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holiday cheer  
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## Happy New Year

From the Publisher and Staff of  
The Somerville Times



## 2018: The Year in Review



By The Times Staff

As another year passes, we look back now and highlight some of the stories of particular interest that we covered in 2018.

The year began in Somerville with newly elected members sworn in on the Board of Aldermen. The new members included Alderman At-Large Stephanie Hirsch; Alderman At-Large Wilfred N. Mbah; Ward 2 Alderman Jefferson Thomas ("J.T.") Scott; Ward 3 Alderman Ben Ewen-Campen; and Ward 4 Alderman Jesse Clingan.

Shortly thereafter, the ominous warnings about an impending so-called "bomb cyclone" became a reality, as a record-breaking winter storm of massive proportions lashed the East Coast with freezing winds and a thick lathering of snow all along the eastern seaboard. *Continued on page 10*

## For the cat who has everything 'FELINE' magazine is the purr-fect fashion accessory

By Jim Clark

For Molly Bales, Human Editor-in-Chief of *FELINE* magazine, based in Porter Square, living up to the standards set by her employer, Clawdia Beauchat, provides both a stimulating challenge and a deep sense of satisfaction for a job well done.

The job in this instance involves the production and publication of what may be the first and only magazine specifically dedicated to celebrating the glamor and elegance associated with the cat milieu. As stated by its creators, it is "the most trusted source of fashion, beauty, and furnalism for the sophisticated feline."

"I have say, it wasn't my idea," Bales explains. "It was actually my feline employer, Clawdia, who was chewing on one of my *Vogue* magazines, and was really disturbed by the lack of feline representation. So she decided that it was important to bring felines to the forefront of print and digital media."

*Continued on page 5*



L to R: Molly Bales, Renessa Ciampa, and Jonathan Lansey proudly display the cover for the inaugural issue of *FELINE*, featuring celebrity feline Venus "the two-face cat" who has 1.6M followers on Instagram.

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The views and opinions expressed in Newstalk do not necessarily reflect those of The Somerville Times, its publisher or staff. The column has many contributors.

On behalf of the publishers, editors, writers and – most importantly – the staff here at *The Somerville Times*, we want to wish you all the very best in 2019, for the city, its residents and those who love Somerville like we do. We might have some surprises this year you never know here at the paper. Happy New Year 2019 to all!

The celebration of the first flag raising in the nation was yesterday, New Year's Day, up at Prospect Hill. The city did a great job again, as well as the fine people from the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission.

Happy birthday this week to several locals: Happy birthday to a good friend, Christopher Kenney, a true Somervillevillian. A great guy and good friend. Happy birthday to one of the nicest ladies and former teachers here in the city, Sophia Carafotes. We know she will have a great birthday, but that's her! Happy birthday to Lisa Ludwick, formerly of East Somerville. "Down back" her family was one of the main stays of the area off Washington St. Happy birthday to everyone here and from the city who are celebrating this week. We wish every one of them a very happy birthday.

A third East Somerville Reunion is set for this year. Dan Rogovich has let us know he is once again planning to have a third one on June 15 at The City Club, 20 Innerbelt Rd. A successful event the last two years and growing. Some came from out of state to attend. A great time and we're always looking forward to seeing someone we haven't seen in many decades. It's a great way to keep the old spirit of East Somerville alive. Many think of East Somerville as a very special place to have grown up, the closeness of everyone from the avenue's to the other side, Glen Park to the Charlestown line. The City Club is being rebuilt and construction will start sometime this year.

Next Monday night, January 7, is the City Continued on page 11

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TheSomervilleTimes.com  
Comments of the Week

Response to: City seeks improvement on snow removal procedures (from January 24, 2018)

Not just the city says:

It's not just the city that does things like this it's the private contractors they hire. I walk along Washington st. everyday and after the blizzard I walked from sullivan square T stop to Union square when two trucks from carli fence buried the already shoveled sidewalk with snow again. The city needs to tell this company to slow down when plowing. You can't tell people they have to shovel the walks and then bury them again after they're shoveled.

Response to: City officials consider home rule petition on real estate transfer fee (from February 14, 2018)

Old Taxpayer says:

just another way to impose a tax on those of us who simply cannot afford any more. Selling a house should not be a windfall for the city. It should have nothing to do with them and they have no business at all doing this to us. Just because they overspend and do not know how to make up the difference. Cut out the waste and get down to business. we are already paying way to much for things that are none of our business.

Response to: City opposes immigration policy separating children from parents (from June 27, 2018)

LindaS says:

It amazes me that any government administration in this day and age could ever condone this type of behavior. Have they learned nothing from the Japanese internment camps decades ago? I don't see this as anything other than an inhumane, unnecessary and unacceptable way to handle immigration concerns. Using cruelty to deter families who are fleeing danger is not going to work, simply because these people probably figure it is safer to have their children taken away into custody than to have them killed by whoever they are fleeing from. If you had a choice between staying in your homeland and getting killed, or having your kids taken away from you to a place where they'll likely be safe, what would you choose? These people are desperate, which is why they're still coming. The President (and I use that term loosely these days) needs to stop blaming the Democrats for everything when he gets negative press, and stop taking all the credit whenever things are positive. Like a child, he runs to his rallies to get support whenever things are making him look bad, and avoids confrontation when he knows people are going to be angry with him. That's not how the mature leader of a country should behave. Saying this issue is not up to him is ridiculous, especially since he proved by signing his new Executive Order that he could have done something about this from the very beginning. I'm just glad that cities like ours can step up when it matters, even though it shouldn't be left to them to do what needs to be done.

Response to: The Somerville Home to close residential care facility by end of 2018 (from September 5, 2018)

Do says:

Is there any plan to try and raise funds/funding to keep it open or have another non-profit run it with increased state resources from DMH/DPH, etc.? This facility has provided excellent home-like care for 120 years. To let this fall into the hands of a private developer and become expensive housing would be a huge failure of civic responsibility.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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John Connolly

Life in the

VILLE

by Jimmy Del Ponte

# Countdown to yesteryear



New Year's Eve was the biggest payday of the year for bands and musicians back in the day. Maybe now still. My band-mates and I brushed off our tuxedos and brushed up on *Auld Lang Syne*.

My favorite gigs were at The Embassy Lounge formerly on Somerville Ave. I also remember a New Year's Eve probably around 1988 or so at the Dilboy Post in Davis Square. We got to take home a ton of leftover Chinese food. I recall lugging a gallon jug of duck sauce! This year I performed but it was scaled back a bit.

In the ... olden days, us Somerville rev- elers had quite a choice of bars, lounges, restaurants and clubs to choose from. Many places offered package deals that

included food and noisemakers. We would also "Bar-Hop" and pop in on as many local joints as possible, knowing people at every place. Some of the plac- es we enjoyed on New Year's Eve's past in Somerville and vicinity were:

Post 388, Stephen James House, The Dockside, O'Henry's, Virgies, Antho- ny's, Faces, The Channel, The Embas- sy Lounge, Katy's, Johnny D's, Jumbo's, Good Times, Cabot Farms, Khoury's, The Railside, Medford Sons of Italy, Club 3, BoBo's, The Greek Church on Central St, Sherlock Holmes Pub, The Logan Post, The Surrey Room, The Wood- bridge Inn, The Blarney Stone, The Bull Pen, The Continental On Somerville Ave, Frascati's, Studleys, The Pine Tree, Pal Joey's, Pat Connollys, The Highland Cafe, The Venice, The Cadillac, The Wil- low, The Coronet, Barnaby's, Sammy's Pa- tio, Choices, Jaspers, The Somerville City Club, The Moose Club, Dapper Dan's,

The Elks, Deco's, The Palace, Aku-Aku, The Dante Club, and The Pointer Post. I'm sure there were lots more too. Yikes! Somerville sure had a lot of gin mills back then. Green Cab sure was busy!

And then there were the New Year's Eve's with the steady girlfriend or the wife and kids. We partied a bit tamer than in our crazy years. We calmed down and usually stayed inside or had a safe party at someone's house.

I went to Boston's First Night festivi- ties once, and that was enough. I froze my butt off. If you've seen one ice sculp- ture you've seen them all. I don't like inebriated crowds either. Same reason I hate going to a game at Gillette. TMD. Too Many Drunks. My first First Night was my last First Night. I'd much rath- er welcome the New Year in the warmth and comfort of home, in front of my big TV watching a Three Stooges marathon, and the Dick Clark show. Sometimes we

would rent a hotel room on New Year's Eve. The bathtub served as the cooler!

I spent this past New Year's Eve with the wonderful staff and guests at The Little Sisters of the Poor. The ball dropped at 7:00 p.m. and I was in my jammies by 8:00 p.m. safe and sound and eating Peking Raviolis. Yes, I'm quite the party animal.

The fun we had at those old clubs on New Year's Eve, with our big hair, wide collars and disco balls makes us smile. Seems like a hundred years ago.

The closest I got to one of those fun filled zany New Year's Eves at my beloved Embassy Lounge was ordering from Chi- na Delight on Somerville Ave. Why? Be- cause China Delight is in the same exact spot that The Embassy Lounge was at.

Here's hoping 2019 brings us good health and peace of mind. New Year's resolution? I'm going to evict all the peo- ple from my head who are renting free space up there.

## City seeking responses to transportation survey

Are you a Somerville resident with 15 minutes to spare? The City of Somerville would appreciate your response to a shared mobility survey that will help it plan for future transportation needs. The survey, which takes about 15 minutes to complete, asks questions about your current modes of transportation as well as options you might consider in the future, like autonomous vehicles.

The city is hoping to get at least 1,000 responses by Friday, January 18, so transportation planners and research and development partners at Audi have enough data to understand Somerville's current and future transportation needs. After completing the survey, you can enter a drawing for one of several \$100 gift cards. You can find the survey at [somervillema.gov/sharedmobility](http://somervillema.gov/sharedmobility).



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Income Restricted units available to income eligible, first time home buyers through the City of Somerville's Inclusionary Housing Program Applications will only be available at after the Information Session #1. **Do not request applications before November 29.**

After November 29th applications will be available  
Online: <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/programs/inclusionary-housing-program>  
City Hall, City Hall Annex, all Somerville Public Library branches

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**Information Session #1**  
6:30pm Thursday January 10, 2019 @ the East Somerville Community School located at 50 Cross Street Somerville

**Information Session #2**  
10:30am on Wednesday February 6, 2019 @ the VNA at 259 Lowell Street in Somerville

**Open Houses at 29 Woodbine St.**  
Saturday January 12th 2019 10am-12pm & Tuesday February 12th, 2019 6--8pm

**Application deadline:** Monday, March 11th, 2019 2:00 PM  
**Lottery:** 11 AM on Monday March 28th 2019 @ City Hall Aldermanic Chambers, 93Highland Ave., Somerville  
The lottery will also be available on the City's YouTube channel: SomervilleCityTV

For more information email: [inclusionary@somervillema.gov](mailto:inclusionary@somervillema.gov) or call 617-635-6600 ext. 2584

THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

## One gun, one gangster off the streets

An ongoing feud between members of a Cambridge Gang known as Port 44 and a Somerville Gang known as MP45 or ESV has recently drawn the attention of law enforcement authorities in both cities.

There had been multiple shootings between these two groups and several firearm and narcotic arrests have resulted with members of these gangs.

According to police, information has been received that several of these members are distributing narcotics. These persons are often found on social media giving gestures of gang signs as well as posting videos of narcotics and firearms.

Members of the Somerville Police Department Drug Unit and Gang Unit recently gained information on one such individual involved in the MP45 gang making gang gestures, posting videos with firearms on social media and selling narcotics.

The party in question, Ashaun Clark, has reportedly been seen posting videos of large amounts of marijuana and firearms. A drug investigation of Clark was initiated of his alleged role in the ongoing distribution of marijuana.

The alleged distribution occurs from Clark's Memorial Rd. residence. This residence is located at 50B #14, Somerville, MA 02145. The investigation was launched upon receiving intelligence and cooperation from a confidential source.

At the conclusion of this drug investigation, a search warrant application was requested by police on December 27, 2018, and was granted by the court authorizing the search of both Clark and his residence.

On Friday, December 28, Somerville Police officers set up surveillance around the area of Clark's residence. A Somerville Housing Officer also assisted in the surveillance operation.

Observations were made of Clark and another individual, who was known to police, exiting the rear door of the Memorial Rd. location and walking towards Temple St.

Police reported that while the two were walking, it appeared that they made note of an unmarked police cruiser as they stopped and quickly spoke to one another.

The two men split up, with Clark returning to his residence. Within two minutes Clark reportedly exited once again and began walking towards Temple St. At this time, detectives approached Clark and informed him that they had a search warrant and he was accompanied back into his residence where he was read his Miranda rights.

During the search warrant execution, approximately 327 grams of marijuana, which appeared to be packaged for sales, were seized.

Also seized during the search warrant execution was five hundred and thirty dollars in cash, and a H and K USP .45 Caliber firearm. The firearm was seized from an open backpack on the living room floor. A query of the firearm serial number indicated that it was stolen out of Virginia earlier in the year.

Clark was subsequently placed under arrest and charged with improper storage of a firearm, drug possession to distribute, receiving stolen property over \$1200, possession of a firearm without FID card, possession of ammunition without FID card, and carrying a firearm with ammunition.

Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210

Help Keep Somerville Safe!

