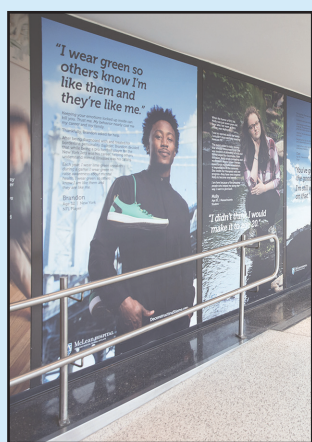


Inside:



The art of mental health awareness
page 5



Another Grand Union Flag raising
pages 12-13



A great year in sports
page 14

2016: The year in review



By The Times Staff

While decried by many as an *annus horribilis*, 2016 nonetheless was a remarkable year in terms of change and unexpected surprises.

The national election, and the wildly contentious campaign season preceding it, held the attention of the masses in check. Meantime, plenty of noteworthy events took place right here in our own environs.

Following is a summary of the most outstanding moments and occurrence in Somerville in 2016:

The passage of institutions

Two notable mainstays of Somerville pop culture and gastronomic preeminence closed their doors for good last year.

Johnny D's Uptown Restaurant and Music Club announced that they were calling it quits, much to the shock and dismay of their many loyal customers, and the final day of operations of the club served as a cause for celebration to end all celebrations.

Continued on page 17

Say 'hello' to Fat Hen Restaurant

By Jessica Kenney

Somerville is home to many popular restaurants and cafés, but it is the relatively new restaurant, Fat Hen, that is really starting to snag people's attention.

Fat Hen is a cozy, Italian dining spot that serves a variety of Italy's staple meals, from Tortellini Brodo to Sformato, complimented by a variety of different wines. But it isn't just the menu that makes this restaurant intriguing; its unique location is also drawing in guests.

Many residents of Somerville and surrounding cities are familiar with the restaurant La Brasa, a bar and grill whose meals are inspired by locales from around the globe. It is known for its wood-fire dishes and rustic bar.

Daniel Bojorquez is the chef at La Brasa, and in 2015 he decided that the restaurant's space was not being used to its full potential. There was a café space located inside the restaurant, but he felt it could be transformed into something even better. That is why he was pleased when Michael Bergin, a fellow chef and old roommate, called him with

Continued on page 4



The Fat Hen 'wing' at La Brasa on Broadway stands on its own, bringing an eclectic mix of Italian cuisine to fine dining aficionados in Somerville.
— Photo by Rachel Leah Blumenthal

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Join the **Somerville Chamber of Commerce** for their monthly “**After Hours**” this **Thursday, January 5 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.** at the **Foundry on Elm in Davis Square**. Hosted by **Chamber Business After Hours Chair Dana Iacopucci of Cubby Oil & Energy**. Bring your business card, this is a great networking meeting for businesses here in the city. RSVP with name(s) and affiliation(s) for you and your guest(s) to smackey@somervillechamber.org.

Last week we were on vacation and we hope all had a great holiday and a safe and happy New Year. We wish all our readers both in print and online a special thank you for making us the number one paper here in Somerville. By the way, one week in December we had 15K hits on our website and then the following week we had 18 thousand. We’re now averaging over 50K a month, with 14K print readers. We will be putting out some more boxes and increasing the number of places where you can find our paper. If you have a new location suggestion let us know. Because of demand, we have also started to add a few Medford locations for our paper. They love us over there, as they do here in Somerville. Thank you to all that make it possible.

Political rumors are starting early this year. We hear that the recent pay raise for the Board of Alderman to just over \$40K has attracted the eye of a few here in the city. This week will start off with the Alderman at Large race. We hear that **Sean Fitzgerald** is in (he narrowly lost two years ago), and we also hear that former Ward 2 Alderman **Kevin Tarpley**, who has moved back to the city, has decided he will enter the Alderman at Large race. **Stephanie Hirsch**, a local lady who is affiliated with the administration and who we hear will have the help of **Mayor Joe**, is also interested. Hirsch is a former City of Somerville department head. One other name we asked directly was **Courtney O’Keefe**, who is thinking about it but has decided to sit out this year. However, she is seriously considering it in two years. We expect some more names to come up, in the At Large race. It’s just the beginning of the year. We will let you know what we hear from our various *Continued on page 11*

The Somerville Times

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Publisher – Somerset Valley Publishing Inc.
Editor – Jim Clark
Assignment Editor – Bobbie Toner

Advertising Director – Bobbie Toner
Arts Editor – Doug Holder

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Photographer: Claudia Ferro

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TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: *A one-eyed view of how we got here*

Oliver Seppo says:
Good analysis.
<https://youtu.be/RdGDCQjGjVc>

Bart Hearn says:
Eh – I usually agree with the writer, but this is a steamy load. Same echo chamber punditry that gets most everything wrong. I suppose fake news and commentary has become normalized. All the verbiage aside, boil it down the Dems lost because not enough of them bothered to go out and vote. That simple. All the rest is mental...self-abuse.
Elitists? You think the Reps are suddenly the champions of the working class and the downtrodden? Snap out of it. These guys are just out for themselves 100% and most Trump “supporters” will be calling for his head on a pike once they finally come to – and even the dumbest and meanest among them will not fail to realize how badly they got burned. Sadly, many will never admit it. Maybe we need to go through a Trump to get to a Sanders. Unfortunately, the journey will be a painful one.

LindaS says:
“The Dems lost because not enough of them bothered to go out and vote”??
Then can someone explain to me how Hillary Clinton actually won the popular vote by over 2 million?? That means that over 2 million more people actually voted for her over Donald Trump. It makes me sick now when I hear that we should go out and vote because our votes matter. They only matter if the electoral college decides they do.

JAR says:
Hillary won the popular vote largely because she annihilated Trump in places like New York, California and Massachusetts. Unfortunately for her (and the Democrats) the Electoral College was designed to offset the simple numerical dynamic and advantage that the more populous states hold—and held.
I knew there were stormy waters ahead for her after the Superdelegate declaration in New Hampshire by the DNC chairperson Debbie Whatshername Shultz.
When I learned that Hillary had not even visited Wisconsin since last April, I thought back—as remote as this may sound—to a documentary I’d seen many years ago about NAFTA and the closure of Briggs and Stratton’s manufactory in Milwaukee and its relocation to Mexico. One of the workers they interviewed, who happened to be a person of color, was earning \$15/hr. at the time with benefits and had to find work in the service sector working two jobs with nowhere near the benefits. I remembered Bill Clinton’s stalwart support of NAFTA and thought of how, on its surface, that would be perceived as a bad thing for manufacturing workers and how Wisconsin seemed like a ripe plum for the picking to any Republican. It took 20 years for that to come to pass, but it finally happened. Same with Michigan and Pennsylvania. Bernie Sanders articulated the degree of corporatist influence that had infiltrated the Democratic Party and was subsequently castigated for it by the Democratic Party’s leadership. And thus, the die was cast. I don’t know much about this Trump guy, but if the Democratic Party doesn’t do some real serious surgery on its own platform, it would not surprise me to see the Republicans gain a supermajority in the Senate in 2018. The funny thing is, the more the Democrats try to discredit Trump, the more it seems they end up discrediting themselves. Just my opinions of course.

Matt says:
Jar, you’re right, it’s important to remember that the US is not a democracy and some votes are far more important than others.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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John Connolly

SCW Voices: Q&A with Katie Wallace

By Kristen Strezo,
Somerville Commission
for Women

I would love for readers to meet the dedicated members of the Somerville Commission for Women. Our longtime member, Katie Wallace, is an excellent place to start.

Wallace, who has lived in Somerville for 24 years, joined the commission in 1998. I took a moment to ask Wallace about her political and personal work here in Somerville and how it looks like moving forward.

Kristen Strezo: What attracted you to become involved in local politics?

Katie Wallace: I've been interested in politics since I was a young girl. My mother was involved in The League of Women Voters in Stoneham where I grew up and also served on the School Committee. The nightly news was necessary viewing and we got multiple newspapers delivered to our house. Politics and current events were always a topic at the dinner table. I was writing questions for candidates at candidate forums since I was about 12. After I moved to Somerville, it took me a couple of years to settle in but by 1998 I was volunteering for campaigns and by 2002 I was all-in.

KS: What advice would you give to Somerville residents looking to become more involved in their communities?

KW: Somerville is full of peo-

ple who want to participate and there are so many opportunities. Whatever issue you are interested in, you can find a community group working actively on that issue. You can serve in a more official way by joining a City of Somerville Commission or a Task Force. Once you have found your community and discover how much you have to offer, consider running for public office or supporting others who do so. Local government affects your daily life from the pothole on your street to the city budget.

KS: In your opinion, how can we get more women get involved in local politics?

KW: Running for local office is a big commitment, especially if you have a full time job and are responsible for childcare. When you run you have to be out talking to voters almost every night and raising the money you need to print campaign literature in your free time. Once elected you have the regular meeting, sub-committee meetings and other public events and it takes up a lot of time.

Women need encouragement to run. To support them we should continually ask them to run and tell them why they would be great at the job. If needed, friends could offer free childcare to cover times when they are campaigning and if elected times when they are in meetings. Women candidates sometimes have a tendency to apologize for taking up the



Katie Wallace hard at work.

time of constituents. We need to encourage them to keep their voices strong and confident, they have a lot to offer.

If someone is thinking of running I highly recommend they participate in a Mass Alliance Campaign Training workshop or join the EMERGE program. They will learn the tools they need to be successful and be confident in their choices.

KS: According to the National Women's Political Caucus, women are 52 percent of the population, yet make up 26 percent of Massachusetts' State Legislature. In your opinion, why do you think women are so underrepresented in politics?

KW: Both women and people of color are under-represented at the State House. We still have never had a female governor elected. Elizabeth Warren is our first female US Senator. While

many white male representatives are excellent allies, when seats open up we should actively recruit women and people of color to run and perhaps the group of potential candidates should take a hard look at the field and consider supporting a well qualified and innovative minority candidate.

KS: What makes the SCW special to you?

KW: SCW brings together women from our diverse city to build a community to raise awareness and advocate for women's issues, needs, and rights. Commissioners develop and collaborate on their own projects with the support of the Commission.

KS: What is your favorite Somerville landmark?

KW: I love our public art, Shepard Fairey murals, community created murals and electri-

cal switch boxes.

KS: What is your favorite Somerville holiday or Christmastime memory?

KW: I love to show off Somerville to guests on the Illumination Tour.



Kristen Strezo is a Commissioner on the City of Somerville's Commission for Women; however, the views and opinions expressed in this article are entirely her own and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of the City of Somerville.

— Photo by Maja de Silva

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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

She gave herself a payday

Police officers were dispatched to Citizens Bank in Union Square last Friday on reports of a woman attempting to cash a fraudulent check.

Upon arrival, the officers met by the bank manager who informed them that a female identified as Toniann Roxton came into the bank to cash a check from a company named Reservoir Wine and Spirits, located in Brighton.

The bank manager reportedly also told the officers that Reservoir Wine and Spirits only issues checks to other companies that make deliveries to the store.

Additionally, it was determined that Roxton did not have

an account with Citizens Bank and that she just wanted to cash the check, written out for the amount of \$986.41.

Roxton was asked her to explain her side of the story and she reportedly stated that she had found the job on Craigslist, and worked for the company for 2 to 3 weeks.

When asked who she got the check from, she reportedly told police, "A guy named Adam."

According to reports, when asked how many hours she worked, Roxton stated over 40, but she could not give an exact number. She was then asked what her hourly rate is, to which she answered, "Like \$13.50"

When asked what her hours at the store were, she reported said they were from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

When asked who signed the check, Roxton reportedly said that she herself did, but the signature she wrote and the signature on her driver's license did not match.

Roxton was then asked if she could describe her job title at the company named on the check. At first, she reportedly stated that she does construction work. When asked again, she said that she washes dishes for them.

The officers also asked if Roxton could describe the building she works at and,

according to reports, she said that it was a brick building, however when police looked up the company it turned out to be a concrete building.

The officers then contacted Reservoir Wine and Spirits by telephone. Police noted that the number is on the check that Roxton was attempting to cash.

The store manager reportedly said that he did not have an employee named Toniann Roxton, and further stated that he has been working in the store for nine years.

The store manager was then asked how many hours a part time employee put in and he said 10-25 hours a week. When

asked what the hourly rate at the store was, he said \$10-\$11 an hour. When asked what hours are the shifts, the manager stated the hours employees work is 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

When asked if there was a dishwasher position in the store, the store manager reportedly told the officers, "No, this is a liquor store." He also stated that all employees received direct deposit and that it is impossible for an employee to have a live check.

Roxton was subsequently placed under arrest and charged with forgery of check and utter false check.

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Tania Silva, December 27, 1:34 a.m., arrested at Memorial Rd. on warrant charges of disorderly conduct, assault and battery, and assault.

Joseph Day, of 36 Claremont St., December 27, 11:27 a.m., arrested at Cedar St. on a warrant charge of refusal to provide DNA database sample.

