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SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

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City officials inquire into school shooting safety precautions



Student safety is on the minds of public officials in Somerville after the recent fatal mass shooting incident in Parkland, Florida and elsewhere.

By Jim Clark

In the aftermath of the tragic mass shooting incident that occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, two weeks ago, national, state, and civic leaders have been asking what can be done to curtail gun violence and assure the safety of students in particular and the general public across the board.

The City of Somerville has not excluded itself from addressing the problem, and a resolution put forward at the latest regular meeting of the Board of Alderman met the issue head on.

The resolution, co-sponsored by Alderman At-Large Wilfred N. Mbah, Ward 6 Alderman Lance L. Davis, and Ward 7 Alderman Katjana Ballantyne, asked that the Administration report to the Board on what is being done to prevent gun violence in our schools, including any active shooter training

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Ibbetson Street Press 20th Anniversary Reading

By Doug Holder

The Ibbetson Street Press, founded by Doug Holder, Richard Wilhelm, and Dianne Robitaille in 1998, held its 20th Anniversary Reading at the Central Branch of the Somerville Public Library on Thursday, February 22. A potluck supper preceded the reading.

Sam Cornish (former Boston Poet Laureate) opined about the press, "Ibbetson Press books are as varied and more provocative than most publications of poetry."

Now affiliated with Endicott College, Ibbetson Street has highlighted emerging poets as well as established poets like Afaa Michael Weaver, Ted Kooser, Marge Piercy, Andrea Cohen, Jean Valentine, Brendan Galvin, Cornelius Eady, and many more. It has also has published over 100 books of poetry and memoirs. In addition, it has started a Young Poet Series at Endicott College that publishes the work of talented undergraduates.

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Ibbetson Street Press celebrated its 20th anniversary last week with a special poetry reading event held at the Somerville Public Library Central Branch.

— Photo by Olivia Huang

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On **Saturday, March 24**, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the **Somerville Teachers Association** will be having an “**alumni tour**” of the old high school. This is a chance to see and walk through the old corridors once again before the school is torn down to make room for the new one. No admission fee is being charged, but donations to the STA scholarship fund will be gladly accepted. It's a great opportunity to reminisce about your days at the old high school. Parking is available around the school in various lots. Please enter at the main entrance of the school.

Happy birthday this week to the following: Happy birthday to the well-known **Sean Fitzgerald**, who is celebrating this week. We wish Sean a good day. A big happy eighth birthday to **Ella McGlashing**, who is celebrating this week. Happy birthday to **Nancy Trane**, a great lady. We hope she has a great day for herself as well, and hopefully Bob either cooks for the day or takes her out! Happy birthday to a wonderful person from a great family, **Christine Resmini**. We hope she has a great day as well. Happy birthday to **Steven Buckley** of East Somerville, a great guy from a large family that goes way back. We hope Steve has a great day. Happy birthday to good guy and friend **Eamon Fee**, who celebrates this week. Happy birthday to another good guy, **Rod Kreimeyer**, who is absolutely enjoying his retirement, and we think that's great. We hope Rod has a great day. Happy birthday to **David Mangan**. We hope David has a great day for himself as well. To all those that are also celebrating this week, we wish a happy birthday.

Have you noticed more and more **potholes** in the streets lately? We'd say call your alderman but they will only refer to you **311**. The days when you could call an alderman and get things done in the ward seem to be over. Maybe one should call the **DPW** directly and ask for **Commissioner Koty**.

We have city elections every two years, the majority win. Now **the mayor** wants to appoint a committee for Board positions. He's looking for recommendations from **the**

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The Somerville Times

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TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: City edges closer to having a Council

Gary Brown says:

It would be helpful to know which community you are writing about!

Noel Efturn says:

Erm – you're back in Kansas now, Dorothy. Gee, what happened to you while you were away?

ritepride says:

Well let's hope that if they do change to City Council we will get a Council, that with the full time salary they voted for themselves, they will function as a city council and work Mon-Fri, a 40+ hour week like Boston City Council.

Response to: Somerville pursues home rule petition to allow divestment from fossil fuel industry

Sarah says:

How many home rule petitions are we submitting this year? Seems like some will end up in the trash simply because we have a long list.

Response to: City officials consider home rule petition on real estate transfer fee

Matthew says:

Based on studies of past enactments of real estate transfer taxes, homes values will drop by the rate of tax. So every Somerville home owner will see their home value drop by 1% and depending on how the rule is implemented may be on the hook for paying the 1% tax.

Journal of Economic Geography (2011) pp. 1–28

“Taxes levied on the sale or purchase of real estate are pervasive but little studied. By exploiting a natural experiment arising from Toronto’s imposition of a Land Transfer Tax (LTT) in early 2008, we estimate the impact of real estate transfer taxes on the market for single family homes. Our data show that Toronto’s 1.1% tax caused a 15% decline in the number of sales and a decline in housing prices about equal to the tax. Relative to an equivalent property tax, the associated welfare loss is substantial, about \$1 for every \$8 in tax revenue. The magnitude of this welfare loss is comparable to those associated with better known interventions in the housing market. Unlike many possible tax reforms, eliminating existing LTTs in favour of revenue equivalent property taxes appears straightforward.”

Joe Beckmann says:

Since my last posting on 2/11, I mostly agree with most comments. Any transfer fee – like any sales tax – will primarily impact buyers, unless such a fee makes Somerville dramatically more expensive than real alternatives. And 1% is not dramatic. That distinction is particularly relevant to the Toronto model, since that remarkably sophisticated statistical research focused on the impact on a highly competitive metropolitan market. I strongly recommend those who are concerned with what those writers call a “welfare loss” look at the article itself. It is focused on “the market for single family homes,” which is remarkably unlike 90% of Somerville.

Most of the other comments apparently did not notice my first comment’s focus on how such a fee would be used: to guarantee affordable housing and economic development to long term residents and other special populations. More specifically, it would create a fund – much the way the Land Bank in Dudley Street is a fixed resource – to guarantee mortgages with a limited rate of appreciation, so fewer people would be displaced, and apartments would remain affordable indefinitely. At a certain point there may be no further need for further public investment in such a fund, since it’s guarantees will recycle to new owners once the fund is large enough. Somerville, with 32,000 housing units, is small and crowded enough to have limited need for limited equity ownership.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

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John Connolly

Rescheduled Grand Union Flag Raising on Prospect Hill set for Sunday, March 4

After having to be cancelled due to extreme cold, Somerville’s annual Grand Union Flag Raising is back. The event, rescheduled from January 1 to March 4, will kick off with a procession from City Hall to Prospect Hill Tower, followed by a reenactment ceremony for the 242nd anniversary of the “Grand Union” flag-raising ceremony at Prospect Hill Park. A procession led by a re-enactor portraying General George Washington on horseback will leave from the City Hall Concourse at 11:30 a.m., followed by a ceremony at Prospect Hill at noon.



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

The afternoon’s program will include songs, and remarks by participants from the Charlestown and Rhode Island Militia, and the Ancient and Honorable Company (first chartered in 1638). His Majesty’s 10th Regiment of Foot, representing the British Army, will bring a message from King George III.

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

Somerville Union members rally at City Hall

By Tom Bannister

As the Supreme Court heard oral arguments in the case of Janus vs. AFSCME on Monday, February 22, about 75 union members and their supporters gathered at Somerville City Hall to say that regardless of any Supreme Court decision they will remain united because Somerville’s workers need good, union jobs more than ever.

The rally in Somerville was just one of hundreds of similar #WeRise actions held by working people across Massachusetts and the entire country.

Other elected officials attending included: State Rep. Christine Barber, Alderman Ben Ewen-Campen (Ward 2), Andre Green (school committee, Ward 4), Alderman Will MBah (at-large), Alderman Mark Neidergang (Ward 5), Alderman Mary Jo Rossetti (at-large), Alderman Bill White (at-large), candidate for Governor Bob Massey, and candidates

for Lieutenant Governor Jimmy Tingle and Quentin Palfrey.

Participating union officials included IAFF Local 76 Secretary-Treasurer Bob Hodnett, Somerville Teachers Association President Jackie Lawrence, Mass Teachers Association VP Erik Champy, AFSCME Council 93 Executive Vice President Kevin Hanley, UFCW Local 1445 Reps Gene Giacobbe and Tony Flanagan.

Participants at the event vowed to stick together no matter the result of the Supreme Court case and fight for even more good, union jobs that can provide financial security for families, strengthen communities and boost the economy.

The event was sponsored by SEIU local 888, Somerville Municipal Employees Association, Fire Fighters Local 76, Firemen & Oilers/SEIU Local 3, Our Revolution Somerville, Good Jobs Somerville, and Somerville Stands Together.



Somerville area union members, supporters, and public officials gathered at City Hall for the #WeRise rally for union employees. More photos on page 12.
— Photo by Bobbie Toner

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ESCS Marimba Club performs for Board of Aldermen



The East Somerville Community School (ESCS) Marimba Club gave an exciting and energetic performance for the Board of Aldermen at Somerville City Hall on Thursday, February 8th. After the performance, Board President Katjana Ballantyne presented each student musician with an official citation, signed by all the Somerville Aldermen, celebrating the students’ commitment to musical excellence.

The school offered a sincere “thank you” to Ballantyne for her invitation to perform, and to the entire Board of Aldermen for the opportunity for the students to share their love of music with them and for their support of music education in the Somerville Public Schools. Members of the Marimba Club who performed included: Sheila Argueta (grade 5), Britney Flores (grade 8), Jimmy Hernandez Morales (grade 6), Noah Miller (grade 5), Sofia Parra Restrepo (grade 6), Elvin Salamanca Flores (grade 7), and Aliyah Vasquez (grade 6). Congratulations to these hardworking student musicians.

THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Illegal sex trade operators busted

A Joint Task Force of the F.B.I. Human Trafficking Unit and members of the Somerville Police Department set up an undercover sting operation last Thursday focusing on sexual conduct for a fee and human trafficking activities in the city.

Members of the HT Unit (Human Trafficking), identified an internet website (Backpage.com) that was displaying numerous advertisements offering services for a fee from an unidentified location in the Greater Boston area.

An undercover member of the unit (UC) made telephone contact via the advertisement posted on Backpage.com. The UC was reportedly informed by a woman, later identified as Shiquena Joseph, of Boston, that she would arrive at the sting operation's location within 30-45 minutes.

Several members of the SPD unit were present in the parking lot of sting site, along with sev-

eral members of the Task Force Unit, to monitor Joseph's arrival and entrance into the hotel.

Joseph was observed arriving and being dropped off at the front door. She had been instructed to come up to a certain room in the hotel, where the UC was stationed, awaiting her arrival.

The entire interaction was recorded on a secretive audio wire the UC was wearing and captured voice recordings, while being listened to by another member of the Task Force.

Once inside the room, Joseph initially refused to engage in a sex act. She reportedly stated that she was there to provide the UC with a "message."

After some banter back and forth between the UC and Joseph, she subsequently agreed to perform a sex act for the sum of \$150, according to reports.

Once Joseph agreed to the sex act and the agreed upon fee, the UC gave the signal and several members of the Unit entered

the room and announced their presence with our badges prominently displayed.

Joseph reportedly gave her consent for the Task Force to perform a search of her iPhone while on scene. Joseph was subsequently handcuffed and transported to the SPD Headquarters, where she was booked on a charge of sexual conduct for a fee.

Several more attempts were made in an effort to solicit further sexual services via the Back-page.com website. After some time, the UC reportedly received several text pictures on his phone from a woman later identified as Ashley Stella, of Reno, NV.

The UC received several "selfies" of Stella and was texted that she would arrive at the location in 10 minutes. At the time of the texting, the agreed upon fee of \$160 for a half an hour of sexual services was reportedly established.

According to police, Stella arrived at the site of the operation by a car owned by a rental company. The vehicle drove up to the front entrance of the hotel and the defendant exited from the passenger side front seat.

Upon arrival at the room, she knocked and the UC invited her inside. Once inside the room, Stella instructed the UC to place the money on the table, which he did. The UC then asked Stella if she had a condom. She stated that she did not have a condom and as long as the UC is clean, then that is OK with her. At this time, Stella started to unbutton her pants. The UC then provided the predetermined signal to the rest of the undercover members, at which time they entered the room.

While being searched, Stella was observed to have five individual condom packages in her pocketbook. She was handcuffed and transported to SPD headquarters where she was

booked charge of sexual conduct for a fee. Upon further investigation, it was determined that Stella has a previous arrest/conviction record for soliciting and engaging in prostitution in of Las Vegas, NV.

After the arrest of Stella, the vehicle that brought her to the location was stopped by police.

