

Inside:



A closer look at snow emergencies page 3



A fresh new market in Davis Sq.

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Appleton Street fire prompts scrutiny of AirBnb



The fire that struck an Appleton St. home said to be listed as an AirBnb offering has raised questions about the safety and propriety of certain buildings being used in such a capacity.

By Joe Ruvido

A fire ripped through a 3-family house on Appleton St. in late January, prompting people to jump from 2nd floor windows to safety. The fire department has kept a detail at the house around the clock since then.

The façade is now burnt to a charred crisp. The cause of the fire was most likely the "inappropriate disposal of smoking materials" according to Somerville's fire examiner.

According to documents released by AirBnb, Somerville has 813 active listings as of January. The majority of these (62%) are private rooms in houses or apartments where a host may or may not be present along with a renter. Most of the remaining 38% are rentals of entire homes.

That renters are less accountable than owners for property upkeep is one basis for the added scrutiny. AirBnb says their Continued on page 4

- Photo by Bobbie Toner

Immersing oneself in Robyn Hitchcock

By Blake Maddux

Immersing oneself in the discography of English singer-songwriter Robyn Hitchcock is the aural equivalent looking through kaleidoscope eyes into a series of fun house mirrors.

It is a musical world is one populated by – among others – Antwoman, Balloon Man, Toadboy, Wafflehead, and Madonna of the Wasps.

As defiantly non-mainstream as his oeuvre is, one can become acquainted with many of the nooks and crannies of popular music by following his recordings in all of the directions in which they proceed.

The 2002 release *Robyn Sings* consists entirely of Bob Dylan covers. His most recent album, 2014's The Man Upstairs, includes covers of songs by The Psychedelic Furs, Roxy Music, Grant-Lee Phillips, The Doors, and a Norwegian band called I Was a King. Hitchcock has also penned the songs I Saw Nick Drake, The Wreck of the Arthur Lee, and N.Y. Doll, each about a musician who was hugely influential and widely Continued on page 8



Construction **Technology visited** page 13

Come celebrate Robyn Hitchcock's 64th birthday this Friday at ONCE Ballroom, where he will perform a sold-out show with his personal and professional partner Emma Swift.





At a **Chamber of Commerce** sponsored forum on Tuesday evening, ninety attendees heard regional real estate and biotech leaders speak on Somerville's potential as "the next innovation center." As many of us have been saying, prospects are excellent. Our proximity to research centers and innovation clusters, local talent pool, outstanding culinary and cultural offerings, and imminent GLX arrival make Somerville a dream location for emerging tech-sector companies.

Don't forget, Ward 5 Alderman Mark Niedergang will be holding his re-election fundraiser on Wednesday, March 8. He will be having his re-election fundraiser from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Olde Magoun Salon, 518 Medford Street, in Magoun Square. Plenty of parking in the lot next door. Come celebrate Ward 5 and Somerville's progress and challenges, and contribute to our future. Guest speaker: State Representative Christine Barber. MC: Alex the Jester. Complimentary food, cash bar. Suggested Donation: \$500, \$250, \$100, \$75. Please come and give what you can. Make checks payable to: Committee to Elect Mark Niedergang, 29 Conwell Street, Somerville, MA 02143.

We want to make an addition to the happy birthdays already wished for. We forgot that 94-year-old **Irving "Elmer" Johansen**, a lifelong resident of Somerville and a great guy, celebrated his birthday a couple of weeks ago and we forgot. How can you forget such a nice man, who every time you talk to him he has a wealth of history for our city? If he wasn't there he knew people who were. Sharp as a tack and always has a nice thing to say about everyone. Happy birthday a good guy and friend, Irving. He as a goal and we hope he reaches it.

We heard from a couple of sources that **Stephanie Hirsch**, who is potentially a candidate for Alderman At-Large, held her first public fundraiser (the mayor usually has private ones), and with the calls sent out to various department heads she managed to attract about 40 to 50 attendees.

We heard that Ward 2 Alderman Maryann Continued on page 11



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TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: Board of Aldermen addresses jobs for Somerville residents

LindaS says:

I hope that when Somerville residents are being considered for jobs, they don't forget to include those in the older category.

Too often older residents find themselves without jobs due to downsizing, and it's a lot harder for them to find work in many cases.

Many businesses prefer to hire younger workers who are starting out because they can pay them less than to hire older workers who have more experience and may demand a higher wage.

Perhaps it would be in the City's interest to encourage businesses to hire older workers who may find it harder to get work over younger ones who may only be looking for a stepping stone to another profession.