Robert Yandle, of 22 Mt. Pleasant St., December 27, 5:24 p.m., arrested at Broadway on warrant charges of marked lanes violation, motor vehicle operator refusal to identify self, operation of a

motor vehicle with a suspended license, larceny over \$250, distribution of a class A drug, distribution of a class B drug, and no inspection sticker.

Jeremy Lurie, of 79R Oakland St., Malden, December 28, 1:58 p.m., arrested at Mystic Ave. on a charge of shoplifting over \$100 by concealing merchandise.

Chris Reyes, of 240 Albany St., Cambridge, December 28, 5:07 p.m., arrested at Broadway on warrant charges of assault and battery and abuse prevention order violation.

Hung Nguyen, of 915

Dorchester Ave., Boston, December 29, 5:31 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on a warrant charge of possession of a class B drug.

Toniann Roxton, of 85 Rowe St., Boston, December 30, 12:26 p.m., arrested at Union Sq. on charges of forgery of check and utter false check.

Victor Romero, of 375 Boston St., Lynn, December 31, 6:40 p.m., arrested at Mystic Ave. on charges of violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon, assault and battery on a police officer, resisting arrest, and furnishing

a false name or Social Security number, and on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, miscellaneous equipment violation, marked lanes violation, assault and battery on a police officer, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, resisting arrest, operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, destruction of property over \$250, and paying for sexual conduct.

Pierre Luxama, of 25 Cypress Rd., Medford, December 31, 8:21 p.m., arrested at

Washington St. on a charge of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Manuel Mendez, of 30A Summer St., December 31, 10:30 p.m., arrested at Broadway on a charge of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor second offense.

Marcos Da Costa, of 322 Main St., Everett, January 1, 9:48 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on a charge of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and on warrant charges of failure to stop or yield and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

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Say 'hello' to Fat Hen Restaurant

CONT. FROM PG 1

plans to move back to Boston from New York City.

The friends discussed turning the café space into Fat Hen. "It really complements La Brasa, which is very relaxed, a neighborhood sort of concept. When it comes to Fat Hen, the idea behind it is to do something more polished, a little more sophisticated," Bojorquez explained when Fat Hen was first opening. "We're under the same roof, but it has its own vibe and character."

The differences in each spot are what make them both

popular, and although different, they still manage to stay connected. For example, Fat Hen is not equipped with its own bar, but drinks are passed through a small window that divides the restaurant from its neighbor, La Brasa.

Its name is unique as well. Fat Hen is also the title of La Brasa's LLC, or Limited Liability Company, and was introduced by Frank McClelland, who was a mentor to both Bergin and Bojorquez. McClelland suggested the name because he and Bojorquez were "like chickens run-

ning around" when working on McClelland's farm.

The combination of the cuisine, the location, and the unique name keep drawing people in. Reviews for Fat Hen have been very positive since its opening in August. One reviewer wrote on zagat.com, "Chef Michael Bergin's culinary finesse, cultivated at NYC spots like Del Posto, shines through at this intimate, homey Italian in Somerville, serving elegant but unfussy bowls of housemade pastas and braised meats, plus contemporary yet still-hearty entrees."



Another customer said that it has to be "one of the best dinner bargains in Boston."

Fat Hen is located at 126 Broadway in Somerville. You

can visit their website (www.fathenboston.com) to view their full menu and make reservations if you wish to check out this cozy and appetizing restaurant.

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Somerville artist featured in powerful mental health awareness campaign

By Rebecca Danvers

Somerville artist Sean Shinnock is participating in a new mental health awareness and anti-stigma campaign expected to reach several million people.

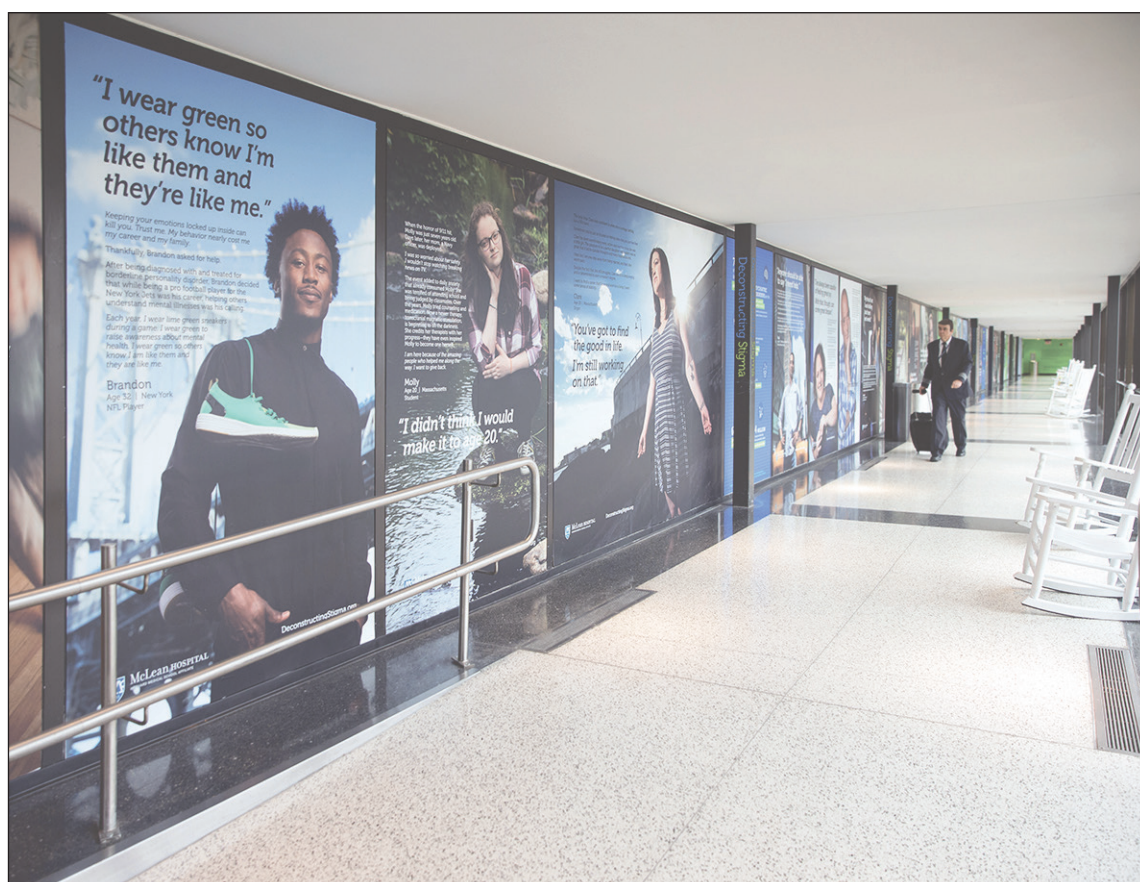
He, along with musicians and librarians, fashion designers and fitness instructors, actors, athletes and artists, moms, dads, sisters and brothers – all of whom volunteered for the campaign and all of whom have all been affected by mental illness and its stigma – are brought together in a beautiful and compelling new photographic exhibit that debuted Friday, December 9 at Logan International Airport in Boston.

The 235-foot gallery is located between Terminals B and C, and plans are already underway to install similar exhibits at other airports. For those who won't be traveling through Boston in the near future, the participants' photos and stories can be seen on the campaign's website, deconstructingstigma.org.

The exhibit is part of a national public awareness campaign sponsored by McLean Hospital, in collaboration with Logan Airport and several mental health advocacy groups, with the goal of changing the way mental illness is perceived. Deconstructing Stigma: A Change in Thought Can Change a Life features dramatic, larger-than-life photographs of courageous people who have shared their stories with the hope of changing how people with psychiatric illness are viewed.

"Shame and stigma are still far too prevalent when it comes to psychiatric disease and can contribute to the fear and isolation many people feel. Deconstructing Stigma is an unprecedented effort to spark conversation about behavioral and mental health," said Scott L. Rauch, president and psychiatrist in chief of McLean Hospital.

Shinnock, 36, has lived with obsessive-compulsive disorder since his teens and was the first person to volunteer for



The *Deconstructing Stigma: A Change in Thought Can Change a Life* photographic exhibit is currently on display at Logan Airport, located between Terminals B and C.

the campaign.

He had his first panic attack at age 13. His mom was losing her battle with cancer, and at school, he was picked on and his grades were falling.

In his mind, having any negative thought while performing a basic task meant a member of his family would be harmed or he would harm them. Forcing his head to be free of anything bad meant an hour of flipping a light switch on and off before he could leave a room, or so many attempts at putting his pants on that his shins suffered permanent scars. As Shinnock grew into his 20s, he would mask his obsessive worries with denial and avoidance by way of binge drinking.

"I decided I would escape on the weekends with my friends, and during the week, I wasn't going to live, I was just going to exist," he explained.

His OCD eventually became so advanced that doctors referred him to an intensive three-month residential program. It was a monumental success.

Today, Shinnock is an accomplished artist and working on ways to help those with mental health disorders express their feelings through art.

Also lending his voice to the campaign – literally – is Darryl "DMC" McDaniels, the founding member of the legendary hip-hop group Run-DMC. Although he seemed to have everything a person could want, what the public couldn't see was that depression and alcohol abuse were destroying his spirit and his body.

"I want to help others who struggle with mental illness know that they are not alone"

"I had everything – I was the King of Rock – we were touring, making money, and everyone knew who we were. But I didn't feel right and not a day passed that I didn't think about suicide," Darryl said.

Today, Darryl, 52, is back in the recording studio, has a best-selling book about his experience with mental illness, and has become a vocal mental health advocate.

Blending celebrities, such as DMC and Howie Mandel, with everyday people is a key component to the campaign because

mental illness does not affect only one demographic or group. In fact, one in five Americans will be diagnosed with a mental illness this year.

Despite the concerns about being labeled and risking further stigma, the volunteers in this project are sharing their stories of hope and resilience so that the public can have an opportunity to "walk in their shoes" and perhaps step away with a different view of what it's like to have a mental illness.

"Each person associated with this project is determined to make a difference in the lives of other people affected by mental illness," said Adriana Bobinchock, senior director of Public Affairs and Communications for McLean, whose team is spearheading the campaign. "We feel we've created a campaign that is meaningful and impactful, and one that has the potential to change someone's life." Shinnock echoed that sentiment. "I want to help others who struggle with mental illness know that they are not alone," said Shinnock. "I still struggle some days, but I am confident enough, hopeful enough, inspired enough, and motivated enough to be a part of this life."

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Beacon Hill Roll Call



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



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



Sen. Patricia Jehlen
DISTRICT REPRESENTED: Second Middlesex. - Consisting of the cities of Cambridge, wards 9 to 11, inclusive, Medford and Somerville, and the town of Winchester, precincts 4 to 7, inclusive, in the county of Middlesex.

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

This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* presents Part 2 of a report highlighting several instances in which bills were

approved, mostly unanimously, by the Senate but have been tied up in the House Ways and Means Committee or another committee for months. That committee is chaired by Rep. Brian Dempsey (D-Haverhill).

The 2016 session ends on January 3, 2017. Any bills that are not approved by that time by both branches and sent to Gov. Charlie Baker are dead but can be refiled for the 2017-2018 session.

Under House rules, any individual representative can move to discharge most bills from the Ways and Means Committee. There is a 7-day waiting period prior to the House considering the motion to discharge. The discharge motion must receive a majority vote of the members present. If the measure is discharged from the committee, the committee has four days within which to report the measure for placement on the House’s agenda for action.

A bill may also be discharged from the Ways and Means Committee by any representative by filing a petition signed by a majority of the House. The bill would then be discharged seven days later and go onto the House agenda for the next session.

A legislative staffer who spoke on the condition of anonymity told *Beacon Hill Roll Call* that dozens of bills die in committee every time the Legislature’s two-year session ends. “It’s an easier way of killing a bill, particularly a bill that might get approved by the full House and Senate if it actually gets to the floor for debate,” said the staffer. “And the rules allowing legislators to try to discharge a bill from a committee are a joke. No one ever does that because it’s considered a fool’s errand that will fail and is a slap in the face to the powerful committee chair and House leadership.”

Colleen McGonagle, the spokesperson for Ways and Means chairman Dempsey, when asked why these bills were tied up in committee responded, “The bills are under review in House Ways and Means.”

Here are seven bills that were approved by the Senate and are now stuck in the House Ways and Means committee or another committee.

LOBSTERS (S 469)
On January 28, 2016, the Senate 36-0, approved a bill that would eliminate some of the age-old restrictions on the processing and sale of lobster in Massachusetts. Currently, the state allows only the sale of live, cooked and canned lobster. The bill would permit the processing of unfrozen lobsters, the importation of unfrozen shell-on lobster parts and tails and the retail of previously frozen raw in-shell tails.

Supporters said the bill would allow more lobsters currently harvested and purchased here to be prepared for market in the Bay State rather than in Canada where the processing is currently done. They argued this will help the economy, create jobs and help lobstermen, processors, local restaurants and food stores.

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

CHANGE LANGUAGE (S 2167)
On March 3, the Senate 36-0, approved a bill changing language in state laws including replacing “mentally retarded” with “individuals with a developmental disability” and “handicapped” with “disability.”