The operator of the vehicle was identified as Rakee Ritnergill, of Las Vegas, NV. According to reports, there was a lack of cooperation on the part of Ritnergill when questioned about his most recent activities in the area. There were statements made by Stella that she was familiar with Ritnergill, and that they both arrived via airline the previous day.

Upon further investigation, it was determined that the two were sharing a hotel in the Boston area. Ritnergill was handcuffed and transported to the SPD headquarters where he was booked on a charge of sexual conduct for a fee

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Kelly Carey, of 933 Quincy Shore Dr., Quincy, February 19, 6:08 p.m., arrested at Mystic Ave. on a warrant charge of conspiracy to violate drug law.

Michael Zampitella, of 11 Garden St., Cambridge, February 20, 3:47 p.m., arrested at Elm St. on charges of violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon and shoplifting by concealing merchandise, and on warrant charges of larceny over \$250, use of a motor vehicle without authority, larceny from a building, destruction of property over \$250, shoplifting by asportation, receiving a sto-

len motor vehicle, felony nighttime breaking and entering, and shoplifting over \$100 by concealing merchandise.

Richard Wheeler, of 9 Chester, Cambridge, February 20, 8:11 p.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on charges of disorderly conduct and assault with a dangerous weapon.

Christopher Hughes, of 52 White St., Boston, February 21, 2:47 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on warrant charges of utter false check, larceny by check over \$250, possession of a class B drug, and common and notorious thief.

Shiquena Joseph, of 1851

Washington St., Boston, February 22, 8:05 p.m., arrested at Cummings St. on a charge of sexual conduct for a fee.

Rakee Ritnergill, of 6584 Buckingham Dr., Las Vegas, NV, February 22, 8:47 p.m., arrested at Artisan Way on a charge of sexual conduct for a fee.

Ashlee Stella, of 810 Lahontan Way, Reno, NV, February 22, 9:07 p.m., arrested at Cummings St. on a charge of sexual conduct for a fee.

Timothy Cung, of 98 Jaques St., February 23, 8:13 a.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence

of liquor third offense, operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor second offense, unsafe operation of a motor vehicle, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license for operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, operation of a motor vehicle with a revoked registration, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and furnishing a false name or Social Security number.

Earl Surette, of 49 Kennedy Dr., Malden, February 23, 11:09 a.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on a warrant charge of assault and battery with a dan-

gerous weapon.

Matthew Boudreau, of 514 Massachusetts Ave., Boston, February 24, 3:47 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on charges of shoplifting over \$100 by concealing merchandise and fugitive from justice.

Shawn Smith, of 52 Evans St., Medford, February 24, 9:24 p.m., arrested at River Rd. on charges of drug possession to distribute and drug violation near a school.

Andrew Paliotto, of 112 South Hampton St., Boston, February 24, 10:14 p.m., arrested at Washington St. on a charge of disorderly conduct.

City officials inquire into school shooting safety precautions

CONT. FROM PG 1

provided to teachers.

Speaking on the matter, Alderman Mbah told the Board, "This order came as a result of what has been happening throughout the nation, especially Parkland in Florida. I just want us to be prepared in the event of any similar occurrence."

Mbah expressed his appreciation for the work that the Superintendent of Schools has been

doing in addressing the matter. "I saw an email submitted today to us by Mr. Long which shows that the Schools Department is actually doing the best they can to protect our kids."

The Parkland shooting on February 14 of this year, in which 17 high school students and school staff were killed, has sparked a firestorm of controversy across the nation as citizens and pub-

lic officials debate what can and should be done to lessen the chances of similar tragedies occurring in the future.

From proposed gun control legislation to arming teachers in the classrooms, a wide range of responses to the issue have been advanced and debated.

The Board's request for the administration's response to the matter has been formally made.



Board of Aldermen members want to know what comes next in the way of protecting students in our schools.

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Boston Marathon fundraiser to fight diabetes

33-year-old Alicia McNeill of Stoneham will be running her first Boston Marathon in April as a member of Team Joslin to support the Joslin Diabetes Center, a world-renowned diabetes treatment and research facility in Boston, where she has been a patient for almost 24 years, after being diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at the age of 9.

Coincidentally, Alicia's fiancé Terrilyn has also struggled with T1D since childhood. The pair met while on vacation in New Orleans in 2011 and now both receive care from Dr. Susan Herzlinger at Joslin, though Terrilyn says she wishes she had access to that level of care when she was first diagnosed.

"My fiancé and I both have the most sincere gratitude and appreciation for the doctors, nurses, educators and researchers at Joslin," Alicia said. "The work they do is critical for helping me, Terrilyn and millions of others living with diabetes live a long and healthy life."

Although Alicia has run a marathon once before, this will be her first time taking on the Boston Marathon. To prepare, she is following a hybrid of marathon training guides, going for short

runs and cross-training during the week, then tackling longer runs on the weekends when she isn't traveling for work.

Unlike many other runners, Alicia also has the added challenge of managing her blood sugar throughout her workouts and training sessions. She wears a Continuous Glucose Monitor (CGM) to allow her to monitor her blood sugar levels in real time, helping her avoid any extreme highs or lows and maintain enough energy to get through the workouts. However, the balancing act is difficult, so she does her best to cover her bases by carrying Gu Energy Chews for a quick blood sugar boost, along with a pre-loaded unit of insulin in case her levels don't fall enough at the tail end of her run.

"No matter how much planning and practice you have, there are too many moving pieces to be able to get it right every time," Alicia said. "It's a balancing act and it doesn't always go right, but what I've found works best for me is to try to prepare for both ends of the spectrum, then adapt my plans in real time during the race."

With each mile she runs, Ali-

cia is proud to be giving back to Joslin. She hopes to raise at least \$10,000 to help researchers continue their work developing more efficient treatments and ultimately finding a cure for diabetes.

To help her reach her goal, Alicia is hosting a fundraiser at Sound Bites in Somerville on Sunday, March 4, from 4:00-8:00 p.m., featuring an all-you-can-eat buffet and raffle contest with prizes from local businesses. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased online at www.eventbrite.com/e/boston-marathon-fundraiser-for-joslin-diabetes-center-tickets-42733173071.

For more information about Alicia and to donate to her fundraising page, visit www.crowdrise.com/o/en/campaign/joslindiabetescenterboston2018/aliciamcneill.

About Joslin Diabetes Center
Joslin Diabetes Center is world-renowned for its deep expertise in diabetes treatment and research. A federally designated Diabetes Research Center, affiliated with Harvard Medical School, Joslin is dedicated to finding a cure for diabetes and ensuring that people with dia-



Diabetes patient and first time Boston Marathon runner Alicia McNeill will be hosting a fundraiser at Sound Bites in Somerville to benefit the Joslin Diabetes Center.

betes live long, healthy lives. We develop and disseminate innovative patient therapies and scientific discoveries throughout the

world. For more information, visit www.joslin.org.

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Treasure Hunting with Bob

BY BOB ADAMS



One ring to bind them

Years ago, a buddy of mine exiled himself to the Russia Far East to write. While there, he met and married a lovely Russian woman who had four gold front teeth. These weren't all diamond encrusted, nope, straight yellow gold. Nothing bling about them. Just for chewing.

Well, my friend had her fixed up by an American dentist and she kept her gold teeth in a small envelope which she added a couple of single gold earrings and a small gold bracelet. I know this because, they came into my little shop one day to show off her new smile. And then she dumped the contents of her envelope onto my counter.

She asked (in broken English) if I could make her a wedding band out of this small pile of assorted gold. Sure, why not, I said. I took her ring finger measurement and asked what kind of style she'd like. She wanted a plain kind of flat-topped band about 6 mm wide.

I had some charcoal ring molds handy. I wired a pair together, melted the metal in a crucible, fluxed it, and in one quick pour, got all the metal into the crude mold. I let it cool a minute before opening it up.

At this point, it didn't look like gold as the alloy had turned black. But it was about 14K. I cut the sprue off and got to filing and polishing the ring. A few taps on the mandrel and it was the perfect size. She wears it to this day.

The gold was hers, the labor was my wedding gift.

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



Beacon Hill Roll Call

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

Debate on gun laws intensifies across America following the death of 14 students and three teachers in the massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. One of the proposals that is being discussed is a ban on bump stocks on a state and/or national level.

Bump stocks are devices that are attached to rifles, shot-guns or firearms, other than a magazine, to increase the weapon’s rate of fire and mimic a fully automatic weapon that can fire hundreds of shots in succession. These devices were used in the October 2017 massacre in Las Vegas where the shooter used 12 of them, allowing him to shoot, kill and injure more victims.

Massachusetts was the first state to ban bump stocks after the Las Vegas massacre and is one of only a few states with a ban. “Following the tragedy in Las Vegas, I filed legislation that would ban bump stock devices,” said the law’s sponsor Rep. David Linsky (D-Natick). “I reviewed the Massachusetts General Laws and realized that due to a loophole in our laws, the bump stock devices that the shooter used were legal in Massachusetts. I felt that this issue was so important that it needed to be addressed as soon as possible, so I re-filed this legislation as an amendment to a supplemental budget bill, which was passed by the House and Senate in November and then signed into law by Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito.”

The ban took effect immediately rather than after the 90 days it usually takes for most new laws to go into effect.

House Speaker Bob DeLeo and Senate President Harriette Chandler supported and praised the ban.

“I am proud that Massachusetts has banned bump stocks and I encourage Congress to take this common-sense step,” said DeLeo. “Further, I’m heartened by the results of the House’s 2014 gun legislation which have made the commonwealth the safest state in the nation. Northeastern University recently completed a report, as requested by the House, on the implementation of this law and we are reviewing those recommendations. At the same time, I’m in the midst of discussions with members about various public safety bills.”

“The Massachusetts Senate is committed to pursuing smart, sensible gun control legislation,” said Senate President Harriette Chandler. “The commonwealth is a model for the nation for common-sense reforms in gun control policy, including last year’s ban on bump stock devices.”

Jim Wallace, Executive Director of Gun Owners’ Action League (GOAL), the local branch of the NRA, said that GOAL understands bump stocks were used, in part, to inflict great terror but he believes banning them was simply a distraction from the real issues. “Each time in recent history that the Legislature has acted on these issues it has completely failed to address the human element and specifically mental health,” said Wallace. “In each mass killing we have witnessed the killer is either a terrorist or someone who suffers from severe mental illness or both. But no one seems to want to address those issues seriously.”

Wallace told *Beacon Hill Roll Call* that one of the most important pending pieces of current proposed legisla-

tion for his group is H 1296 which specifically prohibits any cities or towns from approving or enforcing any local gun laws. It states that the right to keep and bear arms is an individual civil right that applies to purchase, ownership, use and possession of guns and ammunition, unless expressly prohibited by state law.

“The bill seeks to prevent local municipalities from harassing lawful citizens by creating patchwork gun laws that prevent people from exercising their civil rights,” said Wallace.

Linsky told *Beacon Hill Roll Call* that his priority legislation for this session is H 3081 which establishes extreme-risk protective orders. “An extreme-risk protective order is a civil court order that would expand upon current Massachusetts law by temporarily restricting access to firearms by persons who exhibit dangerous or threatening behaviors towards themselves or others, but who are not otherwise prohibited under federal or state law,” said Linsky. “I have received hundreds of calls and e-mails over the past few days in support of this bill, and I am continuing to advocate for the House to bring this bill to the floor as soon as possible.”

Here are the votes of local legislators and the debate from November on the bill banning bump stocks. The House and Senate initially approved different versions of the proposed law. A conference committee worked out a compromise version that was then approved without a roll call vote.

BAN BUMP STOCKS - HOUSE VERSION (H 3951)

House 152-3, approved an amendment that supporters say would ban the sale, purchase or ownership of bump stock devices for weapons. Opponents of the amendment disagree and say that the wording of the bill is vague since the words “bump stock” do not appear anywhere in the bill. Violators under this new law would be sentenced to between three and 20 years in prison.

“This legislation will ensure that no one in Massachusetts can legally possess a bump stock, a device designed to increase the deadliness of these already deadly weapons,” said the law’s sponsor Rep. David Linsky (D-Natick). “These devices were created by gun manufacturers as a workaround of the federal law banning the sale and possession of automatic weapons, and there is absolutely no place for them in a civilized society.”

“It is a poorly drafted and vaguely worded amendment,” said Rep. Peter Durant (R-Spencer). “While I don’t think it is unreasonable to prevent people from getting devices that turn their semi-automatic weapon into an automatic weapon, this amendment has the effect of making any modification to a firearm that could conceivably increase the rate of fire illegal and subject you to at least three years in prison. Simply making a bolt action rifle slide easier, and therefore work faster could be determined illegal.” Durant noted that the interpretation of this law will be left to un-elected state bureaucrats who can change depending on the administration in the corner office.