Pamela says:

This is a great point, Linda, that often gets overlooked. Like in many other areas, older people are marginalized. I have been looking for full-time employment for over two years, and there has been next to no help available to me. The SCC program referenced above was never able to refer me for a job appropriate to my skills. Like many other agencies, they need to show their funding sources that they assist "diverse" people – and "diverse" can translate to almost any category but older, American-born workers. Another agency in Boston told me that if I received even \$1 in food stamps they could assist me, but otherwise the only assistance they could offer was to suggest that I take a basic computer course or basic workplace skills training, at a cost of hundreds to thousands of dollars. I know many other older people in similar situations, but because we are not collecting unemployment and are managing to pay our debts by working whenever we can, we do not show up in employment statistics.

Dodd says:

Better have other contractors hire from Somerville because god only knows SCC doesn't...especially if they are union.

MarketMan says:

Should private companies be in control of who they hire? If I had to pay someone to do something, I would find the best person I could, regardless of where they live.

Matt says:

MarketMan, I agree with you. I think the difference comes when the city is giving you a special deal or helping to finance the project. In this case that money comes with strings. If you want freedom to hire who you want, don't ask for a handout.

Some of our Alderfolk wanted to demand specific wage guarantees out of builders in exchange for the \$\$. This, I feel is especially dangerous because it can become a case where the city is directly subsidizing wages and inflating costs on projects.

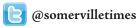
Old Taxpayer says:

Right MarketMan, but we need to interfere with government control. We all know how well that works.

Response to: Will Mbah discusses his Alderman-at-Large candidacy

Christopher in Ward 1 says:

I've met Wilfred at several community meetings, and he is a very engaged and friendly fellow.



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He's been out there at events listening and learning and talking with people where Aldermen who should have been there didn't even show up. If you haven't already, I encourage you to meet Mr. Mbah in the coming months and give him fair consideration. Speaking as a longtime Somerville resident, he seems like he would be a real credit to the Board of Aldermen.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments



Snow emergency parking, ticketing, shoveling to be examined by Board of Aldermen

By Jim Clark

At the latest regular meeting of the City of Somerville Board of Aldermen on Thursday, February 23, an order was brought forward asking that the Director of Traffic and Parking report the number of warnings and citations issued for snow covered vehicles following the 9:00 a.m. lifting of the snow emergency on February 13.

Speaking in favor of the order, Alderman At-Large Mary Jo Rossetti told the Board, "I received a communication from a constituent who was broken-hearted because she was witnessing her 80-yearold neighbor trying to clear his property around the car that had been parked in front of his house and not touched for over a week."

Rossetti went on to explain that the constituent brought to her attention the fact that the city website says that the 48 hour policy will be strictly enforced. She said that the constituent noticed that there were tickets on vehicles in the neighborhood, which they were pleased about, but when they looked more closely they discovered that these were actually only warnings. Further, it was noted that the warnings were issued more than 48 hours prior; 96 hours, to be exact.

"My guess is we're going to be told there isn't enough personnel to sweep the city and give the citations," Rossetti said. "But I do want to see proof of who receives how many citations, how many warnings that result in citations."

Rossetti said that she promised the affected neighborhood that she would report back to them when she learned more.

The order was approved unanimously by the Board members in attendance.

"... I do want to see proof of who receives how many citations"

On a related matter, an additional order was put forward, sponsored by Ward 5 Alderman Mark Niedergang, that the Superintendent of Inspectional Services report to the Board, by ward, on the extent to which "city inspectors regularly patrol the city following each snow event, tracking properties that do not comply with city ordinances for snow and ice removal ... and issuing violations" in response to complaints that many sidewalks in the city were never cleared after the last snowstorm, creating hazardous conditions for pedestrians and forcing people to walk in the street.

Alderman Niedergang told the Board, "This is kind of similar to Alderman Rossetti's order. I received quite a few calls



Some city residents have questioned how strictly the parking and shoveling regulations have been enforced during recent snow emergencies.



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from people who complained about icy sidewalks and sidewalks that had not been cleared at all, and no signs of any ticketing."

Niedergang said that constituents referred him to the city website where proper snow emergency procedures were clearly spelled out.

"I would like to hear what the program, what the plan is to enforce [the regulations]," Niedergang said. "I should give credit where credit is due, that I think in recent years sidewalks have been cleared much much better than they were previously. But I think we still have a long way to go and we need to enforce the law so that people will clear their sidewalks."

As Alderman Niedergang's original order called for enforcement in Ward 5 only, Board President William White suggested that many other residents outside of that area would probably raise the same concerns and that it might be best to have the order apply to the entire city, broken down into individual wards.

The order was subsequently amended and approved, and copied to the Committee on Health and Public Safety.



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Lyft driver needed a lift

While on patrol, westbound on Washington St., a police officer took note of a car parked at the rear of the Somerville No Touch Car Wash.

