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Happy New Year

From the Publisher and Staff of
The Somerville Times



A year of progress, plans and politics



By David R. Smith

The year that was will continue to shape Somerville well into the new year and beyond.

Large-scale plans for revitalizing whole sections of the city took steps – sometimes small and sometimes large – towards becoming reality. And changes made in 2013 to who will represent Somerville and its residents, whether through resignations or elections, will no doubt influence the direction of where the city goes over the next 12 months and beyond.

Like every other city and town, and like every other person, we experienced both tragedies and good times and, in the end, hopefully more victories than losses. With that in mind, here are just a few of the issues that took center stage over the last year.

Remembering Bob 'Pub' Publicover

The new year started on a sad note with the Dec. 31, 2012, passing of lifelong Somerville resident and longtime *Somerville News* Publisher Bob Publicover at age 63.

Continued on page 3

From Richie Havens to Somerville

By Jim Clark

Veteran blues and jazz guitarist Walter Parks has built an international career as the lead guitarist for Woodstock legend Richie Havens, as half of the folk-duo The Nudes, and as leader of the neo-southern rock group Swamp Cabbage. On Saturday, Jan. 11, he will be bringing his unique song stylings to town for a show at Johnny D's, along with Duncan Phillips and Kate MacLeod.

Just as Georgia's Okefenokee Swamp has served as the headwaters of Florida's Suwanee River, so has it served as the inspirational headwaters for Walter's unique guitar concept, a banjo-esque fingerpicking style that toggles between expressing the swamp's foggy, ambient underbelly and it's eminent danger via the use of a modicum of pleasant distortion.

Inspired by the sultry black gospel that wails from storefront churches and roadhouses in the American southeast, Parks's raspy vocal lows and soaring operatic falsetto explore the frontier of the modern human spirit in search of a place where it can flourish.

Continued on page 17



A traditional blues player with a style all his own, Walter Parks comes to Somerville on Jan. 11.

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Happy New Year to all Villens out there from the publisher and staff of *The Somerville Times*. Let's hope that 2014 is a better year for all.

Don't forget Jan. 1 is the annual raising of the first flag over Prospect Hill. The ceremony will begin at noon at the tower, with a group of locals starting off at City Hall in a small parade marching to the monument. We have a new flagpole at the monument. From the weather forecast, it's going to be a cold day. Still, for those of you who are new to Somerville, this annual ceremony is one not to miss.

The Somerville Chamber of Commerce's "Business After Hours" get together is 5 p.m. Thursday (Jan. 2) at the Foundry on Elm Street in Davis Square. The event is a great way to meet and network with businesses from across the city. For reservations, contact Steve Mackey at smackey@somervillechamber.org for reservations. Remember to bring your business cards.

Happy Birthday this week to all Villens both here and spread around. Chris Kenny is celebrating this week. He's a good friend of the Times. Formerly of East Somerville, Paul Peddle of the well-known Peddles is also celebrating. His family is now spread across New Hampshire, but they still have their hearts here in the Ville. And if he were still alive today, Archibald Query would celebrate his 97 birthday. He, of course, is the founder of "Fluff," which we celebrate yearly with the "Fluff Festival." Who doesn't know and respect Danny Kallis, the general manager of the Armory on Highland? What a nice guy and true Villen here in Somerville. We wish him many more happy, happy birthdays. We also wish a happy birthday to Liza Ludwick and Adam Williams, a lifelong resident and all-around nice guy. A big happy birthday to Sean O'Brien of Winter Hill this week. To Christina DiShino from the Ville, we wish you a happy birthday. To all of the above and the many other fans of Somerville here in the Ville itself and elsewhere, we wish them a great day. And make sure when you see them, you give your greetings as well!

Continued on page 11

TheSomervilleTimes.com
Comments of the Week

Response to *Smart commercial development keeps Somerville affordable*

j. connelly says:
Sure and if the mayor had not discriminated against Walmart coming to the city Beyonce would have been giving out \$50.00 gift cards at a Somerville Walmart instead of Tewksbury today. Another bad judgement error by Joe's Strategic Planning Division. Medford and Everett shine with the smart development choices they made while Somerville was delayed by the ripoff of listening to Mystic View, etc. Medford and Everett probably did more with less money and staffing with their planning divisions than the conglomerate our mayor created with the Curtatone Development Group at City Hall.

Ron Newman says:
The mayor wasn't against Walmart (nor was he for it; he didn't take any position on it). Walmart decided all on their own not to build in Somerville and Watertown.

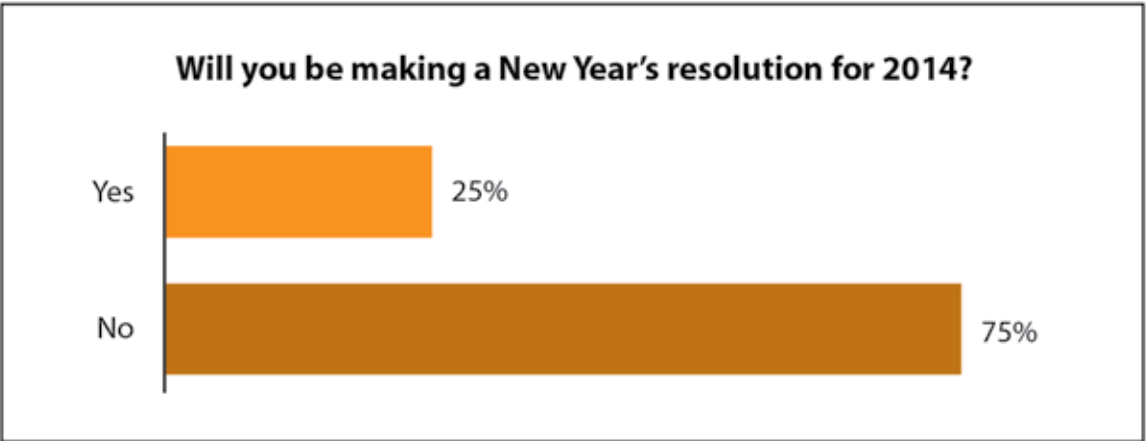
Let's be honest says:
Affordable housing opportunities doesn't make Somerville any "more affordable." The guidelines to qualify for affordable housing are very low, not exactly poverty level, but not enough to raise a family on either.
Middle class Somerville folks who go to work everyday and make an average living, not enough to get rich but not struggling either, can't afford to buy a home in the city they grew up in any-more that's just a fact.
Affordable housing opportunities is just a way for the city government to create the illusion that Somerville is still middle class friendly. It's not. To buy in Somerville you've either got to be very well off or make best to nothing. Look it up those are the facts.

Scooby Doo says:
Yes, Everett truly is the gleaming city on the hill.

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 will be making a New Year's resolution for 2014. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com.



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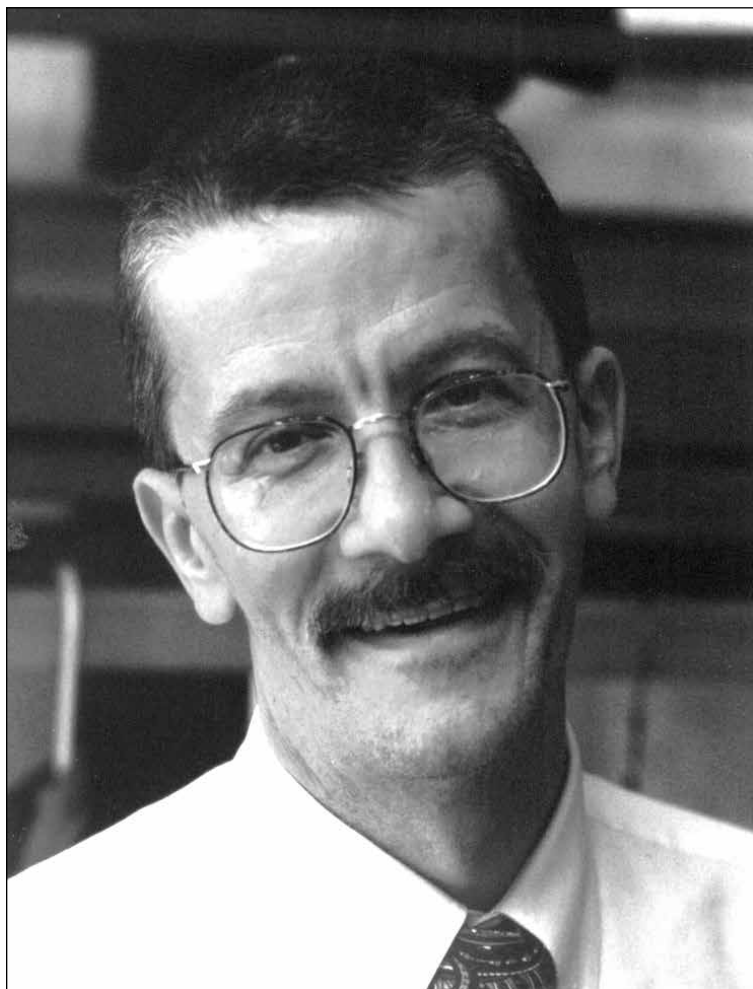
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A year of progress, plans and politics

CONT. FROM PG 1



Bob Publicover passed and a city mourned its loss.

He was a co-founder of the Somerville High Scholarship Fund, a member of the Somerville Home Board of Trustees and was both prominent and respected in local politics. He was a proud member of the Masons (King Solomon's Lodge) and a much-adored Dad Advisor with the Boston Chapter of DeMolay.

He fought a decades-long battle with AIDS and was a vocal and active advocate for AIDS research funding. He was also a published author, writing both a children's book and book of poetry.

Sean Collier made posthumous Somerville police officer



Sean Collier's wish to become a Somerville police officer became a reality as local and state officials rallied to grant him a posthumous appointment to the department.

The terror and tragedy of the April 15 Boston Marathon terrorist bombings barely had time to sink in when 27-year-old Somerville resident Sean Collier, an MIT police officer, was fatally shot while on duty April 18 allegedly by the accused bombers, Tamerlan and Dzhokhar Tsarnaev.

Collier, who friends and family said wanted to be a police officer, was slated to join the Somerville Police Department June 3. Through local and state-level legislative action, Collier was posthumously appointed a Somerville police officer this past summer.

A year of resignations, replacements and new faces

Nearly half of the seats on the 11-member Board of Aldermen will be held by new members in the new year.

Ward 1 Alderman Bill Roche resigned at the end of last year to take a job with the city as interim part-time personnel director. He was appointed to the full-time permanent position in March. School Committee member Maureen Bastardi filled his seat in the interim but lost the election this past November to Matt McLaughlin.

Ward 5 Alderman Sean O'Donovan had also resigned, and Courtney O'Keefe, who was appointed to his seat for the remainder of his term, lost in the election to Mark Neidergang.

Three aldermen did not seek re-election. Ward 3 Alderman Tom Trane announced in a resignation letter in May that health issues prompted his decision not to run again after 27 years on the board, which makes him the longest-serving alderman in the city's history. Robert McWatters will take his seat. Ward 7 Alderman Bob Trane's seat will be filled by Katjana Bal-



Ward 5's Courtney O'Keefe is but one of many who will be stepping down as Aldermen in the coming year.

lantyne, and the position held by Alderman-at-Large Bruce Desmond will now be held by former School Committee Chairman Mary Jo Rossetti.