(A "Yes" vote is in favor of the ban. A "No" vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes

BAN BUMP STOCKS - SENATE VERSION (S 2177)

Senate 38-0, approved its own version of an amendment banning the sale, purchase or ownership of bump stocks and classifying them under the same law that governs machine guns. The punishment for violating the law would be the same as it is for machine guns: 18 months to life in prison. The Senate version of the bill used the words “bump stock,” so unlike the House, there were no charges that the Senate language was vague.

“This amendment is a necessary and appropriate response to the dangers inherent in these deadly devices,” said the sponsor of the amendment Sen. Cynthia Creem (D-Newton).

“Too many parents have had to bury their children, too many movie-goers have had a fun night out turn into a nightmare and too many Americans fear for their safety and the safety of their families,” said Sen. Eric Lesser (D-Longmeadow). “It is time for us to step up and say we will not tolerate this senseless killing anymore — or the ease with which it is carried out.”

(A "Yes" vote is in favor of the ban.)

Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes
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ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

NO AUTOMATIC INCOME TAX CUT IN 2017

– The April 15 deadline for filing a 2017 state tax return is approaching. Some filers are asking why there is not a state income tax rate reduction for 2017 like the reduction for 2016 when the income tax and long-term capital gains tax rates were cut from 5.15 to 5.10 percent.

The answer is that there was insufficient economic growth in 2017 under the terms of a 2002 law to result in a 2017 cut from 5.10 percent to 5.05 percent — a reduction that would have saved taxpayers millions of dollars.

These automatic cuts do not need the approval of the Legislature. They are part of a system devised by the Legislature when it approved a \$1 billion-plus tax hike package in 2002. The package set the long-term capital gains tax at 5.3 percent and froze the income tax rate at 5.3 percent instead of allowing it to drop to 5 percent in January 2003 — a reduction that was approved by voters in 2000. The 2002 law also includes an automatic trigger that reduces both taxes by one-half of 1 percent each year that the state’s economic growth is at least 2.5 percent until each tax is reduced to 5 percent. The growth in 2017 was only 0.059 percent, far below the 2.5 percent required for the cut.

The rate reduction was previously triggered for 2012 from 5.3 to 5.25 percent; 2014 from 5.25 to 5.20 percent; 2015 from 5.20 to 5.15 percent; and 2016 from 5.15 to 5.10 percent.

PROTECT STATE AND LOCAL PUBLIC EMPLOYEES (H 3974)

– The House gave final approval to a bill that provides all state and municipal workers with the same protections provided to private workers under the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA). The Senate gave near final approval to the same bill. Only final Senate approval is needed prior to the measure going to Gov. Charlie Baker.

Supporters say an average of 28 municipal workers per

Beacon Hill Roll Call

continued



week suffer injuries serious enough to be out of work for five days or more. They noted this protection would cover some 450,000 state and local public workers who perform jobs that are sometimes just as dangerous as private sector ones.

HOUSE NOW HAS TWO UNENROLLED REPRESENTATIVES – Freshman Rep. Solomon Goldstein-Rose (U-Amherst) left the Democrat party last week and changed his voter registration to unenrolled. He joins the House’s only other unenrolled legislator Rep. Susannah Whipps (U-Athol) who left the Republican party in August. According to Goldstein-Rose, 55 percent of all Bay State voters are unenrolled but he and Whipps make up only 1 percent of the Legislature.

“I have always believed good policy should not be defined by political party, and I don’t want to be defined in that way either,” Goldstein-Rose said. This is one way I can embody how I always want to work in the political world and be as inclusive as possible when I reach out to people of all political backgrounds to gather support for bold policy proposals. I want people to truly engage with our political system, instead of making assumptions from the D or R next to someone’s name in the newspaper.”

INCREASE TAX BREAK FOR VETERANS (H 1602) – Awaiting further House action is legislation that makes a change in the current law that allows cities and towns to establish a program permitting veterans to volunteer their services to the community in exchange for up to a \$1,000 property tax reduction. The proposal raises the reduction to \$1,500.

Supporters said this increase is overdue and will help

thousands of veteran homeowners who made sacrifices to defend the nation. The measure was given initial approval on May 10 and has been lingering in committee since then.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Chairman Kocot was one of the most kind, decent and selfless individuals that I have had the pleasure to know. Peter was the consummate gentleman: gracious with his time, energy and intellect. Peter was the model of a public servant and we are all better for having known him.” — *House Speaker Bob DeLeo on the death of Rep. Peter Kocot (D-Northampton).*

“In a few short years, tens of thousands of electric vehicles could hit city streets across America ... Yet, as of now, most cities are largely unprepared for this pending influx. These vehicles will need a place to charge, so public access to electrical vehicles charging stations will be critical.” — *From a report by MASSPIRG urging cities and towns to get ready for an influx of electric vehicles.*

“It’s outrageous in my mind. I think anybody who owns a home knows that a little half-bath like this shouldn’t cost \$100,000. This contract should have been put out to bid without a doubt to drive the price down. The add-ins kept piling on and piling on until it reached the astronomical, mind-blowing number of \$100,000 for a little half-bath.” — *Greg Sullivan, research director at the Pioneer Institute on a WCVB report that a bathroom that cost \$101,635 was installed last year inside the new Department of Transportation and MBTA board room and office area in the State Transportation Building*

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 February 19-23, the House met for a total of two hours and 45 minutes while the Senate met for a total of two hours and 14 minutes.

Mon. Feb. 19	No House session No Senate session
Tues. Feb. 20	House 11:07 a.m. to 12:09 p.m. Senate 11:03 a.m. to 11:10 a.m.
Wed. Feb. 21	No House session No Senate session
Thurs. Feb. 22	House 11:04 a.m. to 12:47 p.m. Senate 11:09 a.m. to 1:16 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 23	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

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

Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
82 Line	6 room, 5 bed, 3f 1h bath Contemporary	40	\$1,449,000	\$1,375,000
66 Chandler Street	8 room, 4 bed, 3f 0h bath Victorian	8	\$1,500,000	\$1,525,000
28 Hawthorne St	7 room, 3 bed, 3f 1h bath Other	18	\$1,549,000	\$1,575,000
23 Elston St	9 room, 5 bed, 4f 1h bath Colonial	14	\$1,795,000	\$1,915,000

Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:

Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
15 Wilson U:1	5 room, 3 bed, 3f 0h bath 2/3 Family	38	\$849,900	\$825,000
211 Tremont Street U:9	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath Mid-Rise	6	\$875,000	\$940,000
1 Summer St U:6	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath Loft	84	\$995,000	\$1,000,000
33 Glenwood U:1	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 1h bath 2/3 Family	24	\$998,900	\$998,000
30 Teele Avenue U:1	7 room, 3 bed, 3f 0h bath 2/3 Family	95	\$1,044,900	\$1,010,000
33 Glenwood U:2	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath 2/3 Family	46	\$1,178,900	\$1,164,500
79-1 Irving U:1	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath Townhouse	145	\$1,199,900	\$1,200,000
290 Highland Ave U:3B	7 room, 3 bed, 3f 0h bath Low-Rise	125	\$1,275,000	\$1,225,000

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

Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
14-16 Joseph St	3 unit, 12 total room, 6 total bedroom 3 Family	25	\$1,265,000	\$1,150,000
35 Merriam St	3 unit, 20 total room, 7 total bedroom 3 Family	25	\$1,269,000	\$1,240,000
90 Morrison Ave	2 unit, 12 total room, 6 total bedroom 2 Family	26	\$1,290,000	\$1,205,400
52 Porter St	2 unit, 14 total room, 6 total bedroom 2 Family	55	\$1,295,000	\$1,250,000
24 Belknap Street	3 unit, 17 total room, 8 total bedroom 3 Family	16	\$1,579,000	\$1,400,000
34 Heath Street	6 unit, 24 total room, 6 total bedroom 5-9 Family	23	\$2,300,000	\$2,200,000
255 Highland Ave	6 unit, 23 total room, 8 total bedroom 5+ Family	7	\$2,500,000	\$2,560,000
11 Austin Street	6 unit, 34 total room, 16 total bedroom 5+ Family	125	\$2,750,000	\$2,500,000

Ibbetson Street Press 20th Anniversary Reading

CONT. FROM PG 1



— Photos by Olivia Huang

Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



Spinach and Ricotta Calzone

Calzones offer the perfect canvas for whatever flavors you desire. You can make it with cold cuts, spinach, broccoli rabe, collard greens, your favorite cheese, meatballs, and so on. It can be served as a meal with a green salad or as an appetizer. You can make ahead and serve at room temperature. The combinations are endless.

- 1 16oz package Pizza Dough
- 1 16oz package frozen Chopped Spinach, cooked and strained
- 1lb Ricotta Cheese
- 1/4 lb Genoa Salami sliced and cut into 1/2" pieces
- 2 Tablespoons Olive Oil, plus 2 teaspoons
- 1 Large Red Onion, thinly sliced
- 1/2 Teaspoon Kosher Salt
- 1/2 Teaspoon Sugar
- 1/2 Cup Pecorino Romano, grated
- 1/4 Teaspoon freshly grated Nutmeg
- 1/2 Teaspoon freshly ground Black Pepper

In a 10" sauté pan, over medium heat, add 2 tablespoons of olive oil, the sliced onion and salt. Cook down for 25 minutes, stirring occasionally. Lower the heat to low, add the sugar, stir and cook for an additional 10 minutes. Remove from the heat and let cool. Preheat the oven to 400* and place the rack



in the center of the oven.
Take out the dough and leave at room temperature. Cook the spinach according to the package. Let drain and cool. In a large bowl, combine the ricotta, salami, Pecorino, nutmeg and ground pepper and blend together.
Once the spinach is cool enough to handle, place it into a clean, cotton dish towel and bring the corners of the dish towel together and twist until all the liquid comes out. Place the spinach into the cheese mixture and blend well.
Taste the filling and adjust seasoning if needed. On a lightly floured surface, roll the pizza dough into a rectangle measuring 15" long by 10" wide. Coat the sheet pan with 1 teaspoon olive oil. Place the rolled dough onto the sheet pan.

Place the ricotta filling on one half of the dough leaving 1/2" border all around the edges. Spread the mixture evenly. Pull the other half of the dough and fold over onto the other side. Crimp the edges all around to seal the calzone.
Cut between 3 and 4, 1" vents into the top of the dough. Coat the calzone with the other teaspoon of olive oil. Place in the oven and bake until the crust is brown and set, about 50 minutes. Remove from the oven and place on a cooling rack for about 20 minutes. Slice and serve.
Serves between 4-6 people. Serve with a side of fresh salad. And yes, you can serve it with your favorite marinara sauce!

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

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Save the date for Adult Foster Care Awareness Day

By Jeanne Leyden

Adult Foster Care (AFC) helps thousands of families across Massachusetts provide the best possible care at home for loved ones. Last year, the program faced unprecedented budget cuts, and supporters turned out in large numbers to advocate for its funding.

While the program has been able to continue its good work – despite changes to funding – advocates plan to revisit the topic with lawmakers during the second annual Adult Foster Care Awareness Day. The event will take place on Wednesday, March 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Nurse’s Hall at the Statehouse.

Organized by the Massachusetts Council for Adult Foster Care, the gathering will offer an opportunity to talk with state legislators about what AFC provides and what those in-home services mean to more than

12,000 Massachusetts residents in the program.

AFC is a MassHealth-funded program that supports the live-in caregivers who meet the daily needs of older adults and people with disabilities who can no longer live alone. It provides a tax-free stipend and ongoing training for caregivers. And most importantly, it enables people to receive the care they need at home.

We see the program as a wise investment of state resources, considering that AFC routinely saves MassHealth money, costing \$50-85 per day instead of \$125-250 for nursing home care. The number of nursing facility days covered by MassHealth has dropped by 37% since 2000, due in large part to community-based programs like AFC.

This year’s event is sponsored by State Senator Pat Jehlen, and will feature a speech by State Representative Danielle Gregoire, Chairperson of

the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs.

The AFC program at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) provides help for more than 250 families across the greater Boston area. We’re proud to participate in Adult Foster Care Awareness Day and we hope to see you there.

If not, please consider calling your local state representative and state senators to let them know you support AFC.

The event is free, but the Massachusetts Council for Adult Foster Care asks that participants register by calling 413-733-1240 ext. 119 or by emailing wendydale@mcsnet.org.

Adult Family Care is a non-profit program at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services that supports in-home caregivers across the Greater Boston, North Shore, and Merrimack Valley areas. For more information, visit adultfamilycare.org or call 617-628-2601.

Jeanne Leyden is Director of Adult Family Care, the Adult Foster Care program at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services.