Supporters said it is time to remove these outdated phrases from state law. They argued the words stigmatize people and said these changes would have a positive impact on many people’s lives.

(“Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

HIRING PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY (S 2166)
On March 3, 2016, the Senate 36-0, approved a bill requiring the state’s Supplier Diversity Office to develop standards to identify and recruit qualified applicants with disabilities. The proposal also requires all state employees involved in hiring decisions to be trained and educated about the details of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Supporters said the unemployment rate for disabled persons is 80 percent. They noted the state should add disabled persons to its current laws that help veterans and minority and women-owned businesses.

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

PROHIBIT UNSOLICITED LOANS (S 2194)
On March 24, 2016, the Senate 37-0, approved a bill that would prohibit banks from issuing unsolicited loans, often in the form of a check, through the mail, unless the recipient is already a customer of the bank. And even those customers would have ten days to rescind the loan and pay the bank back the entire amount, without any interest or fees.

Another provision prohibits the person to whom the loan is sent from being held liable for any debt incurred by the unauthorized use of the loan by someone else. The measure also imposes fines of up to five years in prison and a \$25,000 fine on any bank or person who violates this law.

Supporters said these loans prey upon unsuspecting victims including the sick and elderly. They noted the recipient does not understand all the fine print and suddenly is paying enormous interest rates and fees.

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

RAISE TOBACCO PURCHASE AGE FROM 18 TO 21 (S 2269)
On April 28, 2016, the Senate 32-2, approved a bill that would raise the state’s tobacco purchasing age from 18 to 21 effective July 1, 2017. Other provisions ban pharmacies and health care institutions from selling any tobacco products; prohibit sales of e-cigarettes to minors; and ban the use of electronic cigarettes in all places where smoking is currently banned. Hawaii is the only state that has raised the age to 21.

Supporters said the bill will save lives and reduce health care costs. They argued that many 18-year-olds are in high school and are a major source of providing tobacco products to younger high schoolers and middle schoolers.

Opponents said this is another example of state

Beacon Hill Roll Call

continued

government overstepping its bounds and trying to regulate behavior. They argued if you're 18 you can join the military, vote and serve on a jury and should not be banned from purchasing a legal product.

(A "Yes" vote is for the bill. A "No" vote is against the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen

Yes

STATE RECYCLING (S 2310)
On June 9, 2016, the Senate 38-0, approved a bill that would require state agencies and courts to implement recycling programs by 2018. Mandatory recycling would include lead batteries, metal containers, glass containers, polymer plastics, recyclable paper, carpets, fluorescent lamps, cathode ray tubes and construction and demolition material.

Agencies and courts with more than 50 employees would be required to submit an annual report to the secretary of energy and environmental affairs detailing their actions.

Supporters said this was a major step forward in the ongoing recycling campaign to ensure the state complies with solid waste reduction plans.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen

Yes

PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR SENIORS

(S 1494)
On June 16, 2016, the Senate 35-0, approved a bill that would raise from \$55,000 to \$80,000 the maximum annual income a senior over 65 can earn and still be eligible for a property tax deferral. The local community decides whether to allow a tax deferral in the first place.

Communities can charge up to 8 percent interest on the amount deferred. The amount of the deferral plus interest must be paid when the senior moves or dies.

Amendment supporters said this will reduce expenses for seniors and allow more of them to remain in their homes. This bill was given initial approval by the House but has been tied up in the Bills in Third Reading Committee since July.

A "Yes" vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen

Yes

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

vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of 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 26-30, the House met for a total of nine hours and 73 minutes while the Senate met for a total of nine hours and 39 minutes.

Mon. December 26

No House session

No Senate session

Tues. December 27

House 11:04 a.m. to 2:55 p.m.

Senate 11:10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Wed. December 28

House 11:02 a.m. to 1:11 p.m.

Senate 11:04 a.m. to 1:13 p.m.

Thurs. December 29

House 11:05 a.m. to 3:18 p.m.

Senate 11:09 a.m. to 2:49 p.m.

Fri. December 30

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
22 Billingham Street	10 room, 3 bed, 1f 1h bath Victorian	56	\$1,075,000	\$1,040,000
173 Willow Ave	8 room, 4 bed, 3f 0h bath Victorian	13	\$1,325,000	\$1,450,000
20 Elston St	7 room, 4 bed, 3f 1h bath Other (See Remarks)	26	\$1,399,000	\$1,389,000
133 Powder House Boulevard	10 room, 4 bed, 3f 2h bath Colonial	8	\$1,400,000	\$1,450,000

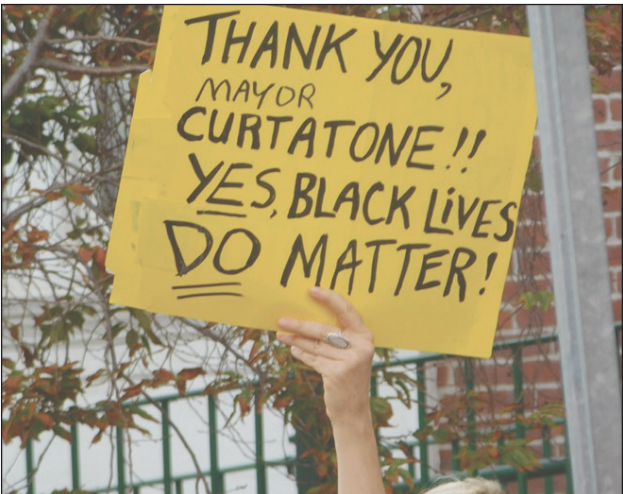
Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:

Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
30-32 Charnwood Road U:1	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath 2/3 Family	10	\$673,900	\$705,000
65 Oak Street U:2	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	19	\$675,000	\$681,000
21 Carlton U:1	4 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	29	\$695,000	\$695,000
7 Hodgdon Place U:N/A	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath Townhouse	186	\$698,000	\$675,000
197 Washington Street U:405	3 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	189	\$699,000	\$690,000
29 Oak St U:D	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Rowhouse	24	\$699,000	\$695,000
23 Mason St U:2	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath 2/3 Family	19	\$769,000	\$820,000
135 Willow Avenue U:9	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Low-Rise	58	\$769,000	\$769,000
135 Willow St U:7	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Garden	33	\$799,900	\$795,000
57 Pitman Street U:4A	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	31	\$899,900	\$875,000
11 Dresden Cir U:1	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	89	\$939,900	\$920,000
315 Highland Avenue U:101	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	90	\$1,295,000	\$1,295,000
223 Morrison Avenue U:223	8 room, 4 bed, 3f 1h bath Attached	17	\$1,345,000	\$1,375,000
315 Highland Avenue U:203	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	44	\$1,395,000	\$1,395,000

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

Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
77 Walnut St	3 unit, 12 total room, 4 total bedroom 3 Family	16	\$869,000	\$900,000
18 Sycamore Street	2 unit, 12 total room, 5 total bedroom 2 Family	78	\$875,000	\$835,000
19 Russell Rd	2 unit, 11 total room, 4 total bedroom 2 Family	78	\$899,900	\$867,500
17 Prospect Hill Ave	2 unit, 10 total room, 5 total bedroom 2 Family	32	\$955,000	\$950,000
24-26-28 Marion St.	3 unit, 11 total room, 5 total bedroom 3 Family	28	\$979,900	\$1,053,000
18 Munroe St	2 unit, 13 total room, 6 total bedroom 2 Family	17	\$1,100,000	\$1,035,000

2016: The year in pictures



Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



White Bean & Kale Bruschetta

There are many variations of bruschetta, but this, in my opinion, is a hearty and delicious combination that will make you feel guilt free eating this delicious snack. It can also be served as a pre dinner appetizer or as a side to go with a steaming bowl of soup.

- 1 Ciabatta Loaf
- 1 Bunch Lacinato (Tuscan) Kale, rinsed, stem removed and chopped
- 4 Tablespoons Extra Virgin Olive Oil, plus extra for drizzling
- 1/4 Teaspoon Red Pepper Flakes
- 1 Rosemary Stem
- 3 Garlic Cloves Sliced, plus 1 Whole
- 1 Can Cannellini Beans, drained and rinsed
- Salt to taste
- Parmesan Cheese, 6 Tablespoons grated

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Slice

the ciabatta into 6 slices about 3/4" in thickness each, cutting from the center of the loaf. Reserve the leftover bread for another use, like homemade breadcrumbs or croutons.

Place the bread slices on a lined baking sheet using parchment or foil for easy cleanup. Place the sliced bread into the oven and toast on the first side for 6 minutes.

Flip the bread and toast it for another 6 minutes. At this point you don't want to over toast the bread. It should still be pale in color and slightly dried out. If it is over toasted, the bread will be too hard and break apart when you bite into it.

Once the bread comes out of the oven, rub the whole clove of garlic on all 6 pieces of the bread. In a 12" skillet, add 4 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil over medium heat.

Heat for 1 minute, then add the pepper flakes, the sliced garlic and rosemary stem. Lower the heat to medium low and let the flavors infuse into the olive oil for about



4 minutes, or until the garlic is slightly browned.

Add the beans, kale and a healthy pinch of salt and cook until the kale is wilted but tender, about 7 minutes. Remove the rosemary stem and discard.

Evenly distribute the mixture onto the bread slices, add the grat-

ed cheese over each slice. Place back into the oven for another 5 minutes. Once done, remove from oven, drizzle with a fruity olive oil, cut in half and serve.

Serves 4-6 people.

Visit Dorothy's website at <http://ddimarzo2002.wix.com/thymethief>.

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COA’s 2017 tax tips for seniors

By Charles Lane

The City of Somerville’s Council on Aging has provided a number of important tax tips for seniors, which we present here:

Taxpayers should be aware of a significant change to the Tax Deferral, Clause 41A program put forth by the Mayor and approved by the Board of Aldermen in FY 2016. Clause 41A allows those 65 and older to defer up to 100% of their property taxes until such time that the property is sold or upon the death of the applicant. Prior to FY 2016, deferred taxes were assessed an annual interest charge of 8% and an applicant’s income could not exceed \$40,000. With the change enacted by the City, the interest rate has been lowered to 4% per year and income limit has been increased to the maximum allowed at \$56,000.

Additional eligibility requirements include ownership and occupancy in the Somerville property for 5 years and age 65 by the July 1 previous to the start of the new fiscal year. Applications must be filed annually by no later than 3 months after the issuance of the actual bill. Deadline for filing is April 1 unless the first falls on a weekend in which case the deadline is the next business day.

Qualifying for the deferral does not prevent an applicant the ability to qualify for other exemptions such as an elderly (clause 41C or 17D), veteran (clause 22), or other. Applicants should know that the deferral places a lien on the property and requires payment of the deferred taxes upon sale of the home or the passing of the applicant. However, for those with limited income and ability to make annual property tax payments, the program offers a viable alternative for managing property tax payments and finances in general.

Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit:

The senior circuit breaker tax credit is not granted by the Board of Assessors but allows a potential State income tax credit. Eligible taxpayers who own their Somerville homes may claim a credit equal to the amount that their property tax payments including 50% of their water and sewer charges for the year exceed 10% of their total income for that tax year. Income limits and maximum assessed value limits are adjusted each year by the State.

To qualify for calendar 2015, taxpayers had to be 65 on or before December 31, 2015. Income could not exceed \$57,000

for single persons, \$85,000 for married filing jointly, and \$71,000 for head of household. Assessed value (full value excluding residential exemption valuation reduction) could not exceed \$693,000. In calendar 2015, the credit could not exceed \$1,070.

As an example for illustration only, note the following:

Calendar 2015 property taxes plus 50% of water and sewer charges = \$6,000

Calendar 2015 income = \$50,000 X 10% = 5,000

Credit on State income tax = \$1,000

All taxpayers are urged to check with their accountant and/or read State income tax guidelines carefully. Interested seniors can find more information at mass.gov/dor/seniors.

Hardship, Clause 18:

The hardship exemption allows the Board of Assessors to grant up to a full property exemption for taxpayers who by reason of age, infirmity, and poverty, are in the judgment of the Assessors unable to contribute fully to their tax liability. The Board may also grant an exemption based upon a financial hardship resulting from a change to active military status.

Additional requirements include ownership and occupancy of the property as of the July 1 for the fiscal year in question. The applicant must be an individual and not a business entity or corporation. All co-owners must independently qualify for the exemption to be granted. Unlike deferral clauses, there is no lien placed on the property and no pay back of abated taxes. Deadline for filing is April 1 unless the first falls on a weekend or holiday in which case the deadline is the next business day.

Temporary Hardship, Clause 18A:

The temporary hardship exemption gives taxpayers the ability to defer up to 100% of their property taxes. To qualify, taxpayers, regardless of age, must have a demonstrated financial hardship and lack the resources to pay the taxes because of unemployment, illness, change to active military status, or other reason as determined by the Assessors. Applicants may defer all or part of their property taxes for up to three consecutive years.

The deferred taxes plus interest must be paid with the first of up to five annual installments due two years after the last year of the deferral. If the property is sold or upon the passing of the applicant during the deferral period, taxes plus interest must be paid as well.

