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The Somerville Times



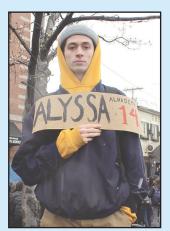


VOL. 6 NO. 11

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2018

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



Somerville students demand to be heard page 5



It all boils down to this page 8



Mayor & Co. page 13

Efforts to enact real estate transfer fee move forward



 $A new \ real \ estate \ transfer \ fee \ may \ soon \ be \ imposed \ on \ property \ transactions \ within \ the \ City \ of \ Somerville.$

By Jim Clark

The Legislative Matters Committee of the Somerville Board of Aldermen continues to amend and discuss details of its intended home rule petition to impose a real estate transfer fee on property sales in the city.

According to Alderman At-Large Mary Jo Rossetti, many have been following the process, but others are not fully aware of the proposed legislation and what it will mean to current and future property owners.

"In our efforts to assist our families and all constituents who are being 'priced out' of Somerville, this ordinance would impose a fee when a home or apartment building were sold," Rossetti said. "Briefly, we are talking about potentially exempting all owner-occupied 1, 2, and 3 family homes. Also exempting any family trust transfers. Other proposed Continued on page 4

Cambridge Hackspace:

Where tongue depressors become keychains and traffic lights can display whatever you want

By Emily Blackwood

Hidden behind an alley adjacent to the bustling Market Basket on Somerville Avenue, sits Cambridge Hackspace; a place where people can come to stretch their creative muscles and see what they can make.

Much like the I Spy books we picked through as kids, there's a lot to look at in the Cambridge Hackspace headquarters. An overwhelming collection of woodworking tools hangs on the wall by the entrance door. A large papier-mâché hand hangs from the ceiling that members say was left over from the artists who had the space

And there's a large traffic light tucked by the storage boxes in the back. That was found on the side of the road by a Hackspace member, and they were going to see what they could do with it tonight. Continued on page 3



According to President Ed Kalcza, Cambridge Hackspace was started in 2013 by Richard Hawthorne. - Photo by Emily Blackwood

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Happy St. Patrick's Day this Saturday to all the many Irish and the ones who become Irish on the 17th. Our good friend Liam down at Sally O'Brien's will be celebrating. Join the crowd and enjoy the good music and have great time.

Happy birthday this week to some of Somerville's notables: Happy birthday to Karen Love of Magoun Square. We wish her a very good day. Happy birthday to Jim Halloran. We wish him a good day as well. Happy birthday to former Somerville notable Pat Crawford. We wish her the very best. Happy birthday to good guy Marc Piro, who celebrates this week. Another good friend, Donald Coutoumas, is also celebrating his birthday this week. We wish him a happy birthday. Happy birthday to John Cirello of Somerville. Happy birthday to the many others celebrating this week.

Patty Norton was again rushed to Mass General Hospital this past Monday. We hope she is back home and feeling much better real soon.

This past Monday night, the service was held for lifelong resident Danny Spinosa, who passed away last week. He would have celebrated his 96th birthday this week. Again, our condolences to Danny's family.

The Harlem Wizards are coming to Somerville to play against local teachers and principals in a game of trick basketball on March 16, 7:00 p.m., at Somerville High School. The game includes slam dunks, fun music, athletic passing and lots of laughter. Players sign autographs and take photos with every child. Audience participation half time show included. Purchase tickets at www.harlemwizards.com. All proceeds benefit the Somerville Council of PTAs.

Is it time for Tufts University to pay Somerville and Medford the same as it pays Boston? Our Revolution Somerville and Revolution Medford are launching a campaign to win significantly more payments in Lieu of taxes and Continued on page 11

The Somerville Times

699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144 news@thesomervilletimes.com www.thesomervilletimes.com 617-666-4010 + Fax: 617-628-0422





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

Advertising Director – Bobbie Toner Arts Editor – Doug Holder

Writers: Jim Clark, Tom Bannister, Charles Lane, Rebecca Danvers, Ross Blouin, Donald Norton

Contributors: William C. Shelton, Ariana Colozzo, Louise Carpenter, Dorothy Dimarzo, Bob Doherty

Photographer: Claudia Ferro

The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday

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TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: Powderhouse Studios aims to teach students how to learn

Jamal Anwar Halawa says:

I teach English to Speakers of Other Languages at Somerville High, a Tier 1 public high school school. For the past 6 years I have been working there I have been amazed not only by the students, but also by the faculty. I've taught in a lot of places, in a lot of contexts and I have never had the pleasure of having such devoted and selfless colleagues. The only thing more distressing than the insinuation that Somerville teachers "check off boxes" is the Somerville Times careless printing of such a remark, without context or response from teachers who have been doing the work.

CherylAnn Welch says:

I taught in Somerville fogr 38 years. I found the article insulting and self serving. My colleagues and I took time to know our students as best we could despite the fact that we had upwards of one hundred plus students from all backgrounds and abilities, not just a small, elite, hand-picked group. Furthermore, teachers are told what to teach, and often, when. We do not check off boxes, but try to get each child to where he or she needs to be. It would have been nice to offer a stipend to kids who needed one. No one says kids can't do things, but teachers don't always have the resources to give so many kids so much kids.

RH says:

I don't get all the defensive comments. This article doesn't say anything about quality or commitment of Somerville schools or teachers.

Matt C says:

Lets calm down – I doubt the "insensitive" language was directed at SHS, The article was clearly written as a way to differentiate the educational approach from the traditional system.

First, this is a marketing piece, its intended to sell the concept of a new type of publicly funded school to the city both the residents and the School Committee so that it can actually be opened. Second if they are opened then they will be competing with other schools in the city and they need to "win" the best students and to do they they need to show they have the best product.

We all want to see kids in our community receive the best education possible, perhaps a little competition is a good thing.

CAP says:

Don't have a dog in the fight here. But I'd like to commend the level of discourse and commentary here. These are all very thoughtful and lucid comments that are very interesting and educational for those of us who don't have the experience or expertise to weigh in on such matters. Thanks for your contributions here, it's a valuable service.

Union Square Resident says:

I agree that most of the commenters here need to take a step back and not jump to conclusions. They seem extremely defensive, and I cannot understand what they are afraid of.

This is a very short article with some very short quotes that now lack broader context. This makes it very difficult to understand the broader picture and purpose of such innovation schools. Joe Beckmann's detailed history of educational innovation is very illuminating and providing some necessary context for those who seem to fear creative new educational opportunities when this is simply an outlet of the creativity that has been ongoing at SHS and other schools.

I have spoken to Alec and researched the ideas behind this school considerably, and it is incredibly reasonable. It is a basic fact that a single school, no matter how advanced and versatile SHS has become, may not be able to provide for the needs of all types of students. I know many many friends who would have benefits immensely in their education and future career paths from the opportunity to try a model like PowderHouse.

Not a single person should be criticizing this school BEFORE it even exists yet and not until it has been given a chance to demonstrate its worth.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments



The Somerville Times -

Cambridge Hackspace

CONT. FROM PG 1

"It was thrown out somewhere," said Ed Kalcza, Hackspace president, as he toyed with a tongue depressor he had attempted to laser-cut into a movable wooden box. "We're putting in a LED matrix in place of the lightbulb to display text and stuff. People are gonna come in and see what they can do."

That's the general idea for most of the Project Nights at Cambridge Hackspace, taking place at 6:30 p.m. every Tuesday. Members come in, sometimes bringing random items they've collected, and see what they can make.

Everything from weather displays to custom electronics are created in the warehouse Hackspace has made their home. One of their members, Harnek Gulati, has even raised over \$75,000 on Kickstarter for his project made at Hackspace: a wooden word watch.

"It's a place for people to share knowledge about making things," Kalcza said. "It's open to everyone."

For a monthly fee of \$75, members have 24/7 access to space and its tools, which include two laser cutters, three 3D printers and dozens of other gadgets and gizmos. The next Project Night is at 6:30 p.m., March 20, and is open to everyone.

Cambridge Hackspace is located at 438 Somerville Avenue, Somerville. For more information, visit www.cambridgehack-

Somerville Public Schools Career Fair

The Somerville Public Schools 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 us 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.

Backpack, gun scare

On Wednesday, March 7, during routine park maintenance, a Somerville Department of Public Works employee found a backpack in a trash can at the soccer field adjacent to the Capuano Early Childhood Center. The backpack contained a broken Airsoft soft pellet (plastic pellet) rifle, a soft pellet pistol, and soft pellet magazines as well as a ski mask.

Airsoft guns are replica weapons that look real, and are used recreationally in Airsoft sports. The rifle found was an AK47 replica.

Shortly after Somerville Police shared information regarding the backpack, the owner quickly identified himself by contacting police.

It appears that a 17-year-old Somerville resident received the Airsoft equipment from a friend moving overseas. He intended to use it for Airsoft sports once he turned 18. Upon finding the equipment in their home, the youth's Aunt and Uncle ordered it be broken, taken



A suspicious looking backpack containing a broken plastic pellet gun caused some serious concerns last week after being found in a soccer field's trash can.

out of the house, and thrown away. The youth broke the guns and then disposed of them in a trash can near the Capuano school. The ski mask (balaclava) was part of the Airsoft gear. The youth apologized for causing any alarm.

The Somerville Police strives to maintain open communication with the community to aid in their work and would like to

thank both the youth and the community for aiding in the quick resolution of this issue. Please note that anyone with unwanted weaponry of any kind can bring it to the Somerville Police for proper disposal at any time. For more information on gun disposal, please contact the police non-emergency line at 617-625-1212.

— Somerville Police Dept.

Want to write local Somerville stories?

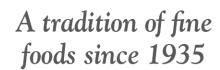
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By Jim Clark

Alleged drug dealer put out of business

Members of the Somerville Police Department Drug Control Unit and Gang Unit recently initiated a drug investigation targeting Walter Komnenus and his alleged role in the ongoing distribution of controlled substances in the city. The alleged distribution occurs from his Pearl St. residence.

On Friday, police setup surveillance in the area and at approximately 5:50 p.m. observations were made of a car driving up to the side of Pearl St., where the vehicle stopped. The female operator of the car then exited the vehicle and walked to the back door of the residence, where she entered.

Observations were reportedly made of the female exiting the residence along with Komnenus. After a short conversation between the two, the female left the area in her vehicle and Kom-

nenus entered his truck, which was parked in the driveway. He then reportedly started the vehicle and began to drive away travelling from Pinckney Street onto Wheeler Street.

Police units followed as Komnenus took a left onto Mt Vernon Street, traveling towards Broadway.

Once Komnenus reached the area of Mt Vernon Street, a K9 officer activated his emergency lights and sirens and affected a motor vehicle stop of the vehicle.

Prior to the stop, an inquiry was done regarding the status of Komnenus driver's license. The results showed that Komnenus has a suspended driver's license.

Once the motor vehicle was stopped, police officers approached the vehicle with their badges displayed on the exterior of their clothing.

The officers had Komnenus

exit the vehicle and he was placed into handcuffs for his safety and for the safety of the officers on scene.

A copy of the search warrant was then shown and provided to Komnenus, who was then asked if he had an active MA driver's license. Komnenus reportedly stated that he did not and the officers that his license was suspended, but that he was going to get it reinstated next week.

The officers then began to execute the search warrant of Komnenus's person. Police reportedly found a baggie containing a white powdery substance in Komnenus right front coin pocket, which the officers believed to be cocaine. Based on the amount of cocaine located, the officers felt that it was consistent with someone who will possess with the intent to distribute it.

At this point, the officers placed Komnenus under arrest and transported to Somerville Police Headquarters.

Komnenus's vehicle was then towed back to the Somerville Police Garage. Inside the vehicle, five orange Suboxone tablets were also found and seized by police.

Detectives then went to the Pearl St. residence to execute the search warrant. Once on scene, police spoke to the owner of the residence, who also resides there. The owner was outside when police arrived at the residence.

Police advised the owner that they had a search warrant of her residence. After a brief conversation with, she reportedly advised the officers that Komnenus had been living at the residence for about six months.

Police were then led to Komnenus's second floor room,

which was locked. The officers opened the door with a key Komnenus gave them prior to getting arrested. They then executed the search warrant.

Inside Komnneus's room 44 Suboxone strips, 1.5 grams of cocaine, and 2 digital scales were found and seized. Also found inside a trash barrel in Komnenus's room were numerous sandwich bags with corners cutoff.

