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# Holiday Crafts Fair at Somerville High School



Early holiday gift shoppers were delighted by the selection of fine handcrafted wares at the 23rd annual Craft Fair held at SHS this Saturday. Turn to pages 12–13 for more photos of the Fair.

Photo by Claudia Ferro

# Somerville tax rate lowered

By Jim Clark

According to an announcement by the city, Somerville property owners are in for some good news regarding their tax bills.

It was recently announced that real estate values in Somerville are climbing, but tax bills will hold relatively steady in fiscal year 2014 (FY14) with a decline in tax bills for some and only modest increases for most, thanks to unprecedented gains in new growth fueled mainly by new development in Assembly Square.

The announcement went on to say that the residential tax rate will decrease 5.7 percent in FY2014 from \$13.42 per thousand dollars of property value to \$12.66 per thousand, and the commercial rate will be lowered 3.9 percent from \$22.38 per thousand to \$21.51. At the same time, an unprecedented shift in the tax burden from residential to commercial property owners will take effect. The share of total taxes paid by residential property owners will decrease 3 percent, more than three times the decrease in any previous year.

“We have never seen anything like this before. This is a truly historical shift, and the slightest shift of the tax burden can have a dramatic impact when you are dealing

Continued on page 5

# Resident seeks clemency for pet

## Local dog ruled dangerous, ordered euthanized

By Elizabeth Sheeran

The fate of a six-year-old bull mastiff named Rocco is now in the hands of Somerville District Court, following a Halloween night incident that put a local man in the hospital.

According to police, the Somerville resident was walking his four-year-old German shepherd on Calvin Street around 7:30 p.m. on October 31, when Rocco bolted from the doorway of his home at 38 Calvin, attacking the shepherd and then the owner when he attempted to intervene.

The dog suffered multiple injuries and needed veterinary care. The man suffered severe bites on both hands and spent five nights at Cambridge City Hospital, where he underwent surgery to repair the damage.

As required by law, the hospital notified Somerville Animal Control Officer April Terrio, who initially ordered the dog to remain under home quarantine with his owner Rose Walsh. On Monday, November 4,

Continued on page 3



The fate of Rocco rests with the courts, as his owner and supporters plead for leniency and others call for the animal's destruction.

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Well, the big turkey day is over and everyone should be rested up now to head out and do your Christmas shopping, and we're hoping you shop locally here in the city and support our local retailers and shops. 21 days until Christmas. Are you excited?

\*\*\*\*\*

The City's annual Christmas Tree and Menorah Lighting Ceremony will take place tomorrow, Thursday, Dec. 5, at 5:30 p.m. on the City Hall Concourse, followed by a meet and greet with Santa Claus in the Somerville High School Highlander Café (atrium entrance). The tree lighting ceremony will feature musical entertainment by the Somerville High School Band and Orchestra, the Somerville Community Chorus, El Sistema Somerville, and grade four students from the Arthur D. Healey Elementary School. Special guest Santa Claus will be escorted by the Somerville Fire Department for the ceremony and will be available for photos following the tree lighting. All children attending the ceremony will also receive a gift from Santa. The menorah was first lit on Wednesday, Nov. 26, on the first day of Hannukah, tomorrow night, a brief ceremony will mark the end of Hannukah.

\*\*\*\*\*

Thursday, the 5th, join the Chamber's special holiday Business After Hours get together. This month it will be at the Center for the Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland, beginning at 5 and going until 7 p.m. Free appetizers, excellent networking; free business card drawing, and a cash bar. Guests are welcome to bring unwrapped Toys for Local Children, sponsored by Bonney Automotive and the Law Offices of Isaac M. Machado. Hosted by Dana Iacopucci of Cubby Oil and Energy. RSVP with name(s), affiliation(s), and number of guest(s) to [smackey@somervillechamber.org](mailto:smackey@somervillechamber.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

Happy Birthday this week here and elsewhere around the Ville. To Peter Forcellese, a great guy and wiz at the computer and still very much a part of Somerville, we wish Happy Birthday. Then there is good friend and local union guy Peter Blaikie, a good guy and with many hats, all good right here in Winter Hill. We salute him on his day. For one of the nicest and constantly good humored

*Continued on page 11*

## TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

### Response to Casino Countdown

Ron Newman says:

If this is built, Somerville should demand a pedestrian/bike bridge from the new Assembly Square station across the Mystic River. That would help both cities, and would encourage people to arrive at the casino by Orange Line rather than by car. It would link Somerville to the new Bike To The Sea path, and would also improve access to the Costco-Target shopping center on the Everett side.

F.Charles says:

Just curious, but did the Mayor of Somerville supply the City of Medford, the City of Everett, the City of Boston with money to conduct independent studies to determine how his new development at Assembly Square would affect them.

JMB says:

Ron, I think that is the only thing I've ever agreed with you on. Can we just make it over the Amelia Earhart Dam?

Somerbreeze says:

Ron, good suggestion, but how many patrons of an Everett casino are going to go there by SUBWAY?  
The horse—or car, in this case—is already out of the barn....

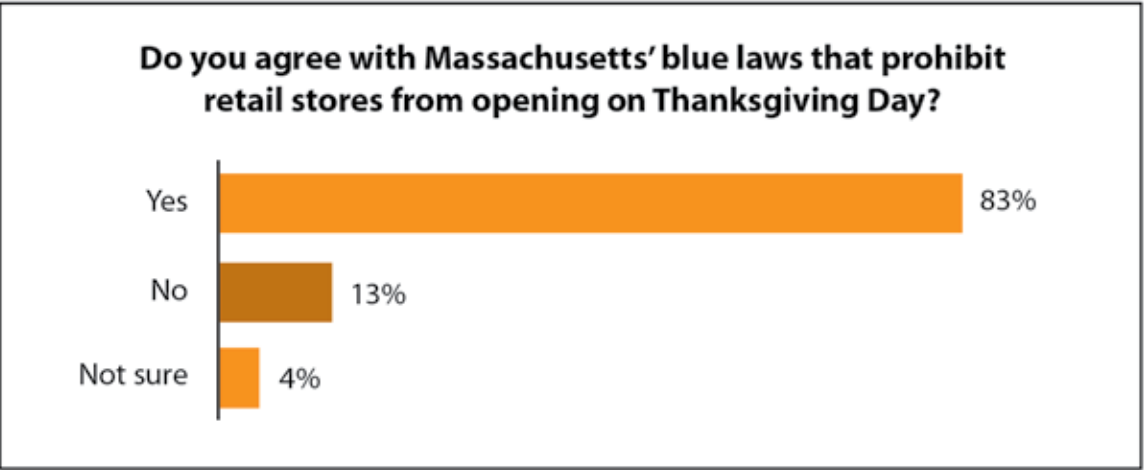
Ron Newman says:

They'll go by subway if the access is made easier by T than it is by car. And meanwhile, such a connection will increase use of the Assembly Square station and give Somerville access to a new path leading all the way to Lynn-Nahant Beach.

*Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments*

## TheSomervilleTimes.com poll of the week

In addition to breaking news, sports and opinion, TheSomervilleTimes.com also features a daily poll in which you, the reader, tell us where you come down on local issues. Last week's poll concerned your views on whether or not you agree with Massachusetts' blue laws that prohibit retail stores from opening on Thanksgiving Day. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com.





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# City asks locals to share the wealth

## Online fundraiser for Mobile Farmers Market

By Elizabeth Sheeran

Most Americans sat down last week to celebrate life in a land of plenty, with a holiday that usually involves so much food we think of leftovers as part of the tradition. But a growing number of locals are having a harder time putting any kind of meal on the table these days. And healthy food choices are even tougher to come by.

Now city officials are hoping to tap into the holiday spirit during this season of giving, by launching an online fundraising campaign to help low-income residents buy fresh produce from Somerville's Mobile Farmers Market.

"We're really hoping that residents will give this holiday season to help their neighbors provide nutritious food for their families," said David Hudson, director of Shape Up Somerville, which runs the Mobile Farmers Market program.

The mobile market truck brings affordable fruits and vegetables to senior center and housing development parking lots,

to people who don't always have access to healthy fresh food because of cost and transportation challenges. A matching funds program has helped the neediest shoppers stretch their produce budget even further, by cutting prices in half for residents who qualify for federal food assistance or low-income housing.

Mobile Farmers Market sales have nearly doubled since the program started just two years ago, and an increasing share of this year's sales went to shoppers eligible for matching funds. But a \$5,000 matching funds grant from the Walmart Foundation was used up by September this year, and the subsidies can't come out of the city budget, so Shape Up Somerville is asking citizens to chip in for the cause.

Residents can donate online at [Citizinvestor.com](http://Citizinvestor.com), a so-called crowd-funding website dedicated to raising money for specific projects sponsored by municipalities. Hudson said the city holiday fundraiser gives Somerville residents a way to directly help people in their own community. "This really is local



Locals are being asked to pitch in to help keep the Mobile Farmer's Market rolling.

giving," said Hudson. "The kid whose dad can bring home more carrots, apples, peas and greens from the market because of matching funds just may be the student who sits next to your own child in school."

Over 70 percent of Somerville public school students qualify for subsidized meal programs. And life just got harder for many residents last month, since the federal food assistance benefits commonly known as food stamps were cut abruptly when a boost from the 2009 federal stimulus program came to an end.

Because of the way Citizinvestor

works, the Mobile Farmer's Market has to reach a minimum goal of just over \$3,000 in online donor commitments before any money actually goes to the project. If the campaign doesn't hit that target by its January 19 deadline, contributions are never charged to donor credit cards. The project was two thirds of the way there by the start of this week, with more than \$2,000 in pledges from 49 "citizinvestors." And sponsors really hope to raise the \$5,000 or more needed to keep matching funds going through next summer.

Mayor Joseph Curtatone, who

said he plans to make a personal donation to the campaign, said the popularity of the mobile market shows that local families of all backgrounds are focusing more on nutrition. "But it is also an indicator of real need," said the mayor. "This community has a history of coming together to support shared goals and I'm sure we can count on Somervillians to help other Somervillians and ensure this vital program continues."

Tax-deductible contributions can be made at [www.citizinvestor.com/project/somerville-mobile-farmers-market](http://www.citizinvestor.com/project/somerville-mobile-farmers-market).



## Resident seeks clemency for pet

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Terrio forwarded her report to Somerville police with a petition for a public hearing and a recommendation that the dog be euthanized under Massachusetts state laws governing dangerous dogs.

Rocco, who according to Deputy Police Chief Michael Cabral was not licensed with the City of Somerville, was removed from Walsh's home and quarantined at the city kennel.

Somerville Police Captain James Donovan presided over a public hearing on the morning of November 14, where he heard testimony from over a dozen people, including the victim. Several people spoke on behalf of Rocco and his owner Walsh, who adopted the 109-pound male mastiff nine months ago from a friend in East Boston.

Following the hearing, Don-

ovan found that Rocco is a "dangerous dog" under Chapter 140, Section 157 of Massachusetts state law, based on the "viciousness and unprovoked nature of the attack."

The law does state that a dog won't be deemed dangerous if it was defending itself or its home, and if "the dog's reaction was not grossly disproportionate." But Cabral said the finding in this case took into account both the severity of the attack and the fact that Rocco left his owner's residence to attack another dog and its owner on a public street.

As allowed under the law, Donovan ordered that Rocco be humanely euthanized, which he concluded was "the only means of protecting the public." Walsh has since appealed that decision to the Somerville District Court,

which will review the case and decide whether or not to affirm the euthanasia order.

Rocco's case has generated strong emotions on both sides. An online petition to spare Rocco and give him a second chance had generated over 3,000 digital signatures by last Tuesday, including many signers from outside Somerville and even out-of-state. The petition stated that Rocco is an otherwise gentle dog who has never bitten before, and outlines steps that Walsh is willing to take to control and rehabilitate him.

But others say the severity of the bites in this attack point to a lack of what the Association of Pet Dog Trainers refers to as "bite inhibition." Local dog trainer Melissa McCue McGrath in her blog MuttStuff

noted that "this would have undoubtedly been a more tragic case" if the victim had not been an adult male accompanied by a full-grown German shepherd.

The online petition stated that Rocco was scheduled to be euthanized on December 9, but both Deputy Chief Cabral and Ani-

mal Control Officer Terrio said they are not aware of any such date having been set. Cabral said it's up to Somerville District Court to determine when the case will be reviewed.

In the meantime, Rocco will remain at the city kennel, awaiting his fate.

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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

## Alleged heroin dealer put out of business

Somerville Police undercover narcotics officers, while conducting surveillance operations in the Winter Hill area last week, whereupon they spotted what they regarded as suspicious activity on the part of two individuals, identified as Charles Ryan, 38, of Roxbury, and Nicholas Cunha, 34, of Charlestown. Ryan was reportedly known by the officers as having an active case against him on charges of distribution of heroin. According to reports, Ryan and Cunha were observed walking along the streets of the area, and at one point met up with the

occupants of a car and a hand exchange was reportedly performed by Ryan and the driver of the car. Ryan and Cunha then reportedly walked to another location where a waiting vehicle picked them up. A rolling surveillance was maintained by police. The vehicle in question reportedly made a number of stops in the area, with Ryan and Cunha often exiting the vehicle and entering then quickly exiting several places of business. While at a restaurant on Mystic Ave., police observed Ryan and Cunha enter the establish-

ment and at that time police stopped the suspect vehicle, at which time both Ryan and Cunha began to run from the restaurant down Mystic Ave., police said. Ignoring police commands to stop, Ryan reportedly continued to run, but was taken down by officers. According to reports, Ryan discarded four men's watches as he was apprehended. Officers reported that they found \$968 in cash on Ryan's person. Ryan reportedly offered conflicting explanations to officers as to the origin of the money. Cunha was eventually spotted

walking along Mystic Ave. and was apprehended by police and brought back to the scene of the initial confrontation. A search of the suspect's vehicle reportedly yielded several hypodermis syringes/needles. One syringe found in a backpack reportedly contained what was believed to be liquefied heroin. According to reports, Cunha admitted that the backpack belonged to him. After questioning several individuals involved in the observed incidents, police learned that Ryan was allegedly distributing heroin to various

customers in the area. One involved individual reportedly told police that the suspect's car had a secret compartment where drugs were kept. After conducting a search, 11 small plastic bags of what was believed to be heroin were retrieved. Cunha was placed under arrest and charged with being present where heroin is kept and conspiracy to violate drug law. Ryan was likewise placed under arrest, charged with conspiracy to violate drug law, drug violation near a school, and drug possession to distribute.