Taking a closer look, the officer noticed that the driver of the car, a male later identified as Daniel Graham, of Burlington, appeared to be reclining back in the driver's seat sleeping.

As the officer approached, Graham reportedly started the vehicle and began backing up towards him. Fearing that he was going to be struck by the vehicle, he yelled for Graham to stop, which he did.

Before questioning Graham, the officer noted that he was moving around the interior of the car erratically and seemed to be focusing his attention on the center console.

The officer asked Graham what he was doing in the back of the car wash. He reportedly stated that he was cleaning his vehicle because he is a Lyft driver. The officer told Graham that when he drove by he was sleeping, and that he was there to check on his wellbeing.

Graham was ordered out of the car and told to place his hands on the roof of the vehicle as the officer pat frisked him.

Graham reportedly kept removing his hands from the roof of the vehicle and reaching for his pockets, so the officer asked Graham why he was so nervous and if there was anything in the vehicle or on his person that he

should know about.

Graham reportedly answered, "No," but a search of the vehicle's console turned up a glass pipe with burned residue around the edges and a vial that appeared to contain crystal meth.

Graham was subsequently placed under arrest and charged with possession of a class B drug.

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Arrests:

Roberto Ennis, of 9 Nightingale St., Boston, February 21, 9:53 a.m., arrested at Cedar St. on a charge of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Frank Chan, of 109 Glen St., February 22, 1:36 a.m., arrested at Washington St. on warrant charges of possession of a class D drug, attempt to commit a crime, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

Denise Perez, of 7 Temple St., Cambridge, February 22, 4:26 p.m., arrested at Foley St. on a charge of larceny over \$250.

William Donovan, of 444 Harrison Ave., Boston, Feb-

ruary 22, 4:26 p.m., arrested at Foley St. on charges of shoplifting by asportation, possession of a burglarious instrument, and removal of theft prevention device.

Manuel Perez, of 118.5 Valley St., Providence, RI, February 22, 5:14 p.m., arrested at Woodstock St. on charges of drug possession to distribute, drug violation near a school, and conspiracy to violate drug law.

Jose Pena, of 568 Market St., Lowell, February 22, 5:14 p.m., arrested at Woodstock St. on charges of drug possession to distribute, drug violation near a school, and conspiracy to violate drug law.

Jeremy Lockett, of 326 Washington St., February 22, 5:51 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license and miscellaneous statutory violation.

Daniel Graham, of 17 Olean Rd., Burlington, February 23, 1:35 a.m., arrested at Washington St. on a charge of possession of a class B drug.

Keith Roderick, of 57 Burrage St., Lunenburg, February 23, 5:40 p.m., arrested at Washington St. on warrant charges of larceny over \$250 and trespassing.

Antonio Hernandez, of 1161 Washington St., Norwood, February 24, 2:43 p.m., arrested at Windsor St. on warrant charges of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and motor vehicle lights violation.

Ronie Deoliveira, of 15 Linda St., Alston, February 24, 4:42 p.m., arrested at Washington St. on a charge of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, and on multiple warrant charges of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Shane Ripley-O'Neil, of 12 Tidd Ave., Woburn, February 24, 7:02 p.m., arrested at Foley St. on a warrant charge of conspiracy to violate drug law.

Jose Perez, of 116 North St., February 24, 9:39 p.m., arrested at North St. on a warrant charge of use of a motor vehicle without authority.

Stefania Aceto, of 109 Lebanon St., Melrose, February 25, 3:46 p.m., arrested at Great River Rd. on a charge of larceny over \$250.

Joseph Nicoloro, of 164 Thorndike St., Cambridge, February 25, 6:04 p.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on a charge of shoplifting by asportation.

Cheval Holmes, of 419 Washington St., Dorchester, February 26, 10:14 a.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on warrant charges of receiving stolen property over \$250 and shoplifting by concealing merchandise.



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Appleton Street fire prompts scrutiny of AirBnb CONT. FROM PG 1

business model counters this pears that smoke detectors did tively affect available housing logic. After a stay, a renter rates go off so that residents could for families and artificially both the house and the host, out quickly. Fortunately get there were no serious injuries," remarked Alderman At-Large Jack Connolly, who noted that Somerville and the State of Massachusetts are both looking into possible regulations of the service. Massachusetts Senator Elizabeth Warren "It's part of the sharing econjoined Senators last summer omy, it's cheaper, and it's more in calling for added scrutiauthentic than staying in a hony of the service. Policy tools tel," said Tom Goldstone, 32, of that Somerville could impose Somerville. Goldstone says that include permit and licensing restrictions for hosts as well as incidents like the fire are anecdotal and won't deter him from occupancy taxes and fees. using the service in the future. Others are concerned about Yet fires set in cities as dense-AirBnB's role in Somerville's rapidly appreciating hously populated as Somerville have Somerville aldermen taking a ing and rental markets. "I am concerned Airbnb could nega-