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG			
<b>Arrests:</b>			
<b>Jose Rivera</b> , of 115 Walnut St., December 18, 4:43 p.m., arrested at Central St. on charges of negligent operation of a motor vehicle, license revoked as HTO, and possession of a class B drug.		sex Ave. on a warrant charge of shoplifting by concealing merchandise.	
<b>Felipe Leao</b> , of 197 Summer St., December 21, 5:36 p.m., arrested at home on multiple charges of drug possession to distribute.		<b>German Pena-Fernandez</b> , December 22, 9:50 p.m., arrested at Wheatland St. on charges of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, furnishing false ID, use of a motor vehicle without authority, operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, and leaving the scene of property damage.	
<b>Lee Prior</b> , of 100A Fulton St., Medford, December 22, 3:38 p.m., arrested at Middle-		<b>Sergio Martinez-Palma</b> , December 23, 9:25 a.m., arrested	
		ed at Broadway on a warrant charge of possession of a class B drug.	
		<b>Kevin O'Brien</b> , of 93 Electric Ave., December 27, 11:50 a.m., arrested at Fellsway on warrant charges of alcohol from open container, marked lanes violation, operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor third offense, and operation of a motor vehicle with registration revoked as HTO.	
		<b>Cameron Bourque</b> , of 3 Mt. Vernon St., Melrose, Decem-	
		ber 27, 5:56 p.m., arrested at Temple St. on charges of drug possession to distribute and carrying a dangerous weapon, and on warrant charges of threat to commit a crime, criminal harassment, and witness intimidation.	
		<b>Ashaun Clark</b> , of 50B Memorial Rd., December 28, 11:26 a.m., arrested at home on charges of improper storage of a firearm, drug possession to distribute, receiving stolen property over \$1200, possession of a firearm with-	
		out FID card, possession of ammunition without FID card, and carrying a firearm with ammunition.	
		<b>Stephen Culbertson</b> , of 112 South Hampton St., Boston, December 29, 7:56 p.m., arrested at Assembly Row on charges of shoplifting by concealing merchandise and removal of theft prevention device.	
		<b>Jonathan Hedgepeth</b> , December 30, 6:34 p.m., arrested at Mystic Ave. on warrant charges of receiving stolen property and trespassing.	

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## Somerville's Mid-Term Ceremonies

The City of Somerville's Mid-Term Ceremonies and Mid-Term Addresses by Mayor Curtatone, the incoming President of the Board of Aldermen, and incoming Chairperson of the Somerville School Committee will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 7, in the Aldermanic Chambers at City Hall, 93 Highland Ave. Organizational meetings of the Board of Aldermen and School Committee will take place immediately before the Mid-Term Addresses. Members of the public are invited, and the speeches will be live streamed on the city's cable and educational access television stations, as well as online at [www.somervillema.gov](http://www.somervillema.gov). A reception will immediately follow the official ceremony and speeches. For more information, contact the Mayor's Office at [Mayor@somervillema.gov](mailto:Mayor@somervillema.gov), or 617-625-6600 ext. 2100. Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication, written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Somerville or to attend meetings, should contact the City's ADA Coordinator, Nancy Salamoun, at 617-625-6600 x2323 or [NSalamoun@somervillema.gov](mailto:NSalamoun@somervillema.gov).

# For the cat who has everything

CONT. FROM PG 1

Bales went on to explain how Ms. Beauchat bemoaned that fact that cats have gotten a lot of attention on other channels on the internet and therefore there was a gap.

"FELINE was really meant to be an outlet for felines to share their best practices and their stories," says Bales. "And also we're trying to bridge the gap between felines and their human employees."

The staff at FELINE views the magazine as a source of information on beauty, on entertainment in the form of toys, along with in-depth journalism. "We have an article, for instance, on your staff – what they really do when they leave the apartment," said Bales. "That's done by Walter Clawnkite, who's one of our investigative furnalists. So we're covering a broad range of topics, really just based on what we feel the feline community would like to hear."

Other furnalists include Kitty Furic, who interviews cover cat Venus, and Rachel Madmeow.

In terms of accepting submissions from outside sources, Bales says that in general they want to carry Clawdia's message as far as possible. But they are also interested in moving towards a community based model where people would submit their photos, and submissions of written material by felines would also be something they are open to. Emails are welcome at [business@felinemag.com](mailto:business@felinemag.com), and participation on Instagram is likewise invited at <https://www.instagram.com/atchoumthecat/>.

"One of the really interesting things about FELINE is – sort of Clawdia's vision – is that it's not only a conduit for feline frustrations, but it's also a potential launching pad for the careers of promising cats," according to Bales. "In this issue we're featuring Venus, who has 1.6M Instagram followers, and she's been very supportive of what we're doing. We've included Coby, who's starring in several of our ads and has 1.4M Instagram followers and is very fashion forward. So we're very excited to have him included as well."

*"... we're trying to bridge the gap between felines and their human employees"*

Bales also boasts that FELINE has Atchoum, who she describes as the hairiest looking cat you have ever seen.

The production team consists of Bales, who earned her MBA from MIT Sloan in 2016 with a focus on entrepreneurship and sustainability. A Somerville resident, she is cofounder of an Internet-of-Things startup focused on office space utilization.

Jonathan Lansey, Kazul's roommate and Human Director of Operations at FELINE, is the resident "tech guru". A data science/all-around techie with various ventures, including Loud Bicycle, a bicycle horn that sounds like a car horn. Lansey is a graduate of BU in Cognitive



Founder Clawdia Beauchat reviews the final proof of FELINE's inaugural issue. Viewing a spread featuring Coby, spokespurrson for Purrberry.

and Neural Systems and New Jersey Institute of Technology in Applied Math.

Rounding out the team is Renessa Ciampa, Corona's staffer and Human Art Director. Ciampa runs her own graphic and web design firm, Ciampa Creative. She is a graduate of the New England Institute of Art and MassArt.

Executive felines are Clawdia Beauchat, FELINE Founder & Editor-in-Chief, felentrepreneur (the in-house term for a feline entrepreneur); Kazul Mouseslayer III, Director of Operations; and Corona de la Casa, Art Director.

Bales, Lansey, and Ciampa met at the Boston CIC (Cambridge Innovation

Center), a coworking space in downtown Boston, where they were each working on their own projects. When the idea for the magazine took form they hit the ground running.

Bales has a message to all staffers who are employees of their felines: "Be true to your feline, listen to them, start learning how to speak cat if you haven't already, and together we hope to bring an end to the age old feline-human conflict."

The magazine publishes semi-annually and is available in print and in digital form. You can buy a single issue or subscribe to the two issues per year (available in print or digital) at [www.felinemag.com](http://www.felinemag.com).



Renessa, Molly, and Jonathan fulfill their first orders just in time for Christmas.

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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. This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* concludes a series of reports on how local legislators voted on legislation that was approved in the 2017-2018 session by the House and Senate and signed into law by Gov. Charlie Baker.

The 2017-2018 Legislative session ends on January 1 and the new 2019-2020 session begins on January 2.

**\$3.8 BILLION FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (H 4549)**

House 145-3, Senate 38-0, approved a \$3.8 billion bond package allowing the state to borrow funds for improvements to state and local buildings, facilities and grounds across the state which would include repairs, reconstruction, demolition, remediation, rehabilitation, modernization, disposition and renovations.

Provisions include \$950 million for state universities and colleges; \$760 million for courts and \$500 million for police stations, fire stations and other public safety-related buildings.

The package includes earmarks for hundreds of millions of dollars for hundreds of projects in legislators’ districts across the state – many of which will never be funded. The Baker administration is required to adhere to the state’s annual bond borrowing cap and ultimately decides which projects are affordable and actually get funded.

Sometimes legislators will immediately tout the inclusion of local projects in these bond bills, especially in an election year to show they “brought home the bacon.” But Beacon Hill Roll Call informs readers that none of the projects in this package have been funded and most will end up never being funded because of the debt limit.

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

Rep. Christine Barber	Didn't Vote
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

**RAISE MINIMUM WAGE, FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE AND SALES TAX HOLIDAY (H 4640)**

House 119-24, Senate 30-8, approved a bill that over five years would hike the minimum wage from \$11 to \$15, increase the wage for tipped workers from \$3.75 to \$6.75 and phase out over five years extra pay for employees who work on Sundays and holidays; institute a permanent sales tax holiday on a weekend every August; and establish a \$1 billion family and medical leave program funded by a payroll tax paid for by both employers and employees.

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

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

**RED FLAG ON GUNS (H 4670)**

House 133-15, Senate 36-1, approved a bill that would allow family or household members to petition the courts to issue an extreme risk protection order (ERPO) that would suspend a person’s license to carry a firearm and order him or her to surrender his or her firearms and ammunition if he or she is believed to be a danger to

themselves or others.

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

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

**REPEAL ARCHAIC SEX AND ABORTION LAWS (S 2260)**

House 138-9, Senate 38-0, approved a bill that would eliminate old state laws restricting or banning abortion and contraception.

The laws repealed include the ban on unmarried people accessing abortion and contraception; the ban on distributing information on how to procure contraception or abortion care; a law which punishes doctors, pharmacists and all healthcare providers for distributing contraception or providing abortion care; and a ban on adultery and fornication.

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

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

**ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL**

**\$1.2 MILLION IN PAY HIKE FOR LEGISLATORS, GOV. BAKER AND OTHERS –** A total of \$1.2 million per year is the price tag for the salary hikes given last week to the governor, the other five constitutional statewide officers, 40 senators and 160 representatives. Here’s how it all went down:

Gov. Baker announced that the 200 members of the Legislature will receive a 5.93 percent pay hike for the 2019-2020 legislative session that begins January 2. The hike will increase the base salary of each senator and representative by \$3,709 per year - from the current \$62,547 to \$66,256. The total cost of the hike for all 200 legislators is \$741,800.

Baker was required under the state constitution to determine the amount of a pay raise or cut that state legislators would receive for the 2019-2020 session. All Massachusetts governors are obligated to increase or decrease legislative salaries biennially under the terms of a constitutional amendment approved by the voters in 1998. The amendment, approved by a better than two-to-one margin, requires legislative salaries to be “increased or decreased at the same rate as increases or decreases in the median household income for the commonwealth for the preceding 2-year period, as ascertained by the governor.” Baker said he used the United States Census Bureau’s American Community Survey to calculate that median household income in Massachusetts from for that 2-year period had grown from \$73,052 to \$77,385, or 5.93 percent.

Legislators’ salaries were increased by \$2,515 for the 2017-2018 legislative session. That hike came on the heels of a salary freeze for the 2015-2016 legislative session, a \$1,100 pay cut for the 2013-2014 session and a \$306 pay cut for the 2011-2012 session. Prior to 2011, legislators’ salaries had been raised every two years since the \$46,410 base pay was first raised under the constitutional amendment in 2001.

The new \$66,256 salary means legislative salaries have been raised \$19,846, or 42.7 percent, since the mandated salary adjustment became part of the state constitution.

In the meantime, a second pay hike for close to 70 percent of the state’s 200 legislators also takes effect January 2. Currently 139, or 69.5 percent, of the state’s 200 legislators receive a stipend for their service in Democratic or Republican leadership positions, as committee chairs or vice chairs and as the ranking Republican on some committees. All 40 senators and 99 of the 160 representatives receive this bonus pay ranging from \$15,000 to \$80,000. A pay raise approved by the Legislature in 2017 requires that every two years the salaries of these 139 legislators are increased or decreased based on data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) that measures the quarterly change in salaries and wages. This year, State Treasurer Deb Goldberg’s office said that based on that formula, these stipends will increase by 8.3 percent. That means the total of the stipends will increase by \$249,010 per year, from the current \$3,127,350 to \$3,376,360.

The highest legislative increases will go to House Speaker Bob DeLeo and Senate President Karen Spilka who currently earn \$142,547 made up of the \$62,547 base salary and an \$80,000 bonus for being House speaker and Senate president. The 8.3 percent bump in \$80,000 is worth \$6,640. Add the \$3,709 hike and DeLeo and Spilka’s annual salary increases to \$152,896 – an increase of \$11,260 or 9.3 percent.

And there’s more. The 2017 law also requires that every two years the salaries of the governor and the other five constitutional statewide officers be increased or decreased based on the same data from the BEA. This hikes the governor’s salary by \$15,355, from \$185,000 to \$200,355, making him the highest paid governor in the nation, just ahead of Gov. Jerry Brown of California at \$195,803. Add Baker’s \$60,00 housing allowance and the total rises to \$260,355. Other hikes include the lt. governor, auditor and secretary of state by \$13,695, from \$165,000 to \$178,695 ; the state treasurer and attorney general by \$14,525 from \$175,000 to \$189,525.

The 8.3 percent hike also applies to the general expense allowance each senator and representative receives. Members whose districts are within a 50-mile radius of the Statehouse currently receive \$15,000 per year while members beyond the 50 miles receive \$20,000 per year. The \$15,000 will increase by \$1,250 (to a total of \$16,250). The \$20,000 will increase by \$1,660 to a total of \$21,660. The grand total of the hike for the 200 legislators is \$207,090.

This allowance is used at the discretion of individual legislators to support a variety of costs including the renting of a district office, contributions to local civic groups and the printing and mailing of newsletters. Legislators are issued a 1099 from the state and are required to report the allowance as income but are not required to submit an accounting of how they spend it.

**MINIMUM WAGE HIKE ON JANUARY 1 –** The state’s minimum wage goes from \$11 per hour to \$12 per hour beginning January 1. It is the first step in an annual hike of \$1 until it reaches \$15 per hour in 2022. The Legislature approved the raise in June 2018 and Gov. Baker signed it into law. The raise was part of a package which also included an increase in the wage for tipped workers from \$3.75 to \$6.75 over five years; the phase

Beacon Hill Roll Call

continued



out over five years of extra pay for employees who work on Sundays and holidays; a permanent sales tax holiday on a weekend every August; and a \$1 billion family and medical leave program funded by a payroll tax paid for by both employers and employees.

