



Inside:

1986

Adult shelter opens with six b
It is the first homeless shelter

Shelter opens its doors

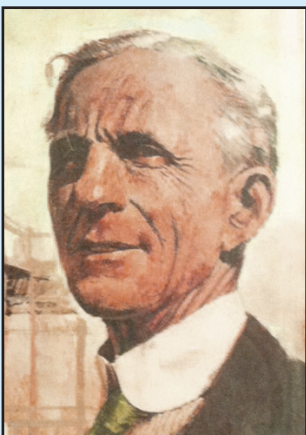


Our opinion

Shelter: Just the beginning

**Hope for the
homeless**

page 3



**Henry's
Tin Lizzie**

page 5



**A lifetime of
achievement**

page 23

Newstalk p.2

The Week in Crime p.4

Commentary p.10-11

Beacon Hill Roll Call . . . p.8

TV Logs p.22

Off The Shelf p.23

239th Grand Union Flag Raising



Somerville residents, city officials, and visiting dignitaries - including a Gen. George Washington re-enactor - gathered at the Prospect Hill monument site for the annual Grand Union Flag raising ceremony on Jan. 1. More photos are on pages 12-13.
— Photo by Donald Norton

Nearly \$1B granted for GLX project

By Jim Clark

At a press conference held at Somerville High School on Monday, U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced a \$996 million federal grant agreement that will significantly improve transit options to extend the MBTA Green Line light rail service from East Cambridge to Somerville and Medford.

Secretary Foxx was joined by Mayor Joe Curtatone and the Board of Aldermen, Acting Federal Transit Administrator Therese McMillan, Governor Deval Patrick, Congressman Michael Capuano, Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) Acting Secretary & CEO Frank DePaola, and Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) General Manager Beverly Scott.

According to public statements, the Green Line Extension (GLX) will provide faster and more efficient travel downtown Boston and will serve some of the region's most densely populated communities.

Continued on page 6

Nave Gallery to present 'The Sketchbook Show'

By Laura Stiffler

This Friday, January 9, from 6 to 8 p.m., the Nave Gallery Annex will be holding the opening reception for its upcoming exhibition, *The Sketchbook Show*. The showcase features works from 20 different artists and focuses primarily on the sketches from their personal sketchbooks.

The show is co-curated by Ellie Laramée-Byers and Rachel Mello, two longtime resident artists of Somerville. The idea for the show came from impromptu "sketch days" hosted by the two, where local artists were invited to share their work and learn from one another.

The idea was a success and allowed the artists to realize something they had known all along, the extreme importance sketching has for the creative mind.

With the work of so many different artists being showcased in this exhibition, the show promises to be interesting

Continued on page 7



Check out the sketchbooks of Somerville's artists at Nave Gallery beginning this weekend.

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Join East Somerville Main Streets on Monday, January 12, for “A farewell to Carrie” at the East End Grille, as they say goodbye to their director of eight years and celebrate some of the great things they have achieved in that time.

Please note the kick off of the 2015 Business After Hours Series has been postponed to Thursday, January 15. Join on the 15th to kick of 2015 at the Chamber’s next Business After Hours event at Foundry on Elm. This is an excellent networking event featuring free appetizers and a free business card drawing with cash bar. Sponsored by Cambridge Savings Bank. Hosted by Somerville Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours Chair Dana Iacopucci of Cubby Oil & Energy. The Foundry is located at 255 Elm Street, Davis Square.

Happy Birthday this week to a few of our friends and Vil-lens here in the city. A big Happy Birthday to one of our favorite teachers here in the city, Ms. Sophia Carafotes. Another popular person here in the city is Dominick Silvestri Jr., otherwise known as the sign man at Magoun Square. We wish Dominick a very Happy Birthday. Happy Birthday to Liza Ludwick, who grew up here in East Somerville. We hope she has a great day for herself. Happy Birthday to a good guy, Evan Nolan, who lived here in Somerville and is still involved here. We wish him the very best of birthdays.

“This is East” is having a Launch Party for year 2 on Thursday, January 15 at 6:30 p.m. at Mudflat Pottery school, 81 Broadway. East Somerville is changing. The “This is East” project allows East Somerville voices, stories and history to be the catalyst of that change. Kick off our launch party by screening a short and powerful video documentary about our community, as told by East Somerville residents and business owners (produced by SCATV, the Somerville Arts Council and East Somerville Main Streets). Then we’ll discuss what characteristics of East Somerville are important to capture and record for generations to come. The conversation will inform 1–3 public art installations in East Somerville and a longer documentary storytelling project, both to be completed in 2015. Refreshments will be served. Come on out and help shape East Somerville by sharing your stories and vision.

Continued on page 11

TheSomervilleTimes

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The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday



TheSomervilleTimes.com
Comments of the Week

Response to: 2014: A year of community achievements and milestones

Freebie says:
As a home owner, bike commuter, car ditcher, and parent of kids in the schools here – what a spectacular year our community had.
JJ are you clueless about Cambridge? Cambridge has ridiculously low taxes due to it’s density combined with a huge commercial base in Kendall. Throw in MIT and Harvard, and residents get a huge break. You cant compare any other city to Cambridge on taxes. Our taxes are reasonable give our high home values. Once again – I present you with hard data to support my case. Anyone notice I am the only one who ever provides links to real data on schools, demographics, and now taxes?
Seem like we are doing just fine: <http://www.medfordma.org/departments/assessor/city-and-town-tax-rates/>

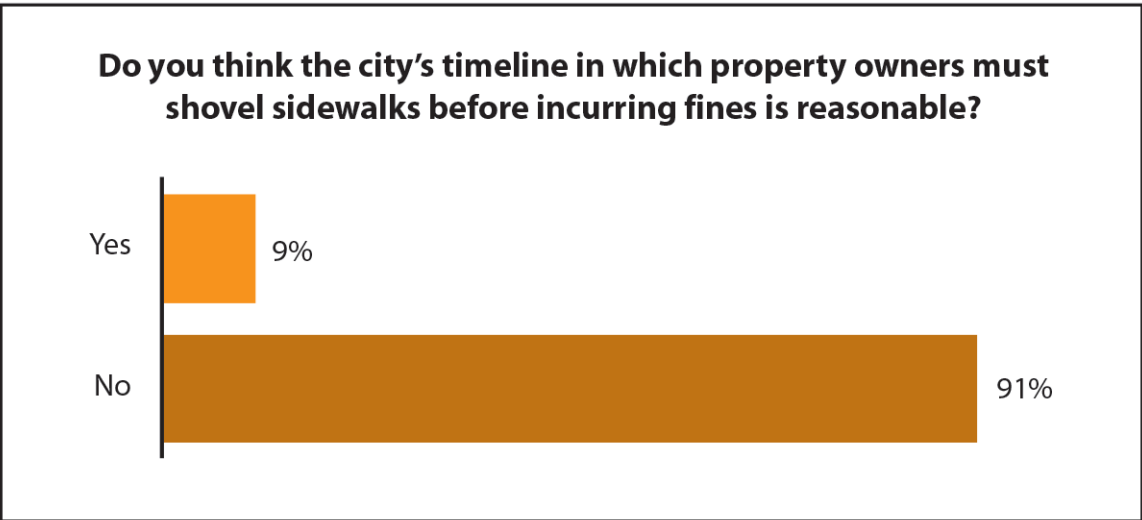
Barbie says:
I think we need to encourage the mayor to make a harder run at new commercial investment. We see he has a plan to increase the housing stock, but that won’t do much at all to address the job shortage in Somerville, including jobs that will pay good salaries. A strong commercial revenue base will help support all of the needed and long overdue projects: fixing the high school, restoring the main library, building a new Recreation Building/Teen Center, addressing long overdue neglect of Foss and Lincoln Parks, and rehabing the Prospect Hill Tower and Park. Instead, the mayor seems to be focused on building new housing. Since we’re already a dense city and residential tax revenue just barely brings in enough to cover the cost of services consumed by the new residents, it seems like it would be a mistake to peg our development strategy to housing. In contrast, the Seaport is building almost all commercial and not much residential.

huh? says:
I can’t wait until the new zoning ordinances are released publicly. I suggest everyone read them, carefully, and get involved in the public hearings. If not, Somerville is done.
Joe has said for years we need more commercial revenue. Yet he shuts down businesses at Assembly to put in some fancy stores, a tax-exempt business and subway stop, then proposes shutting down even more businesses to build.....more housing! Who is he kidding?

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

TheSomervilleTimes.com poll of the week

In addition to breaking news, sports and opinion, TheSomervilleTimes.com also features a daily poll in which you, the reader, tell us where you come down on local issues. Last week’s poll concerned your views on whether or not you think the city’s timeline in which property owners must shovel sidewalks before incurring fines is reasonable. If you don’t agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com.



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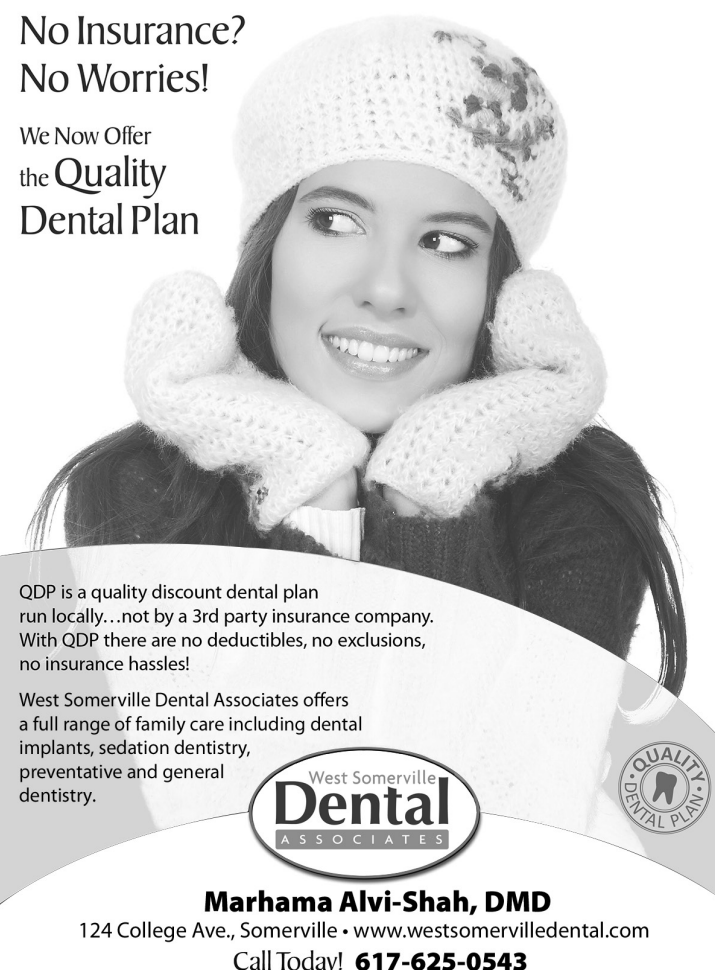
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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Improper gun disposal leads to arrest

Police were dispatched to a Cross St. apartment on the evening of New Year’s Day on reports of a disturbance at that location.

Upon arrival, officers entered the building and proceeded to the 3rd floor unit to investigate the reporting party’s complaint.

As they approached the main entrance to the apartment, the officers reportedly spotted a male, later identified as the reporting party, sitting on the couch in the living room through open main doorway. The man was repeatedly pointing to a closed bedroom door nearby.

As the officers approached the closed door they heard the latch close after announcing their presence, according to reports. They initially got no response after knocking, but reportedly heard some movement within the room.

One of the officers told another officer that he intended to force the door open, and the door was partially opened by a female immediately thereafter.