Incumbents Maryann Heuston (Ward 2), Tony Lafuente (Ward 4) and Rebekah Gewirtz all ran unopposed.

A summer of arsons

House fires are not necessarily uncommon, but beginning this

past summer and going into the fall, Somerville saw more than its fair share, and in many of those cases, arson was clearly the cause.

Of more than a dozen house fires beginning June 27, several were deemed suspicious and at least four were ruled arson. The last case of clear arson occurred Sept. 6 on Laurel Terrace. While there have been house fires since, none appear connected to the arson cases.

Continued on page 5



A string of suspicious fires, characterized as likely cases of arson, kept the city on edge throughout the summer months.

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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Threatening roommate removed from home

Police were dispatched to a Pearl St. residence last week on reports of a dispute in progress. Upon arrival, officers reportedly found a male and female arguing with an apparently intoxicated individual, Carlos Sanchez, 22, on the residence's front porch.

Officers separated the disputing parties and led the alleged victims inside for questioning about what had transpired, while Sanchez was detained outside on the front porch.

The female victim reportedly told officers that she had been drinking with Sanchez, a roommate in the residence, earlier in the evening and that an argument had broken out between them.

The female victim further stated that she decided that she would leave the residence for the evening with her two-year-old son in order to avoid dealing with Sanchez.

It was then that the female victim said that Sanchez pushed a stereo system off the kitchen counter, whereupon it fell to the floor, smashing into pieces. She further reportedly told officers that Sanchez grabbed a knife and threatened to stab her if she tried to leave.

Sanchez reportedly put the knife down then joined the two victims on the front porch, where officers found them arguing when they arrived.

Sanchez was placed under arrest and charged with assault with a dangerous weapon and destruction of property over \$250.

Not a holly jolly Christmas

A fight at a Central St. mental health facility was reported to police last Wednesday, Christmas Day.

Investigating officers were informed that a client, Philip MacLeod, 68, had allegedly assaulted another resident at the facility, reportedly shoving him several times and spitting on him.

The alleged victim said that he was walking down a hallway in the facility when he was accosted by MacLeod. A staff member reportedly told police that he heard MacLeod shouting and saw him spitting on the victim.

Police officers went to MacLeod's room to question him and later reported that they detected a faint odor of alcohol on him.

MacLeod responded to police questioning by making offensive remarks, according to reports.

MacLeod was placed under arrest and charged with assault and battery.

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests: Christopher Unger , 24, of 110 Perkins St., December 24, 10:45 a.m., arrested at home on a charge of assault and battery. Carlos Sanchez , 22, of 59 Pearl St., December 25, 1:36 a.m., arrested at home on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon and destruction of property over \$250. Philip MacLeod , 68, of 25	Stanford St., Boston, December 25, 4:30 p.m., arrested at 155 Central St. on a charge of assault and battery. Crecensia De Jesus , 47, of 8 Notre Dame St., Roxbury, December 26, 7:01 p.m., arrested at 82 Washington St. on charges of assault and battery and assault with a dangerous weapon.	Theft: December 23, 7:57 a.m., police reported a theft at Rogers Ave. December 23, 11:13 a.m., police reported a theft at Highland Ave. December 23, 2:57 p.m., police reported a theft at 212 Elm St. December 24, 10:21 a.m., police reported a theft at Elmwood St.	Breaking & Entering: December 22, 2:07 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Cedar St. December 24, 1:59 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Village St. December 25, 9:49 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Franklin St.	lice reported a vehicle theft at Spring St.
	Incidents:		Vehicle Theft: December 25, 9:52 a.m., po-	Assault: December 24, 10:45 a.m., police reported an assault at Perkins St. December 25, 4:30 p.m., police reported an assault at Central St. December 26, 9:01 p.m., police reported an assault at Washington St.

Somerville man sentenced for harassment of T employee

By David R. Smith

A Somerville man will spend the next two and a half years in prison after pleading guilty Friday, Dec. 27, to charges stemming from racially motivated harassment and threats against an MBTA employee.

The sentence issued by Suffolk Superior Court Judge Carol Ball against 39-year-old Joseph Balistreri was for one count of criminal harassment. Ball also placed him on two years probation for three counts of violation of a permanent injunction and two counts of threats. Balistreri pleaded guilty to all the charges.

"Today's sentence demonstrates that hate crimes will not be tolerated as we continue to work to protect the safety of our communities," Attorney General Martha Coakley said in a statement announcing the sentence.

Balistreri was known to the A.G.'s office before the harassment case that landed him in jail. The office had obtained an injunction against him after he engaged in a bias-motivated attack on two MBTA riders in 2010, during which he physically and verbally assaulted two female undergraduate students based on their race and perceived sexual orientation.

The injunction, obtained under the state's hate-crimes statute, prohibited Balistreri from violating the civil rights of the victims in that case, as well as anyone else in the state based upon race or sexual orientation.

The harassment of the African-American MBTA employee at the Sullivan Square Orange Line station began in the summer of 2012.

According to authorities, Balistreri initially targeted the MBTA employee after being asked to extinguish his cigarette in a non-smoking area of the station. Balistreri allegedly threatened and harassed the man, using racial epithets, on multiple occasions through February 2013 when asked to stop smoking on MBTA property.

Balistreri was observed punching a Charlie Card machine in March of this year. When asked if he needed assistance, Balistreri allegedly verbally assaulted and threatened the employee. Authorities allege that Balistreri was observed taking pictures of the employee a week later. When the employee confronted him, Balistreri allegedly responded with racial epithets and further stated that he and his friends would kill him.

Indictments were returned against Balistreri June 7. He was arraigned June 20 in Suffolk Superior Court, at which time he pleaded not guilty and was ordered held on \$10,000 bail.

"This type of conduct can't go unpunished," MBTA Transit Police Chief Paul MacMillan said. "We will not tolerate harassment of our dedicated public servants, who work hard to provide safe and reliable MBTA services to millions of people each week."



Joseph Balistreri.

Photo courtesy of MBTA Police

Electrical fire displaces tenants from 3-story home

An electrical fire at a three-story home at 10 Montrose St. Thursday afternoon displaced the tenants of the six apartments in the house. No injuries were reported.

According to the Somerville Fire Department, a second-floor tenant noticed smoke coming from the baseboards of her apartment shortly before

2:30. Somerville firefighters, as well as crews from Cambridge, responded. While the heaviest fire damage occurred on the second floor, the entire building suffered extensive smoke and fire damage.

The fire appears to have originated in a wall between the first and second floors and then spread up to the third floor.



The tenants of this house at 10 Montrose St. were displaced following a fire Thursday, Dec. 26.



Laundromat fire causes 100K in damages

Somerville firefighters responded to a fire at the Winter Hill Laundromat early Sunday that is estimated to have cost \$100,000 in damage.

The fire was reported by a passerby who spotted flames inside the business at 1:33 a.m. Dec. 22. The one-story building is located at 483 Broadway just outside of Magoun Square. Firefighters found flames burning inside the rear of the building. The fire, which had spread into a wall and across the ceiling, is believed to have originated in a clothes dryer. Firefighters had to force entry into the closed building. Firefighters broke out several large plate glass windows to ventilate the heavy smoke and also cut a hole in the roof to



Somerville firefighters responded to a fire at the Winter Hill Laundromat early Sunday that is estimated to have cost \$100,000 in damage.

stop the spread of fire above the ceiling. The building suffered extensive damage from fire, smoke and water.

Pearl Street blaze

A fire Saturday, Dec. 28, damaged a single-family home at 196 Pearl St. No injuries were reported.

The fire, believed to be electrical in origin, broke out shortly before 7 a.m. Firefighters arrived to find smoke coming from the rear

of the house. Fire heavily damaged a first-floor bathroom and was spreading above the bathroom ceiling. Firefighters had to pull open the ceiling as well as a rear wall to stop the spreading flames. Damage is estimated at approximately \$50,000.



An electrical malfunction was cited as the cause of a fire at a Pearl St. residence on Saturday.

A year of progress, plans and politics

CONT. FROM PG 3



The Assembly Row development took great strides forward in 2013.

Assembly Row development
The development of Assembly Row as a mixed-use site continued in 2013.

The state's largest private employer, Partners HealthCare,

will be the first major industry tenant to take up occupancy at the site. The nonprofit health-care provider plans to build up to 1.1 million square feet of new mixed-use office space in sever-

al phases on the former IKEA parcel in Assembly Square. Approximately 4,500 administrative employees are scheduled to move by late 2016 into the first two buildings.

Assembly Row will also be home to Legoland Discovery Center Boston. A groundbreaking for the indoor facility, measuring some 44,000 square feet, was held in October. Legoland is slated to open in May 2014.

The 56-acre Assembly Row development will include 1.75 million square feet of commercial space, 500,000 square feet of retail, a 12-screen AMC Theater, a hotel and 2,100 residential units.

While all of that is in the

future, Assembly Row has already served as an entertainment and recreational destination in 2013. In addition to the annual Rivefest that was held there this past September at the newly renovated Baxter Park, the Montreal-based entertainment group Cavalia

launched the U.S. premiere of its show *Odysseo* at Assembly Row this past August. The event, featuring equestrian-based entertainment mixed with high-tech theatrical performances proved so popular at the site that its run was extended by five more shows.



Cavalia's *Odysseo* thrilled audiences at Assembly Row last year.

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2013: The year in pictures



238th 'Grand Union' flag raising ceremony

The 238th annual "Grand Union" flag-raising ceremony at Prospect Hill Park is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2014, at 12 p.m.

The annual event honors the raising of the nation's first official flag atop Prospect Hill on New Year's Day, 1776. The site was an important location in a string of fortifications created by Washington and the Continental Army during their siege of British troops in Bos-

ton during the first year of the American Revolution.

New historical research will be presented by Byron DeLear of the North American Vexillological Association including the fact that the first documentary evidence of the naming of our nation "United States of America" was written in George Washington's headquarters in Cambridge after raising the "first flag of America."

A processional ceremony led

by "General George Washington" on horseback will leave from the City Hall Concourse, at 93 Highland Ave., at 11:30 a.m. Members of the public are encouraged to attend and wear traditional colonial clothing at the event.

The program will include songs, readings, and participants from the Ancient and Honorable Company, as well as the Charlestown militia. The American Legion Post 19 Honor Guard will lead a military salute as a commemorative flag is raised atop the Prospect Hill Tower. The event will once again include His Majesty's 10th Regiment of Foot, which will be representing the British Army and will deliver a message from King George III.

The Prospect Hill Monument is located just north of Union Square at the intersection of Munroe and Greenville Streets.



The 238th raising of the "Grand Union" flag takes place every year on Jan. 1.

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Beacon Hill Roll Call



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

Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Somerville:



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



Rep. 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.

This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* examines the percentage of times local senators in 2013 voted with the Senate Democratic leadership on key roll call votes.

Beacon Hill Roll Call uses 215 key votes from the 2013 Senate session as the basis for this report. This includes all roll calls that were not on local issues.

The three senators, all Democrats, who voted with the leadership 100 percent of the time are Sens. Stephen Brewer (D-Barre); Harriette Chandler (D-Worcester); and Jennifer Flanagan (D-Leominster).

The senator who voted the lowest percentage of times with the Democratic leadership is Sen. Bob Hedlund (R-Weymouth). He supported the leadership only 50.9 percent of the time.

The next two who voted the least with the leadership are not surprisingly also members of the GOP: Sens. Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester), 62.3 percent and Richard Ross (R-Wrentham), 63.0 percent.