Before the search warrant execution, officers did a preliminary K9 search of the residence for narcotics. The K9 unit discovered a jewelry box were cocaine was found. \$943 and Komnenus's cellphone was taken into evidence and will be seized and subject for forfeiture proceedings.

Komnenus was subsequently charged with operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license and drug possession to distribute.

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SOMERVILLE POLICE GRIME LOG

Arrests:

John Gill, of 499 Walnut St., Lynn, March 8, 12:03 p.m., arrested at Central St. on a warrant charge of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Jaclyn Agosto, of 1374 Broadway, March 8, 2:43 p.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of possession of a class B drug and larceny St. on charges of operation of a over \$250. St. on charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended

Walter Komnenus, of 97 Hall Pl., Quincy, March 9, 6:00 p.m., arrested at Mt. Vernon St. on charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license and drug possession to distribute.

Amy Hill, March 10, 5:11

p.m., arrested at Medford St. on warrant charges of use of a motor vehicle without authority and abuse prevention order violation.

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Efforts to enact real estate transfer fee move forward CONT. FROM PG 1

exemptions continue to be discussed. Some discussion has been looking to hold this transfer cost to developers who are flipping homes quicker than we can blink. However, as I stated above, the BOA continues to hold discussion on this draft document."

Rossetti pointed out that the monies collected would perhaps

go only to an Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

"If, after a Somerville Public Hearing on this matter, the Board of Aldermen choose to move forward on this, it must first be approved by State Legislature, a Home Rule Petition," said Rossetti. "This has not been done in Massachusetts as of yet. Other districts have attempt-

ed it in the past. Much more discussion will be held here in Somerville, then a public hearing will occur."

Rossetti is reminding the public that the ongoing meetings are both live steamed and/or viewable at any time via the video link on the city's web page: http://somervillecityma.iqm2.com/Citizens/Default.aspx.

SHS Building Project update

Preparation of the modular classrooms in front of Somerville High School continues, with interior and exterior work including some paving on the west side of the units in advance of the installation of an ADA ramp. Development of a comprehensive safety plan for the modular units is also under way. Classes will be held in the modular units immediately after April vacation. Demolition and abatement of the east classroom wing, and the start of Phase I construction is scheduled to begin immediately after the school year ends. Visit www. somerville.ma.gov/highschool to learn more about this exciting building project and for continuing updates.

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Cambridge Rindge and Latin School joins Somerville High in gun protest

By Emily Blackwood

As the snow began to fall and the winds of Winter Storm Quinn started to pick up, a seed of doubt was planted by a random passerby.

"Think they'll still come?" he asked volunteers as they were continuing to set up tents and tables.

And suddenly — almost as if they had heard the exchange — the sound of chanting started in the distance. It was the students of Somerville High School, and they were coming to be heard.

"What do we want?"

"Gun reform!"

"When do we want it?"

"Now!"

Shouting the chant in the unison and holding up signs of protest, hundreds of students walked from the school to Union Square March 7 to protest the "lack of competent gun laws." Underneath those tents were the names, phone numbers and email addresses of different

members of the Massachusetts Legislature. Students urged each other to reach out and lobby to pass the Extreme Risk Protective Orders.

ERPOs would allow people to report persons in possession of firearms of being an imminent danger to themselves or others. Then, police can place a temporary weapons ban on the person in question awaiting a trial within 14 days. The trial determines if the person will have a year-long weapons ban placed on them.

"We'll all be voting soon," said 15-yearold Somerville High student Jack Torres. "And we want our congressmen to know that we'll remember what was done during this time."

This is the second walkout hosted by the student group who is calling themselves Students Against Gun Violence. They chose to protest and sit in silence for 17 minutes to honor the 17 people who were killed in a mass shooting last month at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.



Pete Fulweiler, 17, held up a sign honoring Alyssa Alhadeff, a vicitim of the Parkland school shooting. — Photos by Emily Blackwood

The organization plans to hold these walkouts weekly, a movement that is being called #walkoutwednesday. In addition to the massive group that came out to Union Square, over 400 students gathered outside of Cambridge Rindge and Latin School that same day.

Arlington High School and Granite State Arts Academy in Salem, N.H., are also joining in on the movement.

"By joining together, we're showing that all of Massachusetts cares," Torres said. "This isn't just a Somerville issue. It's an everyone issue." For more information on the movement, follow Students Against Gun Violence on Twitter at @StudentsAGVUSA.

UPDATE: Students Against Gun Violence were planning on joining the nation-wide walkout scheduled for Wednesday, March 14. In spite of school being cancelled in Somerville for that day due to extreme weather conditions, Somerville students are still walking to the statehouse on Wednesday to protest gun violence. Go to www.thesomervilletimes.com for further updates on the group's activities.

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Hundreds of students gathered in Union Square Wednesday to protest gun violence.

Serve and Inspire Volunteer Orientation

Join in on Thursday, March 22, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. for a volunteer orientation to learn about district schools and how SPS volunteers serve, inspire, and support student learning in our schools. For more information, please contact your school-based Volunteer Coordinator or Jen Capuano at (617) 629-5475 or jcapuano@k12.somerville.ma.us. Orientation will take place at the East Somerville Community School (50 Cross St.)

Yes

Yes

Beacon Hill Roll Call



Rep. Denise Provost

Sen. Patricia Jehlen

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Beacon Hill Roll Call can also be viewed on our website at www.thesomervilletimes.com

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

This week *Beacon Hill Roll Call* reports on some of the bills that were approved by the Legislature and signed into law by Gov. Charlie Baker so far in the 2017-2018 session.

Of the more than 6,000 bills that have been filed for consideration, only 212 have been approved and signed by the governor. And only a handful of those were bills that affected the entire state while the vast majority were either sick leave banks or local land taking measures.

Sick leave banks allow public employees to voluntarily donate sick, personal or vacation days to a sick leave bank for use by a fellow worker so he or she can get paid while on medical leave.

Landtakings are local land measures that usually only affect one city or town.

\$18 MILLION PAY HIKE (S 16)

House 116-43, Senate 31-9, overrode Gov. Baker's veto of an \$18 million pay raise package including hiking the salaries of the two leaders who filed the bill, House Speaker Robert DeLeo (D-Winthrop) and former Senate President Stan Rosenberg (D-Amherst), by \$45,000 from \$97,547 to \$142,547. The measure also hikes the pay of the Legislature's two Republican leaders, Sen. Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester) and Rep. Bradley Jones (R-North Reading) by \$37,500 from \$85,047 to \$122,547. Another provision hikes the salaries of the state's judges by \$25,000 over an 18-month period.

The measure raises the governor's salary by \$33,200, from \$151,800 to \$185,000; and provides hikes for the other five constitutional officers. It also requires that every two years the salaries of the governor, the other five constitutional statewide officers and the House speaker and Senate president be increased or decreased based on data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) that measures the quarterly change in salaries and wages. Another provision requires that the same formula is used every two years to increase or decrease the stipends that more than 100 other legislators receive for their service in Democratic or Republican leadership positions, as committee chairs or vice chairs and as the ranking Republican on some committees. There is a caveat in all these cases that the amount of money they receive can never be less than it was in February 2017 when the proposal took effect. There was no shortage or reaction to the raises back in January 2017 when they were approved.

"It is fiscally irresponsible and the process on it was inappropriate," said Gov. Baker.

DeLeo defended the raises and noted two independent commissions had recommended many of the hikes. "Raises of any type are always the subject of disagreement ... I don't think there's ever a right time or right place," he said.

"Congratulations taxpayers, you now have the highest paid House speaker and Senate president of any state legislature in the nation," said Chip Ford, Executive Director of Citizens for Limited Taxation. "The Best Legislature Money Can Buy has struck again to make Massachusetts Number One."

"My standard for judging these things is this: Are we

paying a salary adequate enough to enable a family breadwinner or a professional to run for the office?" asked Sen. Mike Barrett (D-Lexington). "This will be the first pay raise in recent memory big enough to draw the interest of people employed in the private sector today. Any resulting competition will be good for the system."

The measure puts an end to legislative per diems which are travel, meals and lodging reimbursements collected by the legislators. These reimbursements were given to legislators above and beyond their regular salaries.

Another provision increases the annual general expense allowance for each legislator from \$7,200 to \$15,000 for members whose districts are within a 50-mile radius of the Statehouse and to \$20,000 for districts located outside of that radius. This allowance is used at the discretion of individual legislators to support a variety of costs including the renting of a district office, contributions to local civic groups and the printing and mailing of newsletters. Legislators are issued a 1099 from the state and are required to report the allowance as income but are not required to submit an accounting of how they spend it.

The package also gives a \$65,000 housing allowance for the governor. Massachusetts is one of only six states that supplied neither a governor's residence nor a housing allowance, even as Boston is among the most expensive housing markets of any of the state capitals.

The House and Senate attached an emergency preamble to the measure. That meant it went into effect immediately instead of in the usual 90 days. The preamble says, "Whereas, the deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to make certain changes in the law for compensation of public officials, therefore, it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience."

Voters are not allowed to collect signatures to put a question repealing the pay raises on the November 2018 ballot because the package includes judicial pay hikes which under the Massachusetts Constitution cannot be the subject of a repeal on the ballot.

(A "Yes" vote is for overriding Gov. Baker's veto and is for the pay raise. A "No" vote is against overriding the governor's veto and is against the pay raise.)

Rep. Christine Barber Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly No
Rep. Denise Provost No
Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

\$200 MILLION FOR LOCAL ROADS AND BRIDGES (H 2783)

House 159-0, Senate 36-0, approved and Gov. Baker signed into law a bill authorizing \$200 million in one-time funding for the maintenance and repair of local roads and bridges in cities and towns across the state. The \$200 million would be borrowed by the state through the sale of bonds.

Supporters said this would help cities and towns keep their roads and bridges safe.

(A "Yes" vote is for the \$200 million.)

Rep. Christine Barber Yes Rep. Mike Connolly Yes FAIRNESS FOR PREGNANT WORKERS (H

3816) House 150-0, Senate 38-0, approved and the governor

House 150-0, Senate 38-0, approved and the governor signed into law the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act that prohibits an employer from discriminating against, refusing to employ or firing a woman because she is pregnant or has a condition related to pregnancy.

The measure guarantees reasonable accommodations and safety measures for pregnant mothers. Reasonable accommodations include time off to recover from childbirth; more frequent, longer paid or unpaid breaks; acquiring or modifying equipment or seating arrangements; and a private non-bathroom space for expressing breast milk – unless any of these would create an undue hardship on the employer.

Supporters said a pregnant woman should not have to fear losing her job when she could continue working with some reasonable adjustments. They argued that no one should have to choose between a healthy pregnancy and a weekly paycheck.

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

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

REGULATE MARIJUANA (H 3818)

House 136-11, Senate 32-6, approved and Gov. Baker signed onto law a bill changing some provisions and adding other provisions to the law, approved by voters on the 2016 ballot, legalizing the possession, growing and sale of marijuana.

The measure taxes all marijuana sales with a 10.75 percent excise tax, 6.25 percent state sales tax and a local option allowing cities and towns to impose an additional tax of up to 3 percent. In addition, any agreement between a retail marijuana establishment and a host community for the first five years may include a community impact fee of up to another 3 percent paid by the seller to the city or town to cover the costs imposed upon the municipality by the operation of the establishment. Medical marijuana remains tax-free.

If a city or town voted for the 2016 marijuana ballot question, the decision to prohibit or restrict marijuana establishments will be determined by a local city or town wide referendum.

If a city or town voted against the ballot question, the decision would be made by the municipality's governing body until December 2019 and then by a local city or town wide referendum.

Other key provisions of the new law include:

Allowing persons over 21 to give an ounce or less of marijuana to others; possess up to one ounce of marijuana outside their home and ten ounces in their home. Any quantity above one ounce in the home must be under lock and key.

Allowing each person to grow six plants per person in his or her home, with a maximum of 12 plants per household.

Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



Prohibiting plants that can be visible by neighbors or from a public place and putting growing areas under lock and key.

Giving landlords the right to prohibit smoking or growing of marijuana on their properties.

Allowing advertising on TV, radio, billboard, print or the Internet only in markets where at least 85 percent of the audience is over 21.

Banning retail shops from being located near school zones.

The response to the new law was mixed.

Jim Borghesani, Director of Communications for "Yes on 4," the group that led the campaign to legalize marijuana said that he favors the lower 12 percent tax that voters approved and noted that while the final 20 percent tax is higher than he wanted, it is not nearly as high as the House's original 28 percent tax.