The woman reportedly allowed the officers into the bedroom, at which time they observed a child sitting on the bed crying and a man, later identified as Jose Andrade, 23, sitting nearby.

The officers reported that the child seemed to be ill. They further observed that Andrade was positioned near a walk-in closet with its doors open and the light inside switched on.

It was also noted that a window in the room was open, with only a blanket covering it, and that a cold breeze was blowing through. The officers reportedly felt that it was odd that the window would be left open in such a way with a sick child in the room.

One of the officers decided to check the grounds outside as it seemed possible that something may have been thrown out the window prior to the officer’s arrival.

A search of the area below the window turned up a loaded handgun, which the officers felt must have landed there from the apartment above.

During the ensuing investigation it was learned that the reporting party had called 911 because he thought that Andrade may be wanted by the police.

A database search revealed that Andrade was not in possession of a permit for the found weapon.

Andrade was subsequently placed under arrest and charged with carrying a firearm without a license and carrying a firearm with ammunition.

Intended ambulance ride leads to jail instead

Police, fire and EMT units responded to a report of a sick person at the Lechmere Car Wash on McGrath Hwy. last Saturday evening.

Once there, respondents learned that a man who reportedly appeared to be intoxicated was complaining of chest pains. It was decided that he would be taken to the hospital by ambulance.

The man’s sister, Jeanne Monaghan, 55, who police reportedly believed was also intoxicated, expressed interest in accompanying her brother to the hospital.

Monaghan was invited into the ambulance that would be carrying her brother to the hospital, but she reportedly became upset with one of the EMTs and began to behave abusively.

Monaghan was reportedly asked to exit the ambulance but initially refused to do so. She was eventually taken out of the ambulance and was told that a different one would be taking her to the hospital because the EMTs in the first one did not feel safe in her presence.

After the second ambulance arrived Monaghan was escorted to it by a police officer and another EMT, but she reportedly pulled away, striking the EMT in the process.

She reportedly began screaming that she wanted to be transported along with her brother because she was the only one who cared about him.

Monaghan reportedly dropped to the ground and continued to scream and punch the emergency responders, telling them that she wanted to go with her brother, that they were going to let him die, and that they didn’t care.

Monaghan was reportedly once again assured that she would be taken to the hospital, but that she could not go in the same ambulance that he was in.

According to reports, Monaghan continued to punch and scream and refuse to calm down and cooperate. She was eventually put into handcuffs and placed under arrest, charged with assaulting ambulance personnel.

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests: Ada Bontoja, of 41-43 Columbia, Cambridge, January 1, 2:31 p.m., arrested at 775 McGrath Hwy. on a warrant charge of assault. Jose Andrade, of 142 Broadway, January 1, 10:40 p.m., arrested at 7 Cross St. on charges of carrying a firearm without a license and carrying a firearm with ammunition. Paul Shaugnessy, of 33 Meadow Dr., Middleton, January 2, 9:08 a.m., arrested at 474 Broadway on warrant charges of larceny over \$250, operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs, and possession of a burglarious instrument. Jose Andrade, of 7 Cross St., January 2, 11:05 a.m., arrested on charges of armed assault to murder and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. Martin Hickey, of 381 Ferry, Everett, January 2, 4:03 p.m., arrested at Grand Union Blvd. on warrant charges of trespassing and possession of a class E drug.	 Jeanne Monaghan, January 3, 7:19 p.m., arrested at 1 McGrath Hwy. on a charge of assault on ambulance personnel. Incidents: Theft: December 29, 12:03 p.m., police reported a theft at 608 Somerville Ave. December 29, 12:22 p.m., police reported a theft at Cherry St. December 30, 7:30 p.m., police reported a theft at Willow Ave. January 2, 10:35 p.m., police reported a theft at 14 McGrath Hwy. January 3, 10:01 p.m., police reported a theft at Mt. Vernon St. January 4, 7:38 p.m., police reported a theft at 77 Middlesex Ave. Robbery: December 30, 1:36 p.m., police reported a robbery at Buena Vista Rd. Breaking & Entering: December 29, 7:14 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Pearson Rd.	 December 30, 1:30 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Somerville Ave. December 30, 3:58 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Windsor Rd. December 30, 9:53 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Meacham Rd. December 31, 5:40 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Orchard St. December 31, 6:27 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Meacham Rd. January 1, 2:44 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at 91 Highland Ave. January 1, 2:24 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at 101 Highland Ave. January 2, 7:21 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Grand Union Blvd. January 3, 3:31 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Lester Terr. January 4, 1:56 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Whitfield Rd. Vehicle Theft: December 29, 10:508 a.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Somerville Ave. December 31, 9:58 a.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Jaques St. January 2, 3:03 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at McGrath Hwy. Assault: December 30, 9:45 p.m., police reported an assault at Somerville Ave. December 30, 10:14 p.m., police reported an assault at Eliot St. December 31, 7:46 a.m., police reported an assault at Memorial Rd. December 31, 12:37 p.m., police reported an assault at Memorial Rd. December 31, 3:42 p.m., police reported an assault at 77 Middlesex Ave. December 31, 9:52 p.m., police reported an assault at Hamlet St. January 1, 5:29 a.m., police reported an assault at 23 Cummings St. January 2, 6:03 p.m., police reported an assault at 1370 Broadway.
		 January 2, 9:52 p.m., police reported an assault at 499 Foley St. January 3, 7:19 p.m., police reported an assault at 1 McGrath Hwy. January 4, 11:55 a.m., police reported an assault at Cross St. January 4, 11:02 p.m., police reported an assault at Jaques St. Destruction of Property: December 29, 2:52 p.m., police reported a destruction of property at Summer St. December 30, 2:17 p.m., police reported a destruction of property at Medford St. January 1, 8:48 a.m., police reported a destruction of property at Hillside Pkwy. January 2, 11:19 a.m., police reported a destruction of property at Dickinson St. January 4, 9:37 a.m., police reported a destruction of property at 710 Broadway. January 4, 11:13 a.m., police reported a destruction of property at Wheatland St.

Somerville Resident honored with Patriot Award

By Rebecca Danvers

According to information provide by Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), the organization presented its Patriot Award to Somerville resident, Anthony Benedetti, on December 17, 2014, in recognition of his support of employees who serve in the Massachusetts National Guard and Reserve.

Benedetti, who is Chief Counsel of the Committee for Public Counsel Services (CPCS), the agency that provides legal representation to the Commonwealth's indigent persons in criminal and civil cases, and administrative proceedings in which there is a right to counsel, was nominated by one of his employees, Angel Rodriguez, an investigator in the Northampton CPCS office, in appreciation of Benedetti's support of him and his family before, during, and after his deployment to Afghanistan.

In nominating Benedetti, Rodriguez said, "Anthony Benedetti deserves to be rewarded by ESGR for his determination in supporting me during my most recent deployment, and all of our guard and reserve employees. Under Benedetti's direction, CPCS afforded me a flexible schedule when needed for my pre-deployment preparations, held my job at the same level as



vacant until I returned, gave me time off pre- and post-deployment, kept me 'whole' financially by paying me the difference between my regular CPCS salary and my Army National Guard pay, and asked no questions when I turned in my orders, except, 'What can we do to help?' He added, "I am proud to work for CPCS knowing that under Anthony they hire and support the soldiers in the modern Army who are vital to our national and global security."

In accepting the award, Benedetti said, "I am proud that I could play a part, even a small one, in removing any unnecessary worries Angel could have had about his job so that he could do his best for our nation and for peace, and I hope I have done whatever is in my power to make his return to CPCS as stress free as possible. I am committed to being mindful of the issues he and others in the Guards and Reserves face, and I promise to adhere to this commitment." Benedetti also recognized the

staff of the Northampton office that stepped up and took on additional duties to fill in while Rodriguez was deployed. "Their support of their colleague should not go unnoticed. They deserve recognition for helping Angel serve knowing that his work at home would be covered."

According to Earl Bonnett, ESGR Massachusetts Chair, "The Patriot Award was created by ESGR to publicly recognize individuals who provide outstanding patriotic support and cooperation to their employees, who like the citizen warriors before them, have answered their nation's call to serve. Supportive supervisors are critical to maintaining the strength and readiness of the nation's National Guard and Reserve units."

As the 1.3 million members of the National Guard and Reserve continue to perform an increasing number of unique missions with America's border and beyond, ESGR will continue to be the resource for the employers of citizen warrior.

Cambridge Health Alliance names Senior VP

By Tom Bannister

Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) has named Steve Carter as its senior vice president of information technology and chief information officer. Carter, who has served in various IT leadership roles at CHA since 2002, has more than 30 years of management experience in the healthcare delivery and IT environments.

Carter most recently served as CHA's senior director of data and development and chief security information officer. He has developed critical and foundational elements of CHA's IT infrastructure, including a comprehensive data warehouse, sophisticated reporting tools, and a robust intranet that offers over 100 custom applications and thousands of reports to enhance the quality of care and reduce expenses through greater efficiency. He has also established key safeguards to protect and se-

cure patient data and currently oversees IT education efforts.

"Steve's work at CHA has had a profound impact on the way our staff members use, access, secure, and generate information," said CHA CEO Patrick Wardell. "He will provide thoughtful and forward-thinking leadership that will ensure we remain a cutting-edge model for health systems across the country."

Prior to coming to CHA, Carter served as the director of operations improvement for Harvard Vanguard Medical Associates. In addition to leading operational efficiency initiatives for the organization, he was responsible for the analytic team and assumed an ongoing IT role for the administrative offices. He developed software that greatly improved the budgeting preparation process, for which he was awarded the prestigious Dorsey Award. He also helped open a new health center in Quincy and created the

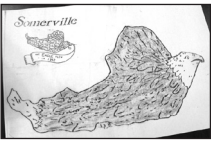


Steve Carter.

first intranet and public website for Harvard Vanguard.

Carter began his management career at New England Memorial Hospital in Stoneham, where he assumed responsibility for a number of departments including campus police, safety, telecommunications, and biomedical equipment. He holds a master's degree in business administration from Northeastern University and a bachelor's degree from Atlantic Union College.

The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #69

Henry's Tin Lizzie

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

The year was 1926 and Henry Ford – "The king of the road" – had already sold fifteen million automobiles. The product was his "Model T," nicknamed the "Tin Lizzie." It had been the best-selling car in the world for the previous eighteen years.



When he began his company in 1903, competition was fearsome. There were over fifty early automakers to compete with, most creating custom-made and expensive cars. For each experimental automobile Henry designed, he would give it a lettered name. It took until the letter "T," his twentieth attempt, to satisfy his own demands. He didn't invent the first automobile, but he was the first to deliver it to the multitudes by way of his "modern assembly line." His car was modestly built with few parts and was inexpensive. It got you where you wanted to go. For two decades this pleased the average person. They were offered in any color option, as long as it was black.

By 1926, Ford's son, Edsel, convinced his father to modernize. The "Model A," named after his father's first car, was born again. It came with its more powerful engine, designed by Henry, and the new more modern and pleasing body, designed by Edsel.

New plants were created to assemble these cars. The Somerville assembly plant was built to supply New England, and the model "A's" would be its first creation.

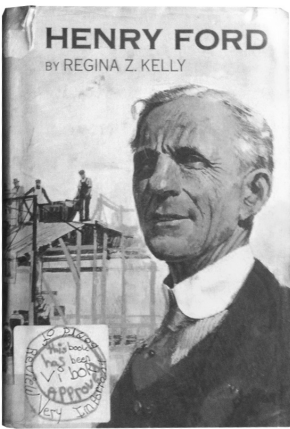
Seven styles were offered, with a choice of something new... four colors. The "Model A" would be built in Somerville for the next four years, being

replaced by other styles until World War II interrupted auto production.

