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VOL. 3 NO. 11

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



Sharing space with Brown School kids page 3



An old friend passes page 5



The great Irish road race 2015 pages 12-13

Report highlights strategies to combat highway pollutants



The Tufts CAFEH study offers new insights in to ways of minimizing health risks caused by pollution generated on our roadways.

By Jason Andrew Park

In a new report titled Improving Health in Communities Near Highways, researchers and key stakeholders from various institutions highlighted potential solutions to reduce traffic-related air pollution exposure in Boston and Somerville.

The report, published earlier this March, was part of a larger series of research projects called the Community Assessment of Freeway Expert and Health or CAFEH. The project actively involved the participation of various entities, including researchers, health experts, students, and community residents in order to study the adverse health impacts of air pollution near highways and major roadways in the Greater

Improving Health in Communities Near Highways, in particular, highlights Continued on page 9

In season, Irish Film Festival comes to Somerville

By Haley Houseman

The Irish Film Festival of Boston will be taking over the Somerville Theatre in Davis Square this weekend, Thursday, March 19 through Sunday, March 22, just in time for the St Patrick's Day holiday. Over thirty films will be shown, from family-friendly animation to documentaries, short films, comedies and thrillers.

For the fifteenth year, the volunteer-run festival will give out awards and attract actors, directors and audiences alike. Screenings are coupled with receptions and question and answer sessions with filmmakers follow. The festival director, Dawn Morrissey, reports the event is "very fortunate to yet again have such a great selection of films and talented filmmakers in our midst in Boston," as stated in Harvard Magazine. More than three thousand people attend the event over the course of four days, many of them Irish or Irish-American.

The festival schedule



Best Feature winner Gold, directed by Niall Heery, will be kicking off The Irish Film Festival of Boston Continued on page 14 running this weekend at the Somerville Theatre in Davis Square.

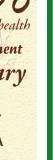
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We are saddened by the news that a good guy from Somerville passed away down in Florida. Tom Taylor, who served our city well and in particular the residents of Ward 3 over many years, is now resting in peace. The whole city knew he was going through a lot over these past couple of years, but he was very strong willed and, of course, his lovely Celia was by his side all the time, encouraging him and making him smile, creating more great memories together. The suffering is over and now is a time to celebrate the life he shared with us and all the good things he did. With that said, his wife Celia and his family would like to invite everyone to a "Celebration of Life" on Sunday, April 26 from 4-8 p.m. at the Somerville City Club, across from the Holiday Inn. All are welcomed to share with the Taylor family and friends the many good times and good things Tom did here in his beloved Somerville. Donations of food and beverages are greatly appreciated. There is a Facebook page set up for the "Celebration" (https://www.facebook.com/celia.taylor.505) to let the family know if you're going.

A Happy St. Patrick's Day this week to everyone. We hope it was a happy and safe one for all of us here in the Ville. The race is over and the parade was well attended over in Southie. A lot of Villens were seen up and down Broadway in South Boston enjoying themselves.

Happy Birthday this week to a few of our Villens both here and elsewhere: Happy Birthday to Jim Halloran, an all around nice guy, always to be seen with a smile. We wish him the very best. Happy Birthday to Karen Love, another Villen here in the city, most often in Magoun Square. We wish her the very best happy birthday. Big time Happy Birthday to Jamie Hart, the lovely wife of Ricky Hart. We hope she has a great day. To a special lady who used to live here in Somerville for awhile, Ms. Carolyn Caler, who now resides in Kansas. We wish her the very best. Happy Birthday to Neil Gillis Jr. We hope he has a great day for himself. To a nice guy as well, Michael Sullivan of the Berkeley Street Sullivan's. We hope he has a good day. And finally, to a good friend of the paper and from a great family here in the city, a special Happy Birthday to Danny 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

Executive Assistant – Cam Toner Advertising Director – Bobbie Toner Arts Editor – Doug Holder

Writers: Jim Clark, Douglas Yu, Tom Bannister, Rebecca Danvers, Ross Blouin, Donald Norton Contributors: Jimmy Del Ponte,William C. Shelton Photographer: Claudia Ferro

The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday







The Somerville Times.com Comments of the Week

Response to: Joint Brown School update

A. Moore says:

So much for the drones. Best still for a human to check I guess.

mark my words says:

The Brown School will be the Ball sq. MBTA stop.

Freebie says:

School enrollment a have not dropped in 7 years. My prediction is that as the schools continue to improve dramatically, enrollment actually increases.

Btw, there is no shortage of kids in this city. The opposite really, do the math – we have almost 2500 children per square mile. No other city in MA comes to that number.

Somerville Swift says:

Smithy: Brown School children were back in school Monday for the first time since the roof collapse. Buses are being run by the city between the Brown and the three schools where the students are being temporarily housed to avoid a morning and afternoon traffic nightmare in East Somerville. Teachers, parent volunteers and DPW staff worked over the weekend to get the Edgerly ready for the first through fifth grades. The kindergarteners have been relocated to the Capuano and the sixth graders are at the East Somerville Community School. According to my kids, the day went smoothly with everyone getting familiar with their new digs. Repair work started on the Brown over the weekend and is anticipated to take from three weeks to a month.

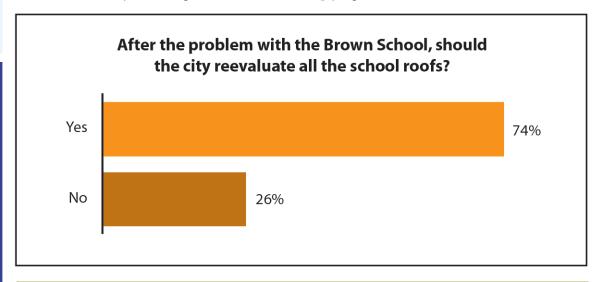
A. Moore says:

All because they didn't take their own advice about checking roofs. How many public announcements did we get about roofs. We even had drones checking them. I even shoveled off mine and some friends just to be safe. So now instead of a little shoveling job we get an expensive roof repair. How smart does that sound?

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

TheSomervilleTimes.com poll of the week

In addition to breaking news, sports and opinion, TheSomervilleTimes.com also features a daily poll in which you, the reader, tell us where you come down on local issues. Last week's poll concerned your views on whether or not you think that after the problem with the Brown School, the city should reevaluate all the school roofs. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com.





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Dialoging at Business Town Meeting X

By Douglas Yu

Over 100 small business owners from all over Somerville met in the Davis Square Theater on the evening of March 10 to share their concerns about the city with Mayor Joseph Curtatone at the annual Business Town Meeting.

Stephen Mackey, President and CEO of the Somerville Chamber of Commerce, said that 10 years ago when Business Town Meetings first started, Somerville's mayor was invited to come before the local business community to talk about the local economy, the business administrations agenda, and take questions from the community.

The City of Somerville is at its pivotal point of massive development. This most densely populated town in New England is experiencing unprecedented transformation. The Green Line Extension just received its federal funding earlier this year, Union Square's master developer US2 is still in the process of crowdsourcing urban design ideas, and

Assembly Row also welcomed its new developer partnership, Partners Healthcare.

How all these recent developments will benefit local businesses in the long run at Somerville is questionable.

"The business community is concerned about the safety of public transportation, education, the quality of life and housing," Mackey said. "This meeting also gives business owners an opportunity to get firsthand answers to specific questions."

At the beginning of the meeting, Curtatone briefly talked about the goals of Somer Vision, a comprehensive city plan to ensure that Somerville has sustainable economic growth as well as best availability for affordable housing, transportation and open space.

"These goals represent Somerville's hopes and dreams," Curtatone said. "What's happening at Assembly Square embodies what's happening in the city. We envision the future, we plan the future, and we build the future."

During the Q&A, Sara Stackhouse, Executive Producer of the Actor's Shakespeare Project, raised questions regarding how Somerville's arts community contributes to the creative economy.

"I know there is a large number of artists per capita in Somerville, and there is a lot of amazing visual arts," Stackhouse said. "One of the biggest problems in the theater community in Boston, Cambridge and Somerville is that we don't have enough space."

In response to Stackhouse's question, Curtatone mentioned that the city's new zoning code helped preserve certain spaces, and the characteristic and the DNA of being artistic were always embedded in the community.

"The other creativity has to be part of the collaborative environment. We have breweries, cuisine experts, green techies and rock climbers," Curtatone said, adding that artists make Somerville funky, and if there is not enough space for public art, Somerville would be sanitized and boring.

Over the past year, Somerville's



Rebecca Schrumm and Edwin Smith were among the many business and civic lead-- Photo by Douglas Yu ers who attended Business Town Meeting X last week.

real estate has seen a dramatic market increase, especially when Assembly Row introduced its new Orange Line stop, followed by a series of development projects, including a Partners Healthcare facility. Many Cambridge residents who are at risk of being priced out of their gentrified neighborhoods, such as Kendall Square and Fresh Pond, hope to relocate into Somerville, but are finding it hard to locate affordable places to live.

Last year, the city revised a plan within Somer Vision to create an additional 9,000 units of housing in the next 20 years instead of the original 6,000.

There would be an economic cost if people who contribute to Somerville were leaving, according to Curtatone.

Courtney O'Keefe, former Ward 5 Alderman and Magoun Square resident, said she would be happy to see some improvement in the inspectional services between Citizenserve (a website that allows people to apply for licenses and permits) and improved professionalism with some of the inspectors.

In addition, Continued on page 17

Brown School collapse sends students packing

By Jim Clark

Last week's partial collapse of the roof over a girls bathroom at the Brown School sent chills through the hearts and minds of parents whose children narrowly missed being seriously injured, due to the lateness of the hour when the event occurred. The collapse took place after hours and nobody was in the building at that time.

The school was immediately shut down for the remainder of the week as inspection crews assessed the damage.

An informational meeting was held two days later, on Thursday, to bring parents up to date on what was discovered by the inspection crews and what steps would be taken to get students back to school.

Work crews reportedly determined that the portion of the roof that had collapsed had been gradually eroding from water

seepage over an extended period of time. Accumulations of snow had apparently accelerated the deterioration of the structure's wood and masonry components, leading to the partial collapse of

Officials indicated that the internal damage could not have been foreseen without a more thorough inspection process having taken place, which was problematic due to the recent weather conditions.

Mayor Curtatone assured parents that the roof would be repaired and that the school will be reopened.

It was determined that students would be diverted to other schools while the repairs were being made. Allowing the school to remain open throughout the renovation period, which is expected to last several weeks, was deemed to be unsafe for the students and teachers, and impractical for the work crews.

Plans were then put into place to have the Brown School students diverted to other area schools that would set up temporary classroom spaces to accommodate them.

On Monday of this week, Kindergarten children were welcomed at Capuano Early Childhood Center, while students in grades 1-5 were sent to Edgerly School, and 6th graders went to East Somerville Community School.

Busing schedules were organized and the temporary classrooms were set up at the participating assisting schools.

While the routing of Brown School students to their new temporary classrooms served as something of a work in progress early this week, parents, students, teachers, and everyone



Teachers and volunteers spent the weekend preparing temporary classrooms at Capuano Early Childhood Center, Edgerly School, and East Somerville Community School.

involved in the process of normalizing the children's school day routines found the new roution can be found online at the tine easier to negotiate as each day unfolded. Most agreed that the transition to the temporary classrooms went relatively well and that the students' education-

al needs are being well served.

Updates and further informa-Brown School website: http:// www.somerville.k12.ma.us/ education/components/scrapbook/default.php?sectiondetailid=20337.

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By Jim Clark

Troubled patient assaults to murder

A call from Cambridge/Somerville Emergency Services on Broadway broaught police officers to the facility last week on reports that a patient there was out of control.

Officers were told by facility staff that the patient, Sean Brooks, of Boston, fled on foot prior to their arrival.

After getting a description of the patient and relaying the information to police dispatch in

order to begin the search for Brooks, officers asked what had transpired prior to his departure from the facility.

Facility staff reportedly told police that earlier in the day Brooks had become highly agitated and stated that he wished to be released from the facility. He was shouting at the staff and was apparently very concerned about a cell phone that he said was his

At one point Brooks allegedly grabbed a nurse by the throat and began strangling her. Brooks reportedly screamed at the nurse and demanded money. Staffers were reportedly able to free the nurse from Brooks' grip and they demanded that he leave the facility immediately and one of them called 911.

One facility staffer said that when he had come on duty at midnight he noted that Brooks

had been checked in for the night, and that at approximately 1:30 a.m. he noticed that his cell phone was missing. Attempts to call the phone only resulted in reaching its voicemail. At approximately 6:30 a.m. another attempt to call the cell phone resulted in a beeping sound coming from Brooks that sounded like the staffer's phone.

After retrieving the phone,

the staffer advised Brooks, who had requested to be released from the facility, that he would have to wait for the shift change to be signed out. It was at that time that Brooks reportedly became violent.

Brooks was eventually located by police and placed under arrest, charged with destruction of property over \$250, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault to murder, and attempted murder.

No gift card for returning 'shopper

Police officers were dispatched to the Adidas store at Assembly Row last Thursday on reports that an alleged shoplifter was attempting to return stolen merchandise in exchange for a gift card.

Upon arrival, the officers were met by a store employee who pointed out a woman, later identified as Laura Myles, standing at the checkout area. The employee reportedly told police that the woman had been in the store earlier and had taken several items into a changing room, then exited the changing room carrying only one item, which she put back where she got it from before exiting the store.

According to the employee, Myles returned to the store just a few minutes later with several items of store merchandise and attempted to negotiate a return of the items in exchange for a store gift card.

The employee further stated that she recognized the returned items as being among those that Myles had taken into the changing room with her before leaving the store. At that time she decided that she would call the police.

The officers reviewed the store's video surveillance footage and reportedly confirmed the employee's account of Myles' activities.

Myles was reportedly shown taking three pairs of pants and two sports bras into the dressing room, and a short time later coming out of the dressing room carrying only one pair of pants. The video footage also reportedly showed Myles attempting to return the items to the store a

short time later.

While reviewing the video footage, a report from dispatch informed the officers that Myles also had outstanding arrest warrants.

Myles was placed under arrest and charged with shoplifting by asportation, and later additionally booked on warrant charges of larceny over \$250 and destruction of property over \$250.