"We have said all along that the law passed by voters ... needed no fixes or improvement," said Borghesani. "But the Legislature decided to change it, and we fought hard to ensure that the changes respected the will of the voters as much as possible. The final bill, thanks to the Senate's moderate approach, did not include the damaging components of the House approach."

Rep. Diana DiZoglio (D-Methuen) said she couldn't support the bill because it did not include a substance abuse fund to combat the opioid epidemic and to pay for overall substance abuse prevention, education, treatment and recovery initiatives. She noted that the House lead-

ership proposed raising taxes on marijuana to 28 percent, higher than what was passed on the ballot, citing the need to create such a fund.

"When the final bill reached the floor, however, the bill had no substance abuse fund included but still raised the tax from 12 percent that voters approved to 20 percent," said DiZoglio. "The additional marijuana revenue that was supposed to be used for a substance abuse fund will now instead be subject to appropriation and directed to the General Fund."

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

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

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

FLAGS AT HALF-MAST - Two bills approved by the State Administration and Regulatory Oversight Committee on May 15, 2017 are now stuck in the Senate Rules Committee. The proposals would require that flags be flown at half-staff each September 11 in honor of the brave Americans who perished in the terrorist attack (S 1820); and flown at half-staff from the day of death until the day of the funeral of any police officer, firefighter or other public safety employee killed in the line of duty (S 1817).

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 March 5-March 9, the House met for a total of six hours and two minutes while the Senate met for a total of one hour and five minutes.

Mon. March 5	House 11:03 a.m. to 11:42 a.m.
	Senate 11:05 a.m. to 11:48 a.m.

Tues. March 6 House 11:04 a.m. to 11:09 a.m.

No Senate session

Wed. March 7 No House session

No Senate session

Thurs. March 8 No House session.

No Senate session

Fri. March 9 House 11:00 a.m. to 2:18 p.m.

Senate 11:05 a.m. to 11:27 a.m.

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

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	Recent Single Family Homes Sold in Somerville Ov	er the Past Mo	nth:	
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 Mon	ith:	
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

Residents taste Groundwork Somerville's homemade syrup at annual community boil

By Emily Blackwood

As the youth education co-Groundwork ordinator of Somerville, Josia DeChiara understands the importance of creating a personal connection with your local nature. So when local elementary students came by The Somerville Community Growing Center earlier this week to see how maple syrup is made, they were happy to see that connection in action.

"In New England, maple syrup is one of the few crops that can be harvested during the winter," DeChiara said. "We had a bunch of kids around the boiler and when we asked them what we put in the fire, they started naming off every specific part of the tree. It was really exciting."

That field trip was just a small part of the Maple Syrup Project that Groundworks hosts for students. On Mar. 11, dozens of people came out to Groundwork's annual Maple Syrup Community Boil Down to learn and taste the syrup as it sits in the broiler for 20-24 hours.

After tapping nine maple trees at Tufts University in January, volunteers have collected 150 gallons of maple. And though that sounds like a lot, DeChirara said it will only make about four gallons of syrup.

"It's about place-based and hands-on learning," DeChiara said. "It's about having an awareness of the things you're living around, and to feel a connection to those things."

Some of that sap is going to Aeronaut Brewing Co., to make a limited-edition beer for their Sap on Tap Maple Brunch Fundraiser, held from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on April 22. For more information about the upcoming event and Groundwork Somerville, visit www. groundworksomerville.org. For more information on events happening at The Somerville Community Growing Center, 22 Vinal Ave., visit www. thegrowingcenter.org.



Groundwork Somerville's annual Maple Syrup Community Boil Down took place thsi past Sunday at The Somerville Community Growing Center. Go to page 12 for more pictures of the event. – Photo by Emily Blackwood

Dorothy's Corner BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



One of my favorite make ahead meals is chicken pot pie. Although this isn't technically a "pot pie," it does comprise of the same ingredients except for the flaky pie crust. I really consider this dish a deconstructed pot pie. Once the filling made, I top it with a pre baked square of puff pastry. By serving it this way it allows for the filling to be gently reheated on the stovetop if you plan on serving it later on that day or even the next. Another benefit is putting the filling in a decorative dish of your choice for individual servings or into a casserole dish with the pre baked puff pastry placed on top.

8 Chicken thighs, season with salt and pepper

6 Tablespoons butter

6 Tablespoons flour

32 Oz Chicken stock

3 Teaspoons chicken base/bouillon

1-1/2 Teaspoons black pepper, freshly ground

1/2 Teaspoon salt

1/8 Teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)

2-1/2 Tablespoons dried tarragon

1 Tablespoon olive oil

6 Carrots, chopped into 1/2" pieces

3 Celery stalks, chopped into 1/2" pieces

2 Cups frozen peas

2 Cups pearl onions

3/4 Cup heavy cream or half & half

1 Box puff pastry

Salt & pepper to taste Fresh parsley, optional

Preheat the oven to 350°. Place the chicken thighs on a prepared sheet pan. Season on both sides with salt and pepper. Bake until the chicken is just cooked through 25-35 minutes. Set aside and let cool. Increase the oven temperature to 400°. Puff pastry usually comes frozen and with two individually wrapped sheets. Defrost according to box instructions. On a lightly floured surface, unroll the dough, cut it into 6 equal sized squares and place onto the sheet pan spaced about an inch apart. Bake according to box instructions, about 12-15 minutes.

Melt the butter in a 6-quart stock pot, add the flour and stir until incorporated. Cook for about 2 minutes while constantly stirring. You know have a roux. Over medium heat, add the chicken stock slowly while whisking. You may need to turn the heat up to bring the mixture to a slight boil, this will thicken the sauce. Now add the chicken base/ bouillon, pepper, salt, cayenne pepper, and dried tarragon and stir until blended. Cook for about 3-5 minutes. Taste mixture and adjust seasoning if needed. Turn off the heat and set aside.

In a sauté pan, add the oil, carrots and celery. Sauté until tender, about 10-12 minutes. In the meantime, debone and remove the skin from the chicken and cut into bite size pieces and add to the roux. Add the sautéed vegetables to the roux along with the peas and pearl onions, and cream.



Stir until completely blended over low heat. Taste and adjust seasoning. At this point, you can either serve right away or let cool and refrigerate. To reheat, place in a saucepan over low heat and heat through, about 10 minutes. Place in a bowl. Place a piece of puff pastry over the top and garnish with parsley, optional of course. This recipe will serve 6 people generously.

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

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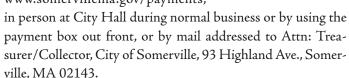
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Excise tax payment due Monday, March 19

The City of Somerville reminds residents that excise tax payments are due Monday, March 19, 2018.

Payment methods accepted include cash, checks, and credit cards, and payments can be made online at www.somervillema.gov/payments,



Please note that the credit card processor charges a convenience fee for using a card to pay.

The Motor Vehicle and Trailer Excise Tax is imposed on anyone who registers a motor vehicle or trailer in Massachusetts. A tax is incurred for each year of registration.

For questions or more information, contact the City of Somerville Treasury Office by emailing treasury@somervillema.gov or by calling 617-625-6600 ext. 3500.

Joint public hearing on **Zoning Overhaul**

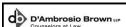
After multiple years of community process, the Administration has officially submitted the proposed Zoning Overhaul to the Board of Aldermen.

Members of the public are invited to attend a public hearing by the Somerville Planning Board and the Board of Aldermen's Land Use Committee on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 - 6:00 p.m. at City Hall Aldermanic Chambers on the Second Floor to provide feedback.

Feedback can also be submitted online at www.somervillezoning.com, where detailed information on the overhaul, timeline, and upcoming meetings and events are also available.

Please note: This meeting was originally scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, but had to be postponed until April 3 due to forecasted snow.

Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/thesomervilletimes



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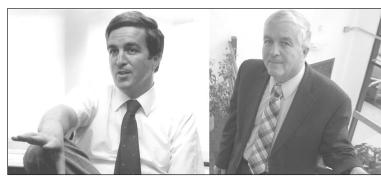
New scholarship to support future elder service leaders

John O'Neill was Executive Director of Somerville Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) for 38 years before retiring in October of 2017. A tireless advocate for helping older adults maintain health and well-being in the setting of their choice, O'Neill was also mindful of future challenges facing elder services, including the growing need for welltrained, caring people to manage programs and provide information, health and support services:

"With 10,000 baby boomers turning 65 each day, we already face a critical shortage of professionals and para-professionals trained to work with older adults and be respectful of their autonomy and dignity," said O'Neill.

To stimulate interest among local high school students, the SCES board of directors has established the John O'Neill Scholarship Fund. \$1,000 grants will be awarded to graduating seniors, one each from Somerville High School and Cambridge Rindge and Latin School.

O'Neill scholars will be select-



The John O'Neill scholarship fund was recently established by Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) to support the next generation of elder services leaders and advocates. O'Neill was executive director at SCES for 38 years, before retir-

ed based on promise as critical thinkers, potential leadership, and commitment to helping older people live healthy independent lives. Graduates with career goals in health care, social work, political science, and allied areas are strongly encouraged to apply. The students chosen will be afforded the opportunity to learn about the services and community programs provided by SCES.

"Our goal in establishing this fund is to help outstanding local students become the next generation of leaders in elder services," said SCES Board President Susann Wilkinson. "Given his

track record of leadership and advocacy, the O'Neill scholars will extend John's legacy in the community."

To apply, high school seniors in need of financial aid should visit the counseling office at Somerville High or CRLS, look up the John O'Neill Scholarship requirements, and submit their materials for consideration.

To donate to the John O'Neill Scholarship Fund, please visit our website eldercare.org, or send a check to SCES, 61 Medford St., Somerville, MA 02143-3429, Attn. JO Scholarship Fund.

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

Tuesday March 20

SYM Tuesdays 8 p.m.

Wednesday March 21

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

Thursday March 22

Forrest Pettengill Songwriters Feature 8 p.m.

Friday March 23

Tom Hagerty Acoustic Band 6 p.m. Pigpen night! \$10 cover 9:30 p.m.

Saturday March 24

Patsy Hamel Band 6 p.m. John E Funk & The Skunks last show, Pineapple Jam, Boagrius \$10 cover 9 p.m.

Sunday March 25

Roy Sludge Trio 6 p.m. Jessie Banhazi with Luddy Mussy 9:30 p.m.

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COMMENTARY

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

Aggressive maintenance strategy needed to improve our in-demand city fields



By Joseph A. Curtatone

It's no secret that our playing fields are in high demand here in Somerville. In a recent Data Download column, I noted that while our Recreation Department permitted more than 9,000 hours of field use last year, there were still more than 3,000 hours of unmet demand. In an ideal world, we'd have at least several more fields. We'd be able to accommodate all requests for permits and still have field space for unpermitted, casual use and for our furry fourlegged friends.

The reality, however, is that we live in a city of only 4.1 square miles – one of the most densely populated in New England – so we have unique challenges when it comes to fields and open space.

For one, because of the intensive use our fields see, it's imperative that we maintain them more aggressively than communities that see lighter use. Fortunately, we've introduced expanded strategies to do that.

In October 2016, the City began working with a consulting group to regularly test the health and condition of our field surfaces and soil. Initial results from 2016 indicated that one of the biggest challenges for our fields was that they were overly compacted and unable to fully absorb water and take in nutrients and oxygen. Not only does that weaken grass but low absorption means that even moderate weather events can leave standing water and puddling in our fields.

The overly compacted soil beneath our fields is a direct impact of the high usage levels. So we needed to get creative and look at what changes we could make to our maintenance practices to better care for our fields without limiting their use.

In May 2017, we began implementing an aggressive aeration program. During the growing

season (typically April-May and October-November), a contractor visits our fields about once per month. To put it simply, they use a tractor to poke holes in the ground (aeration) and add top dressing sand to the soil to promote better drainage, which is intended to alleviate some of those standing water issues. For perspective, in the past, this process was typically done only once in the spring and once in the fall, which is the industry standard for most community fields. Last year, it was completed five times.

Rest assured that the more frequent aeration isn't reducing available time on the fields. Our fields see their greatest use during after-school hours, so we start early with the maintenance and complete the 4- to 6-hour process during school hours. While the work is noticeable on the surface of the field, it's safe to play on that same day. In fact, playing on the fields is actually helpful as it helps more quickly break down the cores that were removed when the holes were poked.