2018 SHS Science and Engineering Fair and Exhibition Night

Somerville High School students will be presenting their projects at the 2018 SHS Science & Engineering Fair on Thursday, March 1st, in the SHS Science Wing.

Students in grades 9-12 spend several weeks, and in some cases several months, researching one topic and following the scientific method and/or engineering design process to investigate one question deeply. Projects will be judged by scientists and engineers from Boston Open Science Laboratory, Brammer Bio, Sciomix, Tufts University, and other partners. Families, former teachers, and the Somerville community are invited to stop in and view this year’s projects from 4:30-6:00pm. Student projects will be on display from 4:30-5:30pm in the classrooms noted below, and awards will be presented in the SHS auditorium from 5:30-6:00.

• Room 420 – Life Science Projects

• Room 423 – Chemical and Physical Science Projects

• Room 425 – Physics and Engineering Projects

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Monday March 5

Shawn Carter's Cheapshots Comedy 7 p.m.

Marley Mondays with Duppy Conquerors 10 p.m.

Tuesday March 6

SYM Tuesdays 8 p.m.

Wednesday March 7

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

Thursday March 8

Andy Pratt, Asa & The Naked 'I's

Trick Wallace Trio 8 p.m.

Friday March 9

Jim Coyle & King Blue 6 p.m.

HearNowLive presents Water, Haley Trapella

Krush Acoustic 9 p.m.

Saturday March 10

Tom Hagerty Band 6 p.m.

Melatonins, Graveyard of The Atlantic, Split/Halves

\$10 cover 9 p.m.

Sunday March 11

The Natural Wonders 4:30 p.m.

Lee Ross Sunday Sunday,

special guest Slizzerd 8 p.m.



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COMMENTARY

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On gun control: until we make a change, we are all in danger of being next



By Joseph A. Curtatone

If there's one thing to be learned from the horrific mass murder at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL, it's how quickly gun violence can become a local issue. Unfortunately, it's one we seemingly have to learn repeatedly, through Las Vegas, Sutherland Springs, the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Umpqua Community College, San Bernardino, the Washington Navy Yard and the Sandy Hook Elementary School.

Kids went to school, people went to work (or out for the evening), and they didn't come home. In each case we hear from loved ones whose lives have been shattered and from communities that have been left scarred. Any sensible person can recognize the only difference between us and them is that they were unlucky enough to have it happen

there. I can tell you from first-hand experience it is a recognition that keeps community and school leaders up at night. No one wants to be next.

Sandy Hook was a call to action for all of us. No one could pretend they were uniquely immune to that sort of incident. In Somerville, we've developed lockdown procedures for all of our schools and run lockdown drills twice a year. That's in addition to four evacuation drills a year. We have a single, locked point of entry at each of our schools and camera security at each entrance.

At Somerville High we have a resource officer on duty with additional SPD presence at the start and end of each school day. We also have door monitors and four security personnel on site. Three years ago SPD initiated our STEPS program, in which five officers adopt an entire sixth grade class and support/build a relationship with them for the next seven years. STEPS provides youth mentoring, support and the kinds of connections that can help our police spot risks early. It also increases the physical police presence in our schools in a non-threatening way, which enhances safety

without creating anxiety. We also work with regional health and counseling providers to form a strong support system for children who are high needs or high risk.

We are bringing all possible diligence to bear to protect our students and school staff. Yet it does not change the fact that our children are now growing up in a country where lockdown drills are the norm. That is a direct result of many of our national leaders failing to match our local level of concern and effort. We're doing what we can to protect the people in our community and they are not.

There is no getting around the fact that gun violence is out of hand in this country. I was reading up this past week about how an AR-15 shoots its rounds with such force that it can obliterate entire internal organs. No civilian should have that kind of killing power in their hands, just like they shouldn't have grenades, tanks or flamethrowers.

Military weapons have no practical civilian use other than killing large numbers of people. We have to put a reasonable limit on firepower and ban bump stocks and high-capacity mag-

azines. No one's buying these things in order to be part of a well-regulated militia. Universal background checks and closing gun show loopholes also make all the sense in the world and enjoy popular support from both sides of the political aisle.

If you want to drive in this country, you need a license and insurance and you need to register your vehicle. How that doesn't apply equally to gun ownership is baffling.

Well, it isn't really baffling. The National Rifle Association fights sensible gun regulations and controls at every turn. It has changed from an organization focused on gun safety and the interests of law-abiding gun owners to a gun cult that can tolerate a seemingly unlimited amount of murder. Its response to Parkland is to advocate for turning our schools into armed camps, which means more money flowing into the coffers of the gun industry.

Yet there was an armed officer on the scene at Parkland and people with guns on the scene in Las Vegas and people with guns next to the church in Sutherland Springs. None of that prevented or even slowed down the slaughter. It's prepos-

terous to expect a teacher to switch instantly from a lesson on world history or continental drift to engaging in a firefight with an assailant who has superior firepower. That is not something that is going to happen in the real world, and those proposing it are responding to murder with empty fantasies.

The fury and activism we see coming out of the students in Florida should be matched in every city and town across this nation. It is horrific and unforgivable that nothing was done before this latest mass killing. We cannot accept the continued failure to respond to the gun violence that plagues our nation.

We need all of our national leaders to be as serious about our safety as we are at the local level. And we need our leaders and our media to keep the focus not on the lies and distractions, but on the facts and solutions. The NRA-funded disconnect must end. The flow of blood money to politicians must stop. Until we make deep, fundamental changes we are all in danger of being next.

Gun violence is not some theoretical discussion. It is a life and death local issue all across our nation.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The views and opinions expressed in the commentaries and letters to the Editor of *The Somerville Times* do not reflect the views and opinions of *The Somerville Times*, its publishers or staff. Readers are invited to send letters to the editor to *The Somerville Times*. Please email your letters to News@TheSomervilleTimes.com or mail them to 699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144. *The Somerville Times* Reserves the right to edit letters for style, grammar and length. All letters must include an name and contact information. Contact information will not be shared with the public. We look forward to hearing from you.

To the editor:

The Home Stretch

Every Somervillian should be proud of what our officials and activists are doing together to move forward the process of divesting the city's pension system from

the fossil fuel industry. It is frustrating to see that the state legislature is siding with the status quo and it's opposing a move that would increase the long-term stability of the city's pension fund. I am certain that every reader will side with Mayor Curtatone's idea that the city should decide how to invest its money to minimize

financial risks. Even the Rockefellers, who made their fortune in oil, are divesting. That tells us everything we need to know.

Too often cities that want to raise the bar and operate under higher standards are limited by old-school thinking. We are told that with the federal government in shambles, cities need to lead in address-

ing the environmental crisis and climate change. How can they lead if mayors are not given more flexibility? If Somerville wants to divest from fossil fuels, it should be allowed to do so.

Paola Massoli
Somerville

Mayor Joe Curtatone to represent the Elizabeth Warren Campaign at Somerville Caucus

On Saturday, March 3, Mayor Joseph Curtatone will represent the Elizabeth Warren Campaign at the Somerville Caucus.

Democrats will convene at the Somerville High School at 11:00 a.m. to elect delegates and alternates to the 2018 MA Democratic State Convention, which will be held at the DCU Center in Worcester on June 1 and 2.

Delegates at the 2018 MA Democratic State Convention will determine which statewide candidates will be on the Democratic ticket in the 2018 Primary Election in September.



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COMMENTARY

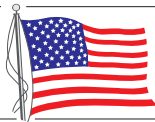
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Get ready for Somerville Parks & Recreation's new season of fun for all!

Our View Of The Times



If there is one invaluable resource that all city residents can appreciate and be proud of, it is the Somerville Parks & Recreation Department. They operate year-round programs throughout the city's public facilities, playgrounds, schoolyards, and various other locations to promote positive and healthy activities for all members of the

Somerville Community, in our particular our kids. A veritable plethora of programs and activities are made available throughout the year, but the spring and summer months are especially active as the weather brings us all out for exercise and play. Whether it's the KidStop program, Dilboy Pool membership, various sport-

ing clinics, Project Star, April Vacation program, Kennedy School Friday Night Out, Adventures In Space, Sprout Sports, music classes, and a myriad of other exiting and educational activities, the department is there to offer the community the best it can offer in recreational activities. This coming Saturday, the department is holding its 4th Annual Rec Kickoff

Fair at the Somerville High School Field House, where it will offer up a day filled with fun activities for all who attend. The department brings the community invaluable opportunities for enhancing the wellbeing of all residents who are interested in maintaining their health and learning new skills. Let's show them some love this weekend and check out the Fair.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

BOA. Now, why have elections if you're going to appoint people to make recommendations? These people are not accountable and can be purely political. Board of Alderman members receive \$40K a year for a so-called part time job. The mayor receives over \$183K and they want to appoint to a committee to get recommendations. Why not just have people submit resumes to the **Personnel Department**? The **Director of Personnel** by now SHOULD have a college degree, don't you think?

Somerville Rotary is having their annual **Giggles Comedy Night** at Giggles Comedy Club, Rt. 1 in Saugus, on **March 29**, at 6:00 p.m. It's a great event and lots of fun. Professional comedians, plus an auction and raffles throughout the night. Proceeds to benefit the many local Somerville charities. The ticket price is \$30. Contact **Donald Norton** at 617-623-6600 for tickets (also at the door) or for further information.

We hear that **Tony Albrandi** is sort of back at the barber shop after his long time absence due to heart surgery. Drop in and say hi.

Join **Somerville Recreation** for its **4th Annual Rec Kickoff Fair** on **Saturday, March 3**, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the **Somerville High School Field House**. This year they are celebrating 100 Years of Recreation. Come learn about all the programs and opportunities Recreation has to offer. Enjoy demonstrations from vendors, face painting, balloon animals, bounce house and much more. Come and reminisce on the past 100 years of Rec with old pictures, videos, and playground games. There's something for everyone at the Rec Fair, don't miss out on the fun.

Demets Donuts in Medford is getting very busy, but those donuts and the large variety are like the old **Day's Donuts**, huge and tasty. Almost a sin facing you when you come in for just coffee. It's hard to not get that jelly or lemon, not to mention the coconut donuts. **The Somerville Times** is available every Wednesday at the donut shop. Stop in, get a coffee and few of those delicious donuts, or maybe the real – and we mean real – egg sandwiches, from real eggs.

Don't forget, if you miss the **Board of Aldermen** meetings on **Somerville City Cable** (Comcast 22, RCN 13) or

online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/video> every other Thursday night, you can view them in their entirety by going to <http://somervillecityma.iqm2.com/Citizens>. Watch your city at work and see how these dedicated members of our community are serving you, the public.

The mayor wants to institute a transfer tax on those wishing to sell their homes, anywhere from 1% to 2%, which will go to the **City Treasury** (probably to buy some more city vehicles – doesn't it seem like everyone working for the city has one?). Did you know the city already gets a piece of the sales tax? Check that DD slip next time you get a cup of coffee. We hear that the new current Board is excited to pass this tax on to us, the taxpayers. It seems like the city has never done a tax cut, not even once, but looks like it is in the hands of the **Board of Aldermen**. One wonders about the constitutionality of it.

Another thing to watch and make sure your voice is heard is the **new zoning proposal** as this **Board of Aldermen** is taking another look at the proposed changes. They will affect everyone in the city in all parts of the city. You can go

online to the city website and view the suggested changes. We will keep you notified of the public hearings. As of now, **March 3** at City Hall is the next scheduled public hearing. We ran a story on it a few weeks ago, so go back and read it if you haven't already.

Join **Ward 2 Alderman JT Scott**, **Ward 3 Alderman Ben Ewen-Campen**, and the city's **Capital Projects & Planning Department** for a community meeting on **Wednesday, March 14**, to discuss upcoming construction on **Somerville Ave.** as part of the **Somerville Ave. Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project**. The meeting will be held in the **Academy Room of the Public Safety Building**, 220 Washington St., beginning at 6:30 p.m. The project funding was approved on December 14, 2017. The project is currently in construction bid phase. Construction will begin in April 2018, and addresses legacy storm water flooding issues in and around Union Square as well as streetscape improvements on Somerville Ave. between the Bow St./Washington St. intersection and Medford St. For more information, please visit www.somervillema.gov/somervilleave.

Somerville Union members rally at City Hall

CONT. FROM PG 3



Go to www.thesomervilletimes.com for more photos

Photos by Bobbie Toner



A friendly fur convention

The annual Boston furry convention, hosted by Anthro New England, was held this past weekend with the aim of raising money for charity while gathering together anthropomorphic character aficionados.

Several Somerville residents took part in the event held at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel. The theme for this year's convention was "To The Sea!"