## Wrong way driver took it too far

Police officers patrolling Temple St. last Friday night noticed several people milling around in the middle of the street arguing among themselves. Upon questioning witnesses, police determined that a man, identified as Cory Bloom, 25, of Mattapan, along with some

other individuals, had been arguing with and intimidating the apparent victim of a traffic accident involving Mr. Bloom, according to reports. The alleged victim said that her car had been hit by Bloom's car as he backed up along the street in an attempt to reach a

parking spot. The alleged victim reportedly further stated that she had sounded her horn as Bloom's vehicle approached hers, but he continued to back into her vehicle. The officers on the scene requested the license and reg-

istration of both parties, but Bloom reportedly could not produce his. The officers reportedly felt that Bloom was intoxicated and asked him to perform some field sobriety tests, to which he agreed. The officers deemed Bloom

to be intoxicated while driving and placed him under arrest, charging him with operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon, and operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor.

## Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210

### SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

**Dale Harding**, 26, of 6 Myrtle St., November 25, 8:10 a.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of witness intimidation, carrying a firearm with ammunition, discharging a firearm, destruction of property over \$250, possession of a firearm without a FID card, assault with a dangerous weapon, and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.  
**Ronilson Vieira**, 47, of 1191 Locust St., Woburn, November 26, 9:00 a.m., arrested at 345 Somerville Ave. on a warrant charge of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.  
**Terry Smith**, 34, of 312 Broadway, November 27, 3:31 p.m., arrested at 406 Mystic Ave. on a warrant charge of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.  
**Nicholas Cunha**, 34, of 427 Bunker Hill St., Charlestown, November 27, 3:31 p.m., ar-

rested at 406 Mystic Ave. on charges of being present where heroin is kept and conspiracy to violate drug law.  
**Charles Ryan**, 38, of 9 Notre Dame St., Roxbury, November 27, 3:31 p.m., arrested at 406 Mystic Ave. on charges of conspiracy to violate drug law, drug violation near a school, and drug possession to distribute.  
**Daniel Traina**, 27, of 39 High St., Revere, November 29, 1:04 a.m., arrested at 77 Middlesex Ave. on a warrant charge of larceny over \$250.  
**Cory Bloom**, 25, of 114 Wellington Hill St., Mattapan, November 29, 10:28 p.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon, and operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor.  
**Kokumo Ogunwumi**, 59, of

1374 Broadway, November 30, 10:14 p.m., arrested at home on a charge of assault and battery.  
**Kurt Etienne**, 39, of 75 Cross St., November 30, 10:43 p.m., arrested at Broadway on warrant charges of not in possession of license, unregistered motor vehicle, and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.  
**Daniel Ryan**, 48, December 1, 11:18 a.m., arrested at 14 McGrath Hwy. on warrant charges of disorderly conduct and trespassing.  
**Incidents:**  
**Theft:**  
November 25, 9:03 p.m., police reported a theft at 145 Elm St.  
November 26, 12:11 p.m., police reported a theft at Mead St.  
November 26, 12:20 p.m., police reported a theft at Pau-

lina St.  
November 27, 1:59 p.m., police reported a theft at Pearl St.  
November 29, 1:29 p.m., police reported a theft at 91 Highland Ave.  
November 29, 4:58 p.m., police reported a theft at Broadway.  
November 30, 4:46 p.m., police reported a theft at 338 Broadway.  
November 30, 5:06 p.m., police reported a theft at 105 Middlesex Ave.  
**Robbery:**  
November 29, 9:02 a.m., police reported a robbery at 338 Broadway.  
**Breaking & Entering:**  
December 1, 1:20 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Beacon St.  
December 1, 6:21 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Princeton St.  
**Vehicle Theft:**

November 25, 7:46 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Weston Ave.  
November 26, 8:11 a.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Spring St.  
November 29, 4:57 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Broadway.  
November 30, 10:51 a.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Mt. Vernon St.  
**Assault:**  
November 28, 3:12 p.m., police reported an assault at Highland Ave.  
November 30, 10:14 p.m., police reported an assault at Broadway.  
**Disorderly Conduct:**  
November 25, 11:34 a.m., police reported a disorderly conduct at Francis St.  
**Drug Violation:**  
November 27, 3:31 p.m., police reported a drug violation at Mystic Ave.



Somerville tax rate lowered

CONT. FROM PG 1

with numbers this large,” said City Assessor Marc Leve. “This will save residential owners \$2.6 million next year compared to what they would have paid if their share of the tax burden remained unchanged from the previous year. Most residential owners will see either a smaller increase or an outright decrease in their tax bill. This is significant good news, and it’s due in large measure to Assembly Row.”

The city is able to reduce the tax rate due to an unprecedented \$3.5 million in new growth last year, more than \$1 million more than the previous year. Most of that new growth stems from new commercial and residential construction at Assembly Row. Max-Pak construction and the increased value created by renovations carried out by the Public Storage facility at 50 Middlesex Ave., the new Stop & Shop on Route 16 and new personal property growth at 50 and 70 Inner Belt Road also contributed significantly to new growth. New growth is the value added to homes and buildings by improvements or new construction. The new taxes collected on these properties are based on the higher or newly created value.

“This is just the beginning of the benefits that Somerville residents and businesses will reap in return for the prudent investments that the city, the Board of Aldermen and this community have been making to spur smart development in our city in recent years,” said Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone.

Curtatone has long pointed to Cambridge as the goal for distribution of the tax burden. In Cambridge, 61 percent of the tax levy is paid by businesses while residents bear only 39 percent of the tax burden. In Somerville—despite this year’s important progress—the reverse applies: more than two-thirds of the tax burden is still resting on residents while businesses contribute less than one-third.

“This must change,” said Curtatone. “Somerville property owners who receive the residential



tax exemption already receive one of the lowest tax rates in the region, but that is not enough. And building affordable units alone is also not enough if we want to maintain affordability in our city. We are experiencing a historic shift toward the urban core that is driving up real estate prices metro-wide. To help maintain affordability for all Somerville residents—including the many middle and working class families that have lived here for generations—while still improving city services and investing in our schools, we must increase the commercial tax base so that we can lower the residential tax burden.”

Taxes will decline or only modestly rise for most residences despite overall increases in property values and sale prices, which led to higher assessed values for most property types as determined by the Somerville Board of Assessors and approved by the Mass. Department of Revenue. Single families saw the most significant change with an average increase of just under 12 percent in assessed value. Two- and three-family assessed values increased citywide on average by 7 percent, and average condo assessed values increased more than 4 percent. Meanwhile, in another sign of the ongoing real estate recovery in Somerville, foreclosures are down 74 percent through October 2013 over the previous year.

While property owners are gaining value from their investments in their homes, both

condo owners and owners of 4-8-families will see an average decrease of \$88 and \$42, respectively, in their FY14 tax bill. Average increases for two- and three-family owners will be just \$39 and \$53, respectively. Single-families will see increases on average of \$293. However, these changes also reflect an average savings of \$165 per residential property for FY14 assuming the percentages of the residential and commercial tax levies stayed the same in FY13. For example, without the decrease, condo owners would on average see an increase of \$77 rather than a decline of \$88 had the lower tax rate not been possible. (Numbers assume a residential exemption but do not include the Community Preservation Act surcharge.)

“To lower residential taxes, we must bring in new businesses to Somerville and create the infrastructure that will attract them. That’s why the community members who developed the many value-based goals in our 20-year SomerVision plan call for doing exactly this via the kind of smart, community-guided development that we are working to realize in Assembly Row, in Union Square and Boynton Yards, in Inner Belt and eventually along McGrath,” said Curtatone. “So again, this year’s dramatic shift in the tax burden from residents to businesses is just a start, and we will hold steady to ensure our residents—all residents—reap more of these benefits in the future.”

Somerville Schools

awarded Farm to

School grant

Somerville Public Schools (SPS) is one of just 71 recipients nationwide selected to receive a fiscal year 2014 U.S. Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Farm to School grant. The federal program seeks to better connect school cafeterias and students with local farmers and ranchers. Somerville was awarded a \$45,000 planning grant and is one of only two programs in Massachusetts and one of seven in New England to receive 2014 Farm to School funding.

“We’re excited to have the opportunity to continue our work on developing a farm to school strategy that will not only benefit our students, but one that will also have a long-term positive impact on our families and our community,” said Lauren Mancini, Director of the Somerville Public Schools Food & Nutrition Services Department.

USDA Farm to School grants help schools respond to the growing demand for locally sourced foods and increase market opportunities for producers and food businesses, including food processors, manufacturers, and distributors. Grants will also be used to support agriculture and nutrition education efforts. Working with a number of community partners, including Groundwork Somerville and the City’s nationally recognized Shape Up Somerville initiative, Somerville Public Schools will use funds to develop a long-term district-wide strategy that supports local sourcing and helps expand current farm to school efforts.

“We recognize that a students’ ability to succeed is dependent upon many factors, that’s why you often hear us say that we’re committed to supporting the whole child,” added Superintendent of Schools Tony Pierantozzi. “This funding allows us to continue to work with great community partners in continuing to develop a school nutrition program that

will benefit students throughout their lifetimes, while strengthening our community through local sourcing efforts.”

“Shape Up Somerville is proud to support Somerville Public Schools in complementing their exceptional work to increase access to local, healthy food and to increase access to physical activity for our kids,” commented Director of Shape Up Somerville David Hudson. “Research shows that this work helps our students perform better in the classroom.”

Grant activities will include supporting continuous education of students regarding the value of a farm to school approach to nutrition by introducing students to locally sourced products and providers through expanded School Garden programming, school tasting and sampling events, and other school-based activities. Additionally, community workshops will expand the grants’ reach, while an emphasis on working with a wide range of community partners to research, identify and map local sources will support the program’s efforts at developing a long-term strategy for strengthening the district’s farm to school efforts.

“Somerville continues to be a national leader on efforts to create a healthy and sustainable community, particularly through our commitment to healthy children. Part of those efforts more recently have put a focus on reconnecting students to their food sources, and in addition to our indoor, outdoor and mobile farmers markets, last year Somerville became the first community in the Commonwealth to institute an Urban Agriculture Ordinance designed to do just that. This grant will give our students tremendous support and new opportunities to further our efforts at the local level,” said Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone.

Affordable Housing Lottery

Somerville: Saint Polycarp Village Apartments Phase III will be accepting applications from October 28th through December 20th for the affordable housing lottery of new 1, 2 and 3 bedroom units. Anticipated occupancy is 2014.



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# The winners of The Somerville Times Reader's Choice results for THE BEST OF SOMERVILLE 2013

Congratulations to the winners! Please support their businesses and let them know you saw them in The Somerville Times

## Readers choices for 2013

**Best Idea in 2013:**

Taking down the Waste Station

**Worst Idea:**

Hubway bike rack taking up parking spaces

**Best Somerville Food & Restaurants:**



Best Breakfast: **Renee's Café**, 198 Holland Street

Best Combination Breakfast & Lunch: **Ball Square Café**, 708 Broadway

Best Italian Food: **Vinny's Ristorante**, 76 Broadway

Best Portuguese Restaurant: **J and J Restaurant**, 157 Washington St.

Best Chinese Food: **Chow n' Joy**, 626C Somerville Ave.

Best Mexican Food: **Cantina La Mexicana**, 247 Washington St.

Best Variety and All Around Restaurant: **Kelly's Diner**, 674 Broadway

Best Seafood Restaurant: **Out of The Blue**, 215 Elm St.

Best Local Deli: **Victor's Deli**, 710 Broadway

Best Irish Pub: **PJ Ryan's**, 239 Holland St.

Best Local Bar: **Johnny D's**, 17 Holland St.

Best Thai Food: **Thai Hut**, 93 Beacon St.

Best Hamburger: **R.F. O'Sullivan & Son**, 282 Beacon St.

Best Hot Dog: **Moe's BBQ Trolley**

Best Roast Beef Sandwich: **Deli-icious**, 20 College Ave.

Best Pizza: **Mama Lisa's**, 312 Broadway

Best Bakery: **Patsy's Pastry Shop**, 182 Broadway

Best Sub Shop: **Leone's Submarine Sandwich**, 292 Broadway

Best Coffee Shop Franchise: **Dunkin Donuts**, Magoun Square

Best Coffee Shop Local: **True Grounds**, 717 Broadway

Best Cook: **Omar Djebbouri**, Ball Square Café

**Best of Somerville Services:**



Best Doctor: **Dr. Maurice Martin**, Somerville Family Practice, 1020 Broadway

Best Eye Doctor: **Dr. Steven Patalano**, 236 Highland Ave.

Best Orthodontist: **Dr Mladen Zekic**, DentPlant, 281 Broadway

Best Alternative Medicine Clinic: **KenkoDo**, 735 Broadway

Best Electrician: **Mike Santangelo**

Best Plumber: **T.J. Sillari, Inc.**, 99 Albion St.

Best Law Firm: **O'Donovan, Dwyer & O'Flaherty**, 741 Broadway

Best Attorney: **Martin Dropkin**, 424 Broadway

Best Insurance Agency: **Wedgewood-Crane & Connolly**, 19 College Ave.

Best Mortgage Officer: **Barry Shields**, Network Funding

Best Bank: **Rockland Trust**, 399 Highland Ave.

Best Bank Employee: **Lisa Ramos**, Century Bank

Best Real Estate Company: **The Norton Group**, 699 Broadway

Best Real Estate Agent/Realtor: **John Pratti**, The Norton Group, 699 Broadway

Best Real Estate Rental Agent: **Ross Blouin**, Colony Real Estate

Best Employee: **Paula Leblanc**, O'Donovan, Dwyer & O'Flaherty, 741 Broadway

Best Florist: **Bostonian Florist**, 92 Highland Ave.

Best Laundromat: **Spin Cycle**, 6 Main St.

Best Liquor Store: **Winter Hill Liquor Mart**, 313 Broadway

Best Wait staff: **Patty Oppedisano**, Renee's Café, 198 Holland St.

Best Bartender: **Jeff Hughes**, PJ Ryan's, 239 Holland St.

Best Barber: **Tony Alibrani**, Alibrani's Barber Shop, 194 Holland St.

Best Hair Salon: **Amal Niccoli**, 731 Broadway

Best Gas Station: **Good Gas**, 345 Medford St.

Best Auto Body Shop: **A Plus Auto Body**, 297 Medford St.

Best Tow Company: **Export Tow**

Best Convenience/Neighborhood Store: **Y-Not Variety**, 140 Willow Ave.

