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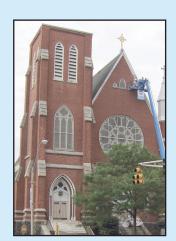


VOL. 6 NO. 1

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, JAUNUARY 3, 2018

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



A church chat with Father Richard page 5



A wintery concert at ESCS page 8



It's getting cold out there

page 14

2017: The year in review



By The Times Staff

Another year passes by, and one more chapter in the 175-year-old saga of Somerville is written.

In many ways it was a tumultuous year, filled with protest and controversy. Conversely, in many other ways the fabric of the community coalesced and brought us together to unite in common causes.

In February, the #OneSomerville rally brought people out to show their support for the Sanctuary City policy adopted by Somerville, after facing threats from the national administration to cut federal funding for such cities.

City workers held a rally of their own in October, allowing union employees to show solidarity in standing together to fight for a contract so that, according to them, they might achieve a sense of security, pay raises and jobs for Somerville workers.

Tragedy struck from out of the blue on a number of occasions as well. Two shootings took place, taking the life of

Continued on page 4

City officials sworn in and celebrated

By Jim Clark

Both new and familiar faces were seen Monday night at the city's 2018 inaugural ceremony held at Somerville High School Auditorium.

The newly elected and re-elected aldermen, School Committee members, as well as the mayor, were in attendance for a public swearing in and general celebration of the latest configuration of Somerville's civic government.

The inaugural event was preceded by a procedural meeting in the Aldermanic Chambers, where the official swearing in took place, Board officers elected, and seating arrangements determined.

The inauguration itself was well attended and included the presence of each of our state representatives, as well as Gov. Charlie Baker, who addressed the attendees.

The inaugural ceremony was hosted by Greentown Labs Chief Executive Officer Dr. Emily Reichert.

Musical presentations were offered by Nicholas Everage and Director of Veterans Services Bryan Bishop. Continued on page 12



Continued on page 12 The 2018 Inauguration ceremony took place on Monday, January 1, at the Somerville High School auditorium.

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Best of luck in the new year to our almost new Board of Aldermen. A grand total of five new aldermen were installed into their positions this past Monday evening, January 1. We wish the new government here in the city the best of luck for 2018. Congratulations to Ward 7 Alderman Katjana Ballantyne, who was elected by her peers to be President of the Board for this coming year, along with Ward 1 Alderman Matt McLaughlin as the new Vice President. We congratulate them, as well the School Committee members and its new Chairman, Andre L. Green. And finally, to Mayor Joseph Curtatone. We hope he has a successful term in office, with this being the beginning of his eighth term. Incidentally, if you're interested in reading the full transcript of the mayor's inauguration speech, we have it posted on our website: www.thesomervilletimes.com.

Thank you to the DPW's Tom Barry for organizing the three or so plow trucks out on the Christmas mini snow storm that amounted to about four inches or so. Was it poor planning on the DPW commissioner's (Stan Koty) part? We're not sure, but we do know that good thinking Tom Barry is in the shadows. Let's hope with the snow storm this week that we have more of them out there on the streets plowing. By the way, please remember: ODD SIDE PARKING DURING SNOW EMERGENCIES THIS YEAR.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Zac Zasloff, the all-around nice guy from Prospect Hill, as well as Chairman of the Condo Review Board. Zac has gone through a lot recently with his fall, but the good people at MGH took good care of him.

Our condolences to the family of Florence Lewis, who recently passed away, Florence was very active in the Grace Baptist Church locally until it was sold. Florence leaves many family and friends that admired her and thought the world of her. A memorial service is planned for Sunday, January 7, 3:00 p.m., at First Baptist Church, 3 Winn Street, Woburn. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Continued on page 11

The Somerville Times

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TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: City officials, residents address Tufts **University housing proposal**

Matt C says:

We need more PILOT payments!!! The contract should be up for renegotiation soon!

Somerville Resident says:

For clarification: Tufts stated they are working to implement a comprehensive program to add 600 beds; only a portion of that total would be via this proposal.

Jim G. says:

Only a portion? What portion? 100? 200? More? That's still a lot of beds, if we're talking one student per bedroom, as indicated in the article. Just saying, for clarification.

600? says:

600 additional students? At 60k per student, per year that's going to ad up to real money before you know it...

live within your means says:

If Tufts doesn't have space to house all of its' students then they need to look at accepting fewer students. Their greed is impacting our city in a very negative way. You have x amount of dorm rooms, that is how many students you accept. Pretty simple.

Joe Beckmann says:

Two features should be addressed by both Tufts and the aldermen. Certainly their PiLoT payments should increase from the current 5% of what Harvard contributes to its hosts, but those payments might also include free tuition and technical assistance to the city's departments and schools. Payment in Lieu of Taxes ought to represent a genuine community outreach.

Second, Tufts already owns lots of real estate off campus, and the city is engaged in creating new community spaces around Davis Square through former church buildings and other sites. The Holland Street former school, for which we pay over \$300,000 a year in rent for a building we sold to Tufts at a huge discount, might well become a residential center for grad students. And it's a lot larger than what their plans now anticipate. And they already own it.

Matt C says:

I wonder how much they pay in property tax on the building we are renting - it might be a wash:-p

Birdy says:

@Matt C: Tufts is a nonprofit...don't think they pay taxes on it.

Response to: Somerville non-profit CASPAR, Inc. chosen to receive 5kW solar array donation from city's install partner SolarFlair

ritepride says:

I think I would go wind power only because solar power is usually mounted on your house roof. So every 20 years when you go to re-shingle your roof you will have the added cost of removing the solar panels in order to do your roof and then re-installing the solar panels. It might work okay on flat roofs but could be costly for sloped style roofs.

Thankful says:

Congratulations to CASPAR on being awarded these solar power energy panels and installation. They are a worthy organization for all that they do for their community.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments



The winners of The Somerville Times Reader's Choice results for THE BEST OF SOMERVILLE 2017

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

Readers choices for 2017

Best Idea in 2017:

Building a new high school

Worst Idea in 2017:

Publishing of fake news

Best Somerville Food & Restaurants:

Best Breakfast: Ball Sq. Cafe, 708 Broadway

Best Combination Breakfast & Lunch: Kelly's Diner, 674 Broadway

Best Italian Food: Vinny's at Night, 76 Broadway

Best Italian Specialty Store: Dave's Fresh Pasta, 81 Holland St.

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: Sabroso Taqueria, 475 Revolution Dr.

Best Variety and All Around Restaurant: **Mount Vernon Restaurant, 14 Broadway**

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

Best Local Deli: Victor's Deli, 710 Broadway

Best Irish Pub: Sally O'Brien's, 335 Somerville Ave.

Best Bar for Bands: Once Ballroom, 156 Highland Ave.

Best Bar/Restaurant: PJ Ryans, 239 Holland St.

Best Brew and Coffee: Winter Hill Brewery, 328 Broadway

Best Bar Food/Creative Drinks: River Bar, 661 Assembly Row

Best Hamburger: RF O'Sullivans, 282 Beacon St.

Best Roast Beef Sandwich: Mount Vernon Restaurant, 14 Broadway

Best Pizza: Posto, 187 Elm St.

Best Chocolate: Taza Chocolate, 561 Windsor St.

Best Donuts: Davis Square Donuts & Bagels, 377 Summer St.

Best Donuts Outside of Somerville: **Demet's Donuts, 199 Mystic Ave.**Medford

Best Bakery: Mike's Pastry, 445 Revolution Dr.

Best Pies: Petsi Pies, 285 Beacon St.

Best Sub Shop: Leone's Sub and Pizza, 292 Broadway

Best Local Coffee Shop: The Biscuit, 406 Washington St.

Best of Somerville Services:

Best Doctor: Andrew Chandler, MD

Hallmark Health Medical Associates at Ball Square

Best Dentist: **Dr. Marhama Alvi, West Somerville Dental 124 College Ave.**

Best Electricians: Bent Electrical Contractors Inc., 59A Inner Belt Road

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

Best Law Firm: Smith, Berman, White, 403 Highland Ave.

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 Branch Manager: Karen McCarthy, Winter Hill Bank

Best Bank Officer: Lisa Ramos, Century Bank

Best Paralegal: Paula LeBlanc, O'Donovan Law Office, 741 Broadway

Best Real Estate Company: The Norton Group, 699 Broadway

Best Real Estate Broker/Agent: Irene Bremis, James J. Bremis Realty 1177 Broadway

Best Real Estate Rental Agent: John Pratti, The Norton Group 699 Broadway

Best Employee: Amanda Hills, Century Bank

Best Florist: Ida Tauro, Bostonain Florist, 92 Highland Ave.

Best Waiter/Waitress: Zenalia Pereira, Buddy's Diner 113 Washington St.

Best Cook: Omar Djebbouri, Ball Sq Café, 708 Broadway

Best Short Order Cook: Jose Ramirez, Buddy's Diner 113 Washington St.

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: Tony Alibrandi, 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 Painter: 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: Communications Dept.

Best Somerville Official: Ed Bean, Director of Finance, Auditor

Best Somerville DPW Foreman/Supervisor: Tom Barry

Best City Employee DPW: Kevin Dewitt

Best City Employee City Hall/Annex: Front Office, Water Dept. Staff

Best City Elected Politician: Mary Jo Rossetti, Alderman At-Large

Best Teacher: Mario Sousa, Somerville High, CTE

Best Principal: Dr. Holly Hatch, East Somerville Community School

Best Nurse: Lynne Lenoir

Best Police Officer: Somerville Deputy Police Chief, Paul Trant

Best Fire Fighter: **Karl Popken, Somerville Fire**Best Coach: **Indira Evora, SHS Girls JV Basketball**

Best of Somerville Arts/Entertainment:



Best Somerville Poet: Doug Holder

Best Photographer: Claudia Ferro

Best Commentary Writer: William C. Shelton

Best Somerville Celebrity: Jimmy Del Ponte

Best Somerville Historian: Bob "Monty" Doherty

Best Somerville Non Profit Agency: CAAS, 66-70 Union Square,

Suite 104

Best Somerville Charity: Somerville Homeless Coalition, 1 Davis Square

Best Creative idea in 2017: Aeronaut Brewing Company's limited edition brew, "Municipal Freedom Gives National Strength," in honor of the 175th Anniversary of Somerville

EWEEKIN CRI By Jim Clark

Little holiday cheer for MBTA driver

Police officers were dispatched to a Broadway location on Christmas Eve on reports of a dispute between a MBTA bus driver and a passenger.

Upon arrival, officers separated a man, later identified as Peter Piantidosi, of Andover, and female bus driver.

The bus driver reportedly stated that a car was blocking the bus stop. She said that she attempted to back, but was unable to do so.

The bus driver then said a passenger got off the bus and attempted to knock on the window of the car, asking for it to move so the bus could pull into the spot. The passenger reportedly told police that he did in fact get off the bus, knocked on the passenger side widow in an attempt to have the vehicle moved. The passenger stated that Piantidosi came out of a nearby business and told him not to touch the car. The passenger said that at this point the bus driver let him back on the bus and she closed

Another passenger reportedly told police that an argument did take place between the bus driver and Piantidosi. This passenger said that she also asked Piantidosi to move the car and stated that he began

screaming at her.

The bus driver confirmed that an argument broke out between herself and Piantidosi, and she got back on the bus and waited for the arrival of the police officers.

After speaking to the bus driver and passengers, the officers attempted to question Piantidosi about what had taken place, but he immediately became loud and boisterous about the parking spot and the bus stop, according to reports.

The officers reportedly told Piantidosi numerous times to lower his voice so they could speak with him, but he continued his

tumultuous behavior by flailing his arms and continuing to yell.

Piantidosi reportedly stepped towards one of the officers, squaring his body off chest to chest, and continued raising his voice.

The officers instructed Piantidosi numerous times to step back or he would be arrested for disorderly conduct. At this point, numerous passengers were off the bus and there was a small crowd gathered, watching the exchange between the officers and Piantidosi.

According to reports, Piantidosi began waving his hand at one of the officers, at which time he was told to take his hand out of officer's face or he would be arrested. Piantidosi then reportedly said, "Then just arrest me."

At this time the officer's attempted to place Piantidosi into custody, but he reportedly tensed his body and pulled his arm's away from the officers to resist their efforts to place him into custody.

After a brief struggle, the officers were able to place Piantidosi into custody. Piantidosi was transported to the Somerville Police Headquarters, where he was subsequently booked for charges of disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

Arrests:

Antonio Filho, of 34 Mt. Pleasant St., December 19, 6:46 p.m., arrested at Canal St. on charges of removal of theft prevention device and larceny over \$250, and on warrant charges of uninsured motor vehicle or trailer, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended registration, and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Richard Barbosa, December 20, 3:46 a.m., arrested at Flint St. on charges of receiving stolen property over \$250, furnishing a false name or Social Security number, carrying a firearm without a license,

felony nighttime breaking and entering of a vehicle or boat, possession of a large capacity firearm, and carrying a firearm with ammunition, and on warrant charges of marked lanes violation, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, leaving the scene of property damage, leaving the scene of personal injury, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, utter false check, and forgery of check.