At that time, the plant retooled and went to work 24/7, turning out more than 20,000 "Universal Carriers" and other military equipment. These were armored tank-like infantry vehicles used by the allied armies around the world. They were built in Somerville and tested in Revere's desert-like sands. During the fighting, Army and Navy acknowledgement awards were given to the Somerville workers by both the United States and British dignitaries.

After the war, retooling was done once again. In 1948, 500,000 tons of iron was used to build 75,000 cars at Assembly Square. If rolled off the line and placed bumper to bumper, they would produce a traffic jam from Boston to Miami.

Somerville supplied over 250 New England dealers by truck, rail, and ship. One of the famous post WWII auto styles built here was called the



Continued on page 6

Nearly \$1B granted for GLX project CONT. FROM PG 1

Secretary Foxx said, “Bringing light rail to Somerville and Medford will connect residents to work, education and other opportunities while making it easier than ever to access downtown Boston. We are proud to support projects like this-and recognize the need to do more. We are committed to working with Congress to find bipartisan solutions that will help the Boston region and communities across the U.S. continue to invest in and enhance their transportation systems in the years ahead.”

Governor Patrick was quoted as saying, “Today’s funding commitment brings the GLX another step closer to reality. With the extension, residents of Somerville, Cambridge and Medford will have more options for how they get to work, school and play and, in turn, experience sustainable, smart growth in the local economies. I thank USDOT, the Obama Administration and our Congressional delegation for their commitment to this project.”

Reportedly, the U.S. Department of Transportation will contribute approximately \$996 million in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Capital Investment Grant Program (New Starts) funding over the course of the \$2.3 billion project with funds from the Commonwealth covering the remainder.

“The commitment that federal government has demonstrated to bringing the Green Line Extension to life shows the impact

that this project will have on improving transportation in the Greater Boston area. Not only will GLX increase access to affordable, sustainable rapid transit but it will reduce traffic congestion and emissions as well,” MassDOT Acting Secretary & CEO Frank DePaola said.

“Today’s funding commitment brings the GLX another step closer to reality”

The project, already well underway, will include construction of six new stations, purchase of 24 new light rail vehicles, construction of a new vehicle maintenance facility, construction of a community bicycle and pedestrian path, and relocation of some existing commuter rail track.

MBTA General Manager Dr. Beverly Scott said, “The investment being made in the Green Line Extension by both the federal government and the Commonwealth will pay dividends down the line, not only in expanding access to transit, but in increasing development opportunities in Cambridge, Medford and Somerville through the GLX MassWIN program.”

According to official statements, the MassWIN (Massachusetts Workforce Initiative Now) program is an effort to build sustainable communities through local participation and



The newly announced federal funding will be a major boost the Green Line Extension project.

collaborative partnerships in transportation projects focused on workforce investment, education achievement, business development and city improvement. The goals of the program are to train residents to meet the hiring requirements for local transportation and construction jobs; place trained community members in transportation and construction career paths; grow the local workforce and economic base; and support sustainable communities by expanding the local workforce, businesses and neighborhoods.

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone said, “If you want more economic opportunity for everybody, of all socioeconomic levels, there is a clear answer: Build more quality public transportation.

Gov. Patrick, former Secretary Davey, Secretary DePaola and Dr. Scott know this, as do President Obama, Administrator McMillan and our partners in Washington, which is why they are making this historic investment to bring the Green Line Extension to fruition. Expanding public transportation decreases transportation costs for families, lowers unemployment and increases earnings. It puts more money into the economy and creates a resilient, sustainable economy. The Green Line Extension is the backbone for a stronger Somerville, region, Commonwealth, and nation.”

According to planners, the 4.7-mile light rail extension will extend existing MBTA Green Line service from a relocated Lech-

mere Station in East Cambridge to Union Square in Somerville and College Avenue in Medford. The project will serve some of the region’s most densely populated areas not currently served by rail transit, where 26 percent of residents do not own or have access to cars.

“This federal grant agreement represents a giant step toward attaining environmental justice for thousands of Somerville, Cambridge, and Medford residents. The amount of work that advocates, residents, and the GLX project team have put into achieving this milestone has been remarkable, and we should be proud of this substantial investment in our public transit system,” State Representative Timothy Toomey, Jr. said.

Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 5

“Fairlane.” It was named after the Ford family’s estate in Michigan. Edsel Ford was president of the company for 25 years. He guided his father’s brainchild successfully from 1918 to 1943 until his early death at age 49.

It is sad to reflect that the Somerville plant began with a successfully designed car by young Edsel Ford in 1926 and ended with an unsuccessfully designed car that had been built in his memory. During the 1926 to 1958 lifetime of the plant, 1,338,652 cars were produced. The last automobiles to roll off the line at Somerville’s Assembly Square were 400 colorful and sparkling “Edsels.”



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OBITUARIES

Marjorie C. McKenzie



Mckenzie, Marjorie C. (Cowie) of Somerville, December 28, 2014. Beloved wife of the late John R. McKenzie. Dear mother of Bruce and his wife Susan of Medford, David and his partner Erik Karlstad of Haverhill, Douglas and his wife Michi of Tucson, AZ,

Deborah Teal and her husband Ken of Westford and Joyce McKenzie of Somerville. Sister of Helen Johnston, Betty Parechian and the Late Stanley Cowie. Also survived by 6 grandchildren, 1 late grandson and 6 great grandchildren. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in Marjorie’s memory to the Alzheimer’s Association, 480 Pleasant St. Watertown, MA 02472, alz.org.

Russell Anthony Joyner



Russell Anthony Joyner
We were saddened to learn of Russ Joyner’s sudden death on January 1st. He was Assembly Row’s energetic General Manager whose personal warmth and charm made him an outstanding ambassador for Federal Realty Investment Trust. Raised in the Bronx, Russ captained the first Boston College football team that played in a bowl game. After playing in the NFL for two years, he took up a career in

development and retail management. The parties who now contemplate a Union Square Community Benefits Agreement (CBA) with developer US2 could have learned something from Russ. He was part of the team that developed L.A.’s Hollywood and Highland Center and negotiated a CBA that has become a national model. He will be missed. Calling hours will be held on Thursday, January 8, from 2-9 p.m. at the McNulty Funeral Home, 3006 Middletown Road, Bronx, New York. www.mcnyltyfuneralhome.com.

Fields Task Force makes recommendations to city

By Rebecca Danvers

The City of Somerville has recently reported that with limited space and thousands of active residents, it is reviewing recommendations made by the Recreational Fields Task Force for new policies and best practices for field permitting, use, and maintenance. Moving forward, the City will also create an Action Plan that outlines future steps to be taken to manage field usage.

It was further stated that to immediately begin addressing issues of field overuse, the Task Force recommended developing transparent field scheduling policies, establishing a preventive maintenance plan to prevent larger field issues, and supplying recommendations for restroom and lighting access at all fields.

In this regard, Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone said, “I want to thank the task force members for their diligence and the recommendations they have made. We will continue to review these recommendations to see how we can be even more efficient and transparent in the way we manage our valuable open spaces.”

Other facts shared by the city on this issue include:

The Task Force, established by Mayor Curtatone last spring, looked at ways to minimize overuse on Somerville’s fields, while also meeting the expanding recreation needs of the city’s residents. Task Force members reviewed an assessment of the City’s recreation fields by Gale Engineers and Planners to inform their recommendations.

“We want to make sure Somerville remains a great place to play for years to come”

Eleven of Somerville’s 18 fields exceed the recommended 250 annual uses for a well-maintained natural turf field, according to the Gale report, based on field usage by sport for each field and on industry standards and guidelines. Somerville averages 433 uses a year for each natural turf field—an unsustainable

amount of use regardless of maintenance and upkeep of each field. Fields included in the assessment include those owned by the City, the State Department of Conservation and Recreation, and Tufts University.

“Chairing this Commission was an honor,” said Alderman at Large Mary Jo Rossetti.

Members of the task force also reviewed the Gale report and outlined their preference for the sequence of repairs and options presented in the report. The task force’s top priority was expanding field options in the city with the renovation of state-controlled Draw 7 Park with artificial turf, lighting, restroom access, and a children’s play area. To complete longer-term field renovations without putting additional stress on other city facilities, the task force seconded the Gale report recommendation of partnering with other local agencies to use field space.

“We want to make sure Somerville remains a great place to play for years to come,” said Mayor Curtatone. “We need to use the same data and transparency we use to manage other city operations to manage our fields.”

Nave Gallery to present ‘The Sketchbook Show’

CONT. FROM PG 1

and diverse. By having almost no guidelines, sketches can be very raw and freeing for the artist. There is very little commitment to the work and with the notion that it does not have to be precious, both the artist and the work can just be. “Sometimes you get stuck, so wrapped up in producing work you forget about the creative process,” said Heather Balchunas, one of the artists whose work is featured in the show.

By reverting back to one of the most primal senses of creating and inventing, artists can come up with different ideas and a fresh way to progress forward with their work. “Artists use sketchbooks for as many different reasons as there are artists: daily practice, planning book, travelogue, dream journal. Sketching happens from life, memory, ideas or repetition,” says Mello about the theory behind the show.

The location of the show fits its concept perfectly. The Nave Gallery Annex sits right in Davis Square in an old two-family at 55 Chester



Street. Opened in 2013, the Annex is the second exhibition space for the Nave Gallery (located in Teele Square). The Annex is a large space, split up into smaller rooms with high ceilings and large windows. The gallery is designed to provide space for the collaboration and presentation of art of all media, but work of a collaborative, non-commercial nature is encouraged. An entirely volunteer run organization, The Nave Gal-

lery Annex has been transformed in so many different ways. Depicted well in The Sketchbook Show, the space truly is comprised and built upon how artists relate to other artists’ work. In researching this article and interviewing different artists, this reporter was encouraged to sketch before beginning to write. The idea was to spark innovation, open oneself up and create something different and new. In all avenues of life, its very

easy to get caught up making something look, act or behave the way its “supposed to be.” With the release of that notion, the product is able to have so much more life and what gets created is truly honest and beautiful; which is exactly what can be seen on the walls of The Nave Gallery Annex.

For more information on ‘The Sketchbook Show’, visit <http://navegallery.org/wp/the-sketchbook-show>.

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Beacon Hill Roll Call

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

Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Somerville:



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



Rep. 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.

This week, with the end of the 2013-2014 session approaching, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* concludes its series that takes a look at some of the bills approved by the Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Deval Patrick in the 2013-2014 session.

BOSTON STRONG LICENSE PLATES (H 3664)
House 147-0, Senate on a voice vote without a roll call, approved a law allowing drivers to purchase “Boston Strong” license plates for an additional \$50 or more above the regular biennial \$50 fee for a license plate. Proceeds benefit the One Fund that raises funds for the victims of the Boston Marathon bombings.

Supporters said the revenue from the additional \$50 fee would allow people to contribute financial support to the thousands who were impacted by this tragedy. They noted that the plates are one more way to honor the victims and their families.

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes

MERCURY RECYCLING (S 1758)
Senate 36-0, House on a voice vote without a roll call, approved a law that would prohibit the sale and installation of mercury thermostats. The law also requires all thermostat manufacturers to make collection containers available to wholesalers, retailers and local government for the proper disposal of older mercury-filled thermostats. Prior to passage of this law, the disposal program was voluntary. The measure also requires the manufacturers to participate in an education and outreach program to inform the public about this program.

Supporters said mercury pollution can cause serious health problems for people and wildlife. They noted even a few drops of mercury have the potential to contaminate a huge number of fish.