Additional requirements include ownership and occupancy as of July 1 for the fiscal year in question and Massachusetts residency for the preceding 10 years. Deadline for filing is April 1 unless the first falls on a weekend or holiday in which case the deadline is the next business day.

Applicants should know that the deferral places a lien on the property. However, for those with limited income and ability to make annual property tax payments, the program offers a viable alternative for managing property tax payments and finances in general.

Need assistance with your residential taxes? You have until Monday, April 3, 2017 to file for FY Statutory Exemptions or Deferral. Please call the City’s Assessor’s office at 617-625-6600, ext. 3100 or email at assessing@somerville.gov.



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Thursday January 12

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Saturday January 14

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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.

2016: A reflection on the year's milestones



By Joseph A. Curtatone

Happy New Year! I hope you enjoyed a happy and healthy holiday season surrounded by family and friends. With 2017 now in full swing, it's important to focus on all of our upcoming work and the goals we wish to achieve – and there's plenty to be done that I'll address in next week's Midterm address at City Hall and in next week's op-ed. Today, though, let's pause and look back on 2016 to reflect on all we've accomplished together. This past year was certainly full of ups and downs, but Somerville reached its fair share of milestones. Let's take a look back at just a few of those:

- After a scare in late 2015 when MassDOT and the Fiscal Management Control Board pressed pause on the Green Line Extension project, we took a historic step to enable the project to move forward. The Board of Aldermen voted unanimously in favor of allowing the City to bond for \$50 million to contribute to the project. After fighting for the Green Line for all of 2016 – and decades before it – the project is back on track and

moving forward.

- Thoughtful neighborhood planning is essential to ensuring that our entire community will benefit from all the opportunity the Green Line will provide. The approval of the Union Square Neighborhood Plan in May set into motion a community-driven vision for the next decades of growth in Union Square by establishing a blueprint for Union Square and Boynton Yards, which are key transformational areas within our SomerVision 20-year plan. This is a significant step in our intention to shape our own future according to community goals and needs rather than to let market forces shape it for us. In the coming year we will be working to finalize a plan for community benefits as well.

- Somerville received an award of \$13 million from the Commonwealth's MassWorks Infrastructure Grant program – the largest award in the program's history – to complete upgrades to Union Square's 120-year old water and sewer system. These upgrades will allow us to reduce legacy flooding issues for our homeowners and businesses, improve sewer service to more than 20,000 homes, and accommodate the development our Neighborhood Plan calls for in Union Square.

- The City received additional grants from the Commonwealth to explore new workforce development strategies. The City's

own fabrication laboratory, the FabLab, opened in October to offer 21st century technology and digital fabrication skill training such as 3D printing and laser cutting. With fabrication programming being integrated into Somerville High School's Center for Career and Technical Education classes, the FabLab will provide additional educational opportunity for students – and the community.

- Somerville Public Schools continued their charge upward in 2016. The most recent MCAS test results showed a continued district-wide upward growth trajectory as we continue rank as the top urban school district for student growth. Somerville High maintained its Level 1 status for the fourth straight year, and Brown School became the first SPS school to earn Commendation School status. Additionally, Powderhouse Studios was one of ten Super School winners out of nearly 700 proposals nationwide and will receive \$10 million from the XQ Foundation over the next 5 years to establish innovative new learning opportunities for high school students.

- Funds from the Community Preservation Act (CPA) that our community voted overwhelmingly to support are now yielding results in our city. In addition to bolstering our Affordable Housing Trust Fund, the first CPA projects are now complete. Groundwork Somerville

improved the schoolyard garden classrooms in eight of our schools. Prospect Hill Tower, our most historically significant landmark, was restored and reopened, and the tombs at Milk Row Cemetery were restored. The Community Preservation Act also awarded more than \$5 million to 14 projects in 2016 that are underway, including \$2.5 million for historic preservation and the addition of ADA access for the West Branch Library.

- In 2016, the number of walkers and cyclists in Somerville continued to increase. As a crucial safety measure to support this healthy trend, Somerville took advantage of the Commonwealth's newly passed Municipal Modernization Act and lowered citywide speed limits to 25 mph, unless otherwise posted. The law also permits cities and towns to designate specific 20 mph safety zones for example near playgrounds, hospitals, and senior centers, which will be something we work toward in 2017.

- With impacts of climate change growing with each passing year, we conducted a climate change vulnerability assessment to understand where we are most at risk so that we can develop a plan to make Somerville more prepared. Many City initiatives this year aimed at mitigating climate change. We continued to increase the fuel efficiency of our vehicle fleet, an ordinance prohibiting plastic

bags being given out at checkout counters went into effect, and we inspired more than 100 homeowners to sign onto our Solarize Somerville campaign.

- I'd be remiss to not mention the election when reflecting on the past year. While the outcome of the presidential race was not what many of us wanted or expected, it's important to also highlight some of the positives that took place locally. Throughout the year, Somerville saw 8,200 new voters register in the City. Additionally, we had the fourth highest turnout in the Commonwealth for the first ever early voting period with 39.9 percent of people who voted in the election choosing to vote early, and you voted overwhelmingly in favor (72 percent) of building a new Somerville High School.

The progress listed above provides only a snapshot of all the ways that Somerville moved forward in 2016. We should take pride in our community's ability not just to hope and envision a better future, but to listen to and respect one another's differences and work through them – together – to make it happen. As we look forward, our past achievements can serve as a reminder and motivator of what we can do when we come together and work toward our community vision. It won't be easy, but let's work to make this year even better than the last.

9C cuts threaten to erode vital family caregiver supports

By Nathan Lamb and Jeanne Leyden

Adult Foster Care (AFC) helps more than 10,000 people in the Bay State receive vital care at home—but recent 9C cuts threaten to erode the quality of this innovative and highly effective program.

Funded through MassHealth, AFC supports the live-in caregivers who meet the daily needs of older adults and people with disabilities who can no longer live alone.

The AFC program at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) provides help for more than 250 families across the greater Boston area. In addition to providing a tax-free stipend

for caregivers, we provide vital training and respite, all with the goal of providing the best possible in-home care.

It's a wonderful program, but recent activity at Beacon Hill has us concerned about its prospects going forward.

Citing an anticipated budget shortfall, Governor Charlie Baker invoked Section 9C of Mass General Law to slash \$98 million from the state budget in early December—a move that eliminated \$5.6 million from statewide AFC programs.

House Speaker Robert DeLeo responded by telling the Boston Globe the cuts were premature, saying tax revenues are in line with projections. DeLeo subsequently Tweeted that, depending

on the numbers, a supplemental budget could restore some of the 9C cuts—adding the focus would be on helping those with the greatest need.

How significant are these cuts? In a recent release, the Massachusetts Council for Adult Foster Care—an umbrella organization that supports providers—termed the cuts “decimating and unprecedented,” predicting it would result in a drastic reduction of nurse and social worker home visits, and generally undermine the support system that allows the Commonwealth to provide quality care at home.

The Council for Adult Foster Care also pointed out that AFC costs MassHealth \$50 to \$85

per member, per day—compared to \$125 to \$250 for nursing home care. The program's efficiency was also noted by the Provider's Council—a statewide association of health and human service agencies—in a recent letter to the Executive Office of Health and Human Services.

“From 2000 to 2015 nursing facility patient days paid for by MassHealth have fallen 37 percent, in part because of community-based alternatives like Adult Foster Care,” said the letter.

And perhaps most importantly: studies have repeatedly indicated the vast majority of people prefer to receive care in-home. AFC meets that need for more than 10,000 older adults and people with disabilities, and we

think it's a wise and caring investment of state resources.

If you agree that's a cause worth supporting, please contact your legislators at Beacon Hill to voice your support. By working together hopefully we can ensure that AFC remains viable support network that helps family caregivers succeed.

Nathan Lamb is Director of Outreach and Community Relations for Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES). Jeanne Leyden is Director of Adult Family Care, a non-profit program at SCES that provides Adult Foster Care across the Greater Boston, North Shore, and Merrimack Valley areas. For more information, visit adultfamilycare.org or call 617-628-2601.

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Welcome to 2017, Somerville!

Our View Of The Times



The city we are blessed to live in is steeped in historical heritage, and specifically enjoys a special distinction in the saga of the American Revolution as we take part in the annual observance of the raising of the Grand Union Flag at Prospect Hill.

This year marks the 241st anniversary of the event that many came togeth-

er to celebrate with a heady mixture of patriotism and pride in community. Politicos and the general public rubbed shoulders and marked the occasion by sharing their collective sense of awe and gratitude for the sacrifices made and the victories achieved so many generations ago.

General Washington and the formida-

ble volunteers of the Continental Army weathered many tribulations on their noble quest for independence for our nation. Unspeakable hardships confronted them, yet they held steady until ultimate victory was assured.

Let us be inspired by their example as we face the challenges ahead of us in the year to come. Whether it is economic, po-

litical, or social issues to be dealt with, we will persevere.

This is a country that knows how. The way may not be perfectly clear at this given moment, but we do know how to find our way even in the darkest of hours. And remember, Somerville, in the face of the greatest adversity one can always look to The Hill for inspiration.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

sources throughout the city as time rolls on. But if you're considering running or know of someone who is considering running for any one of the local city races this year, let us know and we will mention your name.

The midterm "State of the City" will be next Monday, January 9, televised on local cable access. The mayor is planning on making a speech on the upcoming year for the city. Board of Alderman President Bill White will also give a speech on behalf of the board.

Congratulations to Rachael Hart-Adams who gave birth to a bouncing baby boy, whom she named Finnegan. Weighing in at 8 lbs.-4 oz. We're so happy for the Hart family. This makes an even 20 grandkids. Nice to see her big brother Ricky and his wife Jamie Hart along with their three great kids, who are growing too fast.

Happy birthday to a lot of our friends and fellow Villens here this week: Happy birthday last week to Jamie Sue O'Leary of Winter Hill. We hope she had a great day. Happy birthday to two former East Somerville men, Paul Peddle and Jack Bassett, both of different

generations, but from East Somerville. Happy birthday to little Tess O'Toole, the daughter of the famous Feargal. She is a lucky little girl to have a father and mother that are so nice and locally involved here in the city with the Democratic Party. Happy birthday to our favorite 5th grade teacher, Sophia Carafotes, who is celebrating this week. What a nice lady and popular teacher. Happy birthday to Lisa Ludwick, who is also celebrating this week. Happy birthday as well to Tom Oliverio, who grew up here and is very popular. Our good friend Pam Gee of RLS-2000, who is often around and here in the city, celebrates this week and we wish her all the best. Happy birthday to local guy Chris Kenney, who is affiliated with our paper and is a nice guy. We hope he has a great day for himself, hopefully celebrating it with the love of his life Cindy. Happy birthday to all those in January. Want to send a happy birthday greeting? Let us know so we can mention the persons name.

On Thursday, January 19, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., you are invited to attend SCATV's annual meeting and ASCAT-DEMY Awards event, beginning at 5:30 p.m. with the member meeting and followed by the Member Awards Ceremo-

ny at 6:30pm. The awards ceremony will be hosted by the ever-fabulous duo, Ken and Joe Lynch. The main order of business will be the election of four SCATV members to their board. These are three-year terms, with the opportunity for a subsequent term re-election. Submitted information from nominees will be shared on SCATV's website beginning January 4 in preparation for membership voting on the 19th. The remainder of the evening of January 19, is for recognizing and celebrating the achievements and accomplishments of the radio and television productions, SCATV and BFR producers and talent, and Community Media Supporters who all help make the Commonwealth's oldest cable access center the vibrant, beloved community asset that it continues to be today. This is a chance for media makers to reconnect with each other, acknowledge and support the work of one's peers, and to eat and have some fun. They are wishing all a safe and happy new year. They look forward to seeing you there.

Somerville Rotary is looking for some new members. Rotary is a service club for businesses and local non-profits. Somerville Rotary meets at 12:15 p.m. every Tuesday at the Holiday Inn. If

you'd like to find out more about Rotary and what it does here both in the city and internationally, go to the their website at www.somervillerotary.org.

There's a new website in town. Check it out at www.somervillema.com. The Somerville Times is on the site. Also check out www.medfordma.com. Someone asked online why we keep these two websites in Newstalk. We guess it's because we like them.

We send our get-well wishes to Charlie Chisholm, who was rushed a few weeks ago to MGH and is currently undergoing several surgeries. We hope he is back home and on the mend soon. Charlie had his first surgery last week and is about to have another. We wish him well and a speedy recovery.

Also undergoing major surgery is former Ward 4 School Committee member Charlene Harris. We know she's been in the hospital now for a couple of weeks. We hope she's on the road to recovery and will be back in good health real soon. She was surrounded by her family over the holidays, giving her support while going through some tough times. We hope 2017 is

241st Grand Union Flag Raising

In its annual tradition, the City of Somerville kicked off the New Year (and Somerville’s 175th Birthday celebrations) on Sunday, January 1, 2017, with a reenactment ceremony for the 241st anniversary of the “Grand Union” flag-raising ceremony at Prospect Hill Park.