(C)

Arrests:

Sean Brooks, of 444 Harrison Ave., Boston, March 9, 8:01 a.m., arrested at 660 Broadway on charges of destruction of property over \$250, assault with a dangerous weapon, assault to murder, and attempted murder.

Robert Fecher, of 34 Parker St., Everett, March 10, 8:09 p.m., arrested at 75 Mystic Ave. on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs, possession of a class D drug, unsafe operation of a motor vehicle, and negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

Jesus Huertas, of 55 Ruggles St., Roxbury, March 12, 12:59 p.m., arrested at 390 Artisan Way on a charge of shoplifting by concealing merchandise.

Laura Myles, of 37 Clinton St., March 12, 2:44 p.m., arrested at 544 Assembly Row on a charge of shoplifting by asportation and on warrant charges of larceny over \$250 and destruction of property over \$250.

Viktoriya Blindman, of 6 White Sisters Way, Canton, March 14, 12:16 a.m., arrested at 136 Powder House Blvd. on charges of assault and bat-

tery on a police officer, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, and resisting arrest.

Kevin Monohan, March 15, 1:17 a.m., arrested at 59 Derby St. on a charge of destruction of property over \$250 and on a warrant charge of threat to commit a crime.

Ethan Siegel, of 19 Mague Pl., W. Newton, March 15, 1:21 a.m., arrested at 201 Holland St. on charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor and reckless operation of a motor vehicle.

<u>Incidents</u>:

Theft:

March 9, 1:29 p.m., police reported a theft at 91 Highland Ave.

March 9, 3:03 p.m., police reported a theft at Dana St.

March 9, 5:09 p.m., police reported a theft at Washington St.

March 9, 6:09 p.m., police reported a theft at 400 Somerville Ave.

March 9, 6:59 p.m., police reported a theft at Glen St.

March 9, 8:42 p.m., police reported a theft at 5 Cherry St.

March 10, 12:31 a.m., police reported a theft at Fitchburg

March 10, 12:32 p.m., police reported a theft at Spring Hill

March 10, 2:09 p.m., police reported a theft at Howard St. March 10, 4:20 p.m., police reported a theft at School St.

March 11, 2:20 p.m., police reported a theft at Fitchburg

March 12, 12:59 p.m., police reported a theft at 390 Artisan

March 12, 2:44 p.m., police reported a theft at 544 Assembly Row.

March 12, 7:14 p.m., police reported a theft at 12A Tyler St.

March 13, 4:28 p.m., police reported a theft at Albion St.

March 14, 11:48 a.m., police reported a theft at 30 Washington St.

March 14, 1:26 p.m., police reported a theft at Lowell St.

Robbery:

March 15, 11:51 p.m., police reported a robbery at Jaques St.

Breaking & Entering:

March 13, 7:16 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at 73 Summer St.

March 13, 11:20 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at 366 Somerville Ave.

Vehicle Theft:

March 9, 7:26 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Middlesex Ave.

March 13, 4:11 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Somerville Ave.

March 13, 4:12 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Somerville Ave.

Assault:

March 10, 2:33 p.m., police reported an assault at Hamlet

March 10, 9:14 p.m., police reported an assault at Medford

March 10, 9:16 p.m., police reported an assault at Austin St.

March 12, 3:39 p.m., police reported an assault at Melvin

March 12, 12:44 p.m., police reported an assault at 91 Highland Ave.

March 13, 10:46 p.m., police reported an assault at Austin

March 14, 12:16 a.m., police reported an assault at Powder House Blvd.

March 14, 7:53 p.m., police reported an assault at Broad-

March 14, 11:01 p.m., police reported an assault at Broad-

Destruction of Property:

0

March 9, 7:18 a.m., police reported a destruction of property at Forest St.

March 9, 8:01 a.m., police reported a destruction of property at Broadway.

March 13, 3:06 p.m., police reported a destruction of property at Medford St.

March 14, 12:10 a.m., police reported a destruction of property at Highland Ave.

March 15, 10:18 a.m., police reported a destruction of property at Vernon St.

March 15, 1:17 p.m., police reported a destruction of property at Derby St.

Drug Violation:

March 10, 5:27 p.m., police reported a drug violation at Broadway.

March 10, 8:09 p.m., police reported a drug violation at Mystic Ave.

March 13, 3:17 p.m., police reported a drug violation at 77 Middlesex Ave.

DUI:

March 15, 1:21 a.m., police reported a driving under the influence at Holland St.

Former Ward 3 Alderman **Tom Taylor passes**

By Tom Bannister

Former Alderman for Ward 3 in Somerville Tom Taylor died in Florida on Wednesday, March 11, having succumbed to his long-fought battle with cancer.

Taylor served on the City of Somerville School Committee for 6 years from 1981 to 1987, and on the Board of Alderman for 25 years from 1986 to 2013.

A celebration of Taylor's life has been organized and a post on his wife Celia's Facebook (https://www.facebook. com/celia.taylor.505) serves as an announcement for the event:

"Please spread the word and come to our tribute, our Celebration of the Life and Love of Tom Taylor on Sunday, April 26th from 4 to 8 at the Somerville City Club across from the Holiday Inn. Just thinking of happy times, looking back on my posts and reading what people have been saying about Tom made me realize that this



Celebration that has turned into something different is still important. I know I need even more help now especially emotionally. Whatever you offered to do please still do. We also need someone to make and somehow continuously show pictures of Tom on a DVD and another one with the 2 tributes at the BOA Chambers. We would need a couple of people to take photos and others to take videos. All food help is still appreciated. Also please send or bring your remembrances, stories, photos, cards, notes, etc., I'll be heading back to Somerville after Easter. Thank you for your many kindnesses. Rachel Taylor, Lori Courtney, Ken Courtney"

Volunteers sought for Patriot's Day Colonial Fair

By Rebecca Danvers

The city is seeking volunteers to help re-live Paul Revere's historic ride from Boston through Somerville and onto Lexington and Concord. Adults and high school students are needed to help plan and execute the City's annual Patriots Day event, a Colonial Fair at Foss Park on Monday, April 20.

Participants are needed in several areas including those who are willing to work with youth to create drawings about the event and our community in Colonial times. Community outreach volunteers are also needed. Anyone who can offer assistance with event logistics by leading Colonial era games, serving refreshments, and distributing and stamping Colonial Passports are also highly sought after.

Volunteers will be asked to dress in Colonial era clothing, and some clothing is available to lend, as well as tips for what to wear of your own. They will also be teaching games to be led, including hop scotch, cat's cradle, hoop rolling and ring toss.



For more information or to volunteer, contact Brandon Wilson at 617-625-6600 ext. 2532, or BWilson@somervillema.gov.

Assault suspect arraigned

By Tom Bannister

Allen Harmon, 36, of Somerville, was arraigned in Middlesex County Superior Court last week on charges of assault to rape, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, and indecent assault and battery, according to Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan.

"The actions this defendant are accused of are alarming," District Attorney Ryan said. "This was a frightening attack by a stranger. Luckily, alert passersby intervened and were able to put an end to the attack."

Somerville Police Chief David Fallon said, "The Somerville Police Department continues to monitor this case as it goes forward. Our thoughts remain with the victim and anyone affected by this grave event. We have reached out to the local community around this issue and would like to remind residents that the Police Department has a Victims Advocate and anyone is welcome to reach out to her at 617-625-1600 ext. 7279. This type of event is an anomaly in Somerville, but its rarity in no way lessens our concern. We will remain vigilant in ensuring the safety of this neighborhood and our city."

According to reports, on October 8, 2014 at approximately 5:30 p.m., a woman was attacked as she was going to her vehicle on Central Street. People nearby heard screams and went to help the woman. The defendant fled but police were directed to his home nearby. The defendant was located inside his home and placed under arrest.

Clerk Magistrate Michael Sullivan ordered Harmon held without bail until Harmon's next scheduled court hearing on Thursday, April 16.

The Somerville Times **Historical Fact of the Week**



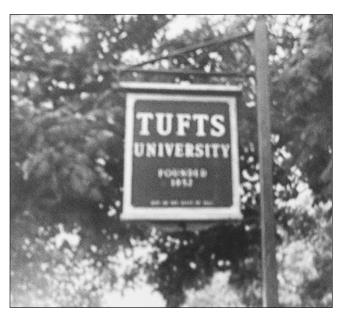
Eagle Feathers #74

Bringing Light to Somerville

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

In 1853, when Somerville's Charles Tufts was asked what he intended to do with his large parcel of land in the western part of the city, he replied, "I will put a light upon that hill." Today, this light brightly burns on in the form of Tufts University and is on its college seal that proclaims in Latin, "peace and light."

Frederick Stark Pearson, a Tufts alumni, lit up a good part of the world in his fifty-three year lifetime. Beginning at sixteen years old, he worked for the Boston and Lowell railroad as a Stationmaster at the Walnut Hill stop. In 1879, through the acquaintance of Tufts faculty members who frequented the station, he was allowed admittance to the college. Within a short period of time, he proved himself worthy of their decision. It was like leading a duck to water.



Fred loved mathematics, engineering and chemistry. He took classes at Tufts University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After graduating from Tufts in 1883, and graduate school from MIT in 1884, he taught chemistry at Tufts for three years. At one period, his Somerville residence was at 85 College Avenue.

Finding no permanent interest in teaching, the young man ventured out into changing the world ... and what changes he's made! He was a brilliant engineer and had no problem finding backers for his ideas through the years. Early on, his first electrical engineering feat was establishing the Somerville Electric Light Company, constructing its first generating station in Union Square. It was the first power company to provide electricity for Somerville's streets and houses. A generating plant was later built at 110 Willow Avenue abreast of the bike path and still stands today.

His success then spread to other towns. One of his next endeavors was to electrify Boston's trains when he became the Chief Engineer of the West End Street Railway. It was the progenitor of today's Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority. Thus accomplished, he successfully did the same in Providence,



Brooklyn, and other American cities.

A lover of traveling, he took his work with him to three continents. He developed hydroelectric power from Canada to South America and built dams in Texas and Mexico for irrigation of arid land. He founded Continued on page 6

Ultimate π Day the Somerville way

By Tom Bannister

Saturday, March 14 was Pi Day (3.14), but not just any π day, it was Ultimate π Day because it is 2015: 3.14.15! What better excuse is there to have a celebration of math with middle schoolers than π ? Well over 200 students, parents, teachers, and volunteers from the high school, PTA and community, celebrated π at the Healey School by eating pizza for dinner, then spending an evening estimating, creating, collecting data, answering questions, and ending with pies for everyone.

After enjoying pizza donated by the Bickoff family (discounted by White Sport), the students from Healey, who were joined by students from East Somerville Community School (ESCS), and Argenziano schools went around to a wide variety of math activities set up in the gym and cafeteria. These activities included:

bicycle wheel roll, guessing contest, tooth pick drop (Buffon Needle problem), drawing a circle the size of a CD, mystery boxes, π button design, π facts quiz, birthday in π , circle in square vs square in circle, drawing cardioid or nephroid, drawing concentric circles by folding, drawing circles by tangents, drawing circle by right angles, predicting how high of a pour, predicting circumferences and radii, and graphing circumference vs. diameter.

The event was planned by Wil Jacques (Healey), Scott Weaver (ESCS), and Erica Voolich (Somerville Mathematics Fund). Table Talk Pies of Worcester generously supplied small pies for all who came that night and large pies for winners of events. Table Talk has generously supported this Somerville Math Fund event for twelve years. Star Market/Shaws (Beacon Street) generously donated most of the juice.





Ultimate π Day at the Healey School brought out the higher mathematician in everyone who participated.

When planning the first SMF π Night in 2003, the Math Fund called the Table Talk Pi Company and explained what π day was and Table Talk generously donated large pies for prizes and small pies for everyone. Eleven years later, Table Talk Pies is not only still donating to the Somerville Pi night celebration, but to many more celebrations. In fact, this year Table Talk donated more than 43,000 pies to schools and organizations celebrating pi day.

The Somerville Mathematics Fund, was founded in 2000 with the mission to celebrate and encourage mathematics achievement in Somerville MA.



In April they will be looking for applications for college mathematics scholarships. For more information or to make a donation or to volunteer, www. somervillemathematicsfund.org or mathfund@gmail.com or call 617-666-0666.

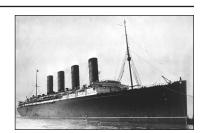
Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 5

Natalia, Texas, in his daughter's name. Transit systems of European cities in France, Italy, Portugal, Switzerland, and Spain benefited by his engineering and planning expertise. Also, the town of Pearson, Texas, is named in his honor, as well as streets in other countries. The city of Barcelona, Spain, paid him tribute with a stately statue.

This spring we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of his death on May 7, 1915.

Dr. Frederick Stark Pearson, his wife, and his secretary, David Walker, were three of the 128 Americans who were killed in the tragic torpedoing of the ship, Lusitania. This tragedy helped launch America into World War I.

In Somerville, he is remembered by the naming of Pearson Road and Pearson Avenue near the Powder House rotary and the Pearson Memorial Chemistry



Laboratory of Tufts University on Talbot Avenue. In his memory, the completion of the MBTA's Green Line in Union Square will cast the shadow of Dr. Pearson and bring him home full circle.

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US2 announces Small Business Support Program awardees

By Rebecca Danvers

On Monday, Union Square Station Associates (US2), Somerville's master developer partner for Union Square's revitalization, announced four local businesses that have been selected to participate in a Technical Assistance Program to help storefront small businesses refine their business approach and take advantage of the new opportunities that will be presented by the community-driven redevelopment and enhancement of Union Square.

"US2 is pleased to sponsor this valuable program to support local businesses and assist them in taking advantage of the new opportunities presented by Union Square's revitalization," said Greg Karczewski, president of US2. "We are committed to the growth and prosperity of Union Square's small business community, and with the neighborhood poised for tremendous progress, employers of every shape and size stand to benefit."

The program is delivered by business consulting firm Retail Visioning and operated by the City of Somerville Office of Economic Development's Small Business Suite initiative with multi-lingual support from the City's SomerViva program. It provides assessments, recommendations and implementation support for business improvement in the areas of identity and positioning, store and restaurant design, visual merchandising and retail marketing. Businesses selected to participate in the program will have a one-on-one consulting relationship with a Retail Visioning expert who will work with the business owner at their place of business to help address their specific needs.