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

BAN “UPSKIRT” PHOTOS (H 3934)
Senate 39-0, House on a voice vote without a roll call, approved a law banning the covert photographing, videotaping or electronic surveillance of someone’s sexual or intimate parts, regardless of whether those parts are naked or covered by clothing or undergarments.

The measure was filed and taken up on March 6, 2014, one day after the Supreme Judicial Court had ruled that a man who took “upskirt” cell phone photos on the MBTA did not violate state law because the women photographed did not have a legal expectation of privacy and were not nude or partially nude. It passed both branches quickly and the governor signed it into law the next day.

Supporters said the Legislature acted at lightning speed to close this giant loophole in the law before another perpetrator got away with this outrageous activity.

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

PROTECTING ANIMAL WELFARE AND SAFETY (S 2345)
Senate 40-0, House on a voice vote without a roll call, approved a law increasing the prison time and fines for committing animal abuse. The measure increases the fine for a first offense from a maximum of \$2,500 to a maximum of \$10,000 while raising the maximum prison sentence for a first offense from five years to seven years. Under prior law, the fines and prison sentences for subsequent offenses are the same as first offenses. The law increases the fines and prison time for second offenses to a maximum of ten years and a fine of \$20,000.

Other provisions require veterinarians to report suspected animal abuse and create a special taskforce of experts to review methods to prevent animal abuse and punish those who commit it. The bill was filed in response to the “Puppy Doe” case in which a dog was euthanized after she suffered extensive injuries, including a stab wound to her eye and burns to her body.

Supporters said the Puppy Doe case is one of many similar cases that have occurred in the state. They argued it is time to increase the punishment and fines for those who commit such heinous crimes.

Some animal advocacy organizations, while applauding the increased penalties, have expressed concern about removal of a provision from the original bill that would have created an animal abuse registry. They say that without this important provision, shelters, breeders and pet stores, as well as people seeking new homes for their pets, can’t know whether the person to whom they give or sell vulnerable animals has a history of animal abuse and neglect.

Supporters of the bill said that the task force will look into creating an animal abuse registry.

(A “Yes” vote is for the bill.)

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

PROTECT ADDRESSES OF SOCIAL WORKERS (H 4568) - The House gave initial approval to a bill that would prohibit a Department of Children and Families social worker’s home address and home telephone number from being disclosed in any court proceeding.

Supporters said this would give social workers the same protection currently enjoyed by police officers. They noted that many social workers have been the victims of violence and argued that revealing this information makes things more dangerous.

ALLOW SIMULCASTING AT SUFFOLK DOWNS (S 2421) - The Senate approved and sent to the House a bill allowing Suffolk Downs for two years to continue simulcasting horse races from other states without being required to have any live races at the track. Current law only allows simulcasting if the track sponsors a certain amount of live races.

Supporters said that this would give the track’s owners time to decide what they are going to do with the track following their failure to get a casino license. They noted 100 jobs depend on approving the bill.

CONFINEMENT OF MENTALLY ILL PRISONERS (H 4545) - The House and Senate approved and sent to Gov. Patrick a bill prohibiting mentally ill patients from being housed in a segregated unit at a prison for more than 30 days. The measure provides that these prisoners instead be sent to mental health treatment units. The Senate Ways and Means Committee estimates that the legislation will cost \$13 million.

Supporters said the segregation of mentally ill prisoners is counterproductive and often makes the prisoners even worse. They noted that a court agreement imposing this same rule expires in 2015 and argued things will revert back to the old rules of extended confinement in segregation units if this bill is not passed.

MASSAGE THERAPISTS (H 4551) - The House and Senate approved and sent to Gov. Patrick a bill that prohibits unlicensed masseuses from advertising on the Internet through websites, e-mails or blogs.

Beacon Hill Roll Call

continued

Supporters said a loophole in current law prohibits these unlicensed masseuses from advertising in print including newspapers, magazines and signage, but allows them to advertise on the Internet.

SIX-YEAR CAREER PLANNING FOR STUDENTS (H 4527) - The House and Senate approved and sent to Gov. Patrick a bill that would create a committee to investigate and study the possible development and implementation in the 2016-2017 school year of a six-year career planning project for each sixth grader. The program would be coordinated by licensed school guidance counselors. The committee would present the report to the Legislature with recommendations for any action it feels should be taken.

Supporters said the bill will empower students to set goals and help them receive the necessary education and develop the skills required to succeed in a career.

CANCER VICTIMS AND DRIVER'S LICENSES (S 2417) - The House and Senate approved and sent to the governor a bill giving cancer patients who have lost their hair as a result of treatment a one-year extension on having a new photo taken for their driver's license. A Massachusetts driver's license photo must be updated every ten years.

Supporters said it is unfair that cancer patients who have lost their hair are required to take a psychologically harmful new photo while they are bald. They argued this compassionate bill would give them time to grow back their hair before taking a new photo.

ALLOW CONSUMERS TO USE COUPONS AND REBATES TO PURCHASE PRESCRIPTIONS (S 2286) - The House and Senate approved and sent to the governor a bill extending until July 2017 a current law allowing consumers to use coupons and rebate offers when purchasing brand name prescriptions.

The law, approved in 2012, was set to expire in July 2015.

Supporters said that banning the use of coupons and rebates prior to 2012 was designed to prevent drug companies from trying to induce customers into buying their drugs. They said that the unintended consequence of the ban is that it resulted in people being prohibited from saving money on prescriptions.

Opponents argued the use of coupons drives up health care costs by luring consumers and encouraging them to request high-priced brand name medication.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

“(Buy) a \$30 instant (scratch) ticket.” — *Retiring State Treasurer Steve Grossman on what he is going to do when he leaves office on January 21. State law prohibits the treasurer and other Lottery officials from buying Lottery tickets.*

“\$1.3 million.” — *The amount of money paid by Verizon to resolve allegations that the company overcharged the Commonwealth for telecommunications services.*

“After reviewing the committee’s authority, it has been determined that our jurisdiction does not extend to the scope of your request. — *Rep. David Linsky (D-Natick), Chairman of the House Committee on Post Audit and Oversight responding to a GOP request to investigate the questions surrounding the scandal at the Probation Department in which former Probation Commissioner John O’Brien was convicted of rigging the probation department’s hiring process so that unqualified, politically connected candidates would get hired.*

“We are puzzled by your response ... We believe the law is clear ... ‘It shall be the duty of the Committee on Post Audit and Oversight to oversee the development and implementation of legislative auditing programs ... with particular emphasis on performance auditing.’ —

Response to Linsky from Reps. James Lyons (R-Andover) and Marc Lombardo (R-Billerica).

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 29-January 2, the House met for a total of 10 hours and six minutes while the Senate met for a total of 10 hours and 10 minutes.

Mon. December 29	House 11:07 a.m. to 4:51 p.m. Senate 11:02 a.m. to 4:45 p.m.
Tues. December 30	No House session No Senate session
Wed. December 31	House 11:03 a.m. to 3:25 p.m. Senate 11:03 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Thurs. January 1	No House session No Senate session
Fri. January 2	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

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COMMENTARY

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

Green Line Extension, expanded public transit supports all residents



By Joseph A. Curtatone

On Monday, we signed an agreement accepting nearly \$1 billion in funding from the Federal Transit Administration, guaranteeing that the most important public transit project in the country is brought to fruition. This is a historic milestone for Somerville, the metro region and the Commonwealth. We are building more than a light rail line. We're building the backbone of a resilient, sustainable economy. And it's a strong economy for everyone.

We know that innovative companies are locating in places close to public transportation, and in the case of Union Square, forthcoming public transportation.

When we build public transportation and then build in a smart, strategic way around transit hubs, we create the "bump factor." We're creating places where people can easily bump into each other; where ideas can percolate and capital can flow freely; where ideas thrive, talent is plentiful and jobs – good jobs – are the result. We can see that today in Somerville where makers, artisans and clean tech innovators are sharing ideas and working together in areas with good transit access that is about to get even better thanks to the forward-thinking commitment to public transit that is being made by our federal government and the State.

But today we are not only making an investment in public transit to spur on innovation and create the jobs we need for a thriving 21st century economy. We are coming together to build quality public transit to directly support the working people of Somerville and Massachusetts.

A car may be a convenience

for those who can afford it. But for many others, it's a necessary financial burden. For some, commuting by car is the only option to get to work to earn the money that pays the bills. And those bills include pouring income back into their car for gas, for repairs, for inspections, and so on. The cost burden of commuting for the working poor is nearly two-thirds more than other workers. If you want to ensure that the working poor and others without cars can get to work, the pharmacy, the grocery store, the doctor, or to see their extended families: Build more quality public transportation.

Two out of five low-income Latino residents who took part in a recent Dukakis Center study said that at some point they had to forgo a basic necessity to afford transportation. Driving drains the already limited amount of disposable or discretionary income available to these families. If you want families to be able to save more for bills and necessities: Build more

public transportation.

A lack of quality public transportation adversely affects people's job choices – and it can even affect their education. When someone has to take multiple public transit routes to get to work or school, it can take hours, or even all day. The difficulty in simply getting to work can prove an obstacle in getting and keeping job. That's compounded when someone works multiple jobs to support their family, but they need to get from work to a medical appointment – or they are taking classes in addition to working full-time, so they can be more competitive in the marketplace. Roughly one out of four residents in the Dukakis Center study reported that transportation-related issues caused repeated lateness to work, and almost a third reported being repeatedly late to health care appointments or to school because of transportation issues. Do you want workers to get jobs and keep them? Do you want people to further their

education while working to pay their tuition? Build more public transportation.

Of course, public transportation is not an issue that exists in a silo. Combined with a dearth of housing across a region that has not kept up with demand – especially for housing near transit centers – the expansion of public transit can affect housing costs. But that is *not* an argument to reject more public transportation. If low-income residents are forced to move farther away from urban employment centers, any housing-related savings are erased by higher transportation costs due to longer commutes.

This is an argument for every city and town in the region to do what they should have already been doing, and what we are doing now in Somerville: Build more housing, including affordable housing especially near transit. Our proposed zoning overhaul will make Somerville a national leader in using zoning to produce affordable housing. One in every

Continued on page 20

Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

Drop and give me 20



After graduating from Somerville High School in the early 70's, with all the demonstrations, walkouts, and drama,

I thought college would be a breeze.

It's hard to imagine that 1975 was forty years ago. I was a sophomore at a Boston College in the Back Bay. I was driving my 1967 Dodge Dart back and forth. Often I would drop off my pal John Glynn in Dorchester. He was my best friend in college. It was a perfect mix of an Irishman and an Italian from the inner city and together we had as much fun as was humanly possible without getting thrown out of school.

I was very excited to be attending college but would have guessed that I was about to encounter an unforgettable experience that took every ounce of my sanity, and almost drove me over the edge. And it had nothing to do with academics.

Just a few months earlier in the fall of 1974, was when John and I became buds. We were both approached by a major fraternity and invited to come to their "smoker." There was food and beer and belligerent frat brothers. Shortly thereafter we started pledging for the frat.

The first night consisted of three of us "pledges" meeting at one of the brother's apartments. We were given snacks before accepting the invitation to become brothers in the frat. We were then blindfolded and placed in the back of a van. We were driven around for about an hour while being degraded and harassed by the current brothers. It was a few of the brothers' first chance to dish out the terror now that they were subjected to when they were lowly pledges. They couldn't wait to do unto others as they were done to. John and I, along with the other guy, sat nervously while wondering where we were being taken to and what was going to be done to us. College! Oh boy!