The ceremony began at Prospect Hill at noon, a processional led by a re-enactor portraying General George Washington on horseback left the City Hall Concourse at 11:30 a.m.

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.





Go to www.tbosomervilletimes.com for more photos

Photos by Donald Norton



SPORTS

2016: The year in sports

By Tom Bannister

The City of Somerville once again proved itself to be a winning force in 2016 as far as sports is concerned.

Somerville Alibrandis:

The phenomenal Somerville Alibrandis baseball team won its 7th consecutive title in the Yawkey League 2016 championship series, the teams 17th title in total.

On the series win, Mark Desroches reported:

The story starts with the Alibrandis pitching staff, which was asked to keep the Al Thomas Athletics' line-up at bay. Al Thomas proved to be the most prolific offense in the history of the Yawkey League through the regular season, but the Somerville pitching staff was equal to

the task holding them to 11 runs in the 4 game series. Quality starts by Sean Sullivan, Chris Foundas, Chris Costa and Jon Morse followed by bullpen help from Brian Tanguy and Lamarre Rey was a recipe for pitching success.

Somerville Alibrandis' Bobby Barret was named 2016 Yawkey Baseball League Playoffs Most Valuable Player.

Head Coach Bernie Driscoll had the Alibrandis offense in high gear throughout the series scoring a total of 37 runs in the 4 games. They were able to hit that stride of grinding out at-bats, being tough outs, working pitchers, taking the extra base, taking advantage of miscues and getting huge, clutch hits when the table was set. Bobby Barrett edged out Teddy Dziuba and



Above: Your 2016 Yawkey Baseball League Champions, Somerville Alibrandis. Below: The 2016 Somerville Youth Softball Organization (YSO) Girls Fastpitch 10U Champions, the Somerville Hurricanes.



Will Brennan to take the YBL Playoff MVP Award. Barrett led the high powered Alibrandis offense in hits, extra base hits, OBP, Slugging Percentage, OPS and Batting Average throughout the post-season.

The Somerville Hurricanes: The younger athletes had their time in the sun this past year as well. Bob Schofield reported on the Somerville Hurricanes' victory in the SYSO Girls Fastpitch 10U Championship:

The last softball game of the 2016 Somerville Youth Softball Organization (YSO) Girls Fastpitch 10U Championship series was an epic battle between two great teams; Somerville Hurricanes vs. Somerville Cyclones.

Both teams, Somerville Hurricanes coached by Chris Grover and Somerville Cyclones coached by Paul French, played hard over the previous two evenings to tie the series one

game apiece. The perfect backdrop to what would ultimately become one of the best played 10U softball games in Somerville's past. To not have been at Trum Field that evening was to have missed a game that could not have been scripted. This is what fans of softball and baseball dream about.

You had to be there to believe it. At one point there had to be nearly a hundred spectators and fans watching the conclusion of the game. Adult softball players watched on as they prepare to take the field, along with several passersby on Broadway, family and friends sitting in chairs and on benches.

It was a great atmosphere for all that witnessed an amazing game played by age 10 and under girls. Not a dry eye could be found amongst the Somerville Cyclone players – in nothing less than great sportsmanship – as the

team and coaching staff stood on the third base line watching Somerville Hurricanes celebrate their win on the infield.

Our hats off to Coach Paul French and Coach John Donovan for setting the example of why great sportsmanship is so important and for proving that positive coaching makes everyone a winner. Coach Chris Grover, Coach Mark Buckley and Coach Chris Bartlett did an absolute amazing job coaching their team to a 2016 10U Championship win. Congratulations!

Congratulations indeed to all our local champions, younger and older alike, including the fabulous Somerville High School boys soccer team, who performed exceptionally well in 2016.

After all is said and done, Somerville is a city that loves to play, and plays to win.

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#559

1. What year did they first drop the New Year's Ball in New York's Time Square?

2. What city uses an elevator for a New Year's countdown?

3. What is eaten to symbolize a sweet new year in Rosh Hashanah?

4. In what state is a pine cone dropped on New Year's eve?

5. What flavor is framboise liqueur?

6. The word alcohol comes from the Arabic word "Al Kohl" meaning

what?

7. Which is Italy's longest river?

8. On which river does Prague stand?

9. Which musical instrument was found in Bonnie and Clyde's car after they were shot?

10. How many Billboard solo No. 1's did ex-Beatle Ringo Starr have?

11. In what year did the New York subway open?

12. What was the first product made by Heinz?

Answers on page 16

www.somervillema.com

www.medfordma.com

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

The City of Somerville is looking for Somerville teens to pair with residents in need of shoveling assistance during upcoming snow storms. Additionally, we are asking Somerville senior citizens and residents with disabilities to 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. 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.



Somerville State of the City Address

The mayor's annual State of the City Address, and mid-term addresses by the President of the Board of Aldermen and the Chairperson of the Somerville School Committee will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 9 in the Aldermanic Chambers at City Hall, 93 Highland Ave. Members of the public are invited to come for this look back at the past year's efforts as well as a look forward to city and school initiatives in the coming year. Additionally, as the city will celebrate its 175th Birthday in 2017, attendees will be welcomed to learn more about the city's history through photos, exhibits, and interactive activities at a reception following the State of the City Address. Refreshments will be served. For more information, contact Nancy Aylward at NAylward@somervillema.gov, or 617-625-6600 ext. 2100.



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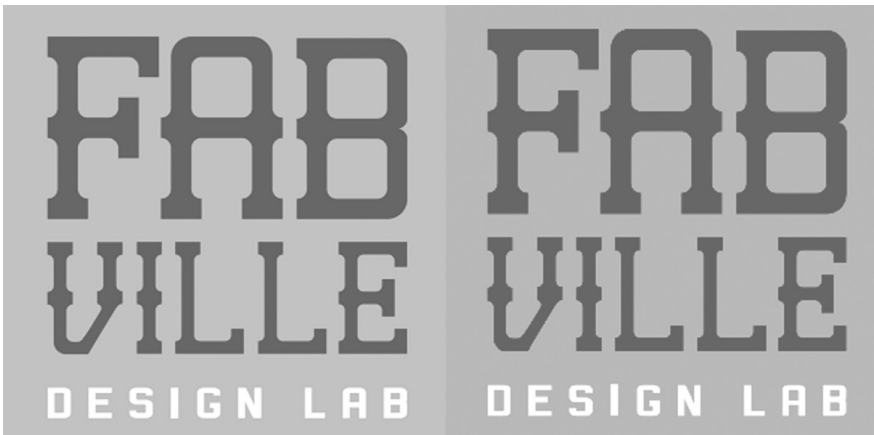
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Somerville Community Access Television congratulates the community media makers who are recipients of the:

ASCATDEMY
AWARDS
2017

SCATV would also like to thank our members and supporters for a great 2016.

Stay tuned for even more in 2017!



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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
OF PUBLIC HEARING

A **public hearing** for all interested parties will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on **Wednesday, January 18, 2017** at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

17-25 Murdock Street and 227-229 Cedar Street: (Case #ZBA 2016-129) Applicant, Cedar Murdock Partners, LLC, and Owner, The Marchionne Realty Trust, seek a Special Permit pursuant to SZO §4.4.1 and §4.5.1 to alter nonconforming structures and uses and §9.13 for parking relief as well as a Special Permit with Site Plan Review pursuant to SZO §7.2 to have more than one principle structure on a lot and §7.3 to have more than three dwelling units on a lot in order to construct five residential buildings with a total of twenty-two dwelling units with thirty-nine parking spaces. Four of the twenty-two units will be affordable as defined in §2.2.4.RB zone. Ward 5.

240 Elm Street: (Case #ZBA 2016-143) Applicant, Sage Cannabis, Inc., and Owner, Davis Square Realty Ventures Nominee Trust, seek a Special Permit under SZO §7.15 and §9.13 to establish a Medical Marijuana Facility in the basement of the building. CBD Zone and Medical Marijuana Overlay District. Ward 6.

5-7 Curtis Street: (Case #ZBA 2016-150) Applicant and Owner, Arun Ravindran, seeks a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to make alterations to a nonconforming two-family structure by removing the existing hipped roof and dormers and rebuild a gable roof and shed dormers and to renovate the third floor. RA Zone. Ward 7.

217 School Street: (Case #ZBA 2016-151) Applicant, Carlos Ferreira, and Owner, Irene Mizrahi, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to construct a dormer within the required left side yard of a nonconforming structure. RA zone. Ward 4.

278 Highland Avenue: (Case #ZBA 2016-154) Applicant, Katie Rooney, 3 Little Figs, and Owner, Joseph Bingel, Trustee of 278 Highland Avenue Realty Trust, seek a Special Permit with Design Review under SZO §7.11.10.1.1.a to change the space from an office to expand the adjacent café. RC zone. Ward 5.

513B Medford Street: (Case #ZBA 2016-156) Applicant, Arthur A. Misaczuk, and Owner, Eleftheros Miaris, seek a Special Permit with Design Review under SZO §7.11.10.2.1.a to change the use to a fast food deli establishment. NB Zone. Ward 5.

5 Montgomery Avenue: (Case #ZBA 2016-131) Applicant, Fernando Dalfior, and Owner, 5 Montgomery Ave, LLC, seek a Special Permit under §4.4.1 of the SZO to finish the basement and increase the FAR and parking relief under Article 9 of the SZO. RB zone. Ward 1.

10 Florence Terrace: (Case # ZBA 2016-130) Applicant, Fernando Dalfior, and Owner, 10 Florence Terrace, LLC, seek a Special Permit under §4.4.1 of the SZO which includes finishing the basement and increasing the FAR and parking relief under Article 9 of the SZO. RB zone. Ward 4.

13 Dell Street: (Case # ZBA 2016-141) Applicant and Owner, 13-13A Dell Street, LLC, seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a non-conforming structure, including FAR, and parking relief under Article 9 of the SZO. RB zone. Ward 2.

19 Kent Court: (Case # ZBA 2016-139) Applicant, Eamon Fee, and Owner, Gurmit Singh, seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to substantially alter a non-conforming property, a Variance under §5.5 of the SZO for parking relief, and §7.11 of the SZO to construct 4 units. RC zone. Ward 2.

20-24 Rush Street: (Case #ZBA 2016-96) Applicants, Juniper Point and 20-24 Rush Street, LLC, and Owner, Juniper Point Investments Co., LLC seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to significantly alter a non-conforming property; SPSR under §7.11 of the SZO to increase the number of units from 9 to 10; §7.3 of the SZO to add an affordable unit; Article 9 of the SZO for parking relief.

117-199 Highland Avenue: (Case #ZBA 2016-96) Applicant, Nicholas Ciano, and Owner, Giannina Ciano, seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO which include substantially altering a non-conforming property by demolishing and re-building rear additions; Special Permits under Article 9 for parking relief; Special Permit to increase the number of dwelling units from 2 units to 5 units. RC zone. Ward 3.

152 Powder House Boulevard: (Case # 2016-135) Applicant and Owner, 152 Powder House, LLC seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a non-conforming property by finishing the basement and increasing the FAR. Proposed alterations to the 2-unit property include adding a kitchenette to the basement and second floor areas. RA zone. Ward 6.


Per Somerville Zoning Ordinance (SZO) section 13.3.3, the Board will review and vote upon policy changes to facilitate the creation of affordable homeownership opportunities under the inclusionary housing program. The first change would revise the calculation establishing the purchase price of units available to households at or below 80%, 110% and 140% of Area Median Income (AMI). The second change would revise the basis for the interest rate to be used in calculating the monthly mortgage loan amount a household can afford. Section 13.3.3 of the Ordinance calls for the Special Permit Granting Authority to conduct a public hearing to receive comment prior to adopting any change in these standards.

Applications are not posted online. Copies of these applications are available for review in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD), 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. Reports, plans and decisions, when completed, are posted online at www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning. As cases may be continued to later dates, please check the agenda on the City's website or call before attending 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 dpereira@somervillema.gov.


Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant

As published in The Somerville Times on 1/4/17 & 1/11/17.

1/4/17 The Somerville Times



2015



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 16P6242EA

Estate of :

Claire	Dorothy	Quinn
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name

Also Known As: _____

Date of Death: 09/22/2016

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

Petitioner Maureen Quinn of Somerville MA
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

Petitioner Kathleen E. Wright of Somerville MA
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

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

[x] Maureen Quinn of Somerville MA
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

[x] Kathleen E. Wright of Somerville MA
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

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

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

1/4/17 The Somerville Times

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

MIDDLESEX Division Docket No. MI16D3785DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

Teresa De Jesus Ochoa Galvez vs. Elmer Omar Galvez

To Defendant:

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

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

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

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon:
Lee D Goldstein, Esq.
Goldstein and Feuer
678 Massachusetts Ave
Suite 702
Cambridge, MA 02139

your answer, if any on or before **1/24/2017**. 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 13, 2016.