According to a new study released by the Massachusetts Budget and Policy Center, the hike will benefit an estimated 662,000 workers, with a total wage increase of \$817.5 million. The study says the hike will give a raise to 68 percent of food service workers and about a third of workers in human services - including human service workers in the fields of child welfare, disability services and elder services.

"Minimum wage increases are essential to helping people put food on the table, and they help support the local economies in which workers spend their money," said Jeremy Thompson, Senior Policy Analyst at MassBudget. "Moreover, if not for periodic minimum wage increases, hundreds of thousands of the lowest-wage workers in the state would have seen the real value of their wages fall over the past couple of decades."

"This is a positive step for Massachusetts, but our work is not done," said Marie-Frances Rivera, Interim President of MassBudget. "In a state with such a high cost of living, we need to do more work to make sure our family, friends, and neighbors can make ends meet."

"Combined with the recently implemented \$3 increase (which began January 1, 2015), this \$4 increase over five years adds up to nearly a 90 percent increase in the Massachusetts state minimum wage," said Jon Hurst President of the Retailers Association of Massachusetts who opposes the hike. "This unprecedented and dramatic 88

percent increase over nine years compares to a likely cumulative inflation rate of under 20 percent. Profitability for small employers with tight margins will be severely impacted, as will the availability of jobs for teenagers, which already number far fewer in Massachusetts than in the late 90s.

Hurst noted that 39 states have teen wages but Massachusetts does not despite having the highest minimum wage in the nation. Teen wages allow employers to pay workers under 18 years a lower minimum wage. "Beacon Hill leaders should make our young people a priority and pass legislation in 2019 authorizing a 90-day teen wage to incent employers from stores, restaurants, municipalities, to YMCAs to hire our 14-17-year olds," concluded Hurst.

Paul Craney, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance said, "The New York Times, hardly a conservative publication, once wrote in their January 14, 1987 editorial: 'The idea of using a minimum wage to overcome poverty is old, honorable — and fundamentally flawed. It's time to put this hoary debate behind us and find a better way to improve the lives of people who work very hard for very little.'"

"Those words are just as true today," continued Craney. "When government regulates something, you get less of it. When government increases the cost of labor, it only hurts the consumer and the workers who will be offered less low skilled jobs."

**GAS SAFETY (H 5005)** – The House and Senate approved and sent to Gov. Baker a bill that would require that all-natural gas work that might pose a material risk to the public be reviewed and approved by a certified

professional engineer to ensure the safe construction, operation and maintenance of gas infrastructure. The bill is based on a recommendation made by the National Transportation Safety Board after investigating the series of fires and explosions on September 13 that killed one person and damaged homes and businesses throughout Andover, North Andover and Lawrence.

**ALLOW COUPONS FOR DRUGS (H 4825)** – The House and Senate approved and sent to Gov. Baker a bill extending until 2020 the current law, due to expire in 2019, that allows consumers to use coupons to get discounts and rebates when purchasing prescription drugs. In 2012, Massachusetts was the last state to lift a ban on the use of prescription coupons. The measure also requires the state to analyze and issue a report by June 1, 2019 on the effect of these discounts and rebates, on pharmaceutical spending and health care costs in Massachusetts.

In 2012, Massachusetts was the last state to lift a ban on the use of prescription coupons. The ban was lifted for only two years to see how it worked and has been lifted for another two years several times. The ban originally was designed to was prevent drug companies from trying to induce customers into buying their drugs. Supporters of lifting the ban say that the unintended consequence of the ban was that it resulted in people being prohibited from saving money on prescriptions. They say the lifting of the ban helps lower the cost of prescription drugs for seniors and others who otherwise might not be able to afford them. Opponents argue the use of coupons drives up health care costs by luring consumers and encouraging them to request high-priced brand name medication.

Continued on page 17

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

MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72393010	172 Summer Street	14 room, 6 bed, 3f 2h bath Victorian	39	\$1,200,000	\$1,120,000
72380282	125 Heath Street	7 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath Gambrel /Dutch	178	\$1,225,000	\$1,183,500
72418163	91 Oxford St	10 room, 5 bed, 3f 1h bath Colonial	15	\$1,449,900	\$1,478,000
72289406	137 Sycamore	13 room, 5 bed, 3f 1h bath Colonial	229	\$1,475,000	\$1,470,000
72401977	48 Rogers Ave	9 room, 4 bed, 3f 1h bath Victorian	37	\$1,599,999	\$1,500,000

**Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:**

MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72328890	19 Kent Court U:3	5 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath Detached	177	\$899,000	\$860,000
72421007	28 Newberne Street U:1	4 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Other	21	\$979,000	\$1,110,000
72394239	39 Murdock St U:2	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath Low-Rise	15	\$1,049,000	\$1,025,000
72398689	18 Adams St U:2	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath Detached	13	\$1,050,000	\$1,050,000
72408500	29 Weston Ave U:29	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath Townhouse	16	\$1,100,000	\$1,200,000
72368633	52 Porter St U:1	7 room, 3 bed, 3f 2h bath 2/3 Family	103	\$1,325,000	\$1,310,000
72345672	25 Woodbine Street U:25	7 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath Mid-Rise	163	\$1,425,000	\$1,460,000
72414556	22 Linden Avenue U:2	8 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath Townhouse	24	\$1,495,000	\$1,560,000

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

MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72404517	13 Alston St	3 unit, 14 total room, 8 total bedroom 3 Family	28	\$924,500	\$920,000
72431103	8 College Hill Road	2 unit, 11 total room, 2 total bedroom 2 Family	180	\$949,000	\$930,000
72403101	6 Nashua St	3 unit, 15 total room, 7 total bedroom 3 Family	29	\$1,099,000	\$985,000
72412242	29-31 Mason St	2 unit, 12 total room, 5 total bedroom 2 Family	10	\$1,100,000	\$1,155,000
72418369	30 Beacon Street	3 unit, 12 total room, 4 total bedroom 3 Family	9	\$1,100,000	\$1,059,000
72404386	371 Broadway	2 unit, 12 total room, 6 total bedroom 2 Family	28	\$1,150,000	\$1,115,000
72395384	21-23 Thorndike Street	6 unit, 28 total room, 16 total bedroom 5-9 Family	10	\$3,250,000	\$2,800,000

WSNS Carnival

West Somerville Neighborhood School afternoon program students did some celebrating on their last day of school on December 21, prior to the holiday break. The carnival featured games, face painting, and various other fun activities.

— Photos by Claudia Ferro



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

The Somerville Times  
Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #169

Holiday Connections

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

We all love the time we can devote to rest and relaxation and take an intermission from our everyday pattern of work. Students call it a break, the military refers to it as a Leave of Absence or furlough, and it is publicly known as a holiday.



The concept of holiday recognition reverts back to the Roman Empire and before when governments allowed time off for religious pilgrimages and celebrations. On today's secular calendars, vacation days honor heroes, events, and circumstances. In America, the world's melting pot, ethnic holidays abound.

The federal government officially observes ten holidays a year while individual states may observe more or less. Massachusetts officially celebrates eleven, but with the popular Evacuation Day/St. Patrick's Day and the Battle of Bunker Hill Day it adds up to a patriotic thirteen, followed by many others.



Somerville has an historic link with many of these holidays:

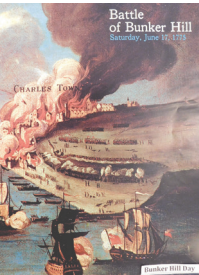
♦ New Year's Day, January 1 was Paul Revere's birthday. He was famous for nearly being captured by British cavalry on his ride through what is now Somerville.

Patriots raised the first American flag at Prospect Hill on January 1, 1776.

♦ George Washington's Birthday is the third Monday in February. Washington organized and led the first Colonial Army from Prospect Hill to Yorktown, Pennsylvania.

♦ Patriot's day is the third Monday in April. The Battle of Lexington and Concord ended in what is now Somerville. Sixty-five-year-old Somerville resident James Miller was the last patriot to die that day and his final words were, "I am too old to run."

Continued on page 20



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Denise Cosby

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# SCES staffers give generously through annual CHA gift drive

By Nathan Lamb

Staffers from Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SECS) recently donated gifts for nearly two dozen local children in need. Coordinated in partnership with Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA), the gift drive will provide more than 75 gifts for children from 10 local families, said SCES Clinical Director and drive organizer Annie Fowler. She noted that 28 employees participated, saying that was the most ever.

“It’s really been great how our agency has embraced this gift drive,” said Fowler. “Our team has really supported this effort, and it’s great seeing everyone pitching in to make a difference.”

SCES staffers purchased a wide range of gifts for the drive, ranging from winter coats, to clothing and toys. CHA Social Worker Meredith Jones said the outpouring has been terrific, fulfilling wish lists from families that need assistance due to medical emergency or other economic challenges.

Staff from Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services recently donated more than 75 gifts through the agency’s annual gift drive partnership with Cambridge Health Alliance.

“It’s been great that SCES has taken this on, to help us provide something extra where it’s needed most,” said Jones. “It’s also how great how drive tailors the giving to what the family wants and needs, so we know that they

will truly use it.”

Now in its fourth year, the drive grew out of ongoing collaborations between SCES and CHA’s Complex Care Management teams, which combine the perspectives of nurses, social workers, and community health workers to provide better care. Fowler meets with CHA staffers regularly through the program, and said the collaboration grew out of discussions with CHA’s pediatric social workers.

“They said November is always a hard time, because they see so many families either miss the deadline for toy donation programs, or they’re just over the eligibility guidelines,” said Fowler. “I remembered we’d had a toy drive in the past, and told her we’d try to help out.”

That conversation was with CHA social worker Julie Ain, who worked with Jones this year

to identify CHA families that could use assistance, and provided their wish lists to Fowler.

The following SCES staff contributed to the drive: Shamone Allien, Stephanie Becker, Rachel Berry, Cassie Cramer, Nina Cohen, Barbara D’Eramo, Annie Fowler, Allison Freeburn, Kathleen Gillespie, Amy Goodwin, Paul Hollings, Anne Keefe, Helia Kinney, Megan Krey, Courtney Johnson, Helia Kinney, Nathan Lamb, Tania Lopez, Lissa Marcucci, Michelle Mazzola, Nathaniel Meyer, Alison Payne, Claudia Perez, Nicole Poirier, Al Solomon, Ellyn Torres, Donna Vaskelis, and Kristine Wiitala.

Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) is a non-profit agency that supports the independence and well-being of older people in Somerville and Cambridge. For more information,

visit [eldercare.org](http://eldercare.org), follow us on Facebook and Twitter, or contact the SCES Aging Information Center at 617-628-2601 for free advice and guidance.



Sally O’Brien’s

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617-666-3589



Monday January 7

Shawn Carter’s Cheapshots Comedy 7 p.m.

Marley Monday with The Duppy Conquerors reggae 10 p.m.

Tuesday January 8

Industry night featuring DJ Wall 8 p.m.

Wednesday January 9

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

Thursday January 10

Ways & Means Committee, Rusted Bucket Band 8:30 p.m.

Friday January 11

David Johnston Band 6 p.m.

HearNowLive presents The Othership \$10 cover 9:30 p.m.

Saturday January 12

Tom Hagerty Band 6 p.m.

Speed Fossil, Ghost Truckers, Haymakers \$10 cover 9:30 p.m.

Sunday January 13

The Natural Wonders 4:30 p.m.

African Night, SambaLolo hosts 10 p.m.



[www.sallyobriensbar.com](http://www.sallyobriensbar.com)



Somerville’s Waste Wizard

If you’re cleaning up from the holidays and wondering how to dispose of things like wrapping paper, your tree, or packaging, visit the Waste Wizard at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/dpw-sanitation/somerville-trash-recycling-information/waste-wizard>.

You can type in what you want to dispose of and find out the best way to do it.

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## COMMENTARY

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

## Yes, the city may be able to help with those New Year's resolutions



By Joseph A. Curtatone

When we enter a new year, many of us set goals and resolutions for the year ahead. Experts recommend enlisting a partner to help keep you on track with your resolutions. Although the City of Somerville can't join you at that gym or stop by for Sunday night meal prep, there are some ways we can be a part of your goals for 2019 whether it's learning a new skill, exercising more, or getting involved.

### Get More Involved

If you've decided that 2019 is the year you get more involved in the community, I've got great news – there is no shortage of ways to do that in Somerville. If you take a look at the City calendar at [somer villema.gov/events](http://somer villema.gov/events), you'll find meetings and events that touch on issues important to many of us – housing, transportation, open space, the arts, and more.

This year we'll be launching SomerVision 2040, which will revisit the community-driven SomerVision comprehensive

plan. If you're not familiar with SomerVision, the plan deals with big issues like housing, job creation, and development that will shape what Somerville looks like for decades to come. As we take a look at the original SomerVision document and think about updating it, we will need everyone's input to make sure SomerVision 2040 reflects community goals and priorities. We're holding a SomerVision 2040 kickoff on Tuesday, January 15, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave., but that will be just one of many ways to participate. Visit [somer vision2040.com](http://somer vision2040.com) to learn more about SomerVision and to get news about upcoming opportunities to participate.

There is a lot going on in Somerville and, especially for someone trying to be civically active for the first time, it can be difficult to know where to start. Many of the City's departments and programs send out newsletters or maintain mailing lists for sending out updates. We're rounding up information on how to subscribe to all City mailing lists at [somer villema.gov/subscribe](http://somer villema.gov/subscribe), which will be updated frequently so check back once in a while. Two lists I recommend getting your email address on are the general City newsletter and the construction updates newsletter.

