12. ma.us/pep. The PEP program is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Toys For Tots at Faulkner Fuel



Faulkner Fuel on the corner of Cedar St. and Alpine St. is conducting their annual collection of TOYS FOR TOTS with the United States Marine Corps. The toys pictured here are just a few that were donated by The Somerville Municipal Workers Union and the Somerville Department Of Public Works. Special thanks and a "well done" goes out to them and Michael and Peter Dupuis, Annie DiBenedetto, Elaine Anderson and the gang at Faulkner Fuel.

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SHS Building Project Update – School Site Visits

Take your own virtual tours of Quincy High School and Essex Technical High School by accessing the site visit videos on the Somerville High School Building Committee website (www.somervillema.gov/highschool/). You'll find much more information about this exciting building project at that website. Stay up-to-date by visiting this site regularly.

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

Somerville 5th grader wins national poster contest

By Kinga Borondy

Students at Somerville's Argenziano School will be enjoying a 20-slot bicycle parking rack complete with a mileage tracking system this spring thanks to classmate 5th grader Caleb Piehl and his artwork.

Caleb Piehl won first place in the Saris National Bicycle Poster Contest; winning the local Massachusetts contest first and then the national competition with a colorful drawing of a boy enjoying his bike ride, under the hashtag #Long-For The Ride.

Grinning widely, Caleb Piehl lifted his arms in victory at a special assembly in his honor Wednesday, Dec. 16 in the school's cafeteria, as Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone praised his colorful winning entry and classmates from the 5th and 6th grades applauded.

"Color, color," Caleb said as he inspected his first place prize of a new Schwinn bicycle, a helmet and a bike light. He will attend the National Bike Summit in March in Washington, DC as part of the prize package. The Saris Hub, a tracking system that records riders' miles, will be installed later.

"I'm excited to be here," said Mayor Curtatone. "I know the importance of bicycling and staying active and healthy."

He said the city promotes active lifestyles and is in the process of ensuring Somerville is a bicycle-friendly community, one that actively promotes citizen health and wellbeing.

Argenziano School is one of the first

in the country to integrate bicycling into the physical education curriculum, said Principal Barbara O'Brien. Youngsters in the fifth grade have been learning to ride bicycles in gym class for almost a decade through the non-profit Cycle-Kids program with physical education teacher Kristi Savage and Somerville Police Officer Maryanne Manfra.

"I know how important it is to kids when they finally learn to ride the bicycle," said Ms. O'Brien. "There are days when kids burst into my office to announce: I did it! I rode the bike," she said.

Peter Sutton, bicycle and pedestrian safety coordinator for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and a Somerville resident attended the special assembly for Caleb. Argenziano School is also a partner of the state's Safe Routes to School program.

"Bicycling is the easiest, fastest, most enjoyable way to get around," he said after telling the crowd how easily he commutes between Winter Hill and his job in downtown Boston. "It takes me less than 25 minutes on my bicycle and sometimes as long as 45 minutes when I drive."

Mayor Curtatone, who promotes the livability of Somerville, believes every child who wants a bicycle should have one.

"We're so proud of Caleb and our entire school's efforts in the areas of wellness, physical activity and safe biking that is reflected in Caleb's poster," said Ms. O'Brien. "We are proud of the collaboration of our staff in this area as well as the quality of our art instruction."



Caleb celebrates after learning he won the Saris National Bicycle Poster Contest. His prize: a new Schwinn bicycle, a helmet and bike light. The prize for the school: a 20-rack bicycle parking system that can track users' mileage. Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone and Massachusetts Department of Transportation pedestrian and bicycle coordinator, admire the shiny silver bike.

Youth Arts Arise Program

The Youth Arts Arise registration for the winter 2016 program is now open! Youth Arts Arise is a free afterschool arts education project for students from ages 11 to 19. Participants can explore creativity in a wide range of artistic mediums and disciplines. Workshop themes encourage positive self-expression while exploring a multitude of cultures and traditions, embracing diversity while simultaneously working towards a better understanding of individual identity. The fall session dates are January 12th through March 23rd (except February 16-17). Workshops are Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3:30 to 5:00pm. Visit http://artsatthearmory.org/learn/youth-arts-arise to learn more or to download an application.

What's on Somerville **Neighborhood News**

Somerville Neighborhood News, a community service production of SCATV, brings you the latest Somerville headlines. One featured story is: City Offers East Somerville Business Boost.

After piloting the Small Business Technical Assistance Program in Union Square, Magoun Square, and Winter Hill last year, the City is implementing the program in East Somerville this year.



"Usually businesses have great ideas for how they want to improve their business but they don't have time to implement them because they are so tied up in the day to day running of the business. And this program brings in someone who is able to provide them the support they need to think through what the changes they want to make to the business are, "explained Ben Sommer, the Economic Development Assistant for the City of Somerville.

This program aims to support businesses that are already open, but can use some help developing a more professional approach to their retail shop, service or restaurant. Owners can be hesitant to admit they need help.

East Somerville Main Street Executive Director Teresa Vazquez Dodero knows local business owners and understands their concerns. "By taking part in this program you need to open up about your business practices, and perhaps admit that you are not doing so well," Vazquez Dodero told SNN, "Your business is almost like family and I'm almost like a friend of the family when I come along. It's one thing to have someone from the city that you don't know but it's a different one to have someone that you trust who tells you about this program."

For this full story and others, visit the website at www.somervilleneighborhoodnews.org.

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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 Planning Board on Thursday, January 7, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers on the Second Floor of Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

176-182 Broadway: (Case #PB 2013-16-E1-11/2015) Applicant Yihe Group and Owner S&V Realty Trust seek a time extension per SZO §5.3.10 for case PB 2013-16. The Special Permit with Site Review per SZO §5.2 was issued to construct a mixed use building of approx 29,000 nsf under §6.1.22.D.1. The uses include small and medium retail of approx 3,300 sf, 19 residential units per SZO §7.13.B, §7.13.C, & §7.13.E. A Special Permit was issued under SZO §5.1 to increase the number of compact parking spaces per SZO §9.13.b and modify the bicycle parking requirement per SZO §9.15.4. Article 13 Inclusionary Housing apply. CCD55 zone. Ward 1.