The van finally stops after 45 minutes of driving on a highway. Being blindfolded for that long was starting to drive me nuts. Was it really worth this much anguish just to be in a college fraternity? The van stopped and we sat there for a few minutes while the brothers discussed their next move. I could hear them throwing rocks into a body of water. I also heard a distant train going by. I put two and two together. Added into the fact that we were on the highway for about 45 minutes, I thought that we might be at Walden Pond in Concord. Sure enough

I was right.

So what were they going to do to us now? Would they make us walk blindfolded into the woods or into the water? What had I gotten myself into? We were instructed to keep the blindfolds on until we heard the van pull away. Great! We had to find a way back to civilization approximately 20 miles away. We made our way out of the Walden Pond Reservation in Concord and started hitch hiking or thumbing as we called it back then.

We made it back to the apartment in the Back Bay in about an hour and a half. We weren't instructed to return there but my pal John wanted to prove something, being a wise guy kid from Dorchester. He was a very proud kid from the streets and I think what he wanted to say to the fraternity was, "You guys are going to have your hands filled with me!" And have their hands full they did. They also couldn't believe that he asked if there were any snacks left.

For two grueling weeks we wore a straw hat and carried a gold painted brick everywhere. And boy what a two weeks it was. We had to man a "kissing booth" on campus, while selling lollipops. We had to yell loudly whenever a brother rubbed his chin, even if we were in a class or the



library or any other place. We had to serenade the girl's dorm with slightly off color songs that the frat taught us. We had to learn the Greek alphabet and recite it at their whim. If we didn't call them "sir" we had to drop and do push-ups. We were basically abused, humiliated and degraded for two weeks all for the honor of being in an elite fraternity.

On the 14th day of this horror, I had taken all that I could. I flipped out and screamed, "That's it ... I quit!" I ran out the door and up the street. I was followed by the then president of the frat who assured me that it was the last night and it would be over in an hour. It was "Hell Night!" I was actually sobbing (tough guy!). That's how crazy it was.

So we were driven to

Continued on page 15

COMMENTARY

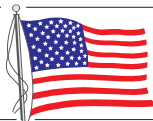
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Is it time to shovel?

The View Of The Times



We need laws in this land of ours to protect us from those who would do us harm, steal our property, etc. There are times when some of us may even need protection from ourselves. The challenge for any society that values its essential freedoms is to strike a fair balance between what is barely essential and what may be regarded as excess when it comes to the rules and regulations that govern our daily lives.

The city’s new snow removal policies have many asking whether or not a veering off into the area of excess may have been reached. Strict timetables and the (arguably) draconian consequences of non-compliance have left a lot of Somerville residents wondering about the fairness of the city’s policies and asking where the flexibility is. Is it realistic to expect every single tenant with sidewalks in front of their homes to

be able meet the city’s requirements for snow removal? Yes, provisions are being made for the elderly and disabled to get help with this, but what about others with non-traditional work schedules, those who must travel a lot, and so on? Nothing seems to have been mentioned about how to equitably deal with those who may have legitimate reasons for missing the city’s seemingly urgent deadline. Of course, our sidewalks must remain

clear for safe and sure passage, but a measure of understanding and latitude seems to be missing in the city’s planning process. It seems too cut-and-dried and inflexible for so many well-intentioned citizens. Perhaps the city should reconsider what it is asking of everyone across the board, then think through the details, hopefully arriving at a more realistic view of what the right policies should actually be.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Our sincere condolences and sympathy to the family of Marjorie McKenzie of West Somerville, a lifelong resident who grew up here in the Davis Square area. She was very well known in the community. Marjorie was such a great lady, always in good spirits and smiled and loved everyone. From the first meeting you had with Margi you knew you had a friend. Her long time loving husband John passed away a few years ago and we are all comforted knowing she now has joined him in heaven. What a great lady who loved everything about life, her family, her friends and her Somerville. We will sadly miss her smile, her kind words and her laugh. She was one of those special ladies who leaves a mark on all of us that knew her, and we thank her for that.

Another passing, maybe not from Somerville, but we were shocked to hear of the passing of former U.S. Senator from Massachusetts, Ed Brooke, the first black U.S. Senator since the reformation. He represented Massachusetts for two terms in the 60’s and 70’s. What a great guy he

was. He touched a lot of us here in the city. He was a Republican as well and was known for his working both sides of the isle. Too bad we don’t have the same type of politicians today as Senator Brooke was. He was a good man.

Our condolences to the family of Elizabeth (Betty) Medeiros here in the city. Betty, as she is known by those who knew her, was a lifelong resident of the Somerville. A very active lady here in the city. She will be missed by her family and many friends.

Congratulations to our own Clifton and Soimise Verdieu on their new addition to their family. Little baby boy Samuel Verdieu was born weighing in at 7 lbs., 19 oz. this week. Both Clifton and Soimise are proud parents. We wish them all the very best of luck.

Residents, business owners and community members are invited to an information session about the proposed zoning ordinance overhaul on Tuesday, Jan. 20, at 6:30 p.m. at the Somerville Armory, 191 Highland Ave. The session will include a presentation on the new code followed by an opportunity

to review the code and map and discuss them with city staff. Following this information session, the Land Use Committee of the Board of Aldermen and the Planning Board have scheduled a joint public hearing on the proposed ordinance for Thursday Jan. 29, 2015 at 6 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers at City Hall, 93 Highland Ave. The city invites public feedback through these meetings and a new website that will go live later this month.

Every Friday from January 9-30, 9:30 p.m. to midnight, East End Grille will be the host of *Somerville Idol*, featuring Season 12 *American Idol* top finalist Erika Van Pelt, who will be the host of the four week competition. Contestants who have been selected in a preliminary round will sing songs based on audience feedback and a panel of prominent local judges. Contestants will be eliminated based on 50 percent judge’s feedback and 50 percent audience reaction and voting, so you be the judge! The finale will take place on January 30 where we will crown the first ever “Somerville Idol.” Contestants will fight it out for a chance to win the grand prize weekly based on patron’s votes. Come on over to the East Side and

be part of something fun and interactive. www.eastendgrille.com.

The Somerville High School Scholarship Foundation Annual Meeting will be held in the Gallery 81 Conference Room at Somerville High School on Monday, January 12, 2015, at 7 p.m. The meeting is for current officers, directors, and members. New members are welcome. The agenda includes the election of directors. For information, contact Norreen Santucci at NFSLEARN@aol.com or 617-448-0145.

The Annual Meeting of the Somerville Home will be held at the Home, 117 Summer Street, Somerville, Massachusetts on Tuesday, January 27, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing Officers and Trustees for the ensuing year and to act on any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Somerville High Adult Education course available for starting classes: Right now registration for Real Estate license course. Less than half the price of going rate. Call now: 617 625-6600 Sophia Carofotes or better yet go to the high school at 6 p.m. and register.

A Grand Union Flag Raising

The 239th annual “Grand Union” flag-raising ceremony at Prospect Hill Park was held on Thursday, Jan. 1, 2015 at 12 p.m.

A processional led by a re-enactor portraying General George Washington on horseback left from the City Hall Concourse at 11:30 a.m. Members of the public were invited to participate and encouraged to wear traditional colonial clothing.

The annual ceremony commemorates the raising of the nation’s first official flag, featuring thirteen red and white horizontal stripes, atop Prospect Hill on New Year’s Day, 1776. At the time, Prospect Hill was a key site in a string of fortifications created by Washington and the Continental Army in their siege of British troops in Boston during the first year of the American Revolution.

The afternoon’s program included songs, readings, and participants from the Ancient and Honorable Company (first chartered in 1638), as well as the Charlestown militia. The American Legion Post 19 Honor Guard led a military salute as a commemorative flag was raised atop the Prospect Hill Tower.





Photos by Donald Norton



SPORTS

Local martial arts students receive black belt honors

By Rich Tenorio

Two karate students from Villari's Self-Defense Center of Somerville were promoted to black belt rankings at Marlborough on Dec. 14. Jeff Green received a second-degree black belt, and Justin von Bosau earned a first-degree black belt. The students train under Master Brad Rogers, a fifth-degree black belt. The black belt is arguably the most famous ranking in karate. Many teachers of the Japanese martial art use a system of belts to signify rank, with beginners starting at white belt and progressing to a black belt through a series of tests, a process that can take years. There are also ascending de-

grees of black belt, beginning at first degree. Villari's Self-Defense Centers were founded by Fred Villari, who was inducted into the World Masters Martial Arts Hall of Fame as Grandmaster of the 20th Century. The black belt test on Dec. 14 lasted for about three to four hours and involved 44 students total. Later that night, after Green and von Bosau had received their new belts, they switched their karate gi, or uniform, for a suit and tie as they were honored at a formal dinner at the Westborough Doubletree Hotel with Master Rogers and Master Mark Gruppiso, a 10th-degree black belt. Villari's Self-Defense Center of



From left, Jeff Green, Master Brad Rogers, Master Mark Gruppiso and Justin von Bosau celebrate Green's and von Bosau's successful completion of a black belt ranking test at the Westborough Doubletree Hotel last month. Somerville offers karate classes through Saturday. For more information, call (617) 625-5070, visit www.villarisomerville.com or "like" the school on Facebook.

Somerville leads the way

By Tom Bannister

As most know, Somerville High School has one of the most storied histories in Massachusetts High School Basketball that dates back almost 75 years. In those dominant years that stretched from the early 1940's until the early 1980's, Somerville was a constant contender for sectional and state titles. In the famed Tech Tourney days, Somerville took home the Class A championship seven times including the final Tech Tourney ever played in 1971. Somerville would show up with 7,000 plus fans for those games. When the Highlanders would win, which happened often,

the crowds would march from North Station to Highland Avenue chanting "S-O-M-E-R-V-I-L-L-E" and singing the school alma mater "Somerville leads the way". This season, the Highlanders are going to get a chance to compete on the sacred parquet floor of the Boston Garden (now known as the TD Garden). The TD Garden will be hosting the "Good Sports High School Invitational" on January 10, 2015. Somerville will take on Belmont at 12:30 pm. Tickets are \$12.00 and includes admission to seven other marquee high school games including teams such as Andover, Central Catholic, Newton

North, St. John's Prep, Malden Catholic, Arlington Catholic, and Mansfield. Head Coach Mark Antonelli and the Highlanders are calling on all students, faculty, alumni, and community members to come out, wear their red and blue, and rock the Garden the way only Somerville can. Each participating school is required to sell 400 tickets. Tickets will be available through the SHS Athletic Department. Please contact Athletic Director Nicole Viele 617-625-6600 ext. 6161 nviele@k12.somerville.ma.us or Head Coach Mark Antonelli mantonelli@k12.somerville.ma.us for ticket information.



To advertise in The Somerville Times call Bobbie Toner: 617-666-4010

Ms. Cam's Olio #456

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

1. What television show has won the most Emmy Awards for a TV program?
2. Lynda Carter is known for playing what superheroine from 1975 to 1979 on TV?
3. Who was the tenth president of the United States?
4. Who was the first Vice President of the U.S.?
5. What country had the largest number of World War II casualties?
6. Who wrote *Charlie and The Chocolate Factory*?
7. How many boxing titles did Muhammad Ali lose during his career?
8. What was the only novel written by Oscar Wilde?
9. In the boxing world who was known as the "Brown Bomber"?
10. What body of water is Jamaica located on?
11. What type of food line did Linda McCartney launch?
12. Of the first seven U.S. Presidents, all have appeared on currency except whom?