increase the cost of real estate," said Alderman At-Large Dennis Sullivan. To that end, there is evidence that AirBnb has affected the vacancy rate in already densely populated New York City, driving up rents. Also, the ratio of AirBnb rental units to owners is increasing, evidence that the rental service is becoming increasingly commercialized. At the same time, Sullivan says that some residents are serving as AirBnb hosts to make ends meet. AirBnb sent a letter to the mayor and the Board earlier this month defending the role of home sharing in the community and expressing the company's willingness to work with the city



and the host rates the renter in terms of cleanliness and respect of house rules. Renters are keen to keep a good rating to book future homes and lofts while homeowners look to keep up high ratings to get future business.

more cautious approach. "It ap-

City and state officials are taking a serious look at the impact of AirBnb type rentals on the economy as well as safety issues that have been raised.

regarding policy. "Smart policymaking will allow home sharing to achieve its potential as an economic, social and environmental solution, not just for the everyday people who take part in it, but for the cities and other local governments that stand to benefit from it," says the letter. The Board of Aldermen referred the letter and considerations on AirBnb taxes to committee.



Alleged use of counterfeit money by SPD officer

By Jim Clark

Reports in the media have surfaced alleging that Somerville police officer Alex Capobianco is currently being investigated by authorities in Cambridge for paying a hotel bill with counterfeit money.

Earlier last month, Capobianco allegedly paid for his tab at the Hyatt Regency in Cambridge with the bogus currency after attempts to pay with credit card numbers he read off of a tablet failed to clear with hotel staff.

According to statements made by Capobianco's attorney, his client claims that he knows nothing about the fake bills.

Capobianco has been on paid leave with the Somerville Police Department for over a year, following allegations of illegal drug use. He is currently still drawing his \$86,000 per year salary from the department while on leave.

Capobianco reportedly denies the allegations of drug use and says that he is actively engaged in attempting to clear his name and rejoin the police force. However, reports indicate that the city is trying to force Capobianco to retire, claiming that he is unfit for duty.

According to reports, if Capobianco were to retire he would still be eligible to receive half of his full salary annually.

As Capobianco is the first cousin of Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone, some have raised questions about the fact that he is still drawing full pay while other officers have been let go from the department over the course of his being placed on leave.

Capobianco was fired from the department in 2003 by then Mayor Dorothy Gay after allegedly becoming addicted to and conspiring to sell OxyContin, but was cleared and reinstated in 2005.

Cambridge police have said that the investigation into the alleged use of counterfeit money is ongoing and that no one has yet been charged or arrested.

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bfresh market opens in Davis Sq.



By Louise Carpenter

The new bfresh grocery store opened its doors at Davis Square, 244 Elm St., Somerville, Mass., on Friday, February 24 at 9:00 a.m. Mayor Joseph Curtatone toured the store on Monday morning.

Open 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily, the new 11,000-square-foot store marks the third bfresh store to open in the Greater Boston area, creating approximately 90 full- and part-time jobs. The inaugural bfresh store opened in nearby Allston in September 2015; a second bfresh store opened in Brighton in August 2016.

bfresh says that it is focused on affordable fresh foods. The store offers more natural and organic options than a typical market, vegan and gluten-free options, and specialty foods. The "Little Kitchen" is a meal convenience destination, bringing quality, fresh options to busy urban shoppers, saving them time and money: grab-and-go, ready-to-eat and ready-toheat items; and fresh meal components to make inspired meals in a snap at home. "Shoppers want to keep things simple. They want fresh foods, right in their neighborhood, that they can afford. bfresh is all about meeting those needs," said Coby Reinhardt, bfresh team coach. "No matter how you want to shop – like stocking up for the week, buying fresh for meals every day, or stopping in to grab the freshest quick bite in town – bfresh has got you covered."

Foodies find smart values across the store every day: surprisingly low prices on produce and affordable items throughout the whole store. And while the emphasis is on fresh, healthy foods, bfresh offers thousands of popular name-brand items as well as affordable own- store brands to make the store a primary stop for neighborhood shoppers.

The company says that it is committed to a culture of awesome teammates who are passionate about great customer service every day. Interested candidates may visit www.bfresh.com.

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Mayor Curtatone took a tour of the new bfresh market on Monday. More pictures on page 12. — Photos by Bobbie Toner

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. Mike Connolly

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.

and signed by Gov. Charlie Baker in 2016. Included are some of the proposed amendments that were rejected.