### Learn a New Skill

Whether you want to learn a new skill to advance your professional ambitions, find a new hobby, or just try something new, the City of Somerville has a variety of opportunities for residents of all ages.

If you've ever wanted to try your hand at fabrication, you'll want to check out FabVille. This free to use fabrication space is located in Somerville High School and has open shop hours as well as classes. Former offerings have included laser cutting and 3D printing. FabVille is currently closed for winter break, but make sure to check back for upcoming opportunities.

Take a look at the Somerville Public Library's events calendar and you'll find multiple offerings nearly every day. There are story times and sing along programs for young children, game days and coding classes for teens, yoga instruction and lectures for adults, and English as a Second Language classes for newcomers. For anyone who needs help mastering the latest technology, there is also a one-on-one technology instruction program you can sign up for. All of this is on top of the books and other free resources you can borrow from the library to help you learn something new.

Business owners who want to make changes to their restaurant or store in 2019 can get help from the City's Economic Development office. The Small Busi-

ness Support program matches business owners with coaches who are experts in areas like financial planning, marketing, and storefront design. Business owners who want to implement what they learn from their coach can also apply for grant funding to help make it possible.

Finally, if you or someone you know is looking to improve their English skills, in partnership with The Welcome Project, the School's Somerville Family Learning Collaborative (SFLC) offers English language courses to adults throughout the year. Call 617-625-6600, ext. 6702 to register.

### Practice Healthy Habits, or Create Some Time for Yourself

Getting active and eating healthier foods are two popular New Year's resolutions and, yes, the City can help with them too.

The Parks and Recreation Department maintains public parks for your use (see a map here) and puts on programming for all ages throughout the year that serve a wide range of residents. There's a toddler yoga program, sports leagues for older kids, and fitness and sports programs for adults. You can visit [somer villerec.com](http://somer villerec.com) to find out what's coming up and register for a class or league. And if you're a parent whose resolutions include creating a little more time for yourself, you can both benefit your kids and free up some needed time of your

own, by enrolling your children in our afterschool programs and other activities.

The Blue Bikes system, run by Blue Cross and supported by the City, is an easy way to build a little exercise into your commute or your day whenever you feel like it. Just pick up a bike for \$2.50 for one ride to try it out, and if you like it, sign up for a yearly membership with unlimited use (memberships are 10% off through 12/31). If you receive SNAP benefits, you can also get a discounted membership. (And please remember to bring a helmet!)

Shape Up Somerville is another great resource for anyone looking to practice healthier habits in the new year. Shape Up approaches health from a holistic standpoint and looks at how issues like food access, health resources, and infrastructure can encourage healthy habits. On the Shape Up website ([somer villema.gov/shapeup](http://somer villema.gov/shapeup)) you can find healthy recipes, walking and biking routes, "Shape Up Approved" menu recommendations, and many other resources to help you build healthy habits.

Whatever your goals are for the new year, I hope you take advantage of City resources that can help you on your way. I know 2019 will be another busy year for our City and your involvement will help us reach our own goals as well.

## 2018: The Year in Review

CONT. FROM PG 1

Over the previous two weeks, more than a few records were broken, with the coldest stretch of cold weather recorded in over 100 years, the temperatures measured the coldest since 1896. At one point, wind chills of -28 were registered in Boston. Tides were pushed higher as well as a result of the tremendously high winds that hammered the shoreline.

About a foot of snow accumulated across the Greater Boston area, including Somerville. Cleanup crews were kept busy throughout the storm, struggling to keep roadways and footpaths clear for residents.

Later in January, modular classrooms were delivered to the high school grounds as part of the preparation for the renova-

tion work that began in earnest during the summer months.

The buildings were actually a series of modular constructions, or factory produced pre-engineered building units, that were delivered to the high school on December 26 of the previous year. Fused together, these modular constructions served as a temporary space to house to all of the English Department, as well as parts of the Foreign Language and Social Studies Departments.

Teachers and students took up residence in the modular classrooms right after the April school break due to demolition of the C Wing that began in June, after the school year had ended.

Also in January, it was an-

nounced that Amazon had winnowed down its candidates for hosting their second headquarters from 238 to a final 20, with the Boston Metro area – which includes Somerville – making the cut.

Both Boston and Somerville made individual proposals to the online retail giant, and both ended up among the 20 contenders set to be scrutinized for the final phase of site selection. Amazon announced that it would be making its final decision later in the year.

Mayor Curtatone waxed enthusiastic after hearing the news, saying in a statement on Facebook, "I know Amazon can be a polarizing issue, but the Somerville bid has made the final 20 cut for HQ2. We put in a dif-



ferent sort of bid – emphasizing why they should want to be part of what we're doing rather than the other way around, and tying in public transit. Obviously that caught their attention."

Ultimately, Amazon passed

on choosing the Boston area, a decision that disappointed some, but gave a sense of relief to others who had become wary of what the development might mean for the region in the long term.

Continued on page 16

COMMENTARY

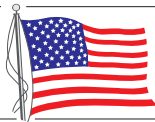
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Here comes 2019, Somerville!

Our View Of The Times



Looking back to the year just passed is an interesting thing to do. Sometimes sobering, at other times amusing, yet always somewhat inspiring if one considers what has been accomplished and what else is left to be done.  
A lot has been accomplished in the city. Many ongoing and new initiatives have been pushed forward and continue

into the new year. Observing and participating in the machinations of municipal goings on, even at the most fundamental level, is something of a civic duty that we all should share a sense of responsibility for. It's what makes democracy great, that every man and woman makes a difference in what transpires, mainly when they express their viewpoints at the polls.

Looking ahead to what may come in 2019, we can't help but feel optimistic about the days ahead. It will take some hard work and serious planning, but a lot can be accomplished if we pull together and focus on what's important.  
As always, it's up to us to push things in the right direction. To send the proper signals to our representatives in public

office. To back them up when they get it right, and to call them on it when they seem to go astray. They have their duties and personal agendas, just as we have ours. Let each one carry on in the best way possible.  
It is the way of our community. We enjoy a uniquely favorable reputation as those who can.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

of Somerville's mid-term address by the mayor, President of the Board of Aldermen and Chairman of the School Board. We have no doubt that it will be aired on local channel 22, the city run cable channel.

\*\*\*\*\*

Next week, a full announcement will be made of the merger of two real estate companies that are joining together, Century 21 North East and The Norton Group RE, to be called C21 North East – Norton Group RE. Jimmy D'Amico of Chelsea, who currently owns over 40 offices and has over 750 agents associated with him, with offices in MA, NH and ME, as well as down in the cape. The Nortons have been around since 1977 with Patricia and Donald Norton as brokers, as well as 15 agents. Same location at 699 Broadway in Ball Square. Grand opening to take place sometime next week. The Nortons are excited to join with James D'Amico, together to continue giving great service to our clients and customers, now for 41 years here.

\*\*\*\*\*

The "Best of Somerville 2018" has been announced (see p.24) and we hope you shop the businesses listed here, we had a lot of votes this year, more than

usual and were glad of it. If you'd like to add something, let us know.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Annual Meeting of the Somerville High School Scholarship Foundation will be held at the East Somerville Community School in Room 165, at the Glen Street side of the building at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 14. They will elect directors to three year terms. The meeting is for current officers, directors, and members. New members are welcome. For information, contact Noreen Santucci at 617-448-0145.

\*\*\*\*\*

Miss watching the Board of Aldermen meetings on TV? You can view them in their entirety on Comcast channel 22, as well as on YouTube. Watch your city at work and see how these dedicated members of our community are serving you, the public. We can't say this enough, watch the meetings on either cable broadcast live, or go online to YouTube to watch them. You will find some pretty hysterical information there about what's happening in the city. This should be required viewing for everyone who cares about what is happening here. Even the committee meetings are online. After all, the Board of Aldermen is voting to spend your money. Wow, the rais-

es some department heads are getting. Ask yourself, if you own property has your taxes gone down or stayed the same over the past 14 years? And do you remember what they kept telling us what the benefit of Assembly Square would be to our tax base? Don't let a small minority of a certain group run our city, be aware of what is going on, and VOTE.

\*\*\*\*\*

Don't forget to park on the EVEN side of the street once they call a snow emergency. And no, you can't park in the school yards anymore, they put gates on them. Let's hope the city doesn't call for snow emergencies unless it's a real emergency like a blizzard.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Somerville City Club's manager, Donny Johnson, is looking all the time for new members to join the club. If you think you'd be interested give him a call 617-623-9340. It's a great local club for the residents of Somerville. It's been around now for over 40 years at their location on Innerbelt Road, across from the Holiday Inn. It has plenty of parking and has a very nice hall for rent. Some say the best deal in Somerville. Call the hall and ask for details: 617-623-9340. The Somerville City Club supports a lot of local charitable groups and organiza-

tions here in Somerville.

\*\*\*\*\*

Have you thought you'd like to do some writing, a little story about Somerville as either a newbie or Villen? We have about 80K people and we would love to hear about your adventures here in the city. Maybe you want to write about a particular subject like our Bob Doherty and Dorothy DiMarzio, or like Jimmy Del Ponte with his stories about the city. Or maybe you'd like to express your opinion like Bill Shelton. Give us a call at 617-666-4010 or email news@thesomervilletimes.com and tell us about your idea.

\*\*\*\*\*

Are you retired and looking for part time work, and you're experienced in sales? Give us a call here at The Somerville Times at 617-666-4010. We are looking for advertising telemarketers.

\*\*\*\*\*

Byron DeLear talk and book signing, The First American Flag: Revisiting the Grand Union at Prospect Hill, on Thursday, January 3, 7:00 p.m., at the Somerville Museum, 1 Westwood Rd. DeLear will tell the fascinating story about how our nation came to be known as "United States of America" amidst events occurring right here in Somerville in 1776.

# 243rd Grand Union Flag Raising on Prospect Hill

In its annual tradition, the City of Somerville kicked off the New Year on Tuesday with a reenactment ceremony for the anniversary of the “Grand Union” flag-raising at Prospect Hill Park.

A procession led by a re-enactor portraying General George Washington on horseback left the City Hall Concourse at 11:30 a.m., followed by a ceremony at Prospect Hill Park.



# Holiday songfest at the VNA



Residents of the Lowell St. Visiting Nurses Association facility were treated to some seasonal cheer on December 21 as the Moonlighters, led by Brian Bishop, entertained by singing holiday songs. — Photos by Ana Bahnke

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#659

1. What time does the Times Square Ball start to descend on New Year's Eve?

2. Who was the first to organize the Times Square New Year's Eve ball drop?

3. When did the first Times Square New Year's Eve ball drop take place?

4. What song is traditionally sung to bid farewell to the old year at the stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve?

5. Who wrote *Auld Lang Syne*?

6. What fruit is eaten

at midnight in Spain on New Years Eve?

7. What is the purpose of noisemakers at midnight on New Year's Eve?

8. What is the Jewish New Year is called?

9. What explosive is peanut oil used in?

10. Who had a 1980s hit *True Colors*?

11. Where on your body would you find your popliteal fossa?

12. What kind of cat does not have a tail?

Answers on page 16



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Legal Notices can also be viewed on our website at [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://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 9, 2019** at **6:00 p.m.** in the **Aldermanic Chambers, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.**

\*\*\* Cases are sometimes postponed to later dates. To sign up for emails to inform you of a change of hearing date for a project near you, please use the URL associated with your address of interest that appears at the end of this legal notification.\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

**40 Columbus Avenue (ZBA 2018-147):** Applicant and Owner, Vincent Spadea, seeks a special permit under SZO §7.11.2.b to convert an existing two-family dwelling into three-dwelling units, special permits under SZO §4.4.1 to alter the nonconforming lot area per dwelling unit requirement of the property and the nonconforming floor area ratio (FAR) requirement, and a special permit under SZO §9.13 for parking relief. RA Zone. Ward 3.

**47 Electric Avenue (ZBA 2018-160):** Applicant and Owner, Nordau Ventures, LLC, seeks a special permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by increasing the nonconforming floor area ratio (FAR) by finishing the basement and a special permit under SZO §9.13 for parking relief. RA Zone. Ward 7.

**36 Elm Street (ZBA 2018-127):** Applicant / Owner, Highland Elm Street LLC, seek a special permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by constructing an addition greater than 25% of the existing gross floor area (GFA), which will add two residential units to the site. A special permit under SZO §9.13 is also required for parking relief. RB Zone. Ward 5.

**24 Hanson Street (ZBA 2018-161):** Applicant and Owner, BruceDharma, LLC, seeks a special permit with site plan review under SZO §7.2 to construct a second principal structure on the lot (a single family dwelling) and a special permit under SZO §9.13 for parking relief. RB Zone. Ward 2.

**2 Morrison Avenue (ZBA 2018-146):** Applicant/Owner, Tal Patlazaan and Sophie Simkin, seek a special permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by constructing a rear addition within the required left side yard setback that will be greater than 25% of the existing gross floor area (GFA) and a special permit under SZO §9.13 for parking relief. RB Zone. Ward 5.

**62 Flint Street (ZBA 2018-162):** Applicant, Derek Snare, and Owner, Jose Moreira, seek a variance to convert from a conforming FAR to a non-conforming FAR under §5.5 and §8.5 of the SZO. Special permits including the upward extension of the non-conforming left side yard setback. RB zone. Ward 1.