Funding from US2 will initially allow Retail Visioning to work with up to eight Union Square small businesses. Along with providing retail expertise and recommendations specific to each business, the program will provide grants of up to \$1,000 each to help owners implement improvements.

The first round of funding attracted ten applicants, of which four were selected. To be selected, businesses must be a small, independent storefront business that fits the unique character of Union Square; owners must desire to grow their business in Union Square and interested in taking advantage of new opportunities presented by Union Square's redevelopment; and their specific needs must fit with the strengths of the program, including retail consultation, customer experience, marketing, branding, and other management issues. There will be another round of selections later in the spring and businesses that did not get selected in this round, along with new applicants, will be considered.

The first round awardees are:

- Cantina La Mexicana: Owned by Robert Rendon, Cantina La Mexicana is a sit-down and take-out restaurant and bar, and has been in business for two decades. It is located at 247 Washington Street.
- Reliable Market: Owned by Pokye Casserly, Reliable Market is a large Asian market with fresh foods and packaged groceries that opened for business three years ago. It is located at 45 Union Square.
- CrossFit Somerville: CrossFit Somerville is a fitness studio and community center located at 35 Prospect Street. Owned by J.T. Scott, it has been in business three and a half years.
- + Local Supply Company: Co-owned by Kim LaFoy and Ryan Habbyshaw, Loyal Supply is a design firm, retailer, and distributor of home, office and studio supplies. It opened in at 21 Union Square just three months ago.

"This program will help us grow our business in ways that benefit our community," said Kim LaFoy, co-owner of



Awardees (pictured left to right): Ryan Habbyshaw (Loyal Supply Company), Kimberly LaFoy (Loyal Supply Company), Max MacCarthy (City of Somerville), Chris Moynihan (Retail Visioning), Sadie Ng (Retail Visioning).

Local Supply Company. "We appreciate the support we're receiving from US2, and it's nice to know they're supporting existing local businesses as they revitalize Union Square."

"I moved here and founded my business with the intention of growing with Union Square as it grows and changes," said J.T. Scott, owner of CrossFit Somerville. "I hope this program will help strengthen my business, and it's a great first step by US2 to demonstrate their commitment to our local small businesses."

Retail Visioning has provided small business technical assistance to over 500 retailers, restaurateurs, salon owners and other types of small businesses in urban centers all around Massachusetts including Boston, Lowell, Westfield, and Cambridge. They have also provided assistance to businesses in other neighborhoods of Somerville through the Somerville Small Business Suite.

For more information about the Tech-

nical Assistance Program, please contact Max MacCarthy at mmaccarthy@somervillema.gov or at 617-625-6600 x 2515 or visit http://www.somervillema.gov/businesses/small-business-assistance.

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O'Keefe joins LGBT Advisory Board

By Rebecca Danvers

The Somerville Council on Aging has announced the newest member to their LGBT Advisory Broad, Courtney O'Keefe. The former Ward 5 Alderman has been an active community member and joined the Advisory Broad after attending her first meeting this past Monday night. The Advisory Board meets the second Monday of each month at the Holland Street Center. "We are looking for new members, especially representation from the gay community. The women definitely outnumber the men," said Maureen Bastardi, Outreach Worker and Liaison to the LGBT Advisory Board.



Pictured (from L to R): Maria Tramontozzi, Joe Beckmann, Julie Katz and Courtney O'Keefe.

Beacon Hill Roll Call



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Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Somerville:



Rep. Christine Barber

DISTRICT REPRESENTED: Thirty-fourth Middlesex. - Consisting of all precincts in wards 4 and 5, precinct 1 of ward 7, and precinct 2 of ward 8, of the city of Medford, precincts 1 and 2 of ward 4, and all precincts of ward 7, of the city of Somerville, both in the county of Middlesex.



Rep. Denise Provost

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



Rep. Timothy Toomey

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



Sen. Patricia Jehlen

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

THE HOUSE AND SENATE: Beacon Hill Roll Call records the votes of local representatives on roll calls from the week of March 9-13. There were no roll calls in the Senate last week.

\$347.7 SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET (H 65)

House 154-0, approved and sent to the Senate a \$347.7 million supplemental budget to fund various state programs and agencies until fiscal year 2015 ends on June 30.

Provisions include \$50 million for state costs of removing snow and ice during the severe winter; \$7.6 million for the Department of Families and Children for foster care, adoption, shelter services, substance abuse and education and counseling services; \$2.1 million for a prescription drug program for seniors; and \$44.2 million for emergency housing services.

The bill also raises from \$600 to \$1,200 the threshold at which gamblers playing any machines at the state's future casino and slot parlors must temporarily stop gambling and fill out a form informing the state that he or she has won the money. The casino would also subtract 5 percent of the winnings as a withholding tax.

Supporters said the package is a fiscally responsible one that funds necessary programs including several which are running out of money.

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

Rep. Christine Barber Yes Rep. Denise Provost Yes Rep. Timothy Toomey Yes

MUST REPORT \$1,200 IN CASINO AND SLOT WINNINGS (H 65)

House 8-146, rejected an amendment that would reduce from \$1,200 to \$600 the threshold at which gamblers playing any machines at the state's future casino and slot parlors must temporarily stop gambling and fill out a form with the player's name and address. The casino or slot parlor would keep 5 percent of the winner's winnings for state withholding tax. The threshold under current law is \$600. The supplemental budget raises it to \$1,200. The amendment tries to get it back to \$600.

Supporters of the current \$600 threshold said it was approved in 2011 when casinos and slot parlors were legalized. They argued it should not be changed via a quick supplemental budget without public hearings.

Opponents argued that the \$1,200 threshold makes more sense and is consistent with federal IRS regulations that have the same \$1,200 threshold. They argued that every other state that allows gambling uses the \$1,200 threshold and that keeping an artificially low amount will make Massachusetts casinos less competitive.

(A Yes" vote is for the \$600 threshold. A "No" vote is for the \$1,200.)

Rep. Christine Barber No Rep. Denise Provost No Rep. Timothy Toomey No

HORSE RACING (H 65)

House 33-121, rejected a supplemental budget amendment that would require Suffolk Downs to continue to pay 3 percent of its simulcasting fees to the state's horsemen as is required under current law. The supplemental budget repeals the 3 percent requirement. The amendment tries to reinstate it.

The repeal of the fee was part of the recent agreement between Suffolk Downs and the state's horsemen for Suffolk Downs to lease the racetrack for live racing in 2015-2016. The repeal still needs to be approved by the Legislature and Gov. Baker.

Supporters of keeping the 3 percent fee said repeal will cost the horsemen \$330,000 and devastate them as well as many breeding farms. They argued it is a slippery slope that could lead to other race track owners trying to get out of the 3 percent mandatory tax.

Opponents argued that retaining the 3 percent fee would jeopardize a recent agreement between Suffolk Downs and the horsemen to preserve the region's only thoroughbred horse racing which provides hundreds of jobs and increased economic activity.

(A "Yes" vote is for the 3 percent fee. A "No" vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine Barber No Rep. Denise Provost No Rep. Timothy Toomey No

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

GOV. BAKER ESTABLISHES A TASK FORCE ON CHRONIC UNEMPLOYMENT - Gov. Charlie Baker signed an executive order establishing a task force on Economic Opportunity for Populations Facing Chronically High Rates of Unemployment. The task force would look at the reasons and solutions to high chronic unemployment rates especially among African Americans, Hispanic or Latino Americans, recently returned veterans and people with disabilities.

"These populations continue to see barriers to job growth and employment with an average annual unemployment rate of between 7 and 12 percent, despite the fact that we have an average state unemployment rate that's under 6 percent," said Baker. "And in many of these communities unemployment is nearly double the state average, which is unacceptable."

STATE SENATE CONDEMNS ANTI-SEMI-

TISM - The Senate approved a resolution condemning anti-Semitism and supporting "expanded anti-bias and Holocaust Education programs to increase awareness, counter prejudice and enhance efforts to teach the universal lessons of the Holocaust." The resolutions condemn the rise and spread of anti-Semitism across the world.

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL COSTS EXCEED BUDGET BY \$22 MILLION - The almost record-breaking snow storms have resulted in skyrocketing costs for the state's snow removal efforts. The current cost is \$129.3 million, which is \$22 million over budget. The state is also two weeks behind in paying private vendors for their services. The Legislature is working on a supplemental budget that would provide money to pay the vendors.

FORMER GOV. PATRICK LANDS \$7,500 PER DAY GIG - Erin Murphy, COO of Boston 2024, the group leading the charge to bring the 2024 Olympic games to Boston, announced that former Gov. Deval Patrick has been hired as a \$7,500 per day consultant to help promote the group's efforts.

"Patrick has a passionate voice and unbridled enthusiasm for promoting Boston and Massachusetts to the

Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



world and believes the Olympic and Paralympic games can greatly benefit the Commonwealth," said Murphy. "We are thrilled that he has agreed to help our team ... He will not be a full-time salaried employee but will be compensated based on the amount of his travel and efforts."

QUOTABLE QUOTES - Special Snow Edition

"We are out of cash to pay them." — Frank DePaola, interim general manager of the MBTA, on why the state is two weeks behind in paying private vendors for snow removal.

"[The non-payment to private vendors is] criminal. Let's get them paid." — John Jenkins, chairman of the board of directors for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

"During severe weather, the MBTA may operate reduced service schedules." — The understatement of the winter posted by the MBTA on its website.

"It's been a really tough couple of months for a lot of people who really depend on the [MBTA] system to live their lives, get to work and it's important for the Commonwealth, for the T, to acknowledge that." — Gov. Baker on the MBTA's plan to compensate riders for the delays and cancellations this winter. The plan allows cash-paying customers to ride free on any T vehicle on April 24 and gives a 15 percent discount on monthly T passes purchased for the month of May.

"For folks who missed out on work, folks who really don't earn a whole lot of money, I'm not sure that's going to go far enough. But to be honest, with the kinds of problems that the T has, I wonder if it might be better to spend it on other improvements." — Kim Alleyne, T commuter.

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 legisla-

tion 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 9-13, the House met for a total of five hours and 35 minutes and the Senate met for a total of one hour and 57 minutes.

Mon. March 9 House 11:04 a.m. to 11:11 a.m. Senate 11:02 a.m. to 11:04 a.m.

Tues. March 10 No House session
No Senate session

Wed. March 11 House 11:01 a.m. to 3:17 p.m. No Senate session

Thurs. March 12 House 11:04 a.m. to 12:16 p.m.

Fri. March 13 No House session

No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

Report highlights strategies to combat highway pollutants CONT. FROM PG 1

various ideas for both urban designers and policymakers to consider when aiming to reduce community residents' exposure to traffic-related air pollution in building and development projects. According to the report, exposure to various traffic pollutants, such as fine particulate matter, has been linked to heart disease, lung cancer, asthma, and lung function.

"The report is about our efforts to translate what we know about this issue into policy and practice," said Doug Brugge, PhD, Professor in the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine. Brugge authored the report's section on understanding the health effects of air pollution and was also actively involved as one of the project's key participants.

A significant part of the report focuses the results of an "expert elicitation" charrette – or a planning exercise – that engaged a multidisciplinary group of experts over a 2-day meeting to discuss solutions to minimize the negative health effects of near-roadway and

near-highway air pollution for two communities, one in Boston's Chinatown area and the other one in Somerville. This group of experts consisted of researchers, urban design planners, community members, and architects.

The Somerville site, in particular, is located near the intersection of I-93 and Route 28, which runs along the northeast edge of the site. Those participating in the charette created strategies to reduce pollution at the Somerville site by addressing not just the site of interest but also the

greater surrounding area.

The public health impacts that highways have on current and future Somerville residents are concerning since major highways cross through Somerville. Therefore, this new report aims to educate the broader public on the current efforts to mitigate the burden of traffic pollution in Somerville and the changes that need to be made.

The new report concludes by introducing 11 strategies to reduce community members' exposure to traffic pollution and reduce their risk of adverse

health effects. These strategies range from reducing the noise from traffic or soundproofing to installing land use buffers to separate sources of air pollution to neighborhoods, schools, playgrounds, and other publicly used spaces.

Senate 11:04 a.m. to 12:59 p.m.

Brugge said that he hopes the report "will help raise awareness of this issue especially among planners, designers, and policy people, so that they begin to take into consideration the nearby vehicle pollution that is in their design and urban planning."

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COMMENTARY

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

Studying how we can protect our people from highway pollution



By Joseph A. Curtatone

I am a statistic. I am one of many Somerville residents who face a higher risk for cardiovascular disease because of the car-centric planning that began reshaping our cities in the mid-20th century. We stopped planning for people and started planning for cars, resulting in the construction of I-93 and, near my childhood home on

Prospect Hill, McGrath Highway. Our community eventually fought back and fortunately stopped the construction of the proposed I-695 Inner Belt Expressway—but it was too late to stop the consequences of those earlier poor decisions. More cars began traveling through our community. The traffic jams did not go away. And we saw higher rates of heart disease, asthma and other ailments in people living in the shadows of the highways. We know better now. We're expanding public transit, and we're making it easier and safer to walk and bike in Somerville. That said, I-93 is not going away, and though Mc-Grath will eventually be lowered to become a ground-level boulevard, the cars will still cut through our neighborhoods. Fortunately, a group of dedicated people, including city officials, are working on solutions to protect our residents.

Community Assessment of Freeway Exposure and Health (CAFEH) is a collaborative study led by Tufts University with support from city officials in studying pollution near highway and major roadways in our region. This month they released a new report on the dangers of car pollution in neighborhoods near highways. The report also points to some inventive ways to reduce this health threat. Research has already shown that people living near highways like I-93 and major roadways like McGrath are more likely to develop cardiovascular and respiratory health problems, with those health problems traced back to fine particulate matter. This most recent CAFEH report, funded by the philanthropic Kresge Foundation, narrowed in on ultrafine particulates. Approximately 700 volunteers in Somerville and Chinatown participated in the study, with some providing blood samples, and the preliminary results show that ultrafine particles are ultimately associated with cardiovascular disease risk.