The good news is that we're

starting to see improvements in the infiltration rates as a direct result of the aggressive aeration work we're doing: that means less puddling. Testing shows that all fields saw an increase in infiltration rates in 2017 compared to 2016. For example, in 2016 Trum Field posted a soil infiltration rate of 1.85 inches per hour. In 2017, that rate increased (by a whopping 178 percent) to 5.14 inches per hour. And then there's Dilboy Auxiliary, which saw its infiltration rate climb from only 0.35 inches per hour in 2016 to 9.20 inches per hour in 2017, representing a 2,529 percent increase.

Improvements are great to see, but it doesn't mean the work is over. We'll continue with the aeration efforts this spring, but the 2016 study also indicated our field soil is deficient in micronutrients. To promote positive soil chemistry, the city now uses organic fertilizer in an effort to feed the soil first and provide a healthy growing medium for our turfgrass. We're also aggressively over seeding when soil temperatures are most fa-

vorable. This means that we incorporate seed directly into the soil to create a larger "seed bank" for our soil reserves. Because we don't use pesticides on our fields, this is an important step to give our turf the best chance to fill in bare spots/high wear areas and out-compete weeds.

Our community has placed a priority on ensuring residents of all ages have access to recreational opportunities and spaces - including fields. We are, of course, actively seeking opportunities to expand the number of fields in the City through projects such as the new field that will be built as part of the renovation of the high school. But as we work toward those longer-term goals, we must also use every best practice available to increase the longevity and safety of our existing fields.

Community feedback, ideas, and support helped get these efforts underway, and I look forward to working with and hearing from all our field users as we continue to tackle the next steps in striving for the quality playing fields our residents need and deserve.

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:

On Thursday, March 1, an awards assembly for grades 5 and 6 was held in the East Somerville Community School auditorium. As the grandparent of one of the children and a visitor from out of town, I attended the ceremony. Here is what took place.

The various classes of children came into the auditorium and took their seats without needing any verbal reminders to "settle down" or "be quiet." This was the case throughout the 45-minute assembly. (As a former teacher who has attended scores of assemblies, this, in itself, was remarkable.)

Assistant Principal Laura Bonnell opened the assembly with greetings in English, Spanish and Hawaiian and then spoke directly to the children. "We love each of you," she said and

went on to tell the children they were part of a community where trusted adults (Ms. Bonnell named staff members) would always be willing to talk to a child who might be "sad" or want to talk to someone.

The awards began with the Superintendent's awards where around 20 students from each of the classes lined the stage and stepped forward while remarks, unique to each student and thoughtfully written by that student's teacher, were read. Citizenship awards were next with a similar format. Then "most improved" students were summoned to the stage. Again, each student was individually praised for his or her efforts in math, reading, writing or behavior during the marking period. These themes were frequently mentioned: helping others, working hard, overcoming difficulties, leadership, kindness. While these words of praise were being said, each recipient appeared shy yet proud. Their classmates in the audience responded with applause (hoots and shout-outs noticeably absent). Academic awards came next and those recipients were admonished to help their classmates; specific ways they could help were mentioned.

Throughout the assembly, Ms. Bonnell used vocabulary that underscored an expectation of high standards. Her tone was earnest and straightforward. She explained to the children how a student who would like to earn one of the awards, and didn't this time, might do so in the future.

The final awards were for the children with perfect attendance who were asked to stand in their places, too many for the stage. Mr. Silverman, the Redirect teacher, reported that East Somerville Community School leads Somerville schools

in attendance and the current attendance rate at ESCS is 97%. He challenged the students to maintain this remarkably high rate. Anyone seeing the hosts of standing students would realize that this is a happy school, a place where children want to come.

East Somerville Community School's mascot is the phoenix, an apt symbol as the beautiful new school on Cross Street was built to replace a fire damaged earlier facility, a literal rising from the ashes. But the phoenix metaphor implies another important attribute that was spoken to explicitly in the awards assembly: we can each have a new life, a future, and that future, students were reminded, is built by effort, perseverance, showing up, helping others.

Mary Martin, Round Pond, Maine

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COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Our View Of The Times

It's a great day to be Irish - whether you're Irish or not.



It's a tradition that most of us have a lot of fun with. Whether one is of Irish lineage or not, St. Patrick's Day stands for a recognition of Irish and Irish American culture, and in many ways its resulting fusion.

The religious origins of the day have, for some, been obscured and often all but forgotten in favor of the prominent displays of the color green, eating and drinking, and numerous parades. The day has been celebrated on the North American continent since before the American Revolution, and is actually an official holiday in neighboring Suffolk County. Ask any of our Boston brethren and they would – to a single soul – be aware of this fact. And so in Somerville, too, there are

plenty of willing celebrants of diverse heritage. While it's true that there are a lot of Irish families in the city, and its history is full with contributions by them, just about everyone likes to join in on the "wearing of the green" and all that comes with it.

Falling on a Saturday this year, the occasion runs straight into the weekend, which both heightens the revelry and calls for moderation. As the old Irish proverb says, "May you have the hindsight to know where you've been, the foresight to know where you are going, and the insight to know when you have gone too far." So enjoy the corned beef and cabbage, the green beer, the fine Irish whiskey, and all the rest. But prudently, please.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

more community benefits from Tufts. Join them for a short conference to discuss PILOT improvements from Tufts and draft a proposed community benefits agreement. The conference will take place Saturday, March 24, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., at West Somerville Neighborhood School, 177 Powderhouse Blvd. Learn more at www.ourrevolutionsomerville.org.

On Sunday, March 18, FMC Ice **Sports** will be hosting a special **St. Pat**rick's Day Public Skate event at Simoni Ice Rink in Cambridge. Have a shamrocking time at this special public skate, where you will have the chance to win prizes and giveaways. The times for the themed skate is 1 p.m. - 2:50 p.m. General admission is \$5 per person and rental skates are available for an additional \$5 on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information on this and other upcoming events, please visit the rink's official website, www.fmcicesports. com or call 1-888-74-SKATE. Simoni Ice Rink is located at 155 Gore Street in Cambridge

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. For more information, please visit www.somervillema.gov/somervilleave.

The Green Line Extension (GLX) project public meeting originally scheduled for March 7, canceled due to bad weather, will be held Wednesday, March 21, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Somerville High School Auditorium. The purpose of the meeting is to provide an outlook on construction activities planned in the coming months. For more information on the GLX project, please visit www.greenlineextension.org.

The City of Somerville and Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) recently completed a community health needs assessment called The Wellbeing of Somerville Report 2017. As a follow up to this report, the city and CHA are working together to better understand the healthcare service needs of the

Somerville community. The public is invited to take a few minutes to complete the survey to help identify and prioritize health care needs for the Somerville community. The survey is available in multiple languages. As a Somerville resident, your input is very important and your participation is greatly appreciated. Please encourage your Somerville family, friends and neighbors to complete the survey. The survey will be available until April 6, 2018. To access The Wellbeing of Somerville Report 2017, visit www. somervillema.gov/wellbeing.

The Henry Hansen Park redesign community meeting will take place Monday, March 26, 6:00 p.m. at Visiting Nurse Association, 259 Lowell St., 3rd Floor Conference Room. This will be the first community meeting surrounding the redesign of the Henry Hansen Park located at the corner of Medford Street and Partridge Ave. The meeting will be led by the Commissioner of Veterans' Services, Bryan Bishop and the project lead, DJ Chagnon from CBA Landscape Architects. All who are interested are encouraged to attend. For more information, please contact Somerville Veterans' Services at 617-625-660 x4700 or email at veterans@

somervillema.gov.

The Somerville Public Schools Athletic Department is excited to announce the launch of a new athletic program for students in grades 6-8. The interscholastic track and field team will give middle grades student-athletes a chance to learn what goes into competing on a high school team, while still having fun. The team will practice 2-3 days a week. Meets will run on Thursdays at locations across the north shore, including Dilboy Stadium. Travel will be provided for members of the team. The first day of practice will be on March 19 at Somerville High School. Medical Clearance will be held on March 12 (girls track and field at 3:00 p.m., boys track and field at 4:00 p.m.). Please bring an insurance card and a copy of your physical on March 12. The physical must have been completed within the last year. To register for the program, go to: https://www. familyid.com/organizations/somerville-athletics-intramurals.

The Somerville community is invited to learn more about Somerville High School's Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs at the 2018 CTE/Vocational

Continued on page 16

Residents taste Groundwork Somerville's homemade syrup at annual Community Boil

CONT. FROM PG 8











Photos by Emily Blackwoo



A bit o' the Blarney

Mayor Joseph Curtatone, Jimmy Del Ponte and the Moonlighters sang St Patrick's Day songs to the residents of the Lowell St. VNA on Friday, March 9.















 $Go\ to\ www.the some rvilletimes.com\ for\ more\ photos$

Photos by Claudia Ferro



SPORTS

The 2018 Rás na hÉireann USA 5K

By Tom Bannister

The 2018 Rás na hÉireann is the most genuine Irish race this side of the Atlantic. It is a celebration of traditions dating back centuries, and simply a celebration of spring in Somerville.

This year's U.S.A. race was held on Sunday, March 11, beginning and ending in Davis Square. There were loads of Craic, a celebration and appreciation of heritage and history, the

magic and mystery that move everyone to be Irish on St. Patrick's Day. A St. Patrick's Day Celebration on the Run, the Ras na hEireann U.S.A. 5Km.

The race was born in Ireland and named in honor of its famous sister race, the Ras na hEireann International Cross Country held in Termonfechin, County Louth, Republic of Ireland. The Ras na hEireann U.S.A. 5Km is open to all, from beginners to international stars.







Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

- 1. What is the nickname
- 2. What is the occupation of a Leprechaun?

of Ireland?

- 3. What is a Shillelagh?
- 4. What type of alcohol is in an Irish Coffee?
- 5. What color did people where before they started to wear green on St Patrick's Day?
- 6. What does a claddagh ring represent?
- 7. Where was the first St.

Patrick Day Parade?

- 8. Where did the Boston band Dropkick Murphys get their name from?
- 9. Muckanaghederdauhaulia is the name of what?
- 10. What actor said "I'm Irish. I think about death all the time"?
- 11. What do the members of Daft Punk usually wear when performing?
- 12. What are babies born without?

Answers on page 17



www.somervillema.com www.medfordma.com





The 2018 Rás na hÉireann Top Ten Finishers

Place	Nettime	Pace	Name	Gender	City/State
1	14:26	4:39	Louis Serafini	M	Brighton MA
2	15:18	4:56	David Melly	M	Brighton MA
3	15:24	4:58	Jeffrey Seelaus	M	Brighton MA
4	15:30	5:00	Riley Macon	M	Boston MA
5	15:48	5:06	Kevin Connors	M	Brighton MA
6	15:54	5:08	Michael Carlone	M	Somerville MA
7	16:09	5:12	Brian Crowley	M	Cambridge MA
8	16:11	5:13	Michael Stent	M	Somerville MA
9	16:16	5:14	Elaina Tabb	F	Watertown MA
10	16:17	5:15	Raymond Meijer	M	Brighton MA

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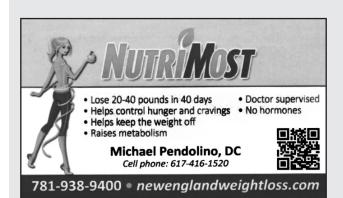
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mdropkin@dropkinmatza.com

LEGAL NOTICES

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NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING

Removal of Public Shade Trees

City of Somerville

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 87, the City of Somerville will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 at 6:00 pm at the Albert F. Argenziano School Cafeteria, 290 Washington St, Somerville, MA, to consider the removal of the following public shade tree(s):

- 9 Union Square removal of 16 inch diameter Callery Pear for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 9 Union Square removal of 11 inch diameter Callery Pear for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project. 9 Union Square - removal of 12 inch diameter Callery Pear for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 66 Union Square Plaza removal of 3 inch diameter Littleleaf Linden for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 66 Union Square Plaza removal of 3 inch diameter Littleleaf Linden for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project. 66 Union Square Plaza - removal of 4 inch diameter Littleleaf Linden for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 66 Union Square Plaza removal of 10 inch diameter Callery Pear for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 290 Somerville Ave removal of 18 inch diameter Callery Pear for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 290 Somerville Ave removal of 20 inch diameter Callery Pear for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 90 Union Square removal of 13 inch diameter Linden for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 267-271 Somerville Ave removal of 7 inch diameter Red Maple for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project. 267-271 Somerville Ave - removal of 5 inch diameter Red Maple for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 267-271 Somerville Ave removal of 7 inch diameter Red Maple for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- D2 Parcel removal of 10 inch diameter Honeylocust for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- D2 Parcel removal of 10 inch diameter Honeylocust for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 4 Milk PI removal of 12 inch diameter Norway Maple for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 261 Somerville Ave removal of 11 inch diameter Norway Maple for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 248 Somerville Ave removal of 13 inch diameter Norway Maple for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 244 Somerville Ave removal of 12 inch diameter Norway Maple for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 255 Somerville Ave removal of 3 inch diameter Zelkova for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project. 227 Somerville Ave - removal of 12 inch diameter London Plane for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 227 Somerville Ave removal of 10 inch diameter London Plane for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 229 Somerville Ave removal of 15 inch diameter London Plane for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 218 Somerville Ave removal of 6 inch diameter Callery Pear for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 218 Somerville Ave removal of 4 inch diameter Callery Pear for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 217 Somerville Ave removal of 13 inch diameter London Plane for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project. 217 Somerville Ave - removal of 11 inch diameter London Plane for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 217 Somerville Ave removal of 11 inch diameter London Plane for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 217 Somerville Ave removal of 9 inch diameter London Plane for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 217 Somerville Ave removal of 9 inch diameter London Plane for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 203 Somerville Ave removal of 13 inch diameter Linden for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project. 203 Somerville Ave - removal of 4 inch diameter Tree Lilac for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 212 Somerville Ave removal of 10 inch diameter Single Oak for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 210 Somerville Ave removal of 10 inch diameter Single Oak for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 206 Somerville Ave removal of 8 inch diameter Callery Pear for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.
- 174 Somerville Ave removal of 6 inch diameter Honeylocust for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project. 174 Somerville Ave – removal of 11 inch diameter Honeylocust for construction of the Somerville Ave Utility and Streetscape Improvements Project.