The three Democrats who voted with the leadership the lowest percentage of times are Sens. James Timilty (D-Walpole), 76.7 percent; Sonia Chang-Diaz (D-Boston), 78.5 percent; and Kathleen O'Connor-Ives (D-Newburyport), 89.7 percent.

The 33 other Democrats all voted with the leadership more than 90 percent of the time.

PERCENTAGE OF TIMES LOCAL SENATORS VOTED WITH DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP POSITION

Here is how local senators fared in their support of the Democratic leadership on 215 key roll calls.

The percentage next to the senator's name represents the percentage of times the senator supported the Democratic leadership.

The number in parentheses represents the number of times the senator opposed the Democratic leadership.

Some senators voted on all 215 roll call votes. Others missed one or more of the 215 votes. The percentage for each senator is calculated based on the number of roll calls on which he or she voted and does not count the roll calls for which he or she was not recorded as voting.

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	97.1 percent (6)
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	95.3 percent (10)

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

ALLOW LIQUOR STORES TO OPEN EARLIER ON SUNDAYS (H 228) - The House gave initial approval to a bill that would allow liquor stores to open at 10 a.m. on Sundays. Current law prohibits stores from opening until noon.

Supporters said this would help Massachusetts stores, especially border ones, to compete with neighboring Rhode Island and Connecticut, which allow sales at 10 a.m. They noted that revenue has increased in stores that allow earlier Sunday alcohol sales, which in turn increases tax dollars for the state.

Opponents disagreed and said that the additional hours would not result in additional revenue but would simply spread out current sales over more hours. Some expressed concern that the earlier opening might force small businesses to open earlier to stay competitive with

the larger stores.

HISTORICAL COMMISSIONS (H 3679) - The House and Senate approved and sent to the governor a measure that would allow cities and towns to have alternate members on their historical commissions. Current law allows this only for zoning boards of appeal and planning boards.

Supporters said that it is often difficult in the winter months in places like Cape Cod and the Berkshires to find a quorum of commission members. They noted this often causes unnecessary delays on projects for several weeks until the members return from vacation and a quorum is present.

LIMIT FEES CHARGED BY CHECK-CASHING STORES (H 223) - The House gave initial approval to a bill that would set a cap on the fee percentage check-cashing stores are allowed to charge. The cap includes a 2.25 percent cap plus a dollar service fee for payroll checks over \$100 and a 5 percent cap or \$5, whichever is less, plus a dollar service fee for personal checks over \$100. This type of business is growing and even some of the big chain stores like Walmart are getting involved. A 2012 survey by the state showed these fees ranged from a low of 2.39 percent for a payroll check between \$100 to \$500 to a high of 6.83 percent for personal checks of \$100 or less.

Supporters said of the 34 states that regulate check-cashing stores, Massachusetts is one of eight that do not regulate the fees that may be charged. They argued these operations are often located in low-income neighborhoods and take advantage of vulnerable residents.

REGULATE TREATMENT OF ADDICTION TO PAINKILLERS (S 1926) - The House gave initial approval to legislation that would allow the state to regulate the use of Suboxone, a buprenorphine-based drug used for outpatient treatment of opioid dependency including addiction to heroin, OxyContin, Percocet, Vicodin, Demerol and some other pain-killing drugs. Under a 2000 federal law, any physician who completes a one-day training course is allowed to prescribe and dispense the drug in their office.

Supporters said Suboxone treatment must be more strictly regulated because it has become one of the most abused and diverted drugs. They noted the bill will give the state the power to regulate it instead of blindly following loose federal regulations.

COURT RULES JUVENILE KILLERS ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE - The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court (SJC) struck down a current state law that provides for life sentences without parole for juveniles under 18 who are convicted of first-degree murder. "Simply put, because the brain of a juvenile is not fully developed, either structurally or functionally, by the age of 18, a judge cannot find with confidence that a particular offender, at that point in time, is irretrievably depraved," the court opined in ruling the law unconstitutional. Repeal of the law is retroactive and will result in parole hearings for 63 prisoners after they have served the mandatory 15 years required to be considered for parole.

The controversial decision stems from the case of then 17-year-old Gregory Diatchenko, who has served 31 years in prison since he was sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole for stabbing

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.

A year of accolades



By Joseph A. Curtatone

The New Year is an opportunity to reflect on the past year and on our progress and accomplishments. Somerville had no shortage of accolades in 2013. Here's a look back at only a few of our community's awards and achievements over the last 12 months:

• Somerville Public Schools'

improvement in student growth on the 2013 MCAS exams puts Somerville on par with some of the highest-performing districts in Massachusetts. Somerville High School is now a Level 1 school on the state's five-level Accountability scale, making a two-level leap to the highest rating, and was named one of the Boston Globe's 15 "Dreamschools." The John F. Kennedy School is also now a Level 1 school, rising from last year's Level 2.

• We are now the 7th most walkable city and the 9th most transit-friendly city in the nation, regardless of population size, according the 2014

national Walk Score ratings. Somerville continues its climb up these rankings, rising three spots from number 10 last year. The new Orange Line MBTA stop at Assembly Square opening this coming year and the Green Line MBTA stops on track to open in 2017 will boost the city's transit-friendly score in the future as well.

• Somerville is now a Silver Bicycle Friendly Community according to The League of American Bicyclists, a designation the city earned only two years after earning a Bronze level designation. Somerville now joins a number of cities including New York City, Phil-

adelphia and Boston receiving this level of recognition for its efforts to promote bicycling.

• Somerville became one of just 18 member cities and 12 affiliate members of the National Association of City Transportation Officials, which lauded Somerville for its "[commitment] to sustainable transportation initiatives, aiming to strengthen cities and improve quality of life through better street design and transportation policy."

• The National League of Cities awarded Shape Up Somerville two gold medals and one silver medal for meeting key health and wellness goals for Let's Move! Cities, Towns and

Counties, a major component of First Lady Michelle Obama's comprehensive Let's Move! initiative that is dedicated to solving the childhood obesity epidemic within a generation.

• The City of Somerville earned the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR), which demonstrated a spirit of full disclosure and motivated people to read the report, according to awarding nonprofit Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada.

• Moody's Investors Service reaffirmed

Continued on page 17

Somerville's development challenges:
The casino across the river

By William C. Shelton

The new term for Somerville's elected officials begins on Monday. It comes at a time of unprecedented real-estate-development opportunities and risks that will shape the city's character, economics, and fiscal health for generations to come.

Based on extensive community engagement, city staff produced

an exemplary Union Square Revitalization Plan in the Spring of 2012. Now that they are prepared to move ahead on it, new controversies have emerged regarding the selection of a single developer for all twelve acres, Union Square's mix of uses, building heights, the relocation of city hall, and financial risks.

Then, early this month Partners Health Care announced that it would consolidate administrative operations in a new 650,000-to-700,000-square-foot Assembly Square development, to be built on an ambitious schedule. This is fantastic news.

Yes, Partners is a nonprofit or-

ganization. But the payments in lieu of taxes that it will generate, the number and range of jobs that it will bring, and the traffic and pollution impacts that it will make are vastly better for all interested parties than are those of the one-story supermarket that was earlier proposed for the site. Or, for that matter, an IKEA. And the development unequivocally establishes Assembly Square as an office destination.

Somervision, the much-praised Comprehensive Plan for the entire city, poses the third development challenge. Its implementation will require re-writing of the zoning code and neighborhood-by-neighbor-

hood designs and objectives for its quantitative goals.

The most immediate development challenge, however, isn't in Somerville. It's a hundred yards away, directly across the Mystic River from the Assembly Square Orange Line station site.

Wynn Resorts wants to build a 2.5-million-square-foot casino, hotel, and parking structure there. Everett needs and deserves economic development, and its leaders see the Wynn proposal as an answered prayer. They would receive an initial payment of \$30 million, and \$25 million in annual property taxes, single-handedly increasing their city's tax levy by 30%.

But while Everett would receive 100% of the benefits, Medford, Somerville, and Charlestown would bear most of the burdens. Setting aside the morality of this kind of gambling and the wisdom of entitling a giant funnel to extract money from Massachusetts residents and suck it outside the Commonwealth, this is still bad news for Somerville.

The building would rise to almost 400 feet, towering over Assembly Square, with its reflective surface and nighttime illumination beckoning all I-93 travelers. Wynn's Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) projects that it would

Continued on page 16

Life in the  by Jimmy Del Ponte

Bye Bye 2013



One last chance to gripe for 2013! It was the best of years, it was the worst of years. We endured the Boston Marathon bombings, which brought our region closer even though it was a tragic and sad thing. We celebrated a Red Sox World Series championship, which eased the pain a bit and made Boston even stronger. Our beloved former Mayor Gene Brune gave us a great book full of his awesome memoirs, and the Green Line extension comes closer to reality. We saw even more bikes on our Somerville streets, which hopefully means we will all drive more carefully (both motorists and cyclists). Somerville also had a very successful year full of con-

certs, festivals and street celebrations. The teen Sunsetters and the senior Moonlighters sang their hearts out all over the city to appreciative audiences. Davis Square added even more restaurants and yogurt joints, and the young people who frequent those spots got even more tattoos. Dogs are still running leash-less at Powder House Park, as some citizens feel they are somehow privileged and are exempt from obeying laws. Joggers still act like they own the sidewalks. You better get out of their way or they will knock you down! I especially like the nighttime joggers who run TOWARD traffic. And we now have three, count them three, Somerville newspapers. It seems like a newspaper civil war is going on. The one expensive rag will print anything any

nut leaves on their phone line. And to think, I used to deliver it! It does, however, come in handy for lining birdcages or wrapping up fish. In 2014, maybe we will see a fourth or fifth Somerville newspaper pop up!

I am about to spend my 60th New Year's Eve in Somerville. I used to party hearty with the best of them back in the day. New Year's Eve consisted of a couple of cases of Bud, a few bottles of champagne and a hotel room. This year I will kick back, eat, watch TV and welcome in the new year with my sweetheart, safe and sound. I also used to perform in bands on New Year's Eve at places like The Dilboy Post and The Embassy Lounge. I don't miss the hangovers but I do miss taking home tons of food after the gigs, not to mention



the tax-free, under-the-table cash! We will order some Chinese food and stay away from the nuts on the road. They call it amateur night for a reason. People generally don't know how to drive sober, never mind when they are half in the bag. Green Cab's number is 617-628-0600, so please use it! I will only venture out on the road if one of my kids needs a ride (and I'll be sure

Continued on page 20

COMMENTARY

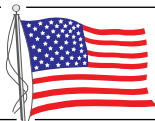
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Have a happy and healthy New Year, Somerville!

The View Of The Times



Looking back and looking forward... and taking a breath in between

Year in reviews, regardless of whether they are in print, on TV or online, can be convenient space fillers during a notoriously slow time of year. Of course, looking back at the past year is not exclusively the practice of news organizations. Even a fashion blog might undertake an exhaustive retrospective of “The Shoes of 2013.”

Often, though, looking back at the sto-

ries of the past year helps both those of us at the paper, as well as our readers, make some sense about the past year, about the daily or weekly events that, from a distance, form a pattern and create an overarching sense of where we were from one January to the next.

But as much as looking back helps us to see where we’ve been, looking forward clearly gives us an idea, as a city, of where we’re going.