There was swift reaction last week across the state to the Trump administration's rescinding of a 2016 Obama administration directive that schools treat students according to their gender identity rather than to their sex assigned at birth. The action does not affect the Bay State which in 2016 approved a law prohibiting discrimination against transgender people by adding "gender identity" to existing Massachusetts civil rights laws that already prohibit discrimination in public accommodations based on age, race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation, sex, religion and marital status.

"This is a victory for common sense and for the privacy and safety of every student in America," said Andrew Beckwith, president of the Massachusetts Family Institute. "Local schools know best how to implement compassionate and practical solutions to these sensitive issues. No girl should be forced to change in front of, or shower with, a boy, as the Obama policy required."

"With this action, President Trump, Attorney General Sessions and Education Secretary DeVos send a clear message to transgender children and their families across the country that this administration does not support them or their right to a safe learning environment," said MassEquality's Executive Director, Deborah Shields. "We are fortunate that in Massachusetts, all of our students are protected by anti-discrimination and anti-bullying laws, and that our public officials, educators and citizens are speaking out and showing up in support of fairness and equality for transgender students."

We're thankful that the new administration has done away with the Obama administration policy that forced a one-size fits all, draconian approach to these sensitive issues on our nation's school districts," said Chanel Prunier, the chair of Keep MA Safe. "Keep MA Safe looks forward to informing Massachusetts voters about our efforts to restore their safety and privacy locally by repealing our state law allowing biological men into women's showers, locker rooms, and changing areas here in our state."

"I was saddened to hear about the Trump administration's decision to withdraw important federal protections for transgender students, said Rep. Lori Ehrlich (D-Marblehead). "All children in this country deserve to feel welcome and safe in their schools -- it is essential to fulfilling our promise and guarantee for equal education and opportunity. Massachusetts can and must stand firmly as a leader in this country against bigotry and hatred." hotels, restaurants, retail stores, malls, theaters, parks, medical offices, libraries and public transportation.

Supporters, noting 17 other states have approved similar laws, say this civil rights law helps many transgender people lead safe and more productive lives. They argue that transgender individuals still face the threat of discrimination in many public accommodations. They note that under prior Massachusetts law, there was no protection ensuring that transgender people cannot be turned away from a restroom, locker room, hotel, restaurant, retail store and many other places simply because they are transgender.

Opponents say the privacy rights of children matter and asked how youngsters might react to a transgender classmate using the same bathroom. They argue that bathroom and locker room use should be based on the gender on one's birth certificate, not on an inner sense of feeling or expression. They say that male predators could use this law as cover to excuse their presence in women-only spaces.

The Senate did not have a roll call on the final version of the law. The Senate roll call listed is on an earlier version.

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

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Mike Connolly	Was not yet elected
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes

MEDICAL STANDARD

House 11-145, rejected an amendment that would require that gender identity which is different from a person's assigned gender at birth, must be proven by providing evidence including, medical history, care or treatment of the gender-related identity. This would replace an existing law that allows gender identity to be proven by "consistent and uniform assertion of the gender-related identity or any other evidence that the gender-related identity is sincerely held as part of a person's core identity."

Amendment supporters say this will establish a medical standard instead of just allowing people to decide what they are every morning when they wake up.

Amendment opponents say the amendment goes too far. They note that transgender people should continue to have the right to choose their identity without a doctor's interference.



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: There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week. This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* reviews local legislators' votes on the transgender protection law approved by the Legislature

Keep MA Safe, a group opposed to the transgender law, has collected sufficient signatures to attempt to repeal the law by putting it on the November 2018 ballot for voters to decide.

TRANSGENDER PROTECTION

House 116-36, Senate 33-4, approved the law that prohibits discrimination against transgender people in public accommodations including allowing access to legally gender-segregated public facilities, including restrooms and locker rooms, based on a person's gender identity rather than on their biological sex.

Public accommodations are defined as "a place, whether licensed or unlicensed, which is open to and accepts or solicits the patronage of the general public." This includes (A "Yes" vote is for the amendment. A "No" vote is against it.)

Rep. Christine BarberNoRep. Mike ConnollyWas not yet electedRep. Denise ProvostNo

BAN SEX OFFENDERS

House 58-94, rejected an amendment that would prohibit Level 2 and Level 3 sex offenders from using any sex-segregated facility, bathroom or locker room that is not consistent with his or her assigned sex at birth. Level 2 offenders are classified as posing a moderate risk of reoffending while Level 3 ones pose a high risk.

Amendment supporters say a sex offender who is a transgender woman (a person who was assigned male at birth but whose gender identity is that of a woman) should not have access to places where women and girls expect to see only other women and girls.

Some amendment opponents say the bill is civil rights legislation and should not be muddied with these various amendments that fool with and water down the bill. Others say that sex offenders have an extremely low rate of recidivism.