197 Washington St: (Case #PB 2015-11) Applicant, Nu Café Somerville, LLC & 197 Washington Street LLC, and Owner, 197 Washington Street LLC, seek a Special Permit with Site Plan Review to establish the Eating and Drinking Use (SZO §7.13.D) of approx. 3,760, a Special Permit for reduction in parking spaces (§9.17.2.A) and a revision to the original approval, Case PB 2014-01, that permitted the construction of two mixed use buildings of approx 46,305 nsf and approx 38,040 nsf under §6.1.22.D.1 and §6.1.22.D.2. The uses included small and medium retail of approx 6,000 sf, 65 residential units per SZO §7.13.B, §7.13.C, & §7.13.E. The approval also included a reduction in the number of parking spaces SZO 9.13.F and 9.17.2.A and a shared driveway and access and shared parking per SZO §9.17.2.B. CCD 55 zone. Ward 3.

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

Attest: Kevin Prior, Chairman To be published in The Somerville Times on 12/16/15 & 12/23/15.

12/16/15, 12/23/15 The Somerville Times

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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 6, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

230 Holland St: (Case #ZBA 2015-103) Applicant & Owner, Stefanos Stamides, seeks a special permit under SZO 9.13.a for modification of parking requirements in order to increase the number of seats in the restaurant. NB district. Ward 7.

378 Highland Ave: (Case #ZBA 2015-105) Applicant and Owner, Christos Poutahidis Management, LLC seek a SpecialPermit to change uses from a bakery to a fast food restaurant, and a special permit to modify

parking requirements NB Zone, Ward 6.

17 Banks St: (Case #ZBA 2015-107) Applicant, Seaver Construction, and Owner Carolina Philbrook, seek a Special Permit to modify a nonconforming structure, by rebuilding a home damage by fire. RA Zone,

898 Broadway: (Case #ZBA 2015-108) Applicant & Owner, Amanda Parisi, seeks a special permit to alter a nonconforming structure to add a dormer to and alter windows on a single-family house. RA zone.

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

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant

As published in The Somerville Times on 12/16/15 & 12/23/15.

12/16/15, 12/23/15 The Somerville Times

State of Rhode Island and **Providence Plantations** Office of the Clerk of the Family Court Providence, SC Case#: P2015-0744

WHEREAS, Fremio Orlando Celado Pena, of Providence in the County of Providence has filed a Complaint in said office demanding a divorce from Melissa Tejeda, PURSUANT TO R.I.G.L. 15-5-16.1, AND ALL OTHER RELIEF AS THIS COURT MAY DEEM JUST.

Now, therefore you the said DEFENDANT are hereby summoned to answer, if you shall see fit, before the Family Court, to be held at Providence, within the County of Providence, on the 14th day of January, 2016, then and there to answer said complaint. FAILURE TO APPREAR WILL RESULT IN DEFAULT AND DEFFENDANT WILL BE DE-NIED ALIMONY.

12/2/15, 12/9/15, 12/16/15, 12/23/15 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT **PUBLIC HEARING**

The Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning & Community Development (OSPCD) will hold a public hearing on Thursday January 14, 2016 on the 2016-2017 One Year Action Plan and to receive community input on priority needs related to affordable housing, community development, and homelessness for grants funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); the Community Development Block Grant Program, the Emergency Solutions Grant Program, and the HOME Program. The public hearing will be held at the Michael E. Capuano Early Childhood Center (150 Glen St. Somerville, MA 02145)

Accommodations for persons with disabilities are available. Requests for accommodations should be made by the close of business on Monday, January 11, 2016 by contacting Betsy Allen at 617-625-6600 x2323. Accommodations for non-English speaking or hearing impaired persons are available by contacting (OSPCD) at 617-625-6600 x2500; requests for accommodations should be made by the close of business on Monday, January 11, 2016. General questions about the hearing should be directed to the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) at 617-625-6600 x2500. Written comments must be submitted by February 16, 2016 @ 4:30 p.m., and should be sent to the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD), 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143 Attn: Elizabeth Twomey or email to OSPCD@somervillema.gov.

Joseph A. Curtatone

12/23/15 The Somerville Times

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Department** 208 Cambridge Street Cambridge, MA 02141

MIDDLESEX Division

Docket No. MI15D4168DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

Wellington Dasilva vs. Melissa Tolman

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party .SEE Supplemental Probate **Court Rule 411**

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Wellington Dasilva

85 Ten Hills Rd. Somerville, MNA 02145

your answer, if any on or before 01/21/2016. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

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

Date: December 10, 2015.

Tara E. De Christofaro Register of Probate

12/23/15 The Somerville Times

TO PLACE LEGAL ADVERTISMENTS IN THE SOMERVILLE TIMES CONTACT US BY 12 PM MONDAY PH: 617.666.4010 • FAX: 617.628.0422

Board of Aldermen tackle economic inequality **CONT. FROM PG 10**

Marya Axner, director of the Jewish Labor Committee and Alex Pirie, from Immigrant Service Providers talked about the need to pass new legislation for paid family and medical leave to ensure that workers are not forced to choose between work and the wellbeing of their children and other family members.

Numerous others from the community stood up to testify about how the high cost of housing, low wages, redevelopment and displacement, and skyrocketing health care costs was affecting them and their families.

Although State Senator Pat Jehlen, and Representatives Denise Provost and Christine Barber all spoke after the hearing in support of the bills, passing them at the state house (and winning more comprehensive changes at the local level) will require even broader unity between labor, community and faith-based organizations.

Somerville's Board of Aldermen took an important symbolic first step to support passage of the above state initiatives that, if passed, will improve working families' lives. And in doing so, the board acknowledged the significance of economic inequality and its corrosive impact on our community. Now the hard work must begin to win very specific municipal reforms so that our

city government can more aggressively use its power to make sure the wealth we create stays in our community and goes to where it's most needed - Somerville's hard-working families.