Quentrie Familia, December 21, 10:06 a.m., arrested at Mc-Grath Hwy. on charges of larceny over \$250, resisting arrest, and furnishing a false name or Social Security number, and on

warrant charges of furnishing a false name or Social Security number and shoplifting by concealing merchandise.

Damon Felix-Elie, of 1374 Broadway, December 21, 5:13 p.m., arrested at Washington St. on a warrant charge of threat to commit a crime.

Anthony Celata, of 131 First St., Medford, December 22, 1:25 a.m., arrested at Powder House Blvd. on warrant charges of negligent operation of a motor vehicle, speeding, and failure to stop or yield.

Adebisi Akinola, of 401 Broadway, Cambridge, December 23, 7:00 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on a charge of shoplifting by concealing merchandise.

Peter Piantedosi, of 4 Stonepost Rd., Andover, December 24, 1:12 p.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of disorderly conduct and resisting

Michael Baptista, of 66 Berkeley St., December 26, 10:58 a.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of drug possession to distribute, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, conspiracy to violate drug law, distribution of a class A drug, drug violation near a school, motor vehicle lights violation, felony nighttime breaking and entering, conspiracy, and larceny from a building.

Chad Leblanc, of 25 Magna Rd., Lynn, December 27, 7:37 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on warrant charges of shoplifting by concealing merchandise, assault, and larceny over \$250.

Ronald Seeley, of 15 Shore Ave., Wareham, December 28, 9:14 a.m., arrested at Fellsway on a warrant charge of receiving stolen property over \$250.

Pedro Herrera, December 28, 6:19 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on a warrant charge of witness intimidation.

2017: The year in review **CONT. FROM PG 1**

Kevin Raymond, 20, was shot in a parking lot.

In October, an off-duty Somerville police officer, Louis Remigio, was fatally injured in a multi-vehicle crash on I-95 in North Hampton, New Hampshire. The city mourned its loss, and an outpouring of grief mixed with accolades in praise of the fallen officer.

Still more loss was registered in the form of the omnipresent opioid epidemic that has gripped the entire nation in recent years, along with our own friends and family right here in Somerville. While medical institutions and law enforcement agencies struggled to educate and inform the

16-year-old Tenzin Kunkhyen public on how best to deal with in September, and in October this menace to public health and safety, selfless volunteers from Somerville Overcoming Addiction did their best as well to make a difference in the face of this terrible scourge.

With the passage of legislation legalizing the sale and use of medical marijuana in the state of Massachusetts, Somerville established its own set of dispensaries, first with Sage Naturals, Inc., in Davis Square, soon to be followed by Revolutionary Clinics, Sira Naturals, True herbal consults, and Inhale MD.

While Somerville celebrated its 175th birthday throughout the year, another milestone was commemorated as the one and only Marshmallow Fluff marked its 100th anniversary with its School was approved by voters own series of festivities and promotional events. The culmination of the revelry took place in September with a very special edition of the annual What the Fluff? A Tribute to Union Square Invention festival.

A breakthrough in funding for the fiscally challenged Green Line Extension project was realized as federal funding was approved after a long, arduous process of contract renegotiation and budgeting refinement met the established standards.

Construction of the GLX resumed in earnest, and the project is once again in full swing.

Yet another major development got underway after funding for the new Somerville High in the previous year's election.

Several options were discussed for the project, and a combination of renovation and new construction was finally settled on by city planners.

Union Square and Assembly Row development also took off in a big way in 2017. While the future shape of Union Square is still being debated and analyzed, Assembly Row has blossomed, with new commercial and nearby residential investments paying off massively.

Somerville earned the designation of a Gold-Level Bicycle Friendly Community from the League of American Bicyclists last year as well, proving that we live in one of the most bikeable cities in the Commonwealth.

A citywide election followed on the heels of the previous year's national election, while passions and ambitions ran high

Senators Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders stopped by to endorse their chosen candidates, and a majority of them with the aid of support by Our Revolution Somerville - were ultimately victorious.

The resulting turnover on the Board of Aldermen stood out as a political stunner for many, while delighting others who rooted for their election.

It was a wildly engaging year of ups, downs, gains and losses. Let us hope that the year to come will be just as memorable.

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Union Square Portraits:

Conversations about America – with Father Richard

By JT Thompson

Father Richard: Parochial Vicar at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, an enormous red brick building that towers over the center of Union Square. Established in 1869, the church has a square topped bell tower as big as a grain silo and a circular stained glass window that's big enough to let an 18-wheeler pass through.

Father Richard greets me in his study, and gestures me toward the red leather wingback chairs by the window. He's wearing a blue striped button down shirt above a pair of loose black slacks. Hanging on the walls of the small room, on dark wood paneling which looks like it dates from the 1970s, are several life size portraits of Catholic dignitaries wearing heavy red robes and imposing miters.

Father Richard turns out to be a sweet natured, enthusiastic, somewhat rambling conversationalist, full of jokes he's probably said a million times, which he slips in whenever there's an opportunity. He also likes to slip in stories about famous people. In his 60s, he has a light and boyish laugh which makes him seem

I start out by asking him where he grew up, and how he ended up in Union

He laughs and clasps his hands together.

"I haven't grown up! But let's see ... home base is ... well, I started out in Brighton. I was born in St. Elizabeth's - which is where Michael Bloomberg was born - and then...did you see on TV about that car that crashed into the shop in Newton? No? Well, we lived in that building for a couple years. Then to Waltham."

"My school? I went to the best parking lot in Waltham! We were taught by the Sisters of St. Joseph's. I don't want to namedrop, but one of the kids I played with on my street, David, was the son of Isaac Asimov. Did you know that Asi-



St. Joseph's Catholic Church, home to Father Richard.

mov wrote more books in more fields than any other author? And his autobiography! It's something like 1500 pages long. It was him who popularized the idea of the robot."

I ask Father Richard what he loved to do when he was a kid.

"I don't know offhand ... I suppose one thing - my father liked to travel. Take the car to New Hampshire, drive to Bedford for ice cream, to Arlington for a haircut. So we were always in the car on weekends."

Father Richard is still an avid traveler.

"I've been to California, Texas, Washington, Canada, Florida. I've been on 35-40 cruises in different parts of the world. St. Petersburg. Estonia. Scandinavia. I took the Queen Mary around South ville, do you know?

America, as the chaplain. On the Queen Victoria, going around South Africa, I had the honor of hosting Desmond Tutu for lunch."

I ask if his international travels changed his perspective on America.

"All travel is education. Exposure to other cultures, I'm sure..." He trails off.

"When I was young, my mother, she was from a Canadian family, several generations from New Brunswick, she used to take me to Canada every year. And the taxi back home, after she left me there, was very expensive!" He laughs.

Father Richard was ordained 41 years ago and has been in Union Square the

"FDR's secretary settled here in Somer-Continued on page 14

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Beacon Hill Roll Call



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

This week, Beacon Hill Roll Call reports on how often local representatives voted with their party leadership.

The votes of the 2017 membership of 34 Republicans were compared with those of GOP House Minority Leader Bradley Jones (R-North Reading). The votes of the 2017 membership of 125 Democrats were compared to House Speaker Robert DeLeo (D-Winthrop). Beacon Hill Roll Call uses 289 votes from the 2017 House session as the basis for this report. This includes all roll calls that were not quorum calls or votes on local issues.

A total of 69 (55.2 percent) of the 125 Democrats voted with DeLeo 100 percent of the time. That means that more than half of the Democrats always voted with DeLeo.

The Democratic representatives who voted the lowest percentage of times with DeLeo are Reps. Colleen Garry (D-Dracut) and James Dwyer (D-Woburn). Garry voted with DeLeo 89 percent of the time and Dwyer voted with DeLeo 89.6 percent of the time. No Democrat voted with DeLeo less than 89 percent of the time.

None of the 34 GOP members voted with Jones 100 percent of the time. The GOP representative who voted with Jones the most times was Rep. Jay Barrows (R-Mansfield) who voted with him 98.9 percent of the time.

The representative who voted with Jones the lowest percentage of times was Rep. Timothy Whelan (R-Brewster) who voted with Jones only 76.8 percent of the time.

Rep. Susannah Whipps (Unenrolled-Athol) is the only unenrolled or independent member of the House following her switch from the Republican party in August. At that time, she said, "Serving as state representative while not affiliating with either major political party will allow me to more effectively utilize the relationships I have developed with the members and leadership on both sides of the aisle and will allow me to better serve all of the people of my district, without the obligation of towing any particular party line."

PERCENTAGE OF TIMES REPRESENTATIVES VOTED WITH THEIR PARTY'S LEADERSHIP IN 2017

The percentage next to the representative's name represents the percentage of times the representative supported his or her party's leadership.

The number in parentheses represents the number of times the representative opposed his or her party's leadership.

Some representatives voted on all 289 roll call votes. Others missed one or more of the 289 votes. The percentage for each representative is calculated based on the number of roll calls on which he or she voted and does not count the roll calls for which he or she was absent.

Rep. Christine Barber 99.6 percent (1) Rep. Mike Connolly 97.2 percent (8) Rep. Denise Provost 96.8 percent (7)

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

AUTO AND HOME INSURANCE DISCOUNTS

(H 4081) - The House and Senate approved and Gov. Charlie Baker signed into law legislation waiving, for two years, a law that requires businesses and groups to have a 35 percent participation rate in order to qualify for group auto and home insurance discount rates. The measure permits groups with less than the 35 percent participation to take advantage of group rates, which save members between 5 percent and 8 percent. The law, has been waived every two years since 1997. The 35 percent requirement was first included in a 1973 law.

Supporters said if the bill is not approved, insurance discounts for 322,000 vehicles and 142,000 homes in the Bay State would disappear on January 1, 2018 and consumers will pay millions of dollars more for insurance.

RAISE ALCOHOL TAXES AND FINES - State Treasurer Deb Goldberg's Alcohol Task Force that she formed in February issued its report with 37 recommendations, including raising the excise tax on beer, wine and liquor; increasing the fines for violations of laws relating to alcohol; spending an additional \$3.1 million per year for hiring 30 new investigators and 15 staff members for the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission (ABCC); and making some operational changes to the ABCC.

"Studies provide consistent evidence that higher alcohol prices and alcohol taxes are associated with reductions in both excessive alcohol consumption and related harms," the task force report stated.

The task force noted that the ways to purchase alcohol, including online, are changing with technology. "Buying habits of younger generations are evolving, and the market itself is changing as evidenced by increasing numbers of craft and farmer breweries, wineries, and distilleries in Massachusetts and across the country," the task force reported.

Other changes recommended by the commission include increasing the maximum alcohol content for cider from 6 percent to 8.5 percent; allowing bars to accept out-of-state photo IDs; and eliminating the limit on the number of alcohol licenses grocery store chains can hold.

DECAL FOR DRIVERS ON LEARNER'S PER-MIT (H 2761) - The House Ways and Means Committee has recommended passage of a bill that would require two copies of a highly-reflective decal or other symbol to be clearly visible to law enforcement officers on the window of any vehicle being operated by a driver with a learner's permit or a junior operator's license. The size, fee and other details would be determined by the Registry of Motor Vehicles. A violation of the requirement would result in a fine up to \$50.

Supporters say this would warn other motorists that the driver is inexperienced and encourage them to take extra caution. They say the requirement would likely reduce the frustration of other motorists, reduce unnecessary honking, prevent injuries and maybe even save lives.

Some opponents say the bill is a solution in search of a problem that doesn't exist. They note that families with more than one car would have to get two decals for each car and note that if a permanent decal is used, experienced drivers would often be driving the car with the decal and be mistaken for a novice behind the wheel. They argue that some motorists might pass student drivers illegally on a double yellow line to avoid being stuck behind someone learning to drive.

MUSICIAN LAUREATE (S 2225) - The agenda for the Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development's hearing at the Statehouse in Room A-2 at 10 a.m. on January 10 includes creating the new position of the State Musician Laureate. The laureate, appointed by the governor biennially, would write and/or perform music to commemorate important events, such as ceremonial occasions, celebrations and state anniversaries; act as the governor's adviser in musical matters; and represent the state's musical legacy.

"I am always impressed by the artistic and musical talent that is displayed by the commonwealth's residents," said Sen. Patrick O'Connor (R-Weymouth) who sponsored the bill on behalf of Hull resident Cinzi Lavin. "This position would allow us to recognize excellence in musical talent while continuing Massachusetts' commitment to promoting the arts."

POSSIBLE 2018 BALLOT QUESTIONS CON-

FIRMED - Secretary of State Bill Galvin's office announced that sponsors of seven ballot questions have met the signature and all other requirements to take the next step to get on the 2018 ballot. These proposals now go to the Legislature and, if not approved by May 2, 2018, proponents must gather another 10,792 signatures by July 4, 2018, in order for the question to appear on the November 2018 ballot. The seven questions include:

HIKE MINIMUM WAGE - Increases the minimum hourly wage from \$11 per hour to \$12 in 2019, \$13 in 2020, \$14 in 2021 and \$15 in 2022.

FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE - Creates a program to provide paid family and medical leave to Massachusetts workers

REDUCE SALES TAX TO 5 PERCENT AND ESTABLISH SALES TAX HOLIDAY - Reduces the state's sale tax from 6.25 percent to 5 percent and, at the same time, establishes an annual two-day permanent sales tax holiday in August that allows consumers to buy most products that cost under \$2,500 without paying the state tax.

LIMIT THE NUMBER OF PATIENTS PER NURSE - Limits how many patients can be assigned to each registered nurse in Massachusetts hospitals and certain other healthcare facilities. The maximum number of patients per registered nurse would vary by type of unit and level of care.

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS - Creates a citizens' commission to consider and recommend potential amendments to the U.S. Constitution to establish that corporations do not have the same constitutional rights as human beings and that corporations' campaign contributions and expenditures may be regulated. The proposal is in response to the Supreme Court's 2010 decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission.

In that decision, the court ruled that the First Amendment prohibits the government from restricting corporations, unions and individuals from donating unlimited funds to Super Political Action Committees (PACs) that do not donate directly to candidates or political parties.

4 PERCENT TAX HIKE ON MILLIONAIRES -

Proposes a constitutional amendment that would allow a graduated income tax in Massachusetts and impose an

Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



additional 4 percent income tax, in addition to the current flat 5.10 percent tax, on taxpayers' earnings of more than \$1 million.

REPEAL TRANSGENDER RIGHTS - Repeals the new law that prohibits discrimination against transgender people in public accommodations by adding "gender identity" to existing Massachusetts law which already prohibits discrimination in public accommodations on the basis of age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, sex, religion and marital status.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

When former Senate President Stanley Rosenberg resigned from the presidency, Worcester's Sen. Harriette Chandler was elected by her fellow senators to replace him temporarily. The Senate Ethics Committee is looking into allegations reported in *The Boston Globe* that Rosenberg's husband, Bryon Hefner, groped three men and kissed another man against his will. *The Globe* story also included claims that Hefner has said he speaks for Rosenberg and talks about Senate business with legislators and their staffs. Here are some quotes from Chandler from a recent interview on WCVB's *On the Record*, hosted by Ed Harding and Janet Wu:

"This is only the beginning. I believe that before we're through we'll see more than the four that have already thrown their hat in the ring."

When Chandler was asked to comment on four senators who have expressed an interest in running for Senate president if Rosenberg does not regain the position: "I do not want it. It's an enormous amount of work, it's an enormous amount of responsibility. It's not the work.

I've always worked hard. It's the responsibility. You're running a very venerable chamber, and I am not 20 years old, as you all know. The world knows it."

When Chandler was asked why she does not want to become the permanent president of the Senate: "I never hid my age, but clearly I didn't expect to turn 80 in front of the world. And I did. And it's better than the alternative of not turning 80 at all."

When Chandler was wished a happy birthday: "The world is walking around on tiptoes, on eggshells right now, because we're in a conversation across the country on the whole issue of sexual harassment, sexual assault and it's really talking about power. Men, women, power, and that's where we seem to be as a country right now."

When Chandler was asked about the issue of sexual harassment and assault: "We are gonna see a lot more legislation coming out now. We are going into the last year of our biennial. We need to make sure that people understand that we work and work hard."

When Chandler was asked about legislation pending in the Legislature: "I don't think it makes any difference whether it's a male or a female, to be honest with you. Hopefully the best person will rise to the presidency, with the decision made by my colleagues in the Senate."

When Chandler was asked how important it is that the next Senate president be a woman: "I really don't think it's that smothering. It's a terrible cloud over our heads, there's no question about it. But I serve with very able people who are very dedicated to the institution we serve and we feel very strongly that in spite of this problem, we must go forward."

Beacon Hill Roll Call tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of the Legislature's job and that a lot of important work is done outside of the House and Senate chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and

HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION?

does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that have been filed. They note that the infrequency and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late-night sessions and a mad rush to act on dozens of bills in the days immediately preceding the end of an annual session. During the week of December 25-29, the House and Senate both met for a total of four

Mon. December 25 No House session
No Senate session

hours and 43 minutes.

Tues. December 26 House 11:04 a.m. to 11:54 a.m.

Senate 11:08 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

Wed. December 27 No House session
No Senate session

Thurs. December 28 House 11:03 a.m. to 2:56 p.m. Senate 11:04 a.m. to 2:50 p.m.

Fri. December 29 No House session
No Senate session

 $Bob\ Katzen\ welcomes\ feedback\ at\ bob@beaconhillrollcall.com$

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Recent Single Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:					
Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price	
15 Hanson Street	4 room, 2 bed, 1f 0h bath Colonial	11	\$648,000	\$729,000	
18 Forster St	7 room, 3 bed, 1f 0h bath Colonial	33	\$779,900	\$845,000	
14 Bartlett St	7 room, 4 bed, 2f 0h bath Victorian	33	\$799,900	\$800,000	
54 Prescott St	8 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath Colonial	14	\$799,900	\$815,000	
46 Highland Rd	8 room, 5 bed, 2f 1h bath Victorian	7	\$1,275,000	\$1,300,000	
7 Cedar Street Place	10 room, 4 bed, 2f 1h bath Contemporary	17	\$1,469,000	\$1,490,000	

Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:					
Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price	
290 Highland Ave U:3A	4 room, 3 bed, 3f 0h bath Low-Rise	22	\$975,000	\$1,015,000	
290 Highland Ave U:PH B	4 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath Low-Rise	1	\$1,032,000	\$995,000	
39-A Oxford St U:Left	6 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath Townhouse	287	\$1,099,995	\$1,025,000	
2 Loring Street U:C	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath Low-Rise	18	\$1,195,000	\$1,160,000	
12 Clyde St U:1	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath Townhouse	36	\$1,324,900	\$1,315,000	
10 Clyde St U:1	8 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath Townhouse	36	\$1,369,900	\$1,349,000	
8 Clyde St U:1	8 room, 4 bed, 2f 1h bath Townhouse	70	\$1,399,900	\$1,355,000	
38 Chandler Street U:B	9 room, 4 bed, 3f 0h bath 2/3 Family	38	\$1,775,000	\$1,735,000	

Recent Multi-Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:					
Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price	
95 -97 Ten Hills Road	2 unit, 14 total room, 7 total bedroom 2 Family	49	\$1,150,000	\$1,000,000	
114 Highland Road	3 unit, 13 total room, 6 total bedroom 3 Family	16	\$1,375,333	\$1,390,000	
65 Josephine Avenue	2 unit, 13 total room, 5 total bedroom 2 Family	5	\$1,425,000	\$1,550,000	
33 Central Street	2 unit, 15 total room, 6 total bedroom 2 Family	43	\$1,678,000	\$1,570,000	
31-33 Wheatland Street	3 unit, 22 total room, 9 total bedroom 3 Family	34	\$1,689,000	\$1,700,000	
74 Morrison Avenue	3 unit, 13 total room, 7 total bedroom 3 Family	16	\$1,848,000	\$1,902,000	

East Somerville Community School Winter Concert

ESCS students in grades K-8 presented an inspiring and joyful program of vocal and instrumental music, Tuesday, December 19 at the East Somerville Community School Auditorium. — Photos by Claudia Ferro

























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Treasure Hunting with Bob

BY BOB ADAMS



An Olympic hunt

I got gold, silver and bronze!

Today's finds included a good-sized single 18K white gold earring (2 grams of 18K equals about \$60 in today's gold market). I bought it for a dollar out of a basket of junk jewelry. I'll add it to my small pile of gold to refine into pure gold and then stash it away in my bank box until my wife retires (I'll work until I drop - I really like my job).

The silver of the day was an antique Stilton Cheese Scoop with an ivory handle. Yes, it's a thing. I paid \$18 and can maybe sell it for \$100. If I need to sell it for the scrap value, I can get my \$18 back plus a little. The Bronze was in the form of a pair of candle sticks made in Sweden. They're considered mid-modern and are somewhat collectible. I paid \$6 for the pair and am putting them on eBay and hope to get \$75. This day, I also got some other minor collectibles that I'll sell at my booth in the Cambridge Antique Market. So, I had a \$200 day. I'll take it. I've had worse and much, much better.

I drive a large circle every day hitting all the second-hand stores in my path. I shop for artwork, clothing, jewelry, precious metal, musical instruments- anything I think I can resell for a profit. I try to clean out a store of anything that can be resold for a profit so I can make money and my competition can't. Attrit the enemy. Actually, I don't consider my competition the enemy, I'm good friends with some of them. I just try to nudge them into a different line of work so they leave all the good stuff for me.

That's it for today. I'm off to the hunt.

Bob Adams has been in Somerville 27 years but was a frequent visitor prior to moving here. He worked as a jeweler in a few shops in his younger years, owned his own shop for a bit, sold real estate for 10 years and is always hunting for his next treasure. He has been an antique and collectibles dealer for 30 years. He can be reached at 27winter@gmail.com.

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Grand Union Flag Raising on Prospect Hill postponed

Due to weather forecasts for extreme cold on Monday, January 1, the City of Somerville postponed the annual Flag Raising event at Prospect Hill until Sunday, March 4.

In its annual tradition, the City of Somerville will hold a reenactment ceremony for the 242nd anniversary of the "Grand Union" flag-raising ceremony at Prospect Hill Park. A processional led by a re-enactor portraying General George Washington on horseback will leave from the City Hall Concourse at 11:30 a.m., followed by a ceremony at Prospect Hill Park. As always, members of the public are invited to participate, and are encouraged to wear traditional colonial clothing. The annual ceremony commemorates the raising of the nation's first official flag, featuring thirteen red and white horizontal stripes, atop Prospect Hill on New Year's Day, 1776. At the time, Prospect Hill was a key site in a string of fortifications created by Washington and the Continental Army in their siege of British troops in Boston during the first year of the American Revolution.

The afternoon's program will include songs, and remarks by participants from the Charlestown and Rhode Island Militia, and the Ancient and Honorable Company (first chartered in 1638). His Majesty's 10th Regiment of Foot, representing the British Army, will bring a message from King George III. Brigadier General Richard Johnson for Massachusetts, and the American Legion Post 19 Honor Guard will lead a military salute as a commemorative flag is raised atop the Prospect Hill Tower.

Light refreshments will be served, and miniature replicas of the Grand Union Flag, both as a flag and a lapel pin, as well as colonial-era tri corner hats and a few items highlighting the City's historic assets will be available for purchase. The Tower will also be open to the public following the ceremony.

More info is available on the Historic Preservation Commission website: http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ historic-preservation-commission



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



Monday January 8

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

> **Tuesday January 9** SYM Tuesdays 8 p.m.

Wednesday January 10 Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.

Thursday January 11 Rockspring grassy Thursdays 8 p.m.

Friday January 12

Jim Coyle & King Blue 6 p.m. Hear Now Live presents Water with Haley Trapella & Jimmy T 9 p.m.

Saturday January 13

Tom Hagerty Band 6 p.m. Tom Petty & Heartbreakers cover night! \$10 cover 9 p.m.

Sunday January 14

The Natural Wonders 4:30 p.m.





Mass Bankers Association grant supports SCES programs

By Nathan Lamb

The Massachusetts Bankers Association Charitable Foundation recently presented a \$5,000 check to support community programs at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES). The check was accepted by SCES Assistant Director Mary Ann Dalton. The agency was nominated for the award by Roma Mayur (right) of the Cambridge Trust Company.

The Massachusetts Bankers Association (MBA) Charitable Foundation recently donated \$5,000 to support programs and services at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES).

The MBA foundation is supported by 150 member banks and loan associations across New England, and distributes community grants at the end of each year. The foundation awarded 43 grants totaling \$167,000 in 2017—the most in its 21-year history, said foundation chairman William Parent.

"We are thrilled to be able to give these gifts," said Parent. "This foundation has done so much good work over the years, yet each gift-giving season we see more need. That's why each year, we rededicate ourselves to this effort to help in any way we can."

SCES was nominated for the competitive grant by the Cambridge Trust Company. The donation will be used to support programs that help



The Massachusetts Bankers Association Charitable Foundation recently presented a \$5,000 check to support community programs at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES). The check was accepted by SCES Assistant Director Mary Ann Dalton. The agency was nominated for the award by Roma Mayur (right) of the Cambridge Trust Company.

older adults and people with disabilities maintain independence and well-being at home, explained SCES Executive Director Paul Hollings.

"Donations to our agency support home-delivered meals, medical advocates, and other programs that make a real difference in the lives of local older adults," said Hollings. "We really appreciate the generous support from the MBA Charitable Foundation and the Cambridge Trust for nominating us."

The Massachusetts Bankers Association Charitable Foundation awards are symbolic of the many individual donations banks make on a regular basis to organizations and causes in their local communities. In addition to the nearly \$84 million a year given by Massachusetts banks to local charities, MBA member bank employees contribute thousands of volunteer hours across the Commonwealth.