Big changes to who will serve on the Board of Aldermen will likely bring

equally big changes (and, no doubt, controversies) in 2014, and so, too, will projects and discussions ranging from extending the Green Line to Union Square (and all that will entail, for better and worse), possibly doing away with the McCarthy overpass portion of McGrath Highway and bringing it down to street level, Tufts’ plans for the Powder House School, the continued development of Assembly Row into something new and hopefully both innovative and accessible to residents, the possible rebirth (fingers

crossed!) of the long-vacant Winter Hill Star Market building so its parking lot becomes something more than a marketplace of questionable evening transactions and the selection of a new police chief, just to name a few.

With another year down (remember to start writing “2014” on those checks!) and another year ready to begin, take a moment to take a breath, raise a glass and enjoy that very (very) brief moment of limbo between what was and what will be. Happy New Year, Somerville!

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Our condolences to the family of Ed Manzi of Somerville. Ed passed away recently from a long illness, and he was a well-known guy who, we were told by his brother Kenny, was the first altar boy at St. Anthony’s Church. His wake was held at Doherty’s Funeral Home this past weekend. He will be missed by all those who knew him and loved his sense of humor.

This week marks the one-year anniversary of the passing of Somerville News publisher Robert J.L. Publicover. He was a good guy here in the Ville who loved our paper and was so very involved in various local charities. He is missed by many of us here in Somerville who knew him. He was a great guy who constantly gave back to the community. To those that never met him and now live here, he was part of the reason why Somerville is what it is today. As the longest living person with AIDS, he died quietly at his home in Spring Hill with his friend, confidant and husband, David, at his side. We miss you, Bob, and wish you were here.

Best wishes go out to five of our aldermen who are retiring from office this coming year. These individuals all served the city here with pride and distinction. We wish every one of these five the very best in the future and hope they all remain active with the city in some way. Bruce Desmond served our city well as an alderman-at-large for many years. Although sometimes quiet, his presence and input was felt throughout his years of service to our community. Bruce served previously on the School Board from Ward 3 before being elected alderman at large. He has done a great job representing all those here in the Ville. We wish him luck, and we know he’s not going away and will be actively involved on another level. Robert “Bob” Trane has been alderman for Ward 7. What a dedicated public official and community guy he proved himself to be, serving the residents of Ward 7, keeping on top of all the issues and keeping his constituents informed. We wish him the best of luck and thank him for years as alderman. Maureen Bastardi in Ward 1. Although she only served a year on

the board after filling the shoes of Bill Roche, Maureen Bastardi is leaving office. What a great lady she is. Nice, pleasant and sincere, she served Ward 1 on the School Committee for many years with distinction. We wish her the best and hope for the residents of Ward 1 that she stays involved. Courtney O’Keefe, who is serving out former Alderman Sean O’Donovan’s term, is leaving office this week after only serving the residents of Ward 5 for little less than one year. We can’t think of anyone in Ward 5 who knew more about what was going on there than Courtney. She did a great job for her short time on the board. We wish her well and all the best. Tom Taylor is probably the most well known person politically here in Somerville and, especially, in his home of Ward 3. We salute Tom, who served his ward both on the School Committee and as alderman for more than three decades. For as far back as we can remember here at *The Times*, he’s been there for his constituents, representing them tirelessly, always on the forefront of the issues here in Somerville and particu-

larly anything going on in Ward 3. We wish him nothing but the very best as he continues to go through some rough times with his health problems, but he has a strong constitution, and we know he will be home soon for good with his lovely wife, Celia, and family.

Board of Alderman President-elect William White is going to serve two years in a row, which normally doesn’t happen, but he managed to get the votes to be re-elected, and Jack Connolly was re-elected vice president of the board. We hear that Courtney O’Keefe will replace Alderman-elect Bob McWatters as assistant clerk of committees serving the Board of Alderman. The inaugural will take place this coming Monday night with ceremonies at the new East Somerville Community School down on Cross Street.

We wish all our public officials, Mayor Joe Curtatone, the Board of Alderman and School Committee the very best in 2014, and we hope they will work together to continue to build a great city of Somerville.

Winter Farmers' Market at the Armory

Every Saturday through March, 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave, Somerville.

Local vendors provide great fresh fruit, vegetables, meat, seafood, baked goods, and more.

They offer a diverse range of local and regional produce, as well as cheese, eggs, meats, fish, breads, pastries, chocolate, and wine. They feature rotating guest vendors each week, as well as live entertainment and children's activities. Check out the schedule and map here: <http://maps.managemymarket.com/1235>.

SNAP/EBT, CREDIT and DEBIT cards accepted.





Photos by Bobbie Toner



A New Year In The Ville

By Mike Browne

A New Year in the Ville is upon us again
The City we love is thriving amen
The seeds we have planted are growing ten fold
Our future is bright the truth be told

My wish to you is your best year yet
A wonderful year I know we will get
As we reminisce on years gone by
Let's not look back at what made us cry

Although the bad can outweigh the good
We learn our lessons as well we should
The year to come is ours to mold
Who knows the events that will unfold

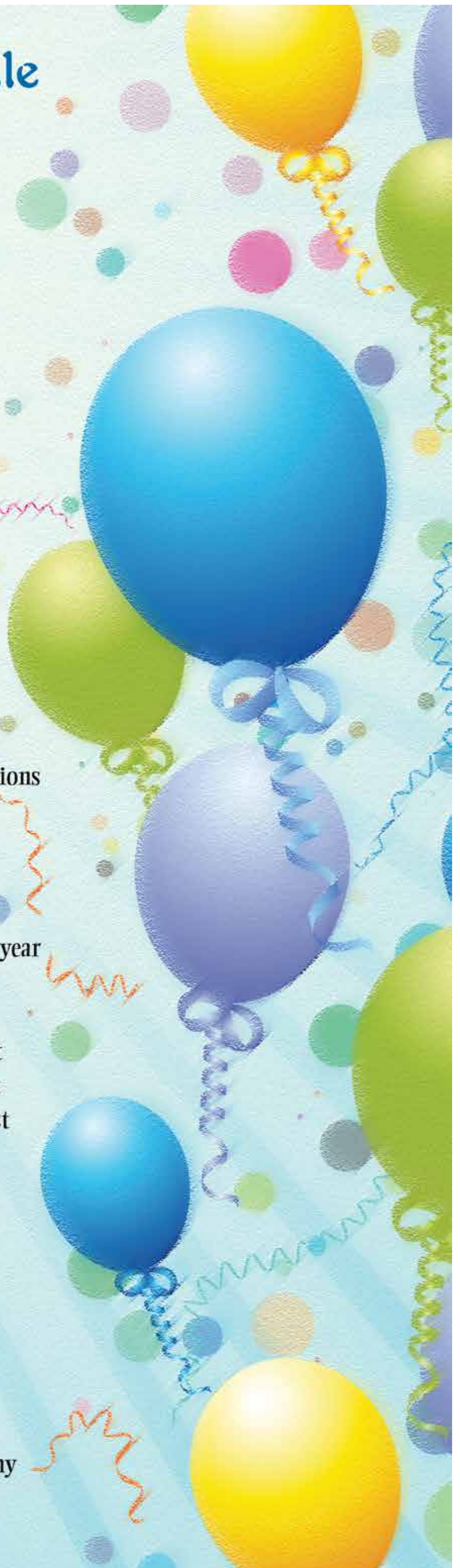
All we can do is strive for the best
Good fortune and health is certainly our quest
We enter this New Year with high hopes and resolutions
I for one will not succumb to conclusions

This past year was bad for so many
Tragedies, sorrows and losses were plenty
If only we could change some outcomes of this past year
We would all be happier in life without fear

A New Year brings with it a clean and fresh start
But it's up to each person to play their own part
Some will move on and some will stay in the past
Some will continue to do nothing but harass

But here in the Ville we have plenty of pride
There's only so much we're willing to let slide
A True Villen will always rise above the rest
Because it's our tradition to be the best

It is my one wish to say goodbye to this year
With a positive attitude we can all persevere
Don't look back now and wonder what, if, and why
Just focus ahead and let good karma apply



SPORTS

SHS Basketball to honor ‘Mr. Murph’

On May 25, 2012 a treasured member of the Somerville High School Basketball family was lost. Mr. Lorne A. Murphy, affectionately known as “Mr. Murph,” passed at the age of 85. He was the father of Judy DiBiase and longtime Somerville Public School Teacher Lorne P. Murphy.

Mr. Murph served his country proudly in the Army during World War II. After retirement, he worked for numerous years as a locker room security attendant for Somerville High School. Mr. Murph was a proud member of the SHS Boys Basketball Program for over 30 years. His significance to the program cannot be measured in words. He was equal parts: coach, mentor, father/grandfather figure, counselor, confidant, and most of all a friend. He impacted and helped mold many of the men that proudly call themselves SHS Alums.

On January 3, 2014 the Somerville High School Basketball family will come together and honor Mr. Murph. We are inviting all alumni, fans, friends, opponents, even past referees and most of all Mr. Murph’s family back to the Field House for a celebration of all his accomplishments. Anyone who knew Mr. Murph would tell you that what he was most proud of, besides his beautiful family, were “his boys.” He loved his players like they were his sons and grandsons. All are asked to come out and show his family how much he meant to everyone.

SHS will host O’Bryant High School at 7 p.m. There will be a ceremony at halftime to honor Mr. Murph. After the game all family, alumni, and friends are invited to On the Hill Tavern, 499 Broadway, Somerville, MA for a social gathering.



Lorne A. “Mr. Murph” Murphy will be honored by the SHS Basketball community on Friday, Jan. 3.

‘Best of Somerville’ winner in the spotlight



Somerville Times Publisher Ross Blouin presents a very pleased Aida Tauro, owner of Bostonian Florist, with her certificate for “Best Florist” in the annual Best of Somerville awards. Bostonian Florist has been in business now for about 13 years. Located at 92 Highland Ave. across from City Hall, its hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. during the week and Saturdays from 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. (it is closed Sundays). Aida’s green thumb is evident throughout her store, and she has made it even easier to see what she offers by going to her website at www.bostonianflorist.com or by checking out her Facebook page (search “Bostonian Florist”). If you need flowers for the holidays (remember, Valentine’s Day is just around the corner!) and those special occasions, she’s the one. We wish her many years of success! You can reach the shop by calling 617-629-9300 or toll free at 866-267-7673. Congratulations, Aida Tauro, for being voted “Best of Somerville 2013.”

Ms. Cam’s

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#402

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Do all animals have red blood? | a pint? |
| 2. What singer was the last of the Red Hot Mamas? | 8. What TV family lives at 000 Cemetery Lane? |
| 3. What explosives are peanuts used in? | 9. What is the name of the jockey that rode Whirl Away and Citation to the Triple Crown? |
| 4. What animals boast the longest maximum life span in captivity? | 10. Who was the man born in the 1800’s credited with being the first American to galvanize rubber? |
| 5. What year did Alaska become the forty-ninth state? | 11. How many days will it take a clock losing 30 minutes a day, to return to the correct time? |
| 6. On the back of what state’s quarter would you find a “keystone” as one of several designs? | 12. What is the name of the resting place for those buried at sea? |
| 7. How many noggins in | |

Answers on page 17



“Best of Somerville”
2009 & 2010

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Take-Out

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Kennedy students making a difference



Students in the 4th grade at Kennedy School, Ms. Connors and Ms. O’Keefe’s room, have been busy making bracelets, necklaces, and rings to raise money to help the people in the Philippine Islands recover from Typhoon Haiyan. Students create their wares at lunch, during snack and any free time they can find. They have been very industrious. Their hard work has paid off. In their first sale they were able to raise over \$170 just in the first 2 hours. Look for announcements for future sales in the new year.