**Best of Somerville Municipal Services:**



Best Somerville Department: **Public Works Repair Garage**

Best Somerville Official: **Rick Willette**, DPW Director of Operations

Best Somerville DPW Supervisor: **Mike Browne**, Fleet Manager

Best Teacher: **Courtney Rizzo**, Kennedy School

Best Politician: **Bob McWatters**

Best Nurse: **Gay Koty**

Best Police Officer: **Somerville Police Detective Ernest Nadile**

Best Fire Fighter: **Somerville Firefighter Thomas Gorman**

Best School Secretary: **Cheryl McGovern**, Kennedy School

Best Coach: **Rich Johnson**, Somerville Pride

Best City Elected Politician: Mayor **Joe Curtatone**

Best City Employee DPW: **Kevin McDevitt**

Best City Employee City Hall/Annex: **Nancy Gaudet Bacci**, Youth & Volunteer Services Coordinator

**Best of Somerville Arts/Entertainment:**



Best Somerville Poet: **Doug Holder**

Best Somerville Band: **The Poison Girls Club**

Best Somerville TV show: **Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte**

Best Somerville Vocalist: **Christian McNeill**

Best Photographer: **Claudia Ferro**

Best Writer: **Gene Brune**, 'The Spirit of Somerville'

Best Somerville Celebrity: **Jimmy Del Ponte**

Best Somerville Historian: **Bob 'Monty' Doherty**

**Best Somerville Non Profit Agency:** Little Sisters of the Poor

**Best New Creative Business in 2013:** Brooklyn Boulders



# Beacon Hill Roll Call



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

**THE HOUSE AND SENATE.** This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records local senators' votes on three roll calls from prior legislative sessions. There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week.

**Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Somerville:**



**Rep. Denise Provost**

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



**Rep. Carl Sciortino**

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



**Rep. Timothy Toomey**

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



**Sen. Patricia Jehlen**

**DISTRICT REPRESENTED:** Second Middlesex. - Medford, Somerville, entire city, Woburn, ward 2, and Winchester.

**RAISE MINIMUM WAGE TO \$9 (S 1925)**

Senate 6-32, rejected an amendment that would raise the

minimum wage from \$8 to \$9 over one year instead of from \$8 to \$11 over three years. The amendment would also strike a provision that ties future hikes in the minimum wage to increases in the Consumer Price Index.

Amendment supporters said the hike to \$9 is a more reasonable one. They argued the Legislature should have more input on the wage as time goes on instead of having its hands tied and future hikes predetermined.

Amendment opponents said the amendment essentially kills the bill that is designed to pay a reasonable wage to help thousands of hardworking people support their families.

(A "Yes" vote is for the amendment hiking the wage to \$9. A "No" vote is against the amendment and favors the hike to \$11.)

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	No
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	No

**HIKE CURRENT \$2.63 PER HOUR MINIMUM WAGE FOR TIPPED WORKERS (S 1925)**

Senate 5-33, rejected an amendment that would raise the hourly minimum wage for all tipped employees from the current \$2.63 per hour to an amount equal to 35 percent of the regular minimum wage. The amendment would replace a more expensive provision that raises the \$2.63 to 50 percent of the minimum wage. When the minimum wage jumps to \$11 per hour, the \$2.63 would jump to \$3.85 under the 35 percent amendment as opposed to \$5.50 under the 50 percent provision.

Supporters of the 35 percent and supporters of the 50 percent agreed that \$2.63 is too low and has not been changed since 1999.

Supporters of the lower 35 percent said it was a more reasonable hike that would make these workers less dependent on tips while still protecting employers from a drastic hike of 50 percent.

Opponents of the 35 percent said that 50 percent is fairer to workers and is still reasonable for business owners.

(A "Yes" vote is for the hike to 35 percent. A "No" vote is against the 35 percent hike and favors the higher hike to 50 percent.)

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	No
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	No

**COACHES MUST LEARN CPR (S 1918)**

Senate 35-0, approved and sent to the House a bill that would require all school coaches to complete a course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) from the American Heart Association, American Red Cross or other state-approved agency by August 2014. The measure also prohibits local cities and towns from being responsible for the costs.

Supporters said this invaluable training costs about \$50 per person and will save many lives. They noted there are creative ways to pay for the training or to get the fee waived.

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

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

**ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL**

**LOWER TUITION FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (H 1078)** The Higher Education Committee will hold a hearing on December 11 at 1 p.m. in Room A2 on a bill allowing some illegal immigrant students to pay the in-state tuition rates and fees at Massachusetts colleges and universities. To qualify, the student must have attended a high school in Massachusetts for at least three years and have graduated or received the equivalent of a diploma. The measure also requires these students to provide the college with an affidavit stating that he or she has filed or will in the future file an application to become a citizen or permanent resident.

Supporters say that many of these students were babies when they were brought here by their parents and had no choice about entering the country illegally. They note that these hardworking students are currently required to pay out-of-state tuition rates that are up to five times higher than the in-state rate. Some argue that many are unable to afford the higher tuition and end up skipping college and working in low-pay, low-skilled jobs rather than contributing to the economy in a more meaningful fashion.

Opponents say the state should not offer financial rewards to anyone who has broken the law and is in this country illegally. They note it is also important to point out that these students would not even be able to legally obtain a job in Massachusetts following their graduation from college. Some argue that it is outrageous to offer low tuition rates to these students while legal citizens from outside Massachusetts, including war veterans, are required to pay higher rates if they attend a Massachusetts state school.

**CAP SALARY OF NONPROFIT CEOS (H 1714)**

- The Committee on Labor and Workforce Development is considering a bill that would cap the salaries of CEOs and other executives at nonprofit social service agencies which receive at least 30 percent of their annual budget from state funding. The measure would cap the salaries of CEOs on a sliding scale ranging from a limit of \$49,719, for any agency with a budget less than \$250,000 to \$213,165 for one with a budget exceeding \$25 million. A hearing on the measure is scheduled for December 18 at 12:30 p.m. in room A-1 at the Statehouse.

**DRIVER'S LICENSE RENEWAL** - The Registry of Motor Vehicles announced it will reinstate its policy of notifying drivers when their driver's license is about to expire. This license reminder ended five years ago when the registry made budget cuts during a fiscal crunch. Under the reinstated system, the driver will receive a postcard informing him or her if he or she is eligible to renew online at [MassRMV.com](http://MassRMV.com) or if it can only be done with a visit to a branch office. Registrar Rachel Kaprielian noted that private advertising will help fund the service.

**REDUCE FEE FOR "THE RIDE"** - On December 11, the MBTA Board of Directors will vote on whether to reduce from \$4 to \$3 the fare for The RIDE, the popular service that provides door-to-door transportation to eligible persons with a physical, cognitive or mental disability. In 2012, the board raised the fare from \$2 to the current \$4. Activists have been lobbying for months to get the fare reduced.

**ALCOHOL IN NURSING HOMES (H 3779)** -



# Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



The House gave initial approval to a bill allowing cities and towns to opt to permit the sale of alcohol at nursing homes, retirement communities and assisted or independent living facilities.

### QUOTABLE QUOTES

“It’s garnering much interest shall we say, and I expect it’s going to be a hot and heavy month.” – *House Speaker Robert DeLeo on expected debate in January on the bill raising the state’s current hourly minimum wage from \$8 to \$11 by 2016.*

“If we can get around it, we won’t.” – *Boston Mayor-elect Marty Walsh when asked if he will enforce the Secure Communities Act which checks the fingerprints of all individuals in jail with FBI and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) databases for the criminal’s immigration status and prior criminal record.*

“The Registry ended the license reminder service five years ago in a fiscal crunch. Over time we have had to get creative and more cost- effective in all aspects of our business. Supported by advertising dollars, we are proud to once again offer this service to our customers.” – *Registrar of Motor Vehicles Rachel Kaprielian on the registry reinstating its policy of notifying drivers by mail when their*

*driver’s license is about to expire*

“The buffer zone does not restrict anyone from expressing their views. It ensures safe passage to a clinic for patients and employees, protecting their constitutional right of access free from intimidation.” – *Anne Borg, Massachusetts League of Women Voters co-president, urging the U.S. Supreme Court to uphold a Massachusetts law establishing a buffer zone around abortion clinics.*

“Our leaders and consumer watchdogs need to do more to protect America’s kids from the hazards of unsafe toys. No child should ever be injured, get sick, or die from playing with a dangerous toy.” – *Andrew Fish, Program Associate with MASSPIRG, on the group’s report “Trouble in Toyland.”*

**HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK’S SESSION?** Beacon Hill Roll Call tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of the Legislature’s job and that a lot of important work is done outside of the House and Senate chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legisla-

tion 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 November 25-29. The House met for a total of 34 minutes while the Senate met for a total of 38 minutes.

Mon. November 25	House 11:05 a.m. to 11:22 a.m. Senate 11:03 a.m. to 11:26 a.m.
Tues. November 26	No House session No Senate session
Wed. November 27	House 11:04 a.m. to 1:21 a.m. Senate 11:05 a.m. to 11:20 a.m.
Thurs. November 28	No House session No Senate session
Fri. November 29	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at [bob@beaconhillrollcall.com](mailto:bob@beaconhillrollcall.com)

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## COMMENTARY

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

## Boys soccer team inspires Somerville



By Joseph A. Curtatone

The Somerville High School boys soccer team did much more this season than win the Division 1 North championship and take the state championship game to its last possible moment. They inspired our entire city. You only had to take a look around the stadium during the

state championship game and see thousands of Highlander fans, cheering on the team, to see the effect the team had not only on soccer fans but the school community and our whole city. The turnout spoke to more than the team's success this season. It spoke to how this team, burdened before the season started by a terrible incident at camp, displayed leadership off the field, in the school and throughout the school community and stood up together, refusing to let the alleged actions of a few define them or the community.

They embraced the victims of the alleged attack at camp with

compassion. In speaking with their classmates and teammates, they displayed maturity, care and leadership, and avoided the whispering that's common for high school students, instead presenting themselves as a resilient, unified team. From the 15 seniors on the team to underclassmen players, they rallied together. This incredibly diverse team, with kids of differing backgrounds from the world over, embodied the best of Somerville. They showed how a diverse group of people can form a family, can look out for one another and, working together, can achieve greatness.

High school sports are about more than winning. They teach our kids about sportsmanship, camaraderie and hard work. The ultimate lesson is that what matters most is how you play the game. We want to instill those values in our kids. It's why we don't charge fees for our athletic teams and why we expanded middle school intramural programs for 7th and 8th graders, keeping those programs open to every student without a try-out requirement. Students involved in athletics—like those involved in the arts—have improved academic performance, higher standardized test scores, participate

in more community service and have lower dropout rates.

It's partly because of the lessons they learn from being part of a team. They have to work with fellow students who may come from different backgrounds and have different personalities. They have to learn to balance the responsibilities of classwork, family life and their athletic endeavors. Our student-athletes are taught about discipline, getting to both school and the practice field on time, and carrying that discipline with them onto the playing field. Our student-athletes are taught that the first value

Continued on page 17

Inequality in America  
Part 5: Solutions

By William C. Shelton

I was thinking of summarizing the series thus far. Then Pope Francis eloquently did so in last week's Apostolic Exhortation:

*While the earnings of a minority are growing exponentially, so too is the gap separating the majority from the prosperity enjoyed by those happy few. This imbalance*

*is the result of ideologies which defend the absolute autonomy of the marketplace and financial speculation. Consequently, they reject the right of states, charged with vigilance for the common good, to exercise any form of control. A new tyranny is thus born, invisible and often virtual, which unilaterally and relentlessly imposes its own laws and rules.*

I would add that among the developed nations, people in more unequal societies do worse on any measure of health and well-being than those in less unequal societies. People in America, the richest and most unequal, do the worst. Even the wealthiest cit-

izens in the U.S. and the U.K. are less healthy and happy than their peers in more equal societies like Japan and the Scandinavian countries.

How societies achieve greater equality doesn't seem to affect these results. Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden do it through progressive taxation, the revenues from which fund universal benefits like health-care, childcare, and pensions. Japan does it by ensuring that differences between the poorest and wealthiest in before-tax incomes are smaller. In America, we need to do both.

**Smaller pre-tax earnings dif-**

**ferences**

**Minimum wage** law sets a floor that affects all other wages. Over the years, the minimum wage has not risen commensurately with inflation, losing 25% of its value during the Reagan administration alone.

A large majority of people who earn minimum wage work for mega corporations like McDonalds and Walmart, and in jobs that cannot be outsourced. This is probably why research shows that minimum wage increases do not kill jobs or small businesses, as opponents claim.

Senator Tom Harkin and Congressman George Miller have sponsored a bill that would

increase the federal hourly minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$10.10 over two years. A Hart Research poll finds that 80% of Americans support such an increase—92% of Democrats, 80% of independents, and 62% of Republicans.

**Education** that has not kept pace with technology-driven labor-market demands is a factor some economists cite to explain America's growing inequality.

A large and growing body of research shows that pre-kindergarten education—when children's brains develop most rapidly—is directly linked to later financial and social success.

Continued on page 20

Life in the  **VILLE** by Jimmy Del Ponte

## Call me grandpa



All headlines, bulletins, small talk, chit-chat, gossip and any other news in any way shape or form is put on a back burner because of the really big news! On November 29 I became a grandpa.

Yes, my daughter Nikki had a 7 pound 6 ounce healthy little girl. Her name is Christiana Chanel. She is perfect. I got to hold her on Sunday when my sons (her new uncles) and I drove to Cranston Rhode Island to see her for the very first time.

Of course, we are Del Pontes so nothing is done calmly or without drama. First, it was pouring rain, then the GPS stopped working (we used my son's iPhone for directions). And if you say I should know

where my daughter lives by now, you're right, but I still get confused.

Then on the ramp to 95 south off 93, a small SUV three cars ahead of us lost control and rolled over landing on its roof. Yes, Christiana, grandpa and your two uncles are coming to visit, but first we have to call 911 and help push a car back right side up and pull the unconscious driver out!

So, this being done we drove on in the blinding rain, wipers at full speed. We were already excited to see Christiana, and now our adrenaline was pumping like crazy.

So we get to the house and we see the most beautiful child ever in her lovely mother's arms. We all took turns holding her (after my daughter made us wash our hands!) and took pictures. That was

the easy part. The hard part is the pressure of trying to be a good grandpa. By the way, I chose to be called grandpa because that's what I called my grandfather, and my dad was known as that to my kids. It's tradition.

I already ordered her an engraved music box and I'm keeping my eyes open for more gifts for our new little angel. I'm sure I will find plenty. That's not what I'm concerned with. First of all, I have to learn how to drive the 70 plus miles without a GPS (by the way, the dumb thing started working again the day after we went).