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, follow us on Facebook and Twitter, or contact the SCES Aging Information Center at 617-628-2601 for free advice and guidance.

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COMMENTARY

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

Addressing housing and affordability in 2018 and beyond



By Joseph A. Curtatone

During Mayor Joseph Curtatone's inaugural address on January 1, 2018, he discussed some of the successes and challenges Somerville faced in 2017 - as well as areas of work the City is prioritizing this year, including affordability, which is perhaps the City's greatest challenge. The excerpt below offers a glimpse into how the City plans to work with the community to tackle affordability in the coming year. To read the entirety of Mayor Curtatone's speech and learn more about other upcoming and ongoing initiatives like universal pre-k, the climate change action plan, and how Somerville plans to fight for net neutrality, visit www.somervillema.gov/inaugural2018.

For our part, my administration has ten targeted initiatives we're ready to bring forward.

They are neither our first efforts on affordability, nor will they be the last. Some of these ideas come straight from you. Others we've borrowed from cities that have shown they can work. Some we've been discussing in the community for some time, and others are brand new. With them, we're looking to push the envelope as much as humanly possible. I look forward to working with all of you and the Board to refine and advance them swiftly - just as I look forward to the other ideas and proposals that will come from the community and the Board, as well.

- 1. We will create an Office of Housing Stability dedicated to helping our most vulnerable residents stay in our community. When our residents need help navigating housing programs or the complex housing market, we must be there for them.
- 2. We will seek a home rule petition for a Transfer Charge on real estate speculation, which could net us millions of dollars a year to pursue new affordable housing projects.
- 3. We will establish a community-based, independent Housing Land Trust that can buy property and declare it per-

manently affordable. This will give us a vital tool to fight back against runaway market forces.

- 4. We will file a stronger Condo Conversion Ordinance because the current legislation does not empower us to protect tenants the way they should be.
- 5. We went out and just got a \$2M grant for our Lead Paint Removal Program and let me tell you why this matters for housing. We must ensure that more landlords can make units safe for families with children, so that more families will be able to stay here. We will be aggressively re-launching this program to do just that.
- 6. This month, we will submit the new Comprehensive Zoning Code to the Board that our community has worked so hard to develop. We have been refining the proposal for years, and we have a progressive plan to foster open space, affordable housing, our vitally important artist/maker community, and more. It all starts with better zoning that helps us achieve the things we stand for.
- 7. We will establish an emergency rent stabilization program to fight displacement of our lowand moderate-income residents.

8. We will seek sensible regulations around home sharing, like Airbnb, with a mind to affordability. This issue cuts both ways. Some rely on home-sharing to help make their rent or mortgage, but speculators are also buying up multi-families for this, which takes homes off the market. We must find a balance.

9. I am calling for a DIF for affordable housing to create more units to meet community needs. This is uncharted territory. No other city in the State has done it. But we are determined to find a way.

10. We will submit Home Rule legislation to establish a Right-to-Purchase program for tenants. If we want to help people stay in their homes while respecting the right of landlords to sell, it makes all the sense in the world to support the ability of tenants to be the ones who buy.

We also need to remember that affordability extends beyond housing. When we can help our residents reduce other expenses and seize new opportunities, we can give them more pathways to afford the rent or mortgage. Somerville will be the first city with an integrated strategy on

affordability. We must recognize that factors such as transportation, wage inequality, job training, healthcare access, and more, affect whether our residents have a real opportunity to live here. Alongside this Board, I look forward to addressing affordability holistically and from a systems approach by tackling needs ranging from job training and food access to energy efficiency. But we have to work together and be for solutions to make it happen.

...There's not going to be a single, shining moment where we can claim to have the problem solved. There's not going to be a single policy or a program that fixes it all. We are going to have to listen to each other and work together.

We all own this. Just as we all own Somerville's future on so many fronts. Oddly enough, I'm more excited heading into my eighth term than I was for my first. As a public servant I don't like anything better than getting things done...and we have promises to keep and solutions to fight for.

It falls on all of us to stand and deliver. I have every confidence

Wrong for Assembly Square and wrong for Somerville



By William C. Shelton

The easiest way for a developer to make excessive profits is to choose a land use for which there is overwhelming market demand, build the densest possible project, and provide minimal amenities to the surrounding community.

This is how Somerville was developed in the late 19th and the 20th Centuries. It is why ours is New England's densest city, with Massachusetts' worst open-space-to-residents ratio. And because market demand, ease of development, and relaxed zoning enforcement favored residential uses in more recent decades, it's why we have the worst jobs-to-workers ratio and a structural fiscal deficit.

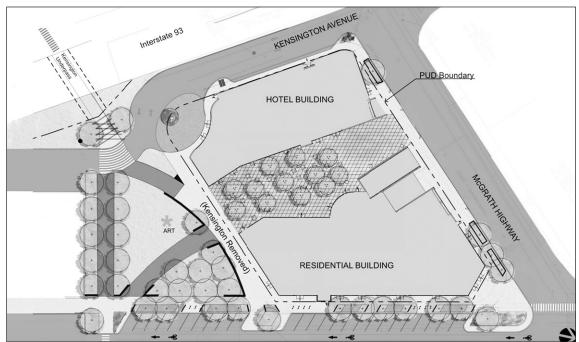
To make such a play today, a developer must persuade city officials to disregard their own zoning ordinance and their citizens' best interests. And that is what developers of the proposed "Assembly's Edge" project will attempt to do with the Planning Board tomorrow Thursday - night.

The Project

They want to build two towers on a postage-stamp-sized lot, next to I-93. One would be a 21-story, 255-foot-tall apartment structure with 215 units; the other, a 13-story, 147-foottall hotel, with 180 rooms.

These would replace a Dunkin' Donuts and a small café on a parcel that is less than an acre. The apartment building would be more than twice the height allowed by zoning. A paved and partially roofed "plaza," smaller than either building's footprint, would connect the two and be counted as "usable open space,"

Open Space



The Assembly's Edge developers propose to abandon a portion of Kensington Street, combine it with an existing pocket park, and claim the result as a contribution to open space.

Squeezing so much development onto so little land leaves scant room for usable open

High-density development is livable and potentially enriching if it's wisely designed, with ample open space. New York City, for example, enjoys proportionately four times the open space that Somerville has.

When density is the result of tall buildings, it's critical to make open space proportionate not just to land area, but to total built square feet as well. A 21-story, 215-unit building needs more open space than the

more modest structures specified in the zoning, Manhattan's famous skyline, for example, surrounds an 840-acre Central Park, as well as being strewn with smaller usable open spaces. Accordingly, Federal Realty Investment Trust's (FRIT's) masterplan, Continued on page 17

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Have a happy and healthy 2018, 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. The advance of progress and renewal marches on as we in turn

continue the pursuit of our individual hope and dreams.

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 2018, 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.

We wish each and every one of our readers the best in the year to come. May peace, prosperity, and good health bless you and yours.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Mystic Valley Elder Services, 300 Commercial Street #19, Malden, MA 02148.

Happy birthdays this week to some of

the locals: A happy birthday to Jamie

Sue O'Leary, from Winter Hill, who is celebrating this week. We hope she has a great birthday. Happy birthday to our good and longtime friend, Pam Gee, of is celebrating this week as well. Happy birthday to another former Winter Hill

RLS (RE agents should know her). She person, Tom Oliverio, who is a great guy that loves to travel, but he still loves his home in Somerville. Happy birthday to Lisa Ludwick, who is also celebrating this week. Happy birthday to Mark Norton, who is celebrating this week as well. Birthday greetings to a one time Somerville resident who became famous for his appearance on Jeopardy, Evan Nolan. Happy birthday to Bob McWatters, whose son Rob will be graduating this spring from Harvard Business **School**. We wish him a very happy birthday and many more. He works like his father - it's in the genes. Finally, to the best, or one of the best, teachers and popular all-around nice lady, we

salute Sophia Carafotes. If you see her this week make sure you wish her a big happy birthday and tell her you heard it here. To the many others celebrating here in Somerville – or have Somerville in their hearts - we salute and wish you a happy birthday as well. ********

Our good friend Irving E. Johansen from Winter Hill suffered a heart attack recently and was taken to MGH where he spent a few days. He's now home and were glad he's doing good.

A special happy birthday to Finn Hart, who celebrated his first birthday this past weekend. An overflowing crowd of family and friends of the family were present to wish Finnegan a bright and happy birthday. With a mom like Rachael, and a family like the Harts, he can't fail. Finn is the grandson of Dick and Mary Hart, of the famous Hart family.

The WSNS Winter Concert will be held on Friday, January 12, from 8:45 to 10:45 a.m. You are invited to see what the students have been learning so far this year. Listen to performances about land, sea, space, and more by: K-6th Grade Classrooms; 4th, 5th, and 6th Grade Strings and Band Ensembles; 7th and 8th Grade Chorus, World Percussion, and Orchestra. Contact Mr. **Darrell** with any questions at: adarrell@ k12.somerville.ma.us.

Somerville STEAM Social (S^3) Night (Science, Technology, Arts, Engineering, & Math) is a night out for parents and community members interested in supporting STEAM activities in Somerville schools. Come share your ideas at **Greentown Labs'** new location. **Thursday, January 18**, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. at Greentown Labs, 444 Somerville Ave. in Somerville. Sponsored by the Somerville Education Foundation. For up-todate information, visit their Facebook event page: https://www.facebook.com/ events/317072365366518/. Questions? Contact: Marian Berkowitz at marmb2@gmail.com or Greg Nadeau at gnadeau7@gmail.com.

Diva Indian Bistro in Davis Square has closed its doors. They posted a letter on their front door saying, "Now as we move on to entail new ventures, it is with a heavy heart that we announce the closure of Diva." They went on to say how grateful they are to have had the people of Davis Square welcome them with open arms.

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, the Health and Human Services Department and the Somerville Public Schools announce the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration event, entitled, **'Growing Our Community,"** to be held on Monday, January 15, in observance of national Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The annual event will be held at the East Somerville Community School, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The event is organized in cooperation with the City of Somerville's Health and Human Services Department, Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Somerville Public Schools, and the Somerville Human Rights Commission. For more information, please contact Nency Salamoun at 617-625-6600 ext. 2323, or NSalamoun@somervillema.gov. *********

If you have announcement or something you'd like us to mention, send an email with your request to donaldfnorton@ gmail.com.

City officials sworn in and celebrated

CONT. FROM PG 1

City Clerk John Long administered the oaths of office to the incoming aldermen, School Committee members and the mayor.

The current roster of the Board of Aldermen consists of: Alderman At-Large William A. White Jr.; Alderman At-Large Stephanie Hirsch; Alderman At-Large Wilfred N. Mbah; Alderman At-Large Mary Jo Rossetti; Ward 1 Alderman (and Board Vice President) Matthew McLaughlin; Ward 2 Alderman Jefferson Thomas ("J.T.") Scott; Ward 3 Alderman Ben Ewen-Campen; Ward 4 Alderman Jesse Clingan; Ward 5 Alderman Mark Niedergang; Ward 6 Alderman Lance Davis; and Ward 7 Alderman Katjana Ballantyne (Board President).

The School Committee members are: Emily Ackman, Ward 1; Dan Futrell, Ward 2; Lee Erica Palmer, Ward 3; Andre L. Green (School Committee Chair), Ward 4; Laura Pitone, Ward 5; Paula G. O'Sullivan, Ward 6; and Carrie Normand, Ward 7.

Mayor Curtatone gave a speech after taking the oath of office, the full text of which can be found on our website at http://www.thesomervilletimes.com/archives/8076.

The attendees and general public were invited to a post-inauguration celebration at the Holiday Inn Bunker Hill following the ceremony.

We congratulate them all.



































Extreme cold advisory and safety tips

The forecast into the next week includes temperatures well below freezing. Given the expected extreme cold, we ask residents to review these extreme cold safety tips and check on neighbors or family members who may need assistance preparing for the cold.

Before the cold comes

- Make sure your heating system is working and you have enough heating fuel.
- Know where your electricity, gas, and water switches and valves are located and how to shut them off. You may need to turn off water pipes if your pipes freeze or burst.
- · If possible, consider having a safe backup like a fireplace, wood stove, or space heater in case your heat goes out.
- If you will be using an extension cord for a space heater, make sure it is rated for the
- Check that your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are working and have fresh
- Make sure your vehicle's gas tank is at least half full and pack an emergency kit that includes blankets and/or warm clothing.