Rand Wilson is Communications and Policy Director for SEIU Local 888 and supporter of Good Jobs Somerville.

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

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

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

All clubs and groups welcome new members.

Holland Street: 167 Holland Street Monday through Friday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

617-625-6600 Ext. 2300

Cross Street Center: 165 Broadway
Tuesday & Wednesday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

(617) 625-6600 Ext. 2335

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

Cross Street Center – 165 Broadway –There are programs and services for YOU at our Cross Street Center we have low-cost, healthy, hot lunch program, English Conversation Practice, Creative Arts Programming, Multicultural Programming and Fit-4-Life exercise. Our English Conversation Practice Group meets every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 10:00 A.M. The Conversation continues through a healthy home-made lunch. For more information or to make a reservation for lunch please contact Janine Lottie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335. She will be happy to tell you about the group and other programs we have to offer at our Cross Street Center

De-Cluttering After the Holidays – Friday, January 8– from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. New Year, New You, start it off by attending our De-cluttering After the Holidays workshop. Tame your domain! Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to register.

Mind Full or Mindful? – Painting as a Tool for Stress Management and Wellness – Monday, January 11 – 10:00 at our Holland Street Center – This free workshop is back by popular demand. Please contact Janine Lotti at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to register or for additional information. Space is limited.

Luncheon at Highlander Café – in the High School Atrium. Tuesday, January 26 – \$10 includes chicken parmigiana or baked haddock lunch. Limited seating. Call Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to reserve your spot. Doors open at 10:45 A.M. Doors open at 10:45 a m

Planning for the Future – Tuesday, January 26 – From 5 to 7 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. Planning your life for the future is difficult. We will have a financial planner, an attorney as well as a funeral home professional present. Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to register.

Berklee College of Music Series – 5 dates. This is a free event. Outings to see the country's next big vocal, instrumental and theatre stars! Pre-registration is required. Very limited seating. Please call 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300 to reserve your spot. Monday, February 1 at 7:30 P.M.: Songwriting Faculty Concert; Monday, February 22 at 7:00 P.M.: Harp Extravaganza; Thursday, February 25 at 7:30 P.M.: Bass Department Student Concert; Thursday, March 10th at 7:30 P.M.: Eighth Annual Guitar Night: R&B / Funk Showcase; Monday, March 21 at 7:30 P.M.: Maggie Scott: Vocal Jazz Series.

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. Please note that the Fit-4-Life Walking & Talking Group is on hiatus until Spring Time. We will keep you posted. Please note that the Fit-4-Life Walking & Talking Group is on hiatus until Spring Time. We will keep you posted. The trip to Atlantic City scheduled for January 10, 11 & 12 of 2016 is SOLD OUT.

The trip to Culinary Arts at SHS scheduled for Tuesday, January 26 is BOOKED.

LGBT EVENTS:

LGBTQ Advisory Group –This group meets the 2nd Monday of every month excluding City Holidays and

snow emergencies. Our next meeting will be on Monday, January 11, 2016. We are looking for new members who would like to serve on the Advisory Group. Please call Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600, ext. 2316 or email at MBastardi@Somervillema.gov if you have any questions or if you should need additional information.

LBT Women Fit-4-Life - 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 Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

The Moonlighters – Meets every Monday at 10:30 A.M. and runs September through June. Led by Somerville Youth Arts Coordinator, Jimmy DelPonte, the Moonlighters are an older version of the SunSetters. If you like to sing then this group is for you. Sometimes taking their skills on the road. Contact our main office at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 if you should require additional information.

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

English Conversations – Meets every Tuesday & Thursday from 11:30 A.M. to 12:30 P. M. and 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. on Wednesday at our Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway. Janine Lotti, Senior Projects Manager and Sandy Francis, Cross Street Center Volunteer work together to facilitate this group. No books, no tests, no stress – just a great group of older adults from all over the world who help each other to listen, speak and learn English.*Please see "Upcoming Schedule" for possible time change.

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! For further info 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.

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

Current Events Group – Meets every Thursday from 10:00 to 11:00 A.M. Our Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Join a group of your peers to discuss current events. Please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 for info.

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. Become more active – make new friends – boost your brain power – feel healthier. For more information or to sign up please contact Chris Kowaleski our Health & Wellness Coordinator at 617-

625-6600 ext. 2315.

The award winning Fit-4-Life Program is NOW at our Cross Street Center – 165 Broadway – And there are still some open spots. A unique combination of exercise and nutritional support opportunity under the direct supervision of a certified exercise trainer and participate in individual and group counseling with a nutritionist. The cost to you is \$10.- a month that gives you access to fitness & nutritional Fit-4-Life classes each week. Limited scholarships are available – Need more information? Please contact Chris Kowaleski our Health & Wellness Coordinator at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315 or email him at CKowaleski@somervillema.gov This is for older adults 55+ Space is limited so sign up early.

Weekly Exercise Class Schedule

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

Mondays:

8:30 Walking / Talking Group (H) 8:30 Fit-4-Life Group C (H) 12:00 Nutrition Counseling with Mimi (H) 1:00 Fit-4-Life (H)

Tuesdays:

9:15 Strengthening - \$3 per class (H) 10:30 Fit-4-Life Cross Street* (C) 1:00 Dalcroze Eurhythmics - \$2.00 (H) 6:00 LBT Fit 4 Life (H)

Wednesdays:

8:45 Fit 4 Life* Group A (H) 9:00 Fit 4 Life* Group B (H) 12:00 Fit 4 Life* Group C (H) 5:15 Zumba for All - \$3 per class (H)

Thursdays:

9:00 Yoga (H) 9:30 Strengthening - \$3 per class (RJ) 10:30 Fit 4 Life (C) 6:00 LBT Fit 4 Life*

Fridays:

8:45 Fit 4 Life* Group A
9:55 Fit 4 Life* Group B
11:00 Nutrition Counseling with Mimi

*All Fit 4 Life classes are \$10/month and require pre-registration**If you are interested in our Yoga classes, please call Chris Kowaleski, our Health & Wellness Coordinator at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2315.