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

Rep. Christine Barber	No
Rep. Mike Connolly	Was not yet elected
Rep. Denise Provost	No

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

MANY BILLS IN 2015-2016 DIED IN STUDY COMMITTEES - The 2015-2016 Legislature shipped dozens of bills off to a study committee. Most measures that are shipped off to a study committee are never actually studied and are essentially defeated. Most of the proposals have been refiled for consideration in the 2017-2018 Legislature. The 2015-2016 batch that died in study committees included:

TEACH DOCS ABOUT EATING DISORDERS (H 201) - Requires all doctors and physician assistants to complete a one-hour online course on the early recognition of eating disorders. The proposal also prohibits a hospital from granting or renewing professional priv-

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continued

ileges to a physician or physician assistant who has not completed the training. HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION? Beacon Hill Roll Call tracks the length of time that the

AFTERMARKET PARTS (H 3810) - Requires car dealers to inform car buyers, in writing, that federal law makes it illegal for motor vehicle manufacturers or dealers to void or deny coverage under a motor vehicle warranty solely because an aftermarket part was installed or someone other than the dealer performed service on the vehicle.

REWARD FOR WHISTLE-BLOWERS (H 3943)

- Rewards any person who reports that an individual is participating in the state's "underground economy." The whistle-blower would receive 10 percent of any tax revenue recovered.

"Underground economy" is a term commonly understood to include people working "under the table" for cash that is not reported to the IRS and Massachusetts Department of Revenue. It also includes many other illegal activities, for example, the misrepresentation by individuals or businesses of the actual number of their employees to avoid payroll taxes, insurance, licensing, safety and other regulatory requirements.

PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FAMILY CAREGIVERS (H 1682) - Prohibits workplace discrimination against family members who provide medical or supervisory care to a family member with a serious health condition. Beacon Hill Roll Call tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of the Legislature's job and that a lot of important work is done outside of the House and Senate chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that have been filed. They note that the infrequency and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late night sessions and a mad rush to act on dozens of bills in the days immediately preceding the end of an annual session. During the week of February 20-24, the House met for a total of 31 minutes and the Senate met for a total of 43 minutes.

Mon. February 20 No House session No Senate session

Tues. February 21 House 11:03 a.m. to 11:27 a.m. Senate 11:02 a.m. to 11:28 a.m.

Wed. February 22 No House session No Senate session

Thurs. February 23 House 11:04 a.m. to 11:11 a.m. Senate 11:09 a.m. to 11:26 a.m.

Fri. February 24 No House session No Senate session.

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

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REAL ESTATE

THE NORTON GROUP

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

Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
35 Horace Street	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath Colonial	45	\$719,000	\$695,000
61 Preston Rd	10 room, 5 bed, 1f 0h bath Victorian	97	\$775,000	\$735,000

Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:

Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
367 Somerville Ave U:F	4 room, 2 bed, 1f 0h bath Mid-Rise	20	\$369,000	\$464,000
74 Gilman U:10	5 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	54	\$490,000	\$470,000
26 Kidder Ave U:26A	4 room, 2 bed, 1f 0h bath 2/3 Family	95	\$499,000	\$485,000
68 Wheatland U:3	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	140	\$499,000	\$490,000
29 Pinckney St U:2	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	40	\$529,900	\$515,000
24 JACKSON RD U:1	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Detached	96	\$545,000	\$530,000
51 Sydney St U:1	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	39	\$549,900	\$545,000
18-20 Arlington St U:3	4 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	21	\$549,900	\$585,000
34 Calvin Street U:2	7 room, 3 bed, 1f 0h bath 2/3 Family	108	\$569,900	\$540,000
46 Josephine Ave U:1	5 room, 2 bed, 1f 0h bath 2/3 Family	85	\$575,000	\$540,000
76 Flint Street U:2	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	12	\$599,000	\$599,000
9 Silvey Place U:3	5 room, 2 bed, 1f 1h bath 2/3 Family	22	\$599,000	\$580,000
9 Silvey Place U:2	5 room, 2 bed, 1f 1h bath 2/3 Family	36	\$599,000	\$599,000
39 Oliver St U:2	5 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	34	\$618,000	\$585,000
76 Flint Street U:3	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	46	\$649,000	\$620,000
76 Flint Street U:1	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	38	\$649,000	\$645,000
Recent Multi-Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:				
Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
86 Franklin Street	2 unit, 9 total room, 4 total bedroom 2 Family	15	\$519,900	\$550,000
36 Merriam St	2 unit, 10 total room, 4 total bedroom 2 Family	53	\$725,000	\$770,000
34 Merriam St	2 unit, 10 total room, 4 total bedroom 2 Family	53	\$775,000	\$770,000
57-59 Puritan Rd	2 unit, 12 total room, 6 total bedroom 2 Family	55	\$829,900	\$805,000
5 Pearson Road	2 unit, 11 total room, 5 total bedroom 2 Family	21	\$1,050,000	\$1,150,000
51 Central Street	3 unit, 15 total room, 6 total bedroom 3 Family	16	\$1,250,000	\$1,400,000



Immersing oneself in Robyn Hitchcock CONT. FROM PG 1

admired without ever being a pop star or a sell-out.