The trees identified above have been posted for public inspection. Any objections to their removal must be submitted in writing prior to or during the hearing. Letters should be addressed to: Somerville City Arborist, 93 Highland Ave, Somerville, MA. 02143; or email trees@somervillema.gov.

3/14/18 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE OFFICE OF CITY CLERK BOARD OF ALDERMEN

There will be a Public Hearing before the Board of Aldermen's Committee on Licenses and Permits on Wednesday, March 21, 2018, at 6:00 PM, in the Committee Room on the 2nd Floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, on the petition of Internap Corporation for a Flammables License at 50 Inner Belt Road for the storage of 9,600 gallons of flammables, with operations 24 hours per day, 365 days per year.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

JOHN J. LONG **CITY CLERK**

3/14/18 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE OFFICE OF CITY CLERK BOARD OF ALDERMEN

There will be a Public Hearing before the Board of Aldermen's Committee on Licenses and Permits on Wednesday, March 21, 2018, at 6:00 PM, in the Committee Room on the 2nd Floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, on the petition of Metropolitan Pipe and Supply Company for a Flammables License at 30 Inner Belt Road for the storage of 1,215 gallons of flammables, with operations Monday through Friday,

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

JOHN J. LONG **CITY CLERK**

3/14/18 The Somerville Times



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on Wednesday, March 21, 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.**

14 Pearl Street (ZBA 2018-23): Applicant and Owner, Adragna Dedic, LLC, propose increasing the number of units on the property from one to three. The Applicant/Owner also seeks special permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to increase existing non-conformities including, but not limited to, the Gross Floor Area (GFA) by more than 25%, increase the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) by more than 25%. Parking relief sought under §9.13 of the SZO. Applicant proposes increasing the number of units from one to three. RB zone. Ward 1.

55-57 Marshall Street (ZBA 2018-16): Applicant, Daniel Santos, and Owner, Federico Guerino, seek special permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter the rear roof line on a non-conforming structure. RB zone.

11 Glenwood Road (ZBA 2018-30): Applicants and Owners, Courtney Koslow & Maura Vogel, seek a Variance under §5.5, §8.5 and a special permit under §4.4.1 of the SZO to convert a carriage barn into a residential living unit. RA zone. Ward 5.

111 Cedar Street (ZBA 2018-03): Applicant/Owner, 111 Cedar Street, LLC, seeks a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by constructing a three-story rear deck and stairs as well as finishing a portion of the basement. The proposal also requires a Variance under SZO §5.5, §8.5, and §8.6 because it will violate the allowed encroachments into the required rear yards for decks. RB

95-97 Cross Street (ZBA 2018-05): Applicant and Owner, Daiza Ferreira Souza Almeida, seeks a special permit under §4.4.1 to extend a preexisting nonconformity to legalize a fence. RB Zone. Ward 1.

14 Pearl St.: http://eepurl.com/dm530f 55-57 Marshall St.: http://eepurl.com/dm54oz 11 Glenwood Rd.: http://eepurl.com/dm54_H 111 Cedar St.: http://eepurl.com/di5nKz

95-97 Cross St.: http://eepurl.com/dm5dWz

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 <u>www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning</u>.

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 3/7/18 & 3/14/18.

3/7/18, 3/14/18 The Somerville Times

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Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

Fair. This free family event will take place on Saturday, March 24, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Somerville High School. Enter through the SHS Atrium, then enjoy a tour of the school's CTE programs and an opportunity to participate in hands-on activities in the shops. CTE Ambassadors will be available to provide guided tours and answer questions. Current CTE students and faculty will also be available to demonstrate and

answer questions.

The Brian Higgins Foundation invites you to celebrate and participate in one of Somerville's biggest community nights of the year, The Brian Higgins Foundation Trivia Night. This year's event takes place on March 22, 6:30 p.m., at the Tufts University Cousens Gym. The trivia portion, which is strictly for fun, consists of friendly competition between teams in various categories along with the MYSTERY BOOK. There will be a silent auction, a 50/50 drawing, and numerous raffles to win. A light dinner and cash bar will be available. \$25 donation per person up to 10 people per table. For more information, visit www.thebrianhigginsfoundation.org or emaildebby@thebrianhiggins foundation.org.

Registration is now open for the Greater Boston Raiders Flag Football, a new 5 on 5 non-contact youth football league coming to Dilboy Stadium this spring. Open to youth ages 4-14. League play starts April 8 and runs for six weeks. Cost is \$100 for 6U Division/all other divisions are \$110. Games will be played on Sundays at Dilboy Stadium. To register: www. northshoreflagfootball.com.

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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

HEARING RESCHEDULED FOR APRIL 3, 2018

A joint public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Planning Board and the Board of Aldermen Land Use Committee on Tuesday, April 3, 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 NEW SOMERVILLE 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,

NOTE: In preparation for this public hearing, the City Administration introduced the code at joint meetings of the Land Use Committee and Planning Board on January 31, 2018 and February 13, 2018. Video recordings of these meetings are available at www.somervillezoning. com. In further preparation for this public hearing, the City Administration and Land Use Committee may further discuss the overhaul at public meetings prior to the April 3, 2018 public hearing. Agendas for these meetings will be posted on-line at www.somervillecityma. iqm2.com, and video will be posted on-line after the meeting at www. somervillezoning.com.

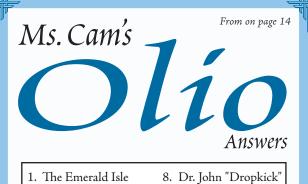
Per Section 1.2.1.a of the proposed new ordinance, any discretionary or administrative permit issued, under current zoning regulations, prior to the date of adoption of the new Ordinance will remain valid, subject to all conditions of approval, notwithstanding the publishing of this advertisement.

Attest: Kevin Prior, Chairman, Planning Board Attest: Alderman Lance Davis, Chair, BOA Land Use Committee To be published in the Somerville Times on March 14, 2018 and March

3/14/18 The Somerville Times

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- 1. The Emerald Isle
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- 3. Walking stick
- 4. Irish whiskey
- 5. Blue
- 6. Love, loyalty, and
- friendship
- 11. Helmets and gloves

10. Jack Nicholson

Galway, Ireland

Murphy's alcohol-de-

(Bellows Farm Sanato-

9. Townland in County

facility

toxification

rium)

- 7. New York City in 12. Kneecaps

Annual Somerville rabies vaccine clinic scheduled for April 7

The City of Somerville Health & Human Services Department, and Somerville Animal Control will host the city's annual rabies clinic for cats and dogs on Saturday, April 7, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., in the yard at the Department of Public Works (1 Franey Rd. Enter gate to the right of the main building and follow signs for the Rabies Clinic).

Rabies vaccinations and on-site licenses for dogs will be available at the clinic. The cost of the vaccine is \$10, and a dog license is \$20 for spayed and neutered dogs with proof



and \$30 for all other dogs. Prior vaccination records are not required and all vaccinations will be valid for one year. All Somerville residents are required to license their dogs and a current rabies vaccine is required to obtain a license. Dogs must be leashed and cats must be in carriers in order to access the clinic.

For more information please contact the Health & Human Services Department at 617-625-6600 ext. 4300.

First quarterly public meeting to discuss updates to parking changes on Central Hill Campus to be held Monday, March 19

With site preparation for construction on the new Somerville High School building project underway, gradual changes to parking options on the Central Hill Campus (which includes City Hall, Somerville High School, and the Somerville Public Library) and the surrounding public streets have begun.

Join City staff Monday, March 19, at 6:00 p.m. in the Somerville Public Library Auditorium, 79 Highland Ave., for the first of a series of public quarterly meetings where updates about parking changes, new data collection, and strategies for impact mitigation will be discussed. All interested persons are encouraged to come including residents and local business owners, as well as City and school staff.

The subsequent 2018 meeting dates are:

- + Wednesday, June 20
- Wednesday, September 19
- · Wednesday, December 12

In addition to the meetings, an online form has been created to give community members and City and School staff an opportunity to submit questions, comments, and/or suggestions about the parking changes. The feedback form, along with additional information about the High School project and resulting parking impacts, can be found at www.somervillema.gov/shsparking.

Questions? Contact Mike Tremblay in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, at mtremblay@somervillema.gov.

Tufts University to hold Community Presentation

Tufts University will hold a Community Presentation on Wednesday, March 21, to inform community members about programs and resources available to them and to provide an overview of recently completed and upcoming projects.

The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. in Alumnae Lounge on the Medford/Somerville campus and is open to the public. After the presentation, neighbors will be invited to ask questions and offer comments.

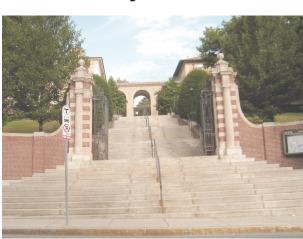
Alumnae Lounge is located at 40 Talbot Avenue in Somerville near the Aidekman Arts Center. Parking is available on Talbot Avenue.

The presenters will include:

- Barbara Stein, Vice President of Operations
- · Lois Stanley, Director of Campus Planning
- · Robert Chihade, Director of Real Estate
- Barbara Rubel, Director of Government & Community Relations (Somerville)
- * Rocco DiRico, Director of Government & Community Relations (Medford)

The event will be hosted by the Office of Government & Community Relations at Tufts University.

Light refreshments will be served, so RSVPs are appreciated. To RSVP or for more information, please contact the Office of Government & Community Relations at 617-627-3780.



• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH Wednesday | March 14

Central Library

Wilson reading tutoring 9 a.m.-11 a.m. Teen Game Dav 2:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library

Preschool Storytime

11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

West Branch Library Good CRAFTernoon

3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|40 College Ave

Thursday | March 15

Central Library

Preschool: Storytime for 3 to 5 year

10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m.

West Branch Library

Preschool Storytime 11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|40 College Ave

Central Library

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

West Branch Library Lego Club!

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

Friday | March 16

Central Library

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

East Branch Library Pop Up Playgroup!

10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

Monday | March 19

Central Library

Sing Along w/ Matt 11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

Tuesday|March 20

Central Library

Homeschool Reading Group for Ages 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|79 Highland

Ave

West Branch Library

Singalong! 11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|40 College Ave

Wednesday | March 21

Central Library

Wilson reading tutoring 9 a.m.-11 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

East Branch Library

PreK Puppet Story Time! 11 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

Central Library

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

MUSIC | ARTS Wednesday | March 14

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Seamus Egan Project Founding member of the seminal band "Solas":7:30

p.m. Backroom Series with Brian O'Donovan (of "A Celtic Sojourn" on WGBH)|7:30 p.m.