Upcoming Schedule

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

Wednesday December 23

No regular programming at all our centers 11:30 Lunch (H)

Thursday | December 24

No regular programming at all our centers ½ Day – City Holiday

Friday | December 25

All Centers ClosedCity Holiday

Monday | December 28

No regular programming at all our centers 11:30 Lunch (H)

Tuesday | December 29

No regular programming at all our centers 11:30 Lunch (H) Social Services Available

Wednesday | December 30

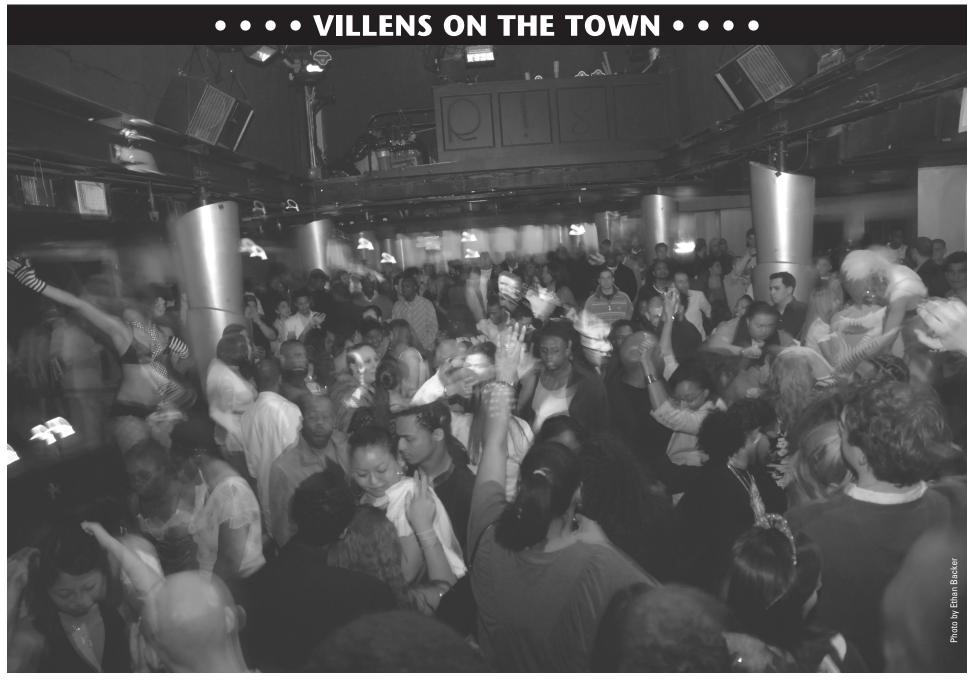
No regular programming at all our centers 11:30 Lunch (H) Social Services Available

DID YOU KNOW?

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

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





CHILDREN AND YOUTH Thursday December 24

Christmas Eve - Libraries Close at 1:00 p.m.

Friday December 25

Christmas Day - Libraries Closed

Saturday December 26

Day After Christmas - Libraries Closed

Tuesday December 29

Central Library

Open Mic Night for Kids and Adults

Kylie Mills-617-625-7578 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

MUSIC | ARTS Wednesday December 23

Johnny D's

Bar & Restaurant Closed for the

17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Free Poker, lots of prizes! 6 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room Exile on Elm

Back Room Comedy Night With Steve Ma-

cone 10 p.m.

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

Ed Driscoll Tim Mann Amanda Picciche Zion Rodman Kisslop Zack Cutler

Kevin McCourt 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

Highland Kitchen

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-

Joshua Tree Bar & Grill

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

Thunder Road

Bearly Dead - Wednesday Night Grateful Dead Residency 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Thursday December 24

Johnny D's

Restaurant and Bar Closed -Merry Christmas! 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

Merry Christmas 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room

Acoustic/Bluegrass|9:30 p.m. **Back Room**

Back Room Series

L80's night with Scattershot|10

247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

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

Dub Down Reggae 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Joshua Tree

256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave 617-718-

Somerville Theatre

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

Thunder Road

379 Somerville Ave

Friday December 25

Johnny D's

Restaurant and Bar Closed - Merry Christmas!

17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

Merry Christmas. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-

The Burren

3589

Happy Christmas! 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

345 Somerville Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

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

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

379 Somerville Ave

Saturday December 26

Johnny D's

Jazz Brunch Superhoney Reunion Show! 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

Patsy Hamel Band | 6 p.m. Little Red, Leir, Trick Wallace Trio|9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Backroom Series

Scattershot|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

Eric Gledhill Aligns

Doug MacDonald Band

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

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

the_Stampede Vinyl Release Show

7 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Sunday December 27

Johnny D's

Jazz Brunch

Open Blues Jam! featuring Dr Grant & The Medical Marijuana

17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Tom Hagerty Acoustic Band|6 p.m.

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room

Sunday Americana with Sean Staples, Eric Royer, Tim Gearan, Dave Westner and Dan Keller 7 p.m.

Back Room

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

Bull McCabe's Pub

Dub Apocalypse 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-

Highland Kitchen

Sunday Brunch Live Country & Bluegrass

Sunday Night Live Music 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

Game Night

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Samba Bar & Grille

Live Band & DJ 608 Somerville Ave|617-718-

Arts at the Armory

Cafe Rags

7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Thunder Road

Backchannels (Rock n' Roll) 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Monday December 28

Johnny D's

Johnny D's Comedy Showcase Presents: One Microphone

Stump! Pub Trivia 17 Holland St | 617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Shawn Carter's Cheapshots Comedy Jam |7 p.m.

Marley Mondays with The Duppy Conquerors 10 p.m.