The second part of CAFEH's report is where the work really gets interesting. Designers, urban planners, city officials, public health advocates and others were brought together for a two-day design session last May. The goal: to design ways to mitigate the risk that car pollution and the fine and ultrafine particulates it contains pose to residents who live near highways. Participants designed solutions for Cross Street East in Somerville and a location in Boston's Chinatown neighborhood, with the goal of developing policies and approaches that could be used in near-highway communities anywhere.

Buildings along Cross Street East were designed and situated in such a way to block and redirect pollution away from homes in the neighborhood. Taller commercial and Continued on page 17

The road from Selma extends beyond the horizon



By William C. Shelton

On last Friday's PBS News Hour Judy Woodruff asked Michael Gerson and Mark Shields what the recent racist episode at the University of Oklahoma has to "say about whether we can ever get rid of racism in this country."

Less than satisfied with their answers, I felt like the annoying kid in elementary school who strains his hand as high as possible, intoning, "Call on me. Call on me." Had I been called on, this is what I would have said.

Yes, but we have a long way to go, longer than many of us feel comfortable acknowledging. The journey ahead stretches beyond our ability to see because we are human. It is often difficult to acknowledge this because we are American.

We believe that Americans can accomplish extraordinary things, and we have historical evidence to prove it. Paradoxically, some of the strongest evidence is how far we've already come in eliminating overt racism.

What we have accomplished over the course of my own life is astonishing. We have done much to transform ourselves, and willful self-transformation is simultaneously the God-given potential that distinguishes us from other living creatures and the one that most challenges us in its achievement.

Of course, whether the glass looks half full or half empty depends on whether you're pouring or drinking. If you are one of the aging activists who reunited in Selma on March 7th, the distance that we have come over the 50 years since Bloody Sunday is one that you would have dreamed of achieving, but not realistically expected to traverse by now.

If you are a young African-American man who routinely risks being pulled over for driving-while-Black, or a young African-American woman who risks being shot by police for falling asleep in the front seat of her disabled car, the journey ahead may seem never ending.

As I ease deeper into the geezer stage of my life, Judy Woodruff's question evokes two sets of memories. One is from the Jim Crow South, and the other is from distant countries and cultures.

My mother's people were from coastal Mississippi and Louisiana, though Continued on page 17

Life in the Will by Jimmy Del Ponte

further notice...



I thought I had reached the end of the line back on May 18, 2013 when I tried to say goodbye to this column. Somehow I

got a burst of inspiration and continued writing another 100 or so stories.

I wrote my first article on September 22, 2007. That's more than 375 stories. Wow! It's been a labor of love looking back at the old days of Somerville and sharing what I found.

As I said back in 2013, I wrote about the schools, the old stores, the playgrounds, the beaches we went to, the radio stations we listened to and the TV shows we watched. I touched on the family doc-

tor, our music, holidays, old toys, our first jobs, and our first cars. I wrote about the bars and restaurants we used to frequent and the sub shops and corner stores that we loved. I think I've covered it all, ladies and gentleman. Unless you want to hear about my first college spring break, my appendix operation or my granddaughter's first words, it looks like we have looked back at everything that I think was interesting enough to discuss.

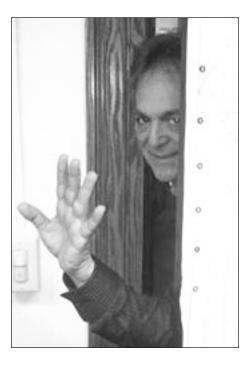
I have been quite flattered by the compliments you have given me when we met at Y-Not Variety or at the Senior Center and even at various supermarkets. I appreciate the fact that you enjoyed what I wrote.

I have no immediate plans to start the

article up again on a weekly basis, but I may submit a story every now and then if I come up with a good idea. And you really have nothing to lose because The Somerville Times is free! The paper is jam packed with all the entertainment news, city happenings, and everything else you could possibly ask for in a local newspaper.

By all means if you get an idea for a story about our great city, please notify me. I can be found at jimmydel@rcn.com and you reach me through snail mail at Jimmy Del Ponte, c/o The Somerville Times, 699 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144. You can also find all of my previous articles by searching The Somerville Times archives.

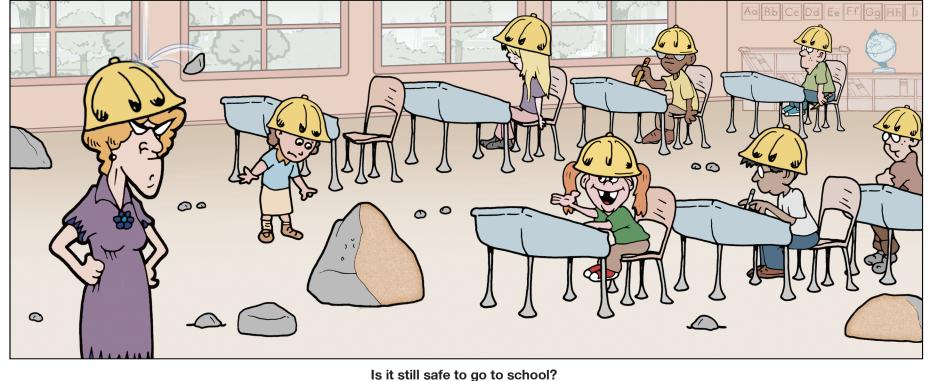
Continued on page 14



COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



The View Of The Times



The horrific collapse of part of the roof at the Brown School last week sent shock waves through the community and served as a wake up call that the structural integrity of some of our public buildings is far from sure and safe.

As blessed luck would have it, no one was in the building at the times of the incident, so personal tragedy was avoided. But that was indeed just a matter of pure

And now, instead of mourning the loss of life or grave personal injury, we can immediately focus on remedies that need to be put into effect.

There will be plenty of time for finger pointing and the laying of blame for what has already happened and what may

come to pass if decisive action is not taken immediately.

For now, the top priority must be making sure that those who occupy these buildings – most particularly our school kids - can do so safely and without fear of injury or fatalities.

Clearly, the overflights of camera-laden drones could not tell the full story of concerning the condition of these buildings, nor were they ever intended to do so. They were but one small step in a larger process that must be taken to completion, now with even more urgency.

The city will undoubtedly do its part, and we must do ours by supporting and encouraging this process through to its ultimate aim, the public good and safety.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Spinosa, who is celebrating 93 years. He lives part time in FLA, but we wish him a Happy Birthday. Several members of his family have joined him down there in FLA to celebrate with him.

The Masonic Open House is coming up on Saturday, April 8 at 125 Highland Ave. (rear) here in the city, from 9 a.m. to 3p.m. The public is welcomed to come and tour the lodge and ask questions about masonry. The Officers of King Solomon's Lodge AF & AM will all be present. Again, the public is encouraged to attend. Over 200 Masonic Lodges throughout Massachusetts are going to be opened. King Solomon's Lodge was chartered in 1783, out of Charlestown, and met for many years at the Warren Tavern and was the lodge that owned the land and built the Bunker Hill Monument in 1794. The lodge has many antiques dating back to the late 1600's to 1700's and mid-1800's. In 1896 the lodge moved to Somerville and, along with John Abbot Lodge and Soley Lodge, built a beautiful large building on the corner of Marshall & Pearl (an auto repair shop is there now). The building housed those three lodges and some Masonic related organizations until the fire in 1969 destroyed the property. King

Solomon's Lodge is the only surviving lodge left in Somerville. In the 1980's there were 5 lodges here in the city. King Solomon's bought 125 Highland Ave. in 1987 and still owns it, together with The Independent Lodge, which is a newly charted Portuguese/Brazilian speaking lodge. It's kind of cool that one of Masonry's oldest Masonic Lodges is meeting in the same place along with one of Masonry's youngest/newest lodges. Truly, both lodges are very active and vibrant in membership and diversity, matching the city of Somerville today.

Local city wide elections are on for this year, and soon the process will begin with the election department giving out nomination papers for the various candidates who are running and who might consider running. We heard so far two candidates in Ward 3 for School Board, Valdo Meneses and Lee Palmer, who probably has the edge in Ward 3. She's the former campaign manager for Rep. Denise Provost. In Ward 4 we heard that lifelong resident and well-known Bobby Potaris is going to jump in the race for School Board member. He recently became a father. In Ward 6 we hear names coming to us lately, but we can't believe that no one is going to run for the School Board

there. We heard that Ward 1 Alderman Matt McLaughlin, who really moved to Ward 1 so he could run for the office, just might have one lifelong east Somerville resident who is thinking about it. No name for mayor other than, of course, our popular Mayor Joe Curtatone, who by the way is the longest serving mayor in Somerville's history. It must be all those road races we have or the low taxes. He's sure is a popular guy! Don't forget all the jobs being created by City Hall over the past few years. We still love the one called Constituent Service Director at over \$100K, and Maintenance Director hired at one salary and then raised within a month on the job!

As we have seen here many times over the years, when something is going to change so called neighborhood groups pop up everywhere and claim immediately to speak for all. Remember the group responsible for stalling development at Assembly? Several new groups are arising out of the Union Square area, calling themselves by different names. Our city is small enough that all parts of the city and everyone across the various neighborhoods should be interested in what is going to happen in Union Square. We're going to watch the various

groups and hopefully we don't get another stall group like the ones that halted construction at Assembly Square for many years, costing the city millions in potential tax revenue. Assembly Square now has rentals for one bedroom at \$2100 a month and two bedrooms are now 3K a month. Other than the low income units there, do you know anyone living there paying that rent? You ever notice that the favorite term of late from politicians is "affordable housing?" What is the current definition of that? Like the development headed by SCC at Saint Polycarp Village, where we heard a rumor that not only was it built by unions, its current occupants are not former Somerville residents.

Some members of the Board of Alderman are once again proposing legislation that would limit developers from contributing to local campaigns. We think instead of making it a limit, why not have it so that no developer can contribute any monies to anyone's campaign? That would apply to all elected officials here in the city. Why don't we make sure that these boards like ZBA, Planning and Redevelopment boards have term limits? One five year term and you're off that board. Maybe since we're on the Continued on page 11

Ras na hEireann

USA 5K 2015

The Ras na hEireann USA 5K Irish race took place on Sunday, March 15, beginning and ending in Davis Square in Somerville.

Runners from near and far participated in the race, as well as the celebrations both before and after the main event.

Many donned colorful Irishthemed costumes to make the day all the more festive.

Additionally, the Ras na hEireann U.S.A. 5Km, sponsored by Marathon Sports, MIZUNO & Harpoon Brewery made several donations to Somerville schools sports programs over the course of the weekend.

A donation of \$3500 was made to the Somerville High School Football Team at Somerville High School on Friday. Receiving the donation were Somerville High School Athletic Director Nicole Viele and two members of the Somerville High School Football Team.

Somerville Track PAC also received a donation for \$5,000 at Saturday's Olde Magoun Saloon running bib and tee pickups. Accepting for the Somerville High Track Team were coaches Charlie O'Rourke, Dave Dickerson and JV runner Andre James.

Somerville High School Boys and Girls Soccer Team was awarded \$3,000 by the organization on Monday. The team has been involved with the road race for 6 years now and are active volunteer participants, welcoming people in the morning and then passing out finisher medals and bottled water at the finish line to all runners and walkers.

























Top 10 Finishers:						
Place	Time	Name	Age	Gender	Number	City/State
1	15:15	David Wilson	24	M	3251	Brookline Ma
2	15:15	Adam Pacheck	23	M	3186	Brighton Ma
3	15:37	Matthew Hillard	25	M	3574	Somerville Ma
4	15:44	Scott Mindel	28	M	1300	New London Ct
5	16:14	Lyle O'Brien	23	M	1414	Medford Ma
6	16:18	Michael Carlone	23	M	3031	Waltham Ma
7	16:47	Sean Prinz	30	M	3438	Wantagh Ny
8	16:51	Todd Callaghan	45	M	217	Somerville Ma
9	17:29	Hirut Beyenne Guangal	22	F	4010	Ethipoia
10	17:30	Christopher Chidley	33	M	3036	Cambridge Ma

SPORTS

Prospect Hill Academy Lady Wizards finish 2nd in tournament

By Rebecca Danvers

The MCSAO Championship Tournament took place this past weekend on the University of Massachusetts, Boston Harbor Campus with the quarter-finals match-ups on Friday night, the semi-finals on Saturday and the championship match on Sunday morning. Three-time defending MCSAO Champion, KIPP Academy, advanced to this year's championship game with convincing early round wins over Foxborough Regional (59-41) and Boston Collegiate (60-25).

The Prospect Hill Academy Lady Wizards, North regular season co-champion with KIPP, also gained a spot in the finals.

Prospect Hill opened tournament play with a 45-40 win over the South League's Academy of the Pacific Rim.

On Saturday morning in the first semi-final of the day, the Lady Wizards were matched up against Edward M. Kennedy Health Careers. Prospect Hill was on the winning side of a 46-42 final score and had earned the right to play KIPP Academy in Sunday's MCSAO Championship Game.

Prospect Hill had six players score in the game, but also had almost 26 turnovers that and 18 missed free throws which resulted in KIPP garnering a fourth consecutive championship and Prospect Hill finishing the season on the losing end of a 51-47 score. At the end of the game the Prospect Hill Academy Lady Wizards collected their second tournament runner-up trophy in two years.



Your 2015 Prospect Hill Academy Lady Wizards.



In season, Irish Film Festival comes to CONT. FROM PG 1

Somerville

includes director Niall Heery's dark comedy Gold, starring James Nesbitt and Maisie Williams of Game of Thrones fame. Kicking off the program on Thursday at 7:30 p.m., this is the pick for the festival's Best Feature. Also showing is Oscar nominated short film Boogaloo and Graham, a story from Northern Ireland of two young brothers and the baby chicks that they have vowed to keep and raise themselves.

A centerpiece for the festival is Irish Times' pick for Best Irish Film of 2014, One Million Dubliners, which explores the Glasnevin Cemetery and the unexpected business of death. Another Oscar nominee is An Bronntanas (The Gift), a thriller that was Ireland's 2015 entry and the festival's 2015 Special Jury Prize winner. The story follows the dramatic lives of a local lifeboat crew and weaves languages along with the plot. Movies that showcase Irish music are a regular feature of the festival, as is a grand finale on Sunday.