LEGAL NOTICES

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



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on **Wednesday, January 8, 2014** at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

235 Lowell St. (Case #ZBA 2013-67) Applicant, Edward Doherty, and Owner, John Ternullo, seek a Special Permit under SZO §7.11.1.c to construct six residential units; a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter an existing nonconforming structure; a Variance under SZO §9.5.1.a for parking relief; and a Variance under SZO §9.9.b for a reduced driveway width. In addition, a Special Permit under SZO §9.13.b is also sought to modify parking design standards. RC zone. Ward 5.

0 South St. (a/k/a 16 South St): (Case ZBA 2013-88) Applicant, 18 South Street Condominium Trust, seek an administrative appeal per SZO §3.1.9 from a decision from the Inspectional Services Division that issued building permits to construct a 3-family dwelling at 0 aka 16 South Street, Owners Patrycja Missiuro and Dmitry Vasilyev. BA Zone. Ward 2.

9 & 39 Medford St. (Case #ZBA 2013-89) Applicant, Berkeley Investments, and Owner, Medford Freezer Realty, Inc., received a Special Permit with Site Plan Review under SZO §6.5.D.5 to alter an existing façade including signage & 7.13.E to establish 100 residential units including artist live/work space. The applicant was approved under SZO §9.17.2.B for modification of the parking/loading standards. Article 13 Inclusionary Housing applies. The current application is to seek a Variance for dimensional requirements in Table §6.5.F including minimum frontage, tapering height, upper level setback, upper level maximum floor plate, minimum FAR, usable open space §6.5.G.8 including a payment in lieu of usable open space §6.5.G.9. TOD 100. Ward 2.

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

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant

Published in The Somerville Times on 12/25/13 & 1/1/14
12/25/13, 1/1/14 The Somerville Times



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, January 21, 2014 at 6:40 p.m. in the Third Floor Community Room, at the Visiting Nurses Association (259 Lowell Street) regarding the proposal by Applicant, Lolastar LLC, to demolish the c.1841 dwelling at 8 Mt. Pleasant Street.

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 x 2500 or historic@somervillema.gov.

1/1/14 The Somerville Times

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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:

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):

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 a.m. every day the center is open. Come join your friends or make some new ones. Cards, Scrabbleand 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:

Atlantic City/Taj Mahal - We are off January 12-14 for two nights at the Luxurious Taj Mahal Resort and Casino. Transportation is included. Non stop entertainment, a dazzling array of shops and so much more.

Supper and Bingo at Hanscom Airforce Base - Join us January 22nd in the evening for Supper and Bingo at Hanscom Air force Base. The cost is \$30 dollars per person. Transportation and meal is included into the cost. RSVP is required. Hope you can join us.

Book club will be meeting Friday, January 3 at 10 a.m. for coffee and discussion of the Pulitzer Prize winning book "behind the beautiful forevers- Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity" by Katherine Boo. The Group meets promptly at 10 a.m. in the Holland St. center conference room. Free.

January Breakfast - Please join us for our first monthly breakfast of 2014 at Holland St. The guest speaker will be leading an interesting discussion on "What to do with your leisure time." This talk is presented by a representative from the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling/AdCare Council. \$2 suggested voluntary donation per meal. RSVP required.

Men's Group - Come join in for some interesting conversation a cup of coffee with some likeminded men. Group meets once a month on the first Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. at 167 Holland St. Free.

Veteran's Group - Social group meets on the third Monday of each month with a different topic/speaker each month. Open to veterans and their spouses. Free.

STAY ACTIVE:

Wii Bowling League - at Holland - Mondays at noon. FreeZumba for All - at Holland - Wednesdays at 5:15-6:15 p.m. \$3 or \$15 for 6 classes.

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

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

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

After a busy post-Thanksgiving holiday season, the Somerville Council on Aging announces limited programming for the week of December 30- January 3.

There will be lunch at the Holland Street Center, 167 Holland Street, Somerville, every day that week. No Bingo or special programming.

There is no lunch or programming at Cross Street Center, 165 Broadway, or at Ralph and Jenny Center, 9 New Washington Street.

All Centers are closed on Wednesday, December 25 in observance of the Christmas holiday. Centers are also closed on Wednesday, January 1, 2014, to observe the New Year's Day holiday.

There will be daytime New Year's Brunch and Bingo on Tuesday, December 31. Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 for more information.

Programming will resume on Monday, January 6, beginning with the Monthly Breakfast at the Holland Street Center, 167 Holland Street, at 9:30 a.m. You can make reservations by calling 627-626-6600, ext. 2300.

Check out our Facebook site for photos from our events and exercise and tips for everyday healthy living at www.facebook.com/somervilleCOA.

Somerville's development challenges:
The casino across the river

CONT. FROM PG 10

generate 22,000 to 25,000 new vehicle trips per day. Between 80% and 90% of them would be on Routes 28 (McGrath Highway) and 99 (Washington Street).

Wellington Circle is already a choke point for four hours per day. Casino congestion would greatly increase traffic backups along Route 16 in both directions, and on all surrounding arterials.

The development would inevitably diminish Assembly Square's prospects, devalue its property, and degrade its taxes and jobs potential.

Massachusetts General Law Chapter 91 is "the Commonwealth's primary tool for protection and promotion of public use of its tidelands and other waterways." The Wynn proposal violates Chapter 91 on a slew of grounds. So Wynn and Everett intend to end run around Chapter 91 by substituting a Municipal Harbor Plan (MHP).

Such a plan escapes many of the dimensional requirements of Chapter 91, but it requires uses that are "water dependent," for example fishing docks, boat building facilities, marinas, and so forth. It's hard to imagine

why a casino would require a waterfront to exist. The proponents might say that they need water access to bring gamblers, but this is a feeble claim. Their DEIR projects that only 3% of trips would be by water, and the competing Casino proposed in Revere has no such requirement.

Neither the DEIR nor the MHP propose mitigations for the casino's impacts on Medford, Somerville, and Boston, which will all be greater than those on Everett. Nor do they propose substitutions that are anywhere equal to the dimensional requirements that they would avoid with a Municipal Harbor Plan. These "substitutions" are amenities that, in return for suspension of Chapter 91 requirements, the developer must provide to benefit the entire general public of the Commonwealth, not just gamblers, hotel guests, and Everett residents.

Among the affected communities, Mayor Curtatone has been the most outspoken leader in opposition to the Everett casino. In response, Everett Mayor Carlo DeMaria Jr. has whined that Curtatone is hypocrit-

ical and is trying to "derail" a project that could "revolutionize" Everett. But DeMaria offered no concessions regarding mitigation of impacts. In fact, he defiantly stated, "Let me be clear: Everett is the sole host community for this development."

Last Friday the Massachusetts Gaming Commission declared that Wynn Resorts is "suitable" to hold a gambling license. This just means they judge that Wynn has sufficient financial strength and lacks identifiable criminal associations and shady practices. Now Wynn must beat out Mohegan Sun's proposal for a Revere casino, and win state approval for the Municipal Harbor Plan.

To protect Assembly Square's potential and Somerville's best interests, our city's leaders must be vigilant, effectively seeking to block the casino's construction or mitigate its impacts at every opportunity.

Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs is accepting comments on the DEIR until January 17. It can be obtained at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/b3o665pm3igxu93/ticaiULB4t>

From Richie Havens to Somerville

CONT. FROM PG 1

Born and raised in Jacksonville, Florida at a time when classical music was offered in public schools, Parks began his music career studying the viola in the sixth through eighth grades. After a transition to the guitar in 1973 he formed his first group, The Parental Tears Band (an ode to their parents' shared dread that their offspring would pursue music careers).

Succumbing to his parent's advice that he lay the foundation for a more stable career, Parks enrolled in business school at the University of Georgia in Athens. Parks recalls "Unfortunately the fallback strategy ultimately backfired as I became disillusioned with the mentality of making important decisions only in allegiance to the bottom line. I withdrew one year short of graduation. The best the thing about college was serving in the Student Union organization that promoted big concerts. Our budget was astronomical, our allegiance was to quality and most shows made money. I was fascinated by concert booking and production and I stayed to the bitter end at every load-out and roadies loved me. I learned that great reward could follow extra effort, for after a Dixie Dregs show I had the opportunity to play Duane Allman's 1959 sunburst Gibson Les Paul, which at the time was in possession of Dregs' road manager Twiggs Lyndon. I still feel the power and magic of that cherished guitar, which is now on display in the

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame."

In the early 1980's, Parks returned to his hometown to form a fusion jazz band called Sneakers. "It was an exciting time when we could draw 200 people every Monday night on instrumental music alone" Parks states. Managing his own clothing store by day, Walter took quarterly buying trips to New York where he became magnetized by Manhattan's pace and serious music scene.

To fund his eventual departure from Jacksonville, Walter created a society band called The Wing Tips, taking full advantage of the prosperous Reagan years. In 1989, after winning a Tangueray Rocks talent contest piloted by rock impresario Don Kirschner, he took his first original electric band Dear John, to New York.

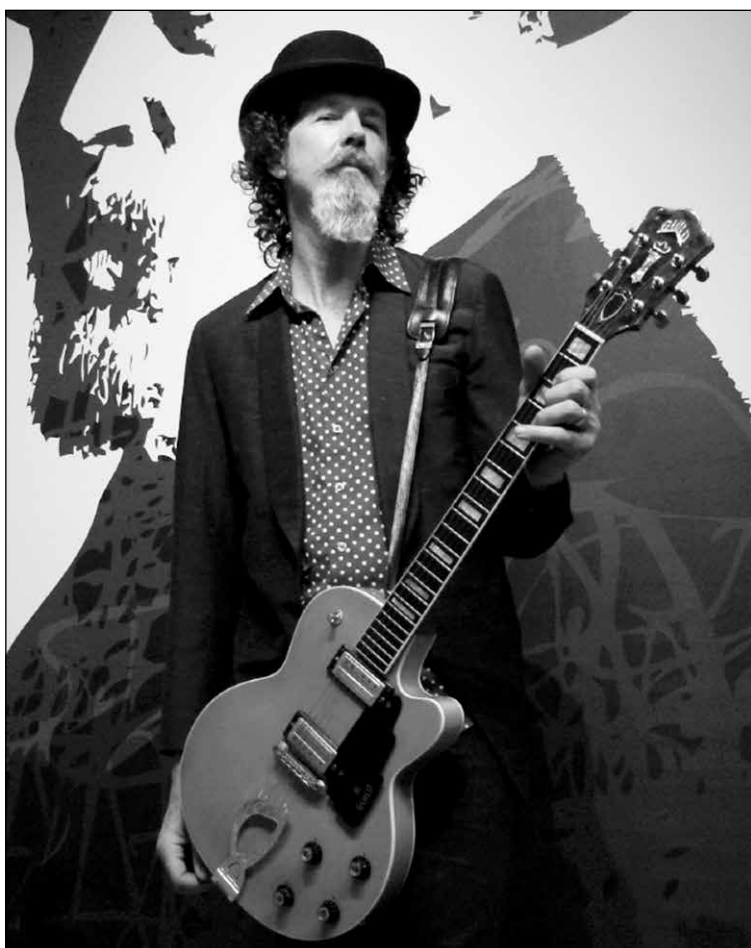
By 1991, burdened by the logistics of running a band in the big city, he simplified and formed an acoustic duo called The Nudes with cellist Stephanie Winters. The Nudes recorded three albums and enjoyed a successful career touring U.S. colleges and folk festivals, serving for a short while as Richie Havens' support act.