My sons and I will be visiting as much as possible. So I have to learn some bouncing a little girl on my knee songs (I'll write some new ones!). I'm sure I will remember how to put her hair in pigtails like I did with her

Continued on page 21





# COMMENTARY

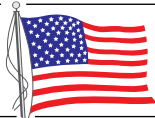
## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



This again?

## The View Of The Times



It's officially off and running, now that Thanksgiving Day has come and gone. And just what is the "it" in question? That's a good question, according to many. The Christmas/holiday/whatever season is now upon us, and with it comes the disconcerting controversy regarding the nomenclature of the occasion.

The well meaning, if over-zealous, proponents of inclusiveness are again launching their annual assault on the practice by many of us of referring to the Christmas tradition as just that, rather than stripping it of its customary meaning and adopting a generic "holiday" designation. We get it. Our citizenry is diverse, and

many different religious beliefs are represented. No right thinking person wants to make any other uncomfortable by forcing unwelcome messages on those who embrace differing beliefs and values. But the tradition of celebrating Christmas goes back to the very first days of American society, however differently it may have

been observed throughout those years. For a significant segment of the population, it is an integral part of their personal ideology and familial cohesiveness. No one should be denied the right to call their sacred traditions what they want them to be called. Ever. Happy holidays to all.

### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

ladies, Nancy Moccia, of Victors in Ball Square. What a great personality and all around nice person. We salute Nancy. When you go to Victors this week and you should say Happy Birthday to her. She'll love it! And a good old guy, John Pino of East Somerville. We've known him many years and we salute him as well. A big Happy Birthday.

The Winter Farmers Market Opening Day celebration is this Saturday, December 7, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Arts at the Armory on Highland Avenue. The market is back, so join them on opening day to celebrate local farms, great food, friendly faces, and a fantastic community. There will be live music, prizes, returning vendors to welcome back and new vendors to meet. Support and celebrate our farmers who work hard all year 'round to keep us stocked with fresh local produce and more in the New England winter.

The City of Somerville will join Federal Realty Investment Trust for its first annual Holiday Arts and Eats Festival this weekend starting Friday and running through Sunday, Dec. 6, 7, and 8. The festival will feature food trucks, a large holiday market including 60 artists, a 21+ event on Friday night and family-friendly activities and live music all weekend long. It will be hosted under a large heated tent

at Assembly Row. For more information and schedules, visit [www.assemblyrow.com/events](http://www.assemblyrow.com/events).

Check out the Vernon Street Open Studios on December 7 and 8, at Vernon Street Studios, 20 Vernon St., starting at 6 p.m. Each year the artists of 6 and 20 Vernon Street welcome the public into their work spaces, a community well known throughout the area for the quality of their work. During this showcase for the arts, mid-career and emerging artists working across a broad spectrum of fine art styles and craft media – including painting, photography, print-making, sculpture, glass, fiber, jewelry, furniture, and ceramics – will exhibit and sell their work, just in time for the holiday season. Located in an historic 19th century brick industrial building, Vernon Street was one of the first groups of artists in the Greater Boston area to open their studios to the public in 1974. The Open Studios event allows attendees to learn about the creative process, interact with artists in the spaces where they create, purchase original artwork, and discover new talent. The studios are located in the Rogers Foam facility, which is comprised of two buildings on the corner of Central and Vernon Streets. Parking is available in the large lot behind the buildings.

Congratulations to the proud new parents Nikki and Brandon Ferriera on the recent arrival of their daughter Christina Chanel Ferriera. Also, congratulations to her grandfather, Jimmy Del Ponte, the newest grandfather in town. A long life and many joyous times.

The Art of Business and the Business of Art: Free Workshop Series is presented by arts marketing specialist Jesa Damora of FunnelCake Marketing and Karen Christians of Cleverwerx. The lecture series will feature experts on a variety of business concerns of particular interest to artists and makers alike. All talks are free, created especially for Artisan's Asylum community members, but applicable to all makers and creators that want to sell their work. Lecture and Q&A from 7-9 p.m. on Friday, December 6, at Artisan's Asylum, 10 Tyler St., Somerville.

The annual Illuminations Trolley Tour of East and Central Somerville will take place Saturday, Dec. 14, with tours departing from the City Hall Concourse beginning at 4:30 p.m. The 45-minute tours will showcase holiday light displays in our own Somerville. Tours leave from (and return to) Somerville City Hall where coffee, hot chocolate, and cookies are served. Entertainment at City Hall includes choral music and craft activities for children. Trolley Tour tickets will be

available at the Blue Cloud Gallery, 713 Broadway, beginning Monday, Dec. 2. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children and seniors. For more information, visit [www.somervilleartscouncil.org](http://www.somervilleartscouncil.org).

On Saturday, December 14 is the Somerville Illuminations Bicycle Tour, a wintry nighttime ride amongst warmly lit homes. The Somerville Bicycle Committee holds this event in conjunction with the Somerville Arts Council's Illuminations Trolley Tour the same evening. Meet at 5:50 p.m. in front of the main entrance to Somerville High School, 81 Highland Ave. (next to City Hall). They'll depart promptly at 6 p.m., riding for about an hour. Please wear warm clothes and light up your bike – the more lights, the merrier! Costumes are encouraged but not required. A \$5 donation is suggested to support the Somerville Arts Council. After the ride, enjoy hot drinks, treats, and good cheer at City Hall.

The Somerville Museum invites the public to celebrate The Spirit of Somerville, an afternoon with former mayor Gene Brune. He will discuss his new book, followed by a reception and book signing. The event takes place Sunday, December 8 from 2 p.m.- 4 p.m. at the Somerville Museum, One Westwood Road, Somerville.



# 23rd SHS Holiday Crafts Fair

The 2013 Holiday Crafts Fair was held on Saturday, November 30 in the Somerville High School Fieldhouse. The fair included over a hundred vendors of handmade crafts, both holiday related and otherwise.







Photos by Claudia Ferro



SPORTS

Saint Clement defeats St. Joseph Prep 43-16 in final game of the season

By James Cameron

The Anchormen, in an effort to prove they still have it after their playoff exit, defeated the Phoenixes 43-16 at Tufts Field on Thanksgiving.

It was the end of the second quarter, with SC looking to run away with it. The score was 35-8. The Anchormen committed a fumble, this being their third turnover of the day. Saint Joseph was able to get within 20 yards of a touchdown, looking to change the momentum in their favor. In the last play of the half, DB Junior Oyaronbi got an interception on the short pass. He nearly ran it across the entire field for a touchdown, but stepped out of bounds about 20 yards away. This would prevent the Phoenixes from getting any

momentum for the rest of the game, solidifying the Anchormen as the victors.

Compared to the grit and intensity of the previous playoff games, this would turn out to be a more relaxed, fun affair. The Thanksgiving game didn't contribute to either team's ranking. Also, these two schools share a hockey team, meaning that some of the players knew each other well. It wasn't uncompetitive, but led to a much lighter environment.

The first quarter began far less lopsided than the rest of the game would turn out to be. The initial score was made 3 and a half minutes through the first quarter, when a very successful drive on the Anchormen's part led to RB Deron Hines getting a touchdown on a short run.



The Saint Clement Anchormen prevailed over St. Joseph Prep in the big Thanksgiving Day matchup last week at Tufts Field.

A good kick by Kevin Mendes would give SC an early 7-0 lead over St. Joseph. The Phoenixes would not go down silently, responding later in the quarter. The Anchormen were unable to corral a kickoff, which St. Joseph picked up in the end zone after it was touched. This fumble recovery in the end zone immediately gave Saint Joseph a touchdown. This, coupled with a successful 2 point conversion, had St. Joseph leading 8-7. The back and forth continued when QB Michael Sullivan made a 20 yard pass to WR Khaneil Bruce for a touchdown less than a minute later. The failed 2 point had the 1st quarter wrapped up with SC in the lead 13-8.

The Anchormen continued to make mistakes in the second quarter, with Sullivan throwing an interception early. This could have led to another opportunity for Saint Joseph, if LB Marcus Carvalho didn't recover a fumble on the first play of their drive. This lit a fire under Saint Clement's belly it seemed, since after that point the quarter was theirs. It began on that drive where Sullivan would get a touchdown on a keeper, extending the lead to 19-8 Anchormen. On the kickoff, the Phoenixes would juggle the ball out of bounds in the end zone, giving SC a safety. This put them up to 21-8 and gave them another drive to keep the momentum going. Less than a minute into that drive, Sullivan would make his second touchdown pass of the day, this one to Oyaronbi. Another failed kick would bring the score to 27-8.

This is only made more remarkable when you consider all of these scores happened within a period of a shade over a minute. Several possessions later, Sullivan would get another touchdown pass to Oyaronbi. The score at the end of the quarter would be 35-8 on Hines' successful 2 point conversion.

The scoreboard wouldn't move in the third quarter, with neither really able to build a head of steam. In the fourth, the Anchormen saw some relatively unfamiliar faces. WR Nick Codair would get a touchdown off a pass early in the quarter. This led to OL Chris Bailan getting the 2 point conversion to put the Anchormen up 43-8. Toward the end of the quarter, Saint Joseph would score with a 2 point conversion themselves, making the score 43-16. This seemed too little too late for them, as that would be the score for the rest of the contest.

This game was very significant for some of the Saint Clement players. Deron Hines would get his 1000th yard running late in the 1st. Also, Michael Sullivan would

hit 2000 yards passing later in the 4th. Sullivan would receive the Thanksgiving trophy for his hard work. He had little to say upon receiving the accolade, other than saying "Happy Thanksgiving!" to the gathered crowd.

After the game, Head Coach Collin Walsh reflected on the season as a whole: "It's been a great season, with winning the Division 6 North and the League titles. I'm so proud of the seniors for their hard work and effort during the season. I'm really looking forward to doing it all again next year and that starts in the weight room!"

Even if you only look at the statistics, this was a historic season for the Anchormen. They won their first Division 6 North title in almost 30 years, they ended the second longest winning streak in state history, and they were underdogs in the playoffs after defeating Cathedral, who was expected to win the entirety of Division 6 according to many. Also, many of the star players on this team have bright college futures as a result of their stellar play during the season.

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#399

1. What type of fuels are natural gas, coal and oil?

2. What was Italo Mar- ciony granted a patent for in 1903?

3. In the TV series Dallas, what was the name of the ranch where the Ewings lived?

4. What was the Bridge of San Luis Rey made of?

5. What do the French call the English Channel?

6. What is the Presi- dential Immunity that was ruled in 1982 by the Supreme Court?

7. Who was the only ac- tual pirate known to hide

his treasure?

8. Who said "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration"?

9. What are the names of the two tunnels that connect Manhattan to New Jersey?

10. What similarity do the deaths of Al Jolson and Wild Bill Hickock have?

11. What is the art of Japanese folding paper called?

12. What happened in 1989, the opening day of the World Series?

Answers on page 23

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'Gobble, Gobble'

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Wrestling with Tom Turkey



The 17th Annual Gobble Gobble Gobble 4 Miler marathon took place last Thursday, Thanksgiving Day. Runners took to the streets, starting in Davis Sq., decked out in their feathery finest in support of Project Soup and Somerville Track PAC, a program aimed at providing college scholarships for Somerville High School students.

The Top Ten Finishers were:

Place	Name	Time	Town
1	Colman Hatton	19:35	BOSTON
2	David Bedoya	20:32	SOMERVILLE
3	Jonathan Baker	20:42	CAMBRIDGE
4	Chad Carr	21:13	CAMBRIDGE
5	Eric Mendoza	21:16	DORCHESTER
6	Ian Nurse	21:37	BOSTON
7	Christopher Klucznik	21:39	SOMERVILLE
8	Aaron Ladd	21:48	LEXINGTON
9	Cj Pierce	21:49	WESTON
10	William Crabtree	22:01	

The first 2200 participants registered received commemorative T-shirts and all runners and spectators were invited to the Burren for post-race festivities.



By Russ Allison

This year is the first time that I have had anything to do with putting on a Thanksgiving meal. I feel compelled to write a technical manual for the novice having to cook a turkey.

In preparation for buying a turkey, the freezer must be vacated. All of the freezer burned vegetables have to be tossed out. If the fish sticks are still edible, eating them cannot be put off any longer. Throw out the grease can. Once the freezer is completely emptied, it is time to force the frozen turkey in with an aggressive thrust.

You're supposed to thaw the bird in the refrigerator for three days. There is no room. The refrigerator is too packed with the raw materials that make up the rest of the apparatus that compose the great day of overeating. Therefore, at five o'clock in the morning, my wife and I had the bird in the kitchen sink under cold running water.

You can't just leave the turkey sitting on the counter. It has to be handled like plutonium. If the bird sits too long, it is deadly no matter how long you cook it, like a mad cow burger. If you throw the bird in too soon, it will not cook evenly and you'll have to delicately pick around for the cooked parts. Any mistake would be just as fatal.

I don't know if all turkeys these days come with an unsightly neck, but ours did and I wanted to get rid of it. My wife's sister-in-law said that the neck was chopped off and stuffed back into the bird. A friend of mine concurred that the neck was disconnected and said that you have to "wiggle" the neck around as it thaws and it will come free. I trusted their advice.

There was no wiggling. The neck did not budge. The only explanation I could come up

with was that the neck was frozen in place. And so I kept running the bird under water and became more and more aggressive, gradually making progress. The closer I got to success, the more I could see that the neck was, in fact, part of the skeletal structure of the turkey. After much wrestling, I finally got the neck off. Of all the turkeys put through a guillotine, naturally ours came from a processing plant that didn't bother to take that step. They did take the time to wrap the giblets in wax paper, though. Don't forget to pull them out of the cavity after the turkey is thawed and before you put it in the oven.

More experienced chefs use the giblets to make gravy. Giblets and gravy is an overrated delicacy. Don't bother trying. Throw them out and use gravy out of a can.

I don't know where people learn that turkey cooks 20 minutes per pound; we must have learned it from somewhere. This begs the question, how many pounds does the turkey weigh? After what I went through with the neck, I had to go through the ordeal of figuring out how much the turkey weighed. The weight was not stamped on the packaging. I had to dig through our bathroom linen closet to unearth an old, rusted bathroom scale that we never use, weigh the turkey and plan to cook it erring on a time longer than the scale reading, knowing full well that the accuracy of it couldn't be trusted.