Answers on page 16

APARTMENT RENTALS
COLONY REAL ESTATE
1258 Broadway, Somerville
Somerville, Arlington, Cambridge
-All Areas-
617-776-0044
colony.re@rcn.com

Proskauer spreads holiday cheer with veterans

By Rebecca Danvers

Several months ago the Boston office of the global law firm Proskauer reached out to Volunteers of America Massachusetts (VOAMA) to see how they could make an impact to veterans and their families struggling to get through the holidays. Proskauer was committed to helping veterans living at VOAMA’s Massachusetts Bay Veterans Center (MBVC) and helping to ease the stress on veteran parents in VOAMA’s Supportive Services for Veterans Families program.

Joe Capraro, a partner at Proskauer’s Boston office explained, “Proskauer recognizes the profound sacrifice of our men and women in the U.S. military. We are proud to give back to our veterans, and pleased to partner with the Massachusetts Bay Veterans Center and Volunteers of America to deliver some holiday cheer.”

On Dec. 22 volunteers from the Proskauer, gathered to serve dinner to the residents at the Massachusetts Bay Veterans Center. Residents gratefully accepted the

plates piled high, and shared their stories with volunteers. While veterans thanked volunteers for arranging the meal, volunteers thanked veterans for their service.

“I just have to say thank you for doing this. I mean it from the bottom of my heart,” said one veteran, in an impromptu speech. “Not everyone will say it out loud, but a meal like this is something we’re really thankful for. Thank you.”

In addition to hosting the holiday dinner in Somerville, Proskauer also donated toys and gifts for children and adolescents, to be distributed to veterans’ families from the VOAMA Supportive Services for Veterans Families program this holiday season.

Tom Bierbaum, President and CEO of Volunteers of America Massachusetts, said, “For many of our clients, the holidays can be difficult, lonely and stressful. Proskauer’s generosity will make the season a little brighter with a warm meal, or with a gift for a child. But most importantly, Proskauer is showing veterans that their community stands behind them and wants them to succeed.”



Scott Harshbarger and volunteers serve dinner to Massachusetts Bay Veterans Center residents.

Drop and give me 20 CONT. FROM PG 10

another location blindfolded and sworn in as brothers after a candle lit ceremony. I can’t tell you how terrifying the last night was, but we were just glad that it was over.

The brothers became some of my life-long friends to his day. The then president, along with my pal from Dorchester, is no longer with us, but the memories

will live on. We went on to cause mischief and mayhem for the rest of our college careers. I do not condone this or any other type of hazing as it is very dangerous, and against college rules. I would never allow one of my kids to go through this kind of craziness. Although I must say being in that fraternity made my college days a lot more interesting.

ATTENTION HOME BUYERS

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THE NORTON GROUP

What’s on Somerville Neighborhood News

We decided to bring back this SNN story published in November as it still holds relevance to Somerville months later. Somerville Neighborhood News show, a community news production brought to you by the dedicated staff, volunteers and interns at Somerville Community Access TV. Thank you reading, watching and sharing our news segments.

SOMERVILLE SCHOOLS WELCOME NEW STUDENTS WHO FLED DANGER: *by Jane Regan and Yuxiao Yuan*

Pedro sought a safer life. He traveled to Somerville from Chalantenango, El Salvador on foot, by bus, car, and in the back of a tractor-trailer truck. Now he’s one of 60 new students from Central America who have enrolled in Somerville Public Schools after making it to the Texas border on their own or with other children, part of a wave of 70,000 youth who crossed the border earlier this year. And the district is concentrating on when those students are going, not where they’ve been.

“As soon as the student comes to Somerville, they are our students, period, and we don’t need to know, and we’re not interested in knowing about their residency status,” said Sarah Davila, the schools’ District Administrator of Programs, English Learner Education and Family and Community Partnerships. “We want them to be successful.”



Pedro – who, like other students in this article, is not being identified by his real name – had a perilous journey. He has a gash wound in his arm from an injury he got on the way. He ended up in a cell in Texas and then was bounced to an immigrant holding center in Florida before being reunited with his father, who works as a cook in Cambridge. By the time he got to Somerville, he had a lung infection that landed him in the hospital.

But the hazards of his hometown justified the risky journey, he said. “It’s really dangerous there,” Pedro said. “There are thugs who don’t leave you in peace.”

Maria, 15, lived with her grandparents, also in Chalantenango. She never remembers meeting her parents before arriving in Somerville.

“I told my parents that, since I was turning 15, I needed to be with them,” she said. “Living with your grandparents is not the same as living with your parents.” Miguel, 16, came from San Vicente, El Salvador. Back home he lived with an aunt. His mother works for a local bakery here. Miguel said he had been harassed but never hurt by the local toughs. However, one of his friends was regularly ransomed, Miguel said, because he wore nice clothing. Local gang members assumed he had money. They demanded higher and higher payments. Then one day, the friend’s cousin disappeared. “He suspected that the gang was responsible,” Miguel said. “So he and his family started to save up money and now he lives up here.”

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 a.m. – 3 p.m.
617-625-6600 Ext. 2300

Cross Street Center: 165 Broadway
Tuesday & Wednesday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
(617) 625-6600 Ext. 2335

Ralph and Jenny Center: 9 New Washington Street,
Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.
(617) 666-5223

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Luncheon at the Highlander Café – Tuesday, January 27 – Doors will open at 10:45 A.M. The Highlander Café is located at the atrium of Somerville High School (closest to the library.) Luncheon choices: Chicken Parmesan or Scallops - \$9.00 fee – Seating is limited so please call Connie at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300 to RSVP, with your lunch choice or if you have any questions.

Free Hearing Screening – Thursday, January 29 from 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. - At our Ralph & Jenny Center located at 9 New Washington Street (2nd floor) – Available to all Somerville Seniors by appointment only – The screening provided by Mass Audiology will include hearing screening, hearing aide cleanings and changing hearing aide batteries. Space is limited so please contact Kim Moss at either the Ralph & Jenny Center, 617-666-5223 or 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300.

Washington, D.C. Patriotic/Americana Tour – Thursday, April 30 to Sunday, May 3rd – Visit Historic Washington, D.C., WWII Memorial, Arlington Cemetary, Vietnam, Korea, Iwo Jima, FDR, Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials. Illuminated night tour of the monuments and many many more stops. Trip includes: professional tour director, hotal accommodations, transportation, 3 breakfasts, 1 luncheon, 2 dinners, including dinner theatre, admission to Washington touring, including tour mobile transportation, tax & gratuity. \$589.- double or triple occupancy, \$749.- single occupancy, deposit of \$150.- per person with the final payment due on April 1st. Check in time will be 6:00 A.M. at the Ralph & Jenny Center on Thursday, April 30th with an approximate return time between 10:00 – 10:30 P.M. on Sunday, May 3. Please contact Connie at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

The SCOA is NO LONGER excepting applications for free smoke alarms / carbon monoxide detectors. It is the hope of both the Somerville Fire Department and the Somerville Council on Aging that we will receive the grant again in the future. If you would like your name put on a waiting list should this grant be received again, please contact Maureen Bastardi at the Somerville Council on Aging at 617-625-6600, extension 2316.

The trip scheduled to Atlantic City on January 11 is **SOLD OUT**.

The trip scheduled to Wildwood, NJ on May 11 – 15 is **SOLD OUT**.

The Ralph & Jenny Center will remain closed on Mondays and will resume Mondays after the first of the New Year.

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

IMPORTANT NEWS

The Ralph & Jenny Center will remain closed on Mondays and will resume Mondays after the first of the New Year.

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

LGBT EVENTS:

LGBT Advisory Group – Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month.

LGBT Monthly Lunch – Monday, January 12, 11:30 A.M., Somerville Cambridge Elder Services will provide a hot or cold lunch – suggested contribution of \$2.00 – RSVP required no later than 2:30 P.M. Thursday, January 8th. This event happens the 2nd Monday of every

month excluding City Holidays and snow emergencies.

LGBT Dinner & Movie –There is no LGBT Dinner & Movie night in January because the 3rd Monday falls on a City Holiday – MLK Day. This event happens the 3rd Monday of every month excluding City Holidays and snow emergencies.

LBT Women Fit-4-Life - Fitness and Nutrition Classes. Classes are Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting at 6 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 LGBT Lunch, Dinner & Movie or the Advisory Group please contact Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2316 or email her at MBastardi@Somervillema.gov

Back by popular demand are the Holiday Inn Dances. Lunch and dance to music provided by Hank our resident DJ. All dances are on Mondays and from 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. January 26, February 23, March 23, April 13, May 18, June 29. A \$15.00 fee is required along with a RSVP so please contact Connie at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 to make your reservation or if you have any questions.

All clubs and groups welcome new members.

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 and ask to speak to Suzanne.

Book Club – Meets the first Friday of each month from 10:00 to 11:30 A.M. Senior Project Manager, Janine Lotti, facilitates this group. Join this group to read and discuss a different book each month. In most cases, copies of the book are available in the COA office. Contact Janine at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2321 or JLotti@Somervillema.gov if you require additional information.

Veterans Group – Meets the third Monday of each month from 9:30 to 10:30 A.M. Our Social Worker, Suzanne Norton, 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 and ask for Suzanne.

Low Vision Support Group – Meets the second (2nd) Tuesday of each month from 10:30 to 11:30 A.M. Our Social Worker, Suzanne Norton, 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 Suzanne at 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 intern, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Join a group of your peers to discuss current events. Please call us at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 for additional information or if you have any questions.

Gardening Club – Meets the second Monday of each month starting at 9:00 A.M. and running for an hour most times. Our volunteer, Vilma Sullivan, facilitates

this group. A different topic each month ranging from gardening tips & secrets to inexpensive “greenhouses.” Please contact Senior Project Manager, Janine Lotti at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2321 or JLotti@Somervillema.gov if you have any questions or require additional information.

*All these groups meet at our Holland Street Center located at 167 Holland Street

STAY ACTIVE:

Weekly Exercise Class Schedule

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

Mondays:

Wii Bowling, noon, Free. (H)
Fit 4 Life* Group C, 1:00 P.M. (H)

Tuesdays:

Strengthening, 9:15 A.M., \$3 per class (H)
Dalcroze Eurhythmics, \$2.00, 1:00 P.M., (H)
LBT Fit 4 Life*, 6:00 P.M., (H)

Wednesdays:

Fit 4 Life* Group A, 8:45 A.M (H)
Fit 4 Life* Group B, 9:00 A.M. (H)
Fit 4 Life* Group C, Noon (H)
Bowling @ Flatbreads, 1:00 P.M.
Zumba for All, 5:15 P.M., \$3 per class (H)

Thursdays:

Strengthening, 9:30 A.M., \$3 per class (RJ)
LBT Fit 4 Life*, 6:00 P.M.

Fridays:

Fit 4 Life* Group A, 8:45 A.M.
Fit 4 Life* Group B, 9:00 A.M.
Fit 4 Life* Group C 12:00 P.M.

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

Upcoming Schedule

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

Wednesday|January 7

10:00 English Conversation (C)
11:30 Lunch (RJ, C)
12:45 Bingo (RJ)
1:00 Whist (H)
1:00 Bowling at Flatbread

Thursday|January 8

10:00 Current Events Group (H)
10:00 Cards (RJ)
10:00 Blood Pressure Screening (RJ)
10:00 Scarves for Soldiers (RJ)
11:00 Computer tutorial with Barbara (H)
11:30 Lunch (H, RJ)
12:45 Bingo (H, RJ)

Friday|January 9

10:00 Book Club (H)
11:30 Lunch (H)
12:45 Bingo (H)

Monday|January 12

10:00 Book Club (H)
11:30 Lunch (H)
12:45 Bingo (H)

Tuesday|January 13

10:00 English Conversation (C)
10:00 Scarves for Soldiers (RJ)
10:00 Cards (RJ)
10:30 Low Vision Group (H)
11:30 Lunch (RJ, C)
12:00 Computer tutorial with Norbert (H)
12:45 Bingo (RJ)

Wednesday|January 14

10:00 English Conversation (C)
11:30 Lunch (RJ, C)
12:45 Bingo (RJ)
1:00 Whist (H)
1:00 Bowling at Flatbreads

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.