Comedy Night with Arty P.|10

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 A-Beez 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

Clan Of Xymox Stoneburner

8:45 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Poets & Pints 6 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory

Been Out Here Teen Open Mic 6 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Thursday | March 15

Sally O'Brien's

Spring Hill Rounders grassy Thursdays|7:30 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

WUMB Presents Soulsha Soulsha's triumphant return to The Burren|7 p.m. Backroom Series with Tom Bianchi

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 379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom

NoSleep Podcast 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Elizabeth Wise 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory

Bint el Funk: Yemenite Israeli Dance

8 p.m.|Performance Hall Castle of Comedy 8:45 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Friday | March 16

Sally O'Brien's

Vapors of Morphine |6 p.m. St Paddy's Eve madness \$10 cover|9

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Rebels Of The Sacred Heart Celebrate St. Patrick's Week with Rockin' Irish Sing Alongs! Rebels of The Sacred Heart!|7 p.m.

Backroom Series with Tom Bianchi |7 p.m. Rip Cord|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

Bradley Goff Band 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-

440-6045 **Ioshua Tree**

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

Entertainment every Friday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road

The Stacking Stones Band (Folk Rock/ Garage Country)|6 p.m. Helen, Reverse|9 p.m. 379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom

Fruition

Daniel Edward Rodriguez

9 p.m.|156 Highland Ave Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Slainte

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

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

Arts at the Armory

255 Elm St

Symphony Nova with the Boston Circus Guild 7:30 p.m.|Performance Hall|191

Highland Ave

Saturday March 17

Sally O'Brien's

St Paddy's merriment with food specials all day Bagpipes, Tom McHagerty Band \$10 cover |5 p.m.

Lily Black \$10 cover |9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

St. Patrick's Day Special Variety Show Celebrate this St. Patrick's Day with a special Irish variety show in The Burren Backroom with traditional tunes, ballads, stories & dancing, featuring Tommy McCarthy, Louise Costello, Robert Elliott & Seamus Noonan, along with special guests. Shows: 9am:11am:1pm:3pm:5p-

P.A.'s Lounge

345 Somerville Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Karaoke

65 Holland St

Bull McCabe's Paddy's Day! Live music 4 p.m.- close 366A Somerville Avel617-440-6045

Casey's

Entertainment every Saturday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Thunder Road

Roots Of Creation (Brett's Birthday Bash!), THE ELOVATERS and Special Guests To Be Announced 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom 156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Samantha Jones Irish traditional

dancers|3 p.m. Slainte8 p.m. 14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell Sh!t-faced Shakespeare: The Taming of the Shrew 7 p.m.

255 Elm St The Rockwell

KERPLUNK!|11 a.m. Sh!t-Faced Shakespeare: The Taming of the Shrew 7 p.m. The St Patrick's Comedy Show|8 p.m.

255 Elm St

Sunday | March 18

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

The Burren St. Patrick's Day Special Variety Show 12 p.m.|247 Elm

Street|617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge 345 Somerville Ave

Bull McCabe's Pub

Dub Apocalypse 366A Somerville Avel617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen Sunday Brunch Live Country &

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

Sunday Night Live Music

Thunder Road 379 Somerville Ave ONCE Lounge & Ballroom

156 Highland Ave Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Lidia Chang Irish trad trio|2 p.m. Here Comes Everybody Players|4 p.m. The Sky Comedy Show|7:30 p.m. 14 Tyler Street

7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave Monday | March 19

Jammin' With the Elderberries

Arts at the Armory

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Shawn Carter's Cheapshots Comedy

Marley Monday with The Duppy Conquerors reggae|10 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

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

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

156 Highland Ave Aeronaut Brewing Co. Board Game Bonanza

6:30 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory

Queer Tango 6:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave Tuesday | March 20

Sally O'Brien's Bar

SYM Tuesdays 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-

Jazz|8:30 p.m.

The Burren Front Room Jason Anick and the Swingers Swing/

Back Room: Open Mic Night with Aaron Yang|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

The fun starts at 10:00p.m.

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Egoart.

8200

Pub Quiz 10 p.m.|239 Holland St.|617-625-

Thunder Road

Brass Attack Featuring Cocek! Brass Band

8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom

Simpsons Trivia|7 p.m. Heavy Metal Tuesday 8 p.m. 156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co

Indie Trivia 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory First and Last Word Poetry

7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave Wednesday | March 21

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

Backroom Series with Brian O'Donovan (of "A Celtic Sojourn" on WGBH)|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

The Burren

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

Bull McCabe's Pub The A-Beez

379 Somerville Ave

440-6045 **Thunder Road**

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

Highland Kitchen 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom The Moth: True Stories Told Live 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

Nico Rivers 8 p.m. Maxwell Bailey 9 p.m. Tory Silver 10 p.m. 14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory

Red Cross Blood Drive 2 p.m.-7 p.m.|Performance Hall The Art of Taxes with Huntington Tax

6:30 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

CLASSES AND GROUPS

The Rockwell

Wednesday | March 14

6:30 p.m.|255 Elm St

Central Library The Poet, the Artist, The Printer: Book Arts and the Small Press

6 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday | March 15

Central Library Sustainability drop-in hours

5 p.m.-7 p.m.|79 Highland Ave West Branch Library

Getting Cozy @ the West Branch 6 p.m.-8 p.m.|40 College Ave **Central Library**

3 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

West Branch Library Learn English at the Library

Yoga for Teachers

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).

Saturday | March 17

Central Library Songs of Peace with Sagit Zilberman 2 p.m.- 3 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Somerville Winter Farmers Market

For more info call: 781-762-6629

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 18

Arts at the Armory

Central Library

Letter Writing

10 a.m.-4 p.m.|Performance Hall| 191 Highland Ave

The Somerville Flea Market

1 p.m.-3 p.m.|79 Highland Ave Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon **Family Groups**

Unity Church of God Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement

7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street

Monday | March 19

Central Library Creative Drama Workshop 4 p.m.-5 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Learn English at the Library

6 p.m.-8 p.m.|115 Broadway **Central Library**

East Branch Library

Central Hill Parking Public Meeting 6 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Central Library Learn English at the Library 6 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Central Library

Keith Harkin of Celtic Thunder

Tuesday | March 20 **Aeronaut Brewing Company** Books & Brews Book Club 6:15 p.m.-7:15 p.m.|14 Tyler St

Wednesday | March 21

Medicare 101 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

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

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

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

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

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. 19, Apr. 2 and 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 woodwind instrument. To reserve your spot or for additional information please call Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321.

Senior Housing Fair – Wednesday, March 21 starting at 10:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. The SCOA along with the Somerville Housing Task Force invite you to join us to participate in a housing fair where you

will meet local agencies to learn the many ways to age in place. If you have any questions, require additional information or would like to sign up please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Afternoon at the Movies – Tuesday, March 27 starting at 12:00 p.m. at the SOMERVILLE THEATRE in Davis Square. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. \$1 per person. This month's movie is Only The Brave. RSVP to Josie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Diabetic Shoe Clinic – Monday, April 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. Did you know that you may be eligible for a new pair of diabetic shoes? Must have appointment. If you require additional info, have any questions or want to reserve your spot please contact Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317.

Magpie Puppets – Thursday, April 5 at our Holland Street Center starting at 11:15 a.m. Shadow Songs and Stories bring favorite songs and stories to life with cleverly crafted shadow puppets. Lunch and Bingo following the performance. If you require additional information, have any questions or want to reserve your spot please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

History Through The Beatles – Thursday, April 19 at our Holland Street Center starting at 12:00 p.m. Fran Hart of the 4EverFab group will be performing acoustic based songs of The Beatles along with a video slide show. Lunch at 11:30 a.m. and Bingo immediately following the performance. If you require additional information, have any questions or want to reserve your spot please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Gatlinburg, TN & Ashville, NC – April 22 – 28 – 7 days – 6 nights \$909 per person double or \$1204 per person single – price includes transportation, lodging, 6 hotel breakfasts and 6 hotel dinners, Biltmore Estates with wine tasting, Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede, Hatfield & McCoy Dinner show, Ripley's Aquarium and so much more. For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot please contact Connie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Nutrition Fair – Thursday, May 10 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. There will be health screening, food demos, healthy eating tips, recipes, giveaways and more. Join us for a healthy lunch and bingo after. RSVP is a must. If you have any questions, require additional information or want to reserve your spot please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Finger Lakes Region – Monday, May 7th to Friday, May 11th – 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.

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. to 11:30 a.m. This group self-facilitates. Group members choose both fiction and non-fiction titles on a quarterly basis. Books are available on reserve at the Central Branch of the Somerville Library. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional 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 info 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 (Please cut out and save)

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

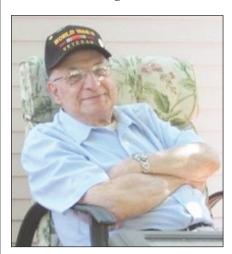
DID YOU KNOW?

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.

OBITUARY

Daniel 'Dan' Spinosa Sr.



Daniel "Dan" Spinosa, Sr., of Tamarac, FL formerly of Somerville, March 6. Beloved husband of the late Mary (Caruso). Loving father of Rosemarie Christie and her husband Bruce of FL, Daniel Spinosa Jr, and his wife Kathleen of Lynnfield, Richard Spinosa of

Somerville, Linda Spinosa and Tim Sullivan of NH and Karen Spinosa and James Ribeiro of Woburn. Brother of Mary Erbafina of Danvers and the late Cosmo, Frank and Salvatore Spinosa. Grandfather of Laura, Matthew, Eric, Brad and Jennifer. Great grandfather of Angelina, Paris, Vincent, Thad and Braeden.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Dan's name to the St. Jude Hospital for Children, 501 St. Jude Pl., Memphis, TN 38105-1905. Daniel was a business owner for over 50 years, member of the Somerville Chamber of Commerce, Somerville Kiwanis, American Legion Post 19 and served his country during WWII. Later in life Dan enjoyed painting, playing cards and poetry.

Somerville Commission for Women to host Women's History Month event

Please join the Somerville Commission for Women on Monday, March 26, for a special event in honor of Women's History Month. "Shaping the Future: Our Community Dialogue," will be held at the Culinary Arts Bistro located in Somerville High



School, 81 Highland Ave. (gym entrance) beginning at 6:00 p.m., and will include Q&A breakout sessions with local female elected officials including representatives from Somerville's State Delegation, as well as a brief presentation about the Somerville Commission for Women and its ongoing programs and initiatives.

The Commission bills the event as, "an opportunity to open the channels of communication for community members who may have never had a personal interaction with our local officials, as well as those that have been consistently engaged civically. The goal of this year's event is to empower a diverse group of women to engage at their comfort level to shape the community,"

Childcare will be available, as well as translation services for anyone who may need them, however each must be requested in advance. For more information, please contact Chris Hosman, Community Services Manager at 627-625-6600 ext. 2406 or chosman@somervillema.gov.

Be sure to visit us online at www.TheSomervilleTimes.com

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Puppet Film Night at Somerville Media Center

In celebration of the World Day of Puppetry, the Boston Area Guild of Puppetry and Somerville Media Center present an evening of short puppetry films for families on Friday, April 6. Beginning at 7:00 p.m., singing sheep, piano-mouth puppets and an updated *Old Mother Hubbard* fill the screen in *Handmade Puppet Dreams for*



Families, Volume 1, an episode of a traveling film series created by pupper artist Heather Henson. The evening continues at 8:00 p.m. with Pupper Showplace Resident Artist Sarah Nolen's *Treeples*, in which girls join forces with lively forest creatures to rid the woods of monsters, followed by Brooklyn puppeteer Spencer Lott's chocolate drama *Cupcake* and other independent short films.

Through the *Handmade Puppet Dreams* series, Heather Henson has set out to showcase a new generation of puppeteers and puppet artists who embrace film as a medium for artistic expression. Volume 1 includes artists Paul Andrejco, Laura Heit and Sesame Street's Leslie Carrera-Rudolph, among others. The films are best for ages 4 to 104. For more information please see Handmade Puppet Dreams for Families.

Admission to "Puppet Film Night" is free and limited to 50 people. Advance registration is recommended through puppetfilm.eventbrite.com.

Union Square's Somerville Media Center (SMC) is a thirty-year-old nonprofit community media center that exists to foster creativity, innovation and community expression through training, production resources and global distribution. Hundreds of adults, students and children have built their communication skills through SMC's programs, which include the Somerville Community Access TV (SCATV) Channel 3, Boston Free Radio (BFR), Somerville Neighborhood News (SNN) and SMC Youth Media.