During extreme cold

- Try to minimize time outside, even for pets.
- + If you do need to go outside, dress in several layers of loose-fitting, lightweight clothing. Outer garments should be tightly woven and water repellent. Wear a hat,
- mittens (not gloves), and sturdy waterproof boots to protect your extremities. Cover your mouth with a scarf to protect your lungs.
- Follow all safety precautions if using space heaters and DO NOT use a stove or oven as a heat source.
 - o Do not use space heaters as a primary heat source.
 - o Make sure space heaters are turned off when you go to bed or leave the house.
 - o Keep anything that could burn at least three feet from space heaters. Keep in mind that drying Christmas trees can pose a fire hazard and space heaters should not be used near them.
- + Wrap pipes in insulation or layers of newspapers covered in plastic to prevent them from freezing. Opening kitchen and bathroom cupboards can help heat circulate around pipes but make sure any cleaners or other household chemicals are moved out of reach of children. Let a trickle of warm water run from a faucet to keep water moving through your pipes and keep your home heated to at least 55 degrees.
- + If your pipes freeze, remove any insulation, pour hot water over them or wrap them with towels soaked in hot water, and completely open all faucets. You can also use a hair dryer, with caution, to thaw pipes. Never use an open flame to thaw pipes. If you cannot locate or resolve a frozen pipe, call a licensed plumber.
- Check on neighbors and family, especially the elderly and infirmed.
- · Watch for signs of cold-related health concerns like frostbite and hypothermia and call 911 immediately for any emergencies.

You can find more information on staying safe during extreme cold at http://www.mass.gov/eopss/agencies/mema/emergencies/cold/.



Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#609

- 1. When did the television show Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve begin?
- 2. What new year's gift did ancient Persians give that symbolized productivenes?
- 3. What kind of crystal is the New Year's ball in New York City made of?
- 4. Which city has the Mummers New Year's Day parade?
- 5. What cocktail constists of vodka and kahlua?
- 6. Who invented Marga-

rine?

- 7. Who is Miley Cyrus's godmother?
- 8. What is Prozac prescribed for?
- 9. What is Robert Redford's real first name?
- 10. What is the only cereal grown standing in
- 11. What is the name for a person who will eat no food of animal origin?
- 12. Who invented the first parking meter?

Answers on page 17

www.somervillema.com www.medfordma.com

Union Square Portraits

He left her half his property in his will. But she predeceased him. And you've heard of the Winter Hill Gang? Well, Howie Winter goes for coffee at the Thurston Spa every morning. That's right next to St. Anne's,

I ask him the "Are there things that you think make America great?" question.

our sister parish."

"Obviously, plenty of things." A long pause.

"My father served as an air force mechanic in Blackpool in World War II and...let me think. He came back, I think on the Queen Mary..."

A short pause. Then he returns to the question.

"So, what makes America great ... opportunities, and that. For education. Travel. Moving up the ladder, I suppose you'd say."

He laughs. "My father was a

janitor at City Hall in Waltham." He enthusiastically describes the education he was able to pursue after high school. A BA in physics from Brandeis. An MA in philosophy at Boston College. A PhD in educational media from Lesley. His doctorate thesis was on the effectiveness of computerized coaching for PSAT and SAT.

"My research showed that you

could significantly improve your score within 10 hours. But I don't like those tests. You can't put a number on a person. Coming out of WWII, that Army mentality, to put a number on people, a rank. But there's different kinds of intelligence ... you could be gifted in music or art, and not show up in other areas. That's true of a lot of geniuses, right? And our freedoms...the lack of restraint on speaking, and learning."

I ask him what he likes about his job.

The opportunity to help people. To deal with the important things of life. Yesterday, I had a baptism, a Shintu mother and a baby from Japan. That's a history addressed in Scorsese's movie Silence. Here's a classic anti-foreigner story. Do you know about the burning of the Ursuline Convent here in Somerville? That was in 1834. The mob that burned it down was Protestant, they didn't want the Catholics around. I think that was when the Know Nothing party was getting started, they were like the Ku Klux Klan. Ironically, the whole town became Irish and Italian. Their worst nightmare happened."

"Now," he says, smiling happily, "there's 54-61 different languages at the Somerville high school. We have a community of Sikhs that sit and talk in the Square's plaza." Father Richard points out the window to a group of benches that are just visible across the intersection."We have a Muslim center on Prospect, which was a former Knights of Columbus hall. Have you seen the signs in the T, 'Learn about Islam'? That's them."

CONT. FROM PG 5

He grins at me. "You learnin' something?

Do you know the average age in Somerville? These days it's 31.9. All these younger people moving in. That's a different kind of animal, isn't it?" he says a bit ruefully.

I wonder if they're having trouble finding new parishoners.

"But that's Somerville in the 21st century." He laughs and spreads his hands.

"Saint Joseph's welcomes everybody."

You get the sense that they do. Father Richard's frequent and far flung travels, and his enthusiasm about Union Square's diversity, speak to his lively curiosity about other cultures, and there is genuine warmth in his jokey geniality.

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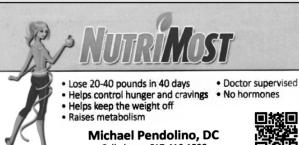
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Business Law Estate Planning and Probate

> **Real Estate Elder Law Civil Litigation**

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LEGAL NOTICES

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



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor of 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.**

42 Flint Street (ZBA 2017-124): Applicant, Elan Sassoon, and Owner, Courtney Pham, seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a non-conforming structure by increasing the gross floor area (GFA) by more than 25%, and a linear extension of the non-conforming right side yard setback. Relief is sought under \$7.11 of the SZO to increase the number of units from two to three and parking relief under Article 9 of the SZO. RB zone. Ward 1.

65 Newton Street (ZBA 2017-123): Applicants and Owners, Brian Aylward, and Yongmei Sun, Trustees of 65 Newton Realty Trust, seek Special Permits under \$4.4.1 of the SZO for exterior alterations to a 3-family dwelling (change in window size). RB zone. Ward 2.

8-10 Appleton Street (ZBA 2017-120): Applicant and Owner, Trio Enterprises, LLC, seeks a Special Permit under §4.4 to alter a nonconforming structure that had previously been damaged by a fire by modifying porches, windows, landings, and finishing a portion of the basement. RA Zone.

90 Bartlett Street (ZBA 2017-131): Applicants and Owners, Gordon Murray and Hyeryun Kim, seek a Special Permit under §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by constructing a roof deck on top of the 2nd story rear porch. RA Zone. Ward 5.

314 Highland Avenue (ZBA 2017-111): Applicant, Pet Stop Plus, and Owner, CT & M, LLC, seek approval from the ZBA pursuant to a prior Decision (Case # ZBA 2013-23) and a Variance under SZO §5.5 and §12.3 to install a signage awning for the veterinarian. RC Zone. Ward 6.

370 Highland Avenue (ZBA 2017-127): Applicant and Owner, Brenden Campbell and Katherine Fiorello, seek a Special Permit under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a nonconforming structure by increasing the gross floor area (GFA) by constructing a two story addition on the east side of the property and a one story addition above a portion of the garage. NB zone. Ward 6.

10 Linden Place (Case #ZBA 2016-152-R1-12/17): Applicant/Owner, Jamuna Kote & Simha Kadagathur, seek a Revision to a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by adding a rear addition for a first floor living room, mud room, and bathroom, a second floor bedroom, and relocating a bulkhead door for basement access. RB zone. Ward 5.

140 & 150 Line Street (Case #: ZBA 2017-83): Applicant & Owner, Inman Square Properties, LLC, seeks a Special Permit with Site Plan Review under SZO §5.2 to remove the existing non-conforming asphalt surface parking lot and replace with 8 residential dwelling units in two structures under SZO §7.2, §7.3, §7.5, and §7.10. Parking relief is also required under §9.13. Zone RB. Ward 2.

42 Flint Street: http://eepurl.com/dgcdgD 65 Newton Street: http://eepurl.com/dgcds1 8-10 Appleton Street: http://eepurl.com/dgcdJ1 90 Bartlett Street: http://eepurl.com/dgcdYT 314 Highland Avenue: http://eepurl.com/dgcefb 370 Highland Avenue: http://eepurl.com/dgcesX 10 Linden Place: http://eepurl.com/dgceHr 140 & 150 Line Street: http://eepurl.com/dgcC3D

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.

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.

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant As published in The Somerville Times on 1/3/18 & 1/17/18.

1/3/18 The Somerville Times

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS **The Trial Court** Middlesex Probate and Family Court 208 Cambridge Street Cambridge, MA 02141

MIDDLESEX Division

Docket No. MI15P4937EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ALLOWANCE OF ACCOUNT

In the matter of: Elaine A. Giangrande

Also known as: Elaine Giangrande, Elaine E. Giangrande

Date of Death <u>12/11/2014</u>

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by:

Arthur R. Giangrande of North Reading MA

requesting allowance of the Former Personal Representative's 1st & Final account(s) as Personal Representative and any other relief as requested in the Petition

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before 10:00 a.m. on 01/16/2018.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: <u>December 18, 2017</u> 1/3/18 The Somerville Times Tara E. De Cristofaro Register of Probate

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS The Trial Court Middlesex Probate and Family Court

208 Cambridge Street Cambridge, MA 02141

MIDDLESEX Division

Docket No. MI15P4937EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ALLOWANCE OF ACCOUNT

In the matter of: Elaine A. Giangrande

Also known as: Elaine Giangrande, Elaine E. Giangrande Date of Death <u>12/11/2014</u>

To all interested persons:

A Petition has been filed by:

David Giangrande of Andover MA

requesting allowance of the Special Personal Representative's 1st & Final account(s) as Personal Representative and any other relief as requested in the Petition

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before

10:00 a.m. on 01/11/2018.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an Affidavit of Objections within thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: December 14, 2017

Tara E. De Cristofaro **Register of Probate**

1/3/18 The Somerville Times



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Planning Board on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor of 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.***

Line Park Building B (PB2016-14-R1-11/17): Applicant & Owner, Street Retail, Inc., seek a revision to Special Permit with Site Plan Review—A, final level approval (Decision dated September 22, 2016) of the food service or retail buildings located within Assembly Line Park to add decorative screening to cover mechanical louvers on the east elevation of Building B.

ASMD zone. PUD-A Overlay District. Ward 1.

Line Park Building B: http://eepurl.com/dgcgvb

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-7:30 pm; and Fri, 8:30 am-12:30 pm. Staff reports, plans and Board decisions, when completed, are posted online at https:// www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning.

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

Attest: Kevin Prior, Chairman

To be published in the Somerville Times on 1/3/18 & 1/10/18.

1/3/18 The Somerville Times

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

MIDDLESEX Division

Docket No. MI17D4283DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

Rubia Interiano aka Rubia Santos vs. Alex Yuri Interiano

To Defendant:

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

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

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

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:

Rubia Interiano Aka Rubia Santos 9 Marshall St Somerville, MA 02145

your answer, if any on or before **1/29/2018**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

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

Date: December 15, 2017.

Tara E. De Christofaro **Register of Probate**

1/3/18 The Somerville Times

The Somerville Licensing Commission is accepting applications for 1 Wine and Malt 7 Day Restaurant Licenses. This is a City Wide License.

Interested Parties must apply online at somervillema.gov. ABCC applications must be filed online at www.mass.gov/abcc/

The deadline for the submission of complete applications is 4 weeks prior to the Licensing Commission meeting. Both the Somerville Licensing Commission application and the ABCC application must be submitted. CITY AND ABCC APPLICATIONS MUST BE COMPLETE OR THEY WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Please contact the Somerville Licensing Commission for Further

For the Commission Andrew Upton John J. McKenna

Attest: Lori Batzek

1/3/18 The Somerville Times

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

LEGAL NOTICES

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CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH JOSEPH A. CURTATONE

DOUGLAS KRESS HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR

> **LEGAL NOTICE** OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Board of Health on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at 5:30 pm at the Cambridge Health Alliance Medical Building, First (1st) Floor Conference Room, 236 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA to review and hear comments relative to the proposed Regulations on Prohibiting the Sale of Drug Paraphernalia

A copy of the proposed regulation will be available at the City Clerk, Health & Human Services, and ISD offices and online at www.somervillema.gov. Interested persons may provide comments to the Board of Health at the hearing or by contacting the Health & Human Services Dept. at (617-625-6600 ext. 4300 or email dkress@somervillema.gov.

Attest: Kathy Teixeira, Administrative Assistant As published in The Somerville Times on 1/3/18 & 1/10/18

1/3/18 The Somerville Times

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

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

MIDDLESEX Division

Docket No. MI 17P6325 EA

Concetta Theresa

Cameron

Also Known As: Concetta T. Cameron

Date of Death: ___ 11/1/2017

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

Cameron of Wilmington MA Last Name

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

Walter Wilmington MA Cameron of First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town)

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

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

1/3/18 The Somerville Times

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Thursday, January 18, 2018 in the Atrium, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at 6:00PM on the application of Esquina's Lanches, Inc. d/b/a Esquinas Lanches, 508 Medford St., Somerville, MA for an Entertainment by Devices License.

> For the Commission Andrew Upton John J. McKenna

Attest: Lori Batzek Administrative Assistant

1/3/18 The Somerville Times

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Wrong for Assembly Square and wrong for Somerville CONT. FROM PG 10

developed in collaboration with city staff, smart-growth advocates, and other stakeholders, specifies open-space allocations that are 10.4 percent of total building square footage. FRIT's efforts have substantially increased the value of surrounding properties.