Having formed The Soft Boys in 1976, Hitchcock has gone on to record as the leader of The Egyptians – which included two members of The Soft Boys – and The Venus 3, which includes Peter Buck of R.E.M., Scott McCaughey of The Young Fresh Fellows and The Minus 5, and Bill Rieflin of Ministry and latter-day R.E.M.

Hitchcock will celebrate his 64th birthday this Friday at ONCE Ballroom, where he will perform a sold-out show with his personal and professional partner Emma Swift and hopefully previewing material from his forthcoming new album, which will be available on April 21.

He spoke to *The Somerville Times* by phone from a coffee shop in Nashville, where he has resided since 2015 (or, as he puts it, "I have a house here and my belongings live here, and sometimes I'm here with them.").

The Somerville Times: How did Nashville become your new base of operations?

Robyn Hitchcock: I got together with Emma, my partner, who's opening the show. She was living here when we met. And then we went all over the world, really, for a while. She was here already, but I'd been coming here. I made that record with Gillian Welch and Dave Rawlings in 2003 called *Spooked*. I had some friends here, Emma had some friends here, more people seem to be coming in as we speak. My old friend Grant-Lee Phillips is based here. Brendan Benson also got in touch quite by coincidence. He didn't know I was coming here. He wound up engineering and producing my most recent record [the forthcoming *Robyn Hitchcock*].

So there was Brendan, and there's Grant, and there's Emma, and then Gill and Dave. Gosh, they're all on my – Dave isn't, but Gill is – they're all on my new record, along with some great local players.

"... I get mistaken for Nick Lowe a lot, because I have glasses like his and white hair"

TST: Do you get recognized in town?

RH: I do. Well, I get mistaken for Nick Lowe a lot, because I have glasses like his and white hair. They didn't used to think I was Nick Lowe until I got these glasses. Now most people think I'm him. There's a lot of musicians around here. On the whole, people don't bother you. You do run into other musicians. There's cafés full of them. I was just talking to some before you rang. It's a wonderful place. It's what it says on the label: Music City. Socially, it's fantastic.

In a town like Nashville, I'm very pleased to feel like I'm part of the musical community. It makes me feel like I've learned a trade.

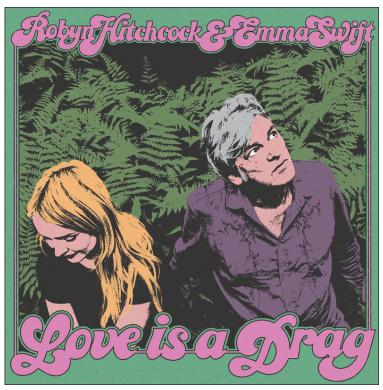
TST: Speaking of learning a trade, did you at any point in your life consider or pursue a non-artistic profession?

RH: No. I was reared to do one thing, which was to create art. If I hadn't done this I would have been, I suppose, a comedian or some kind of academic stand-up guy or a writer or a visual artist. I would never have thought of going into acting. I would have been something to do with writing and maybe standing up and reading it all. I see myself as being somewhere between being a professor and a comedian if I hadn't done this.

My listenership is almost entirely academics and artists. They're all in that world. They either make music or they write or they teach. Some of them are in the legal profession, but they're all that kind of a world.

TST: When did it become obvious to you that the 1980 Soft Boys album *Underwater Moonlight* had an audience that was not apparent at the time of its release?

RH: I didn't really realize there was an audience until about four years after The Soft Boys finished, '84-'85. People started telling me that we were selling records in America and people were listening to us on college radio and bands were citing us as an influence and stuff that we knew nothing of at the time. You know, we barely made it into the eighties. We were done by February '81, so it was all sort



Robyn Hitchcock and partner Emma Swift's *Love Is A Drag* single was released in October, 2016.