The Boston Area Guild of Puppetry is a group of puppet artists and enthusiasts who meet regularly to support puppeteers and encourage the art of puppetry. Bi-monthly meetings are held at the Puppet Showplace in Brookline. For more information, see puppetsbostonguild.org.

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Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

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Wednesda	y, March 14	9:00pm	The Beantown Beatdown	5:00pm	DW Focus on Europe	10:00am	Both Sides of the Bars
12:00am	Free Speech TV	10:00pm	The Chatman Booth	5:30pm	Both Sides of the Bars	10:30pm	SOM ARTS
6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	10:30pm	TUTV	6:00pm	Beyond Boston	11:00am	Beyond the Badge
7:00am	Wide Angle	11:00pm	DIWHY the show	6:30pm	Hello Neighbor	11:30am	DW conflict Zone
7:30am	DW In Good Shape	Friday Marcl	າ 16	7:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	12:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	7:30pm	SOM ARTS	1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
9:00am	DW Global 3000	1:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	1:30pm	DW Global 3000
9:30am	Both Sides of the Bars	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	8:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	2:00pm	Science 360
10:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	7:00am	The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
10:30am	Somerville Storytellers	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	DIWHY The Show	4:00pm	DW Euromaxx
11:00am	Fallon's Daily Toast	9:00am	Perils for Pedestrians	11:00pm	SCATV Secret Stash	4:30pm	NASA TV
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	9:30am	Cambridge Calendar	11:30pm	Ojo Rojo	5:00pm	Tele Galaxie
1:00pm	Health is Wealth	10:00am	NASA TV	Sunday N	1arch 18	6:00pm	SMC youth Media
1:30pm	Green Card Voices	11:00am	SOM ARTS	12:00am	Flotilla	6:30pm	The Kamla Show
2:00pm	SOM ARTS	11:30am	DW Tomorrow Today	1:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	7:00pm	LIVE - The Yellow Jacket Lady
2:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	2:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	7:30pm	SMC Presents
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	1:00pm	The Yellow Jacket Lady	3:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	(LIVE) Somerville Overcoming Addiction
4:00pm	NASA TV	1:30pm	Physicians focus	6:00am	NASA TV	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
5:00pm	Physicians Focus	2:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	7:00am	Nossa Gentes e Costumes	10:00pm	Donnie steubins
5:30pm	Going Postal	2:30pm	The World Fusion Show	8:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	11:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
6:00pm	Haitian Poetry in 3 languages	3:00pm	Democracy Now	6:00am	NASA TV	'	
7:00pm	Donnie Steubins	4:00pm	Gay USA	7:00am	Nossa Gentes e Costumes	Tuesday	
8:00pm	LIVE: Somerville Pundits	5:00pm	The Chatman Booth	8:00am	Tele Magazine	12:00am	Free Speech TV
8:30pm	LIVE: Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	5:30pm	What's New in Massachusetts?	9:00am	Tele Kreyol	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board
9:30pm	SMC Member Submissions	6:00pm	The Boston Medium	10:00am	Art and Ideas	7:00am	DW Euromaxx
10:00pm	Duck Village Stage Series	6:30pm	The Real Estate Answers Show	10:30am	DW Conflict Zone	7:30am	Esoteric Science
10:30pm	Ojo Rojo	7:00pm	(LIVE) Fallon's Daily Toast	11:00am	The Chef's Table Series	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
11:00pm	SCATV Secret Stash	8:00pm	The Grandstanders	12:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	9:00am	The Chef's Table Series
Thursday,	March 15	8:30pm	Greater Somerville	12:30pm	Effort Pour Christ	10:00am	SMC Roundtable
12:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	9:00pm	SOM Arts		Teen Empowerment: Youth Matters Media	10:30am	DW In Good Shape
1:00am	Free Speech TV	9:30pm	Cambridge Calendar	2:00pm	StartUp TV Boston	11:00am	DW Tomorrow Today
6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	10:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	3:00pm	African Television Network	11:30am	Beyond the Badge
7:00am	Perils for Pedestrians	11:00pm	Totally Working Out	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
7:30am	DW Focus on Europe	11:30pm	Totally Working Out	5:00pm	SMC Member Submissions	1:00pm	Words on Film
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	Saturday Ma		5:30pm	Reeling Review The Grandstanders	2:00pm	Somerville Overcoming Addiction
9:00am	DW Tomorrow Today	12:00am	DIWHY The Show	6:00pm	The Real Estate Answers Show	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:30am	Hello Neighbor	1:00am	SCATV Secret Stash Hour	6:30pm		4:00pm	Perils for Pedestrians
10:00am	The Kamla Show	2:00am	Free Speech TV	7:00pm 8:00pm	Gay USA New England Pride TV	4:30pm	Teen Empowerment: Youth Matters Media
10:30am	Somerville Pundits	5:00am	Effort Pour Christ	8:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer
11:00am	Art and Ideas	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	9:00pm	Words on Film	5:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?
11:30am	The Real Estate Answers Show	7:00am	Tele Magazine	10:00pm	The Boston Medium	6:00pm	SCOUTV
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	8:00am	Democracy Now	10:30pm	TUTV	6:30pm	Beyond Boston
1:00pm	The Somerville Line	9:00am	SMC Youth Media	11:00pm	Box House Productions Presents	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
3:00pm	Democracy Now!	9:30am	Somerville Storytellers	11:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash	7:30pm	Greater Somerville
4:00pm	SMC Roundtable	10:00am	Dead Air Live	•		8:00pm	Dead Air Live
4:30pm	The Struggle	11:00am	Haitian Poetry in 3 Languages	Monday		9:00pm	The Yellow Jacket Lady
5:00pm	Words on Film	12:00pm	Telegalaxie	12:00am	Free Speech TV	9:30pm	SMC Presents
6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	1:00pm	African Television Network	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	10:00pm	Public Access Boyz
6:30pm	Greater Somerville	2:00pm	The Beantown Beatdown	7:00am	Perils for Pedestrians	10:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash
7:00pm	LIVE - The Boston Medium	3:00pm	Democracy Now!	7:30am	Going Postal	11:00pm	Box House Productions Presents
7:30pm	Somerville Pundits	4:00pm	The World Fusion Show	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:30pm	SMC Member Submissions
8:00pm	Startup TV Boston	4:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?	9:00am	The Stephanie Miller Show	11:30pm	Sivic iviettiber subitilissions

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

12:00am

3:00am

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6:30pm

7:00pm

7:30pm

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8:51pm

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9:30pm

10:00pm

10:32pm

12:00am

12:30am

1:37am

Wednesd	lay, March 14
8:30am	Fit-4-Life #5 2017
9:00am	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018
11:30am	Rally Point
12:00pm	School Committee Meeting - 3.5.18
6:30pm	Rally Point
7:00pm	Kevin Dua- MA History Teacher of the Year
8:30pm	Aldermen at Work: Stephanie Hirsch
9:00pm	SomerViva em Portuguès
9:32pm	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018
10:35pm	SomerViva em Portuguès
Thursday	, March 15
12:00am	Rally Point
12:30am	First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018
1:33am	Talking Business
2:00am	SomerViva em Portuguès
8:30am	Fit-4-Life #5 2017
9:00am	Chamber of Commerce Breakfast
11:30am	SomerViva en Espanol
12:00pm	Senior Circuit
12:30pm	Rally Point
1:00pm	Kevin Dua- MA History Teacher of the Year
2:22pm	HeatSmart CoolSmart
2:30pm	School Committee Meeting - 3.5.18
6:30pm	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte

Aldermen at Work: Stephanie Hirsch

HeatSmart CoolSmart

Kevin Dua- MA History Teacher of the Year

9:00pm Chamber of Commerce Breakfast 10:07pm Talking Business Multilingual ResiStat Meeting - 11.2.17 10:30pm Friday, March 16 12:00am Chamber of Commerce Breakfast 1:30am Kevin Dua- MA History Teacher of the Year 8:30am Fit-4-Life #5 2017 9:00am Chamber of Commerce Breakfast 11:30am Kevin Dua- MA History Teacher of the Year First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 1:00pm 2:03pm Aldermen at Work: Stephanie Hirsch 2:30pm SomerViva en Espanol Aldermen at Work: Stephanie Hirsch 6:30pm 7:00pm Rally Point 7:30pm Haitian Cultural Celebration 8:44pm HeatSmart CoolSmart 9:00pm SomerViva em Portuguès 9:32pm Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte 10:00pm MLK Jr. Day Celebration Saturday, March 17 12:00am Aldermen at Work: Stephanie Hirsch

School Committee Meeting - 3.5.18 Fit-4-Life #5 2017 12:30am 8:30am Haitian Cultural Celebration 9:00am 11:30am Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte 12:00pm Board of Aldermen Meeting - 3.8.18 3:00pm SomerViva em Portuguès Kevin Dua- MA History Teacher of the Year 6:30pm

8:00pm Chamber of Commerce Breakfast 9:07pm Talking Business The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism 9:30pm SomerViva em Portuguès 11:00pm Sunday, March 18

Board of Aldermen Meeting - 3.8.18 SomerViva en Espanol Fit-4-Life #6 2017 Chamber of Commerce Breakfast Talking Business Senior Circuit First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 Aldermen at Work: Stephanie Hirsch Chamber of Commerce Breakfast SomerViva en Espano Senior Circuit Chamber of Commerce Breakfast **Talking Business** HeatSmart CoolSmart Rally Point Aldermen at Work: Stephanie Hirsch SomerViva em Portuguès Haitian Cultural Celebration

Monday, March 19 Senior Circuit Chamber of Commerce Breakfast School Committee Meeting - 3.5.18 Fit-4-Life #6 2017

9:00am First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 11:30am 12:00pm Kevin Dua- MA History Teacher of the Year 1:30pm The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism 3:00pm HeatSmart CoolSmart 4:00pm Upcoming Meeting Agenda 7:00pm School Committee Meeting Tuesday, March 20 12:00am

First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 1:03am Rally Point Kevin Dua- MA History Teacher of the Year 1:32am 8:30am Fit-4-Life #6 2017 9:00am The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism 11:30am Talking Business 12:00pm 12:30pm Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte Raising Families "Special Needs Education" 1:00pm 1:30pm MLK Jr. Day Celebration 3:00pm SomerViva em Portuguès 6:30pm Seriously Somerville w/ Jimmy Del Ponte 7:00pm Senior Circuit SomerViva en Espanol 7:30pm

Aldermen at Work: Stephanie Hirsch 8:00pm School Committee Meeting - 3.19.18 8:30pm Wednesday, March 21 12:00am Senior Circuit

School Committee Meeting

Educational TV 15 Schedule

7:00pm

7:30pm

8:52pm

Wednesday, March 14 9:00am Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School The Bilingual Brain Symposium 9:30am 11:00am SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair Somerville Recreation Activities Fair Argenziano School MLK Concert 11:30am 12:00pm 1:00pm Argenziano School Winter Concert SHS Girls Baskethall @ Danvers 2:00pm 4:00pm SHS Hockey vs Cambridge Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School 6:00pm 6:30pm The Bilingual Brain Symposium SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair 8:00pm 8:30pm Somerville Recreation Activities Fair 9:00pm 10:00pm Argenziano School MLK Concert Argenziano School Winter Concert 11:00pm SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers

Thursday, March 15

SHS Bovs Basketball @ Woburn 12:30am 2:00am SHS Hockey vs Cambridge 9:00am The Bilingual Brain Symposium 10:30am Argenziano School MLK Concert Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School 11:30am 12:00pm Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School Student of the Otr. Awards - WHCS 12:30pm 1:00pm Student of the Qtr. - Brown School 1:30pm Student of the Qtr. - Healey School Student of the Otr. - WSNS 2:00pm Student of the Qtr. - ESCS 2:30pm 3:00pm SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers 5:00pm 7:00pm The Bilingual Brain Symposium 8:30pm Argenziano School MLK Concert

Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School 10:00pm Student of the Qtr. - Argenziano School 10:30pm Student of the Qtr. - WHCS 11:00pm Student of the Qtr. - Brown School 11:15pm Student of the Qtr. - Healey School