**654 Mystic Avenue (ZBA 2018-167):** Applicant, Linda Pingiaro and James DeMichelle, individually and as Trustee of 48-50 Ash Avenue Condominium, seek an Administrative Appeal per SZO §3.1.9, §3.2, and §3.2.3 of building permits numbered B18-000680, B18-000681, and B18-000682 issued by the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) for the building lots located at 654, 656, and 658 Mystic Avenue. The properties for which the building permits were issued are owned by 654 Mystic, LLC. BB zone. Ward 4.

**123 Packard Avenue (ZBA 2018-165):** Applicant, Kappa Chapter of the Theta Delta Chi Fraternity, through their attorney, Richard L. Walsh III, Clerk of Corporation, seeks an Administrative Appeal per SZO §3.1.9, §3.2, and §3.2.3 of the Inspectional Services Department's (ISD) determination that, due to the fraternity's charter being revoked by Tufts University, the fraternity has no affiliation with said University and, therefore, is operating without any established permitted use under the SZO. §7.11.3.b. UN zone. Ward 6.

**13 Quincy Street (ZBA 2018-156):** Applicant, Hudson Santana/North America Development, LLC, and Owner, Ilidio N. Pina, Pina Family Realty Trust, seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a non-conforming property including the rear yard setback by creating an upward extension of this non-conformity. The number of units is proposed to increase from 2 to 3. Parking relief under Article 9 of the SZO. RB zone. Ward 2.

**20-24 Rush Street (ZBA 2016-140-E1 (11/18):** Applicant and Owner, Buck Lee Real Estate Development, LLC, seek to extend their Special Permit by one year under §5.3.10 of the SZO. RB zone. Ward 1.

**10-12 Ward Street (ZBA 2017-122-E1-121/8):** Applicant and Owner, Block Properties, seeks re-approval of previously granted variances that included lot area per dwelling unit and Floor Area Ratio (FAR). Article 5 of the SZO. BA zone. Ward 2.

\*\*\*

40 Columbus Ave: <http://eepurl.com/gbGEhH>  
47 Electric Ave: <http://eepurl.com/gbGEjb>  
36 Elm St: <http://eepurl.com/gbGEkX>  
24 Hanson St: <http://eepurl.com/gbGEmv>  
2 Morrison Ave: <http://eepurl.com/gbGEm9>  
654 Mystic Ave: <http://eepurl.com/dPcMXL>  
123 Packard Ave: <http://eepurl.com/gbl1eH>  
13 Quincy St: [http://eepurl.com/gbl1\\_b](http://eepurl.com/gbl1_b)  
20-24 Rush St: <http://eepurl.com/gbl2Mv>  
10 & 12 Ward St: <http://eepurl.com/db7NfT>

Submittals may be viewed in-person 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-7:30pm [www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning](http://www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning).

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

Attest: Sarah Lewis, Planning Director  
As published in The Somerville Times on 12/19/18 & 1/2/19 and the Boston Herald on 12/26/18  
12/19/18, 1/2/19 The Somerville Times

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Licensing Commission** on **Monday, January 14, 2019** in the Senior Center, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at **6:00PM** on the Transfer of an All Forms Package Store License from Gam Ro Inc. d/b/a Teele Square Liquors, 1119 Broadway to Everest Mart Inc. d/b/a Teele Square Liquors, 1119 Broadway, Somerville, MA

For the Commission  
Christopher Allen  
Joseph P. Lynch Jr.  
John J. McKenna

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

1/2/19 The Somerville Times

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Answers

From on page 14

1. 11:59:00 p.m. ET, and resting at midnight

2. Adolph Ochs, owner of *The New York Times*

3. Dec 31, 1907

4. *Auld Lang Syne*

5. Scottish poet Robert Burns in 1788

6. Grapes (12)

7. To drive away the evil spirits

8. Rosh Hashanah

9. Dynamite – the oil makes glycerol, which can be used to make nitroglycerin

10. Cyndi Lauper

11. Back of the knee

12. Manx

2018: The Year in Review CONT. FROM PG 10

A controversial request by the Mayor's Office that the Somerville Board of Aldermen consider and approve a home rule petition authorizing a real estate transfer fee was presented to the Board of Aldermen in February. After much debate and re-drafting, the home rule petition was eventually submitted at the state level. A change in the name of Somerville's legislative representatives from Board of Aldermen to City Council was also discussed in February. An order was put forward and approved in the Board of Aldermen asking that the City Solicitor prepare a home rule petition to make the name change official. Again, the home rule petition was submitted to the state for consideration. On February 28, students at Somerville High School staged a walkout to protest what was described as a lack of competent gun control laws across the country. More than 400 students left their classrooms at 8:17 a.m. and walked outside where 17 minutes of silence was observed to pay homage to the victims of the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High

School in Parkland, Florida, on February 14, and address the epidemic of mass shootings in the United States. After the moment of silence, the students marched and chanted while holding signs, then proceeded to a nearby field where they flooded the inboxes of state representatives across the nation, demanding immediate action on the gun control issue. Conway field and playground was shut down, after risk assessors from Watson & Sampson, an environmental service company, along with The City

of Somerville Parks and Recreation, examined soil solutions around the playground. After primary data examination, only two sections of the park appeared to contain surface-level amounts soil with amounts of lead and poly-chlorinated biphenyls that exceed state regulatory limits. Continued on page 17

2018: The Year in Review

CONT. FROM PG 16

Months later, it was determined that enough contaminants existed to warrant a complete shutdown of certain sections of the park for cleaning up purposes. It was estimated that the full cleanup could take as long as four years or more.

In May, a coalition of community and labor groups calling itself Somerville Stands Together marched to City Hall, where they held a rally asking civic leaders to show more support for residents and their employment needs.

After arriving at the City Hall Concourse, representatives from the coalition spoke to the assembled crowd of supporters who had gathered alongside city officials, addressing the concerns and grievances of the group.

Coalition representatives were also invited into the Board of Alderman chambers to address the Board at its latest regular meeting and further explain their present agenda and future goals.

A resolution was introduced and passed at a June meeting of the Somerville Board of Alder-

man opposing the controversial zero tolerance policy imposed by the national administration which separates children from their parents.

Speaking in favor of the resolution, Ward 1 Alderman Matthew McLaughlin said, "Today is a day of the week, so it's a friendly reminder that the Trump administration is out of control, and that nothing that is happening here is normal. I was asked to submit this resolution and I support it. The zero tolerance policy, which I'm sure everyone has seen, children separated from their parents, put in cages like animals. Boston Cardinal O'Malley has said that this is morally unacceptable, and this is just a reminder that the new normal is not normal or acceptable."

A documentary film, *Runnin'*, was made about Somerville opioid crisis.

The city announced that there would be motor vehicle and pedestrian detours as a result of a year-long Broadway Bridge closure in connection with the Green Line Extension project.

Many area residents and those who commute through the area on a daily basis expressed fear and anger at what was being regarded as an imminent disaster in the making.

Ward 5 Alderman Mark Nierdang said that options were being considered that may alleviate some of the anticipated disarray, particularly in the Ball Square area. A delay in the bridge closure until later this year provided some extra time to consider these options.

In September, the Somerville Police Department investigated the removal and defilement of American flags planted in the Veteran's Memorial Cemetery, and the desecration of the Veteran's Monument to those who gave their lives in World War II in defense of their country. The perpetrator of the incident turned himself in to authorities after a widespread investigation was launched to find him.

Also in September, the Board of Aldermen put forward nine orders and resolutions directly relating to the the city's tree population, which has declined sig-



nificantly in recent years, mostly due to the effects of building development.

Members of Somerville Stands Together (SST) held a rally in Union Square in October, openly calling for the City of Somerville to require developer US2 to agree to a Community Benefits Agreement that includes a Project Labor Agreement, to make sure that, as they put it, Somerville benefits from the planned projects.

Demonstrators carried signs and chanted slogans such as, "Somerville stands for affordable housing! Somerville stands for good, union jobs! Somerville stands together!"

In December, the Board of Health voted to restrict the sales of electronic nicotine delivery systems (e-cigarettes) and menthol cigarettes in Somerville, citing concerns on the health impacts of youth. The new regulations will forbid such products from being sold in retail outlets accessible to those under 21 years of age, starting on April 1, 2019.

It was a busy and eventful year in Somerville and its surrounding communities. We can certainly look for more of the same in the year to come.

Beacon Hill Roll Call

continued from page 7



<b>CONFIDENTIALITY OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (S 2684)</b> – The House and Senate approved and sent to Gov. Baker a bill aimed at ensuring confidentiality for first responders who seek mental health services from a peer counselor. Current law does not guarantee confidentiality.	<i>"The Baker-Polito Administration is grateful for the Legislature acting quickly and will now carefully review the legislation while looking forward to both sides reaching a compromise to end the lockout this week,"</i> said Baker spokesman Brendan Moss.	27.5 percent and 21.3 percent — <i>Percent of women in the Senate and House</i>
<i>"These sensible confidentiality protections will allow our firefighters, paramedics and law enforcement officers to seek the help they need without fear of stigmatization,"</i> said 22-year law enforcement official and the bill's sponsor Sen. Michael Moore (D-Millbury). <i>"The recent loss of Worcester Firefighter Christopher Roy only further highlights the importance of ensuring that services are available to support those impacted by the loss of a colleague, friend and member of a department's family."</i>		
<b>BENEFITS FOR LOCKED OUT GAS WORKERS (S 2692)</b> – On Christmas Eve the House and Senate approved and sent to Gov. Baker a bill extending unemployment benefits to workers during a lockout until the lockout has ended. The bill was filed in response to the current lockout of more than 1,200 National Grid workers which began in June but applies to all workers locked out of any job. These workers will run out of their initial six-month unemployment compensation in January. The cost of the extended benefits would be paid by all employers in the state who currently pay into the unemployment insurance system.	<b>ONE FINAL LOOK AT THE 2017-2018 LEGISLATURE</b> – As we say goodbye to the 2017-2018 Legislature, let's take a final look at the composition of both branches. The first number listed applies to the Senate and the second number applies to the House. Figures are courtesy of Craig Sandler and David Art of the <i>Massachusetts Political Almanac</i> .	<b>HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION?</b> <i>Beacon Hill Roll Call</i> tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of the Legislature's job and that a lot of important work is done outside of the House and Senate chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that have been filed. They note that the infrequency and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late-night sessions and a mad rush to act on dozens of bills in the days immediately preceding the end of an annual session.
	80 and 77 — <i>Age of the oldest senator and representative</i>	During the week of December 24-28, the House met for a total of nine hours and 42 minutes while the Senate met for a total of six hours and two minutes.
	31 and 23 — <i>Age of the youngest senator and representative</i>	
	38 percent and 28 percent — <i>Percent of senators and representatives whose only job is being a legislator</i>	
	15 percent and 15 percent — <i>Percent of senators and representatives who are attorneys</i>	
	4 percent and 4 percent — <i>Percent of senators and representatives who are small business owners</i>	Mon. December 24     House 11:00 a.m. to 11:26 a.m. Senate 11:03 a.m. to 11:44 a.m.
	100 percent and 97 percent — <i>The percent of senators and representatives who are college graduates</i>	Tues. December 25     No House session No Senate session
	64 percent and 43 percent — <i>Percent of senators and representatives who have advanced degrees</i>	Wed. December 26     House 11:06 a.m. to 11:14 a.m. No Senate session
	78 percent and 72 percent — <i>Percent of senators and representatives who were born in Massachusetts</i>	Thurs. December 27     House 11:04 a.m. to 4:12 p.m. Senate 11:19 a.m. to 4:40 p.m.
	0 percent and 19 percent — <i>Percent of senators and representatives who were born outside the U.S.</i>	Fri. December 28     House 11:05 a.m. to 3:05 p.m. No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Wednesday|January 2

Central Library  
Teen Game Day  
2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday|January 3

Central Library  
TELL (Teen Library Leaders) Meeting  
3:45 p.m.-5:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Tuesday|January 8

Somerville Community Baptist Church  
Preschool Storytime  
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.| 31 College Ave.

Central Library  
Girls Who Code  
6:15 p.m.-7:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Wednesday|January 9

Central Library  
Somerville High School Anime Club  
2:45 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

MUSIC/ARTS

Wednesday|January 2

Sally O’Brien’s Bar  
Free Poker, lots of prizes!  
8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589  
  
The Burren  
Backroom Series with Brian O’Donovan (of "A Celtic Sojourn" on WGBH)|7:30 p.m.  
Comedy Night with Arty P.|10 p.m.  
Keith Murphy, Haley Richardson, Joey Abarta|7:30 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar  
65 Holland St|617-591-2100  
  
Bull McCabe’s Pub  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road  
Bearly Dead – Wednesday Night Residency  
7 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville  
156 Highland Ave

Highland Kitchen  
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Aeronaut Brewing Co.  
Open Mic with Mike Morrissey  
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

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

Thursday|January 3

Sally O’Brien’s  
BYO Bluegrass with Dave Rizzuti  
grassy Thursdays  
7:30 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren  
Scattershots|10 p.m.