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •



Photo by Ethan Backer

CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Wednesday|January 7

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

Central Library
Middle School Writers’ Den
Alan Ball-617-636-9033
6 p.m.-7:15 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Thursday|January 8

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

West Branch Library
Lego Club
Annamarie Almeida-617-623-5000 x2977
3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|40 College Avenue

Central Library
Lego Club
Cathy Piantigini-617-623-5000 x2950
3:30 p.m.-4:30 P.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Friday|January 9

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

Saturday|January 10

Central Library
Cryptoparty
James O’Keefe-6174470210
11 a.m.-2:15 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Monday|January 12

Central Library
Sing-along with Jeremy Lyons
11 a.m.-12 p.m.| 79 Highland Avenue

Tuesday|January 13

Central Library
Homeschool Reading Group for Ages 11-13

Tammy McKanan
9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

West Branch Library
Preschool Storytime
11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.|40 College Avenue

Central Library
Somerville High School Anime Club Meeting
Emmanuel-8572583920
3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Wednesday|January 14

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

MUSIC|ARTS
Wednesday|January 7

Johnny D’s
Erin Harpe and the Delta Swingers
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

The Burren
Front Room
Exile on Elm
Back Room
Comedy@10
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

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

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

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

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

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

Thursday|January 8

Johnny D’s
Clave & Blues (Salsa/Latin Jazz/ Timba)
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s
Flatt Rabbit grassy Thursdays|7:30 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room
Acoustic/Bluegrass|9:30 p.m.
Back Room
Scattershot
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

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

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

Bull McCabe’s
Dub Down Reggae
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

Arts at the Armory
Danielle Miraglia: Cafe Concert for Folk New England
7:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Friday|January 9

Johnny D’s
Johnny A. (Rock/Blues/Jazz Guitar)

Emperor Norton’s Stationary Marching Band
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s
Jim Coyle Band |6 p.m.
Hear Now Live presents Day-breakers Band, Dressed for the Occasion, In Spades \$10 cover|9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room
Irish Session|9:30 p.m.
Back Room
Cover Up
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

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

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

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

Bull McCabe’s
Windsor Tree
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

Arts at the Armory
Craft Beer & Chocolate for Charity
7:30 p.m.|Performance Hall
Nate Taylor
8 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Saturday|January 10

Johnny D’s
Jazz Brunch
Muscle Shoals Revue feat. Amy

Black & Sarah Borges
The Duppy Conquerors
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s
Tom Hagerty Band |6 p.m.
Low Sparks and guests \$5 cover|9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Back Room
Spitting Vinnies
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Karaoke
65 Holland St

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

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

Bull McCabe’s
The Startenders
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

Arts at the Armory
Sean Gaskell and Dave Kobrenski
West African Kora and Fula Flute
8 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Sunday|January 11

Johnny D’s
Jazz Brunch
Open Blues Jam! featuring Matthew Smart Band
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s Bar
Deb McDonnell Band|7 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

The Burren
Front Room
Sunday Americana with Sean Staples, Eric Royer, Tim Gearan, Dave Westner and Dan Keller|7 p.m.
Back Room
Burren Acoustic Music Series
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

Arts at the Armory
Eric Hofbauer (guitar), Aaron Darrell (bass), Curt Newton (drums)
2 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Monday|January 12
Johnny D's
Stump! Pub Trivia|8:30 p.m.
17 Holland St | 617-776-2004

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

The Burren

Front Room
Bur-Run
Helena Delaney, Johnny O'Leary & Friends Irish Session|9 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

PA'S Lounge
Americiana Monday
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

Tuesday|January 13
Johnny D's
Jesse & Mariam Tuesdays in January
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar
Condescendants|8 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

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

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

PA'S Lounge
Open Mic
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

Arts at the Armory
Youth Arts Arise: Graffiti Art
3:30 p.m.| Mezzanine|191 Highland Ave

Wednesday|January 14
Johnny D's
Claudia Schmidt
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

The Burren
Front Room
Exile on Elm
Back Room
Comedy@10
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

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

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

Arts at the Armory
Youth Arts Arise: Creating Tensegrity
3:30 p.m.| Mezzanine|191 Highland Ave

CLASSES AND GROUPS

Wednesday|January 7
Third Life Studio
Belly Dance performance preparation with Nadira Jamal
6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|Level 3|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com

Thursday| January 8
Central Library
Forks over Knives
Jessica Haggerty|617.902.9300
7 p.m.-9 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

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 10
Arts at the Armory
Somerville Winter Farmers' Market
9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Bagel Bards
Somerville Writers and Poets meet weekly to discuss their work

9 a.m.-12 p.m.|Au Bon Pain| 18-48 Holland St

Sunday|January 11
Unity Church of God
Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon Family Groups
7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street
Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement.

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

Monday|January 12
Central Library
Book Group: Books-into-Movies Discussion Group
7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.| 79 Highland Avenue

Tuesday|January 13
Arts at the Armory
Prenatal Yoga
7 p.m.|Mezzanine|191 Highland Ave

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


Wednesday|January 14
Central Library
Advise The Advisory
Maureen Khoury-781-258-8505
6 p.m.-8 p.m.| 79 Highland Avenue

Third Life Studio
Belly Dance performance preparation with Nadira Jamal
6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|Level 3|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com



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Green Line Extension, expanded public transit supports all residents

CONT. FROM PG 10

five homes built near transit will be permanently affordable. And those affordable units will also be priced for middle income households—while still creating homes for low and moderate income households. And as we build that housing, we are strategically building more office and commercial space to bring more taxpaying businesses to

the city to share the cost of the services we all rely on: public safety, roads and infrastructure, and schools. Expanding public transportation decreases transportation costs for families, lowers unemployment, and increases earnings. It keeps more money in the pocket of our families to pay for necessities. It puts more money flowing through the economy

and creates a resilient, sustainable economy. Public transit is a key step toward economic sustainability — and environmental sustainability. Getting carbon-producing cars off the road and getting people onto greener public transit does not only create jobs and a thriving economy today. It will help create stability and thus jobs for the future. Public

transit is not just an option or a just a good idea anymore — it's an absolute necessity. If we are to responsibly address the role that our transit choices play in climate change, we cannot only celebrate the investment that is so smartly being made by our federal government in Somerville today. Tomorrow, we need to continue the hard work of ensuring that we plan and call

for sustainable public transit for more cities and towns — and for our future. The Green Line Extension from Lechmere to Route 16 is the backbone for a stronger Somerville, a stronger region, a stronger Commonwealth, and a stronger nation. Do you want more economic opportunity for all? The answer is clear: Build more public transportation.

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Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

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Wednesday, January 7

6:30am	Road to Recovery	5:00pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	12:00pm	Honk Festival	7:30am	Eckankar
7:00am	Somerville Film Group	5:30pm	Eat Well Be Happy Cooking Show	12:30pm	Taking Back Your Health	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
7:30am	Life Matters	6:00pm	Tails of the City	1:00pm	Somerville Times and Journal Reading	9:00am	The Stephanie Miller Show (Free Speech TV)
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:30pm	Health is Wealth	1:30pm	MAPS Health Connector	10:00am	Bay State Biking News
9:00am	SCATV Presents Potluck and Lecture Series	7:00pm	Taking Back your Health (Live call-in)	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	11:00am	Nossa gente e Costumes
10:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News	7:30pm	Active Aging	3:00pm	Telemagazine	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
10:30am	Art at SCATV	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (Live call-in)	4:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	1:00pm	Somerville Film Group:
11:00am	Abugida TV	9:30pm	The Steve Katsos Show	4:30pm	Culture Club	2:00pm	Exercise with Robyn and Max
12:00pm	The Big Picture with Thom Hartmann Show	10:00pm	Somerville Film Group: Ways to Live Forever	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	2:30pm	Esoteric Science
1:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	11:00pm	Bay State Biking News - Rerun	6:00pm	SCATV Presents Telethon	4:00pm	Free Speech Television
2:00pm	Physician Focus			7:00pm	Somerville Film Group	5:00pm	Henry Parker Presents
2:30pm	Race, Community, and Police Relations			7:30pm	Fluff Festival	5:30pm	Literati Scene
3:30pm	What the Fluff Festival			8:00pm	David Pakman (Free Speech TV)	6:00pm	Ville Pirates
4:00pm	Free Speech Television			9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:30pm	Youth Programing
5:00pm	Energy Theater			10:00pm	Open Line News with Davey D	7:00pm	The Somerville Line
6:00pm	Trance: A Romantic Journey			11:00pm	Gay News USA (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	Abugida TV
6:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority					9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
7:00pm	Mystic Youth Chorus					10:00pm	Bate Papo com Shirley
7:30pm	Crossroads: a Search for An American Dream					11:00pm	The Entertainer's Show
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits						
8:30pm	The Steve Katsos Show						
9:00pm	Bay State Biking News						
10:00pm	Art at SCATV						
10:30pm	SCATV Presents Honk Festival						
11:00pm	Visual Radio						

Thursday, January 8

6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint						
7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids						
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)						
9:00am	Cancer Explained! TV show						
9:30am	Girls Talk						
10:00am	Dead Air Live						
11:00am	Greater Somerville						
11:30am	Ablevision						
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)						
1:00pm	Chef's Table Series						
2:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking w/Candy						
2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez						
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)						
4:00pm	Free Speech Television						

City Cable TV Schedule for the Week

CITY TV 13/22

Wednesday, January 7

9:00am:	Green Line Funding Announcement	12:00pm:	SomerViva en Espanol	7:30pm:	Green Line Funding Announcement	9:00am:	Our Schools, Our City
12:00pm:	2015 BOA & School Committee Organizational Meetings	12:30pm:	Unearthing Lost Somerville	8:30pm:	School Committee Meeting – REPLAY OF 1.12.15	10:00am:	SHS Girls’ Basketball v Cambridge
2:00pm:	Voices of Somerville	1:30pm:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults			12:00pm:	SHS Hockey v Revere - 12/31
2:30pm:	Illuminations Tour	2:00pm:	Connecting Communities – Somerville PD	12:00am:	Senior Circuit	1:30pm:	SHS Hockey v Revere - 12/31
3:30pm:	The Mayor’s Report – Year in Review	3:00pm:	Somerville By Design: Union Square	12:30am:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults	3:00pm:	SHS Hockey v Cambridge
6:30pm:	Voices of Somerville	6:30pm:	Green Line Funding Announcement	1:00am:	Green Line Funding Announcement	5:00pm:	SHS Girls’ Basketball v Everett
7:00pm:	The Mayor’s Report – Year in Review	7:30pm:	The Mayor’s Report – Year in Review	2:00am:	Haitian Community Meeting	7:00pm:	SHS Basketball v Belmont @ TD Garden
7:30pm:	Green Line Funding Announcement	8:00pm:	SomerViva en Espanol	2:30am:	Interfaith Panel Discussion	10:00pm:	SHS Basketball v Belmont @ TD Garden
8:30pm:	BOA Agenda for 1.8.15 Meeting	8:20pm:	2015 BOA & School Committee Organizational Meetings				