Exploiting that increased value, the Assembly's Edge developers propose a usable-open-space-to-total-built-square-feet percentage on their own property of 2.3 percent, which consists largely of the aforementioned "plaza."

They claim another 4.3 percent of "off-site open-space improvements" by counting two properties that are not theirs. One is Kensington Street, which they would have the city abandon. The other is land across Kensington, which belongs to the Public Storage facility, and which is a small park space that was already counted toward the facility's own open-space requirements.

The Assembly's Edge developers would consolidate those parcels and count them as their own openspace contribution. This would foreclose the best solution to Assembly Square's access problems.

Traffic Impacts

Bounded by I-93 and the Mystic River, Assembly Square has only three significant vehicular access points, and the most travelled one is unsafe. Coming from the South on Route 28 requires drivers entering the district to weave between traffic exiting I-93 North.

The solution is a connecting roadway that would bear to the right from I-28 as it approaches I-93, pass under the Expressway, and link up to Foley Street, leading to the heart of the Square and the T station. As proposed, Assembly's Edge would make that impossible.

Traffic congestion was a major concern of advocates during the planning of Assembly Square's redevelopment. With the cancelling of such major planned developments as Telecom City, that concern receded. But the new Wynn casino will put traffic congestion back in the foreground.

In addition to bringing an Orange Line station, the 2006 Settlement Agreement between FRIT and the Mystic View Task Force established a 50,000-trip-per-day cap in Assembly Square, and the creation of a Transportation Management Association (TMA). The Assembly Edge application makes no mention of participation in a TMA.

Health Impacts

FRIT also agreed to site its residential buildings as far as possible from I-93. That's because people living within 100 meters of a highway have alarmingly elevated rates of cardiovascular disease and lung cancer due to the ultrafine particles that vehicles emit.

Though these particles' effects were unknown when the Clean Air Act was passed, 3,000 peer-reviewed studies have since quantified their lethal impacts. The Assembly's Edge developers say they will manage this health threat by siting the hotel between the apartment building and I-93 and by installing air filters in both. A better solution would be to not put residential uses on that site. Land Uses

On balance, hotels are a net fiscal gain for the city. Although they create only a few, and mostly lowwage, jobs, their property, room, and meals taxes produce substantially more revenue than they cost in city services. They also produce affordable-housing and jobs linkage fees.

Residential uses are net fiscal losers. If they don't house school-age children, high-end units can produce a modest net gain. But their proliferation is partly responsible

5. Black Russian

6. French chemist Hip-

polyte Mège-Mouriès

for the decline of families in, and increased transiency of, Somerville's population. Encouraging such projects on the rationale that 20% of the units will be "affordable" is, over the long-run, self-defeating for reasons that are worthy of their

Our city's finances depend on precarious state-aid welfare because only 14.6 percent of our assessed property value is something other than residential, which produces low tax revenues and high municipal costs. Assembly Square's \$7 billion worth of transportation infrastructure makes it an ideal location for office and lab development, which produces the reverse.

Every new residential project built there is a lost opportunity for Somerville to generate net income that can pay for what we need and relieve the tax burden on homeowners, which gets passed on to renters as well.

In recognition of this, the FRIT/ Mystic View settlement anticipated land-use allocations for a full buildout across Assembly Square. The Assembly's Edge project would use up half of the entire remaining residential allocation, while making a negligible contribution to the City's job-creation goal.

In recognition of limits on the district's water, sewer and traffic capacities, the settlement's long-term plan sited the tallest buildings nearest the T station. Assembly's Edge would put the Square's tallest building on "assembly's edge," in the worst location for people to dwell and breathe. Public Hearing January 4th, Decision January 18th

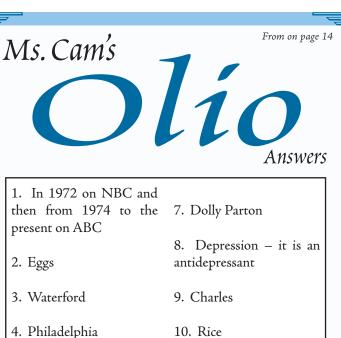
By ignoring legal height limits and the on-site open space ratios established by FRIT, these developers can exploit the value created by FRIT and pocket millions in creative profits. But Somerville deserves better.

Somerville Family Learning **Collaborative Community Resource Clinic**

January 11, 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Cummings School, 42 Prescott St. Questions about community resources? Need legal consultation around immigration issues? Looking for childcare?

Meet representatives from the SFLC, City of Somerville Health and Human Services, and Somer-Viva for information, resources and referrals.

The SFLC Community Clothing Closet will be open.



11. A vegan

12. Carl C. Magee

CHILDREN AND YOUTH Thursday|January 4

Central Library

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

Central Library

TELL (Teen Library Leaders) Meeting

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

West Branch Library Lego Club

3:30 p.m.-5 p.m.|40 College Ave

Friday January 5

Central Library

Preschool: Storytime for 2 year 10:30 a.m.-11 a.m.|79 Highland

Saturday January 6

Central Library

Yoga for Kids 1 p.m.-1:45 p.m.|79 Highland

Monday January 8

Central Library

Sing Along 11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.|79 Highland

Tuesday | January 9

West Branch Library

Preschool Storytime 11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.|40 College

Central Library

Homeschool Reading Group for Ages 14-16 9:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m.|79 High-

Wednesday January 10

Central Library

Reading Tutor 9 a.m.-11 a.m.|79 Highland Ave Teen Game Day 2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.

MUSIC ARTS

Wednesday | January 3

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

666-3589 The Burren

Front Room Americana Jam with: Grain Thief 9 p.m.

Backroom Series Comedy Night With Jordan Handren-Seavey 10 p.m.

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

Skybear, The Strungout Playboys, Tim Mann 7:30 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's Pub The Nephrok All Stars

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

Thunder Road

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

Highland Kitchen 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom

156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Tory Silver 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory

Wiretap Wednesday Open Stage 7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Thursday January 4

Sally O'Brien's

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

The Burren

Front Room Matt Borrello, Mike Verge & Company|9:30 pm Backroom Series: Scattershots 10

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

The Everythingness, Heist, Ellis Temper

7:30 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave 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

379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom

DJ Lucas, Rothstein, Jymmy Kafka, Peter James, TeaMarrr, Olivia

8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Ken Clark Organ Trio

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street Friday | January 5

Sally O'Brien's

Busted Jug | 6 p.m. The Concerns, The Bikes \$10 cover|9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-

The Burren

3589

Front Room Irish Session|9:30 p.m. Back Room: The Kennedys 7 Mugsy|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

The City View, Self Titled, Healing Cow, Christopher Jackson 7:30 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar DI starting at 10 p.m.

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's

Ali McGuirk First Fridays 9:30 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Joshua Tree

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

Entertainment every Friday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road

The Fat City Band|6 p.m. Call Of Booty|9 p.m. 379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom

Happy Little Clouds Pool Party -A Video Release Show for Trans Happy Little Clouds, Carissa John-

son, BLOWW, Magen Tracy 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Peterossi

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell

Sh!t-faced Shakespeare: The Taming of the Shrew 7 p.m.|255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory

Journeys in Sound Presents: East-West Improvisations feat. Gapi, Bob Toabe, and the Jeong-Burik

8 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

Saturday January 6

Sally O'Brien's

Stan Martin Band | 6 p.m. Hurricane Maria benefit with Jakals, Old Flame, Lady Jane, Savoir Faire \$10 cover |9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room: Irish Session|9:30 p.m. Back Room: Joe Kenneally & Dan

Afrik, The Tan and Sober 7:30

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

P.A.'s Lounge

Oddysseys, Nonzerochance, Secret Rhythm Project 7:30 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

Karaoke 65 Holland St

Bull McCabe's Dylan & Buds

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

Casey's

Entertainment every Saturday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road

Nervous Eaters (Rock) 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom 156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Tyra Penn & Her Army of Snakes

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell Sh!t-faced Shakespeare: The Taming of the Shrew

7 p.m.|255 Elm St Arts at the Armory

Somerville Songwriter Sessions 7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Sunday | January 7

Sally O'Brien's Bar The Natural Wonders 4:30 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room John Gannon & Friends Irish Session 3 p.m. Los Goutos 9 p.m.

Back Room Beatles Brunch|9 a.m.-3 p.m. Matt Heaton & The Outside Toys|7 p.m.

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896 PA'S Lounge

345 Somerville Ave

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

Highland Kitchen Sunday Brunch Live Country & Bluegrass

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

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

Thunder Road

Americana Sundays w/ Greg Klyma 7 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom 156 Highland Ave **Aeronaut Brewing Co.**

Monday January 8

Hillbilly Holiday 1 p.m.

14 Tyler Street

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

Front Room: Bur-Run|6:30 p.m. Helena Delaney, Johnny O'Leary & Friends Irish Session:9:30 p.m. Back Room:

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

P.A.'s Lounge

The Reality, Yookeroo, Jobe Freeman 7:30 p.m.| 345 Somerville Ave

Bull McCabe's Pub

Stump! Team Trivia 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-

Thunder Road 379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom 156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Board Game Bonanza

6:30 p.m.|14 Tyler Street The Rockwell Smoke & Shadows: Burlesque

Tuesday | January 9

and Variety Show

8 p.m.|255 Elm St

Sally O'Brien's Bar **SYM Tuesdays** 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-

666-3589 The Burren

Front Room Jason Anick and the Swingers Swing/Jazz|8:30 p.m. Back Room: Silver Arrow Band|8

Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan|10

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896 PA's Lounge

345 Somerville Ave

Bull McCabe's Pub The Ghetto People Band

6045

Highland Kitchen First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling Bee Night

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-

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

Comedy Storm – hosted by Ben Quick and Alex Giampapa 7 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom Heavy Metal Tuesday 7 p.m. 156 Highland Ave

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

Wednesday January 10

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

666-3589 The Burren

Front Room Americana Jam with: Grain Thief|9 p.m.

Backroom Series: Comedy Night With Jordan Handren-Seavey 10

247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

JD Debris, Qwill, Glass Mannequins, Orson & The Rosebuds 7:30 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

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

Bull McCabe's Pub

The A-Beez – Funk & Soul 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road

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

Highland Kitchen

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131 **ONCE Lounge & Ballroom**

156 Highland Ave Aeronaut Brewing Co. Russell Turnquist

7:30 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 3

Central Library

Central Library

6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Thursday|January 4

Meet the Author: Fabiano Latham

Yoga at the Library 6 p.m.-7 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 6 **Central Library**

Central Library

Social Anxiety Meet Up support 1 p.m.-3:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland

Getting Cozy @ the Library

Somerville Winter Farmers Market 9:30 a.m.-2 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 7

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

Monday January 8

basement

East Branch Library Learn English at the Library 6 p.m.-8 p.m.|115 Broadway

Central Library

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

Tuesday | January 9

Central Library

Learn English at the Library 6 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave Science Fiction and Fantasy Book

7 p.m.-8:15 p.m.|79 Highland

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

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

All clubs and groups welcome new members.

Holland Street: 167 Holland Street

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

617-625-6600 Ext. 2300

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

Cross Street Center: 165 Broadway Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. Wednesday – 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. (Please note time change) (617) 625-6600 Ext. 2335.

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

Join the SCOA's email group – The email group is for Somerville Council on Aging Seniors and/or Caregivers 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

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. Pick up for January 25 will be at 9 New Washington Street, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Conversations of the Heart – Mondays (see dates below) from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. When you experience a loss; whether it be a loved one, a place of employment or even a change in your life, don't process these feelings along; come join our group where we process difficult emotions together in a safe and welcoming environment. For more information or questions please contact Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300. Refreshments will be served. Future dates: September 25, October 16 and 30, November 13 and 27 and December 11.

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.

Blood Pressure Screening – Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway, December 14. If you require additional information please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email dhiggins@somervillema.

Winds for All –Tuesday mornings – 10:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. \$10 per class – A music immersion class for those who have never played a woodwind instrument. To reserve your spot or for additional information please call Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

Blood Pressure Screening – Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street. Scheduled for December 21. If you require additional information please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Arts & Crafts – Starting Thursday, January 11 and meeting the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Cross Street Center. Join as in a relaxing atmosphere as we learn, share and teach each other various crafts. Because we want to make sure we have enough material for everyone please call a week in advance if you are planning on attending. For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot please contact Maureen by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

Amateur Classical Guitarist, Dan Shugrue – Tuesday, January 16 at Holland Street Center from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. RSVP by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Bring a Friend Monday – Monday, January 29 starting at 10:00 a.m. at our Cross Street Center. Join us and make new friends, have some great conversations and learn what the SCOA has to offer. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot please contact Maureen by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

Atlantic City – Wednesday, January 31 to Friday, February 2 - \$189 per person double or \$259 per person single – Includes: motorcoach transportation, 2 nights lodging, \$25 slot dollars, 2-\$30 meal credit and 2 casino show tickets. For additional information please contact Connie or Kim at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Powers Music School Neighborhood Concert Series

– Thursday, February 1st starting at 10:30 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. If you require additional information please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email dhiggins@somervillema.gov.