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896  
  
Orleans Restaurant and Bar  
65 Holland St|617-591-2100  
  
Bull McCabe’s  
Krush Faktory(Dub Down)  
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road  
Barrence Whitfield with special guests Four Piece Suit  
7 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville  
156 Highland Ave  
  
Aeronaut Brewing Co.  
Dylan Jack Duo  
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Friday|January 4

Sally O’Brien’s  
Busted Jug |6 p.m.  
HearNow Live present Whistle Jacket, Glow Box, Dav Blues \$10 cover |9:30 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren  
Backroom Series with Tom Bianchi  
Kat Kennedy|7 p.m.  
Closing Time|10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Once Somerville  
156 Highland Ave

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

Bull McCabe’s  
Ali McGuirk First Fridays  
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

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

Thunder Road  
The Lights Out (CD Release Party) with special guests Parks, Carissa Johnson  
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.  
First Friday Flamenco with Flamenco Boston!  
8:30 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Saturday|January 5

Sally O’Brien’s  
Stan Martin Band |6 p.m.  
Dennis Brennan Band \$10 cover|9:30 p.m  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren  
Miss Tess & The Talkbacks|4 p.m.  
Jeffrey Gaines|7 p.m.  
Jimmy Down |10 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar  
Karaoke  
65 Holland St

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

6045  
  
Casey’s  
Entertainment every Saturday  
173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road  
The Young Americans – A Bowie Legacy Celebration by Boston’s David Bowie Tribute Band  
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville  
Joanna Teters  
JUPTR, Evan Goodrow  
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.  
Aeronaut Album Night  
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell  
Smoke and Shadows: Burlesque & Variety Show  
9 p.m.|255 Elm St

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

Sunday|January 6

Sally O’Brien’s Bar  
The Natural Wonders|4:30 p.m.  
African Night, SambaLolo hosts|10 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren  
Beatles Brunch 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.  
Backroom series with Tom Bianchi|7 p.m.  
Olav Mjelva and Eli West|4 p.m.  
Dan Martinelli, Sasha Milan, Wyn Doran|7:30 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

Thunder Road  
379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville  
156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.  
pindrop sessions 12: junkestra (boston percussion group + special guests)  
7 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Monday|January 7

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

The Burren  
Back Room:  
Stump Trivia|8:30 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe’s Pub

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road  
379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville  
156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.  
Board Game Bonanza  
6:30 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory  
Queer Tango  
6:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday|January 8

Sally O’Brien’s Bar  
Industry night featuring DJ Wall  
9 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren  
Silver Arrow Band  
8 p.m.|247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe’s Pub  
Ghetto People Band  
10 p.m.|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

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

Thunder Road  
379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville  
156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co  
Indie Trivia  
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory  
Smut Slam  
6 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Wednesday|January 9

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

The Burren  
Backroom Series with Brian O’Donovan (of "A Celtic Sojourn" on WGBH)|7:30 p.m.  
Comedy Night with Arty P.|10 p.m.  
Elizabeth and Ben Anderson|7:30 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

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

Thunder Road  
Bearly Dead – Wednesday Night Residency  
7 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Once Somerville  
156 Highland Ave

Highland Kitchen  
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Aeronaut Brewing Co.  
Evan & Danny  
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory  
Been Out Here Teen Open Mic  
6 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

CLASSES AND GROUPS

Wednesday|January 2

Central Library  
Drop-in Knitting/Needlecraft  
12 p.m.-2 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday|January 3

Central Library  
Yoga at the Library  
6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

Saturday|January 5

Winters Farmers Market  
9 a.m.-1 p.m.|Arts at the Armory|191 Highland Ave

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

Sunday|January 6

Central Library  
Getting Cozy @ the Library  
2 p.m.-4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

Monday|January 7

Central Library  
Creative Drama Workshop with Laurie!  
4 p.m.-5 p.m.  
Chess Night  
7 p.m.-8:45 p.m.  
Affordable Housing Working Group  
7:15 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library  
Learn English at the Library!  
6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

Tuesday|January 8

Central Library  
Learn English at the Library  
6 p.m.-7 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Wednesday|January 9

Central Library  
Drop-in Knitting/Needlecraft  
12 p.m.-2 p.m.  
Poetry Reading with Bert Stern, Gloria Mindock, and David Blair  
7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

CENTER LOCATIONS, TIMES & SCHEDULES

**Holland Street Senior Center:** located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square)  
Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Fridays: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
617-625-6600, Ext. 2300

**Cross Street Center:** located at 165 Broadway (East Somerville)  
Mondays & Tuesdays - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
Thursdays - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
617-625-6600, Ext. 2335 Fax: 617-625-1414

**Ralph and Jenny Center:** located at 9 New Washington Street (behind the Holiday Inn)  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
617- 666-5223

**Main Office:** located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square.)  
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.  
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
617-625-6600, Ext. 2300 Fax: 617-625-0688  
TTY: 866-808-4851

ONGOING PROGRAMS

**Free Smoke Alarm/Carbon Monoxide Detectors:** Very limited amount available This program is a first come first serve basis. This is funded through the Senior Safe Program and services will be provided until the grant is exhausted. - If you have any questions or need an application please call Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

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

**Silver Alert Program:** The Somerville Council on Aging with the Somerville Police Department have implemented a program to take a proactive approach towards protecting some of Somerville’s most vulnerable citizens who suffer with serious cognitive impairments that put them at risk for wandering and getting lost. The Silver Alert Program is designed to collect specific information about a potential missing person, along with photo identification. This confidential information will be kept on file for immediate use in the event a loved one is reported missing. Please contact the SCOA at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 for additional information or to register.

**Free Groceries Every Month?:** You may be eligible for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program! CSFP is a once a month food distribution for individuals 60 years of age or older. You may be eligible to receive two free bags of food once a month containing healthy shelf stable products. Proof of identity and age are all that is required to apply. Must apply beforehand. Pick up at the Ralph & Jenny Center, 9 New Washington Street on the 4th Thursday of every month unless otherwise specified. For more information or to apply please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 – applications are available at the front desk of our Holland Street Center.

**Friendly Caller Program:** Do you know someone who could benefit from a friendly call? Maybe you are feeling isolated and want someone to talk to – or you just want someone to listen. Please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 to sign up for our “Friendly Caller” Program.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Country Western Line Dancing** – The 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at our Holland Street Center. \$3 per class – no experience needed. For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot call Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

**Healthy Steps** – Thursdays starting January 3 from 12:45 p.m. to 1:45 p.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street. Healthy Steps is a therapeutic, gentle, movement class for anyone who needs to get moving, particularly anyone recovering from surgery, frail elders or those living with chronic fatigue or arthritis. Class is free. For additional information or questions to call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

**Breakfast at Renee’s Café** – Monday, January 7, 9:00 am – Join us for our first Breakfast of the year. Cost is \$7

per person due at time of reservation. Seating is very limited. RSVP a must. Please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

**Blood Pressure Screening** – Holland Street Center located at 167 Holland Street. Upcoming date: January 10 at 10:30 am. If you require additional information please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email [dhiggins@somervillema.gov](mailto:dhiggins@somervillema.gov).

**Dollar Days at the Movies** – Tuesday, January 15 - doors open at 11:30 a.m. movie starts at noontime. \$1 per person – Chappaquiddick - For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot please call Josie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

**Diabetic Shoe Clinic** – Thursday, January 17 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. Did you know that you may be eligible for a new pair of diabetic shoes? Must have appointment.If you require additional info, have any questions or want to reserve your spot please contact Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317.

**Blood Pressure Screening** – Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway. Upcoming Dates: January 17 at 10:30 am. If you require additional information please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email [dhiggins@somervillema.gov](mailto:dhiggins@somervillema.gov).

**Blood Pressure Screening** – Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street. Upcoming Dates: January 24 at 10:30 am. If you require additional information please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email [dhiggins@somervillema.gov](mailto:dhiggins@somervillema.gov).

LGBTQ EVENTS

**LBT Women Fit-4-Life** - Fitness Class is Thursday evenings starting at 6:00 P.M. \$10 a month fee - scholarships available & it just might be covered under your insurance. We have available slots and would love to have you. If you have any questions or require additional info, please contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2315.

WEEKLY EXERCISE AND NUTRITION CLASS SCHEDULE (Please cut out and save)

Monday:

Keep Moving Walking Club\*\* - 9:00 a.m. (H)  
Tai Chi – 11:30 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group C - 1:00 p.m. (H)

Tuesday:

Strengthening - 9:00 a.m. (H)  
\$3 per class (H)  
Fit-4-Life - 11:00 a.m. (C)  
Bike Club – 12:15 p.m. (H)

Wednesdays:

Fit-4-Life Group A (exercise) - 9:00 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group B (nutrition) - 9 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group B (exercise) - 10:00 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group C (nutrition) - noon (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group C (exercise) - 1:00 p.m. (H)  
Zumba 4 All - 5:15 p.m. - \$3/class (H)

Thursdays:

Yoga - 9:00 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life - 11:15 a.m. (C)  
LBT Fit-4-Life, 6:00 p.m. (H)

Fridays:

Fit-4-Life Group A - 9:00 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group B - 10:00 a.m. (H)  
Fit-4-Life Group A (nutrition) 10:00 a.m. (H)

**Adventure Group** – Please call for details

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

HOLLAND STREET GROUP INFORMATION

**Book Club** – Meets the third Friday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This group self-facilitates. Group members choose both fiction and non-fiction titles on a quarterly basis. Books are available on reserve at the Central Branch of the Somerville Library. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

**Caregiver Support Group** – Meets the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Are you caring for a parent, relative, spouse or close friend? Feeling isolated or overwhelmed? You are not alone! Come share your experience and practical support. Open to all and new members are always welcome.

If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

**Conversations of the Heart** – Meets bi-monthly on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:00 P.M. at our Holland Street Center. Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

**Current Events Group** – Meets every Thursday at 9:30 a.m. Our Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Join a group of your peers to discuss current events. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

**De-cluttering support group** - If you have concerns around your clutter, this group may be for you. This closed group meets both in spring and fall for 6-8 weeks. This group is co-facilitated by Natasha Naim and Marina Colonas. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

**Low Vision Support Group** – Meets the second Tuesday of each month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Do you know someone who has trouble seeing? Do you have low vision? Join our Low Vision Support Group for educational and informative information and peer support in a confidential environment. Lunch and transportation may be available on request. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

**Memory Café** – Meets the second Thursday of every month from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Mt. Vernon. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. A welcoming place for people with forgetfulness and their family and friends to share a meal and create new memories. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

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

CROSS STREET GROUP INFORMATION

**Coffee & Conversation** – Meets every Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator and Sandy Francis, Cross Street Center Volunteer, work together to facilitate this group. Come meet people from all over the world and join in the discussion of a different topic every day. Conversation is followed by the Fit-4-Life exercise program and then lunch. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

**Arts & Crafts** – Meets the second and fourth Thursdays of each month starting January 11th - from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Join us in a relaxing atmosphere as we learn about a wide range of arts & crafts from weaving to watercolor pencils. Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator facilitates this group. Must call a week in advance if you plan on attending. This is necessary to ensure we have enough material for everyone. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

**Social Service Drop In** – The third Thursday of every month Social Workers, Ashley Speliotis and Natasha Naim will be taking turns and having a Drop-in Social Service hour from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Cross Street Center. They will be available to address any of your Social Service needs. If you need additional info please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

RALPH & JENNY GROUP INFORMATION

**Knitting Blankets** – Every Tuesday & Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Join us as we knit blankets for babies. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Judy at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 8



♦ Bunker Hill Day is June 17 and in 1775 Colonial troops crossed Charlestown Neck from Somerville to fight at Bunker Hill and later withdrew to Winter Hill to regroup. Somerville suffered British shelling and hospitalized the wounded.

Thomas “Tip” O’Neill, Jr., Somerville’s longtime Congressional Representative and Speaker of the House of Representatives was married on Bunker Hill Day.

♦ Independence Day, July 4, 1776, was the day our American Constitution was signed and is now celebrated. In 1629, Charlestown was founded. In 1631, the first ship built in Massachusetts, the Blessing of the Bay, was launched into the Mystic River at Ten Hills.

♦ Halloween or All Hollow’s Eve is October 31 and Somerville’s son and cap-

tain of its high school basketball team, Bobby Boris Pickett, composed and sang the number one Halloween hit ballad, Monster Mash.

♦ Thanksgiving Day is the fourth Thursday in November. In 1620 the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Massachusetts and in 1621 celebrated their first Thanksgiving. Captain Myles Standish was their military protector and in 1623 was the first known European to explore what is now Charlestown and Somerville.

♦ Christmas Day, December 25, George Washington celebrated Christmas with his troops on Somerville’s Prospect Hill in 1775. The next week they raised the first American flag on that summit. The following Christmas Day in 1776, they crossed the icy waters of the Delaware River to victoriously capture the Hessians/German Army at the Battle of Trenton in New Jersey.

Hessian prisoners on Winter Hill brought lasting Christmas gifts to America. Firstly, was the tradition of Christmas trees and secondly, the game of keg legging or nine-pin bowling.

In 1842, Charles Dickens was working on his next book, A Christmas Carol when he travelled through Somerville ... it was the year Somerville was established.

Happy Holidays!



BOBBY'S DAD JOKES CORNER By Bobbygeorge Potaris



Why did the can crusher quit his job?  
He said it was soda-pressing.

Valentine’s Day Fundraiser at Winter Hill Brewery



Somerville Media Center and Winter Hill Brewery are teaming up for a super fun Valentine’s Day themed fundraiser event on Tuesday, February 5 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Winter Hill Brewery.

They are inviting their friends, neighbors, community media producers and supporters to come drink local beer at Winter Hill Brewery as a way to help raise funds for SMC.

That is right! For each beer sold, \$1 will go to SMC and to help support Somerville’s premiere Community Media Center. You can also just come to show your community media love for SMC and network with SMC staff, producers and learn more about our upcoming 2019 workshop calendar, events and membership!

SMC has been offering affordable and accessible media education and production training to the community since 1983 and is home to many locally produced TV shows, radio shows, podcasts, community partnerships, youth media programming, film festivals, media mixer events and much more. They are here to serve our community and be a community resource.