Thursday, January 8

12:00am:	Green Line Funding Announcement	12:00am:	The Mayor’s Report – Year in Review	9:00am:	All-City Middle School Winter Concert	12:00am:	SHS Basketball v Belmont @ TD Garden
12:30am:	SomerViva em Portugues	12:30am:	Connecting Communities – Somerville PD	10:00am:	ESCS Winter Concert	2:00am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington
1:00am:	Interfaith Panel Discussion	1:00am:	Somerville By Design: Union Square	11:00am:	WHCS Winter Concert	3:30 am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden Catholic
2:00am:	Aldermen at Work	2:00am:	Aldermen at Work	12:00pm:	SHS Hockey v Revere - 12/31	5:00 am:	SHS Boys’ Basketball v Westford Academy
2:30am:	SomerViva em Portugues	2:30am:	Unearthing Lost Somerville	1:30pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Winchester	9:00am:	All-City Middle School Winter Concert
3:30am:	Connecting Communities – Somerville PD	9:00am:	The Mayor’s Report – Year in Review	3:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City	10:00am:	ESCS Winter Concert
9:00am:	SomerViva en Espanol	12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	4:00pm:	All-City Middle School Winter Concert	11:00am:	WHCS Winter Concert
9:30am:	Aldermen at Work	12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults	5:00pm:	ESCS Winter Concert	12:00pm:	Healey School Winter Concert
12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	1:00pm:	Aldermen at Work	6:00pm:	WHCS Winter Concert	1:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City
12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults	1:30pm:	SomerViva em Portugues	7:00pm:	SHS Hockey v Revere - 12/31	2:00pm:	All-City Middle School Winter Concert
1:00pm:	Aldermen at Work	2:00pm:	2015 BOA & School Committee Organizational Meetings	8:30pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Winchester	3:00pm:	ESCS Winter Concert
1:30pm:	Voices of Somerville	3:00pm:	Voices of Somerville	10:00pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington	4:00pm:	WHCS Winter Concert
2:00pm:	The Mayor’s Report – Year in Review	7:00pm:	Senior Circuit			5:00pm:	Healey School Winter Concert
2:30pm:	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill	7:30pm:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults			6:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City
7:00pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting - LIVE	8:00pm:	The Mayor’s Report – Year in Review			7:00pm:	SHS Girls’ Basketball v Everett
		8:30pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting – REPLAY OF 1.8.15			9:00pm:	SHS Basketball v Belmont @ TD Garden

Friday, January 9

12:00am:	SomerViva em Portugues						
12:30am:	Talking Business						
1:00am:	SomerViva an Kreyol Ayisyen						
1:15am:	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill						
2:00am:	School Committee Meeting						
9:00am:	Somerville By Design: Union Square						
12:00pm:	Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking						
12:30pm:	Haitian Community Meeting						
1:00pm:	Somerville By Design: Union Square						
2:00pm:	Unearthing Lost Somerville						
3:00pm:	2015 BOA & School Committee Organizational Meetings						
6:30pm:	2015 BOA & School Committee Organizational Meetings						
7:30pm:	Partners Healthcare Groundbreaking						
8:00pm:	Somerville By Design: Union Square						
8:30pm:	Haitian Community Meeting						
9:00pm:	SomerViva en Espnaol						
9:30pm:	Connecting Communities – Somerville PD						

Saturday, January 10

12:00am:	SomerViva em Portugues						
12:30am:	2015 BOA & School Committee Organizational Meetings						
1:30am:	Connecting Communities – Somerville PD						
2:00am:	Somerville By Design: Union Square						
9:00am:	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill						

Monday, January 12

12:00am:	Senior Circuit						
12:30am:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults						
1:00am:	The Mayor’s Report – Year in Review						
1:30am:	Board of Aldermen Meeting – REPLAY OF 1.8.15						
9:00am:	SomerViva em Portugues						
12:00pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting – REPLAY OF 1.8.15						
3:30pm:	SomerViva en Espanol						
4:00pm:	School Committee Agenda for 1.12.15						
7:00pm:	School Committee Meeting - LIVE						
10:00pm:	School Committee						

Tuesday, January 13

12:00am:	Interfaith Panel Discussion						
1:00am:	Connecting Communities – Somerville PD						
1:30am:	Talking Business						
2:00am:	School Committeeen						
9:00am:	Green Line Funding Announcement						
12:00pm:	Senior Circuit						
12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults						
1:00pm:	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill						
2:00pm:	Talking Business						
2:30pm:	Voices of Somerville						
3:00pm:	SomerViva: Haitian Creole						
7:00pm:	Senior Circuit						

EDUCATIONAL CHANNEL 15

Wednesday, January 7

9:00am:	All-City Middle School Winter Concert						
10:00am:	ESCS Winter Concert						
11:00am:	WHCS Winter Concert						
12:00pm:	SHS Hockey v Revere - 12/31						
1:30pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Winchester						
3:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City						
4:00pm:	All-City Middle School Winter Concert						
5:00pm:	ESCS Winter Concert						
6:00pm:	WHCS Winter Concert						
7:00pm:	SHS Hockey v Revere - 12/31						
8:30pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Winchester						
10:00pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington						

Thursday, January 8

12:00am:	SHS Girls’ Basketball v Cambridge						
1:30am:	SHS Girls Hoopfest v Hampshire Regional						
3:00am:	SHS Girls Hoopfest v Fontbonne						
9:00am:	Argenziano School Winter Concert						
10:00am:	Brown School Winter Concert						
11:00am:	Healey School Winter Concert						
12:00pm:	Connecting Communities- Somerville PD						
1:00pm:	El Sistema -Community in Harmony Concert						
2:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City						
3:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City						
4:00pm:	Argenziano School Winter Concert						
5:00pm:	Brown School Winter Concert						
6:00pm:	Healey School Winter Concert						
7:00pm:	SHS Boys’ Basketball v Westford Academy						
8:30 pm:	Our Schools, Our City						
9:00pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington						
10:35 pm:	SHS Girls Hoopfest v Fontbonne						

Friday, January 9

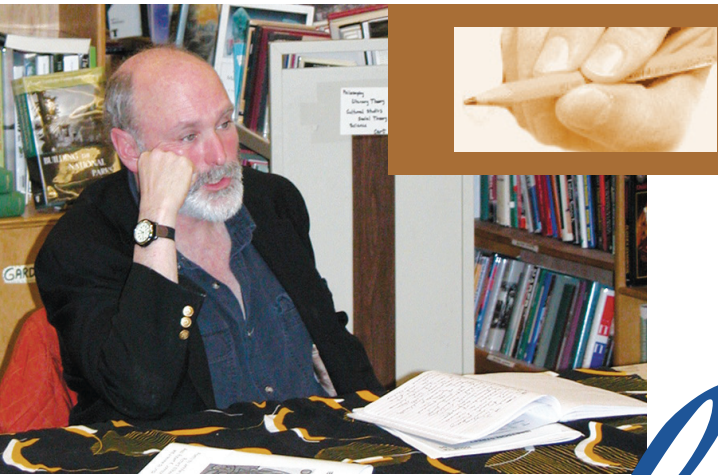
12:00am:	SHS Hockey v Revere - 12/31						
1:30am:	SHS Hockey v Cambridge						
9:00am:	WSNS Winter Concert						
10:00am:	Kennedy School K-3 Winter Concert						
10:30am:	SHS Winter Concert						
12:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City						
1:00pm:	SHS Girls’ Basketball v Cambridge						
3:00pm:	SHS Girls Hoopfest v Hampshire Regional						
4:20 pm:	WSNS Winter Concert						
5:20pm:	SHS Girls’ Basketball v Cambridge						
7:00pm:	SHS Girls’ Basketball v Everett						
10:00pm:	SHS Girls’ Basketball v Everett						

Saturday, January 10

12:00am:	SHS Girls’ Basketball v Everett						
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Tuesday, January 13

7:00am	The Struggle						
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)						
9:00am	The Struggle						
10:00am	Shrink Wrap						
11:00am	Wicked Sober						
11:30am	Ablevision						
12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)						
1:00pm	What the Fluff Festival?						
2:00pm	Art at SCATV						
2:30pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show						
3:00pm	Tele Galxie						
4:00pm	Ring of Fire (Free Speech TV)						
5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer (L)						
5:30pm	The Literati Scene						
6:00pm	Tails of the City						
6:30pm	Culture Club						
7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News						
7:30pm	Greater Somerville (L)						
8:00pm	Dead Air Live						
9:00pm	Energy Theater						
11:00pm	The David Pakman Show (Free Speech TV)						



Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Poet Jesse Mavro Diamond has a visit with Socrates and Gertrude Stein and tells us about it.

SOCRATES ON PROFESSORS ROW

I meet him, latte in hand, walking past the Library.

Socrates, I say, how are you?
How are you? He answers.
Good, I say.
What is Good? He asks. Tell me for I am filled with wonder and have nothing to do.
Right then I know he has me clutched in his metaphoric hands, those flesh, muscle and bone impressions of two huge question marks.
I say:
Listen, Dear Socrates, Time is short. I can only define Good by what it is not. They are coming for you now, right now and they will imprison you, they will give you the lethal cup, they will say, here, drink this, Man who has corrupted not only our youth but also our entire society with your insane questioning. Socrates! Do not take a sip of that drink! We need you. More than ever. You have shown us, their truth is merely a matrix of Cycloptic eyes, a swamp of electrically wired elephant grass, tangled around and around our throats!
Dear, student, he says, I have already drunk it.
And right there, I fall to my knees, eyes shut, weeping, as close to prayer as an atheist can possibly be. I feel his hand on my head and he says,
What do you want to know before I go?
Why must men be so grasping, so fearful, so wrapped in their leopard skins?
Why can't we stop recording each other, start listening to each other, stop killing each other, start loving each other? Is philia dead, Socrates? Is it vanished forever?
But Socrates fell and was gone. In his place lay Gertrude Stein. So I lay down beside her, our bodies spooning question marks. And sorrow closed about my soul like handcuffs wrought in steel parentheses.

Then I realize I am standing, cup of soy latte in hand. Strangers blanket the sidewalk. One passes and I ask,
How are you?
Good she says.
What is good? Tell me for I am filled with wonder and have nothing to do.

— Jesse Mavro Diamond

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 Gloria Mindock wins the Ibbetson Street Lifetime Achievement Award



The Ibbetson Street Press Lifetime Achievement Award has been awarded to many prestigious, and community-minded poets, publishers and writers over the years. Here is a list:

- Louisa Solano (Former owner of the Grolier Poetry Book Shop)
- Sam Cornish (First Boston Poet Laureate)
- David Godine (David Godine, Inc., publisher)
- Jack Powers (Founder of Stone Soup Poets)
- Frank Bidart (Renowned Poet and Critic)
- Afaa Michael Weaver (Poet, Tufts/Kingsley Award-winner)

Robert Pinsky (Former Poet Laureate of the U.S.)
Robert K. Johnson (Poet, first Ibbetson Street Press poetry editor)

Most of these Awards were presented at the Somerville News Writers Festival from 2003 to 2010. The winner is given a cash reward, and a plaque.
Gloria Mindock is being awarded this honor for her long years as an editor, publisher, director, poet, her commitment to the community, and grassroots organizing.
Mindock is the founder of the Cervenabarva Press (<http://www.cervenabarvapress.com>), edited the Boston Literary Review for many years, headed an award-winning theater troupe, and is a widely published poet and author.

West Africa music concert



Sean Gaskell will give a performance on the Kora, an ancient 21-stringed harp from West Africa. Joining him will be Dave Kobrenski on the Fulani Flute. They will feature traditional songs that are the heart and soul of the Koras musical repertoire in addition to some of Gaskell's personal compositions. The show will take place at Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave., on Saturday, January 10 at 8 p.m. Admission is free, although donations will be very much appreciated.

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