As the bird was in the oven for a couple of hours, my wife insisted that we take it out to see if it needed basting. I was not confident that she actually knew what a bird in need of basting would look like. I just assumed that it was a self-basting bird the way that self-defrosting freezer technology

took over half a century ago. When we got it out, my wife was distressed by the fact that the turkey was sitting in a bathtub of juices. She was concerned that it was sitting in a potential cesspool of bacteria. I trusted her assessment. Luckily we had a backup tin foil pan. Like a crane lifting a steel beam from the ground up into place of a skyscraper under construction, we jammed forks into the bird and carefully lifted it up, across and into the new pan sitting in the kitchen sink. Then it went back into the oven continuing to cook the 20 minutes a pound.

At the eleventh hour, it was time to carve. I got out an ivory handled fork and knife handed down to us by my wife's parents. With great confidence in these utensils, though never having used them, I attempted to gracefully carve the bird. I did fairly well with the breast, but there was a lot that I had a hard time getting off, the knife mysteriously not as sharp as I would have expected. Managing the dark meat was sheer impossibility. Frustration mounted and I wound up tearing the bird apart with my bare hands. The entire day of tension, anger and frustration over the bird nearly culminated in a murder suicide.

By the time the first guest arrived, things had calmed down and the great struggle I had with the neck came up during conversation about all of what we had been through and she said, "You should have just ignored it and cooked the turkey, neck and all." Without hearing from her, it had been demoralizing enough to learn that all my effort to get rid of the neck was a big waste of time. As more guests arrived, we had dropped the subject and this whole ordeal was swept away by holiday cheer. I hope the rest of you had an easier time than we did.

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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, December 11, 2013** at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

**595 Somerville Ave: (Case #ZBA 2013-58)** Applicant, Douglas Beaudet, and Owner, JAC Realty Trust, seek a Special Permit under SZO §7.11.1.c to establish four dwelling units in a new mixed-use building with a small retail component; a Special Permit under SZO §9.13.b to alter parking design standards; a Special Permit under SZO §9.13.d to park on a separate lot; and a Special Permit under SZO §9.13.e to share parking. BA zone. Ward 3.

**563-565 Broadway (42 Alfred Street, Medford): (ZBA 2013-77)** Applicant Charles Zammuto and Owner 1359 Associates, Inc seek a Special Permit under SZO §5.1 & 7.11.1.c to establish 10 residential units in a new three-story building that will be partly in Medford and partly in Somerville. Another use in the building will be a private nonprofit club or lodge for members only under SZO §7.11.5.b.6.a. The proposal requires a Variance for parking requires – approx 29 are required and approx 21 will be provided. Zone NB. Ward 5.

**95 Hudson St: (Case #ZBA 2013-78)** Applicant & Owner, James Haile, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by adding rear additions, rebuilding a side yard landing and stairs, and window and door alterations. The proposal also includes door changes to the accessory structure. RB Zone. Ward 5.

**200 Willow Ave: (Case #ZBA 2013-80)** Applicant and Owner, Willow Somerville Realty Trust, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to make alterations to a non conforming structure by adding dormers and rear decks. RA Zone. Ward 6.

**186 Highland Ave: (ZBA 2013-81)** Applicant/Owner Little Sisters of the Poor, Jeanne Jugan Residence seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure to change doors into windows on the 6th floor solarium that was permitted through Special Permit # ZBA 1992-25. Zone RA. Ward 3.

**587-593 Somerville Ave: (Case #ZBA 2013-82)** Applicant, Thomas Tuton, and Owner, 593 Somerville Avenue Realty Trust, seek a Special Permit under SZO §7.11.1.c to establish six dwelling units in a new mixed-use building with a ground floor retail component; a Variance under SZO §9.5.1.a for parking relief; a Special Permit under SZO §9.13.b to alter parking design standards; a Special Permit under SZO §9.13.c to share a driveway; and a Special Permit under SZO §9.13.e to share parking. BA zone. Ward 3.

**35 Cutter St: (ZBA 2013-85)** Applicant/Owner Boston XUZ, LLC seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to substantially alter a nonconforming structure and construct a three-family dwelling with nonconforming front and right side yards. Five parking spaces will be located in a garage. Zone RB. Ward 1.

**19-21 Calvin St: (Case #ZBA 2013-86)** Applicant and Owner, Ethan Beauvais, seeks a special permit under §4.4.1 to reconstruct a nonconforming 3-family home previously lost in a fire with modifications including sideyard setbacks and window and door alterations. RB Zone. Ward 2.


**62-64 Hooker Ave: (Case #ZBA 2013-87)** Applicant and Owners, Laura Beretsky and Mark Jewell, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by adding a dormer. RB Zone. Ward 7.

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](http://www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning). As cases may be continued to later dates, please check the agenda on the City's website or call before attending. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to OSPCD, Planning Division, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; by fax to 617-625-0722; or by email to [dpereira@somervillema.gov](mailto:dpereira@somervillema.gov).

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant

Published in The Somerville Times on 11/27/13 & 12/4/13.

11/27/13, 12/4/13 The Somerville Times



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

MIDDLESEX Division Docket No. MI 13P3443EA

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Estate of :  

Helen	R.	Whitney
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name

Also Known As: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Death: August 14, 2012

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of

Petitioner Joan M. Puglia (Fitzpatrick) of Somerville MA  
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

Petitioner Walter W. Whitney Jr. of Somerville MA  
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

[x] a Will has been admitted to informal probate.


[x] Joan M. Puglia (Fitzpatrick) of Somerville MA  
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

[x] Walter W. Whitney Jr. of Somerville MA  
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve  
[ ] with [x] without surety on the bond.

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

12/4/13 The Somerville Times



MASSDOT (T)  
ANNOUNCEMENT  
Green Line Extension Project  
Contract E22PS06  
LOCATION :C AMBRIDGE, SOMERVILLE, MEDFORD


All Subcontractors and other firms  
Certified with SDO as a DBE and candidates for  
DBE certification are encouraged to attend an outreach  
Event hosted by MassDOT / MBTA, and White Skanska Kiewit,  
JV for the MBTA GLX project. Interested parties should register  
For the event with Mark Smith AT  
[WSKdbc@jtfwhite.com](mailto:WSKdbc@jtfwhite.com)  
When : December 11, 2013  
3:30—5:30 P.M.

Where: 10 Park Plaza, 2nd Floor, Boston

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SOMERVILLE OFFICE  
OF CITY CLERK  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN


There will be a Public Hearing before the Board of Aldermen’s Committee on Licenses and Permits on **Wednesday, December 11, 2013, at 6:00 PM**, in the Committee Room on the 2nd Floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, on the Petition for a Mobile Food Vendor License for The Scoop ‘N’ Scootery LLC, dba The Scoop ‘N’ Scootery, which seeks to operate on the Tufts Campus, in Davis Square, in Magoun Square, in Union Square, and at City Hall as a Mobile Food Vendor, Sunday through Saturday, from Noon to Midnight.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

JOHN J. LONG  
CITY CLERK

12/4/13 The Somerville Times

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**[www.TheSomervilleTimes.com](http://www.TheSomervilleTimes.com)**



CITY OF SOMERVILLE  
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT  
RFP #14-51

The City of Somerville, acting through the Purchasing Department requests qualifications and fee (RFQF) proposals for:  
**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND JOB LINKAGE SERVICES**

The solicitation may be obtained online <http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/bids>, or by inquiring from the Purchasing Department, City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143 on or after **December 2, 2013**. Separately sealed price and non-price responses will be received at the above office until **December 16, 2013 at 11:00 a.m.**, at which time responses are to be evaluated. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please direct any inquiries to Angela M. Allen [amallen@somerville-ma.gov](mailto:amallen@somerville-ma.gov).

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

12/4/13 The Somerville Times

The **Somerville Licensing Commission** is accepting applications for ONE available City Owned Wine and Malt Restaurant License. Interested parties may obtain applications online at [Somervillema.gov](http://Somervillema.gov) or at the City Clerks Office, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA. The deadline for applications will be **December 31, 2013**.

For the Commission  
Andrew Upton  
Vito Vaccaro  
John J. McKenna

Attest: **Jenneen Pagliaro**  
Executive Secretary

12/4/13 The Somerville Times

TO PLACE LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS IN THE SOMERVILLE NEWS,  
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CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE  
MAYOR

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
*HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION*

The **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (SHPC)** shall hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 17, 2013 at 6:40 p.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room, City Hall (93 Highland Avenue) regarding the proposal by Applicant, LaRosa Development, to demolish the c.1869 mixed use building at 82 Highland Avenue.

The subject of the hearing will be a review of the initial determination by the SHPC that under the City of Somerville Zoning Ordinance Section 7-28b(2), the structure is considered “Significant.” Public testimony followed by discussion and a vote by the Commission will be taken regarding if the building should be “Preferably Preserved.” For further information, please contact (617) 625-6600.

11/27/13, 12/4/13 The Somerville Times

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2) 1997	Honda	Accord	Vin # 1HGCD5608VA189358
3) 2000	Audi	A6	Vin # WAULH64B0YN097197
4) 2002	Mitsubishi	Eclipse	Vin # 4A3AC44GX2E001184

Date of Sale: Dec. 30, 2013  
Time: 12:00 PM  
Location: 160 McGrath Hwy. Somerville, MA. 02143

11/27/13, 12/4/13, 12/11/13 The Somerville Times



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**SOMERVILLE OFFICE  
OF CITY CLERK  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

There will be a Public Hearing before the Board of Aldermen's Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works on **Thursday, December 12, 2013, at 6:00 PM**, in the Committee Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, on the Order of Alderman Courtney O'Keefe, Chairman of the Committee, for public input related to two matters:

#195528: That this Board consider Boston's Code Ordinance CBC 9-1.3, which requires private rental units to be registered on an annual basis and inspections to be conducted for non-exempt units on a 5-year cycle.

#195332: That this Board consider better ways of identifying and citing owners of loose trash.

**THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.**

**JOHN J. LONG  
CITY CLERK**

12/4/13 The Somerville Times

### Nellie's Wild Flowers

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## Boys soccer team inspires Somerville

CONT. FROM PG 10

is to carry themselves in a way that reflects well upon themselves, their families and their community. Then they must achieve in the classroom. Only after those accomplishments do their athletic endeavors come into focus.

The Highlanders soccer team put those values on display this entire season, under difficult circumstances. They suddenly found the spotlight on them for reasons the vast majority of them had nothing to do with. They stood tall in that spotlight, and demonstrated how what's most important is how you play the game and how you carry yourself

as a member and representative of the community. Like this year's Red Sox, they represent countries from around the world, and they formed a bond with one another and the community. They played the game and conducted themselves all season with the character and dignity that reflects the best of Somerville's identity. We have high standards for our students' conduct, and these student-athletes not only met that high standard, they exceeded it. The courageous student-athletes allegedly victimized only waited two days to speak up, when sometimes student victims wait months,

or even years or decades to speak up. And the rest of the team embraced them and carried them. They carried each other.

We need to thank these young men for showing us how to be leaders, how to show compassion, and how to remain resilient when faced with adversity. We also need to thank the coaches, from head coach George Scarpelli to his whole staff, for teaching their student-athletes the life lessons that they will keep with them the rest of their lives. This team embodies what's best about Somerville, and we are proud to call them ours.

APARTMENT RENTALS

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## SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

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

**Holland Street Center** - 167 Holland Street

**Ralph & Jenny Center** - 9 New Washington Street

**Cross Street Center** - 165 Broadway

**Some Council on Aging highlights in the coming weeks:**

**Art with Katherine** continues as we travel around the world and make some **Zumba for All** with Cheryl. Come at the end of the day, after work. Open to all. Wednesdays 5:15-6:15 p.m. Holland Street Center. \$3 for a class or \$15 for 6 classes.

**Wii Bowling League** is here at Holland Street Center Mondays at noon. Free. If you haven't tried this, come as you will love it. No bowling ball but you still swing and hope for the best.

**LGBT Events (Open to all ages):**

**"Positive Thinking"** with Roberta Robinson of Cambridge Health Alliance will be talking on how Positive Thinking is a mental attitude that admits into the mind, thoughts, words and images that are conducive to growth, expansion and success. Come learn new tricks to keep you on a positive path. Free. Stay for our monthly lunch.

**Holland Street Café** - December 9 from Vinny's Ristorante. Fabulous lunch of either meatballs and pasta or eggplant parm. Salad and dessert. RSVP. Stay for Roberta Robinson's lecture at 10:30 a.m. on "Positive Thinking."

**LBT Women Fit-4-Life Fitness and Nutrition Classes.** Tuesday and Thursday evenings. \$10 a month with scholarships available.

**Ralph & Jenny Center Weekly Events:**

**Cards and Games hour** at Ralph & Jenny at 10:00 am every day the center is open. Come join your friends or make some new ones. Cards, Scrabble and Cribbage.

**Do you crochet or would you like to learn?** Thursdays at 10:45 a.m. At Ralph & Jenny Center. Join a great group in learning to crochet or share your projects you are working on.

**Trip Corner:**

**Culinary Arts** - December 10.

**Concord Museum** - "Celebration of Trees" - December 20.

**Atlantic City/Taj Mahal** - January 12-14.

**STAY ACTIVE:**

**Wii Bowling League** - at Holland - Mondays at noon. Free.

**Zumba for All** - at Holland - Wednesdays at 5:15-6:15 p.m. \$3 or \$15 for 6 classes.

**Flexibility & Balance** - at Holland - Thursdays 10:00 a.m. Free.

**Flexibility & Balance** - at Ralph & Jenny - Wednesday 1:15-2:00 p.m.

**Strengthening Exercise with Geoff** - Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m. at Holland and 10:00 a.m. Thursdays at R&J. \$3.

**Walking Club** - at R&J - Tuesday 10:30 a.m.

**Fit-4-Life LBT** - Tuesday and Thursday Evenings.

**Fit-4-Life General** - Wednesday & Friday Mornings.

**December 4**

**Bowling at Flatbreads at 1:00 pm**

**Holland Street Center**

Fit-4-Life A & B

Zumba for All|5:15 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

**Cross Street Center**

English Conversation|10:30 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

**Ralph & Jenny Center**

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

**December 5**

**Holland Street Center**

Current Events|10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

LBT Fit-4-Life|6 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

**Ralph & Jenny Center**

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Strengthening Exercise|10 a.m.

Crochet and Knitting|10:45 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

Bingo Break Exercises|1:30 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

**December 6**

**Holland Street Center**

Fit-4-Life B & C

Book Club|10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

**December 9**

**Holland Street Center**

Monthly Breakfast|9:30 a.m.

Moonlighters|10:30 a.m.

Positive Thinking with Roberta Robinson- free|10:30 a.m.

LGBT Café|11:30 a.m.

Lunch|11:30 a.m.

Wii bowling|12 p.m.

Fit-4-Life C|1 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

**December 10**

**Culinary Arts**

**Holland Street Center**

Strengthening Exercise|9:15 a.m.