Road-weary and searching for a new perspective, in 1999 Parks traveled to Plum Village, Tich Nat Han's Buddhist monastery in southwest France. Allowing himself time to reboot and reflect, Walter refers to the adventure as "the best vacation I've ever taken. Living amidst

unparalleled beauty, in complete tranquility, with plenty of time to listen to my life. Up until my very last day in the monastery, I told no one that I was a musician just to find out what was left of me, without the guitar as my identity."

In 2000 Parks returned to New York in a business role as a label manager for indie MPress Records however in 2001 the New York scene re-ignited Walter's urge to perform and he was asked to join Richie Havens' trio. "Accompanying Richie from 2001-2011 and hearing that wonderful voice by his side on stages all over the world was incomparable honor. The grandest shows were at Madison Square Garden, Carnegie Hall, The Cannes Film Festival in France and The WOMAD Fests in New Zealand/Australia but nothing compared to the frenzy Richie would incite at The Jazz Cafe in London."

"My first move to New York, in a sense had been an attempt to shed any influence that my Florida roots might have had on my playing. I was chasing other styles, mostly European. Hopelessly, everyone seemed to notice the southernness in my music. One day it hit me that I already had what myself and every other artist comes to New York to find and/or exploit, a unique style. I therefore accepted that my path would be to develop the swampy North Florida sound rather than to obscure it."



Walter formed Swamp Cabbage and used any down time in Richie's schedule to meticulously craft three fine analog recordings: *Honk*, *Squeal* and *Drum Roll Please*.

Since Richie's retirement in 2010 and passing in 2013, Walter has been focusing on Swamp Cabbage and solo performances. The band's fourth CD *Jive* is due out soon.

Parks' various music projects express both his diverse background as a musician and bal-

ance distinct parts of his personality. "I'm as comfortable with rural culture as I am with so called "high society." I enjoy doing construction, chatting with locals and driving my Ford F-150 through the Georgia back woods, but I also enjoy throwing on a nice suit and taking in a New York museum."

Walter Parks, with Duncan Phillips and Kate MacLeod, Saturday, Jan. 11, 7:00 p.m. at Johnny D's, 17 Holland Street, Somerville.

A year of accolades

CONT. FROM PG 10

the City of Somerville's highest ever long-term credit rating of Aa2, citing the city's commitment to redevelopment, conservative budgeting approach and ample reserve levels. Moody's also assigned its highest rating of MIG 1 to the city's short-term borrowing, effectively lowering the cost of borrowing for the approximately \$22 million in bonds already approved by the city for a number of projects including the \$8 million Union Square Revitalization Plan, school and municipal building renovations, the purchase of a ladder truck for the Fire Depart-

ment and other capital needs.

This small sample of accolades was actually earned by all of you because we do not achieve any of this without you. It is our students, teachers and parents working together who have driven our schools to greater success. It is all of you who proclaim repeatedly that you value a walkable, bikeable, transit-oriented city that's accessible to all forms of travel and to all residents. We depend on the intellect, diversity and creativity of our community. We go to you for your vision and your values, both of which have been codified in SomerVision.

We know we'll garner more accolades in the coming years, but the best accolade we can get is the satisfaction of the people of our city. On our happiness survey, when asked "is Somerville headed in the right direction," 97 percent of residents surveyed said "yes." That's a resounding affirmation of our approach: rooting our policies and initiatives in the community's values and guiding ourselves by our core principle of making Somerville an exceptional place to live, work, play and raise a family. I can't wait to see what 2014 brings. Happy New Year!

Ms. Cam's

Olío

Answers

1. No, mammals have red blood, lobsters have blue blood, and insects have yellow blood
2. Sophie Tucker
3. Dynamite
4. The chimpanzee
5. 1959
6. Pennsylvania
7. A noggin is a gill (4 oz.), so there are 4 noggins to a pint
8. The Addams Family
9. Eddie Arcaro
10. Charles Goodyear
11. 24
12. Davy Jones Locker

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Photo by Ethan Backer

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Wednesday|January 1

New Year’s Day - Libraries Closed

Friday|January 3

Veteran’s Memorial Rink

Free public skating
12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave

Sunday|January 5

Veteran’s Memorial Rink

Free public skating
3:30 p.m.-4:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave

Monday|January 6

East Branch Library

Read-to-Bead Winter Reading Program
Meghan Forsell|617-623-5000 x2970
115 Broadway

Tuesday|January 7

Central Library

Homeschool Reading Group for Ages 9-11
Tammy McKanan|617-591-0216
9:30 a.m.- 12 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Central Library

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

Wednesday|January 8

Central Library

Book Group for Kids Ages 9-12
Cathy Piantigini|617-623-5000 x2950
7 p.m.-9 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

MUSIC

Wednesday|January 1

Johnny D’s

New Year’s Day Brunch Music by Tom Pendergast
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s Bar

Happy New Year

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room
Exile on Elm
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA’S Lounge

Closed-New Year’s Day
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

On The Hill Tavern

499 Broadway|617-629-5302

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Precinct Bar

70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe’s Pub

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Radio Bar

379 Summer St

Thursday|January 2

Johnny D’s

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

“Campfire” hosted by Ben Bullock
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

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

379 Summer St

Friday|January 3

Johnny D’s

Brother’s Rye with So Sol & No Stranger
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s

Stan Martin Band |6 p.m.
Peter Ward & Armadillo |9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room
Irish Session|9:30 p.m.
Back Room
TBA
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

DJ
10 p.m.|65 Holland St

Precinct Bar

HearNowLive presents:
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

PA’S Lounge

Pink Elephant|Underwater Bear Ballet|The Unicorn Fantasy
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

TBA
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

379 Summer St.

Saturday|January 4

Johnny D’s

Luther “Guitar Junior” Johnson & the Magic Rockers|Matthew Smart band
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s

Jim Coyle & The Barroom Gentlemen |6 p.m.
Kristen Ford, Detonator, Shelby Francis |9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room
Irish Session|9:30 p.m.
Back Room
TBA
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Precinct Bar

HearNowLive presents:
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

Karaoke
65 Holland St

PA’S Lounge

Drama / Leah V Presents!
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Radio Bar

379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory

Somerville Songwriter Sessions
8 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Sunday|January 5

Johnny D’s

Open Blues Jam featuring Matthew Smart Band
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s Bar

Mark Brine with Chuck Parrish, Larry Flint |5 p.m.
Amber Casares |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

Monday|January 6

Johnny D’s

Team Trivia
8:30 p.m.|17 Holland St | 617-776-2004

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

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

The Burren
Front Room
Bur- Run|6:45 p.m.
Back Room
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

PA’S Lounge
Americana Night
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
Up: Greater Boston Story Slams
Season V: “Animal” 6PM \$10
379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory
Cambridge Symphony Orchestra Rehearsal
6:30 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday|January 7
Johnny D’s
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s Bar
Honkytonk Masquerade
35 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room
Jason Anick and the Swing-ers|8:30 p.m.
Back Room
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
New Year’s Eve with the Ghetto People
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

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

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

Radio Bar
379 Summer St

Wednesday|January 8
Johnny D’s
Claudia Schmidt
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
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA’S Lounge
Full Scene Ahead|“CD SWAP” |Oculusics|Ninjavitis|Eric Treehouse|Jane Park 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

Precinct Bar
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

Highland Kitchen
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

Radio Bar
379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory
Red Cross Blood Drive
2 p.m.-7 p.m.|Performance Hall
Wiretap Wednesday Open Stage
7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

CLASSES AND GROUPS
Wednesday|January 1
New Year’s Day - Libraries Closed

Thursday| January 2
First Church Somerville
Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor).
For more info call: 781-762-6629

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

Friday|January 3
Arts at the Armory
Prenatal Yoga
2 p.m.|Mezzanine|191 Highland Ave

Saturday|January 4
Arts at the Armory
Winter Farmers’ Market
9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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|January 5
Unity Church of God
Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon Family Groups
7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street
Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement.

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

Monday|January 6
East Branch

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
Chess Night
7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Third Life Studio
Discover Belly Dance with Nadira Jamal
6 p.m.|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com

Tuesday| January 7
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| January 8
Central Library
Mystery Book Club
7 p.m.-9 p.m.| 79 Highland Avenue

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



Photo by Ethan Backer

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!



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Bye Bye 2013

CONT. FROM PG 10

to wear a helmet!).

I don't have to make those resolutions that are never kept. I already gave up all the bad habits that needed resolutions (except lying!). If I had to give anything up, I'd give up being the biggest slob in the Ville. My house needs a good once over, or twice over, to get rid of all the

crap I seem to be attached to. I can't seem to throw anything out. Someday I will have a dumpster put in the yard and start blindly tossing stuff out.

I'll make a resolution for others. We need more courtesy on the roads. Let that car cut in front of you that wants to make a turn. Don't be so quick to lose your tem-

per. It's not like the old days. People have weapons. Count to 10 and live to see another day.

Lots of good things happened to my family in 2013. My granddaughter was born, my son has been accepted to a few colleges and, most importantly, we all seem to have avoided the emergency

room. I am grateful for my friends, family and especially loved ones. Happy New Year, Michele! XO

And as an extra jolt of jubilation... Somerville property taxes are actually going down in 2014! So from here, it looks like 2014 is going to be a very good year! All's well in the Ville! Happy New Year!

Super Precious Art Gallery Retrospective

Somerville Arts Council's Super Precious Art Gallery features almost-monthly online group shows with contemporary art inspired by a specific topic or theme.

For the month of December and January, the prints from online gallery are featured in the Inside-OUT Gallery, showcasing a retrospective of past shows.

The gallery is instigated by Aaron Cohen (@unlikelywords). At the gallery's inception, there was an outpouring of support from all of the artists in the first two shows that has attributed to the gallery current success. At this time the gallery does not have a permanent location, but they have pop up openings around Boston to celebrate new shows.

Super Precious Art Gallery has been featured on Laughing

Squid, The Millions, Thrillist, My Modern Met, Flavorwire, Shortlist, Nevver, Kronbini, and Large Hearted Boy, among others. If some of these fine prints strike your fancy, you can purchase them by visiting the Super Precious Art Gallery at <http://superprecio.us/tagged/forsale>.

Initiated in 2009, The Inside-Out Gallery is located in the CVS Window in Davis Square, a unique space that allows the public to view an eclectic array of works from artists and local organizations each month. The mission of the Somerville Arts Council is to cultivate and celebrate the creative expressions of the Somerville community. Through innovative collaborations and quality programming we work to make the arts an integral part of life reflective of our diverse city.



It Bears Repeating by Chris Piascik.