Tickets are \$15 for opening

night (\$14 in advance) and \$11 for all other screenings. An All-Access Festival Pass can be purchased for \$85, which allows access to all screenings and receptions. Visit www. irishfilmfestival.com for the full program listing.

Ms. Cam's 110 scellaneous #466 Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous

- mixture, hodgepodge 1. What is the longest
- side of a right-angled triangle, the side opposite of the right angle called?
- 2. What's the word for the species of fig trees?
- 3. West Side Story is based on what Shakespearean play?
- 4. What is the mathematical relationship between 12 and 144?
- 5. What color are Sponge Bob's square pants?
- 6. What were the Little Rascals called before they were syndicated for

for TV in 1952?

- 7. When a dart player wins three legs out of five match what did he win?
- 8. Is the claw of the hammer a lever, wedge, or
- 9. What makes a water spout destructive when it hits land?
- 10. Who painted The Starry Night?
- 11. Histology is the study of what?
- 12. What's a Texas Tur-

Answers on page 23

APARTMENT RENTALS

COLONY REAL ESTATE

1258 Broadway, Somerville

Somerville, Arlington, Cambridge -All Areas-

617-776-0044

colony.re@rcn.com

Until further notice... **CONT. FROM PG 10**

A special thanks to Bobbie Toner and Donald Norton for all their help and friendship.

So if you see me around the city please say hello. And thank you for all your support. It's been

a pleasure talking to you every week. Take care, and I hope to see you soon.

Snow removal still a long, ongoing process



Snow removal crews and their heavy equipment are still out there doing their best to clean up our streets, sidewalks and parking lots. Let's hope they get it done before next winter. — Photo by Claudia Ferro

Kids honor the legacy of Rosa Parks



Kids at the East Somerville Community School recently took part in a performance commemorating Black History Month. They sang in honor of civil rights icon Rosa Parks.

— Photo by Claudia Ferro

Majestic visitor to East Somerville



A beautiful wild hawk has been spotted frequenting all the high points of East Somerville in recent weeks.

— Photo by Claudia Ferro

What's on Somerville Neighborhood News

Here is one latest news headline from Somerville Neighborhood News:

Homeless Does Not Mean Helpless by Yuxiao Yuan

A lost full-time job left Francesca Marchese on the brink of homelessness. But the St. Patrick's Homeless Shelter at Union Square eases her concerns, where she not only gets a bed to sleep on, but can also take a warm shower and have fresh food.

"I always have a bed to come back," Marchese told Somerville Neighborhood News (SNN). "I have a roof over my head, which was my biggest concern. And that's what the shelter gives me."



The St. Patrick's Homeless Shelter of Catholic Charities, a social services provider, houses 32 emergency beds and 10 single bedrooms of its transitional housing program. As a part-time cashier for Panera Bread, Marchese is eligible for the transitional program, which requires the residents to work at least 30 hours a week.

Besides a roof over their heads, the residents also receive budget management service to help them become self-sufficient one day. For instance, they have to put one third of their income toward future housing cost, according to Nancy Kavanagh, the director for St. Patrick's shelter.

"There is a lot of loss that leads up to people's homelessness. It's not just necessarily that we put you back to the beds and everything will be ok," Kavanagh told *SNN*. "We put them in a position where when you move back to housing, you are not going back to the same situation."

For this full story and other news segments, visit www.somervilleneighborhoodnews. org and stay updated with our social media @SCATVSNN.

ATTENTION HOME BUYERS

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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Somerville, MA.

PLANNING DIVISION LEGAL NOTICE

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Planning Board on Thursday, April 2, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers on the Second Floor of Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue,

OF PUBLIC HEARING

39R Medford Street: (Case #PB 2014-32) Applicant, Bell Atlantic Mobile of Massachusetts Corporation, Ltd., d/b/a Verizon Wireless, LLC and Owner, Sure Lock Building Trust, seeks a Special Permit under SZO §7.13.I in order to modify an existing wireless facility to include an interior electronics room, generator with conduit, HVAC condensers, GPS antenna, and related equipment. TOD 100. Ward 2.

Copies of these applications and amendments are available for review in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30 pm; and Fri, 8:30 am-12:30 pm; and at www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning. As cases may be continued to later dates, please check the agenda on the City's website or call before attending. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide comments to the Planning Board at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to OSPCD, Planning Division, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; by fax to 617-625-0722; or by email to planning@somervil-

Attest: Kevin Prior, Chairman To be published in The Somerville Times on 3/18/15 & 3/25/15.

3/18/15 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, April 1, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

120 Washington Street: (Case #ZBA 2015-11) Applicant, Mark Food Enterprises, and Owners, ITS Realty, LLC, seek a Variance for parking relief to expand the restaurant seating count. IA Zone. Ward 1.

Copies of these applications are available for review in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30 pm; and Fri, 8:30 am-12:30 pm; and at www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning. As cases may be continued to later dates, please check the agenda on the City's website or call before attending. Continued cases will not be re-advertised. Interested persons may provide comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals at the hearing or by submitting written comments by mail to OSPCD, Planning Division, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143; by fax to 617-625-0722; or by email to dpereira@somervillema.gov.

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant

As published in The Somerville Times on 3/18/15 & 3/25/15.

3/18/15 The Somerville Times

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subject, let's go all the way and have the Alderman vote in term limits for Alderman, School Board members and the Mayor? Everyone is for transparency in government. Now let's see who on the Board will propose these changes as well.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

Happy 33rd Anniversary to our friends at Victors Deli in Ball Square. What an awesome place. Everyone loves the place and the always friendly smiles of both Rosa and Victor, along with Nancy and new son in law Jason. A great place, great food and great people. What more can you ask for? If you're not a customer yet – and we find that hard to believe – try it out. You'll be back for more. Again, happy 33rd and lots more to come.

Ward 7 Alderman Katjana Ballantyne, Ward 7 School Committee member Carrie Normand, and 34th Middlesex District Representative Christine Barber will be holding joint open offices hours on Saturday, March 21, 3:30-5 p.m. at Angelina's Pizzaria, 230 Holland St., Teele Square. Ask your questions, and share your issues, and ideas.

Learn about Somerville High School's Center for Career and Technical Education programs at the 2015 CTE Vocational Fair on Saturday, March 21st. Guests will get an inside look at the CTE's 13 trade programs, and have

an opportunity to participate in handson activities. The day's events include tours led by CTE Student Ambassadors. Somerville High School's CTE programs are preparing students for success beyond high school, using the latest technology and the most cutting-edge techniques. Stop in on March 21 between 9:00 a.m. and noon to find out more. Free and open to the public.

****** The Duhamel Education Initiative (DEI) invites you to its annual spring fundraiser, the 19th Annual Pancake Breakfast, Saturday, March 28, at the First Church Somerville, 89 College Ave. Each year, the Pancake Breakfast has proven to be a great social affair whose proceeds support a number of special programs for Somerville Public Schools students; suggested donations are \$10 for adults, \$9 for seniors and \$5 for children 10 and under. The Pancake Breakfast also offers an opportunity to meet and sample the excellent culinary skills of Somerville's School Committee. Breakfast will be prepared and served by School Committee members. Reservations for this event are not required. Stop in and bring family and friends. For information about this and other DEI events, and ways you can support the Duhamel Education Initiative, vis-

it www.duhameleducationinitiative.

org<http://www.duhameleduca-

tioninitiative.org.

Youth Summit: The Youth Summit will bring together youth leaders, youth workers, and others from the communities of Somerville, Arlington, Belmont, Cambridge, Waltham and Watertown, who are invested in creating impact for positive change around youth issues. The evening includes food, music, resources, solutions, best practices, building connections, and prizes. 5-8:30 p.m. at the Dante Alighieri Italian Cultural Center, 41 Hampshire Street in Cambridge. For information contact Heang Ly (heang@teenempowerment.org<mailto:heang@teenempowerment. org>). Co-sponsored by CHNA 17 and Teen Empowerment.

Guns 'n Hoses 11th Annual Hockey Game: Support Somerville Youth Hockey! Come on down to the Somerville Rink on Saturday, March 21 at 7:00 p.m. and watch Somerville's Police and Firefighters compete on the ice. A \$5.00 donation is suggested. All monies raised will be donated to Somerville Youth Hockey. See you there!

****** March 28, 2015 from 6:00-10:00 p.m. - Wig and 'Stache Bash: Line up a babysitter, wear a wig and/or mustache, and join the fun at the Wig and 'Stache Bash at Cuisine en Locale, 156

Highland Ave. in Somerville. Proceeds from this fundraiser will support offsite learning programs for the Healey School. Food from local vendors and restaurants will be served. This is a 21+ event. Dinner and drinks starting at 6 p.m., 'wig out dance party with DJ' starting at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance/\$30 at the door. Advance tickets can be purchased at https://www. eventbrite.com/e/wig-and-stache-

Somerville Little League: 2015 online registration is now open. Register today at www.somervillelittleleague. org<http://www.somervillelittleleague.org>. 42 Cross Street, Somerville, MA 02145. Phone: 617.629.5221 Internal office extension: 6013.

bash-tickets-15952745090.

The Tufts University Department of Music presents The Art of the Fugue in Color, a performance by the performance faculty harpsichordist Frances Conover Fitch, Arcadia Viols, and guest artists, in the Distler Performance Hall at the Perry and Marty Granoff Music Center on Sunday, March 29, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. The artists reveal the stunning architecture of J.S. Bach's last masterpiece in the varied colors of early instruments, including strings, winds, and keyboards. This concert is presented as part of the Sunday at Tufts - Community Concert Series.

Community health survey launched

By Rebecca Danvers

Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA), a comprehensive academic community health system that serves Cambridge, Somerville, Everett, Malden, Medford, Revere, Chelsea, and Winthrop, has launched a community health survey as part of a comprehensive effort to develop a strategic plan for how CHA will deliver care in the future.

CHA is committed to improving the health of its patients and communities, with special expertise in caring for low-income and vulnerable populations. The survey gives residents an opportunity to share what they value about CHA and offer suggestions for improvement. It will give CHA valuable feedback about community health needs, gaps in services, and access issues and barriers.

All community members are encouraged to take the survey, which is available in multiple languages (posted here – https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JZ6ZFF3). CHA has also distributed it to the mayors and elected officials in its service area as well as numerous community partners, agencies, and organizations.

"Serving the community is at the heart of what we do," said Mary Cassesso, CHA's chief community officer. "Hearing directly from those who live and work in our communities will help us ensure we are providing the programs and services that best meet their needs."

The survey will be available until March 27. CHA plans to present the results and solicit more input at community events this spring.

Dialoging at Business Town Meeting X **CONT. FROM PG 3**

O'Keefe brought up the difficulty of opening small businesses in Somerville. "I'm still hearing that it's difficult to open a small business here in the City of Somerville," she said. "I'm wondering if it's safe to say the inspectional services are still a work in progress, and we still have a little ways to go?"

Curtatone said he was seeing dozens of businesses opening up in Somerville, but had heard mostly positive feedback. He also applauded the method that the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OS-

PCD) had adopted to allow more small businesses to move in to the city.

Tom Bent, of the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), mentioned the MBTA's failure to provide local residents comprehensive transit services during the recent storms. He said the critics complained that the money being invested in the Green Line Extension should be put into the repair of the trains instead.

"What I believe will carry the day is what has always carried the day," Curtatone said in response to Bent's question. "It's

the economic facts: net new jobs, net new tax revenue, billions of dollars in the Massachusetts economy."

Partly sponsored by Middlesex Federal Savings, the annual Business Town Meeting X also provided Somerville business owners with an opportunity to network at the reception.

"The business community has a wide range of issues, such as public safety, education and the quality of life," Mackey said. "The meeting helps the dialogues between the mayor and the business community, so the mayor can have a sense of what their concerns are."



Studying how we can protect our people from highway pollution

CONT. FROM PG 10

light industrial buildings were placed next to the highway to help block particulates. "Green walls" of trees and grass further separated those commercial buildings from the highway, and finally a 25-foot barrier provided further insulation between the highway and neighborhood. On top of blocking and redirecting pollution, strategic placement of ventilation ducts for the buildings also reduced any particulates that could be taken in by air inlets, which would also be equipped with filters.

Meanwhile, existing homes in the neighborhood could further be protected from pollution through a city program that would provide assistance to homeowners for upgrades to windows, air ventilation and filtration systems—just as we provide assistance now to homeowners for lead abatement and energy efficiency upgrades. And while the design session focused on Cross Street East, the participants couldn't help but notice that Foss Park was exposed to pollutants from both I-93 and McGrath. For Foss, they designed a continuous berm (a raised, sloped grass-covered hill) that would run around the park to shield it from traffic-related pollutants, provide seating for sporting events and serve as an elevated path. A band shell at the intersection of Mystic Avenue and McGrath Highway would provide even more protection for people using the park.

These are potential solutions that cross disciplines and city departments—from planning and zoning, to housing and infrastructure.

A single solution does not exist. but if we can continue to examine the challenges we face from a holistic perspective, using a wide-angle lens, we can develop solutions that would have a tremendous positive impact on the quality of life for the roughly 38,000 Somerville residents who live within environmental justice zones, meaning they shoulder a disproportionate burden of environmental impacts caused by traffic and industry.

A study released last year by

the University of Minnesota concluded that non-white people inhale 38 percent higher levels of air pollution than whites-and the fourth highest disparity is in Greater Boston. As we plan for our community's future together, we cannot and should not measure our success only by what we build, but rather by the health and quality of life of our people. The work done by the CAFEH study and all who work on this collaboration is a tremendous contribution toward helping us make that a reality.

The road from Selma extends beyond the horizon **CONT. FROM PG 10**

my immediate family lived in the far West. Because we were poor, we were not able to visit her extended family until I was ten years old. On the second morning of the trip I woke up when the Greyhound stopped at an East Texas bus station.

I looked out the window and things seemed frighteningly wrong, like Bizzaro World in the comic books that I treasured, but more hateful. It wasn't just that I could see separate water fountains and lunchroom entrances. Or that the ones that read "Colored" were shabbier than the ones that read "White." It was the people.