SHINE by apt|10 a.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

**Ralph & Jenny Center**

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

**Cross Street Center**

English Conversation|10:30 a.m.

Art with Katherine|1 p.m.

Bereavement Group|3 p.m.

165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

**December 11**

**Hansom AFB**

**Holland Street Center**

Fit-4-Life A & B

Lunch|11:30 a.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

**Cross Street Center**

English Conversation|10:30 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

**Ralph & Jenny Center**

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

**Check out our Facebook site** for photos from our events and exercise and tips for everyday healthy living at [www.facebook.com/somervilleCOA](http://www.facebook.com/somervilleCOA).



• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •



Photo by Ethan Backer

**FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

**Thursday|December 5**

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

**FridayDecember 6**

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

**Central Library**  
Teen Anime & Manga Meet-up: Steampunk Day  
Cynthia or Ron  
617-623-5000-2936  
3 p.m.-5:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

**Saturday|December 7**

**Central Library**  
Everyone Has a Story to Tell  
Eleanor Stafford|617-233-2438  
9:30 AM - 12:30 PM|79 Highland Avenue

**Central Library**  
StoryCorps Interviews  
Maria Carpenter|617-623-5000 x2910  
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM |79 Highland Avenue

**Central Library**  
Make 3D Paper Snowflakes with Thy Toeum|617-623-5000  
2 p.m.-4 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

**Monday|December 9**

**Central Library**  
Sing-Along with ABC Spanish in Motion  
Cathy|x2954  
11 a.m.-12 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

**Central Library**  
Math & Science Homework Help For Teens

3 p.m.-5 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

**Tuesday|December 10**

**Central Library**  
Homeschool reading group ages 9 – 11  
9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

**West Branch Library**  
Preschool: Storytime  
10:30 a.m.-11 a.m.|40 College Ave

**Central Library**  
StoryCorps Interviews  
Maria Carpenter|617-623-5000 x2910  
2:30 p.m.- 5 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

**Wednesday|December 11**

**Central Library**  
Middle School Writers Conference  
Alan Ball|617-776-6862  
12:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

**East Branch Library**  
Rosalita’s Puppets in Rudolph the Red-Nosed Dragon  
Megan Forsell|617-623-5000 x2970  
3 p.m.-4 p.m.|115 Broadway

**East Branch Library**  
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Book Group for Kids Ages 9-12  
Cathy Piantigini  
617-623-5000 x2950|79 Highland Avenue

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

**MUSIC**

**Wednesday|December 4**

**Johnny D’s**  
Veterans for Peace Benefit  
Public Interest|Willie Sordillo Band  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

**The Burren**

**Front Room**  
Exile on Elm  
Back Room  
Burren Backroom series 7:30 p.m.  
Comedy @ 10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**PA’S Lounge**  
Western Den|John Statz|Jesse Denaro  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

**Precinct Bar**  
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

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

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

**Radio Bar**  
UP:Dave Crespo CD Swap!!:Uncle Buzz|Let’s Wait|TBA  
379 Summer St

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

**Thursday|December 5**

**Johnny D’s**  
The Sacred Shakers|Los Fletcheros Band  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s**  
Spring Hill Rounders grassy Thursdays  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Acoustic/Bluegrass|9:30 p.m.

**Back Room**  
Scattershot 80’s night|10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

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

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

**Precinct Bar**  
Rockbottom  
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

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

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

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

**Radio Bar**  
Upstairs (Joel): The Spearmint Sea|Mount Peru|Matthew Connor  
379 Summer St

**Arts at the Armory**  
Singer-Songwriter Event: The Loop  
7:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

**Friday|December 6**

**Johnny D’s**  
The Deer Tracks|We Can All be Sorry|Rusty Belle  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s**  
Stan Martin Band |6 p.m.  
Hear Now Live: Johnny & Ben Gardner, Daniel Miller, J Blake. + Visual art! \$10 cover |9 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Irish Session|9:30 p.m.

**Back Room**  
Swerve  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

**Precinct Bar**  
HearNowLive presents:The Regulars Garwood|Everything and Everyone|Mr. Kowalsky|Semi-Good Lookin’  
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

**PA’S Lounge**  
Double Barrel|Crossing George  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

**Bull McCabe’s**  
The Stumps  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

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

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

**Radio Bar**  
Down: Captain Easychord presents  
379 Summer St.

**Arts at the Armory**  
Laurie Sargent: Cd Release Concert  
7p.m|PPerformance Hall|191 Highland Ave

**Somerville Theatre**  
Slutcracker-A Burlesque  
8 p.m.|55 Davis Square

**Saturday|December 7**

**Johnny D’s**  
Real School of Music Showcase  
Porch Party Mamas|The Macrotones/Evolfo Doofeht  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004



• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

**Sally O’Brien’s**  
Kevin & The Byrneouts |6 p.m.  
Hear Now Live presents \$10  
cover |9 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-  
3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Irish Session|9:30 p.m.  
Back Room  
Jimmy’s Down  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Precinct Bar**  
Team Shred Presents|Vanessa Kaf-  
ka And The Sunday Spins|Broken  
English|Lauren Bateman  
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

**PA’S Lounge**  
Drama / Leah V Presents!  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-  
1557

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

**Bull McCabe’s**  
Mike Bernier & Freevolt  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-  
6045

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

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

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

**Radio Bar**  
UP: Black Mark Studios Presents:  
The Sprained Ankles|Duck & Cov-  
er|Silver Screams|The Dead Tricks  
Down: Modern Day Idols, tba,  
tba  
379 Summer St

**Arts at the Armory**  
Somerville Songwriter Sessions  
8 p.m.|Cafe |191 Highland Ave

**Somerville Theatre**  
Slutcracker-A Burlesque  
8 p.m.|55 Davis Square

**Sunday|December 8**

**Johnny D’s**  
Open Blues Jam featuring Hot  
Sauce BPS  
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Frank Drake Sunday Showcase |5  
p.m..  
Jim Coyle & His Barroom Gentle-  
men |8 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-  
3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Sunday Americana with Sean  
Staples, Eric Royer, Tim Gearan,

Dave Westner and Dan Keller|7  
p.m.  
Back Room  
Burren Acoustic Music Series  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

**Precinct Bar**  
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

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

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

**Radio Bar**  
379 Summer St

**Arts at the Armory**  
Crossing Music Borders: From  
India to Brazil (and somewhere in  
between)  
8 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

**Somerville Theatre**  
Slutcracker-A Burlesque  
8 p.m.|55 Davis Square

**Monday|December 9**

**Johnny D’s**  
Team Trivia  
8:30 p.m.|17 Holland St | 617-  
776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Shawn Cater’s Cheapshots Com-  
edy 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|6:45 p.m.  
Back Room  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

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

**Precinct Bar**  
70 Union Sq|617-623-921

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

**Radio Bar**  
379 Summer St

**Arts at the Armory**  
Center Stage Somerville 2013:  
Click Clack Moo  
3:15 p.m.-5 p.m.|Performance  
Hall  
Cambridge Symphony Orchestra

Rehearsal  
6:30 p.m.|Performance Hall

**Tuesday|December 10**

**JohnnyD’s**  
Rock On! Concerts Presents: The  
Fighting Jamesons  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Chandler Travis Three-O  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-  
3589

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

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

**PA’S Lounge**  
Open Mic - Rock, Folk, R&B, Alt,  
Jazz & Originals etc. Hosted by  
Tony Amaral  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-  
1557

**Precinct Bar**  
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

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

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

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

**Radio Bar**  
379 Summer St

**Wednesday|December 11**

**Johnny D’s**  
The Commander Cody and his  
Modern Day Airmen|The Darlings  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Exile on Elm  
Back Room  
Burren Backroom series 7:30  
p.m.  
Comedy @ 10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

1557

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

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

**Precinct Bar**  
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

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

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

**Radio Bar**  
Up: Dave Crespo CD Swap!! Last  
Of The Independents, House  
Boat Supreme  
379 Summer St

**CLASSES AND GROUPS**  
**Wednesday|December 4**

**Central Library**  
Mystery Book Club  
7 p.m.-9 p.m.|79 Highland  
Avenue

**Third Life Studio**  
Belly Dance with Nadira Ja-  
mal|Level 2  
7:30 p.m.|Level 2|33 Union Sq|w-  
www.nadirajamal.com

**Thursday| December 5**

**Central Library**  
Drop in meditation  
1 p.m.-2 p.m.|79 Highland  
Avenue

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

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

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

**Friday|December 6**

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

**Saturday| December 7**

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

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

**Sunday|December 8**

**Central Library**  
Book Launch for She’s Gone  
Santa Fe by Maida Tilchen and In  
Retrospect by Ellen Larson  
1:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.| 79 High-  
land Avenue

**Unity Church of God**  
Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon  
Family Groups  
7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street  
Enter upstairs, meeting is in  
basement.

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

**Monday|December 9**

**East Branch Library**  
Learn English at the Library!  
Session 1|6 p.m.-7 p.m.  
Session 2|7:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m.  
115 Broadway

**Central Library**  
Getting the Most Out of Your  
iPad  
James Fox  
7 p.m.- 8 p.m.|79 Highland  
Avenue

**Third Life Studio**  
Discover Belly Dance with Nadi-  
ra Jamal  
6 p.m.|33 Union Sq|www.nadira-  
jamal.com

**Tuesday| December 10**

**Central Library**  
Recovery group for elders  
1:30 .m.-2:30 p.m.|79 Highland  
Avenue

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

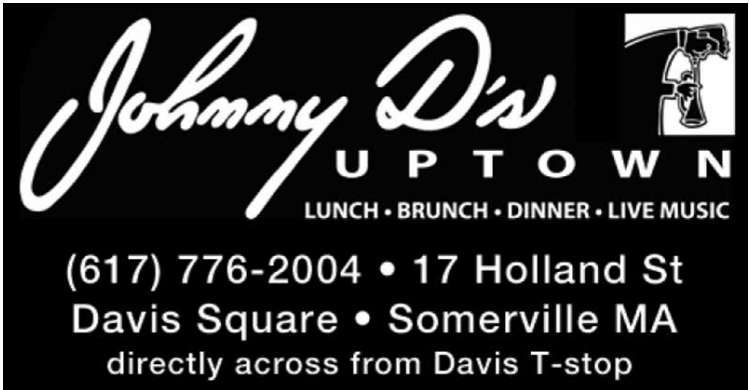
**Arts at the Armory**  
Prenatal Yoga  
7 p.m.|Mezzanine|191 Highland  
Ave

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

**Wednesday| December 11**

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

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!



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**617-666-4010**



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## EDUCATION

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## EMPLOYMENT

Attention Licensed Real Estate Agents needed: Very busy Somerville based office in need of additional agents, no fee referrals, Sales & Rentals, Part time or Full Time. work from home online, full office back up and highest paid no strings commissions. Call for private interview 617 623-6600 ask for Donald.

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Warm Weather Is Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe,

and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. \$3500. Email: [carolaction@aol.com](mailto:carolaction@aol.com) for more information.

## FOR SALE

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## MISCELLANEOUS

A CHILDLESS MARRIED COUPLE (in our 30's) seek to adopt. Will be hands-on parents. Financial security. Expenses paid. Call or Text: Jose & Adam. 1-800-790-5260

T-SHIRTS Custom printed. \$5.50 heavyweight. "Gildan" Min. order of 36 pcs. HATS - Embroidered \$6.00. Free catalog. 1-800-242-2374 Berg Sportswear 40.

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## WANTED TO BUY

CASH PAID- up to \$28/Box for unexpired, sealed DIABETIC TEST STRIPS. 1-DAY PAYMENT. 1-800-371-1136

Wants to purchase minerals and other oil and gas interests. Send details to P.O. Box 13557 Denver, Co. 80201

Place your Classified Ad in The Somerville Times today!

## Inequality in America

CONT. FROM PG 10

Several studies agree that every \$1 invested in pre-kindergarten education ultimately reduces public spending on services, and increases productivity and earnings, to produce a combined return of \$7. We need the kind of universal pre-K education that kids in more equal countries receive if we are to again achieve economic vitality.

Skyrocketing college costs and suffocating student debt are reducing young people's ability to prosper, while undermining economic growth. The plan that the President has presented to make college more affordable deserves serious consideration.

**Fiscal policy**, and specifically, public investments in infrastructure, research, and education, can make an important contribution to full employment, which reduces inequality. Right-wing obstruction of such measures is ideological and self-serving, but unsupported by the evidence. Absent these investments, the Federal Reserve Bank has been attempting to stimulate the economy by recklessly expanding the money supply, a policy which, I believe, is ineffective and fraught with risk.

Wall Street reform is long overdue. During the last thir-

ty years, growth in financial services has been hugely disproportionate to growth in other industrial sectors. It has diverted a large share of the national income from wages and salaries to dividends and capital gains, diverted capital away from job- and growth-producing sectors, and damaged productive sectors through speculation and plunder.

Privately owned investment banks went public in the 1980s and 90s, using shareholder money to increase their capital while reducing their personal risk. They successfully lobbied to abolish regulations protecting the public. Congress and President Clinton repealed the Glass Steagall Act in 1999, enabling investment bankers to speculate with depositors' money as well. They became fabulously wealthy from high-risk successes, while taxpayers covered their failures.

John McCain and Elizabeth Warren are sponsoring a bill to reinstate Glass Steagall. Meanwhile, Republicans continue to block full implementation of the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010.

### Fairer taxation and benefits

**Social Security payments** to Americans who have worked all their lives are paltry when compared to those of other developed nations. The payroll tax, which funds Social Security, is the most regressive of the federal taxes. We should exempt the first \$15,000 of a worker's earnings. In turn, we should remove the current limit of \$113,700 on how much income is taxed.

**Tax burdens** have shifted over thirty years from taxing income derived from wealth to taxing income derived from work. From 1946 to 1978, the top marginal tax rate was never below 70%, and we had greater economic growth than at any time since. Returning to historical marginal and capital-gain tax rates would directly reduce inequality while financing investments in future economic growth and in reweaving the tattered social safety net.

**Tax loopholes** allow the richest corporations and individuals to dodge their fair share of taxes and to offshore their profits. Both political parties condemn them but lack the political will to act.

The **Earned Income Tax Credit** is a subsidy for low- and moderate-wage workers. It en-

courages and rewards work and should be expanded.

Achieving any or all of the foregoing reforms is not easy. Pope Francis writes, "A financial reform open to such ethical considerations would require a vigorous change of approach on the part of political leaders."