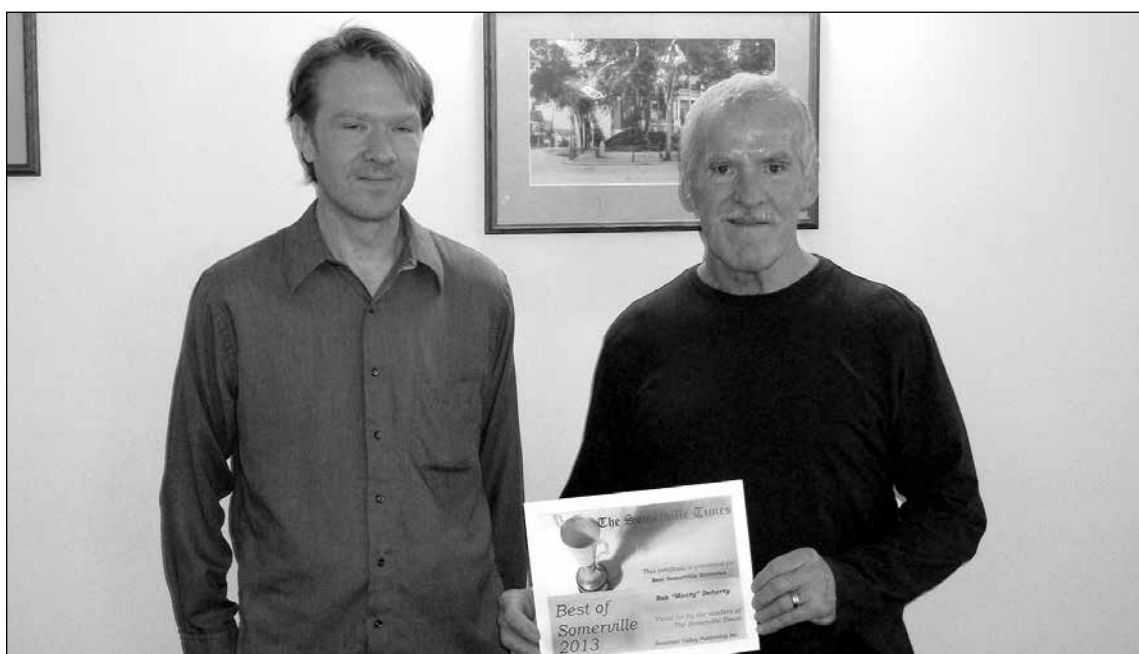


You, That, There, Exists by Vaughn Fender.



Punctual by Josh LaFayette.

Another 'Best of Somerville' winner in the spotlight



Meet our own Bob Doherty, seen here with The Somerville Times Editor David Smith. Bob is the guy to go to for historical facts that are hard to find here in Somerville. Bob retired after many years as a Somerville firefighter, during which he served the city with honor and distinction. His historical knowledge of Somerville has no equal; we love to quiz him and ask him stuff. And even though, we can't remember when we ever stumped him, we keep trying. Bob is a nice guy, and we are proud that he writes for us. He can also be seen around the city, especially at historical events such as the first flag raising or Paul Revere's re-enactment. If you want to get something straight on what is what, we suggest you call Bob first, you'd be as surprised as we are every week when he comes into the office with his The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week column. We laugh and ask how large that spare room is where he has all those artifacts and special effects. Congratulations to Best Somerville Historian Bob Doherty for being voted "Best of Somerville 2013"!



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Monday January 6

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

Tuesday January 7

Honkytonk Masquerade 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday January 8

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

Thursday January 9

Flatt Rabbit grassy Thursdays 7:30 p.m.
Radioactive Rustlers 6 p.m.

Friday January 10

Radioactive Rustlers 6 p.m.
Northbound Train \$5 cover 9 p.m.

Saturday January 11

Tom Hagerty Band 6 p.m.
Black Marmot 9 p.m.

Sunday January 12

Frank Drake Sunday Showcase 5 p.m.
Fiendish Thingies 8 p.m.



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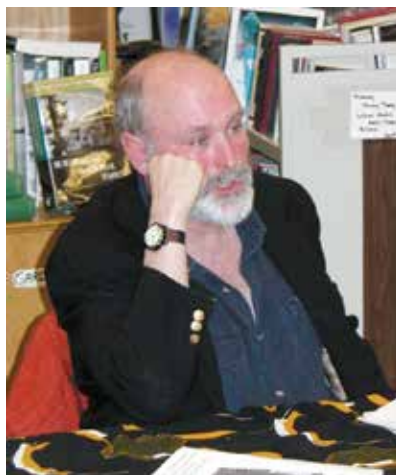
Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

Celebrating 30 years of making grassroots community media for Somerville

Want to learn TV production? Final Cut Pro? Soundtrack Pro? Green-screen? Call us today for more info! 617-628-8826								
Wednesday, January 1		5:30pm	The Folklorist		11:00am	Dead Air Live	11:00pm	Movies about Water
7:30am	Life Matters	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	12:00pm	Reeling the Movie Review Show	Monday, January 6		
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:30pm	Chatting with History	1:00pm	Play by Play	7:30am	Eckankar	
9:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News	7:00pm	Sound Off (Veterans Programming)	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
9:30am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou	2:30pm	The Awesome SCATV Holiday Variety Show	9:00am	Cooking with Georgia and Dez	
10:30am	Art at SCATV	Friday, January 3		3:00pm	Telemagazine	9:30am	Neighborhood Cooking	
11:00am	Abugida TV	7:30am	Shrink Rap	4:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	10:00am	Bay State Biking News	
12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	4:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority	11:00am	Nossa gente e Costumes	
1:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	9:00am	Somerville News Reading	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
2:00pm	Physician Focus	10:00am	High School Peer Pressure	6:00pm	Somerville Newspaper Reading	3:00pm	Exercise with Robyn and Max	
3:00pm	Medical Tutor	11:00am	Sound Off	8:00pm	David Parkman (Free Speech TV)	3:30pm	Esoteric Science	
3:30pm	Healthy Hypnosis	12:00pm	Somerville Housing Authority	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	
4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	12:30pm	Somerville Arts Festival	10:00pm	Tufts University's Films for Social Change	5:00pm	Youth Violence in Society	
6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	1:30pm	Seeds of Death	10:30pm	Johnboy (short fiction)	5:30pm	Youth Programming	
6:30pm	Bullying PSA	2:30pm	History of the West End	11:00pm	Gay USA	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	
7:00pm	Tufts University's Films for Social Change	3:00pm	Brunch with Sen. Bernie Sanders	Sunday, January 5		7:00pm	Nepali Producers Group	
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	6:00am	Program Celebrai	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade	
8:30pm	Perils for Pedestrians	5:00pm	Greater Somerville	7:00am	Rompendo em Fe	10:00pm	Bate Papo com Shirley	
9:00pm	Bay State Biking News	5:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ			
10:00pm	Creepy Castle	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	Tuesday, January 7		
Thursday, January 2		6:30pm	Reeling the Movie Review Show	10:00am	International Church of God	7:00am	The Struggle	
6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	7:00pm	Real Estate Answers Show	10:30am	Holiday Specials	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	7:30pm	Christmas Youth Choir	11:00am	The Folklorist	9:00am	Somerville News Reading	
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	Visual Radio	11:30am	Basic Buddha	10:00am	Contemporary Issues in Science	
9:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	9:00pm	The Folklorist	12:00pm	Play by Play	12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
10:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News (re-run)	9:30pm	Copy Cat Festival	1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	2:00pm	The Folklorist	
10:30am	Talking about Somerville	10:00pm	Penny's Dreadful Shilling Shockers	1:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood Newspaper Reading	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	
11:00am	Critical Focus	Christmas Special		2:30pm	Life Matters	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	
12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	Saturday, January 4		3:00pm	Rompendo em Fe	5:30pm	The Literati Scene	
1:00pm	African Television	6:00am	Arabic Hour	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	
2:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking w/Candy	7:00am	Youth Programming	5:00pm	Ethiopian Satellite TV	6:30pm	Holiday package	
2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez	8:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	6:00pm	Abugida TV	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	
3:00pm	Water is Life	8:30am	Everybody has an Accent,	7:00pm	African Television Network	7:30pm	Greater Somerville	
3:30pm	Health is Wealth	Why is Mine a Problem?		8:00pm	Tele Magazine	8:00pm	Dead Air Live	
4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	9:00am	Festival Kreyol	9:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	9:00pm	MEH Kyown's Television	
5:00pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	10:00pm	Farrakhan Speaks	10:00pm	Penny's Dreadful Shilling Shockers	