Go to www.thesomervilletimes.com for more photos

Photos by Claudia Ferro



SPORTS

SHS Girls Basketball update – February 28



Somerville Girls Varsity Basketball lost the MIAA tournament playoff game they played against Danvers High Monday night in Danvers, eliminating the team from the tournament. The final score was 54-36. — Photos by Kristina Sabatino

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#617

1. How many teams qualify for the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament known as March Madness?

2. What team has won the most NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championships?

3. What school is the only Division I school in history to win the men's and women's basketball NCAA championship in the same year?

4. Marlon Brando was famous for his role as Vito Corleone in what movie?

5. What disease is named after the Greek "without appetite"?

6. What Band recorded

the album The Joshua Tree?

7. What is wire rope often referred to as?

8. What Latin word is the unit of length "inch" derived from?

9. How many brothers were in the original Jackson Group?

10. What was General George Patton's nickname during World War II?

11. How many minutes are in an Olympic Basketball Game?

12. What U.S. president signed the Panama Canal Treaty?

Answers on page 17

Somerville residents running Boston Marathon for Dana-Farber

On April 16, several Somerville residents are running to conquer cancer as members of the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team in the 122nd Boston Marathon. Residents include: Michelle Curtis, Heather Haggerty, Kelly Higgins, Thomas, Michael Katzeff, Nick Kern, Ali Kornfeld, Peter Lorinser, Samantha Rose, Jeffrey Smith, and Lauren Taylor.

Along with more than 500 Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge teammates from across the United States and around the world, they will run Massachusetts' historic marathon route from Hopkinton to Boston to raise \$5.5 million for cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

This year marks the 29th annual running of the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge (DFMC). One hundred percent of the money raised by the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team goes to Dana-Farber's Claudia Adams Barr Program in Innovative Basic Cancer Research that supports promising science research in its earliest stages. The Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge has raised more than \$85 million for the Barr Program to date.

In 1990, Dana-Farber was among the first charity organi-

zations to be recognized by the Boston Athletic Association (B.A.A.), which organizes the Boston Marathon. The Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge team offers its members extensive fundraising support, training guidance from 1976 Boston Marathon men's champion Jack Fultz, and team training runs, plus volunteer opportunities for non-runners. Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge runners who are not time-qualified for the Boston Marathon receive an invitational entry into the race.

Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge runners include cancer survivors and patients, and family and friends of those who have been affected by cancer. Each team member must fulfill a basic fundraising commitment:

- Invitational runners, runners who receive their entry from Dana-Farber, have a fundraising commitment of \$5,000.
- Own entry runners, runners who have joined the DFMC after obtaining their own race entry, have a fundraising commitment of \$4,000.

A cornerstone of the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge is its Patient Partner Program. Each year, approximately 50 current and former pediatric cancer patients of Dana-Farber's

Jimmy Fund Clinic are paired with DFMC runners as "Patient Partners." For the young patients, their partnerships with the runners provide a unique and friendly focus outside their illnesses. Another two dozen Partner Program families are paired with runners through the "In-Memory Program" in remembrance of their children's brave struggle with the disease.

To contribute to the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge, visit RunDFMC.org or contact the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge office at (617) 632-1970 or dfmc@dfci.harvard.edu. Follow DFMC on Facebook: www.facebook.com/marathonchallenge. On Twitter: #RunDFMC.

Dana-Farber's Claudia Adams Barr Program in Innovative Basic Cancer Research

Since its inception in 1990, the Dana-Farber Marathon Challenge has raised more than \$85 million for the Claudia Adams Barr Program in Innovative Basic Cancer Research. Dana-Farber Trustees J. Wayne and DeLores Barr Weaver founded the program in 1987 to honor Mrs. Weaver's mother, Claudia Adams Barr, who lost her battle with cancer 30 years earlier.

— Courtesy of Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING

A **public hearing** for all interested parties will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on **Wednesday, March 7, 2018** at 6:00 p.m. at the **Aldermanic Chambers, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.**

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

31 Irvington Road (ZBA 2018-12): Applicant/Owners, Ronald K. Taylor & Stacey D. Purviance, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by adding a dormer providing head height in the stair and a bathroom to the existing 3rd floor. RA zone. Ward 7.

160 Highland Avenue (ZBA 2018-15): Applicant and Owner, 160 Highland Realty Trust, John P. Murphy Trustee, seeks a Special Permit under SZO §7.11.1.c to establish a fifth residential unit on the site by converting an existing storage space into a studio apartment and a Special Permit under SZO §9.13 for parking relief. RC Zone. Ward 3.

105-107 Washington Street (ZBA 2017-91) (re-advertisement): Applicant and Owner, 105 Washington 5 LLC, seeks Special Permits with Site Plan Review (SPSR) to construct a 7-unit residential structure in the RC zone, Special Permits under Section 4.4.1 of the SZO to extend existing non-conforming setbacks, and special permit and/or variance for parking under Article 9 of the SZO, variances for height and number of stories. RC zone. Ward 1.

28 Rush Street (ZBA 2018-17): Applicants and Owners, Mariano Tavares and Leonor Tavares, seek special permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to build a rear deck within setbacks. RB zone. Ward 1.

6 Cutter Street (ZBA 2018-02): Applicant and Owner, 6 Cutter Street, LLC, seeks special permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to increase the non-conforming FAR by finishing the basement. RB zone. Ward 1.


31 Irvington Road: <http://eepurl.com/dlsPMX>
160 Highland Avenue: <http://eepurl.com/dlpQgj>
105-107 Washington Street: <http://eepurl.com/dlsStz>
28 Rush Street: <http://eepurl.com/dlsTtP>
6 Cutter Street: <http://eepurl.com/dlsTLT>

Submittals may be viewed in-person in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30pm www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning.

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

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant
As published in The Somerville Times on 2/21/18 & 2/28/18.

2/21/18, 2/28/18 The Somerville Times



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING

A joint public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Plan-ning Board and the Board of Aldermen Land Use Committee on **Tues-day, March 13, 2018 at 6:00pm**, in the Aldermanic Chambers on the Second Floor of Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, to receive public comments concerning the following:

ADOPTION OF A NEWSOMERVILLE ZONING ORDINANCE TO SUPERSEDE THE CURRENT ZONING ORDINANCE AS ORIGINALLY ADOPTED ON MARCH 23, 1990.

Items may be continued to later dates. Please check the agendas for the Planning Board and/or Land Use Committee on the City's website or call before attending. Continued items will not be re-advertised.

Interested persons may provide comments to the Planning Board and Land Use Committee at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to OSPCD, Planning Division, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; by fax to 617-625-0722; or by email to planning@somervillema.gov.

Copies of the ordinance and maps are available on-line at the Zoning Overhaul Website at: www.somervillezoning.com

Copies of the ordinance and maps are also available for review in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30 pm; and Fri, 8:30 am-12:30 pm.

NOTE: In preparation for this public hearing, on **Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Aldermanic Chambers on the Second Floor of Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA the City Administration will introduce the code, provide an overview and high-light how the 2018 overhaul is different than the proposed 2015 zoning overhaul.

Per *Section 1.2.1.a* of the proposed new ordinance, any discretion-ary or administrative permit issued, under current zoning regulations, prior to the date of adoption of the new Ordinance will remain valid, subject to all conditions of approval, notwithstanding the publishing of this advertisement.

Attest: Kevin Prior, Chairman, Planning Board

Attest: Alderman Lance Davis, Chair, BOA Land Use Committee

To be published in the Somerville Times on January 31, 2018 and Feb-ruary 7, 2018, February 14, 2018, February 21, 2018, February 28, 2018 and March 7, 2018.

1/31/18, 2/7/18, 2/14/18, 2/21/18, 2/28/18 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
IFB#18-52 Removal and Disposal of Street Sweeping Debris

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department invites sealed bids for:

Removal and Disposal of Street Sweeping Debris


An Invitation for bids (IFB) and specifications may be obtained online at <http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/bids> or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 High-land Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **03/07/2018**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **03/21/2018 at 12:00PM**. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The contract term shall be for a period of 1 year from 04/01/2018 through 03/31/2019, with two one-year options to renew. The City re-serves sole discretion to exercise renewal options.

Please contact Prajkta Waditwar pwaditwar@somervillema.gov for further information.

Angela M. Allen
Purchasing Director
617-625-6600 x. 3400

2/28/18 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
IFB#18-51 On-call roof Repairs

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department invites sealed bids for:

On-call roof repairs

An Invitation for bids (IFB) and specifications may be obtained online at <http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/bids> or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 High-land Ave., Somerville, MA, 02143 on or after **03/07/2018**. Sealed bids will be received at the above office until: **03/21/2018 at 11:00AM**. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The contract term shall be for a period of 1 year from 04/01/2018 through 03/31/2019, with two one-year options to renew. The City re-serves sole discretion to exercise renewal options.

Please contact Prajkta Waditwar pwaditwar@somervillema.gov for further information.

Angela M. Allen
Purchasing Director
617-625-6600 x. 3400

2/28/18 The Somerville Times

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Li-censing Commission** on **Thursday, March 15, 2018** in the Atrium, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at **6:00PM** on the application of Remnant Brewing LLC, 337 Somerville Ave., Som-erville, MA for an Entertainment by Devices License

For the Commission
Andrew Upton
John J. McKenna

Attest: Lori Batzek
Administrative Assistant


2/28/18 The Somerville Times

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Li-censing Commission** on **Thursday, March 15, 2018** in the Atrium, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at **6:00PM** on the application of Somerville AnnexTW, Inc. d/b/a Bronwyn Restau-rant, 255 Washington St., Somerville, MA for an Alteration of Premises.

For the Commission
Andrew Upton
John J. McKenna

Attest: Lori Batzek
Administrative Assistant

2/28/18 The Somerville Times



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The **Somerville Historic Preservation Commission (SHPC)** shall hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 at 6:40 p.m. in the Third Floor Community Room, at the Visiting Nurses Association (259 Lowell Street) regarding 1) a proposal by Horizons Enterprises, LLC: to de-molish a c.1916 concrete block structure at 8-10 Hardan Road.

The subject of the hearings will be a review of the initial determina-tion by the HPC that under the City of Somerville Zoning Ordinance Section 7-28b(2), the structure is considered “Significant.” Public testimony followed by discussion and a vote by the Commission will be taken regarding if the building should be “Preferably Preserved.” For further information, please contact (617) 625-6600 x 2500 or his-toric@somervillema.gov.

2/28/18 The Somerville Times

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Li-censing Commission** on **Thursday, March 15, 2018** in the Atrium, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at **6:00PM** on the application of Somerville Urban Axes Boston LLC d/b/a Urban Axes, 2 Union Sq., Somerville, MA for an All Forms 7 Day Restaurant License, Common Victualler License, Entertainment by Devices and Open before Noon on Sunday Licenses.

For the Commission
Andrew Upton
John J. McKenna


Attest: Lori Batzek
Administrative Assistant

2/28/18 The Somerville Times

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MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Planning Board on **Thursday, March 8, 2018** at **6:00 p.m.** in the **Visiting Nurse Association, 259 Lowell Street, Community Room, 3rd Floor, Somerville, MA.**

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

114 Broadway (PB2017-29): Applicant/Owner, 116 Broadway LLC, seeks a Special Permit with Site Plan Review under SZO §5.2 to approve replacement of a one-story building with a new construction 5-story mixed-use building (commercial ground floor and 8 residential units, 1 of which is an inclusionary unit with 0.6 of a unit payment-in-lieu) and \$6.1.22.G.7 for payment-in-lieu of parking for 11 spaces. CCD Zone. Ward 1.


114 Broadway: <http://eepurl.com/dlrdWD>

Submittals may be viewed in-person in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30 pm; and Fri, 8:30 am-12:30 pm. Staff reports, plans and Board decisions, when completed, are posted online at <https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning>.

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

Attest: Kevin Prior, Chairman
To be published in the Somerville Times on 2/21/18 & 2/28/18.

2/21/18, 2/28/18 The Somerville Times



LEGAL NOTICE

City of Somerville
Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD)
RFP# 18-PS1 CD
RFP# 18-ESG1 CD
The City of Somerville, Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD)
invites sealed proposals for the 2018-2019 HUD Action Plan for the: **Community Development Block Grant Program Emergency Solutions Grant Program.**

Community Development Block Grant Program. Proposals must be for programs that provide Public Services to low- and moderate-income residents of the City of Somerville. Bid Number **RFP # 18-PS1 CD Emergency Solutions Grant Program.** Proposals must address the needs of homeless individuals and families in the City of Somerville. Funds for the Emergency Solutions Grant are provided by the federal Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act. Bid Number **RFP # 18-ESG1 CD.**


Request for Proposal packages for both programs may be picked up at the OSPCD, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Third Floor, Somerville, MA 02143 beginning at **8:30 A.M. Monday, March 5, 2018.**

An electronic PDF file should be emailed to OSPCD@somervillema.gov and proposal packages must be submitted no later than **11:00 A.M. Tuesday, April 3, 2018** for Public Services **11:30 A.M. Tuesday, April 3, 2018** for Emergency Solutions Grant at the above address.