Blood Pressure Screening – Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway. Scheduled for the 2nd Thursday of each month: January 11, February 8, March 8, April 12, May 10 and June 14. If you require additional information please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email dhiggins@somervillema.gov

Blood Pressure Screening – Holland Street Center located at 167 Holland Street. Scheduled for the 1st Thursday of each month: January 4, February 1, March 1, April 5, May 3 and June 7. If you require additional information please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email dhiggins@somervillema.gov. Blood Pressure Screening – Ralph & Jenny Center located at 1 New Washington Street. Scheduled for the 3rd Thursday of each month: January 18th, February 15th, March 15, April 19th, May 17th and June 21st. If you require additional information please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email 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 information, please contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2315.

HOLLAND STREET GROUP INFORMATION

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. Come chat about what is on your mind! If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

Book Club – Meets the third Friday of each month from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. This group self-facilitates. Group members choose both fiction and non-fiction titles on a quarterly basis. Books are available on reserve at the Central Branch of the Somerville Library. 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.

CROSS STREET GROUP INFORMAITON

English Conversation – Meets every Monday, Tuesday & Thursday beginning at 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. No books, no tests, no stress – just a great group of older adults from all over the world who help each other to listen, speak and learn English. Continue conversation throughout a healthy 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 – On hiatus until after the 1st of the year. 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. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

STAY ACTIVE:

Weekly Exercise Class Schedule

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

Mondays:

9:00 Walking Club (H) 11:00 Tai Chi (H) 1:00 Fit-4-Life Group C (H)

Tuesdays:

9:15 Strengthening - \$3 per class (H) 11:15 Fit-4-Life (C)

Wednesdays:

8:45 Fit-4-Life Group A (H) – Exercise 9:00 Fit-4-Life Group B (H) - Nutrition 10:00 Fit-4-Life Group B (H) – Exercise 10:00 Fit-4-Life Group A (H) – Nutrition 11:00 Nutrition one-on-one (H) 12:00 Fit-4-Life Group C (H) - Nutrition 1:00 Fit-4-Life Group C (H) - Exercise 5:15 Zumba for All - \$3 per class (H)

Thursdays:

9:00 Yoga (H) 9:30 Strengthening - \$3 per class (RJ) 11:15 Fit-4-Life (C) 6:00 LBT Fit-4-Life*(H)

Fridays:

8:45 Fit-4-Life Group A (H) - Exercise 10:00 Fit-4-Life Group B (H) – Exercise *All Fit-4-Life classes are \$10 per month and require pre-registration

Every Monday

10:00 English Conversation (C) 11:30 Lunch (C)

Every Tuesday

10:00 English Conversation (C) 11:30 Lunch (C, RJ) 12:00 Computer tutorial with Norbert (H) 12:45 Bingo (RJ)

Every Wednesday

9:00 Bowling at Flatbreads 9:45 Coffee & Conversations (H) 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Wacky Wednesdays (RJ)

Every Thursday

10:00 Current Events (H)
10:00 English Conversation (C)
11:00 Computer tutorial with Barbara (H)
11:30 Lunch (C, H, RJ)
1:00 Arts & Crafts (C)

Every Friday

9:45 Coffee & Conversations (H) 11:30 Lunch (H) 11:45 Bingo (H)

DID YOU KNOW?

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

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

Reminder: City pairs youth with seniors, persons with disabilities for assistance with snow shoveling

Sign up now for winter 2017-18

The City of Somerville is looking for Somerville teens to pair with residents in need of shoveling assistance during upcoming snow storms. Additionally, Somerville senior citizens and residents with disabilities may contact us to be added to the list. Teens and residents in need of assistance will be paired by the City, which has also arranged a payment structure depending on the residents' needs. However, payment is handled independently between the resident and the teen with whom they are paired.

Applications are available online at www.somervillema.gov/snow, or by contacting one of the following staff members. Paper applications for seniors and persons with disabilities are also available at the Council on Aging, 167 Holland Street, and for teens at the City Hall Annex, 50 Evergreen Avenue, and the main office of Somerville High School. All applicants over the age of 18 must submit to a CORI background check to be eligible for the program.

Teens interested in signing up for shoveling jobs: Chris Hosman, CHosman@somervillema.gov, 617-625-6600 ext. 2406

Seniors and persons with disabilities in need of shoveling assistance: Connie Lorenti, CLorenti@somervillema.gov, 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

For additional information, visit www.somervillema.gov/snow, or contact Chris Hosman at CHosman@somervillema.gov or 617-625-6600 ext. 2406.

The City of Somerville does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age, national origin, disability or any other protected category. Auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures will be provided to qualified applicants and employees with disabilities free of charge, upon request.

If you need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication, written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures in order to access this program, please contact the ADA Coordinator no later than seven (7) business days before the scheduled event at the address noted below:

Nency Salamoun

NSalamoun@somervillema.gov (617) 625-6600, Ext. 2323 (Voice) (617) 808-4851 (TTY)



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OBITUARY

Florence A. Lewis



Florence A. Lewis, 77, of Melrose, MA (formerly Somerville, MA), passed away on Wednesday December 20, 2017, peacefully at home. She was born in Boston, MA on May 2, 1940 to Frank H. and Florence Pulsifer.

Florence was a graduate of Somerville High School, Class of 1958. On January 17, 1960 she married David B. Lewis, Jr. in Somerville, MA. Together they had four children: Pamela, David (deceased 2007), Jeffrey, and Kevin. She worked her entire life: from a local laundry in Somerville, to an office worker in Davis Square. She found her most rewarding position as an Administrative Assistant in the Graduate Biology Department at Northeastern University, Boston. She retired in 2004 after more than fifteen years working at the University.

Florence's faith was an important

part of her daily life. For years she served as chairperson of Deacons, and the Church Clerk at Grace Baptist Church, Somerville, until its closure in June 2006. Becoming a living example of the the Mission of Grace Baptist Church, she advocated, and ensured that the family homeless shelter in the building remained open after the sale of the Church. Dedicated to her faith, she found a new home at First Baptist Church of Woburn, where she volunteered as a Church Secretary. In memory and devotion to her late husband, she volunteered regularly with the Aleppo Shriners, Wilmington, MA.

Florence is survived by her three children, Pamela (Lewis) DeMaria of Malden, Jeffrey Lewis of Haverhill, and Kevin Lewis of Wakefield; along with her grandchildren: Kristen, Andrew, Timothy, Caitlin, Kellie-Ann, and Kevin; three brothers, Frank Pulsifer of New Mexico, Richard Pulsifer or North Carolina, and Robert Pulsifer of Massachusetts; as well as many nieces, nephews, other relatives and cherished friends.

A memorial service is planned for Sunday January 7, 2018, at 3:00p.m. at First Baptist Church; 3 Winn Street, Woburn, MA 01801. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Mystic Valley Elder Services; 300 Commercial Street #19, Malden, MA 02148.

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Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

Celebrating 30 years of making grassroots community media for Somerville

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Wednesd	ay, January 3	8:30pm	Somerville Pundits	2:00pm	Don't Forget to Rock	10:30pm	SOM ARTS
12:00am	Free Speech TV	9:00pm	Library Book Talks - Winter Read	2:30pm	SMC Youth Media	11:00am	Community Lens
6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	9:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	3:00pm	Democracy Now!	11:30am	DW conflict Zone
7:00am	Wide Angle	10:00pm	This Week at NASA	4:00pm	SMC Special Programming	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
7:30am	DW In Good Shape	10:30pm	TUTV	4:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?	1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	SCATV SECRET STASH	5:00pm	Library Book Talks - Winter Reads	1:30pm	DW Global 3000
9:00am	DW Global 3000	11:30pm	Duck Village Stage Sessions	5:30pm	Health is Wealth	2:00pm	Science 360
9:30am	Off the Shelf	Friday, Jai	nuary 5	6:00pm	Beyond Boston	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
10:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	12:00am	Esoteric Science	6:30pm	Community Bulletin Board	4:00pm	DW Euromaxx
10:30am	Somerville Storytellers	12:30am	Signs of Life	7:00pm	StartUp TV Boston	4:30pm	Legacies
11:00am	Fallon's Daily Toast	1:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	8:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News		Tele Galaxie
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	2:00am	Free Speech TV	8:30pm	TUTV	5:00pm	SMC youth Media
1:00pm	Health is Wealth	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:00pm	,
1:30pm	Green Card Voices	7:00am	The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	DIWHY The Show	6:30pm	The Kamla Show
2:00pm	SOM ARTS	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	The summer house	7:00pm	MA State of the Senate
2:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	9:00am	SOM ARTS	Sunday,	January 7	7:30pm	(LIVE) The Yellow Jacket Lady
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:30am	Cambridge Calendar	12:00pm	SCATV SECRET STASH	8:00pm	(LIVE) Somerville Overcoming Addiction
4:00pm	NASA TV News Feed	10:00am	This Week at NASA/ ISS In-Flight Event	1:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
5:00pm	Physicians Focus	11:00am	Aging Well	2:00am	Free Speech TV	10:00pm	DIWHY The Show
5:30pm	Going Postal	11:30am	DW Tomorrow Today	6:00am	Abugida TV	11:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
6:00pm	Haitian Poetry in 3 languages	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	7:00am	Nossa Gentes e Costumes	Tuesday.	January 9
7:00pm	StartUp TV Boston	1:00pm	The Yellow Jacket Lady	8:00am	Cooking with Georgia and Dez	12:00am	Free Speech TV
8:00pm	LIVE: Somerville Pundits	1:30pm	Physicians Focus	8:30am	The artist Spotlight	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board
8:30pm	LIVE: Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	2:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	9:00am	Tele Kreyol	7:00am	DW Euromaxx
9:30pm	Don't Forget to Rock	2:30pm	The Artist Spotlight	10:00am	Aging Well	7:30am	Esoteric Science
10:00pm	Duck Village Stage Series	3:00pm	Democracy Now	10:30am	DW Conflict zone	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
10:30pm	SCATV SECRET STASH	4:00pm	Gay USA	11:00am	The Chef's Table Series	9:00am	The Chef's Table Series
11:00pm	SCATV SECRET STASH	5:00pm	NE pride TV What's New in Massachusetts?	12:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News The Literati Scene	10:00am	Cooking with Georgia and Dez
	, January 4	5:30pm 6:00pm	The Boston Medium	12:30pm 1:00pm	Reeling Review	10:30am	DW In Good Shape
12:00am	SCATV Secret Stash Hour	6:30pm	Real Estate Answers	1:30pm	Henry's Baseball Club	11:00am	DW In Good Shape
1:00am	Free Speech TV	7:00pm	(LIVE) Fallon's Daily Toast	2:00pm	StartUp TV Boston	11:30am	What's left
6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	8:00pm	(LIVE) The Somerville Line	3:00pm	African Television Network	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
7:00am	Road to Recovery	10:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	1:00pm	Boston Free Radio presents Words on Film
7:30am	DW Focus on Europe	11:00pm	Box house productions presents	5:00pm	Arlington International Film Festival	2:00pm	Somerville Overcoming Addiction
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:30pm	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	7:00pm	Gay USA		
9:00am 9:30am	DW Tomorrow Today Hello Neighbor	•	January 6	8:00pm	Kwanzaa at ŚCATV	3:00pm 4:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) Aging Well
10:00am	The Kamla Show	12:00am	Esoteric Science	8:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News		Henry's Baseball Club
10:30am	Somerville Pundits	12:30am	Signs of life	9:00pm	SMC presents "A Christmas Carol"	4:30pm	,
11:00am	Wide Angle	1:00am	SCATV secret stash hour	10:00pm	Dancing on Air Christmas Special (1986)	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer
11:30am	Community Lens	2:00am	Free speech tv	11:00pm	Box House Productions Presents	5:30pm	What's new Massachusetts?
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	11:30pm	Duck Village Stage Session	6:00pm	MA State of the Senate
1:00pm	The Somerville Line	7:00am	Tele Magazine	Monday	January 8	6:30pm	Beyond Boston
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00am	Democracy Now	12:00am	Totally Working Out	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
4:00pm	DW Focus on Europe	9:00am	Community Lens	1:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	7:30pm	Greater Somerville
4:30pm	The Struggle	9:30am	Somerville Storytellers	2:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	Dead Air Live
5:00pm	Boston Free Radio presents Words on Film	10:00am	Dead air Live	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	9:00pm	Public Access Boyz
6:00pm	Somerville neighborhood News	11:00am	TeleGalaxie	7:00	Aging Well	9:30pm	The Yellow Jacket Lady
6:30pm	Beyond Boston	12:00pm	The Artist Spotlight	7:30am	Going Postal	10:00pm	SMC Presents: Duck Village Stage Sessions
7:00pm	LIVE - The Boston Medium	12:30pm	The Literati Scene	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash
7:30pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	1:00pm	SCOUTV	9:00am	The Stephanie Miller Show (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	Box House Productions Presents
8:00pm	Greater Somerville	1:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	10:00am	Off the Shelf	11:30pm	New Kids on the Rock