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room

Bur-Run

Helena Delaney, Johnny O'Leary & Friends Irish Session|9 p.m. **Back Room**

Solas Nua Theatre 8 p.m. 247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

Americana Mondays 8 p.m.|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

The Murdock Manor Stripped Sets Monday Night Series 7:30 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Tuesday December 29

Johnny D's

Barry Crimmins - Silver Screens and Other Scenes

17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Kristen Ford with The Ben Burns Trio|7:30 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-

The Burren

3589

Front Room

Jason Anick and the Swingers Swing/Jazz|8:30 p.m.

Back Room

Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan|8

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-

Highland Kitchen

First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling Bee Night

hosted by Victor and Nicole of Egoart.

The fun starts at 10:00p.m. 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

PJ Ryan's

Pub Quiz

10 p.m.|239 Holland St.|617-625-8200

Thunder Road

Boston Blues Society Showcase feat. Eric Savoie And The Jeffrey Allen Shaw Band (Blues/Rock) 7 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Wednesday December 30

Johnny D's

Pre-New Year's Eve Bash w/ Toni Lynn Washington Band featuring special quests

17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Free Poker, lots of prizes! 6 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room

Exile on Elm

Back Room

Comedy Night With Steve Macone|10 p.m.

247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

Joe Skahan

Fiona Corinne

Jesse and The Hogg Brothers Taylor & Tiffany

Eamon White

Jon Menard 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

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

Thunder Road

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

CLASSES AND GROUPS Thursday December 24

Christmas Eve - Libraries Close at 1:00 p.m.

First Church Somerville

Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor).

For more info call: 781-762-6629

Friday December 25

Christmas Day - Libraries Closed

Saturday December 26

Day After Christmas - Libraries Closed

Arts at the Armory

Somerville Winter Farmers' 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 27

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.



Kennedy School Launches Makerspace/Innovation Lab

By Rebecca Danvers

The John F. Kennedy School launched the district's first Makerspace/Innovation Lab earlier this month, partnering with the Lesley University Graduate School of Education to re-design the school's Science Lab into a space and a program that supports Science education through hands-on creative learning opportunities that promote critical thinking. The

Kennedy Makerspace/Innovation Lab is designed to provide structure and support for Science and inquiry-based learning in a 21st century STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) environment, utilizing educational resources such as LittleBits, BeeBots, Scratch, Lego Simple Machines, and others. Students at all grade levels will learn through exploration and inquiry, working on a variety of projects to understand

the science behind products and resources familiar to them from the real world. The partnership with Lesley University includes ongoing coaching from trained Lesley faculty to co-design 21st century STEAM learning projects with Kennedy teachers during the spring. Read more about this exciting new learning space at http://www.lesley.edu/news/2015/12/lesley-collaborates-to-create-first-somerville-makerspace/.



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The Norton Group Cell: 781-367-7565 **Jeffrey Hughes** Office: 617-623-6600

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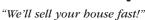
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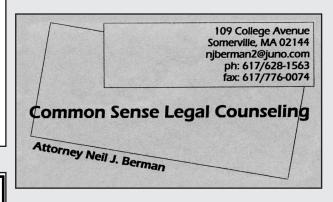
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Wednesday, December 23

Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

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Wednesday,	December 23	6:00pm	Color In Your Life	12:30pm	Color In Your Life	1:00pm	Visual Radio	
6:00am	Life Matters	6:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	1:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	2:00pm	The Literati Scene	
6:30am	Exercise With Robyn	7:00pm	Taking Back your Health (Live Call-in)	1:30pm	SCATV Bulletin Board	2:30pm	Hollywood Makeover Show	
7:00am	The Struggle	7:30pm	Let's Talk About Real Estate	2:00pm	Walter Ness Presents: Laughter Club	3:00pm	Exercise With Robyn	
7:30am	Somerville Neighborhood News	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (Live Call-in)	3:00pm	Telemagazine	3:30pm	MAPS	
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:30pm	Music Mania Television	4:00pm	The Somerville Line	4:00pm	Free Speech Television	
9:00am	Legacies	10:00pm	Throwback Thursday	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	5:00pm	Telegalaxie	
9:30am	All Things Victorian	11:00pm	Rare Groove Revolution	6:00pm	Chef's Table Series	6:00pm	Sci-Fi Journal	
10:00am	Color In Your Life	11:30pm	MAPS	7:00pm	JuPrey Promotions	7:00pm	Let's Talk About Somerville Real Estate	
10:30am	Rare Groove Revolution	Friday, De	cember 25	8:00pm	David Pakman (Free Speech TV)	7:30pm	Music Mania Television	
11:00am	Chef's Table Series	6:00pm	Fakkahar Speaks	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	8:00pm	The Somerville Line	
12:00pm	Free Speech TV	6:30pm	Healthy Hypnosis	10:00pm	Open Line News with Davey D	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade	
1:30pm	Physicians Focus	7:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	11:00pm	Gay News USA (Free Speech TV)			
2:00pm	SCATV Bulletin Board	7:30am	Hollywood Makeover Show	Sunday, D	ecember 27	10:00pm	Bate Papo com Shirley	
2:30pm	Road To Recovery	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:00am	Faith Show	11:00pm	Talking about Somerville	
3:00pm	The Literati Scene	9:00am	Walter Ness Presents:	6:30am	SCATV Bulletin Board	11:30pm	Dog House TV	
3:30pm	Health Is Wealth	10:00am	Somerville Pundits	7:00am	Nossa Gente's e Costumes	Tuesday,	December 29	
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	10:30am	SCATV Bulletin Board	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ	6:00am	Art At Scat	
5:00pm	Esoteric Science	11:00am	Color In Your Life	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	6:30am	Esoteric Science	
5:30pm	Fallon's Daily Toast	11:30am	All Things Victorian	10:00am	Fakkahar Speaks	7:00am	JuPrey Promotions	
6:00pm	Haitian Poetry	12:00pm	Free Speech TV	10:30am	International Church of God	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
7:00pm	Meet The Merchants	1:00pm	Health Is Wealth	11:00am	Chef's Table Series	9:00am	Chefs Table Series	
7:30pm	MAPS On TV	1:30pm	MAPS	12:00pm	Sci-fi Journal	10:00am	Eat Well Be Happy	
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	10:30am	Cooking With Georgia and Dez	
8:30pm	SCATV Bulletin Board	2:30pm	Taking Back Your Health	1:30pm	Let's Talk Real Estate!	11:00am	Hello Neighbor	
9:00pm	Bay State Biking News	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	2:00pm	Legacies	11:30am	Hollywood Makeover Show	
10:00pm	Walter Ness Presents	4:00pm	Gay USA (Free Speech TV)	2:30pm	Taking Back Your Health	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show	
11:00pm	Visual Radio	5:00pm	Reeling Review	3:00pm	JuPrey Promotions	1:00pm	Color In Your Life	
Thursday, De	ecember 24	5:30pm	SCATV Bulletin Board	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	1:30pm	Somerville Pundits	
6:00am	JuPrey Promotions	6:00pm	Let's Talk About Somerville Real Estate	5:00pm	Dead Air Live		Exercise With Robyn	
7:00am	The Struggle	6:30pm	Talking About Somerville	6:00pm	Abugida TV	2:00pm	,	
7:30am	SCATV Bulletin Board	8:00pm	Cinema Somerville Presents	7:00pm	African Television Network	2:30pm	Health Is Wealth	
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	Dog House TV	8:00pm	Telemagazine	3:00pm	Taking back your health	
9:00am	Esoteric Science	10:30pm	Fallon's Daily Toast	9:00pm	Cinema Somerville Presents	3:30pm	Physicians Focus	
9:30am	Somerville Pundits	11:00pm	Acronym TV (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	Dog House TV	4:00pm	Ring of Fire (Free Speech TV)	
10:00am	Dead Air Live	11:30pm	SCATV Bulletin Board	11:30pm	Rare Groove Revolution	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	
11:00am	Hollywood Makeover Show	Saturday,	December 26	Monday, I	December 28	5:30pm	The Literati Scene	
11:30am	Greater Somerville Live	6:00am	Life Matters	6:00am	Health Is Wealth	6:00pm	The Struggle	
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	6:30am	Eat Well Be Happy	6:30am	Fallon's Daily Toast	6:30pm	Music Mania Television	
1pm-3pm	SCATV Cooking Bloc	7:00am	Sci-Fi Journal	7:00pm	Healthy Hypnosis	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	
1:00pm	Chef's Table Series	8:00am	Physicians Focus	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:30pm	Greater Somerville	
2:00pm	Eat Well Be Happy	8:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	9:00am	The Stephanie Miller Show	8:00pm	Dead Air Live	
2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia and Dez	9:00am	Math With Matthew	10:00am	SCATV Bulletin Board	9:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:30am	Somerville Neighborhood News	10:30am	Somerville Neighborhood News	9:30pm	Maps	
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	11:00am	All Things Victorian	10:00pm	SCATV Bulletin Board	
5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	11:00am	Haitian Poetry	11:30am	Art At SCATV	10:30pm	Reeling the Review Show	
5:30pm	All Things Victorian	12:00pm	All Things Victorian	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show	11:00pm	The David Pakman Show (Free Speech TV)	
						'	, , ,	

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

			ZZ (Comcast	/ '	is (itely) self	Cuu	
Wednesd	ay, December 23	9:37pm	Raising Families	12:00pm	Multicultural Union Sq. Meeting - Kreyol	9:00am	Symphony Park Ribbon Cutting
9:00am	Voices of Somerville	10:04pm	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa	1:30pm	George Dilboy	9:15am	Voices of Somerville
9:30am	Illuminatinos Tour 2015	11:03pm	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	2:12pm	Congressional Update	9:43am	George Dilboy
12:00pm	School Committee Meeting – REPLAY	Friday. D	ecember 25	2:42pm	Square Flair	12:00pm	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa
3:00pm	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	12:00am	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	2:52pm	Inside Market Basket	1:00pm	Illuminations Tour 2015
3:30pm	Congressional Update	12:09am	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa	6:30pm	Multicultural Union Sq Meeting - Espanol	2:00pm	Talking Business
6:30pm	SomerViva em Português	1:08am	Illuminations Tour 2015	8:02pm	SomerViva en Español	2:36pm	Seriously Somerville w/ Jimmy Del Ponte
7:00pm	Congressional Update	2:08am	Moonlighters Christmas at VNA	8:30pm	Chamber of Commerce Breakfast	3:01pm	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas
7:30pm	Raising Families	2:36am	Congressional Update	9:41pm	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte		Multicultural Union Sq. Meeting - Português
8:00pm	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	3:06am	SomerViva em Português	10:06pm	Moonlighters Christmas at VNA	6:00pm	Multicultural Union Sq. Meeting - Kreyol
8:25pm	Illuminations Tour 2015	9:00am	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa	10:34pm	Illuminations Tour 2015	7:30pm	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa
9:24pm	Moonlighters Christmas at VNA	10:00am	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	Sunday,	December 27	8:30pm	Seriously Somerville w/ Jimmy Del Ponte
9:53pm	George Dilboy	12:00pm	George Dilboy	12:00am	Navigating Addiction: A Community Forum	8:55pm	Illuminations Tour 2015
10:35pm	SomerViva en Español	12:42pm	Moonlighters Christmas at VNA	2:18am	Somerville: Past & Present	9:54pm	Symphony Park Ribbon Cutting
Thursday, December 24		1:10pm	Illuminations Tour 2015	3:12am	Chamber of Commerce Dinner 2015	10:09pm	Espiritu Latino
12:00am	Illuminations Tour 2015	2:10pm	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa	9:00am	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa	Tuesday,	December 29
1:00am	Somerville and the First Telephone	3:10pm	SomerViva en Español	12:00pm	Senior Circuit	12:00am	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa
1:47am	Square Flair	3:32pm	Talking Business	12:30pml	Multicultural Union Sq. Meeting - Português	1:00am	Espiritu Latino
2:00am	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa	4:08pm	Seriously Somerville w/ Jimmy Del Ponte	2:00pm	Talking Business	1:49am	Congressional Update
3:00am	SomerViva en Español	6:30pm	Moonlighters Christmas at VNA	2:36pm	Raising Families	2:19am	Pity Party in Union Square
8:00am	Sit & Be Fit Allamerican Workout	7:00pm	Illuminations Tour 2015	3:02pm	Ames Historic Project - Family Interview	2:55am	Voices of Somerville
9:00am	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa	8:00pm	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa	7:00pm	Senior Circuit	9:00am	Raising Families
10:00am	Illuminations Tour 2015	9:00pm	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	7:30pm	Seriously Somerville w/ Jimmy Del Ponte	12:00pm	Senior Circuit
12:00pm	Moonlighters Christmas at VNA	9:09pm	Seriously Somerville w/ Jimmy Del Ponte	7:55pm	Raising Families	12:30pm	Raising Families
12:30pm	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	9:34pm	Illuminations Tour 2015	8:21pm	Talking Business	1:00pm	Moonlighters Christmas at VNA
12:39pm	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa	10:34pm	Talking Business		Multicultural Union Sq. Meeting - Português	1:30pm	ADA Presentation
1:38pm	Illuminations Tour 2015	Saturday	, December 26	10:30pm	Voices of Somerville	6:30pm	SomerViva em Português
2:38pm	George Dilboy	12:00am	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	Monday,	December 28	7:00pm	Senior Circuit
6:30pm	Moonlighters Christmas at VNA	12:09am	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa	12:00am	Senior Circuit	7:30pm	Talking Business
7:00pm	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa	1:08am	Moonlighters Christmas at VNA	12:30am	ADA Presentation	8:06pm	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas
8:00pm	Illuminations Tour 2015	1:36am	Illuminations Tour 2015	2:51am	Symphony Park Ribbon Cutting	8:15pm	Symphony Park Ribbon Cutting
9:00pm	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	2:36am	Voices of Somerville	3:06am	Multicultural Union Sq Meeting - Espanol	8:30pm	Inside Market Basket
9:09pm	Moonlighters Christmas at VNA	9:00am	George Dilboy	8:30am	Moonlighters Christmas at VNA	9:22pm	Chamber of Commerce Dinner 2015
						10:36pm	Square Flair