They looked so different from those in the integrated neighborhood where we lived. I didn't have words at the time like "demeanor," or "posture," or "facial expression in repose." Remembering the Black folks that I saw that morning, I would today use words like "wary," "painfully self controlled," "hypervigilant," and whatever the opposites of "playful" and "spontaneous" are.

Remembering the White folks, I still don't have the words. But I can tell you that

what I beheld scared and confused me. When I turned to my mother for reassurance, she would not look at me, or out the window. The words that I would now give to what I saw in her would be "shame," "uncertainty," "confusion," perhaps "guilt," and deep discomfort.

I didn't now how to name what I myself was feeling, or what to say to my mother, or questions to ask, so I remained silent. It a loss of innocence that continued as I was exposed to her family's casual contempt for people different from them and ignorance that was flagrant, even to a ten-year-old. I never spoke out, and I never again felt safe on

In recent years when travelling through the South, I have not witnessed hyper-vigilant and wary, or playful and spontaneous, or sullen and defiant demeanors arrayed along racial lines. And the extent to which I see people of all cultures and colors comfortable in their own skin is, for me, a measure of how far we have, or have not, come.

When I visit other countries,

I enjoy spending time with their citizens who are mostly well-meaning people of goodwill, as are Americans. But the more extensively I've travelled, the more persuaded I am that no other people could have emerged from slavery's residue as far and as fast as my countrymen have. It makes me proud of America.

I was listening to Tom Ashbrook interview John Ridley last Thursday when I had another smart-ass-kid moment. Ridley is a screenwriter whose work includes "Fresh Prince," "12 Years a Slave," and now, "American Crime."

He expressed a belief that the kind of "more real" stories that he prefers to tell can now meet with commercial success because Americans are becoming more mature. A zealous young man called in with a speech disguised as a question. He asserted that we are maturing because incidents like the Sigma Alpha Epsilon racist chant or shootings of unarmed Black youth are increasingly in our faces.

Ridley gave him a nice, but I thought unresponsive, answer. As the Selma marchers taught us, being nice can get in the way of being good. My response would have been this.

No. The incidents that you describe are more likely to polarize us than to heal our estrangement from ourselves and each other. Maturity involves not acting on impulse, considering our impact on others, examining differing viewpoints, forming our own, taking the long view, and deferring gratification to achieve our goals.

We are maturing as a people because three generations of us have spent time living, working, studying, playing, fighting, and knowing each other. Many, if not most, of us have blessedly caught glimpses through the eyes of people who are different from us, whether by sharing their popular culture, or deciding together on actions requiring mutual participation, or just cohabiting.

Once we have experienced another's reality, we can never completely return to the one we began with. We learn that no one person or culture or class is always right. We discover more

to the world than we imagined. And we are empowered to trust the authenticity of our own experience rather than mindlessly obey others' dictates.

Slavery was our nation's original sin, written into our Constitution. But in pursuing the founders' ideals toward their full expression, we have banished slavery, banished Jim Crow, and become more developed as people.

If we continue this pursuit, we will increasingly find that racism's deforming mutilations are inextricably bound up with an increasingly invidious economic inequality. We cannot move beyond either without moving beyond the other.

Dr. King foresaw this and turned his attention to the struggle for economic justice. He died while supporting a 1968 sanitary workers' strike.

When we consider that 1968 was the year that Americans were the least economically unequal since we've been collecting valid data, the road ahead seems daunting. But if we teach our children well, they will keep on keeping on.

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

CHILDREN AND YOUTH Wednesday | March 18

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

Central Library

Middle School Writers' Den Alan Ball-617 636-9033 6 p.m.-6:30 p.m.|79 Highland

Thursday | March 19

Central Library

Preschool: Storytime for 3 to 5 year

10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m.|79 Highland

Friday | March 20

Central Library

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

East Branch Library

Fun Friday withThe Music Man! Meghan Forsell-617-623-5000 x2970 11 a.m.-12 p.m.|115 Broadway

Saturday | March 21

Central Library

Gothic Victorian Tales by Candlelight: Weird Tales by Sarah Orne Jewett Ellen lacobs-617-623-5000 x2914 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Monday | March 23

Central Library

Sing-along with Fred Griffeth 11 a.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Tuesday|March 24

Central Library

Homeschool Reading Group for Ages 11-13 Tammy McKanan 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m.|79 Highland

Avenue **West Branch Library**

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

Wednesday | March 25

East Branch Library Preschool: Storytime

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

Central Library

Middle School Writers' Den Alan Ball-617 636-9033 6 p.m.-6:30 p.m.|79 Highland

MUSIC ARTS Wednesday | March 18

Katrina (ex katrina & The Waves) 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Free Poker, lots of prizes! 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room

Exile on Elm Back Room

Comedy@10 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

On The Hill Tavern 499 Broadway 617-629-5302

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's Pub The Nephrok All Stars

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Joshua Tree Bar & Grill Pub Trivia

8:30 p.m.|256 Elm Street|(617) 623-

Arts at the Armory **Blood Drive**

2 p.m.|Performance Hall Youth Arts Arise: Primary Portraits 3:30 p.m.|Mezzanine Boston Music Collaborators Open Mic 7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Thursday|March 19

Johnny D's

Bill Blumenreich Presents:Kurt Braun-

Double Afropop discount tix - save \$5! Thurs March 19: SambaLolo/Lilla/ DJ + Thurs March 26: Markus James/ Balla Kouyate

Afropop Night: Boubacar Diabate & SambaLolo + Lilla + DJ Afro-Marc 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

lack Gracel9 p.m.

Nancy Hewitt with Michael Bean 7:30 p.m. Hillbilly Holiday, The Weisstronauts,

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room

Acoustic/Bluegrass|9:30 p.m. Back Room

Scattershot

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

On The Hill Tavern

Live DI Music 499 Broadway|617-629-5302

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's Dub Down Reggae

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Somerville Theatre Awkward Compliment's Thursday Night Comedy Night

8 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Arts at the Armory Castle of Comedy 7:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Friday | March 20

Johnny D's

The Smithereens|The Rationales|Watts 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

Larry Flint & The Road Scholars |6

New Million Box, Spongy, Steve Walther Orchestra | 9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room

Irish Session|9:30 p.m.

Back Room

Ripcord

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

10 p.m.|65 Holland St

On The Hill Tavern

499 Broadway |617-629-5302

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

DJ starting at 10 p.m.

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Bull McCabe's DI Jeff Wallace

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Joshua Tree

DJ McRiddleton

256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Samba Bar & Grille

Live music

9 p.m.|608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Casey's

Entertainment every Friday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Arts at the Armory

Richard Cambridge's Poetry Theatre 7:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Saturday | March 21

Johnny D's lazz Brunch

Beatlejuice (Beatles Covers)

17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

Kevin & The Byrneouts |6 p.m. One Thin Dime |9 p.m.

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Back Room Fightin Fridays

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar Karaoke

65 Holland St

On the Hill Tavern Live DJ Music

499 Broadway|617-629-5302 **Bull McCabe's**

Mc Kabir

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

DJ El Sid!

Joshua Tree

256 Elm St. |617-623-9910 Samba Bar & Grille

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

Entertainment every Saturday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Arts at the Armory

The Two Ricks 10:30 a.m.|Café

David Johnston

1 p.m.|Café Collective Measures with The Pow! Arrangers

4:30 p.m.|Cafe A Night of Music with Jennifer Mat-

thews & Bellwire 7:30 p.m.lCafé Boston Indie Mafia's Hobnob & Social

6:30 p.m.|Performance Hall|191

Sunday | March 22

Johnny D's

Highland Ave

Jazz Brunch Open Blues Jam! featuring Matthew

Smart Band 17 Holland St. 617-776-2004

Amy Kucharik & friends |7:30 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

Sally O'Brien's Bar

The Burren

Front Room Sunday Americana with Sean Staples, Eric Royer, Tim Gearan, Dave Westner

and Dan Keller 7 p.m. **Back Room**

Dervish - Two Shows! Brunch Show @ 1:30pm Second Show @ 4:30pm 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Bull McCabe's Pub Dub Apocalypse

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen

Sunday Brunch Live Country & Bluegrass Sunday Night Live Music

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131 Orleans Restaurant and Bar

Game Night 65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Samba Bar & Grille Live Band & DJ

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Arts at the Armory Afternoon Song Circle

2 p.m.|Café

Cafe Raqs 7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Monday | March 23

Johnny D's Comedy Showcase Presents: Tight 5 Stump! Pub Trivia|8:30 p.m. 17 Holland St | 617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar Shawn Cater's Cheapshots Comedy

Jam |7 p.m. Marley Mondays with The Duppy Conquerors 10 p.m.

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room

Bur-Run Helena Delaney, Johnny O'Leary & Friends Irish Session|9 p.m.

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

Bull McCabe's Pub

Stump! Team Trivia 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Arts at the Armory Somerville Skillshare 6 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday March 24

Johnny D's

MassMouth Presents: Story Slam Semi-finals Season 6 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Danielle Miraglia & The Glory Junkies |7:30 p.m.

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room 8:30pm - Jason Anick and the Swingers Swing/Jazz Back Room

8:00pm Open Mic w/ Hugh Mc-Gowan 247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

On The Hill Tavern

Stump Trivia (with prizes) 499 Broadway|617-629-5302

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

Highland Kitchen First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling Bee Night

hosted by Victor and Nicole of Egoart.

The fun starts at 10:00p.m.

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131 Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177 PJ Ryan's Pub Quiz

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

Arts at the Armory Youth Arts Arise: Stop-Motion Animation 3:30 p.m.|Mezzanine

Pub Sing at the Armory Cafe 7 p.m.| Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Wednesday | March 25

Johnny D's MassMouth Presents: Story Slam Semi-finals Season 6

17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

The Burren Front Room Exile on Elm

Back Room Comedy@10

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896 On The Hill Tavern 499 Broadway|617-629-5302

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

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

Highland Kitchen 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131 Samba Bar & Grille

Arts at the Armory

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177 Joshua Tree Bar & Grill

Pub Trivia 8:30 p.m.|256 Elm Street|(617) 623-9910

Youth Arts Arise: Primary Portraits

3:30 p.m.|Mezzanine Animatic Boston 7:30 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

CLASSES AND GROUPS Wednesday | March 18

Third Life Studio

Belly Dance performance preparation with Nadira Jamal 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|Level 3|33 Union

Sq|www.nadirajamal.com Thursday | March 19

Central Library

Dr. Alice LoCicero, author of Why 'Good Kids' Turn Into Deadly Terror-

Samantha Lien

7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.| 79 Highland Avenue West Branch Library

Learn English at the Library! (Session 1)6 .m.-7 p.m.

(Session 2)7:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. 40 College Avenue First Church Somerville Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems

with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30

For more info call: 781-762-6629

p.m.|89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor).

Friday | March 20

Saturday | March 21

Arts at the Armory

Central Library

Lotterv Vicki Wairi-617.625.6600 x 2588 10 a.m.-10:30 a.m.|79 Highland

Affordable Housing Opportunity

9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Holland St

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

Somerville Winter Farmers' Market

Sunday | March 22 **Central Library**

Massachusetts Birds of Prey

2 p.m.-2:45 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue **Unity Church of God** Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon

7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street Enter upstairs, meeting is in base-

Family Groups

Third Life Studio Discover Belly Dance with Nadira

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.|33 Union

Sq|www.nadirajamal.com Monday | March 23

Learn English at the Library!

East Branch Library

(Session 1)6 .m.-7 p.m. (Session 2)7:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. 115 Broadway

Tuesday | March 24 **Central Library** Learn English at the Library! 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.| 79 Highland

Arts at the Armory

7 p.m.|Mezzanine|191 Highland Ave

Prenatal Yoga

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

Wednesday | March 25 **Central Library**

Bereavement Support Group Dave Ouemere

781-455-6661 x 4079 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.|79 Highland

Third Life Studio Belly Dance performance preparation

with Nadira Jamal 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|Level 3|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

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

All clubs and groups welcome new members.

Holland Street: 167 Holland Street Monday through Friday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

617-625-6600 Ext. 2300

Cross Street Center: 165 Broadway Tuesday & Wednesday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

(617) 625-6600 Ext. 2335

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

The award winning Fit-4-Life Program is coming to our Cross Street Center – 165 Broadway – Starting in March – A unique combination of exercise and nutritional support opportunity under the direct supervision of a certified exercise trainer and participate in individual and group counseling with a nutritionist. The cost to you is \$10.- a month that gives you access to fitness & nutritional Fit-4-Life classes each week. Limited scholarships are available – Need more information? Please contact Chris Kowaleski our Health & Wellness Coordinator at 617-625-6600, ext. 2315 or email him at CKowaleski@somervillema.gov This is for older adults 55+ Space is limited so sign up early!

Just Make Something – Tuesday, March 24 – 6:00 P.M. at our Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway. This is a hands-on art workshop with Artist Miranda Aisling Hynes. Turning basic art & recycled materials into non-traditional art. There is a \$4.00 fee for materials. For additional information and to sign up for the workshop, please contact Janine Lotti at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300.

Mohegan Sun, Uncasville, CT – Monday, March 30 – Check in time: 8:00 A.M. at Holland Street and 8:15 at the Ralph & Jenny Center with an approximate return time of 8:00 P.M. – A \$25.- fee includes transportation, \$10.- food coupon and \$10.- free bet / Please contact Connie at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300 to reserve your spot.

Somerville's All City Band – Tuesday, March 31 – 3:00 P.M. at our Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway. Please join Rosemary Sears and Richard Romanoff and talented musicians representing all of Somerville's elementary schools as they present a wide variety of selections you are sure to enjoy. This is a free event. Please contact Janine Lotti at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300 for additional information or to register.

Painting to Music – Monday, April 13 – 10:00 A.M. at our Holland Street Center located at 167 Holland Street. Connect with your creative side. Learn more about the benefits of mindfulness. Music will assist in creating a focus and a way to express connection to pleasant memories and thoughts. This is a free workshop. Please contact Janine Lotti at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300 for more information or to register.