**ADDED BONUS FOR COMING:** For those who purchase a beer, SMC will record for you a FREE Happy Valentine’s Day Video Message (or anti-VDAY message, a message of love, hope or whatever you are feeling). Somerville Media Center will share all these videos on SCATV Channel 3, SMC social media, and YouTube. All participants will receive their video in an email with a link. Please enjoy this fun and engaging way to raise funds for SMC and to support local in Somerville!

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration

The Somerville Human Rights Commission invites you to the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration event to be held on Monday, January 21.

The annual event will be held at the East Somerville Community School, from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. The celebration will be emceed by Marcus Santos, and feature musical performances as well as readings by winners of the student essay contest.

This year they will be holding a Winter Clothing Drive. They are looking for gently used or new winter clothes for school aged children. Donations will be distributed to the Somerville Family Learning Collaborative’s Clothing Closet.

Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication, written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Somerville or to attend meetings, should contact the City’s ADA Coordinator, Nency Salamoun, at 617-625-6600 x2323 or NSalamoun@somervillema.gov.

— Somerville Human Rights Commission

OPEN HOUSE Condominiums - 3 Units

Saturday, January 5, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.



19 Kent Court  
Somerville  
  
Donald Norton  
617-623-6600  
ext. 11

Unit 1 - 5 Rooms  
2 Bedrooms  
**UNDER AGREEMENT**  
Unit 2 - 5 Rooms  
3 Bedrooms-2 Baths  
**\$849,000**  
Unit 3 - 5 Rooms  
3 Bedrooms-2 Baths  
**SOLD**  
**\$829,000**

The Norton Group Real Estate  
699 Broadway, Somerville

The "Original"  
**All Types Vent Cleaning**  
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We travel all over  
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617-666-4010

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## AUTOS WANTED

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CARS/TRUCKS WANTED!!! 2002 and Newer! Any Condition. Running or Not. Competitive Offer! Free Towing! We're Nationwide! Call Now: 1-888-416-2330.

## EDUCATION

AIRLINE MECHANIC TRAINING - Get FAA Technician certification. Approved for military benefits. Financial Aid if qualified. Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance 866-453-6204

AIRLINES ARE HIRING - Get FAA approved hands on Aviation training. Financial Aid for qualified students - Career placement assistance. CALL Aviation Institute of Maintenance 888-686-1704

## EMPLOYMENT

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

## FOR RENT

Warm Weather Is Year Round In Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-Bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. Email: [carolaction@aol.com](mailto:carolaction@aol.com) for more information.

## HEALTH & FITNESS

DO YOU HAVE CHRONIC KNEE OR BACK PAIN? If you have insurance, you may qualify for the perfect brace at little to no cost. Get yours today! Call 1-800-217-0504

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## MISCELLANEOUS

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DEALING WITH WATER DAMAGE requires immediate action. Local professionals that respond immediately. Nationwide and 24/7. No Mold Calls. 1-800-506-3367

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SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

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Wednesday, January 2

12:00amFree Speech TV

6:00amSCATV Community Bulletin Board

7:00amEsoteric Science

7:30amDW In Good Shape

8:00amDemocracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00amDW Global 3000

9:30amBoth Sides of the Bars

10:00amPoet to Poet, Writer to Writer

10:30amSomerville Storytellers

11:00amLIVE - Fallon's Daily Roast

12:00pmThe Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)

1:00pmHealth is Wealth

1:30pmArt Seen at SMC

2:00pmScience 360

3:00pmDemocracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

4:00pmSpeak Up! Somerville

4:30pmThe Literati Scene

5:00pmHello Neighbor

5:30pmWomen2Women Today

6:00pmSpeak Up! Somerville

6:30pmOff the Shelf

7:00pmHaitian Poetry in 3 Languages

8:00pmLIVE - Somerville Pundits

8:30pmSpeak Up! Somerville

9:00pmBoston Come Through

10:00pmLIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party

11:00pmFlotilla

Thursday, January 3

12:00amSCATV Secret Stash

12:30amSCATV Secret Stash

1:00amFree Speech TV

6:00amSCATV Community Bulletin Board

7:00amPerils for Pedestrians

7:30amDW Focus on Europe

8:00amDemocracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00amDW Tomorrow Today

9:30amHello Neighbor

10:00amLegacies

10:30amSomerville Pundits

11:00amTeen Empowerment

11:30amArt & Ideas

12:00pmThe Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)

1:00pmThe Somerville Line

3:00pmDemocracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

4:00pmHello Neighbor!

4:30pmThe Struggle

5:00pmWords on Film with Dan Burke

6:00pmCommunity Lens

6:30pmSomerville Pundits

Friday, January 4

7:00pmLIVE - The Boston Medium

8:00pmStartup TV Boston

9:00pmThe Beantown Beatdown

10:00pmThe Chatman Booth

10:30pmTUTV

11:00pmDIWHY The show

12:00amHeavy Leather Topless Dance Party

1:00amSCATV Secret Stash

1:30amSCATV Secret Stash

2:00amFree Speech TV

6:00amSCATV Community Bulletin Board

7:00amThe Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)

8:00amDemocracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00amEsoteric Science

9:30amCambridge Calendar

10:00amNASA TV

11:00amSOM ARTS

11:30amDW Tomorrow Today

12:00pmThe Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)

1:00pmThe Yellow Jacket Lady

1:30pmSpeak Up! Somerville

2:00pmThe Kamla Show

2:30pmSMC Youth Media

3:00pmDemocracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

4:00pmGay USA

5:00pmThe Chatman Booth

5:30pmWhat's New Massachusetts?

6:00pmLIVE - Fallon's Daily Toast

7:00pmSOM ARTS

7:30pmArt Seen at SMC

8:00pmThe Grandstanders

8:30pmGreater Somerville

9:00pmThe Boston Medium

10:00pmHeavy Leather Topless Dance Party

11:00pmTotally Working Out

Saturday, January 5

12:00amDIWHY The Show

1:00amBoston Come Through

2:00amHeavy Leather Topless Dance Party

3:00amFree Speech TV

5:00amEffort Pour Christ

6:00amSCATV Community Bulletin Board

7:00amRoad to Recovery

8:00amDemocracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00amSMC Youth Media

9:30amSomerville Storytellers

10:00amDead Air Live

11:00amHaitian Poetry in 3 Languages

12:00pmTeleGalaxie

Sunday, January 6

12:00amFlotilla

1:00amSCATV Secret Stash

1:30amSCATV Secret Stash

2:00amHeavy Leather Topless Dance Party

3:00amFree Speech TV

6:00amCommunity Bulletin Board

7:00amNossa Gentes e Costumes

8:00amEffort Pour Christ

9:00amTele Kreyol

10:00amEvangelista Camillo Fodera

11:00amThe Chef's Table Series

12:00pmGentle Belly Dancing

1:00pmOff the Shelf

1:30pmDW Conflict Zone

2:00pmStartup TV Boston

3:00pmAfrican Television Network

4:00pmDedilhando a Saudade

5:00pmGay USA

6:00pmThe Grandstanders

6:30pmTeen Empowerment

7:00pmCinema Somerville

8:30pmSomerville Neighborhood News

9:00pmTele Magazine

10:00pmThe Boston Medium

11:00pmBox House Productions Presents

11:30pmSCATV Secret Stash

Monday, January 7

12:00amFree Speech TV

5:00amEvangelista Camillo Fodera

6:00amCommunity Bulletin Board

7:00amPerils for Pedestrians

7:30amGoing Postal

Tuesday, January 8

12:00amFree Speech TV

6:00amCommunity Bulletin Board

7:00amDW Euromaxx

7:30amEsoteric Science

8:00amDemocracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

9:00amThe Chef's Table Series

10:00amRoad to Recovery

11:00amGraphic Content

11:30amDW In Good Shape

12:00pmThe Thom Hartman Show

1:00pmWords on Film with Dan Burke

2:00pmSomerville Overcoming Addiction

3:00pmDemocracy Now! (Free Speech TV)

4:00pmSMC Youth Media

4:30pmHenry Parker Presents

5:00pmLIVE - Poet to Poet, Writer to Writer

5:30pmWhat's New Massachusetts?

6:00pmCommunity Lens

6:30pmArt & Ideas

7:00pmArt Seen at SMC

7:30pmLIVE - Greater Somerville

8:00pmLIVE - Dead Air Live

9:00pmThe Somerville Line

10:00pmTUTV

10:30pmPublic Access Boyz

11:00pmBox House Productions Presents

11:30pmOjo Rojo

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

Wednesday, January 2

8:30amAldermen at Work - JT Scott

9:00amSenior Circuit - 2018 Wrap Up

9:15amTransgender Day of Remembrance

9:30amSchool Committee Meeting - 12.17.18

11:30amFoss Park Community Meeting - 12.12.18

1:30pmIlluminations Tour - 2018

1:57pmEven Side Season PSA - 2018

2:00pmParking Changes on Central Hill Meeting

6:00pmSomerViva em Português - November 2018

6:30pmAldermen at Work - JT Scott

7:00pmAldermen at Work - Will Mbah

7:30pmImmigration Info Session - 12.9.18

9:00pmCity Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa

10:00pmSomerViva em Português - November 2018

10:30pmSomerville Veterans' Memorial Parade 2018

Thursday, January 3

12:00amBoard of Aldermen Meeting - 12.13.18

8:30amMiddlesex Update w/Marian Ryan

9:00amImmigration Info Session - 12.9.18

11:30amVeterans' Day Remembrance Ceremony

12:14pmSenior Circuit - 2018 Wrap Up

12:30pmIlluminations Tour - 2018

12:57pmEven Side Season PSA - 2018

1:00pmBOA-Finance Committee of the Whole

6:30pmConway Park Contamination Info Session

7:39pmSenior Circuit - 2018 Wrap Up

7:55pmEven Side Season PSA - 2018

8:00pmSomerViva em Português - November 2018

8:30pmParking Changes on Central Hill Meeting

Friday, January 4

9:45pmTransgender Day of Remembrance

10:00pmIlluminations Tour - 2018

10:30pmRaising Families "Special Needs Education"

11:00pmSenior Circuit - 2018 Wrap Up

12:00amSenior Circuit - 2018 Wrap Up

12:15amBOA-Finance Committee of the Whole

8:30amFit-4-Life #2 2017

9:00amSomerViva em Português - November 2018

9:30amSenior Circuit - 2018 Wrap Up

11:30amIlluminations Tour - 2018

12:00pmFoss Park Community Meeting - 12.12.18

1:38pmTransgender Day of Remembrance

2:00pmParking Changes on Central Hill Meeting

3:30pmAldermen at Work - JT Scott

6:30pmImmigration Info Session - 12.9.18

7:41pmTalking Business "Sweet & Nutty"

8:00pmFirst Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2019

9:00pmConway Park Contamination Info Session

10:09pmBOA-Finance Committee of the Whole

Saturday, January 5

2:00amMilk Row Cemetery Veterans Day Ceremony

2:30amVeterans' Day Remembrance Ceremony

8:30amSit & Be Fit Fibromyalgia Workout

8:57amEven Side Season PSA - 2018

9:00amFirst Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2019

11:30amCity Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa

12:30pmIlluminations Tour - 2018

1:00pmImmigration Info Session - 12.9.18

2:11pmTalking Business "Sweet & Nutty"

Sunday, January 6

1:00amIlluminations Tour - 2018

1:30amSomerViva em Português - November 2018

2:00amSomerville Menorah Lighting - 2018

2:14amSenior Circuit - 2018 Wrap Up

2:30amCity Hall Christmas Tree Lighting & Santa

8:30amRaising Families "Special Needs Education"

9:00amAldermen at Work - JT Scott

9:30amParking Changes on Central Hill Meeting

11:30amImmigration Info Session - 12.9.18

1:00pmVeterans' Day Remembrance Ceremony

1:44pmTransgender Day of Remembrance

2:00pmBoard of Aldermen Meeting - 12.13.18

7:00pmSenior Circuit - 2018 Wrap Up

7:30pmSomerville Veterans' Memorial Parade 2018

8:30pmImmigration Info Session - 12.9.18

9:42pmHeatSmart CoolSmart

9:45pmTransgender Day of Remembrance

10:00pmSomerViva em Português - November 2018

10:30pmAnnual Chamber of Commerce Awards

Monday, January 7

12:00amSenior Circuit - 2018 Wrap Up

12:30amSomerville Veterans' Memorial Parade 2018

1:30amFirst Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2019

Tuesday, January 8

2:30amMilk Row Cemetery Veterans Day Ceremony

8:30amMiddlesex Update w/Marian Ryan

9:00amAldermen at Work - JT Scott

9:30amSomerViva em Português - November 2018

11:30amSomerville Climate Forward

12:08pmTalking Business "Sweet & Nutty"