Please contact Penny Snyder, Contract Administrator, or email psnyder@somervillema.gov, for information and proposal packages

Michael F. Glavin
Executive Director
617- 625-6600, x 2500

2/28/18 The Somerville Times



ADVERTISMENT

CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
8 BONARI STREET, FINANCE OFFICE
SOMERVILLE, MA 02145
RFP# S2018-03

The School Committee of the City of Somerville invites sealed Proposals for a Consultant to Oversee the SomerVision for Learning Project for the Somerville (MA) Public Schools for the period March 31, 2018 – December 31, 2018.

Each Proposal shall be submitted in two separate sealed envelopes clearly marked "Price Proposal for Consultant Services for the SomerVision for Learning Project" and a "Non-Price Proposal for Consultant Services for the SomerVision for Learning Project" in accordance with the Request for Proposal and Contract Documents which may be obtained at the Finance Office, Somerville School Department, 8 Bonair Street, Somerville, MA 02145 on or after February 20, 2018 between the hours of Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

All Proposals shall be filed no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at the Finance Office, Somerville School Department, 8 Bonair Street, Somerville, MA 02145. There will be a Proposal review including possible interview with the finalists.

Please contact Leah Arredondo (larredondo@k12.somerville.ma.us) or call 617-629-5218 to receive the proposal and register as a proposal vendor.

THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS.

2/21/18, 2/28/18 The Somerville Times

Legal Notices can be downloaded from our website:
www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

Somerville Public Schools Career Fair

The Somerville Public Schools will hosts its second annual Career Fair on Saturday, March 10, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the East Somerville Community School. Are you or someone you know interested in a career in education? Join in to learn more about career opportunities within the Somerville Public Schools. Meet administrators and staff from schools and departments throughout the district, and learn more about how you be part of this dynamic and diverse educational community!

Washington Street Presents: Outside: Art About Nature


Washington Street Gallery – March 10 - March 31 2018

OPEN RECEPTION: March 10 at 6:00 p.m.

ON VIEW: March 10 through March 31, Saturdays 12-4 p.m., and by appointment

CONTACT: gallery321@washingtonst.net

“Outside,” at the Washington Street gallery, on March 10 through March 31, is a harbinger of spring in the cold and wet of New England March. Gallery members and friends in this group show invite you to turn your eyes and minds towards the living world through photography, painting, drawing, prints and more. With the experience of walking in the rain to the mathematical majesty of rings inside a tree, come saunter around the garden or swim in the river with us. The show offers friendly animals, shady trees and sweeping landscapes. Enjoy the intimate contemplation of the woods or the grandeur of a sun drenched meadow in our gallery space.




Somerville High School Students Against Gun Violence launches solidarity actions in wake of Parkland tragedy

Walkout, march, and rally planned for Wednesday, February 28, 8:17 a.m. to remember 17 victims

In response to the massacre at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, and the epidemic of mass shootings in the United States, Somerville's newly formed Students Against Gun Violence is launching actions including a school walkout, march, and rally beginning at Somerville High School at 81 Highland Ave. There at exactly 8:17 students will walk out of their classes and assemble outside the building. Once everyone is present they will all sit down in silence for the next 17 minutes in honor of the 17 Parkland victims. Then protesters will rise and march with signs down Highland Ave to the rally at Trum Field (541 Broadway, Somerville). Once everyone arrives, students will meet with organizers who have set up tables with the contact info of legislators who will then be flooded with calls, emails, and letters lobbying for constructive action towards comprehensive gun control.

The group's Mission Statement includes the following:

In 2018 alone, the United States has experienced almost seven thousand gun related incidents resulting in the deaths of nearly two thousand Americans. The aftermath of every tragedy is the same: the men and women elected to represent us and our values call for change but still fail to take legitimate action. We refuse to remain complicit in the murders of our fellow Americans any longer. If we want to properly honor the victims of years past, Congress must work towards comprehensive gun control.



Ms. Cam's

From on page 14

Olio

Answers

1. 68 college basketball teams	7. Cable
2. UCLA – 11 wins	8. “Uncia” – meaning 1/12 part
3. University of Connecticut	9. 5
4. <i>The Godfather</i>	10. Old blood and guts
5. Anorectic	11. 40 minutes – 10 minutes each quarter
6. U2	12. Jimmy Carter

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Wednesday|February 28
Central Library
Wilson reading tutoring
9 a.m.-11 a.m.|79 Highland Ave
East Branch Library
Preschool Storytime
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway
Thursday|March 1
Central Library
Preschool: Storytime for 3 to 5 year olds
10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m.
TELL (Teen Library Leaders) Meeting
3 p.m.-5 p.m.|79 Highland Ave
West Branch Library
Preschool Storytime
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
Lego Club!
3:30 p.m.-5 p.m.|40 College Ave
Friday|March 2
Central Library
Preschool: Storytime for 2 year olds
10:30 a.m.-11 a.m.|79 Highland Ave
East Branch Library
Fun Friday Sing-Along with The Music Man!
11 a.m.-11:45 p.m.|115 Broadway
Saturday|March 3
Central Library
Yoga for Kids
3 p.m.-4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave
Monday|March 5
Central Library
Youth Services Interest Group
9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.
Sing Along w/ Matt
11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.|79 Highland Ave
Tuesday|March 6
Central Library
Homeschool Reading Group for Ages 14-16
9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|79 Highland Ave
West Branch Library
Preschool Storytime
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|40 College Ave
Wednesday|March 7
Central Library
Wilson reading tutoring
9 a.m.-11 a.m.
Somerville Positive Forces
1 p.m.-3 p.m.|79 Highland Ave
East Branch Library
Preschool Storytime
11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory
Somerville Arts Council LCC Grant Winners Reception
6:30 p.m.|Performance Hall
notloB Music Presents: Sailbow & Jordan and Jordan
7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Thursday|March 1
Sally O’Brien’s
BYO Bluegrass with Dave Rizzuti
grassy Thursdays 7:30 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room
Matt Borrello, Mike Verge & Company|9:30 pm
Backroom Series: Steve Rondo & Richie Aversa, Matt Bourdeau|7 p.m.
Scattershots|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge
345 Somerville Ave

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

Bull McCabe’s
Krush Faktory(Dub Down)
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Thunder Road
Buckley ‘Las Cruces’ Album Release Party
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Adam Janjigian Quartet
7 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Friday|March 2
Sally O’Brien’s
Busted Jug|6 p.m.
Condescendants \$10 cover |10 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room
Irish Session|9:30 p.m.
Back Room: TBA|7 p.m.
Spike the Punch|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

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

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

Thunder Road
Aubrey Logan Of Postmodern Juke-box
6 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
Cake Factory
Bell Curve, !@#\$\$%, Orlando Boom, Squelcher, Passersby
9 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Forrest Presents
14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell
Sh!t-faced Shakespeare: The Taming of the Shrew|7 p.m.
Tommy McNamara at The Rockwell|9:30 p.m.
255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory
Journeys in Sound Presents:Mierlia - Fiery Fiddle Music from Romania, plus Ceren Türkmenolu & Volkan Efe
8 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Saturday|March 3
Sally O’Brien’s

Stan Martin Band|6 p.m.
Lady Malory Band, The Haymakers, The Lucky 88s|9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room:
Irish Session|9:30 p.m.
Back Room|The Jamberries|4 pm.
Tom Smith, John Schindler|7 p.m.
Closing Time |10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge
Yankee Power, Half Shell, Graneros, Glass House
7:30 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Karaoke
65 Holland St

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

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

Thunder Road
BRYAC Funk Allstars Featuring Members of Kung Fu & Deep Banana Blackout
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
"Raw & Smoked" Exclusive Tasting Session
Ali McGuirk, Boston Smoked Fish, Herd Nerd Spice, Island Creek Oysters
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
The Wolff Sisters
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell
KERPLUNK!|11 a.m.
Sh!t-faced Shakespeare: The Taming of the Shrew|7 p.m.
255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory
Somerville Songwriter Sessions
7:30 p.m|Café|191 Highland Ave

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

Sunday|March 4
Sally O’Brien’s Bar
The Natural Wonders |4:30 p.m.
Comedy Show!|9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room
John Gannon & Friends Irish Session|3 p.m.
Los Goutos|9 p.m.
Back Room
Beatles Brunch|9 a.m.-3 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA’S Lounge
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

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

Thunder Road
379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
Ladies Rock Camp Boston April 2018 Showcase!
8:30 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Gratefulele|1 p.m.
14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell
We Banjo 3
3 p.m.|255 Elm St

Monday|March 5
Sally O’Brien’s Bar

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

The Burren
Front Room:
Bur-Run|6:30 p.m.
Helena Delaney, Johnny O'Leary & Friends Irish Session:9:30 p.m.
Back Room:
Stump Trivia|8:30 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge
345 Somerville Ave

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

Thunder Road
379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
The Farewells
7:30 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

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

The Rockwell
Smoke & Shadows
8 p.m.|255 Elm St

Tuesday|March 6
Sally O’Brien’s Bar
SYM Tuesdays| 8 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

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

PA’s Lounge
345 Somerville Ave

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

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

Thunder Road
Echo Bloom
8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

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

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

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

Wednesday|March 7
Sally O’Brien’s Bar
Free Poker, lots of prizes!
8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Front Room
Americana Jam with: Grain Thief|9 p.m.
Backroom Series: Run|7:30 p.m.
Comedy Night with Arty P.|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge
345 Somerville Ave

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

Bull McCabe’s Pub
The Nephrok Allstars
10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-

440-6045

Thunder Road
379 Somerville Ave

Highland Kitchen
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom
Narrow Waves
The Susan Constant, The Motivated Sequence
8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.
Seamus Galligan
8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

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

CLASSES AND GROUPS
Wednesday|February 28
Central Library
Postcards for net neutrality
6 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave
Mystery Book Club
7 p.m.-8:15 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday|March 1
Central Library
Yoga for Teachers
3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Yoga at the Library
6 p.m.-7 p.m.
Discussion of 1491 by Charles Mann
7 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

West Branch Library
Learn English at the Library
6 p.m.-8 p.m.|40 College Ave

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

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

Saturday|March 3
Central Library
How to Run for Public Office
11 a.m.-2 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

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

Sunday|March 4
Arts at the Armory
SLF February Market - Local is for Lovers
11 a.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

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

Monday|March 5
Central Library
Creative Drama Workshop
4 p.m.-5 p.m.
Letter Writing in support of Conversion Therapy Ban
6 p.m.-8 p.m.
Chess Night
7 p.m.-8:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

Tuesday|March 6
Central Library
Learn English at the Library
6 p.m.-8 p.m.
Social Security Seminar
6 p.m.-7 p.m.
Memoir Writing Workshop
7:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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.

CENTER LOCATIONS, TIMES & SCHEDULES

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

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

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

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

ONGOING PROGRAMS

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

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

Free Groceries Every Month? – You may be eligible for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program! CSFP is a once a month food distribution for individuals 60 years of age or older. You may be eligible to receive two free bags of food once a month containing healthy shelf stable products. Proof of identity and age are all that is required to apply. Must apply beforehand. Pick up at the Ralph & Jenny Center, 9 New Washington Street on the 4th Thursday of every month unless otherwise specified. For more information or to apply please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 – applications are available at the front desk of our Holland Street Center. Pick up for January 25th will be at 9 New Washington Street, 8:30am-10:30am

Conversations of the Heart – Mondays (see dates below) from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. When you experience a loss; whether it is a loved one, a place of employment or even a change in your life, don’t process these feelings along; come join our group where we process difficult emotions together in a safe and welcoming environment. For more information or questions please contact Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317. Refreshments will be served. Future dates: Mar. 5, Mar. 19, Apr. 2 & May 7.