12:00am Talk with MA History Teacher of the Year 1:30am 9:00am 10:30am 11:00am

Friday, March 16

Public Domain Theater Talk with MA History Teacher of the Year SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair WSNS Winter Concert 2018 SHS Girls Basketball vs Beverly 12:00pm 1:15pm All-City Beginners' Concert 2:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Marblehead 3:30pm Somerville Recreation Activities Fair SHS Boys Basketball vs Medford 4:00pm 5:30pm SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair Talk with MA History Teacher of the Year 6:00pm SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair 7:30pm WSNS Winter Concert 2018 8:00pm 9:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Beverly 10:15pm All-City Beginners' Concert 11:00pm SHS Boys' Basketball vs Marblehead

Saturday, March 17

12:30am SHS Boys Basketball vs Medford 2:00am SHS Girls Basketball vs Medford 4:00am Public Domain Theater SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn 9:00am 11:00am SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair 12:30pm 1:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett Somerville Recreation Activities Fair 2:30pm

SHS Boys Basketball v Winthrop 5:00pm SHS Bovs Basketball @ Woburn SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers 7:00pm 8:30pm SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair 9:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett 10:30pm Somerville Recreation Activities Fair SHS Boys Basketball v Winthrop 11:00pm

Sunday, March 18 12:30am

2:30am

9:00am

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11:00am

11:30am

12:00pm

SHS Boys Basketball vs Salem Public Domain Theater Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair Argenziano School MLK Concert SHS Hockey vs Cambridge The Bilingual Brain Symposium SHS Hockey vs Gloucester Student of the Qtr. - WSNS SHS Hockey vs Revere SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School Talk with MA History Teacher of the Year SHS Hockey vs Cambridge Student of the Otr. Awards - WSNS SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers

10:00pm Monday, March 19 12:00am

SHS Girls Basketball vs Everett SHS Hockey vs Swampscott Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School The Bilingual Brain Symposium SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair Somerville Recreation Activities Fair Argenziano School MLK Concert

Argenziano School Winter Concert SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers 2:00pm SHS Hockey vs Cambridge 4:00pm 6:00pm Student of the Qtr. - Kennedy School 6:30pm The Bilingual Brain Symposium SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair 8:00pm 8:30pm Somerville Recreation Activities Fair Argenziano School MLK Concert 9:00pm Argenziano School Winter Concert 10:00pm SHS Girls Basketball @ Danvers 11:00pm

Tuesday, March 20

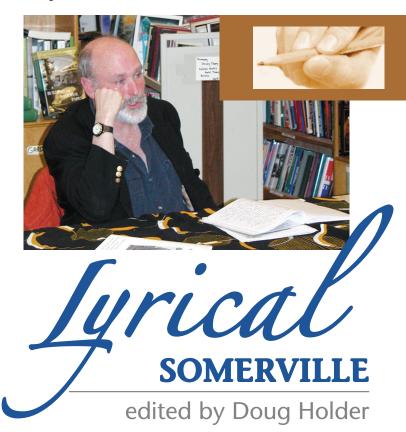
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12:30am SHS Hockey vs Cambridge 2:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs MC 9:00am SHS Hockey vs Gloucester 10:30am Healey School Winter Concert 11:30am WSNS Winter Concert 2018 12:30pm Somerville Recreation Activities Fair SHS Hockey vs Revere 1:00pm Our Schools, Our City-The New SHS 2:30pm 3:00pm All-City Beginners' Concert 4:00pm SHS Hockey v Lynn C. 5:30pm Our Schools, Our City-The New SHS 6:00pm SHS Hockey vs Gloucester Healey School Winter Concert 7:30pm SHS Student Health Survey 2018 8:30pm

10:00pm Wednesday, March 21

12:00am SHS Girls Basketball v Lawrence SHS Girls Basketball v Danvers 2:00am

SHS Hockey vs Revere



Meg Smith is a poet, journalist, dancer and events producer living in Lowell, Mass. In addition to Poetry Bay, her poems have appeared in The Cafe Review, The Offering, Astropoetica, Illumen, Dreams & Nightmares, the Dwarf Stars anthology of the Science Fiction and Fantasy Poetry Association and many more. As



a journalist, her coverage has been in honored by the New England Newspaper And Press Association, including first place awards for coverage of racial and ethnic issues, and coverage of religion. She is a past board member of Lowell Celebrates Kerouac! and produces the Edgar Allan Poe Show, honoring Poe's presence in Lowell, Mass. She recently published a second book of poetry, Dear Deepest Ghost.

Scattering the Pack

When she summons her gray ones,

they gather at the roadside.

It's all because of her,

but only one more time.

She looks up, and so do they:

A meteor, but no --

a streak from the sky

in blood-black now.

across not stars but

a road still red from rain.

They stand, and they stand, around,

blue fangs, like ice,

but eyes, filled, gleaming lakes.

"What, now, what now.

What god has told us,

and what remains?"

A car growls past,

the only light.

— Meg Smith

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

FF THE

by Doug Holder

Review: 'The Future Only Rattles When You Pick It Up'



A new member of Somerville's Bagel Bards chimes in with this review...

The Future Only Rattles When You Pick It Up By David Giannini

Review by Ravi T.Y

David Giannini's poetry and prose poetry collection, The Future Only Rattles When You Pick It Up, explores the myth of Sisyphus, and uses it as an anchoring point to explore topics such as innocence, love, death, and meaning. The book is witty yet genuine, raw yet elusive, and just when you begin to think that it is getting too nostalgic - it dawns on you that you are lost in one of Giannini's intricate meditations. The book opens with:

"Who would condemn small children? What if, with Sisyphus, toddlers were forced to roll

small stones beside him on the long push uphill before the terrible treck back, all of them compelled

to repeat their acts forever? ...

...but, could

any of us in this century bear to look at pebbles without sensing those kids forced to stone?'

Stones, rocks, pebbles, and geodes are reoccurring images that we keep stumbling into throughout this book. When we are not stumbling into rocks we run into things which Giannini has turned into Sisyphean rocks. Giannini weaves a beautiful web of images and symbols throughout his book, each one communicating and building on previous images.

The book itself is a meta-allusion to Sisyphus' myth and is broken into three sections, each section characterized by different levels of self-awareness and intention. The first two sections are poetry, while the last section is a section of prose poetry.

The first section has no title – alluding to Sisyphus' first encounter with death - where Sisyphus had angered Zeus, and Zeus sends Thanatos (or Hades depending on the version) to chain Sisyphus in Tartarus. Sisyphus convinces Thanatos to show him how his chains work. Thanatos is reluctant at first but eventually yields to Sisyphus' child-like nagging. Immediately after Thanatos gives him a tutorial Sisyphus binds Thanatos to his own chains, binding death with death. Once death was dead, everyone is freed from death, including the sick and suffering. In Sisyphus' first encounter with death, he does not expect death; and, his escape is spontaneous, witty, and in some ways very childish.

The first section of Giannini's book has no title, appearing unplanned and spontaneous. It looks into the loss of innocence and the desire to escape this death (the loss of innocence) through love and companionship. The poems carry a unifying impulse, but at the same time are sporadic and random, like children who ate too sugar for their own good, and are now running around the house yelling delightful words at you. Some of the poems in the first section of the book use left indents making the poem appear as though it was a receding wave or thought, and there is even an erasure of a Petrarchan sonnet on page 11.

Sisyphus' second escape from death is intentional, but short-lived. After Sisyphus frees death, he is sent back to the underworld. Before going to the underworld, he asks his wife to throw his body into the middle of the public square. Upon reaching the underworld, Sisyphus convinces Persephone to let him go back to the world of the living so that he can convince his wife to give him a proper funeral. But, once he got out of the underworld he did not to go back until Hermes dragged him back by force.

Giannini's second section is the shortest, but unlike the first section has a title, A Speaking Born Of Us. However, this section's title is also the title of the only poem in the section. This section/poem aspires to find meaning through love and sensuality. The entire section is only nine pages, whereas the first section was about twenty-eight pages long, and the last section was thirty-two pages long. In this context, brevity signifies another level of awareness and the importance that this poem has for Giannini. Furthermore, the voice that populated this section seemed somber, controlled, and in a way restrained.

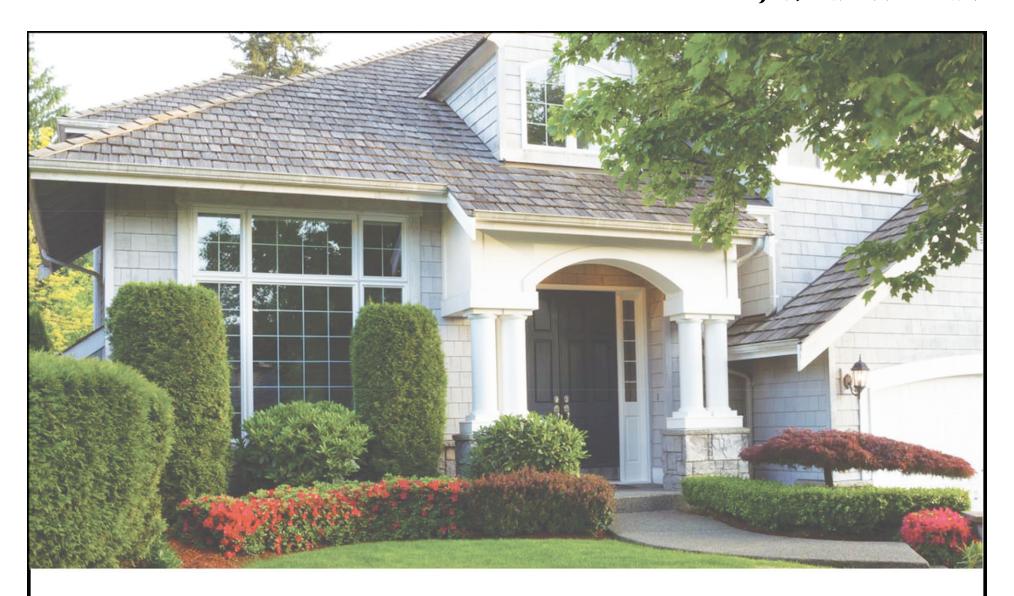
Zeus, now furious with Sisyphus' deception and antics, punishes Sisyphus by forcing him to roll a boulder up a steep hill for all eternity. Every time Sisyphus gets close to the top, the boulder rolls back down, and Sisyphus needs to start over again rolling the boulder back up the hill.

While the first two sections of the book were poetry, the last section of the book is a section of prose-poetry. The third section titled Vertical Prose Poems alludes to Sisyphus' vertical journey upwards. The third section delves directly into the depths of Giannini's psyche, and does not hesitate at all to put the 'truth' on the table. The first prose poem is a hilarious piece about prose poetry itself and is in part Giannini's way of easing the reader into the section. Nonetheless, this did not really help the unsettling feeling I felt while reading this section. In the previous two sections, I felt as though I was navigating through a dreamlike trance. Then suddenly was shook awake by Giannini's absurd humor, which is also how and where he tied all his loose ends together. For example, in his prose poem Philosophers Assisted Living, Giannini writes, "Are not stones logical, asks Socrates?" (Giannini 53). Giannini's use of humor in this section also raises the question of what role awareness plays in humor.

From Lucretius to Plato, many have interpreted what Sisyphus' punishment might mean to us. Albert Camus' lyrical essay The Myth of Sisyphus argues that Sisyphus is not as a villain who disobeyed the gods, but instead an absurd hero who was searching for meaning and purpose in an existence devoid of purpose and meaning. Camus says that "One must imagine Sisyphus happy," because the search for meaning is in and of itself enough to give one purpose and allow one to revolt against the chains fate has wrapped around him/her. A person only dies, Camus argues, when they resign to fate and stop searching for meaning.

Giannini's take on this myth however is strikingly different from other interpretations. Giannini makes Sisyphus work for him. He turns Sisyphus' story into an exploration of his own search for meaning and the numerous deaths that he tried to escape. Just about everything we do, whether we realize it or not, can be interpreted as our attempt to escape death. In the end though, this awareness of our constant desire to escape death is in and of itself perhaps the only way for us to find meaning and purpose in life.

Ravi T.Y (Ravi Teja Yelamanchili) is a recent University of Pittsburgh graduate. Ravi is currently working at the MA Executive Office of Education as an Analyst. His writing has previously been published in Sahitya Academi's Indian Literature, Muse India, Miller's Pond Poetry Review, and the Taj Mahal Review. He was the winner of the University of Pittsburgh's Undergraduate Poetry Contest, and the Chelmsford High School Poetry Contest. But mostly, he aspires to be a lifelong student of the Bhagavad Gita.



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