Adult Day Health – Tuesday, April 21st – 6:00 to 7:30 P.M. at our Holland Street Center – The 2nd in a 4 part series on "Caregiver Education" – Guest speaker, Denise Thorud from the Windsor House Adult Day Health – workshop will cover an overview of adult day health services as well as suggestions and tips. This event is open to the public – to register for this event please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300

Twin Rivers Casino, Lincoln, RI – Monday, April 27 –

Check in time: 9:30 A.M. at Holland Street and 9:45 A.M. at the Ralph & Jenny Center with an approximate return time of 7:00 P.M. – A \$25.- fee includes motorcoach transportation & a yet to be determined package. RSVP to Connie at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300.

Caregiver & Respite Services – Tuesday, July 21st – 6:00 – 7:00 P.M. at our Holland Street Center – This is the last in a 4 part series on "Caregiver Education" – This will explain the nuances of caregiver and respite care services presented by Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services. Guest speaker Colleen Morrissey - to register for this event please call 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

PLEASE NOTE THAT IF THE CITY CALLS A SNOW EMERGENCY AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED THE SCOA WILL ALSO BE CLOSED AND ALL PROGRAMS, GROUPS, EXERCISE CLASSES & EVENTS SCHEDULED FOR THAT DAY WILL BE CANCELLED.

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

The trip to the **Boston Flower & Garden Show** scheduled for March 12 is SOLD OUT.

The St. Patrick's Day Celebration at the WHYC scheduled for Thursday, March 19th is SOLD OUT.

The trip scheduled to Wildwood, NJ on May 11th – 15th is SOLD OUT. But we have added a second bus and it is filling up fast. Only 13 seats left! Please call Connie at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300 to reserve your seat.

LGBT EVENTS

LGBT Monthly Lunch – Monday, April 13 – 11:30 A.M. at our Holland Street Center. Hot & Cold lunch options available – food provided by Somerville Cambridge Elder services – suggested donation of \$2.00. RSVP required by 2:30 P.M. Thursday, April 9th. Please contact Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2316 or MBastardi@Somervillema.gov This event happens the 2nd Monday of every month excluding City Holidays and snow emergencies.

LGBT Advisory Group – Monday, April 13th - 4:30 P.M. at our Holland Street Center. We are looking for new members and would love to have you as part of our group. This group meets the 2nd Monday of every month excluding City Holidays and snow emergencies.

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

IMPORTANT NEWS:

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

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

Please note in the "Upcoming Schedule" section several changes in the times that our Cross Street Center and our Ralph & Jenny Center are open over the next couple of weeks.

STAY ACTIVE:

Weekly Exercise Class Schedule

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

Mondays:

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

Tuesdays:

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

Wednesdays:

Fit 4 Life* Group A, 8:45 A.M (H) Fit 4 Life* Group B, 9:00 A.M. (H) Fit 4 Life* Group C, Noon (H)

Bowling @ Flatbreads, 1:00 P.M., \$10/week for shoes and dues

Zumba for All, 5:15 P.M., \$3 per class (H)

Thursdays:

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

Fridays:

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

*Fit 4 Life classes \$10/month, pre-registration required.

Upcoming Schedule

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

Wednesday | March 18

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

Thursday | March 19

9:00 Yoga (H)

St. Patrick's Day Celebration at the Winter Hill Yacht Club

Friday|March 20

11:30 Lunch (H) 12:45 Bingo (H)

Monday | March 23

9:30 Veterans (H) 10:30 Moonlighters (H) 11:30 Lunch (H) Holiday Inn Dance

Tuesday | March 24

10:00 English Conversation (C) 10:00 Scarves for Soldiers (RJ) 10:00 Cards (RJ) 11:30 Lunch (RJ, C)

12:00 Computer tutorial with Norbert (by appointment only) (H)

12:45 Bingo (RJ)

6:00 Make Something (C)

Wednesday | March 25

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

DID YOU KNOW?

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

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







93 Beacon Street, Somerville, MA 02143 **Tel: 617-492-8377 Fax: 617-492-8534**

Scott Brown visits Tufts University

By Tom Bannister

Scott P. Brown, former senator from Massachusetts, appeared at Tufts University on March 11 as part of the Tisch College Distinguished Speaker Series, which brings leaders from a range of fields and perspectives to campus to discuss pressing public issues.

The free public lecture, which was followed by a brief question-and-answer session, was held in Alumnae Lounge on Medford/Somerville campus. It was presented by the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service at Tufts University.

Brown, a Tufts alumnus,

served in the U.S. Senate from 2010 to 2013 and was a ranking member on the Armed Services Committee and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and was a member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee and the Committee on Small Business.

Prior to his service in the U.S. Senate he was a member of the Massachusetts Senate from 2004 to 2010 and the Massachusetts House of Representatives from 1998 to 2004. He is a member of the Republican Party.

In addition to his legislative experience, Brown served 35 years in the Army National Guard, retiring in 2014 with the rank of colonel. He joined the military while at Tufts and initially served as an enlisted man.

Brown's memoir Against All Odds was a New York Times bestseller. He is a frequent contributor to FOX National News and has hosted The O'Reilly Factor, Fox and Friends and appeared on many other radio and television shows.

The Tisch College Distinguished Speaker Series, which launched in the fall of 2014, was designed to educate, enlighten and provoke students at Tufts, hoping they will be inspired by the leaders and role models they hear and meet. Previous speakers include U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren,



Former Massachusetts Senator Scott P. Brown paid a visit to Tufts University

Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, lius and national political col-Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebe-

umnist for Yahoo! News Matt Bai, also a Tufts graduate.

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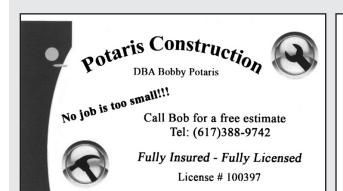
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www.glineslaw.com

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Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

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Wednesday, March 18			Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	12:00pm	Honk Festival	6:30am	Creating Cooperative Kids
6:30am	Road to Recovery	5:30pm	Eat Well Be Happy Cooking Show	12:30pm	Taking Back Your Health	7:30am	Eckankar
7:00am	Somerville Film Group	6:00pm	TBT: Throwback Thursday a SCATV Production	1:00pm	Evangelico	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
7:30am	Life Matters	6:30pm	Health is Wealth	1:30pm	MAPS Health Connector	9:00am	The Stephanie Miller Show (Free Speech TV)
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:00pm	Taking Back your Health (Live call-in)	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	10:00am	Bay State Biking News
9:00am	SCATV Presents Potluck and Lecture Series	7:30pm	Active Aging	3:00pm	Telemagazine	11:00am	Pearls of Irregular Shape
10:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (Live call-in)	4:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
10:30am	Art at SCATV	9:30pm	The Steve Katsos Show	4:30pm	Culture Club	1:00pm	Somerville Film Group:
11:00am	Abugida TV	10:00pm	Somerville Film Group	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	2:00pm	Exercise with Robyn and Max
12:00pm	The Big Picture with Thom Hartmann Show	11:00pm	Pearls of Irregular Shape	6:00pm	Pearls of Irregular Shape	2:30pm	Esoteric Science
1:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	Friday, N	March 20	7:00pm	Somerville Film Group	4:00pm	Free Speech Television
2:00pm	Physician Focus	6:00pm	Somerville Film Group	7:30pm	Fluff Festival	5:00pm	Henry Parker Presents
2:30pm	Race, Community, and Police Relations	7:30am	Shrink Rap	8:00pm	David Pakman (Free Speech TV)	5:30pm	Literati Scene
3:30pm	What the Fluff Festival	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:00pm	Ville Pirates
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	9:00am	SCATV Presents Potluck and Lecture Series	10:00pm	Open Line News with Davey D	6:30pm	Youth Programing
5:00pm	Energy Theater	10:00am	Pearls of Irregular Shape	11:00pm	Gay News USA (Free Speech TV)	7:00pm 8:00pm	The Somerville Line Abugida TV
6:00pm	Trance: A Romantic Journey	11:00am	Henry Parker Presents:	Sunday, M	arch 22	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
6:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority	12:00pm	Brunch with Sen. Bernie Sanders	6:00am	Program Celebrai	10:00pm	Bate Papo com Shirley
7:00pm	Mystic Youth Chorus	1:00pm	Race, Community, and Police Relations	7:00am	Rompendo em Fe	11:00pm	The Entertainer's Show
7:30pm	Crossroads: a Search for An American Dream	2:00pm	SCATV Presents Honk Festival	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ		
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	•	March 24
8:30pm	The Steve Katsos Show	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	10:00am	Evangelico	7:00am	The Struggle
9:00pm	Bay State Biking News	5:00pm	Somerville Jazz Festival 2014	10:30am	Active Aging	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
10:00pm	Art at SCATV	5:30pm	Mystic Learning Center: Variety Hour	11:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	9:00am	The Struggle
10:30pm	SCATV Presents Honk Festival	6:00pm	Somerville Housing Authority	11:30am	Taking Back Your Health	10:00am 11:00am	Shrink Wrap Wicked Sober
11:00pm	Visual Radio	6:30pm	Art at SCATV	12:00pm	Inside Talk	11:00am	Ablevision
Thursday	, March 19	7:00pm	Somerville Film Group:	12:30pm	Somerville Film Group	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	8:00pm	Pearls of Irregular Shape	1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	1:00pm	What the Fluff Festival?
7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	9:00pm	Energy Theater	1:30pm	Somerville Times & Journal Reading	2:00pm	Art at SCATV
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:30pm	The Steve Katsos Show	2:00pm	Legacies - A SCATV Production	2:30pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show
9:00am	Cancer Explained!	10:00pm	The Somerville Line	2:30pm	Life Matters	3:00pm	Tele Galxie
9:30am	Girls Talk	11:00pm	Acronym TV (Free Speech TV)	3:00pm	Rompendo em Fe	4:00pm	Ring of Fire (Free Speech TV)
10:00am	Dead Air Live	11:30pm	Wikiest link	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer
11:00am	Greater Somerville	Saturda	y, March 21	5:00pm	Race, Community, and Police Relations	5:30pm	The Literati Scene
11:30am	Ablevision	6:00am	Arabic Hour	6:00pm	Abugida TV	6:00pm	Tails of the City
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)	7:00am	The Somerville Line	7:00pm	African Television Network	6:30pm	Culture Club
1:00pm	Chef's Table Series	8:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	8:00pm	Tele Magazine	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
2:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking w/Candy	8:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	9:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	7:30pm	Greater Somerville
2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez	9:00am	Festival Kreyol	10:00pm	Farrakhan Speaks	8:00pm	Dead Air Live
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	Monday, N	Narch 23	9:00pm	Energy Theater
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	11:00am	Dead Air Live	6:00am	Ablevision	11:00pm	The David Pakman Show (Free Speech TV)
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) Free Speech Television	10:00am 11:00am	Tele Galaxie	6:00am	Ablevision	9:00pm 11:00pm	Energy Theat

Charette I – Blocks Design

Connecting Communities - Housing

9:00am:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq
	Charette II - Housing
12:00pm:	School Committee Meeting – REPLAY
3:00pm:	Voices of Somerville - GLASS
6:30pm:	2015 Mayor's Business Town Meeting
7:45pm:	Voices of Somerville - GLASS
8:15pm:	Connecting Communities
8:45pm:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq
	Charette II - Housing
Thursday,	March 19
12:00am:	Connecting Communities
12:30am:	2015 Mayor's Business Town Meeting
1:45am:	Voices of Somerville - GLASS
2:15am:	Raising Families
2:45am:	Somerville By Design – Union Sq
	Visioning - ESPANOI
9:00am:	Connecting Communities
12:00pm:	Senior Circui
12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults
1:00pm:	Land Use Committee – Public Hearing
7:00pm:	Highlander Forum
7:30pm:	Raising Families

CITY TV 13/22

8:00pm:

8:30pm:

Wednesday, March 18

	, , ,
	Pin Up Presentation
Friday, Mar	rch 20
12:00am:	Raising Families
12:30am:	SomerViva en Espanol
1:00am:	Land Use Committee – Public Hearing
9:00am:	SomerViva em Portugues
12:00pm:	SomerViva en Espanol
12:30pm:	Raising Families
1:00pm:	2015 Mayor's Business Town Meeting
2:15pm:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq.
	Charette II - Housing
6:30pm:	SomerViva en Espanol
7:00pm:	2015 Mayor's Business Town Meeting
8:15pm:	Raising Families
8:45pm:	SomerViva em Portugues
9:15pm:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq.
	Charette II - Housing

Aldermen at Work – Mary Jo Rossetti

Somerville By Design: Union Sq.

8:45pm:	Somerviva em Portugues
9:15pm:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq.
	Charette II - Housing
Saturday, N	/larch 21
12:00am:	SomerViva en Espanol
12:30am:	Voices of Somerville - GLASS
1:00am:	Raising Families
1:30am:	SomerViva em Portugues
2:00am:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq.
	Charette II - Housing
9:00am:	SomerViva em Portugues
12:00pm:	Aldermen at Work – Mary Jo Rossetti
12:30pm:	SomerViva en Espanol
1:00pm:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq.
	Charette II – Housing
3:15pm:	Voices of Somerville - GLASS
3:45pm:	Raising Families
6:30pm:	SomerViva en Espanol
7:00pm:	Connecting Communities
7:30pm:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq.