City Cable TV Schedule for the Week

CITY TV 13/22		9:00am:	POW Experience in Somerville 1864-5	12:00pm:	Keep Moving: Everyday Exercises for Older Adults	2:00pm:	WSNS Winter Concert
Wednesday, January 1		12:00pm:	Somerville By Design – Davis Square Plan	12:00pm:	2014 City Hall Inaugural Ceremonies	3:00pm:	All-City Middle School Winter Concert
9:00am:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	12:30pm:	Capuano School Playground Ribbon Cutting	1:00pm:	Senior Circuit	3:45pm:	Argenziano School Winter Concert
12:00pm:	A Very Seriously Somerville Christmas	12:45pm:	Talking Business	7:00pm:	Keep Moving: Everyday Exercises for Older Adults	4:30pm:	SHS Winter Concert
12:10pm:	Illuminations Tour	1:15pm:	Congressional Update	7:30pm:	2014 City Hall Inaugural Ceremonies	6:00pm:	Argenziano School Winter Concert
1:10pm:	The Aldermen’s Hour	1:45pm:	Founders Memorial Rink	8:00pm:	Senior Circuit	7:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City - Sportsmanship
1:45pm:	SomerViva	6:30pm:	Dedication Ceremony	12:00am:	Sit & Be Fit	7:30pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v O’Bryant
2:15pm:	Waste Transfer Station Ceremony	7:00pm:	Voices of Somerville	12:30am:	2014 City Hall Inaugural Ceremonies	9:30pm:	WSNS Winter Concert
6:30pm:	Congressional Update	7:30pm:	Somerville By Design – Davis Square Plan	1:00am:		10:30pm:	All-City Middle School Winter Concert
7:00pm:	Illuminations Tour	7:45pm:	Capuano School Playground Ribbon Cutting	EDUCATIONAL CHANNEL 15		11:15pm:	Argenziano School Winter Concert
8:00pm:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration	8:15pm:	Talking Business	Wednesday, January 1			
10:00pm:	The Aldermen’s Hour	8:45pm:	Congressional Update	9:00am:	SHS Girls Basketball, Hoopfest Rd. 1	Sunday, January 5	
			Founders Memorial Rink	11:00am:	SHS Girls Basketball, Hoopfest Rd. 2	12:00am:	SHS Winter Concert
			Dedication Ceremony	1:00pm:	El Sistema Community in Harmony Concert	1:30am:	Argenziano School Winter Concert
Thursday, January 2				2:00pm:	ESCS Winter Concert	9:00am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Reading
12:00am:	Congressional Update			3:00pm:	SHS Winter Concert	10:30am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington
1:00am:	City Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Celebration			4:30pm:	SHS Girls Basketball, Hoopfest Rd. 1	12:30pm:	SHS Girls Basketball, Hoopfest Rd. 1
3:00am:	The Aldermen’s Hour			6:30pm:	SHS Girls Basketball, Hoopfest Rd. 2	2:30pm:	SHS Girls Basketball, Hoopfest Rd. 2
9:00am:	Voices of Somerville			8:30pm:	El Sistema Community in Harmony Concert	4:00pm:	SHS Hockey v King Phillip
12:00pm:	Senior Circuit			9:30pm:	ESCS Winter Concert	5:30pm:	SHS Hockey v St. Joes Prep
12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Everyday Exercises for Older Adults			10:30pm:	SHS Winter Concert	7:00pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Reading
1:00pm:	Seriously Somerville w/ Jimmy Del Ponte					8:30pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington
1:30pm:	Spirit of Somerville: Gene Brune Book Lecture			Thursday, January 2		10:15pm:	SHS Girls Basketball, Hoopfest Rd. 1
2:30pm:	Waste Transfer Station Ceremony			12:00am:	SHS Hockey v King Phillip	Monday, January 6	
3:00pm:	Highlander Fourm – Boys’ Soccer			2:00am:	SHS Girls Basketball, Hoopfest Rd. 1	12:00am:	SHS Hockey v King Phillip
7:00pm:	The Aldermen’s Hour			4:00am:	SHS Girls Basketball, Hoopfest Rd. 2	8:00am:	Healey School Winter Concert
7:30pm:	SomerViva			9:00am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Reading	8:45am:	WSNS Winter Concert
8:00pm:	Voices of Somerville			10:30am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington	9:45am:	ESCS Winter Concert
8:30pm:	Spirit of Somerville: Gene Brune Book Lecture			12:30pm:	WSNS Winter Concert	10:45am:	Argenziano School Winter Concert
9:30pm:	POW-MIA Memorial Chair Dedication			1:30pm:	Healey School Winter Concert	11:30am:	Brown School Winter Concert
10:00pm:	Seriously Somerville w/ Jimmy Del Ponte			2:15pm:	Argenziano School Winter Concert	12:15pm:	WHCIS Winter Concert
Friday, January 3				3:00pm:	SHS Winter Concert	1:15pm:	SHS Winter Concert
12:00am:	The Aldermen’s Hour			4:30pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Reading	3:00pm:	Healey School Winter Concert
12:30am:	SomerViva			6:00pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington	3:45pm:	WSNS Winter Concert
1:00am:	Voices of Somerville			8:00pm:	WSNS Winter Concert	4:45pm:	ESCS Winter Concert
1:30am:	Spirit of Somerville: Gene Brune Book Lecture			9:00pm:	Healey School Winter Concert	5:45pm:	Argenziano School Winter Concert
2:30am:	POW-MIA Memorial Chair Dedication			9:45pm:	Argenziano School Winter Concert	6:30pm:	Brown School Winter Concert
3:00am:	Seriously Somerville w/ Jimmy Del Ponte			10:30pm:	SHS Hockey v King Phillip	7:30pm:	SHS Hockey v Cambridge
9:00am:	Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner			Friday, January 3		9:00pm:	SHS Hockey v St. Joes Prep
12:00pm:	Somerville By Design – Davis Square Plan			12:00am:	SHS Hockey v St. Joes Prep	10:30pm:	SHS Hockey v King Phillip
12:30pm:	Capuano School Playground Ribbon Cutting			1:30am:	SHS Girls Basketball v Norwood	Tuesday, January 7	
12:45pm:	Talking Business			8:00am:	Healey School Winter Concert	12:00am:	SHS Hockey v Cambridge
1:15pm:	Congressional Update			9:00am:	Our Schools, Our City - Sportsmanship	2:00am:	Healey School Winter Concert
1:45pm:	Founders Memorial Rink			10:00am:	Legoland Visits WHCIS	9:00am:	Legoland Visits WHCIS
	Dedication Ceremony			11:00am:	Argenziano School Winter Concert	9:45am:	El Sistema Community in Harmony Concert
7:00pm:	Somerville By Design – Davis Square Plan			12:00pm:	Capuano Center Kindergarten Concert	10:30am:	WHCIS Winter Concert
7:30pm:	Capuano School Playground Ribbon Cutting			1:00pm:	El Sistema Community in Harmony Concert	11:30am:	SHS Winter Concert
7:45pm:	Talking Business			2:00pm:	Healey School Winter Concert	1:00pm:	Argenziano School Winter Concert
8:15pm:	Congressional Update			3:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City - Sportsmanship	1:45pm:	Brown School Winter Concert
8:45pm:	Founders Memorial Rink			3:30pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Reading	3:00pm:	Healey School Winter Concert
	Dedication Ceremony			5:15pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington	4:00pm:	Legoland Visits WHCIS
				7:00pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v O’Bryant	4:45pm:	El Sistema Community in Harmony Concert
				10:00pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v O’Bryant	5:30pm:	WHCIS Winter Concert
Saturday, January 4				Saturday, January 4		6:30pm:	SHS Winter Concert
12:00am:	Somerville By Design – Davis Square Plan			12:00am:	SHS Boys Basketball v O’Bryant	8:00pm:	Argenziano School Winter Concert
12:30am:	Capuano School Playground Ribbon Cutting			2:00am:	WSNS Winter Concert	9:00pm:	SHS Girls Basketball v Norwood
12:45am:	Talking Business			9:00am:	SHS Winter Concert	10:15pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v O’Bryant
1:15am:	Congressional Update			10:30am:	Argenziano School Winter Concert	12:00am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington
1:45am:	Founders Memorial Rink			11:30am:	Our Schools, Our City - Sportsmanship	2:00am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Reading
	Dedication Ceremony			12:00pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v O’Bryant		



OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

J.D. Scrimgeour: A Writer Who Struggles to Find Just The Right Words



Lyrical
SOMERVILLE
edited by Doug Holder

Joanne DeSimone Reynolds' chapbook *Comes a Blossom* will be published by Main Street Rag in January 2014. A graduate of Boston University, she has had poems published in *Salamander*, *Ibbetson Street Press*, *Wilderness House Literary Review* and other literary journals. She is a member of the Concord Poetry Center and writes reviews for *Boston Area Small Press*. The mother of two grown children, she lives on the south shore of Boston with her husband.



An Arc

From the edge of your bed I watch the dog.
Poor poodle, off his food, wearing out a circuit.

You've brought out the blue suitcase –
great gaping mouth.

Paris, Hong Kong or Timbuktu, Mother?
The postcard always comes too late.

You pack your silks of pastel hues
between white tissue paper –

flavorless parfait
the dog leaps into.

You command him under the bedside table.

Nothing now but a furred coil.
Only the eye-glint moves.

You prop open the side pockets –
make a final arc with your sling-back shoes.

Room enough, the click-latch locks it.

The gleam of your pillbox hat from behind.
The swing of you –

one hand free.

– Joanne DeSimone Reynolds

I think any serious writer who claims he or she doesn't spend a lot of time and effort to find just the right word, is either telling a lie or is in serious denial. Poet/Writer/Salem St. University professor J.D. Scrimgeour fits this bill. Whether he is writing a poem about a badly disfigured woman or a passage about a basketball game, he makes sure the words make the writing come to life.

Scrimgeour teaches at Salem State University. He recently published the poetry collection *Territories* (Last Automat Press). He has published another book of poetry, *The Last Miles*, and two books of creative nonfiction, *Spin Moves* and *Themes For English B: A Professor's Education In and Out of Class*. With musician Philip Swanson he formed the performance group, Confluence, and released a CD of poetry and music, *Ogunquit & Other Works*.

I had the pleasure to interview him on my Somerville Community Access TV show *Poet to Poet: Writer to Writer*.

Doug Holder: You collaborated with composer Philip Swanson, etc... to put your poetry to music. Can you tell me about this—the dynamics—difficulties, etc.

J.D. Scrimgeour: I met Phil at some sort of campus event. He is a professor at Salem State University in the music department. We talked about getting our students together to collaborate on something. And we decided to try it first ourselves to see what happened. And so I gave him a couple of pieces of writing and he looked them over. He got really interested in a long poem that I wrote titled *Ogunquit*. We just started meeting and figuring out things. And we started taking his music and attaching it to my words. He composed some new music. I didn't actually change my words but I did have to figure out timing—when to come in and when to come out. We talked a lot about when we wanted the music to fade out. A lot of our discussions were about sound and rhythm actually. It was incredibly rewarding.

DH: In your mini-memoir "Spin Moves" basketball seems to be the focal point. You examine your life through your involvement with the game. I have interviewed poets who used boxing and baseball as poetic subjects. Poet Philip Burnham, Jr., described baseball as ripe for poetry of failure. He said if you get 3 hits every for every 10 at bats you are considered doing well. What is it about basketball that allures you?

JS: I was always involved with sports. I played basketball and baseball in high school. Early on I was attracted to the speed of the game. There is also a lot of deception in basketball that is very interesting. As much as it is about grace and power, it is also about setting people up so you are a step ahead of them. I remember the poet Charles Simic came to Salem State and talked about how chess is sort of similar to poetry because you are thinking 3 or 4 moves ahead and setting something up. I am not sure this correlation is exactly for me in poetry but there is an appreciation that the mental and physical are working at a high level, all at once.

DH: In your memoir you wrote that John McPhee's basketball writing was stilted, too polite, lacking the gusto, the very words that would bring the game to life.

JS: You are picking up on a passage that I feel a little embarrassed about. Probably because I was such a Young Turk at the time. So I brought

McPhee down a peg. But McPhee wrote a good book about basketball. I was especially interested in trying to come up with how could language capture the energy, the surprise that is available to a basketball player. How do you set the game on the page? I think the game may need a soundtrack behind the writing to make it come alive. I am also interested with what the writer does with punctuation and how the words are going to sound. So I use sentence fragments, dashes, etc. Punctuation is so valuable to set pacing. What a difference in the feeling between a colon and a dash!

DH: You are interested in the genre of Creative Non-Fiction. This is a relative new category. What exactly is it?

JS: It captures so many genres. It may be a memoir that does not follow a conventional narrative structure. It can be like a prose poem. It is non-fiction that you don't feel you need a fact checker. You may "expand" the truth. I always indicate to the reader if I am going a bit beyond the exact truth however. Some writers don't feel the need to.

DH: Charlotte Gordon, a colleague of mine at Endicott College wrote that she believes your mission is similar to that of Walt Whitman, in that you celebrate the common man.

JS: There is no way that I can compare myself to Whitman. I think what she is picking up on is that I've always had an interest in writing about other people. My poetry deals with the psychological and the sociological. In my new book *Territories* the first half of the book contains two long dramatic monologues in the voice of a student. The voice is a composite of various students I have known.

DH: *Territories*' first half is about a gay man—and at times very graphic. How did you research this? It sounded very authentic.

JS: I had a student that I knew pretty well, that I worked with. And I took a few facts of his life and other students and integrated them. Being involved with the arts you become aware and have to be sensitive to sexual orientation issue. I did informal research. I talked to people. I sent out writing to people to see if it sounded right. There were certain words and phrases that I went back and changed. I once asked a student about how he felt about the term "gay boys" instead of "queens." A couple of students from Salem State performed these monologues under the direction of a Salem State theatre professor. People were compelled by the performance.

DH: I was reading the poem *After the Fire* that deals with a woman's zen-like acceptance of her disfiguring facial burns and her subsequent losses. Can you talk a bit about this powerful piece?

JS: I really like that poem. It was the voice of a woman that was horribly scared by a fire and bad things continued to happen during her life. Her husband leaves her. It is based on someone I knew from my life. She was a friend of my wife's and she was on Oprah. And she said, "I want to live." I used that line and the poem came from these things I experienced. Two things were happening in my life at the time. We were having our first child, and if you remember the speaker of that poem, she sort of imagines the children she might of had. Also at the same time a friend of ours Mary discovered that her cancer came back. The possibilities of not surviving colored the poem.

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