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

Wednesday, January 3		9:43pm	2018 Inaugural Ceremonies	1:11pm	2018 Inaugural Ceremonies	2:30am	Illuminations Tour 2017
8:30am 9:00am 2	Fit-4-Life #1 2017 018 Inaugural Ceremonies	Friday, Ja 12:00am	anuary 5 2018 Inaugural Ceremonies	6:30pm 8:30pm	BOA Finance Committee of the Whole Raising Families "Kindergarten Registration"	8:30am 9:00am	Sit & Be Fit Diabetes Workout First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018
	18 Organizational Meeting Menorah Lighting Talking Business SomerViva em Português Illuminations Tour 2017	1:41am 2:00am 8:30am 9:00am 9:40am	Talking Business TPS Solidarity Rally at State House Sit & Be Fit Balance & Fall Prevention 2018 Organizational Meeting 2018 Inaugural Ceremonies	9:00pm 10:00pm 10:30pm 11:01pm	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 175th Birthday Celebration SomerViva em Português Talking Business	12:00pm 12:30pm 1:00pm 2:03pm	Raising Families "Kindergarten Registration" Rally Point TPS Solidarity Rally at State House 2018 Inaugural Ceremonies
2:33pm Raising Families " 6:00pm Board of Ald	Kindergarten Registration" ermen Meeting - 12.14.17	12:00pm 1:00pm	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 Illuminations Tour 2017	12:00am 1:00am	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 2018 Organizational Meeting	4:00pm 7:00pm	Upcoming Meeting Agenda School Committee Meeting - LIVE
'	ee Division in WWI Lecture nclusion Drives Innovation	1:32pm 2:35pm	TPS Solidarity Rally at State House Talking Business	1:40am 2:00am	Talking Business 2018 Inaugural Ceremonies	Tuesday, 12:00am	January 9 First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018
12:30am Annual Char 2:08am 8:30am Sit 9:00am The 26th Yank 11:30am 12:00pm 12:31pm City Hall Christ 1:00pm 1:06pm 1:38pm	75th Birthday Celebration mber of Commerce Dinner SomerViva en Español & Be Fit Diabetes Workout ee Division in WWI Lecture Rally Point Senior Circuit mas Tree Lighting & Santa Menorah Lighting Illuminations Tour 2017 Talking Business	8:02pm 8:30pm 9:30pm Saturday 12:00am 1:03am 2:30am 8:00am	Rally Point SomerViva em Português Senior Circuit Raising Families "Kindergarten Registration" Veterans Day Remembrance Ceremony The 26th Yankee Division in WWI Lecture Annual Chamber of Commerce Dinner A, January 6 TPS Solidarity Rally at State House Multi-Lingual ResiStat Meeting - 11.2.17 First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 175th Birthday Celebration	8:30am 9:00am 9:30am 12:00pm 12:31pm 1:34pm 3:00pm 7:00pm 7:31pm 8:31pm 9:11pm 11:00pm	Sit & Be Fit Allamerican Workout Fit-4-Life #2 2017 2018 Organizational Meeting Senior Circuit TPS Solidarity Rally at State House First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 SomerViva en Español Rally Point Senior Circuit First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 2018 Organizational Meeting 2018 Inaugural Ceremonies The 26th Yankee Division in WWI Lecture	1:00am 8:30am 9:00am 11:30am 12:00pm 12:31pm 1:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 7:31pm 8:30pm	2018 Inaugural Ceremonies Hanukkah Celebration at City Hall 2018 Inaugural Ceremonies Raising Families "Kindergarten Registration" Senior Circuit 175th Birthday Celebration School Committee Meeting - 1.8.18 Talking Business Senior Circuit First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 School Committee Meeting - 1.8.18
6:00pm City Hall Christ 6:30pm Multi-Lingual 8:00pm TPS Sol	SomerViva em Português Kindergarten Registration" mas Tree Lighting & Santa ResiStat Meeting - 11.2.17 idarity Rally at State House 18 Organizational Meeting	8:30am 9:01am 10:30am 11:00am 12:00pm 12:31pm	SomerViva em Português Multi-Lingual ResiStat Meeting - 11.2.17 SomerViva en Español Rally Point Senior Circuit 2018 Organizational Meeting		January 8 Senior Circuit First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 SomerViva em Português Hanukkah Celebration at City Hall	Wednesd 12:00am 1:00am 1:30am 2:20am	lay, January 10 First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 Rally Point The 26th Yankee Division in WWI Lecture 2018 Organizational Meeting

Educational TV 15 Schedule

9:00am

10:30am

12:00pm

2:00pm

3:30pm

5:00pm

6:30pm

8:00pm

10:00pm

11:30pm

10:00am

11:00am

1:00pm

3:00pm

Wednesday, January 3				
9:00am	SHS Winter Concert			
11:00am	Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert			
11:30am	Kennedy School 4-8 Winter Concert			
1:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Charlestown			
3:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Hampshire			
5:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs MC			
7:00pm	SHS Winter Concert			
9:00pm	Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert			
9:30pm	Kennedy School 4-8 Winter Concert			
10:30pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Charlestown			
Thursday, J	anuary 4			
12:00am	SHS Girls Basketball vs Hampshire			
1:30am	SHS Boys Basketball vs MC			
3:00am	SHS Boys Basketball vs Arlington			
9:00am	Our Schools, Our City - Music of SPS			
10:00am	SHS Winter Concert			
12:00pm	El Sistema Winter Concert			
1:30pm	Kennedy School Drama Club Showcase			

3:30pm

5:00pm

7:00pm

8:00pm

El Sistema Winter Concert 11:30pm Kennedy School Drama Club Showcase Friday, January 5 1:30am **ESCS Winter Concert** 3:00am SHS Bovs Basketball vs Revere 9:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Lynn E. 11:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Arlington 1:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Charlestown 3:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Hampshire 5:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs MC 7:00pm SHS Boys Basketball v Winthrop 9:00pm 10:00pm Saturday, January 6 12:00am 2:00am 4:00am

9:00am

11:00am

1:00pm

3:00pm

4:15pm

5:00pm

ESCS Winter Concert

SHS Winter Concert

SHS Boys Basketball vs Revere

Our Schools, Our City - Music of SPS

Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert SHS Boys Basketball v Winthrop SHS Boys Basketball v Winthrop SHS Boys Basketball vs MC **Public Domain Theater** SHS Boys Basketball v Winthrop SHS Boys Basketball vs MC SHS Boys Basketball vs Arlington SHS Hockey vs Matignon All-City Middle School Winter Concert SHS Boys Basketball v Winthrop

SHS Boys Basketball vs MC 9:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Arlington SHS Hockey vs Matignon 11:00pm Sunday, January 7 12:05am 1:30am

SHS Girls Basketball vs Charlestown **Public Domain Theater SHS Winter Concert** El Sistema Winter Concert SHS Girls Basketball v Lawrence SHS Boys Basketball v Winthrop SHS Girls Basketball vs Charlestown SHS Winter Concert El Sistema Winter Concert SHS Girls Basketball v Lawrence SHS Girls Basketball vs Lynn C. SHS Girls Basketball vs Charlestown

Monday, January 8 1:00am 9:00am

SHS Boys Basketball vs MC **ESCS Winter Concert** Our Schools, Our City - Music of SPS SHS Winter Concert SHS Boys Basketball v Winthrop SHS Boys Basketball vs Arlington

SHS Girls Basketball vs Hampshire 5:00pm 7:00pm **FSCS Winter Concert** Our Schools, Our City - Music of SPS 8:00pm 9:00pm SHS Winter Concert 11:00pm SHS Boys Basketball v Winthrop

Tuesday, January 9 1:00am

3:00am

6:00am

9:00am

1:00pm

3:00pm

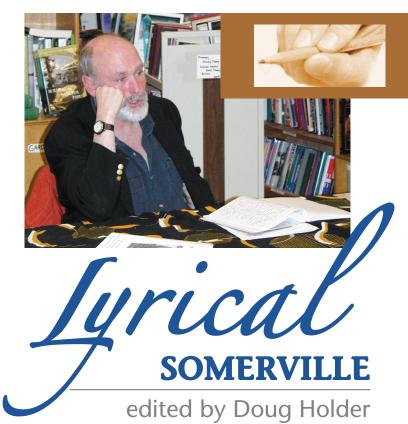
5:00pm

7:00pm

SHS Boys Basketball vs Arlington SHS Girls Basketball vs Hampshire Public Domain Theater All-City Middle School Winter Concert 10:00am **ESCS Winter Concert** 11:00am Winter Hill Community School Concert 12:00pm **Brown School Winter Concert** SHS Boys Basketball v Winthrop SHS Girls Basketball vs Charlestown SHS Girls Basketball vs Hampshire SHS Girls Basketball v Danvers SHS Girls Basketball v Danvers

10:00pm Wednesday, January 10

12:00am SHS Girls Basketball v Danvers SHS Boys Basketball v Winthrop 2:00am



Syed Zaman is a graduate of Sofia University and the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts. He writes, "I currently work in academia at Harvard University. I enjoy exploring creativity through contemplative photography, drawing, wordplay, and working as a creativity coach. While in constant engagement with writ-



ing, I feel words carrying me forward to places where I am able to articulate to myself that which helps refine a consciousness that is capable of registering the most minute changes in sensation and feeling through a sense of self with an enlarged sense of creative identity."

Same

The pain of loss

The love that was felt

The memories that are left—

It is all the same.

The choices made to numb

The pain—the questions—

What more could I have done?

What else should I have said?

They, too, are all the same—

As if stopping the heart from being heard.

To breathe long and slow

To wipe away those salty tears

To lose all sense of what to say

To feel lost in every conceivable way

It is still

The same.

Still breathing

As visions fade—

As memories erode-

As those bittersweet scents evaporate

To release love into the vicinity of its proximity

Noticing how things that were once important suddenly

Become not so.

How foreign it feels.

How strange it becomes

As if patches of blue amongst gray.

It is almost always the same.

— Syed Zaman

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

FF THE SHEL

by Doug Holder

5AM - Dunkin' Donuts -Somerville



At 62 it is a lot harder to get up for the class that I teach at Endicott College on the North Shore especially in the winter. I like to do a lot of my prep at the office - so I bite the bullet - and get ready at 4 a.m. I meet the morning demands of my cat - Ketz - brush my crowned teeth, take a brush to the remains of my hair - and I am out the door.

I am a man of ritual - my day starts at the Big D Tuesday and Thursday mornings - for almost a decade now - at the Dunkin' Donuts on Somerville Ave., adjacent to Central Street. Often I am the first one there. My car is exhaling steam and so am I, often the moon is a vivid white, and the configuration of clouds and sky - a new breathtaking work of art. Before it opens I hear the last minutes of talk radio with Bradley J on WBZ - all those insomniacs trying to fill their void, the voices from the city and the hinterlands - a Greek Chorus to the opening act of my day. In my own imagination I have become an iconic figure there. If you can see my dark silhouette in the window, the brim of my baseball cap pointed to my java and my multi-grained bagel, then you know they are open for business. I must look like a figure from an Edward Hooper painting - in this early morning desolation.

There is a mini-subculture here that I am part of. The people at this time are bone-tired. For the most part they are not the hipsters and young professionals that populate Union Square Donuts. The donuts and bagels are good but they ain't "artisanal." The customers are not strangers to the elements, they have weathered a lot, and have that did that-done that sensibility displayed on their faces.

We all usually nod to each other, sometimes say hello - but we don't linger - we are tired and in a rush. The manager is a good ol' girl who drives in from New Hampshire, and her cheerfulness is a much needed bitch-slap to the gloom of the wee hours. There is an industrious Asian woman behind the counter, looking like a Keystone Cop as she briskly walks back and forth to help things run smoothly. There is a Hispanic gentleman, maybe a little older than me, that I have seen for years. We always respectively nod and smile at each other - and exchange the usual early morning cliches. He drinks his coffee and smokes his cigarette outside. He takes puffs and sips as he looks to the sky - it almost seems like he is having a spiritual experience. There are two women who arrive punctually at the same time. They seem to order coffee for their work crew. They are real Somerville types - not transplants - but I could be wrong. They croon the order with a rapid fire cadence - a sort of song for our morning. They cackle with deep Boston accents with the manager, laughing at life - bemoaning what's worth bemoaning.

This is the Twilight Zone limbo after the dreams and nightmares of the night, and before the mad rush of the day. Our cars leave the parking lot high beams leading us to our journey into the light.

Students Showcase Sounds of the Season at Winter Concerts

Whether or not you were able to attend one of the many school winter concerts this December, you can enjoy the beautiful sounds of the season as often as you like. Visit Somerville Schools Vimeo site at https://vimeo.com/svilleschools/ videos to catch a concert or two. A few more school winter concerts are coming up in January. Visit their website calendar of events for dates and locations: www.somerville.k12. ma.us/events/calendar.







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