The vigor of our political leaders is weakened and perverted by big money in politics, as is the electoral process that selects them. Some activists have proposed a Constitutional amendment, establishing that corporations are not people, and money is not speech. It would encounter fierce and fiercely financed opposition, but I think that Americans are ready for it.

Reforms also require empowered workers. For a century, equality of income in America has been directly proportional to the percentage of the workforce that is unionized. That relationship is unequivocal and compelling.

Legislative and administrative changes have gradually chipped away at unions' ability to organize. A case now before the Supreme Court could deal another serious blow. Strong labor standards would give workers greater bargaining power, affirm

the work ethic, and sustain economic growth through stable consumer demand.

All of the foregoing solutions represent ways to patch up institutional arrangements that Pope Francis describes as a system wherein "everything comes under the laws of competition and the survival of the fittest, where the powerful feed upon the powerless."

He dismisses, "trickle-down theories which assume that economic growth, encouraged by a free market, will inevitably succeed in bringing about greater justice and inclusiveness in the world. This opinion, which has never been confirmed by the facts, expresses a crude and naïve trust in the goodness of those wielding economic power and in the sacralized workings of the prevailing economic system."

I would hope that, a quarter-century after the fall of the Soviet Union, we could discuss prospects for an institutional arrangement that is neither corporate capitalism nor state socialism. It would be, quoting Francis again, a system in which "Money must serve, not rule," a system that nurtures humanity and sustains life on the planet.

Let's begin the discussion.



# 65°: Contemporary Encaustic at the Nave Gallery Annex

The Nave Gallery Annex hosts a group exhibition from December 5-22 of encaustic art in its Davis Square location. 65°: *An Exhibition of Contemporary Encaustic Art*, is an exhibition on the techniques, materials and subject matter used by today's wax artists, and features the work of 22 local and national artists.

The exhibition is curated by Leika Akiyama, a multimedia visual artist who has worked with encaustic. The show includes work by Akiyama, Deborah Bohnert, Jodi Colella, Barbara Cone, Kindra Crick, Evelyn Davis-Walker, Joanne F. Desmond, Suzanne Gibbs, Eileen P. Goldberg, Elizabeth Harris, Suzanne Hauerstein, Deb Neiman, Laurie Johnston, Suzanne Lomanto, Lazaro Montano, Julie Nussbaum, Beth Page, Melissa Rubin, Sarah B. Shallbetter, Sophie Truong, Mariana Vieira and Catherine Weber.

Traditional encaustic involves adding pigments to beeswax heated at approximately 65 degrees Centigrade. The effect is a rich, thick texture that can make the viewer feel as if the images or items presented under wax are in a dreamlike state. In 65°, Akiyama takes traditional encaustic several steps further.

"In this show, I have tried to showcase encaustic work that had wide range of application and synthesis of varied materials in contemporary artistic

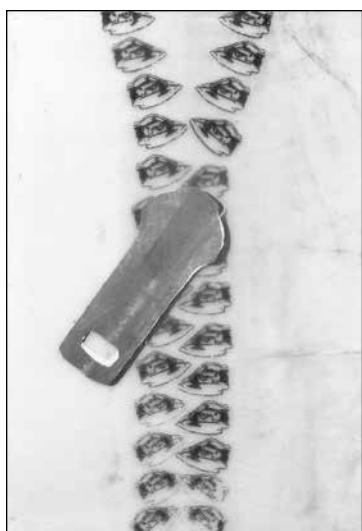
processes," Akiyama states. "Encaustic attracts traditional painters as well as fiber artists, sculptors and installation artists alike because of its versatility and 3D properties. I have chosen work from artists from different backgrounds and expertise who are all using the encaustic medium to create work that is unique to their sensibilities."

One such artist is Somerville's Jodi Colella. Colella's series, *APPENDIX*, is an addendum to the original installation *INDEX*. In *APPENDIX*, Colella applies encaustic to everyday objects situated on 4x4 panels. An ethnographic exploration, the pieces are arranged in a grid with chronologically numbered panels and a corresponding catalog of definitions.

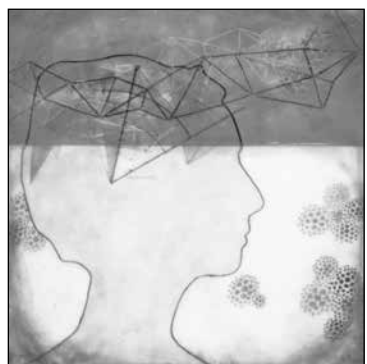
Subject matter in the exhibition ranges from the scientific to the domestic. Pacific Northwest native Kindra Crick's images and mark-making build upon each other in layers, creating a dichotomy between the elusiveness of the images beneath the rich surface texture and the rationality of these original scientific diagrams.

Evelyn Davis Walker's recent body of work revolves around the social role of the American housewife. As an artist, she explores the role of the 1930-1960's housewife in mixed media collage, the work ultimately assisting in forging her own new identity.

Suzanne Hauerstein uses her work to tell the stories of everyday domestic life as her source images show life as seen through the lens of wife and mother.



*The Iron Zipper* by Evelyn Davis-Walker.



*Thought* by Kendra Crick.



*Going Home* by Suzanne Hauerstein.

Some of the memories shown are images of her mother and grandmothers; others are imagined, but each tells a story. The hazy, smooth plane of the wax juxtaposed with the dark, saturated graphic image lends itself to the telling of visual memories, some of which may not be quite clear in all of their details.

65°: *An Exhibition of Contemporary Encaustic Art* will be on exhibition from December 5-22, 2013.

Opening Reception: Thursday,

December 5, 2013, 6:00-9:00 p.m. at Nave Gallery Annex, 53 Chester St, Somerville.  
 day-Friday, 6:00-8:00 p.m.; Saturday, 2:00-8:00 p.m.; Sunday, 2:00-6:00 p.m.  
 Exhibition Dates and Hours: Visit [www.navegallery.org](http://www.navegallery.org) for more information.

## Call me grandpa CONT. FROM PG 10

mother. But the other stuff should come easy, like the love.

My dad was an awesome grandpa to Nikki (my daughter). They were two peas in a pod, partners in crime, pals, and cohorts. The photos we have are precious. My own grandpa was a smiling, singing hugging and kissing machine. So I come from a long line of good grandpas.

I can't describe the joy I had when I was holding Christiana in my arms. I have seen both my sons (almost 18 and 16) smile many times before, but never

like they smiled while holding their adorable tiny new niece. And they are the second generation Uncle Joey and Uncle Jimmy, because my brother and I were the first.

Thanks for all the personal phone calls, and the hundreds of Facebook messages of congratulations. I must thank Nikki and her husband Brandon for giving us this unbelievable gift.

I can't wait to pass on the small-scaled electric guitar that her uncles learned on. I will also give her a keyboard that she can

bang. This child just might be the next Taylor Swift! She already has a name that sounds like a rock star...Christiana Chanel! One thing is for sure, she is the star of our family. I'm sure her great grandmother Gerry and great grandfather Fred are smiling down (or up). And I am positive that Christiana's grandma Christine will be watching over her precious granddaughter every second of her life. And I will do my best as her grandpa to spoil her, hug her, teach her, and love her.



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



### Monday December 9

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

### Tuesday December 10

Chandler Travis Three-O 8 p.m.

### Wednesday December 11

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

### Thursday December 12

Flatt Rabbit grassy Thursdays 7:30 p.m.

### Friday December 13

Radioactive Rustlers 6 p.m.  
 The Figgs \$10 cover 9 p.m.

### Saturday December 14

Tom Hagerty Band 6 p.m.  
 The Figgs \$10 cover 9 p.m.

### Sunday December 15

noon Welcome Jingle Bell Run runners to the Sally's finish-line party!  
 3 p.m. Sourmash Christmas Party!  
 Fine music & memories til 8.  
 David Paige, Brittany Moffitt 8:30 p.m.



**NEVER A COVER!!!**  
[www.sallyobriensbar.com](http://www.sallyobriensbar.com)





# Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

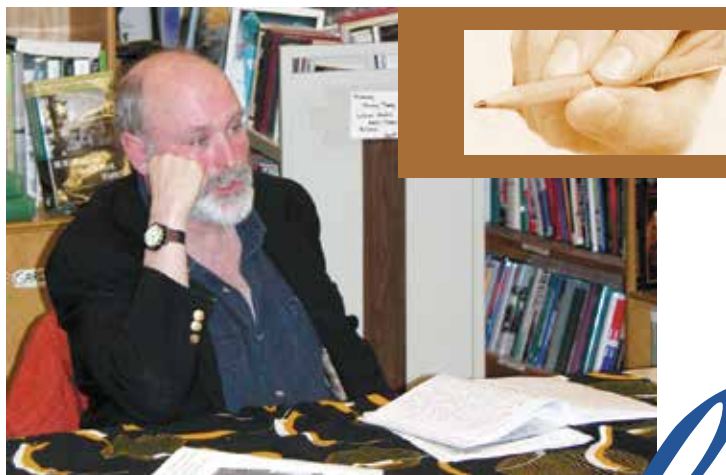
Celebrating 30 years of making grassroots community media for Somerville

Want to learn TV production? Final Cut Pro? Soundtrack Pro? Green-screen? Call us today for more info! 617-628-8826					
<b>Wednesday, December 4</b>		5:00pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	12:30pm	Somerville Art Matters
7:30am	Life Matters	5:30pm	The Folklorist	1:00pm	Play by Play
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents
9:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou	2:30pm	Hello Neighbor
9:30am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	<b>Friday, December 6</b>		3:00pm	Telemagazine
10:30am	Art at SCATV	7:30am	Shrink Rap	4:00pm	Somerville Most Interesting Places
11:00am	Abugida TV	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol
12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:00am	Somerville News Reading	6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
1:00pm	Somerville Back in the Day	10:00am	Energy Theater	6:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority
1:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	12:00pm	Somerville Housing Authority	7:00pm	Energy Theater
2:00pm	Youth Violence in Society	1:30pm	Seeds of Death	8:00pm	David Parkman (Free Speech TV)
3:00pm	Medical Tutor	2:30pm	History of the West End	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes
3:30pm	Healthy Hypnosis	3:00pm	Brunch with Sen. Bernie Sanders	10:00pm	Tufts University's Films for Social Change
4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	Gay USA
5:00pm	Ablevision	5:00pm	Greater Somerville	<b>Sunday, December 8</b>	
6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	5:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	6:00am	Program Celebrai
6:30pm	Active Aging	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	7:00am	Rompendo em Fe
7:00pm	Tufts University's Films for Social Change	6:30pm	Reeling the Movie Review Show	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits	7:00pm	Real Estate Answers Show	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church
8:30pm	Perils for Pedestrians	7:30pm	Johnboy (short fiction)	10:00am	International Church of God
9:00pm	Bay State Biking News	8:00pm	Boston Free Radio's RADIO show	10:30am	Hello Neighbor
10:00pm	Creepy Castle	9:00pm	Farewell to Factory Farms	11:00am	The Folklorist
<b>Thursday, December 5</b>		10:00pm	Tufts University's Films for Social Change	11:30am	Basic Buddha
6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	11:00pm	No Film Film Festival	12:00pm	Play by Play
7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	<b>Saturday, December 7</b>		2:30pm	Life Matters
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:00am	Arabic Hour	3:00pm	Rompendo em Fe
9:00am	Tufts University's Films for Social Change	7:00am	Mystic Learning Center	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade
10:00am	Planet Somerville	7:30am	Next Generation Producers Group	5:00pm	Ethiopian Satellite TV
11:00am	Talking about Somerville	8:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	6:00pm	Abugida TV
12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:30am	Everybody has an Accent, Why is Mine a Problem?	7:00pm	African Television Network
1:00pm	African Television	9:00am	Festival Kreyol	8:00pm	Tele Magazine
2:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking w/ Candy	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	9:00pm	Effort Pour Christ
2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez	11:00am	Dead Air Live	10:00pm	Farrakhan Speaks
3:30pm	Health is Wealth	12:00pm	Reeling the Movie Review Show	11:00pm	Somerville in Shorts
4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)			<b>Monday, December 9</b>	
				7:30am	Eckankar
				8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
				9:00am	Cooking with Georgia and Dez
				9:30am	Neighborhood Cooking
				10:00am	Bay State Biking News
				11:00am	Nossa gente e Costumes
				12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
				3:00pm	Exercise with Robyn and Max
				3:30pm	Esoteric Science
				4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
				5:00pm	Youth Violence in Society
				5:30pm	Youth Programming
				6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)
				7:00pm	Nepali Producers Group
				9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
				10:00pm	Bate Papo com Shirley
				<b>Tuesday, December 10</b>	
				7:00am	The Struggle
				8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
				9:00am	Somerville News Reading
				10:00am	Contemporary Issues in Science
				12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
				2:00pm	The Folklorist
				4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
				5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer
				5:30pm	The Literati Scene
				6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)
				6:30pm	Consumer Affairs
				7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
				7:30pm	Greater Somerville
				8:00pm	Dead Air Live
				9:00pm	MEH Kyown's Television
				10:00pm	Penny's Dreadful Shilling Shockers