Tara E. De Christofaro
Register of Probate

1/4/17 The Somerville Times

Ms. Cam's

From on page 14

Olio

Answers

1. 1907	7. Po
2. Seattle	8. Vltava
3. Apples and honey	9. Saxophone
4. Flagstaff, Arizona	10. 2
5. Raspberry	11. 1903
6. The essence	12. Horseradish sauce

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Licensing Commission** on **Monday January 9, 2017** at the Senior Center, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at **6:00PM** on the application of Winter Hill Brewing Company for an Entertainment by Performers License at 328 Broadway, Somerville, MA

For the Commission
Andrew Upton
Vito Vaccaro
John J. McKenna

Attest: Lori Jean Batzek
Administrative Assistant

12/21/16, 1/4/17 The Somerville Times

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Licensing Commission** on **Monday January 9, 2017** at the Senior Center, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at **6:00PM** for a Transfer of an All Forms Alcohol Package Goods License, from Sasha Gabriella Wood Enterprises Corp. d/b/a Woody's Liquors at 594-596 Somerville Ave., Somerville, MA to Kajal and Kevin II, LLC d/b/a Liquor Junction, at 14 Mcgrath Hwy., Somerville, MA and a Change of Location and a Change of D/B/A

For the Commission
Andrew Upton
Vito Vaccaro
John J. McKenna

Attest: Lori Jean Batzek
Administrative Assistant

12/21/16, 1/4/17 The Somerville Times

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2016: The year in review

CONT. FROM PG 1

After a brief farewell opening of its doors on Sunday morning, March 13, those very doors were locked for good as the owners, staff, patrons and musicians cut a joyously noisy swath down Holland St. towards Davis Square's Statue Park.

Chief proprietor of Johnny D's, Carla DeLellis, tearfully thanked the crowd, enthusing through a megaphone, "Thank you so much for being a part of Johnny D's. What is abundantly clear to me is that Johnny D's is bigger than me and my family and the walls that it is housed in. Thank you so much, from me and on behalf of my family and staff, and I call this Johnny D's Nation!"

Another much beloved venue, La Hacienda restaurant, likewise ended its long run and ceased operations in July, after being offered a deal on their property that the owners felt they could not refuse.

After more than six decades as a Somerville institution, the DiCecca brothers made the fateful decision to take their bows and close their doors, leaving many faithful patrons yearning for a change of heart, or new operators to step in and keep the operation going. But this was not to be.

Protests and persistence

The display of a banner hung outside of City Hall expressing support for the Black Lives Matter movement elicited strong feelings and expressions of either approval or disapproval from all side of the issue.

In August, the Massachusetts Municipal Police Coalition, along with other local police unions, showed up at City Hall to protest the displaying of the banner on the public building.

About 100 to 125 Officers and supporters were present to hear speakers and to ask the mayor to take the banner down.

Michael McGrath, President of the Somerville Police Employees Association, addressed the gathering, listing the reasons that his and other groups felt the banner should be removed.

McGrath asserted that the po-

lice groups do not object to the banner itself, but that it was not appropriate for it to be hung on a public building.

A crowd of media people almost as large as the assembled crowd itself took note of McGrath's and other's remarks.

McGrath assured everyone that the police support the goal of the BLM movement, equal treatment under the law, but that they find the banner's message to be disrespectful of police officers.

The protest, highly anticipated by the public, was organized shortly after a letter to the mayor expressing the police groups' displeasure with the banner was leaked to the media.

A counterdemonstration in Union Square was organized by the Cambridge chapter of BLM that same day. Hundreds of supporters gathered in the Square to express their approval of the banner, which has remained in place at City Hall despite the ongoing controversy.

The real thing prevails

After much discussion and debate, Lincoln Park, near the Argenziano School playground, began receiving its long awaited renovation in June that included installation of natural grass over artificial turf.

New features included a multi-use grass field, a new Argenziano schoolyard, an updated softball diamond, community gardens, an outdoor play area, Parkour and skateboard areas, 150 new trees, outdoor exercise equipment, new lighting, and an off-leash dog area.

A farewell to the bag

September brought with it the official start of the ban on plastic bags at Somerville checkout counters. Large stores would no longer carry plastic bags as of the first of the month; smaller stores and operations were allowed to carry them through December.

Legislation for this act had been in process for some time, and was formally passed the previous year. Environmental concerns were paramount in this decision, as well as the presumed benefit to the city on a



Emotions ran high as residents on both sides of the Black Lives Matter banner issue held demonstrations as an expression of their beliefs and convictions on the matter.

more superficial level – less litter and trash. While some residents voiced their grief over the ban, while others believe it will simply take some getting used to.

A Beacon Street makeover

Major reconstruction activities on Beacon St. on began in early May. Newport Construction, which was selected through a competitive bid process administered by MassDOT, will be responsible for the expected two-year project, which stretches from Oxford St./Somerville Ave. south to the Cambridge city line near Inman Square.

"Our residents and local merchants along the Beacon St. corridor have been living with antiquated infrastructure for more than a decade, and the negative impacts have included poor drainage, pedestrian accessibility and traffic safety. I am extremely happy to finally see this long-awaited project get underway. I appreciate the public's patience during the first phases of construction, and I applaud our partners at MassDOT for their hard work to push this work across the finish line," said Mayor Curtatone.

GLX back on track

After months of debate and controversy, the Somerville Board of Aldermen ultimately voted unanimously to approve a \$50 million contribution to the Green Line Extension (GLX) project in December.

The vote was one more hurdle crossed for the once-doomed GLX project. The project was put on hold after cost estimates exceeded \$3 billion in 2015. Consultants value-engineered the project cost down to a more reasonable \$2.3 billion. The State has committed \$2 billion;

the shortfall will be partially filled with the \$50 million approved by Somerville and an additional \$25 million from Cambridge.

Water bills on the brain

The Somerville Water Authority raised the base connection charge for a water meter early in the year. The sewer base connection charge was also raised.

Residents and city officials alike were surprised by the rate increases, and the Authority was called before the Board of Aldermen to explain why the rate increases were not part of the fiscal year budget.

The Board discussed the issue during a meeting in September, and City Solicitor Francis Wright was present to defend his opinion that the Water and Sewer Commission acted appropriately in raising the base charges and sewer rates, citing maintenance and development costs for the water and sewer systems.

Devastation in fire

A fire that broke out on Rush Street and adjacent Brook Street in East Somerville on May 5 displaced 15 families from their homes.

Residents and volunteer organization rallied to bring relief to those who were affected.

Still the champs

Yawkey League champions for the 7th consecutive year, the Somerville Alibrandis baseball team continued to dominate in their 2016 season.

Politics as usual and unusual

Ballot measures and challenges to long-established public official's positions dominated the local political scene on November 8.

Ballot questions concerning

expanded slot-machine gaming and charter school expansion were voted down, while those involving conditions for farm animals, legalization of marijuana, and debt exclusion for redesign/rebuild of Somerville High School were approved. State Rep. Tim Toomey lost his bid for reelection, while State Senator Pat Jehlen retained her position.

Shopping for pot

City officials took a long hard look at possible solutions for establishing medical marijuana dispensaries in the city. Sites in Union Sq. and Davis Sq. have been proposed and the process of finalizing these locations is still underway.

A new high

After exhaustive studies and discussion, the Somerville High School Building Committee finally settled on a plan to renovate and add onto the existing Somerville High School site. The debt exclusion measure which passed as a ballot question was a key factor in seeing the plan through.

While many residents questioned the cost of the renovations, others agreed that the current plan is the most viable solution available at this time.

Slowing it down

Speed limits on residential streets in Somerville were lowered to 25 mph from the previous 30 mph. Officials cited safety concerns as the prime motivation for the change.

Big bucks for Union Sq.

Governor Charlie Baker approved a \$13M MassWorks Infrastructure grant for Union Square, funds deemed necessary for extensive water and sewer improvements.



The once ubiquitous grocery store plastic bag became thing of the past in 2016.

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Wednesday|January 4

East Branch Library
Preschool Storytime
11 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

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

Central Library
Cinema at Central
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

East Branch Library
Lego Club
3:15 p.m.- 4:45 p.m.|115 Broadway

Central Library
Lego Club
3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

West Branch Library
Lego Club
3:30 p.m.-4:45 p.m.|40 College Ave

Friday|January 6
Central Library
Preschool: Storytime for 2 year olds
10:30 a.m.-11 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library
Sing along with the Music Man
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.|115 Broadway

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

Saturday|January 7
Central Library
Origami with Arline Young
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Sunday|January 8
Central Library
Writing Workshop for Teen
2:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Monday|January 9
Central Library
Sing Along
11 a.m.- 11:45 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

Central Library
SHS teen group
2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave
Creative Drama Workshop
4 p.m.- 5 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Tuesday|January 10
West Branch Library
Preschool Storytime
11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.|40 College Ave

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

Wednesday|January 11
East Branch Library
Preschool Storytime
11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

Central Library
Somerville Positive Forces
1 p.m.-3 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

MUSIC|ARTS
Wednesday|January 4

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

The Burren
Front Room
Exile on Elm
Back Room
Backroom Series: Sonal|7 p.m.
Comedy Night With Jordan Handren-Seavey|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge
Jane Park
Amanda Picciche
Will Roos
Zeke Duckworthy
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

Bull McCabe's Pub
The A-Beez – Funk & Soul
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

Highland Kitchen

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

Joshua Tree Bar & Grill
Pub Trivia
8:30 p.m.|256 Elm Street|(617) 623-9910

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
156 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
Hush: The Freshman
7 p.m.|255 Elm Street

Arts at the Armory
Winter Art Show
All Day.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Thursday|January 5
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
Lunchtime Concert Series|1-2pm
Matt Borrello, Mike Verge & Company|9:30 pm
Backroom Series
Scattershots|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge
Reggae Night
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thunder Road
Leon Trout (Jam)
Special Guests: The Trichomes
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
156 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
255 Elm Street

Arts at the Armory
Winter Art Show
All Day.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Friday|January 6
Sally O'Brien's
Union Square Playlist hosts Damn Tall Buildings |6 p.m.
The Gala, Thrust Club, Radium Girls
\$5 cover |9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Backroom Series: The Kennedys - Mally Smith Opens|7 p.m.
Young Love & The Thrills|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge
Dronehead Odyssey
The Max Tribe
The Shakes
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thunder Road
Daniel Miller & The High Life (Americana)
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
Entombed A.D.
Full of Hell, Turbid North, Bacterial Husk

9 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
Shit-Faced Shakespeare: Romeo & Juliet
7 p.m.|255 Elm Street

Arts at the Armory
Winter Art Show
All Day.|Café
An Evening with Tyto Alba & Tracer - New Sounds for a New Year
8 p.m.|Café
Under the Cherry Moon
8 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Saturday|January 7
Sally O'Brien's
Stan Martin & Wicked Heart |6 p.m.
Tsunami of Sound, Stop Calling Me Frank, The Last Ones (Rick Corracio)
\$5 cover|9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room:
Bluegrass Session|2 p.m.
The BagBoys|5 p.m.
Irish Session|9:30 p.m.
Back Room
The Burren Backroom Saturday & Sunday Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast
8 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Citizen Slim - Sarah Levecqque Band
Opens 3 p.m.
7 Day Weekend|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge
Max Clark|4 p.m.
Sam Baler
Jordan Holmes
Bands (In no particular order):8 p.m.
Paula Marie
Cute Uterus
Snow Day
Vincent 's Band
Andrew F-Word Lowrey
345 Somerville Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Karaoke
65 Holland St

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

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

Joshua Tree
DJ El Sid!
256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

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

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

Thunder Road
Dan & The Wildfire (Indie/Folk Rock)
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
Scoops for Syria
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory
Winter Art Show
All Day.|Café
Under the Cherry Moon
8 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

P.A.'s Lounge
Max Clark|4 p.m.
Sam Baler
Jordan Holmes
Bands (In no particular order):8 p.m.
Paula Marie
Cute Uterus
Snow Day
Vincent 's Band
Andrew F-Word Lowrey
345 Somerville Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Karaoke
65 Holland St

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

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

Joshua Tree
DJ El Sid!
256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

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

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

Thunder Road
Dan & The Wildfire (Indie/Folk Rock)
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
Scoops for Syria
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory
Winter Art Show
All Day.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Karaoke
65 Holland St

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

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

Joshua Tree
DJ El Sid!
256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

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

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

Thunder Road
Dan & The Wildfire (Indie/Folk Rock)
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
Scoops for Syria
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory
Winter Art Show
All Day.|Café
Under the Cherry Moon
8 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Sunday|January 8
Sally O'Brien's Bar
Bucky Bear & The Titanium Hipsters
6 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room
Beatles Brunch|11 a.m.-3 p.m.
John Gannon & Friends Irish Session|3 p.m.
Back Room
The Burren Backroom Saturday & Sunday Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast
8am - 2:30pm
Alan Kaufman & Friends Old Timey|5 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

Game Night
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

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

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

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
156 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
Boston Crime Scenes
4 p.m.|255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory
Winter Art Show
All Day.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Monday|January 9
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
Helena Delaney, Johnny O'Leary & Friends Irish Session|9 p.m.
Back Room:
Stump Trivia|8:30 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge
One Mic Mondays
Muhammad Seven, Sophia Belle, Zion Rodman + Eric Gledhill
345 Somerville Ave

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

Bull McCabe's Pub
Stump! Team Trivia
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
156 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
Boston Crime Scenes
7:30 p.m.|255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory
Winter Art Show
All Day.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday|January 10
Sally O'Brien's Bar
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room
Jason Anick and the Swingers Swing/Jazz|8:30 p.m.
Back Room:
Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA's Lounge
Open Mic Night
345 Somerville Ave

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

Bull McCabe's Pub
The Ghetto People Band
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

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

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

Thunder Road
Thunder & Lightening Sessions
7:30 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
156 Highland Ave

Arts at the Armory
Winter Art Show
All Day|Café
Steve Gunn & Lee Ranaldo
6:45 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Wednesday|January 11
Sally O'Brien's Bar
Free Poker, lots of prizes!