10:15pm:	2015 Mayor's Business Town Meeting			
Sunday, March 22				
12:00am:	Connecting Communities			
12:30am:	Voices of Somerville - GLASS			
1:00am:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq.			
	Charette I – Blocks Design			
3:15am:	Raising Families			
3:45am:	Aldermen at Work – Mary Jo Rossetti			
9:00am:	2015 Mayor's Business Town Meeting			
12:00pm:	Senior Circuit			
12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults			
1:00pm:	SomerViva em Portugues			
1:30pm:	Connecting Communities			
2:00pm:	Somerville By Design – Union Sq.			
	Charette II - Housing			
6:30pm:	Voices of Somerville - GLASS			
7:00pm:	Senior Circuit			
7:30pm:	SomerViva em Portugues			
8:00pm:	Raising Families			
8:30pm:	SomerViva en Espanol			

9:45pm:

9:00pm:	Somerville By Design: Traffic, Parking
	& Brownfield
Monday, N	March 23
12:00am:	Senior Circui
12:30am:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adult
1:00am:	SomerViva em Portugue
1:30pm:	Raising Famile
2:00pm:	Somerville By Design: Traffic, Parking
	& Brownfield
9:00am:	Voices of Somerville - GLASS
12:00pm:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq
	Charette - Pin Up Presentation
2:30pm:	SomerViva en Espano
3:00pm:	Highlander Forun
3:30pm:	Voices of Somerville - GLASS
6:30pm:	Highlander Forun
7:00pm:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq
	Charette – Pin Up Presentation
9:30pm:	SomerViva em Portugue
10:00pm:	Aldermen at Work – Mary Jo Rossett
Tuesday, N	March 24
12:00am:	SomerViva en Espano
40.00	

	Charette – Pin Up Presentation
9:30pm:	SomerViva em Portugues
10:00pm:	Aldermen at Work – Mary Jo Rossetti
Tuesday,	March 24
12:00am:	SomerViva en Espanol
12:30am:	Highlander Forum
1:00am:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq.
	Charette – Pin Up Presentation
3:30am:	Green Line Extension Funding Agreement
9:00am:	Highlander Forum
9:30am:	Connecting Communities
12:00pm:	Senior Circuit
12:30pm:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults
1:00pm:	Somerville By Design: Union Sq.
	Charette – Pin Up Presentation
3:30pm:	2015 Mayor's Business Town Meeting
7:00pm:	Senior Circuit
7:30pm:	Land Use Committee Public Hearing
11:00pm:	SomerViva en Espanol
12:00am:	Senior Circuit
12:30am:	Keep Moving: Exercises for Older Adults
1:00am:	Raising Families

Aldermen at Work – Mary Jo Rossetti Land Use Committee Public Hearing 2:00pm:

EDUCATIONAL CHANNEL 15

Thursday, March 19

weanesaay,	Warch 16
9:00am:	ESCS Black History Month Concert
10:00am:	Raising Families- Smoking Cessation
11:00am:	Connecting Communities
12:00pm:	Teen-Police Basketball Game
1:05pm:	SCAP Youth Risk Behavior Game Show
2:00pm:	SHS Girls Baketball v Malden - 1/30
4:00pm:	SHS Girls Basketball v NDA
6:00pm:	ESCS Black History Month Concert
7:00pm:	Raising Families- Smoking Cessation
7:30pm:	Connecting Communities
8:00pm:	Teen-Police Basketball Game
9:30pm:	SCAP Youth Risk Behavior Game Show
10:30pm:	SHS Girls Baketball v Malden - 1/30

i iiui suay, ivi	arcii 17
12:00am:	SHS Girls Basketball v NDA
1:30am:	Playoff Hockey: SHS v Marblehead
9:00am: Girls'	Intramural Middle School Soccer Finals
10:00am:Boys	s' Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
11:00am:	Connecting Communities
12:00pm:	Playoff Hockey: SHS v Marblehead
1:30pm:	SHS Hockey v Latin Academy - 1/24
3:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City 3.19
4:00pm:	Raising Families- Smoking Cessation
4:30pm: Girls'	Intramural Middle School Soccer Finals
5:30pm:Boys'	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
7:00pm:	Connecting Communities
7:30pm:	SHS Hockey v Methuen
9:00pm:	SHS Hockey v Cambridge
11:00pm:	ESCS Black History Month Concert

Friday, Mai	rch 20
12:00am:	SHS Hockey v Methue
1:30am:	SHS Girls Basketball v Saugu
3:30am:	SHS Hockey v Latin Academy - 1/2
9:00am:	SHS Hockey v Medford - 1/1
11:00am:	SHS Hockey v Revere - 12/3
1:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City 3.1
2:00pm:	SHS College & Career Nigh
3:00pm:	Playoff Basketball: SHS Boys v Andove
5:00pm:	Highlander Forum - 3.1
6:00pm:	SHS Hockey v Medford - 1/1
8:00pm:	SHS Hockey v Revere - 12/3
10:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City 3.1
11 00	CLIC Callana Ca Canana Milal

11:00pm:	SHS College & Career Night
Saturday, N	/larch 21
12:00am:	Playoff Basketball: SHS Boys v Andover
1:30am:	Highlander Forum - 3.17
2:00am:	SHS College & Career Night
9:00am:	Our Schools, Our City 3.19
10:00am:	Connecting Communities
11:00am:	ESCS Black History Month Concert
12:00pm:Gir	ls' Intramural Middle School Soccer Finals
1:00pm:Boy	s' Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
2:00pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden
4:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City 3.19
5:00pm:	Connecting Communities
6:00pm:	ESCS Black History Month Concert

8:00pm:Boys' Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals 9:00pm: SHS Boys Basketball v Malden ketball v Peabody

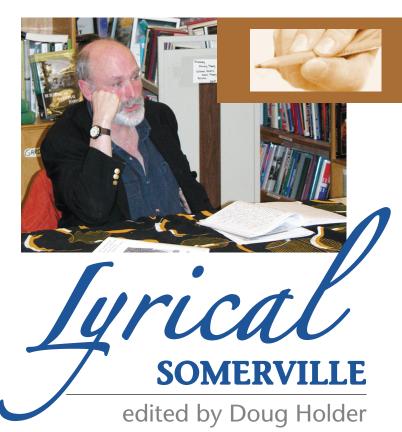
10:30pm:	SHS Boys Baske			
Sunday, March 22				
12:00am:	Playoff Basketball: SHS			

12:00am:	Playoff Basketball: SHS Boys v Andover
1:30am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden
3:00am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Medford
4:30am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody
9:00am:	SHS College & Career Night
10:00am:	Teen-Police Basketball Game
11:30am:	Our Schools, Our City 3.19
12:00pm:	Highlander Forum - 3.17
1:00pm:	Connecting Communities
2:00pm:	SHS Girls Basketball v Saugus
4:00pm:	SHS Hockey v Latin Academy - 1/24
5:30pm:	SHS College & Career Night
6:30pm:	Teen-Police Basketball Game
8:00pm:Boys'	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
9:00pm: Girls'	Intramural Middle School Soccer Finals
10:30pm:	Highlander Forum - 3.17
11:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City 3.19

Monday, March 23

12:00am:Boy	's' Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
12:00am:Girl	s' Intramural Middle School Soccer Finals
2:00am:	SHS Girls Basketball v Wachusett - 2/13
9:00am:	ESCS Black History Month Concert
10:00am:	Our Schools, Our City 3.19
11:00am:	Highlander Forum - 3.17
12:00pm:	Raising Families- Smoking Cessation
12:30pm:	SHS Girls' Basketball v Cambridge
2:00pm:	SHS Basketball v Belmont @ TD Garden
4:00pm:	SHS College & Career Night
5:00pm:	SHS Girls Basketball v NDA
7:00pm:	ESCS Black History Month Concert
8:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City 3.19
9:00pm:	Highlander Forum - 3.17
10:00pm:	Raising Families- Smoking Cessation
10:30pm:	SHS Girls' Basketball v Cambridge

Tuesday, Ma	rch 24
12:00am:	SHS Basketball v Belmont @ TD Garden
2:00am:	SHS College & Career Night
3:00am:	SHS Girls Basketball v NDA
9:00am:	Connecting Communities
10:00am:	SHS College & Career Night
11:00am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden
12:30pm:Boy	s' Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
1:30pm: Girls'	Intramural Middle School Soccer Finals
3:00pm:	Highlander Forum - 3.17
4:00pm:	ESCS Black History Month Concert
5:00pm:	Connecting Communities
6:00pm:	SHS College & Career Night
7:00pm:	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden
8:30pm:Boys'	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
9:30pm: Girls'	Intramural Middle School Soccer Finals
11:00pm:	Highlander Forum - 3.17
12:00am:	ESCS Black History Month Concert
1:00am:	SHS Boys Basketball v Medford
2.30am	SHS Girls Bakethall v Malden - 1/30



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Snake Eyes

Everybody know the dice are loaded — Leonard Cohen

Yes, the dice are loaded against you

Roll'em and snake eyes pop up like the back of a cobra

Listen for the hiss play your flute

Watch the sway beware of the strike

The bite

venom like a coke I.V.

We don't know outcomes seeking without knowledge

Loads the dice against us

- Zvi Sesling

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

From on page 14 Ms. Cam's Olio 1. Hypotenuse 7. A set 2. Ficus 8. A lever – it provides leverage 3. Romeo and Juliet 9. It becomes a tornado 4. 12 is the square root of 10. Vincent Van Gogh 5. Brown 11. Tissue 12. An armadillo 6. Our Gang

FF THE

by Doug Holder

Comedian, Playwright, **George McDonald takes** a ride with Whitey Bulger

Well, when you work three jobs like I do, you meet a lot of interesting people. And because I am a local journalist, I get to interview a fair number of interesting people. Have if you will, one Mr. George McDonald, a comedian, playwright, and for now, a night counselor at McLean Hospital, where I work. George and I were like two ships passing in the night. I was leaving the 3 to 11 shift and George was starting his usual graveyard. George looked like an interesting dude, and so we eventually got talking. George is originally from Southie, and was part of the comedy explosion here in Boston in the 80s and 90s. Since we are both a year or so on either side of 60, we knew a lot of the people, places, and folks on the scene for the past decades. George is good friends with the comedian Jimmy Tingle, who I worked with with when I ran The Somerville News Writers Festival. He had great anecdotes about many of the other great comedians, poseurs, players, what have yo in Boston and L.A., his stomping grounds during his career. Here is a bief bio for George:

Actor, comedian and writer, George J. MacDonald is pleased to be artistically involved with Somerville once again. Stage plays that Mr. MacDonald has written include, Waiting For Whitey, At The Funny Factory, In A Better Place and Whistling Past The Graveyard. Screenplays include, Both Guns Blazing, Still In The Picture and The Spider Sequence. Some of Mr. MacDonald's film credits are, Monument Ave., Celtic Pride, Bluff and When Stand-up Stood Out. His television credits include, MAD-TV, The Michael Richards Show and A&E's Comedy On The Road. In 2005, George made his directorial debut with Why Work?, a sketch comedy show that appeared in The Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Mr. MacDonald is a member of SAF-AFTRA, Actors Equity Association and The Dramatists Guild of America.

George, a former Somerville resident, was kind enough to share an essay about his experience with the notorious Whitey Bulger. George wrote a play, Waiting for Whitey, that was staged in Boston, and got a great review in The Boston Herald and elsewhere.

Hitching a Ride with the FBI's Most Wanted By George J. MacDonald

As soon as I got in the car, I knew I'd made a mistake. From the curb and through the windshield, the driver resembled a guy who attended U. Mass Boston's Harbor Campus, same as I did. But now, sitting next to him in the front seat, looking into those laser beams he had for eyes, I knew exactly who this individual was. James 'Whitey' Bulger. The Irish mob boss of my South Boston neighborhood, a man reputed to be a ruthless killer. It was early March, 1977. Sunny. About three o'clock. The air was crisp. I had cut my last class of the day and felt very tired as I thumbed a ride along the boulevard on Carson Beach. My fatigue, combined with the joint I had just smoked, severely impaired my powers of observation. When the car pulled over to the curb, I was filled with a surge of gratitude. I jumped inside, delighted to have escaped the late winter chill. I was lit up like a Christmas tree and feeling more friendly than a golden retriever.

"Hey, big guy! How ya doing?"

Not a word. Just his icy stare boring holes into me.

"Sorry. Didn't mean to be rude. You looked familiar. Thought you were a friend from school."

His eyes softened a bit at the apology. Thank God my parents had raised me right.

"You probably do recognize me. But not from school." As the reefer haze in my brain cleared, the situation began to come into focus. Sitting beside a sociopathic



murderer tends to have a sobering effect on most people. I finally recognized him and knew that this was not

"My name is Jimmy. Jimmy Bulger."

"Oh yes, of course. I've seen you around the neighbor-

I introduced myself and we shook hands. He asked me where I was going so I told him. He pulled away from the curb and an awful lot of questions raced through my mind. Why does this hardcore gangster want me to know who he is? Is he looking for an alibi? Where'd he hide his gun? Is there a body in the trunk? This is a wiseguy of the heaviest caliber. Why is he picking up a hitchhiker, even if it is another person from Southie?

He talked a lot and I listened. Whenever you find yourself in the company of a stone cold killer, it's always a good idea to yield the floor. He wagged on and drove the most circuitous route imaginable to my destination. He dropped me off exactly where I was going and I thanked him for the ride. He told me he'd see me around. I said sounds good to me, all the while hoping that such would not be the case. Only ten minutes had passed. I've never been so happy to get out of a car in my life.

Things have changed a lot for me since 1977. I haven't smoked marijuana or hitchhiked for almost thirty years. I'm much too long in the tooth and those are a young man's games. Things have changed a lot for Whitey, too. He's gone from being a local crime boss, to an FBI informer turned fugitive, to a lifetime guest of the federal government inside The Crowbar Motel.

I've often wondered about my ride with the FBI's Most Wanted. What compelled him to pick me up? What motive could he have had for doing this? A notorious desperado and shooter like him, going out of his way to give a free ride to a total stranger and civilian like me? He had nothing to gain by giving me a lift. So then why did he do it? What was that all about? Guess I'll

I'm glad they did finally bring him to justice. He caused too much pain and suffering for a clean getaway. Whitey Bulger is now behind bars and in his eighties. He's another old killer in an orange jumpsuit who must answer for his sins. Had he died while a fugitive, living under an alias, he might never have been found. His tainted legend could have drifted into the realm of the unexplained, right beside D.B. Cooper and Jimmy Hoffa, Area 51 and the Roswell crash. That place beyond the pale where things go bump in the night. Then my tale of the road might become merely one more ghost story 'round the campfire, like an Elvis sighting, a Bigfoot encounter or a boat ride through the Bermuda Triangle.

Some people may find my story hard to believe. But it is true. And after sitting in his car and looking into those maniacal eyes, I can honestly tell you that Whitey Bulger was no Flying Dutchman.

George J. MacDonald is an actor, playwright and former resident of both South Boston and Somerville. He has also lived in New York and Los Angeles, but will always be a Bostonian at heart. He plans on maintaining his East Coast sensibility by never developing a taste for sushi or 'taking' meetings.

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Personal Injury

Business Law

Estate Planning and Probate

Real Estate

Elder Law

Civil Litigation

mdropkin@dropkinmatza.com