## City Cable TV Schedule for the Week

CITY TV 13/22		3:45pm:	Highlander Forum – Boys' Soccer	8:30pm:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	2:00pm:	MIAA 1st Rd - SHS Boys Soccer vs. Cambridge
Wednesday, December 4		7:00pm:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	10:00pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	3:30pm:	SHS Football vs. Cambridge Thanksgiving
9:00am:	Waste Transfer Station Demolition Event	7:30pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	12:00am:	Senior Circuit	5:30pm:	MIAA 1st Rd - SHS Boys Soccer vs. Cambridge
9:30am:	Voices of Somerville	8:00pm:	Highlander Forum – Boys' Soccer	12:30am:	Sit & Be Fit	7:00pm:	SHS Football vs. Cambridge - 9/27
12:00pm:	School Committee Meeting – REPLAY OF 12.2.13	8:30pm:	Muslim & Arab Community Panel	1:00am:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	9:30pm:	SHS Girls Soccer vs. Cambridge - 9/22
3:00pm:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	10:15pm:	Talking Business	1:30am:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	11:00pm:	MIAA 1st Rd - SHS Boys Soccer vs. Cambridge
6:30pm:	Voices of Somerville	Sunday, December 8		3:00am:	The Aldermen's Hour	Sunday, December 8	
7:00pm:	Muslim & Arab Community Panel	12:00am:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	EDUCATIONAL CHANNEL 15		12:30am:	SHS Football vs. Cambridge Thanksgiving
8:00pm:	Founders Memorial Rink Dedication	12:30am:	The Aldermen's Hour	Wednesday, December 4		2:30am:	MIAA 1st Rd - SHS Boys Soccer vs. Cambridge
9:30pm:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	1:00am:	Highlander Forum – Boys' Soccer	9:00am:	Highlander Forum - Leadership	9:00am:	2013 SHS Fall Sports Rally
10:00pm:	POW-MIA Memorial Chair Dedication	1:30am:	Muslim & Arab Community Panel	9:30am:	2013 SHS Fall Sports Rally	10:15am:	SHS Football vs. Cambridge Thanksgiving
Thursday, December 5		2:15am:	Talking Business	1:00pm:	Highlander Forum - Boys Soccer	12:30pm:	Highlander Forum - Boys Soccer
12:00am:	Muslim & Arab Community Panel	9:00am:	POW-MIA Memorial Chair Dedication	2:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City - Health & Wellness	1:00pm:	SHS Girls Soccer vs. N Quincy
1:00am:	Founders Memorial Rink Dedication	12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	3:00pm:	SHS Girls Soccer vs. Everett	3:00pm:	kid stuff - Gene Brune
2:30am:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Everyday Exercises for Older Adults	4:30pm:	Highlander Forum - Leadership	3:30pm:	2013 SHS Fall Sports Rally
3:00am:	POW-MIA Memorial Chair Dedication	1:00pm:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	5:00pm:	2013 SHS Fall Sports Rally	4:45pm:	SHS Football vs. Cambridge Thanksgiving
9:00am:	POW Experience of Somerville 1864-5	1:30pm:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	6:30pm:	SHS Football vs. Cambridge Thanksgiving	7:00pm:	Highlander Forum - Boys Soccer
12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	3:00pm:	Talking Business	8:30pm:	Highlander Forum - Boys Soccer	7:30pm:	SHS Girls Soccer vs. N Quincy
12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Everyday Exercises for Older Adults	7:00pm:	Senior Circuit	9:30pm:	Our Schools, Our City - Health & Wellness	9:30pm:	kid stuff - Gene Brune
1:00pm:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	7:30pm:	Keep Moving: Everyday Exercises for Older Adults	10:30pm:	SHS Girls Soccer vs. Everett	10:00pm:	MIAA Div 1 State Semifinal SHS Boys Soccer vs. Silver Lake
1:30pm:	Somerville By Design	8:00pm:	Voices of Somerville	Thursday, December 5		Monday, December 9	
2:30pm:	Waste Transfer Station Ceremony	8:30pm:	Somerville By Design	12:00am:	MIAA Div 1 State Semifinal SHS Boys Soccer vs. Silver Lake	12:00am:	SHS Boys Soccer vs. Madison Park
3:00pm:	Highlander Fourm – Boys' Soccer	9:30pm:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	2:00am:	MIAA Playoff: SHS Boys Soccer vs. Brookline	1:30am:	SHS Boys Soccer vs. Medford
6:30pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	Monday, December 9		9:00am:	SHS Girls Soccerv Austin Prep - 10/4	9:00am:	SHS Boys Soccer vs. Medford
7:00pm:	Highlander Forum – Boys' Soccer	12:00am:	Senior Circuit	10:30am:	MIAA State Final SHS Boys Soccer vs. W Springfield	11:00am:	Highlander Forum - Boys Soccer
7:30pm:	City-Wide Spelling Bee Benefit	12:30am:	Keep Moving: Everyday Exercises for Older Adults	1:05pm:	SHS Boys Soccer vs Madison Park	12:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City - Health & Wellness
8:00pm:	Tale of Two Canals	1:00am:	Voices of Somerville	3:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City - SPS Music	12:30pm:	Our Schools, Our City - SPS Music
9:00pm:	Waste Transfer Station Ceremony	1:30am:	Somerville By Design	3:30pm:	Superintendent's Awards - WSNS	1:00pm:	kid stuff - Arts Council
9:15pm:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	2:30am:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	5:30pm:	MIAA State Final SHS Boys Soccer vs. W Springfield	1:30pm:	Raising Families - Real Food
Friday, December 6		9:00am:	POW Experience in Somerville 1864-5	8:30pm:	Superintendent's Awards - WSNS	2:00pm:	El Sistema Somerville Harvest Concert
12:00am:	Highlander Forum – Boys' Soccer	10:00am:	Overview of Somerville By Design	9:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City - SPS Music	3:00pm:	2013 SHS Fall Sports Rally
12:30am:	City-Wide Spelling Bee Benefit	12:00pm:	Somerville By Design	9:30pm:	kid stuff - Arts Council	4:30pm:	SHS Boys Soccer vs. Medford
1:00am:	Tale of Two Canals	1:00pm:	Disability Awareness Month Event	10:00pm:	SHS Football vs. Everett	6:30pm:	Highlander Forum - Boys Soccer
2:00am:	Waste Transfer Station Ceremony	2:00pm:	Congressional Update	Friday, December 6		7:30pm:	Our Schools, Our City - Health & Wellness
2:15am:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner	2:30pm:	POW Experience in Somerville 1864-5	12:00am:	SHS Football vs. Cambridge Thanksgiving	8:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City - SPS Music
9:00am:	Talking Business	7:00pm:	Highlander Forum – Boys' Soccer	1:00pm:	Highlander Forum - Boys Soccer	8:30pm:	kid stuff - Arts Council
12:00pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	7:30pm:	Congressional Update	1:30pm:	kid stuff - Arts Council	9:00pm:	Raising Families - Real Food
12:30pm:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	8:00pm:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting	2:00pm:	MIAA Div Semifinal SHS Boys Soccer vs. Malden	9:30pm:	El Sistema Somerville Harvest Concert
1:00pm:	POW Experience in Somerville 1864-5	9:45pm:	Waste Transfer Station Ceremony	4:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City - SPS Music	10:30pm:	2013 SHS Fall Sports Rally
2:00pm:	POW-MIA Memorial Chair Dedication	10:00pm:	Somerville By Design: Davis Square Plan	4:30pm:	2013 SHS Fall Sports Rally	Tuesday, December 10	
2:30pm:	Muslim & Arab Community Panel	Tuesday, December 10		6:00pm:	SHS Football vs. Cambridge Thanksgiving	12:00am:	MIAA Div Semifinal SHS Boys Soccer vs. Malden
6:30pm:	Waste Transfer Station Demolition Event	12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	8:00pm:	Highlander Forum - Boys Soccer	2:00am:	MIAA Div Final SHS Boys Soccer vs. St Johns Prep
6:45pm:	Capuano School Playground Ribbon Cutting	12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Everyday Exercises for Older Adults	8:30pm:	kid stuff - Arts Council	4:00am:	MIAA Div 1 State Semifinal SHS Boys Soccer vs. Silver Lake
7:00pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	1:00pm:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	9:00pm:	MIAA Div Semifinal SHS Boys Soccer vs. Malden	9:00am:	El Sistema Somerville Harvest Concert
7:30pm:	POW Experience in Somerville 1864-5	1:30pm:	City-Wide Spelling Bee Benefit	Saturday, December 7		10:00am:	SHS Boys Soccer vs. Madison Park
8:30pm:	POW-MIA Memorial Chair Dedication	2:00pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	12:00am:	2013 SHS Fall Sports Rally	12:00pm:	Founders Memorial Rink Dedication
9:00pm:	Muslim & Arab Community Panel	2:15pm:	Founders Memorial Rink Dedication	1:15am:	SHS Football vs. Cambridge Thanksgiving	1:30pm:	ESCS Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration
10:45pm	Highlander Forum – Boys' Soccer	7:00pm:	Senior Circuit	8:00am:	SHS Girls Volleyball vs. Cambridge	2:00pm:	Highlander Forum - Boys Soccer
Saturday, December 7		7:30pm:	Keep Moving: Everyday Exercises for Older Adults	10:00am:	SHS Football vs. Cambridge - 9/27	3:00pm:	El Sistema Somerville Harvest Concert
12:00am:	The Aldermen's Hour	8:00pm:	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte	12:30pm:	SHS Girls Soccer vs. Cambridge - 9/22	4:00pm:	SHS Football vs. Tewksbury
12:30am:	POW Experience in Somerville 1864-5					6:00pm:	SHS Girls Soccer vs. Everett
1:30am:	POW-MIA Memorial Chair Dedication					7:30pm:	SHS Girls Soccer vs. Cambridge - 9/22
2:00am:	Muslim & Arab Community Panel					9:00pm:	SHS Football vs. Cambridge Thanksgiving
3:45am	Highlander Forum – Boys' Soccer					12:00am:	MIAA State Final SHS Boys Soccer vs. W Springfield
9:00am:	Phone Box Diorama						
12:00pm:	The Aldermen's Hour						
12:30pm:	POW Experience in Somerville 1864-5						
1:30pm:	POW-MIA Memorial Chair Dedication						
2:00pm:	Muslim & Arab Community Panel						





## OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

### Poet Dan Sklar: An American Primitive



Dan Sklar has been described as an “American Primitive” by other poets in the region. And they mean this as a compliment. Sklar is a PhD and a professor of Creative Writing at Endicott College and he writes with a no-frills and emotive style--that cuts to the chase and cuts the ... well you know what. His latest book of poetry is titled *Flying Cats: Actually Swooping* (Ibbetson Street Press). I talked with Sklar on my Somerville Community Access TV show *Poet to Poet: Writer to Writer*.

**Doug Holder:** You have won a number of awards for teaching excellence. I often hear you and your students screaming when I am in my office at Endicott College early in the morning. Is this a good indicator of an engaged classroom?

**DH:** Walt Whitman and Charles Bukowski are inspirations for you. Whitman seemed to embrace the world, while Bukowski was misanthropic. What appeals you about these divergent voices?

**DS:** I like Bukowski's freedom. I am lusty as nature like Whitman. With Bukowski I like his sincerity and honesty. Bukowski has a poem that states that he has a bluebird in his heart that he tries to drown with whiskey. But the blue bird is still there. It is a beautiful poem. Whitman is full of love and contradictions. Like Whitman, I contradict myself, so I contradict myself. I am filled with contradictions. And Bukowski is filled with contradictions.

**DH:** Your new collection is *Flying Cats: Actually Swooping* (Ibbetson Street Press). Where did you get the title from?

**DS:** I was watching a TV show about the future in which there were no humans on the planet. And I started to fall asleep but I heard: “In the future there will be flying cats. And I perked up. The show talked about how in the future when there are no humans, the cats will go back into the trees and fly....actually swooping. So I wrote a poem about the future where cats will fly--people will ride horses--and take trains--life will be slower.

**DH:** You seem to be an eternal optimist. It must be hard to maintain.

**DS:** Yes. When I am with people it is not hard. Especially with students. I brood when I am alone. When I go to a coffee-shop by myself I get depressed. It is creative depression. And good writing comes from it. It's like the Russians. A Russian has to suffer.

**DH:** Lisa Beatman, a well-respected poet, described you as an American Primitive.

**DS:** I like that label. When she says primitive I love it. It means basic, primal...there is nothing fancy about it. I take it as a compliment. I use very little metaphor in my poetry--if I come up with it, it is by pure chance.

**DH:** Like William Carlos Williams your poetry is about things.

**DS:** Oh. Absolutely. My last book with Ibbetson Street was *Bicycles, Canoes and Drums*--all primitive things. The future is going to go back to basics--like horse drawn carriages, etc....

**DH:** In your new collection you have a poem *Poetry Mind* -- that deals with you trying to keep from becoming standardized. Do you think people today are thinking less outside the box?

**DS:** I don't know what other people are thinking or doing. But I think folks should not be so enamored with technology. There are too many screens around. All of this is going way from nature. When you go away from nature--destroying it becomes less of a problem.

*“I think you should  
wake your students up.  
You wake up their minds.  
Talk to them like  
human beings.”*

**Dan Sklar:** (Laughs) Well it depends on what you are teaching. But that particular course was play writing. And in that course we were doing scenes. So in scenes people are usually arguing and fighting--there is conflict. I think you should wake your students up. You wake up their minds. Talk to them like human beings. The first few minute of the class I always come in with a story. I also use dreams. When you talk about dreams suddenly everyone listens, because everyone dreams. You ask them about their dreams. I always bring in something that makes them listen.

**DH:** You are also a playwright. Recently you had a play staged at the Actor's Studio in Newburyport, Mass. entitled *Hack License*. What was the play about?

**DS:** Well--it is about a woman taxi cab driver--22 years old, from Louisiana. And all these New Yorkers come into her cab. And they all come with their problems. And they insult her. But in spite of this she solves their problems. She is also looking for a man. He has to paint like Charles Burchfield. Burchfield was known for painting pictures with bright colors, storms, flowers, volcanoes vivid yellows, reds and greens.

**DH:** What playwrights have influenced you. Eugene O'Neill for instance?

**DS:** I wish I could write like Eugene O'Neill. Every time I start to write like him it comes out like Neil Simon. Saroyan is a big influence. George S. Kaufman, and Thornton Wilder are also.

**DH:** You use a lot of comedy in your writing.

**DS:** Yeah--but I never mean to. It just happens.

A poem about James Joyce and Harry Truman? Unlikely you say. But Michael Todd Steffen pulls it off.



**James Joyce, President Truman**

Between two names, two men. The one in office  
Must have hesitated for a proof  
Of the innocence rumored in the other's pages  
With hidden curiosity, courting frost  
Eminence for an image on the lawn.  
One had suggested, in a sense loomed for  
The brazen suitors who made necessary  
The hearth's restoration, the other's commission—  
Under the heroics, woe to alpha,  
A hunter's vision of the sufferer in the deer's wood.  
Neither was ever known especially  
For being sentimental over the time's  
Triumphs, our President from Missouri  
Practical of chapter and verse, the Irish  
Scrivener honing his arcane coherence  
On Finnegans errata. Both would agree  
The world should mind, familiarly. In the same room  
Together, the sail's hoist and the anchor, two cordial  
Smiles to disguise their polarized resistance.

— Michael Todd Steffen

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

Ms. Cam's

From on page 14

## Olio

Answers

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Fossil fuels   | 8. Thomas Edison  |
| 2. Ice cream cones  | 9. The Holland and the Lincoln Tunnel   |
| 3. Southfork  | 10. Both died while playing cards – Wild Bill held Aces and Eights, a dead man's hand, and Al Jolson was playing rummy and said “I'm going” |
| 4. It was made of rope  | 11. Origami   |
| 5. La Manche  | 12. They had an earthquake that measured 7.1 on the Richter Scale   |
| 6. A president cannot be sued for acts outside the scope of his presidential duties |   |
| 7. Capt. Kidd – Pirates are known to bury their treasure                            |   |

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