8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room
Exile on Elm
Back Room
Backroom Series: Silver Arrow Band|7 p.m.
Comedy Night With Jordan Handren-Seavey|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

Bull McCabe's Pub
The A-Beez – Funk & Soul
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road
Magic Hat Presents: Bearly Dead – Wednesday Night Grateful Dead Residency
8 p.m.| 379 Somerville Ave

Highland Kitchen
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

Joshua Tree Bar & Grill
Pub Trivia
8:30 p.m.|256 Elm Street|(617) 623-9910

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
Mat Kerekes of Citizen Elder Brother, The Flats
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Rockwell
255 Elm Street

Arts at the Armory
Winter Art Show
All Day|Café
Been Out Here Teen Open Mic
6p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

CLASSES AND GROUPS
Wednesday|January 4

Central Library
Cinema at Central
6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday|January 5
Central Library
FREE Yoga at the Library
6 p.m.-7 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library
Drop in Knitting at the East Branch
6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

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 7
Somerville Winters Farmer Market
9:30 a.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

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

Sunday|January 8
Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon Family Groups
7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street
Unity Church of God
Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement.

Monday|January 9
East Branch Library
Learn English at the Library!
(Session 1) 6 p.m.- 7 p.m.
(Session 2) 7 p.m. - 8:15 p.m.
115 Broadway

Tuesday|January 10
Central Library
Learn English at the Library
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Wednesday|January 11
Central Library
Ibbetson st. press potluck and reading
6 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Central Library
Income Inequality Reading Group
7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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 Care-givers who are interested in the latest information on resources, events, programming, etc., in and around the Somerville area. Use the link <https://groups.google.com/group/somerville-council-on-aging> - If you have any questions or need help joining please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email DHiggins@Somervillema.gov

Ageless Grace – Ageless Grace, the Council on Aging’s new Fitness class for the body and mind. Held on Mondays at 4:00 p.m. at the Holland St. Center, the Ageless Grace program is an innovative wellness and fitness program done seated in a chair to upbeat music. Classes are playful, imaginative and different every time. All the movements are designed to focus on the healthy longevity of the body and the brain. Contact Chris at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315 for more information and to sign up. Cost is \$20.00 for 5 classes.

Yoga - Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. A 5-week Yoga series is a low-impact and easy-to-follow paced program that lets you stretch and relax to help start your day. Contact Chris at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315 for more information and to sign up. Cost is \$20.00 for 5 classes.

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 Smoke Alarm/Carbon Monoxide Detectors – The Somerville Council on Aging, The Health & Human Services Department partnering with The Somerville Fire Department are offering free smoke alarm / carbon monoxide detectors (they are one unit) to Somerville older adults and residents with a wide range of disabilities. To qualify you must be an older adult, 60 years of age or older, and live in Somerville (own or rent) or a Somerville resident with a disability (Photoelectric Alarms with ADA Compliant Strobe Light are available.) There is a brief application that will need to be filled out, signed and returned. Please contact Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at the Somerville Council on Aging, at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 to request an application. Don’t delay calling. This program is on a first come / first serve basis and will be ending December 31, 2016. This is a Federally funded grant.

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 on food once a month containing healthy shelf stable products. Proof of identity and age are all that is required to apply. 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.

New Arts & Crafts Group – Meeting every Thurs-

day from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at our Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway. Join us as we learn about a wide range of arts & crafts from weaving to watercolor pencils. We have some pretty amazing ideas already and would love for you to join us. For additional information please contact Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

Planning for the Future A Financial and Legal Exploration of Options - January 12, 5-6:30pm in the Atrium at our Holland Street Center. Please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300 to register.

Painting with Linda – Fridays, January 27, February 3 and February 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. \$15 fee for supplies and materials – space is limited – registration is a must – please call Josephine or Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Diabetes Shoe Clinic – Tuesday, April 18 at our Holland Street Center from 9:00 a.m. to noontime. If you have Medicare and diabetes you should be eligible for a free pair of diabetes shoes every year. An appointment is a must so please call Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317 to schedule yours.

Happy Wedding Anniversary – Monday, April 24th at 11:30 a.m. at the Somerville Holiday Inn located on 30 Washington Street. Are you a married couple celebrating 50 years or more of marriage? The SCOA is looking for couples to come celebrate this joyous occasion. We will be hosting an Anniversary Luncheon. Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to get on the list to join the festivities.

Kentucky Derby – Thursday, May 4 to Tuesday, May 9th - \$1,154 per person / double only – 6 days & 5 nights – Package includes roundtrip motor coach transportation, 5 nights accommodation, general admission to Kentucky Derby, Louisville Slugger Factory and so much more. Please contact Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 for additional information.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

Friendly Caller Program - Do you know someone who could benefit from a friendly call? Maybe you are feeling isolated and want someone to talk to – or you just want someone to listen. Please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300 to sign up for our “Friendly Caller” Program.

LGBTQ EVENTS:

LGBTQ Advisory Group – Monday, January 9 at 4:30 p.m. in the conference room of the Holland Street Center. Please contact Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 for additional information or questions.

LBT Women Fit-4-Life - Fitness and Nutrition Classes. Classes are Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting at 6:00 P.M. \$10 a month fee - scholarships available & it just might be covered under your insurance. We have available slots and would love to have you. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

*If you require additional information or have any questions regarding the LGBTQ events or the Advisory Group, please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300

GROUP INFORMATION

Men’s Group – Meets the first Tuesday of each month from 10:30 to 11:30 A.M. This group is facilitated by our volunteer, Norbert DeAmato. Are you recently retired? Looking to connect with other men in the community? Join our men’s group where you can connect with old friends and make new ones. All men 55 and over are welcome. Come chat about what is on your mind! If you have any questions or require additional information, please give us a call at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

Caregiver Support Group – Meets the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 to 7:30 P.M. Our Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Are you caring for a parent, relative, spouse or close friend? Feeling isolated or overwhelmed? You are not alone! Come share your experience and practical support. Open to all and new members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

Veterans Group – Meets the third Monday of each month from 9:30 to 10:30 A.M. Our volunteer, Norbert DeAmato, facilitates this group. Are you a veteran? The Veterans Group is the perfect opportunity to socialize, have solidarity, to reminisce and to meet other veterans.

If you are interested or require additional information, please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

Bereavement Support Group – Meets bi-monthly on Mondays from 1:00 to 2:00 P.M. at Holland Street Center. Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 and ask for Natasha.

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

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

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. Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 if additional information is needed.

STAY ACTIVE:

Walking & Talking Group – Starting on Monday, May 4th at 8:30 A.M. – out of our Holland Street Center. We'll take a gentle 30 minute walk around the community every Monday – meeting in the downstairs lobby of the Holland Street Center. For more information or to sign up please contact Chris Kowaleski our Health & Wellness Coordinator at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315.

Weekly Exercise Class Schedule

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

Mondays:

1:00 Fit-4-Life Group C (H)

Tuesdays:

9:15 Strengthening - \$3 per class (H)

11:15 Fit-4-Life (C)

1:00 Dalcroze Eurhythmics***

6:00 LBT Fit-4-Life* (H)

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

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) (5 week series) – On hiatus till January

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

One-on-one nutrition is on hiatus til further notice.

Wednesday, January 4

11:30 Lunch (RJ)

Thursday, January 5

11:30 Lunch (H, RJ)

Friday, January 6

11:30 Lunch (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.

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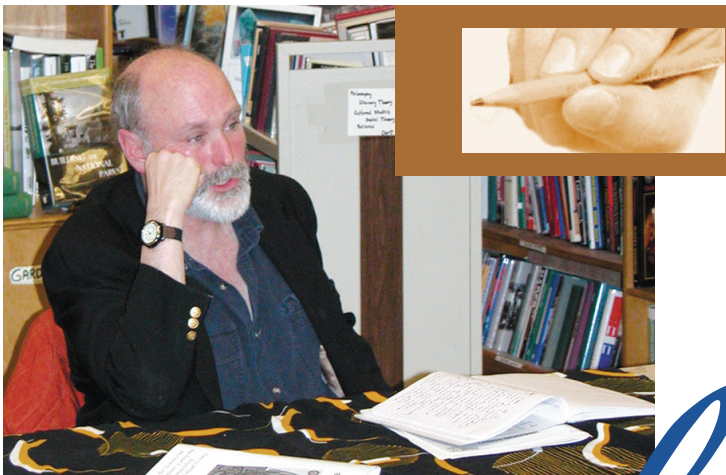
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Wednesday, January 4							
6:00am	Life Matters	5:30pm	Creative Somerville Series	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	11:30am	Art at SCATV
6:30am	Exercise with Robyn	6:00pm	Villain News Network	11:00am	Haitian Poetry	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
7:00am	Poet to Poet	6:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00pm	The Somerville Line	1:00pm	Infinite Momentum
7:30am	Somerville Neighborhood News	7:00pm	Taking Back your Health (Live call-in)	1:00pm	Start Up TV	1:30pm	Legacies
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:30pm	Mass Climate Action Network	2:00pm	SCATV Presents: Duck Village Stage	2:00pm	The Literati Scene
9:00am	The Literati Scene	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (Live call-in)	3:00pm	Telemagazine	2:30pm	SCATV Bulletin Board
9:30am	Mass Climate Action Network	9:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	4:00pm	Chef's Table Series	3:00pm	Exercise with Robyn
10:00am	Somerville Storytime	10:00pm	Road to Recovery	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	3:30pm	MAPS
10:30am	Somerville Good Old Days	11:00pm	Simply Hanging with Pete and Nate	6:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	4:00pm	Free Speech Television
11:00am	Chef's Table Series	11:30p	Grown Up Storytime	7:00pm	Gay USA	5:00pm	Telegalaxie
12:00pm	Free Speech TV	Friday, January 6		8:00pm	Creative Somerville Series	6:00pm	The Struggle
1:30pm	Physicians Focus	6:00pm	The Literati Scene	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:30pm	Start Up TV
2:00pm	Road to Recovery	6:30pm	Life Matters	10:00pm	Open Line News with Davey D	7:30pm	Somerville Good Old Days
2:30pm	Blokesworld	7:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	11:00pm	Gay News USA (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	The Somerville Line
3:30pm	SCATV Bulletin Board	7:30am	Color in your life	Sunday, January 8		9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:00am	Somerville Story Time	10:00pm	Bate Papo com Shirley
5:00pm	Art At SCATV	9:00am	Middlesex Senate District Debate	6:30am	Eckankar	11:00pm	Visual Radio
5:30pm	Messier Mantra	10:00am	Middlesex Representative District Debate	7:00am	Nossa Gente's e Costumes	Tuesday, January 10	
6:00pm	Haitian Poetry	10:30am	Somerville Good Old Days	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ	6:00am	Art at Scat
7:00pm	Creative Somerville Series	11:00am	Somerville Story Tellers	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	6:30am	Esoteric Science
7:30pm	MAPS on TV	12:00pm	Free Speech TV	10:00am	Aging Well	7:00am	JuPrey Promotions
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits	1:00pm	Health is Wealth	10:30am	International Church of God	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
8:30pm	SCATV Bulletin Board	1:30pm	Aging Well	11:00am	Chef's table Series	9:00am	Chefs table Series
9:00pm	Bay State Biking News	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	12:00pm	Middlesex Senate District Debate	10:00am	Eat well be happy
10:00pm	SCATV Presents: Duck Village Stage	2:30pm	Carven Salsa Dancing	1:00pm	Middlesex Representative District Debate	10:30am	Cooking with Georgia and Dez
11:00pm	Warm up Wednesday	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	2:00pm	Mass Climate Action Network	11:00am	The Somerville Line
11:30pm	Rare Groove Revolution	4:00pm	Gay USA (Free Speech TV)	2:30pm	Monday's at 9	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
Thursday, January 5		5:00pm	Reeling Review	3:00pm	Infinite Momentum	1:00pm	Aging Well
6:00am	JuPrey Promotions	5:30pm	Somerville Good Old Days	3:30pm	Greater Somerville	1:30pm	Somerville Pundits
7:00am	The Struggle	6:00pm	Words on Film	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	2:00pm	The Struggle
7:30am	SCATV Bulletin Board	6:30pm	Finger on the Pulse	5:00pm	Dead Air Live	2:30pm	Health is Wealth
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:00pm	Beyond Boston	6:00pm	Abugida TV	3:00pm	Taking back your health
9:00am	Esoteric Science	7:30pm	Fallon's Daily Toast	7:00pm	African Television Network	3:30pm	Physicians Focus
9:30am	Somerville Pundits	8:00pm	CTBS	8:00pm	Telemagazine	4:00pm	Ring of Fire (Free Speech TV)
10:00am	Dead Air Live	10:00pm	JuPrey Promotions	9:00pm	Cinema Somerville	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer
11:00am	Greater Somerville	11:00pm	Grownup Story Time	11:00pm	Simply Hanging with Pete and Nate	5:30pm	Duck Village Stage
11:30am	Legacies	11:30pm	SCATV Bulletin Board	Monday, January 9		6:30pm	Beyond Boston
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	Saturday, January 7		6:00am	Health is Wealth	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
1pm-3pm	SCATV Cooking Bloc	6:00am	Life matters	6:30am	Villain News Network	7:30pm	Greater Somerville
1:00pm	Chef's Table Series	6:30am	Eat well be Happy	7:00pm	The Struggle	8:00pm	Dead Air Live
2:00pm	Eat Well be Happy	7:00am	The Folkorist	7:30am	Aging Well	9:00pm	Mondays at 9
2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia and Dez	7:30am	Wild Tales - Song of the River	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:30pm	Infinite Momentum
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00am	Villain news Network	9:00am	Duck Village Stage	10:00pm	Middlesex Senate District Debate
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	8:30am	Somerville Story Tellers	10:00am	Baystate Biking news	10:30pm	Middlesex Representative District Debate
5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	9:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	11:00am	Color in your Life		
		9:30am	Henry Parker Presents				