Educational TV 15 Schedule

1:30pm

Brown School Winter Concert

9:00am

All City Middle School Winter Concert

Friday, December 25

9:00am El Sistema Concert - Community in Harmony		12:00am	WHCS Winter Concert	3:00pm SHS Winter Concert		10:15amEl Sistema Concert - Community in Harmony	
10:00am	WSNS Winter Concert	1:00am	All City Middle School Winter Concert	6:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Boston English	12:00pm	SHS Winter Concert
11:00am	WHCS Winter Concert	2:30am	WSNS Winter Concert	8:00pm	Grooversity Festival 2015	3:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Hampshire Reg.
12:00pm	SHS Winter Concert	3:30am	Public Domain Theater	10:00pm	Kennedy School Drama Club	5:00pm	SHS Girls' Basketball v Medford
	3:00pm El Sistema Concert - Community in Harmony		WSNS Winter Concert	Sunday, December 27		7:00pmSHS Girls Basketball Highlander Hoopfest Rd. 1	
4:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Matignon	10:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Boston English	12:00am	Brown School Winter Concert	10:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Hampshire Reg.
6:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Boston English	12:00pm	SHS Girls' Basketball v Medford	1:30am	SHS Winter Concert	Tuesday, December 29	
10:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Boston English	2:00pm	WSNS Winter Concert	4:00am	SHS Girls' Basketball v Medford	12:00am	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest Rd. 1
Thursday.	Thursday, December 24		SHS Winter Concert	9:00am	SHS Hockey vs Matignon	2:00am	SHS Boys Basketball vs Hampshire Reg.
12:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Boston English	6:00pm	WSNS Winter Concert	11:00am	SHS Girls' Basketball v Medford	5:30am	Public Domain Theater
9:00am	SHS Winter Concert	7:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Boston English	1:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Boston English	9:00am	Grooversity Festival 2015
12:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Matignon	9:00pm	SHS Girls' Basketball v Medford	3:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v S. Boston	11:00am	Kennedy School Drama Club
2:00pm	WHCS Winter Concert	11:00pm	WSNS Winter Concert	5:00pm	Kennedy School Drama Club	12:30pm	Raising Families - Diversity
3:00pm	· '		Saturday, December 26		SHS Hockey vs Matignon	1:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Hampshire Reg.
4:30pm	WSNS Winter Concert	12:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v S. Boston	8:00pm	SHS Girls' Basketball v Medford	3:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball Hoopfest Rd. 2
	5:30pm El Sistema Concert - Community in Harmony		Public Domain Theater	10:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Boston English	5:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest Rd. 1
		9:00am	Grooversity Festival 2015	Monday, December 28		7:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball Hoopfest Rd. 2
7:00pm	SHS Winter Concert	11:00am	Kennedy School Drama Club	12:00am	Kennedy School Drama Club	10:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball Hoopfest Rd. 2
10:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Matignon	12:30pmEl	Sistema Concert - Community in Harmony	1:30am	SHS Boys Basketball v S. Boston	12:00am	SHS Girls Basketball Hoopfest Rd. 2
1 '	, 3	·	,		•	2:00am	SHS Hockey vs Matignon

I run into Steve Swensen quite often when I head to my makeshift office in the back of the Bloc 11 Cafe. Swensen is a retired Somerville High School English teacher, and boasts that he has spent his 39 year teaching career in these immediate environs. He shares this poem with us.

A Homeless Politician

hungry teeth perfectly capped

leonine hair nicely coiffed

both hands out--always.

hugging bottles -- kissing babies

caressing pigeons-- campaign rhetoric

eyes that deceive.

promises broken--handshakes gone limp

ideas--ideals out of focus

I can, I will, becomes

I can't.