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

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

Lunch & Bingo – Monday, March 5 from 10:00 a.m.

to 1:30 p.m. at the Cross Street Center. Must RSVP. To reserve your spot, questions or additional information please contact Maureen by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

Lindsay Straw, Folk Singer & Guitarist – March 13 at 11:30 a.m. with a special Irish lunch then concert at 12:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. Cost is \$5 per person – Traditional Irish ballads and classic Irish-American sing alongs. For more information, questions or to reserve your spot please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Lucky Leprechaun Super Bingo – Thursday, March 15 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at our Ralph & Jenny Center. \$12 includes lunch, coffee, dessert, cards and prizes. Limited seating and transportation. If you require additional information, have any questions or want to reserve your spot please contact Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Foxwoods Casino – Monday, April 30th, \$25 includes transportation, \$10 bonus slot and a \$10 buffet. Check in time is 7:00 a.m. at Holland Street and 7:15 a.m. at Ralph & Jenny with an approximate return time of 7:00 p.m. If you require additional information, have any questions or want to reserve your spot please contact Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

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

Finger Lakes Region – Monday, May 7 to Friday, May 11 – 5 days and 4 nights - \$989 per person double or \$1389 per person single – includes transportation, lodging, 4 breakfast, 2 lunches, 2 dinners, 1 winery, 2 casinos and so much more. For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot please contact Connie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Belmont Stakes – Friday, June 8 to Monday, June 10 – 3 days and 2 nights - \$552 per person double or \$772 per person single includes transportation, lodgin, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners, reserved seating for the Belmont Stakes, guided tour of the Sagamore Hill National Historic Site. For additional info or to reserve your spot please contact Connie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Washington, DC – Monday, October 1 to Friday, October 5 - 5 days and 4 nights - \$619 per person double or \$869 single includes transportation, lodging, 4 breakfasts and 4 dinners, visit Arlington National Cemetery, National Air & Space Museum, Illumination tour of monuments and so much more. For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot please contact Connie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

LGBTQ EVENTS:

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

LGBTQ Lunch: Come, relax, enjoy lunch and talk with your peers. Scheduled lunch dates for 2018 are March 14, April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17, November 14 and December 12.

HOLLAND STREET GROUP INFORMATION

The Moonlighters – aka Somerville’s Swinging Singing Seniors. Mondays, 10 -11 a.m.

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

Caregiver Support Group – Meets the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Are you caring for a parent, relative, spouse or close friend? Feeling isolated or overwhelmed? You are not alone! Come share your experience and practical support. Open to all and new members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

Current Events Group – Meets every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Our Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Join a group of your peers

to discuss current events. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

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

Gardening Club – Meets the second Monday of each month starting at 9:00 a.m. and running for an hour most times. Principal Master Gardener, Vilma Sullivan, facilitates this group. A different topic each month ranging from gardening tips & secrets to inexpensive “greenhouses.” If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300. This group does not meet in January and February.

CROSS STREET GROUP INFORMATION

English Conversation – Meets every Monday, Tuesday & Thursday beginning at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator and Sandy Francis, Cross Street Center Volunteer, work together to facilitate this group. No books, no tests, no stress – just a great group of older adults from all over the world who help each other to listen, speak and learn English. Continue conversation throughout a healthy lunch. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

Arts & Crafts – Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month starting January 11th - from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Join us in a relaxing atmosphere as we learn about a wide range of arts & crafts from weaving to watercolor pencils. Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator facilitates this group. Must call a week in advance if you plan on attending. This is necessary to ensure we have enough material for everyone. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

Social Service Drop In – The 3rd Thursday of every month Social Workers, Ashley Speliotis and Natasha Naim will be taking turns and having a Drop-in Social Service hour from 11:00 a.m. to noon at the Cross Street Center. They will be available to address any of your Social Service needs. Stop by or if you need additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335

RALPH & JENNY GROUP INFORMATION

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

WEEKLY EXERCISE AND NUTRITION CLASS SCHEDULE

Monday: Keep Moving Walking Club** - 9:15 a.m. (H) / Tai Chi – 11:30 a.m. (H) / Fit-4-Life Group C - 1:00 p.m. (H)

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

Wednesdays: Fit-4-Life - Group A (exercise) - 8:45 a.m. / Group B (nutrition) - 9 a.m./ Group B (exercise) - 10:00 a.m. (H) / Group C (nutrition) - noon (H) / Group C (exercise) - 1:00 p.m. (H) / Zumba 4 All - 5:15 p.m. - \$3/class (H)

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

Fridays: Fit-4-Life - Group A - 8:45 a.m. (H) / Fit-4-Life - Group B - 10:00 a.m. (H) /Group A (nutrition) 10:00 a.m. (H)

Adventure Group – Please call for details

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

** Keep Moving Walking Club is on hiatus until the Spring

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.

Somerville High School Alumni Tours



Somerville High School alumni tours, organized by the Somerville Teachers Association, will take place on Saturday, March 24. Take this opportunity to go through the old high school building before it goes away. Please note the following:

- They are asking if people will be willing to donate to take part, all of which will go to the Somerville Teachers' Association Scholarship Fund (a 501c3) to be awarded to SHS and Full Circle seniors in 2019. They will accept cash or checks. If people would like to make a donation prior to the tours, see below. Participants will receive a commemorative ticket.
- Tours will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The expectation is that groups will get started roughly every 15 minutes.
- The vocational fair will be going on at the same time, so participants will have an opportunity to visit the fair (the fair itself is free and is taking place mainly in the atrium which, for those of you who graduated before 1985, is the "new" part of the building.)
- You may donate via Paypal at @STAScholarshipFund@gmail.com. In the comments, you should include your name, the year you graduated, and the names of other people in whose names you are donating if there will be others besides you attending. Please note that there is no snow date, so if you prepay and the school is closed, we cannot refund the money. You will have made a contribution to the fund, and that is tax deductible.
- Those who graduated in 1985 or before will tour the building as it existed when they were students. Those who graduated 1986 or later will tour the entire structure. If, however, you are in the first group and will like to see the "new" part, you will have the opportunity to do that.
- Career and Technical Education students will be selling Somerville t-shirts during the tours. Each year, students take part in SkillsUSA competitions and the profits will go toward that; Skills USA is a "partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce."
- They will have yearbooks on view for every year except 1917. (If anyone has one for that year and would like to donate it, they would be happy to have it.) They will not be for sale, but you may look through them.

If you have questions, you may email STAScholarshipFund@gmail.com.

Net Neutrality Panel

Beyond Boston – Regional News Show presents
Understanding Net Neutrality and the Future
of Our Internet: A Panel Discussion & Q and A

Thursday, March 8, 7-8:30 p.m. at Malden Senior Center

It is no surprise that a free, open, and accessible internet is vital to our modern democracy. To ensure such protections, net neutrality rules were created to make sure all internet traffic is treated equally and enables freedom of the press, expression, and speech in the digital age. Despite the clear importance of net neutrality, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) voted to eliminate net neutrality and change the way Americans access the internet.



The public is invited to attend this panel discussion to learn more about Net Neutrality, our Internet future and what efforts are taking place to fight against this war on information access.

A stellar group of experts and advocates have been invited to join and lead the discussion. The full panel will be announced ASAP online at www.somerville-media.org.

YOU MUST RSVP YOUR SPOT to Erica Jones at ejones@somerville-media.org

ABOUT THE ORGANIZERS

Beyond Boston is a collaboration of regional community media centers whose mission is to bring awareness to topics that have impact and relevance beyond their own communities. This cohort produces a monthly regional news magazine spotlighting reporting from Boston, MA area community access centers – including Brookline Interactive Group (BIG) in Brookline, MA, Cambridge Community Television (CCTV) in Cambridge, MA, Malden Access TV (MATV) in Malden, MA and MA, Somerville Media Center (SMC/SCATV) in Somerville – in partnership with BINJ.

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By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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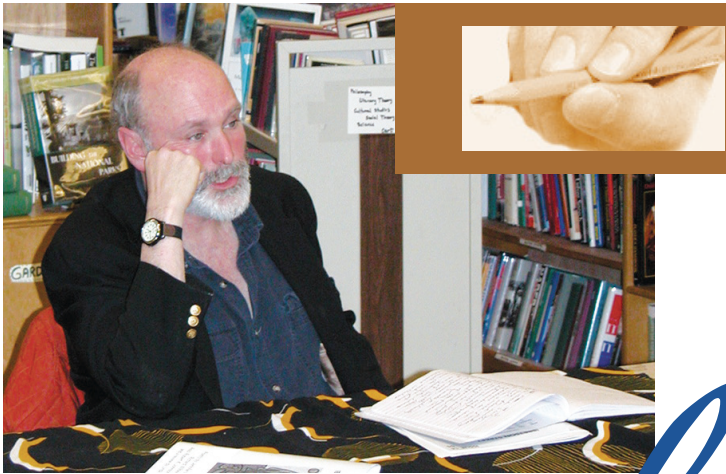
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Wednesday, February 28		8:00pm	Greater Somerville	4:00pm	SMC Roundtable	10:00am	Both Sides of the Bars
12:00am	Free Speech TV	8:30pm	Somerville Pundits	4:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?	10:30pm	SOM ARTS
6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	9:00pm	The Beantown Beatdown	5:00pm	DW Focus on Europe	11:00am	Beyond the Badge
7:00am	Wide Angle	10:00pm	The Chatman Booth	5:30pm	Both Sides of the Bars	11:30am	DW Conflict Zone
7:30am	DW In Good Shape	10:30pm	TUTV	6:00pm	Beyond Boston	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	DIWHY the show	6:30pm	Hello Neighbor	1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
9:00am	DW Global 3000	Friday, March 2		7:00pm	StartUp TV Boston	1:30pm	DW Global 3000
9:30am	Both Sides of the Bars	12:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	8:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	2:00pm	Science 360
10:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	1:00am	Free Speech TV	8:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
10:30am	Somerville Storytellers	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	4:00pm	DW Euromaxx
11:00am	Fallon's Daily Toast	7:00am	The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	DIWHY The Show	4:30pm	Esoteric Science
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	SCATV Secret Stash	5:00pm	Tele Galaxie
1:00pm	Health is Wealth	9:00am	SOM ARTS	11:30pm	Ojo Rojo	6:00pm	SMC Youth Media
1:30pm	Green Card Voices	9:30am	Cambridge Calendar	Sunday, March 4		6:30pm	The Kamla Show
2:00pm	SOM ARTS	10:00am	NASA TV	12:00am	Flotilla	7:00pm	LIVE - The Yellow Jacket Lady
2:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	11:00am	Aging Well	1:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	7:30pm	SMC Presents
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:30am	DW Tomorrow Today	2:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	(LIVE) Somerville Overcoming Addiction
4:00pm	NASA TV Video File News Feed	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	6:00am	NASA TV	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
5:00pm	Physicians Focus	1:00pm	The Yellow Jacket Lady	12:00pm	SCATV SECRET STASH	10:00pm	Donnie Steubins
5:30pm	Going Postal	1:30pm	Physicians Focus	1:00am	SCATV SECRET STASH	11:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
6:00pm	Haitian Poetry in 3 languages	2:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	2:00am	Free Speech TV	Tuesday March 6	
7:00pm	SMC Roundtable	2:30pm	The World Fusion Show	6:00am	NASA TV	12:00am	Free Speech TV
7:30pm	Aging Well	3:00pm	Democracy Now	7:00am	Nossa Gentes e Costumes	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board
8:00pm	LIVE: Somerville Pundits	4:00pm	Gay USA	8:00am	Tele Magazine	7:00am	DW Euromaxx
8:30pm	LIVE: Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	5:00pm	The Chatman Booth	9:00am	Tele Kreyol	7:30am	Esoteric Science
9:30pm	Reeling Review	5:30pm	What's New in Massachusetts?	10:00am	Art and Ideas	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
10:00pm	Duck Village Stage Series	6:00pm	The Boston Medium	10:30am	DW Conflict zone	9:00am	The Chef's Table Series
10:30pm	Ojo Rojo	6:30pm	The Real Estate Answers Show	11:00am	The Chef's Table Series	10:00am	SMC Roundtable
11:00pm	SCATV SECRET STASH: Flotilla	7:00pm	(LIVE) Fallon's Daily Toast	12:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	10:30am	DW In Good Shape
Thursday, March 1		8:00pm	The Grandstanders	12:30pm	Effort Pour Christ	11:00am	DW Tomorrow Today
12:00am	SCATV Secret Stash Hour	8:30pm	Digital Community Bulletin Board	1:30pm	Teen Empowerment	11:30am	Beyond the Badge
1:00am	Free Speech TV	9:00pm	SOM ARTS	2:00pm	StartUp TV Boston	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	9:30pm	Cambridge Calendar	3:00pm	African Television Network	1:00pm	Words on Film
7:00am	Perils for Pedestrians	10:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	2:00pm	Somerville Overcoming Addiction
7:30am	DW Focus on Europe	11:00pm	Totally Working Out	5:00pm	SMC THROWBACK	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:30pm	Totally Working Out	6:30pm	The Grandstanders	4:00pm	Aging Well
9:00am	DW Tomorrow Today	Saturday, March 3		7:00pm	The Real Estate Answers Show	4:30pm	Teen Empowerment
9:30am	Hello Neighbor	12:00am	DIWHY The Show	8:00pm	Gay USA	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer
10:00am	The Kamla Show	1:00am	SCATV Secret Stash Hour	8:30pm	New England Pride TV	5:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?
10:30am	Somerville Pundits	2:00am	Free Speech TV	9:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	6:00pm	SCOUTV
11:00am	Art and Ideas	5:00am	Effort Pour Christ	10:00pm	Words on Film	6:30pm	Beyond Boston
11:30am	The Real Estate Answers Show	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	10:30pm	The Boston Medium	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	7:00am	Tele Magazine	11:00pm	Box House Productions Presents	7:30pm	Greater Somerville
1:00pm	The Somerville Line	8:00am	Democracy Now	11:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash	8:00pm	Dead Air Live
3:00pm	Democracy Now!	9:00am	SMC Youth Media	Monday March 5		9:00pm	The Yellow Jacket Lady
4:00pm	SMC Roundtable	9:30am	Somerville Storytellers	12:00am	Free Speech TV	9:30pm	SMC Presents
4:30pm	The Struggle	10:00am	Dead air Live	12:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	10:00pm	Public Access Boyz
5:00pm	Words on Film	11:00am	Haitian Poetry in 3 languages	6:00am	Aging Well	10:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash
6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00pm	Telegalaxie	7:00	Going Postal	11:00pm	Box House Productions Presents
6:30pm	Beyond Boston	1:00pm	African Television Network	7:30am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:30pm	New Kids on the Rock
7:							