12:30pmAnnual Chamber of Commerce Awards

2:00pmHeatSmart CoolSmart

2:03pmSomerville Climate Forward

3:00pmAldermen at Work - JT Scott

5:30pmMeeting for BOA & School Committee

6:30pmMid-Term Ceremonies 2019 - LIVE

10:00pmFirst Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2019

Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, January 2

9:00amSHS Winter Concert

10:30amSHS Hockey vs Everett

12:00pmSHS Girls' Basketball vs Salem

1:30pmSHS Boys' Basketball vs KIPP

3:00pmSHS Girls' Basketball vs Charlestown

4:16pmSHS Boys' Basketball vs MC

6:00pmArgenziano School Winter Concert

7:00pmSHS Winter Concert

8:30pmSHS Hockey vs Everett

10:00pmSHS Girls' Basketball vs Salem

11:30pmSHS Boys' Basketball vs KIPP

Thursday, January 3

1:00amSHS Girls' Basketball vs Charlestown

2:16amSHS Boys' Basketball vs MC

8:00amSHS Boys Basketball v Lynn Classical

10:00amSHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere

11:30amStudent of the Qtr. - WSNS

12:00pmSHS Hockey vs Latin Academy

1:30pmBrown School Winter Concert

2:30pmWinter Hill Community School Winter Concert

3:30pmSHS Hockey vs Revere

5:00pmSHS Boys Basketball v Lynn Classical

7:00pmSHS Girls' Basketball vs Revere

8:30pmStudent of the Qtr. - WSNS

Friday, January 4

12:30amSHS Hockey vs Revere

2:00amSHS Boys' Basketball vs MC

8:00amAll-City Middle School Winter Concert

9:00amEl Sistema Winter Concert

10:00amSHS Hockey vs Revere

12:00pmSHS Boys' Basketball vs MC

2:00pmSHS Girls' Basketball vs Charlestown

3:30pmAll-City Middle School Winter Concert

4:30pmEl Sistema Winter Concert

5:15pmSHS Hockey vs Revere

7:00pmSHS Girls' Basketball vs Winthrop-LIVE

10:00pmSHS Girls' Basketball vs Winthrop

Saturday, January 5

12:00amSHS Girls' Basketball vs Winthrop

1:30amSHS Girls' Basketball vs Charlestown

3:00amPublic Domain Theater

8:00amSHS Girls' Basketball vs Salem

9:30amSHS Girls' Basketball vs Charlestown

11:00amSHS Girls' Basketball vs Winthrop

1:00pmSHS Hockey vs Revere

Sunday, January 6

12:00amSHS Hockey vs Revere

1:30amSHS Hockey vs Everett

3:00amSHS Boys' Basketball vs KIPP

4:30amSHS Boys' Basketball vs MC

9:00amSHS Boys Basketball v Lynn Classical

11:00amSHS Boys' Basketball vs KIPP

12:30pmSHS Boys' Basketball vs MC

2:30pmBrown School Winter Concert

3:30pmSHS Winter Concert

5:00pmSHS Boys Basketball v Lynn Classical

7:00pmSHS Boys' Basketball vs KIPP

8:30pmSHS Boys' Basketball vs MC

10:30pmBrown School Winter Concert

11:30pmSHS Winter Concert

Monday, January 7

1:00amSHS Boys' Basketball vs MC

3:00amPublic Domain Theater

8:00amSHS Boys Basketball v Lynn Classical

Tuesday, January 8

12:30amSHS Hockey vs Revere

2:00amSHS Hockey vs Latin Academy

8:00amWHCS Winter Concert

9:00amAll-City Middle School Winter Concert

10:00amSHS Boys' Basketball vs KIPP

11:30amSHS Boys' Basketball vs MC

1:30pmSHS Girls' Basketball vs Winthrop

4:00pmWHCS Winter Concert

5:00pmSHS Boys' Basketball vs MC

7:00pmSHS Boys' Basketball vs Danvers-LIVE

10:00pmSHS Boys' Basketball vs Danvers

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Spotlight on Gloria Mindock:

Outgoing Poet Laureate of Somerville

By Karen Friedland

Union Square resident Gloria Mindock has long had a mission of bringing poetry to the people. This month, she’s wrapping up a successful two-year stint as Somerville’s second Poet Laureate, having brought poetry and music to elders at the Little Sisters of the Poor, puppet shows to children at two Somerville libraries, and a bi-monthly poetry round table, poetry readings and how-to workshops at the Arts at the Armory on Highland Avenue, as well as outdoor poetry readings at Union and Davis Squares. Her last event, on December 14, was a tribute to Claribel Alegria and other Salvadoran Poets, reflecting the sizable Salvadoran community in Somerville. To top it all off, she gave away 500 books of poetry all over town.

Explains Gloria, “The mission of a Poet Laureate is primarily to reach out to the community, to get poetry known ... and read!” She adds, “Giving books away was so satisfying. People were very happy with the books they took. This is a great way for poetry to reach the community, because many people won’t go out and buy them.” Gloria was especially pleased to give away a book of poems by a Russian poet to one of the nuns at the Little Sisters of the Poor, who had admired a poem of his Gloria had read out loud. She also loved the questions the children asked after the puppet shows. Her only regret: not bringing a mic and amp to the outdoor readings, so poets could be heard over the sound of traffic.

A long-time poet and theater impresario, Gloria was the founding editor, in 2005, of Cervena Barva Press, which publishes cutting-edge poetry, fiction, and plays from writers around the world. The press provides one to two readings each month, and Gloria co-facilitates the “First and Last Word Poetry Series,” which was founded by poet Harris Gardner, on the third Tuesday of the month. Gloria also founded Read America Read, which leaves free books throughout the country to get America reading again. Learn more about the press and Gloria’s related projects, at <http://www.cervena-barvapress.com/>

Widely published in the US and abroad, Gloria’s Pushcart Prize-nominated poetry has been translated and published into Romanian, Serbian, Spanish, Estonian, and French. Recent publications include *I Wish Francisco Franco Would Love Me* (Nixes Mate Books) and *Whiteness of Bone* (Glass Lyre Press). In 2014, Gloria was awarded the Ibbetson Street Press Lifetime Achievement Award and in 2016, she was the recipient of the Allen Ginsberg Award for community service by the Newton Writing and Publishing Center.

Since 2013, Gloria has used her own funds to rent a cozy, brick-walled space in the basement of the Arts at the Armory, at 191 Highland Avenue. The space acts as a venue for poetry readings and



workshops and houses a bookstore called The Lost Bookshelf, which sells new and used books. It was in this space that Gloria provided many of the poetry readings, workshops and round tables during her two years as Poet Laureate.

Energized by her experiences as Poet Laureate, Gloria is excited to stay involved with the poetry community via her space at the Armory. In addition to her Cervena Barva Press readings, she will also provide a once-a-month poetry round table, a forum for local poets to read their work aloud, as well as writing exercises and workshops like the “Get that Pen Out” and “How to Read Your Poetry Aloud” workshops she provided as Poet Laureate.

Recently retired from 30+ years as a social worker, Gloria is thrilled to be expanding her offerings at the Armory in 2019 to include an Open Mic Night on the third Friday of every month and “Monologue Mondays” on the first Monday of the month, in addition to continuing the bi-monthly round table. She’s also started an exciting, new “Pastry with Poets” workshop, recently debuting with a workshop on the villanelle delivered by area poet and professor Richard Hoffman. Learn more about upcoming readings, workshops and events at <http://www.cervenabarvapress.com/readings.htm> or on Facebook, at <https://www.facebook.com/cervenabarvapress/>

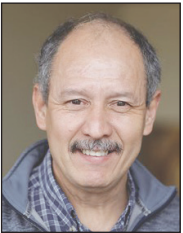
Gloria recommends that the new Poet Laureate, who will be named shortly by the Somerville Arts Council, “have fun” in the position. She says that during her tenure, “I met a lot of wonderful people who are now part of my life. We plan to keep working together to enrich the community.” Gloria believes strongly in keeping poetry readings and workshops affordable, and will be charging \$10 for intensive workshops. “You should not have to break the bank to take a workshop,” she explains. Area poets and writers are also strongly encouraged to contact Gloria about presenting workshops.

Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Poet Sergio Inestrosa writes, “From my book *Unstop Moon* (Luna que no cesa) translated by Margaret Young three senryus.” Inestrosa is a professor at Endicott College, and the author of several poetry collections.



La blanca luna  
le dio la espalda al sol,  
la noche entera.

The white moon  
turned his back to the sun,  
the whole night.

La luz de luna  
acaricia tu cuerpo;  
sueño contigo.

The moonlight  
caresses your body  
I dream of you.

Sapos y ranas  
a la luz de la luna,  
chasquido de agua.

Toads and frogs  
in the light of the moon,  
clicking of water.

— Sergio Inestrosa

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and speak to the Assignment Editor

# The winners of The Somerville Times Reader’s Choice results for THE BEST OF SOMERVILLE 2018

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

## Readers choices for 2018

**Best Idea in 2018:**   
Bow Market

**Worst Idea in 2018:** 

Announcing the closure of the Ball Sq. Bridge for a year

**Best Somerville Food & Restaurants:** 

- Best Breakfast: Kelly's Diner, 674 Broadway
- Best Combination Breakfast & Lunch: Ball Sq. Cafe, 708 Broadway
- Best Italian Food: Mortadella Head, 20 College Ave.
- Best Italian Specialty Store: Pepe Bocca, 414 Highland Ave.
- Best Portuguese Restaurant: Neighborhood Restaurant, 25 Bow St.
- Best Brazilian Restaurant: Oliveira's Steak House, 120 Washington St.
- Best Chinese Food: China Delight, 524 Somerville Ave.
- Best Mexican Food: Tu y Yo Mexican Restaurant, 858 Broadway
- Best Variety and All Around Restaurant: Mount Vernon Restaurant, 14 Broadway
- Best Seafood Restaurant: Pescatore, 158 Boston Ave.
- Best Local Deli: Victor's Deli, 710 Broadway
- Best Irish Pub: Sally O'Brien's, 335 Somerville Ave.
- Best Hamburger: Boston Burger Company, 37 Davis Sq.
- Best Roast Beef Sandwich: Mount Vernon Restaurant, 14 Broadway
- Best Pizza: MidiCi, 463 Assembly Row
- Best Chocolate: Taza Chocolate, 561 Windsor St.
- Best Donuts: Union Square Donuts, 20 Bow St.
- Best Donuts Outside of Somerville: Demet's Donuts, 199 Mystic Ave. Medford
- Best Bakery: Modelos Market Café, 501 Medford St.
- Best Pies: Petsi Pies, 285 Beacon St.
- Best Cheesecake: 7ATE9 Bakery, 199C Highland Ave.
- Best Local Coffee Shop: Bloc Somerville, 11 Bow St.
- Best Bar for Bands: Thunder Road, 379 Somerville Ave.
- Best Bar/Entertainment: Lucky Strike, 325 Revolution Dr.
- Best Brew: AERONAUT, 14 Tyler St.
- Best Bar/Creative Drinks: The Painted Burro, 219 Elm St.
- Best local Bar: Olde Magoun's Saloon, 518 Medford St.
- Best of Somerville Services:** 
- Best Doctor: Dr. Luis Henkel, Primary Care, MGH, 440 Foley St.
- Best Medical Services: Mass General Primary Care Assembly Row, 440 Foley St
- Best Dentist: Dental Arts, Davis Sq.
- Best Electrician: David Falcone
- Best Plumber: Mario, T.J. Sillari, Inc., 99 Albion St.
- Best Law Firm: Law Office of Sean O'Donovan, 741 Broadway
- Best Attorney: Attorney Phil Privitera, 59 Union Sq.
- Best Insurance Agency: Wedgewood-Crane & Connolly, 19 College Ave.

- Best Bank: Winter Hill Bank, winterhillbank.com
- Best Bank President: Sandra L. McGoldrick, Winter Hill Bank
- Best Branch Manager: Lisa Ramos, Century Bank
- Best Real Estate Company: The Norton Group, 699 Broadway
- Best Real Estate Broker/Agent: Donald Norton, The Norton Group, 699 Broadway
- Best Real Estate Rental Agent: Clifton Verdieu, The Norton Group, 699 Broadway
- Best Florist: Wagner Floral Designs, 508 Somerville Ave.
- Best Waiter/Waitress: Mount Vernon Waitstaff, 14 Broadway
- Best Cook: Omar Djebbouri, Ball Sq Café, 708 Broadway
- Best Convenient Store: 350 Market, 350 Broadway
- Best Laundromat: Spin Cycle, 6 Main St.
- Best Liquor Store: Winter Hill Liquor Mart, 313 Broadway
- Best Barber: Paul McGlashing, Alibrandi's Barber Shop, 194 Holland St.
- Best Hair Salon: Amal Niccoli, 731 Broadway
- Best Gas Station: Good Gas, 345 Medford St.
- Best Mechanic: Edwin Sola, Good Gas, 345 Medford St.
- Best Auto Body: A Plus Autobody, 297 Medford St.
- Best Handyman: Bill Faber, Main St.
- Best Pest Exterminator: Best Pest Control Services, 63 Elm St.
- Best Dry Cleaners: Mystic Cleaners and Tailors, 282 Broadway

**Best of Somerville Municipal Services:** 

- Best Somerville Department: Water Dept., 17 Franey Rd.
- Best Somerville Official: Alderman Bill White
- Best Somerville DPW /Supervisor: Rick Willette, Director of Operations
- Best City Employee DPW: Tom Barry, DPW-Highway
- Best City Employee City Hall/Annex: John Long, City Clerk
- Best City Elected Politician: Katjana Ballantyne, Alderman, Ward 7 and Board President
- Best Teacher: Victoria Macrokanis, West Somerville Neighborhood School
- Best Nurse: Ann Moran, former Central Hospital nurse
- Best Police Officer: Lieutenant James Polito, Somerville Police
- Best Firefighter: Mike Avery, Somerville Fire

**Best of Somerville Arts/Entertainment:** 

- Best Somerville Poet: Doug Holder
- Best Photographer: Claudia Ferro
- Best Commentary Writer: William C. Shelton
- Best Somerville Historian: Bob "Monty" Doherty
- Best Somerville Non-Profit Agency: Little Sisters of the Poor, 186 Highland Ave.
- Best Somerville Charity: Somerville Homeless Coalition, 1 Davis Square
- Best Creative idea in 2018:** 
- The Norton Group Real Estate joining Century 21 North East