I won't.

- Steve Swensen

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

From on page 14 Ms. Cam's 1. The Arctic Ocean 8. Germany

- 2. I Saw Three Ships
- 3. Mince pie
- 4. Griswold
- 5. Oklahoma

7. Wheaties

- 6. Seven

9. Welsh

10. Re-dedication – referring to the Second Temple reclaimed by the Macca-

- 11. Hanerot Hallalu
- 12. Gelt

by Doug Holder

'Trumbo'

A film review by William Falcetano

Somerville resident William Falcetano chimes in with his occasional movie review for Off the Shelf:

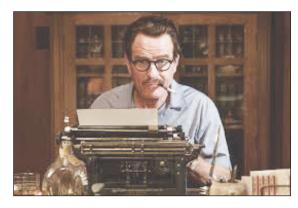
Our fate, whether we like it or not, is that the cinema has become our history textbook. It is from movies that people learn about the Holocaust, President Kennedy's assassination, Iwo Jima. Film can be propaganda or education; and as in education the student must carefully select the teacher. In the case of Jay Roach's tribute film to Dalton Trumbo we have an example of how the cinema can be both educator and entertainer.

Mr. Roach pits against each other two powerful performers - Bryan Cranston, whose Walter White of Breaking Bad and whose portrayal of President Johnson on Broadway has catapulted him into the stratosphere of stars, and Dame Helen Mirren, who has spent her whole career in that elevated rank of best actors. These strong-willed figures engage in a titanic, high-stakes struggle full of mutual loathing that forms the central dramatic axis of this moveable feast of a film. Both characters - the screen writer Dalton Trumbo and his nemesis the Hollywood gossip columnist Hedda Hopper – are so finely accoutered, so impeccably dressed, and so authentically turned out that you would think you were thrust back into the post war world of the late 1940s by some sort of virtual reality machine. These ultra-real touches are set side by side with actual black-and-white footage from the era, depicting people in newsreels or in film. But Mr. Roach goes one further and includes "rusticated" versions of his own faux-authentic film. At the very end of the movie the audience is given a chance to judge the faithfulness of Mr. Cranston's Dalton Trumbo when footage of the actual Mr. Trumbo appears.

What we remember today as "the McCarthy era" was a kind of miasma of fear and paranoia that spread through the country. Hardly anyone was untouched by it; even those who acquitted themselves well for a time, such as the great Edward G. Robinson, wavered, buckled under the pressure, or cooperated with the witch hunt to give up information ("I only gave them what they already knew", Robinson, played by Michael Stuhlbarg, protests).

When we meet Dalton Trumbo he is at the height of his career on a stage set with Edward G. Robinson, who is playing a gangster, holding a revolver in a period-perfect film noir stage set - this is a movie about movie-making. Trumbo signs a contract with Louis B. Mayer (Richard Portnow), head of Metro-Goldwin-Mayer Studios, for a record sum - he is the best paid writer in Hollywood. But the right-wing gossip monger Hedda Hopper is playing hard ball; she corners the legendary movie producer in his office; sitting on the couch where he once tried to seduce her (he failed), she threatens him into breaking his contract with Trumbo (he does). An audible gasp went up from the audience when Mirren delivers an ethnic slur like a punch below the belt. She is Evil personified decked out in kid gloves and elegant millenary.

Then it all falls apart, as other actors, led by John "Duke" Wayne, played with convincing heft by David James Elliot, Ronald "Dutch" Reagan, and Robert Taylor, form a committee of their own to uphold "American ideals." Reagan and Taylor are



seen giving testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee. Trumbo is imprisoned, as one of "the Hollywood Ten", for contempt of congress; after he is released, he cannot find work – he's been blacklisted. ("What's your position on the blacklist?" a reporter asks - "on it" was his terse and witty reply.)

The next part of the film depicts Mr. Trumbo's slow, arduous ascent from this low point in the 1950s to the rehabilitation of his reputation - and his career - in the 1960s, ending with his acceptance speech in 1970, when he receives a lifetime achievement award from the Screen Writers Guild. Mr. Cranston brings out the true grit and calm toughness of Dalton Trumbo - who not only served time in prison for his ideals, he clawed his way back into the game script by script, revising the work of hacks, and writing his own screenplays for the mercenary B movie mogul Frank King, played with gruffness and gleeful corpulence by John Goodman. One of these scripts - The Brave One - wins the academy award for "best story", only to be received by a representative of the Screen Writers Guild on behalf of the fictional "Robert Rich", pseudonym for Dalton Trumbo, who watches the festivities on TV surrounded by his cheering family.

It was his family that gave him heart through this trial by fire, and it was his family that pulled together to keep the secret machine running smoothly to pay the bills. Dalton's daughter Nikola Trumbo, played by Elle Fannnig, was a consultant on the film. She ends up taking on her father's toughness and his ideals after the obligatory adolescent struggle. Trumbo's wife Cleo is played by the amazing Diane Lane who portrays the loyal 1950s wife with a twist by standing up to her husband when his tyrannical quest not to be beaten by "them" turns him into a bully. The courage to stand up to bullies is what this movie is all about.

The big breakthrough comes when the great director Otto Preminger (played by a bald Christian Berkel) bucks the system and credits Dalton Trumbo for the screenplay for Exodus; then Kirk Douglas (played here with uncanny resemblance by Dean O'Gorman) credits Trumbo with the block-buster Spartacus, the sword and sandal epic starring Douglas as the slave-turned-revolutionary, and Lawrence Olivier, who appears in a scene from the film in bad Roman drag. Trumbo is a film about films and the business of movie-making, in which writers write about writers, and vindicate a noble craft along with one of the martyrs of that profession who stood up for the ideals of free expression/association. Against him were powerful and popular figures such as John Wayne, Ronald Reagan, and Hedda Hopper, who wrapped themselves in the flag in the name of "American ideals."

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