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Wednesday, February 28	2:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS	3:45am SHS Hockey vs Revere	1:00pm The Bilingual Brain Symposium
9:00am SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn	11:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School	9:00am The Bilingual Brain Symposium	2:30pm SHS Student Health Survey 2018
11:00am SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers		10:30am Argenziano School MLK Concert	3:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School
1:00pm Argenziano School MLK Concert	Friday, March 2	11:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School	4:00pm SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers
2:00pm SHS Hockey vs Cambridge	12:00am SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers	12:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano	6:00pm SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn
3:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano	2:00am SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn	12:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS	8:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School
4:00pm The Bilingual Brain Symposium	9:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Salem	1:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School	9:00pm SHS Hockey vs Cambridge
5:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School	11:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Saugus	1:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School	10:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano
6:00pm SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn	12:30pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Peabody	2:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - WSNS	11:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS
8:00pm SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers	2:00pm SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn	2:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS	11:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School
10:00pm Argenziano School MLK Concert	4:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Gloucester	3:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Gloucester	
11:00pm SHS Hockey vs Cambridge	6:00pm SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers	5:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Salem	Tuesday, March 6
	8:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Salem	7:00pm The Bilingual Brain Symposium	12:00am SHS Hockey vs Cambridge
Thursday, March 1	10:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Saugus	8:30pm Argenziano School MLK Concert	1:15am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School
12:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano		9:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School	1:30am SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn
1:00am The Bilingual Brain Symposium	Saturday, March 3	10:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano	9:00am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School
2:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School	12:00am SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn	10:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS	9:30am The Bilingual Brain Symposium
9:00am SHS Hockey vs Cambridge	2:00am SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers	11:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School	11:00am SHS Student Health Survey 2018
10:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano	4:00am SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers	11:15pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School	12:00pm Argenziano School MLK Concert
11:00am Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS	9:00am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School		1:00pm Argenziano School Winter Concert
11:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School	10:00am Argenziano School MLK Concert	Monday, March 5	2:00pm SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers
12:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School	11:00am SHS Hockey vs Cambridge	12:00am Student of the Qtr. Awards - WSNS	4:00pm SHS Hockey vs Cambridge
12:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS	12:30pm The Bilingual Brain Symposium	12:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS	6:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School
1:00pm The Bilingual Brain Symposium	2:00pm SHS Hockey vs Gloucester	1:00am SHS Girls Basketball vs Gloucester	6:30pm The Bilingual Brain Symposium
2:30pm SHS Student Health Survey 2018	4:00pm SHS Hockey vs Revere	3:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Salem	8:00pm SHS Student Health Survey 2018
3:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School	6:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School	9:00am SHS Hockey vs Cambridge	9:00pm Argenziano School MLK Concert
4:00pm SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers	7:00pm Argenziano School MLK Concert	10:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano	10:00pm Argenziano School Winter Concert
6:00pm SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn	8:00pm SHS Hockey vs Cambridge	11:00am Student of the Qtr. Awards - WHCS	11:00pm SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers
8:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School	10:00pm SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers	11:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown School	
9:00pm SHS Hockey vs Cambridge		12:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School	Wednesday, March 7
10:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano	Sunday, March 4	12:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS	1:00am SHS Hockey vs Cambridge
	12:00am SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn		2:30am SHS Hockey vs Revere
	2:00am SHS Girls Basketball vs Gloucester		

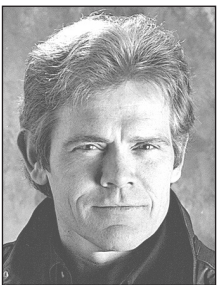


Lyrical

SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Actor, writer and comedian, George J. MacDonald has been a working professional in the entertainment industry for a number of years. Stage plays that MacDonald has written include *Waiting For Whitey*, *At The Funny Factory*, *In A Better Place* and *Whistling Past The Graveyard*. Screenplays include *Both Guns Blazing*, *Still In The Picture* and *The Spider Sequence*. Some of his film credits are *Monument Ave.*, *Celtic Pride*, *Bluff* and *When Stand-up Stood Out*. Television credits include *MAD-TV*, *The Michael Richards Show* and A&E's *Comedy On The Road*. In 2005, George made his directorial debut with *Why Work?*, a sketch comedy show that played in The Edinburgh Fringe Festival. MacDonald is a member of SAG-AFTRA, Actors Equity Association and The Dramatists Guild of America.



Where the Nightbird Sings

In the darkness of the forest
Where the lonesome nightbird sings
Whispers there a blade before us
That the dogged phantom slings.

Churning forward at its own pace
With its own determined speed
Though you run your very best race
You will never keep the lead.

Marking time with sad distraction
And crass indulgence by the score
Never stops the grim-faced specter
Now heard scratching at your door.

Some may run and try to dodge it
As though it were a schoolyard game
But the creeping ebb of shadows
Always claims you just the same.

In that final frail surrender
At last meeting face-to-face
Slip away in sleep so tender
With its dark and cold embrace.

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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

'Pearl' by Lawrence Kessenich

Pearl
By Lawrence Kessenich
Letterpress Book Publishing
Oak Grove, Minnesota
125 Numbered and Signed Chapbooks
21 Pages

Review by Dennis Daly

Masked by its modest size and critically unconsidered, at least until now, because of the small number of available copies, *Pearl*, Lawrence Kessenich's new chapbook, spellbinds the reader both as a commentary on Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* and, in its own right, as a compilation of compelling and elegant poetry.

Besides the exquisite simplicity of the book's design, *Pearl* astounds with a life-affirming passion rarely exhibited in contemporary American verse. Kessenich constructs his poems solidly, but somehow the spirit of their subject/narrator hovers over his whole collection, seemingly moving from piece to piece. The poet includes five interludes of prosaic Hawthorne-speak, which knit the poems together and elucidate the strange personal connection between Hawthorne and the most impish of his fictional characters.

Pearl is, of course, the illegitimate child of Hester Prynne, *The Scarlet Letter's* protagonist. The poet borrows Pearl's story and employs her as his reminiscing narrator. Early in Kessenich's collection the poem *On the Scaffold* appears, in which Pearl and Hester reunite with Pearl's minister-father, Arthur Dimmesdale, on the town's scaffold. Pathos and guilt compete for dominance. The heartfelt scene touches with its possibilities of redemption. But Dimmesdale, exhibiting a weak character, falters. Pearl remembers the moment,

But I was not to be denied my father's embrace.
He did not lift me to his breast, however, only
took my hand and stood there silently, a secret
rehearsal for a play that would not be performed,
a dumb show of love and remorse. "Minister!"

I challenged him, "Wilt thou not stand here with my mother
and me, tomorrow noontide?" Without consideration,
he replied, "Nay; not so, my little Pearl," trembling
like a schoolboy—and in that instant ceased to be my
father.

In Hawthorne's original story, Pearl turns wild-child, unwittingly tormenting her mother. That author pictures her tossing wildflowers at her mother's bosom. The objective of this juvenile game is hitting the scarlet letter emblazoned there. Innocence can often morph into unintended cruelty, that's the way of the world, both Hawthorne's and ours. Kessenich portrays Pearl lamenting her childhood mischief,

... We never spoke of what I did to you
that blazing afternoon, but I do dream
of being you, and feel each flower strike

my heart like a pistol held at point blank.
Many were convinced I was possessed,
and in that moment I most surely was,
the devil's hand tearing live flowers from

the earth and turning them into weapons.
It is a wonder that I did not burst
your heart...

Spectral evidence convicted the witches of Salem. One could argue (and some have) that the New England Puritans repressed creative impulses in such a way that those same phenomena sometimes reappeared as malignant and negatively efficacious. A little hysteria added to that devil's brew and tragedy ensued. Judge Hathorne, Ha(w)thorn's forebear, aided and abetted by the best intellects of his time and place, presided over that dismal historic episode. Many of Hawthorn's characters, by their words and actions, indirectly harken to this dark and personal theme. Kessenich mulls over the other side of that metaphysical coin, portraying a mature Pearl as a successful playwright, considering her art's spectral origins,

...I have
peopled my own land-
scapes as long as I remem-
ber.
They are the appendages
with which I reach out

to the world. Mr. Cruik-
shank tends to the sweet
lambs
of my heart, while Mrs.
Araby delves into
the exotic and arcane. Sgt. Bindlestaff defends
my honor, while Miss Honeypot lures handsome men.

I live a solitary life, but I am never
alone. I dine with Princess Paliver, play cards
with the Duke and Duchess of Quoits, drink wine
and smoke cigars with the dangerous Mr. Rakehell.

The ancestors of those colorful figures adorned
low branches in the forest beside my mother's house,
sat, stood, kneeled, and ran at my command...

After the introductory Custom-House section, *The Scarlet Letter* proper opens with an odd but very pertinent description of a wild rose bush growing next to the prison door where condemned criminals were housed. Contrasted with its dismal Manichean surroundings, the bush introduced sweetness, fragrance, and fragility to seventeenth century Boston. Kessenich's piece entitled *Blossom* expands on Hawthorne's metaphor. Here Pearl blossoms as she speaks,

I create no characters like those in Puritan

lesson books, wooden figures representing Piety,
Evil, and little else betwixt. I take a cue from my
Creator, plant my garden with a dizzying variety

of personalities and physical types: crying fat men,
self-indulgent ascetics, ladies plumed like exotic birds,
men who define themselves by amorous conquests.

It is a rich, perplexing world that cannot be reduced
to obedience and self-denial, any more than a rose bush
can be told when to bloom and in what color. Trim us

too severely and we will grow back twice as large, thrice
as bright.

Inseparable as Kessenich's remarkable poems are, I still have favorites. One of them, *Silence*, speaks to the very nature of artistic endeavor. The poet has Pearl join the Quakers in later life as part a continuum of solitariness and internalized rebellion. Ensconced in this silence, she creates a more perfect (some would say exotic) world from the detritus of her flawed and former society. Waiting and listening lends themselves to creation. And creation heals. Pearl explains further,

it is silence I crave, all the goodly Quakers

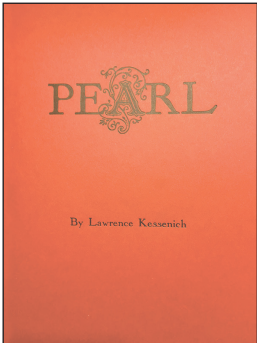
lined up on meetinghouse benches—talkative
shopkeepers, chatty housewives, poets who love
to declaim—lips sealed, waiting for God to speak
to them or move them to speak, humbly and briefly.

Working among actors who love the sound of
their own voices, this reticence is a balm.
At meeting, Quakers weigh and value every word,
As I do when I write. Silence rules my process.

I, too, wait upon Divine inspiration—or, at least,
upon the Muses—before I dare bring words into
the world. Even with that, my Quaker elders
warn me that I wax too clever and profane. It is here

that we part company. For I believe that God
is likely to be amused at us as He is
to be wroth...

Upon reading Kessenich's *Pearl*, a resurrected Nathaniel Hawthorne, I believe, would approve in silence, with a solemn nod and then, perhaps, a wink.





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