CITY TV 22 (Comcast) 13 (RCN) Schedule							
Wednesday, January 4							
8:00am	Fit-4-Life #1 2017	10:00am	Union Sq Community & Benefits Strategy Plan - LOCUS11.21.16	Saturday, January 7		7:30pm	SomerViva em Português 12.13.16
9:00am	Raising Families "Special Needs Education"	12:00pm	Senior Circuit "Exercise"	12:00am	Illuminations Tour 2016	8:00pm	I Feira de Educaç�o
9:30am	The Strange Career of General Charles Lee	1:03pm	State Funding for Union Sq. Ceremony	12:30am	Caroling with the Mayor	Monday, January 9	
12:00pm	Congressional Update	1:30pm	Caroling with the Mayor	9:00am	National Disability Employment	12:00am	Senior Circuit "Exercise"
12:31pm	BOA Special Mtg. on GLX Funding	2:00pm	Aldermen at Work - Tony Lafuente			12:30am	Illuminations Tour 2016
3:00pm	SomerViva nan Kreyol	2:30pm	Connecting Communities "New Employees"	12:00pm	Awareness Celebration	9:00am	SomerViva em Português 12.13.16
3:22pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"	3:00pm	SomerViva em Português 12.13.16	12:30pm	SomerViva nan Kreyol	12:00pm	Green Line Extension Community Meeting
6:30pm	SomerViva em Português 12.13.16	6:30pm	The Strange Career of General Charles Lee	1:00pm	Raising Families "Special Needs Education"	5:00pm	Somerville Midterm Ceremonies-LIVE
7:00pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"	7:15pm	SomerViva em Português 12.13.16	7:00pm	Connecting Communities "New Employees"	Tuesday, January 10	
7:18pm	Rally Point	7:45pm	SomerViva em Português 12.13.16	7:00pm	Union Sq Community & Benefits Strategy Plan - LOCUS11.21.16	12:00am	Illuminations Tour 2016
8:00pm	BOA Special Mtg. on GLX Funding	10:00pm	Green Line Extension Community Meeting	8:35pm	SomerViva em Português 12.13.16	12:29am	Caroling with the Mayor
10:30pm	SomerViva em Português 12.13.16	Friday, January 6		9:30pm	Illuminations Tour 2016	8:00am	Fit-4-Life #2 2017
Thursday, January 5		12:00am	Illuminations Tour 2016	Sunday, January 8		9:00am	Talking Business "Chill Ville"
12:00am	Caroling with the Mayor	9:00am	Caroling with the Mayor	12:00am	Illuminations Tour 2016	12:00pm	Senior Circuit "Exercise"
12:30am	Illuminations Tour 2016	12:00pm	SomerViva em Português 12.13.16	12:30am	Talking Business "Chill Ville"	12:30pm	Somerville Midterm Ceremonies 1.9.17
1:00am	Congressional Update	12:30pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"	12:00pm	Senior Circuit "Exercise"	7:00pm	Senior Circuit "Exercise"
1:31am	BOA Special Mtg. on GLX Funding	1:00pm	Green Line Extension Community Meeting	12:30pm	Green Line Extension Community Meeting	7:30pm	SomerViva em Português 12.13.16
8:00am	Fit-4-Life #1 2017	4:00pm	Fit-4-Life #1 2017	3:00pm	SomerViva nan Kreyol	8:00pm	Somerville Midterm Ceremonies 1.9.17
9:00am	Congressional Update	7:00pm	Illuminations Tour 2016	3:30pm	I Feira de Educaç�o	12:00am	Senior Circuit "Exercise"
9:31am	I Feira de Educaç�o	7:30pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"	4:00pm	Fit-4-Life #2 2017	12:30am	Somerville Midterm Ceremonies 1.9.17
		8:00pm	Green Line Extension Community Meeting	7:00pm	Senior Circuit "Exercise"	8:00am	Fit-4-Life #2 2017

Educational TV 15 Schedule							
Wednesday, January 4							
9:00am	ESCS Winter Concert	Friday, January 6		12:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Danvers	12:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Matignon
10:00am	Argenziano School Winter Concert	12:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Danvers	1:30am	SHS Hockey vamesbury	1:30pm	Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert
11:00am	El Sistema Somerville - Community in Harmony Concert	1:30am	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic	3:00am	Public Domain Theater	2:00pm	Brown School Winter Concert
12:00pm	SHS Hockey v Winthrop	9:00am	Kennedy School Drama: Evening of Play	6:00am	Kennedy School Drama: Evening of Play	3:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Georgetown
1:30pm	Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert	11:00am	Argenziano School Winter Concert	9:00am	Argenziano School Winter Concert	4:30pm	El Sistema Somerville - Community in Harmony Concert
2:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic	12:00pm	El Sistema Somerville - Community in Harmony Concert	10:00am	El Sistema Somerville - Community in Harmony Concert	5:30pm	Argenziano School Winter Concert
4:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Hampshire	1:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Winchester	11:00am	WHCS Winter Concert	7:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Whittier - LIVE
5:30pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Charlestown	2:30pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody	12:00pm	WSNS Winter Concert	10:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Whittier
7:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Georgetown	4:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Georgetown	1:00pm	SHS Hockey v Winthrop	Tuesday, January 10	
10:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Georgetown	5:30pm	SHS Hockey v Winthrop	3:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden	12:00am	SHS Girls Basketball v Whittier
Thursday, January 5		7:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden	5:00pm	Argenziano School Winter Concert	9:00am	El Sistema Somerville - Community in Harmony Concert
12:00am	SHS Girls Basketball v Georgetown	10:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden	6:00pm	El Sistema Somerville - Community in Harmony Concert	10:00am	Argenziano School Winter Concert
1:30am	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic	Saturday, January 7		7:00pm	WHCS Winter Concert	11:00am	ESCS Winter Concert
4:30am	Public Domain Theater	12:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden	8:00pm	WSNS Winter Concert	12:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Matignon
9:00am	WSNS Winter Concert	2:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic	9:00pm	SHS Hockey v Winthrop	1:30pm	Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert
10:00am	SHS Winter Concert	3:30am	Public Domain Theater	10:30pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden	2:00pm	Brown School Winter Concert
12:00pm	Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert	9:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden	Monday, January 9		3:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Georgetown
1:00pm	SHS Hockey v Winthrop	11:00am	SHS Girls Basketball v Georgetown	12:00am	SHS Girls Basketball v Georgetown	5:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Whittier
3:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Danvers	1:00pm	SHS Hockey v Winthrop	1:30am	SHS Hockey v Winthrop	7:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Medford - LIVE
5:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic	3:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic	5:00am	Public Domain Theater	10:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Medford
6:30pm	WSNS Winter Concert	5:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden	9:00am	El Sistema Somerville - Community in Harmony Concert	12:00am	SHS Boys Basketball v Medford
7:30pm	SHS Winter Concert	7:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Georgetown			1:30am	SHS Girls Basketball v Whittier
9:30pm	Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert	9:00pm	SHS Hockey v Winthrop	10:00am	Argenziano School Winter Concert		
10:00pm	SHS Hockey v Winthrop	10:30pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic	11:00am	ESCS Winter Concert		
		Sunday, January 8					



Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Somerville Poet Bridget Seley-Galway is an artist/poet. Her art has graced several covers of Ibbetson Press, and Bagels with the Bards, as well as Doug Holder's *Eating Grief at 3AM*, and Molly Lynn Watts' *On the Wings of Song- A Journey into the Civil Rights Era*. Her poetry was published from 2001-2002 in *Provincetown Magazine's Poetry Corner*, 2011-12 *Popt Art Magazine*, 2009-2014, 2009-2016, *Bagel with the Bards*, Ibbetson Press #34, 39, and 2016 *Poetry Porch*, an online poetry journal. Her art has been exhibited throughout New England. She was arts editor/curator for *Wilderness House Literary Review* 2009-2012. In 1990 co-founded/directed El Arco Iris, Free Youth Arts Center in Holyoke, and in 2014 procured funding to establish and facilitate Youth Arts Arise, a free after school program at Arts at the Armory in Somerville, Ma.



Monody

On a paved road
A broken seagull died.
With crooked neck,
A petrified wing pointed to sky.

Its feathers spread a lost flight,
Grounded without spirit
Between passers by.

I gently lifted it in my arms, and
Walked into the dunes.
There I made a grave, and
Sat with it for some time.

I imagined all its days.
Floating on air streams,
Following the fishing boats,
Diving for catch.

I thought of mornings at the seashore,
Throwing bread in the air with glee-
To have a flock hover over me.

I wondered if we ever shared
A morning besides this mourning.

— Bridget Galway

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

OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Somerville Poet Bert Stern to receive the Ibbetson Street Press Lifetime Achievement Award in April 2017



Somerville poet Bert Stern has been selected to be the next recipient of the Ibbetson Street Press Lifetime Achievement Award.

The award has been presented to such literary figures as Robert Pinsky, Frank Bidart, Afaa Michael Weaver, Harris Gardner , Gloria Mindock, Robert K. Johnson, Louisa Solano, David Godine, Sam Cornish, Jack Powers, to name a few.

The award will be presented during Poetry Month at a meeting of the Somerville Bagel Bards at the Au Bon Pain in Davis Square.

Born in Buffalo in 1930, Bert Stern is Milligan Professor of English Emeritus at Wabash College. He taught at the University of Thessaloniki from 1965-67 as Fulbright Professor of

English and at Peking University as an exchange professor in 1984-5.

Stern published a pioneer study of Wallace Stevens in 1965 (*Wallace Stevens, Art of Uncertainty*, University of Michigan). He has published two poetry collections, *Silk & the Ragpicker's Grandson* (Red Dust, NYC, 1998) and *Steerage* (Ibbetson Street, Somerville, MA, 2008).

His essays and poems have appeared in journals including *Southern Review*, *Columbia Teacher's College Record*, *Sewanee Review*, *The American Poetry Review*, *Poetry*, and more than a dozen anthologies.

Stern co-founded and co-edited *Off the Grid Press*. Now retired, he continues to serve as advisor.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

going to be a good year for her.

For those that might be interested in obtaining certification for firearms should look up the **Lawrence Rod & Gun Club**. They provide an extensive program at the end of which you receive certification for Massachusetts/NRA Certified Firearm Safety Classes. They run a class once a month, which is limited to 10 people and we hear that this is the place to go to learn safety when handling guns. Email gunclub@earthlink.net for more information and or go to their website at www.lawrencerodandgunclub.org and read up about the course. We've been told that the course has seen a major increase in people applying for it, especially women. We can tell you first hand here that it's a great course and quite thorough. The same goes for this in *Newstalk*. The club has informed us that many residents of Somerville have called or gone to the club to find out about certification.

The Annual Meeting of the **Somerville High School Scholarship Foundation** will be held in the **Gallery 81 conference room at Somerville High School at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 9**, when they will elect Directors to three-year terms and have a report presented on Foundation finances. The meeting is for current officers, directors, and members. New members are welcome. For information, contact **Noreen Santucci**, correspondence secretary, at: NFSLEARN@aol.com or at 617-448-0145.

On **Wednesday, January 11, at 6:00 p.m.** the first community meeting will be held at the **Mount Vernon Restaurant, 14 Broadway**, to discuss the zoning of a medical marijuana facility at 67 Broadway. Subsequent meetings will be held on **Thursday, January 19** and **Wednesday, January 25**, same time, same location.

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