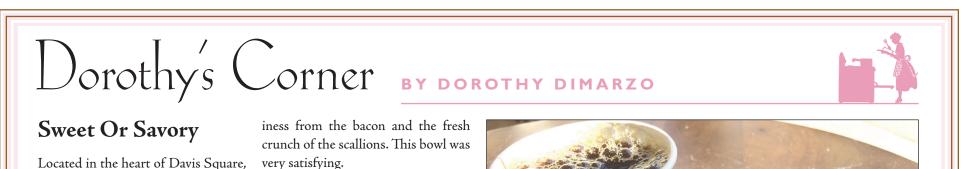
of posthumous. And then I got together with some of the other guys from The Soft Boys as Robyn Hitchcock & The Egyptians, because I'd already started making solo records. So I kind of reincorporated some of the Soft Boys into there. Most of the time it was populated entirely by old Soft Boys when it was a three-piece, me and the bassist [Andy Metcalfe] and drummer [Morris Windsor]. So The Soft Boys had very kind of slow fade. At the time the whole thing didn't seem to make any difference at all, really.

TST: Was there a specific inspiration for the names The Soft Boys, The Egyptians, and The Venus 3?

RH: Soft Boys was in part an amalgam of two William Bur-

roughs books: *The Wild Boys* and *The Soft Machine*. And in part it was a concept of The Soft Boys as being a kind of invisible force that had a lot of power but was unseen. A kind of sexually ambivalent sort of, rather like Brits are depicted in Hollywood movies, you know, sort of stalking the corridors and calling the shots but unseen. In a funny way it was kind of how we turned out. We were very invisible people, but I suppose we had an influence, but not a big one.

The Egyptians came about because I liked Egyptian iconography. You know, Thoth and Anubis and Bast and Horus and Isis. All those gods with animal heads and silhouettes. I used the silhouette of Thoth, who was the god of *Continued on page 17*



meal with numerous toppings is now open. Oat Shop offers bowls with almond butter, berries, bananas, apples, maple syrup, and a list of other sweet treats. If you're looking for more of a savory choice, they do not disappoint. A fried egg with bacon and a cheddar sauce or a fried egg with a Sriracha sauce kick, pesto with avocado, sweet potato coconut curry, even a sushi bowl with seaweed. Please go to the above website to see many other options available as add-ons.

a unique oat café offering bowls of oat-

I opted to try the oatmeal mixed with cheddar sauce, a soft boiled egg with bacon, scallions, and shredded cheddar cheese. This was a nice combination with the runny yolk over the oats and cheddar with a hint of salt9. A majority of people grab and go as it is convenient to the T and bus stops in the area.

There is seating available for about

Coffee, hot and iced along with espresso, lattes and cappuccinos, hot chocolate, and tea are offered.

So, whether you're looking for a grab and go breakfast, lunch or an in between snack, give it a try. The combinations are endless.

Gluten free, dairy free and vegan options are also available.

Oat Shop 22A College Ave. Somerville, MA 02144 617-996-6581

Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. No



Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. \$5.75 - \$6.50 plus add-ons Credit cards accepted No WiFi available oatshopboston.com

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

Somerville – Townhouse 39 Oxford St

A must see designed 2-townhouses/singles Brand new construction 6 Rooms - 3 Bedrooms - 2.5 Baths 2 Car Parking Left Unit \$1,150,000 Approximately 1900 sf of space, additional space in finished basement. Right Unit \$1,250,000 Approximately 1950 sf of space, additional space in finished basement,



Listing Agent: Donald Norton, The Norton Group Real Estate 699 Broadway, Somerville • 617-623-6600 ext. 11

Ruby Rogers Recovery Center may shut down

Local Nonprofit, The Ruby Rogers Center, may lose funding in July, following their fiscal year. The Center has been operating since 1985 and provides cost-free support to individuals who deal with the challenges of mental illness, development disabilities, aging, or dual diagnosis.



Somerville Neighborhood News brings you this overview news story (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pwk9RypHlh8&t=1s) and SCATV brings you a personal story (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ySLC60juSUQ) on one member who has benefited from the Center's services.

Please spread around these videos to increase awareness of this timely story and how people can help the Ruby Rogers Center by writing letters.

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the Ruby Rogers Center and ask for more funding for its activities. The Center is a safe space for people in mental health recovery to support one another with unconditional acceptance. It has been a stepping stone for members to find employment, stability, and community. Please continue to fund this crucial resource in Somerville.

Send your letter to Nanci Baren, Ruby Rogers Center Director barennanci@yahoo.com

Want to write local Somerville stories? Call 617-666-4010 and speak to the Assignment Editor



Sally O'Brien's 335 Somerville Ave. 617-666-3589

Monday March 6 Shawn Carter's Cheapshots Comedy Jam 7 p.m. Marley Mondays with Duppy Conquerors 10 p.m.

Alex Foster Foundation to host first fundraiser



By Maureen Foster

This March, the Alex Foster Foundation (AFF) will host their first fundraiser. AFF is a 501c3 charitable organization whose mission is to educate and raise awareness about addiction, and to offer support to those who are struggling with addiction and their families.

The Foster family formed the foundation after the loss of Alex, their son and brother, at the age of 28 in 2014. That year, almost 1,400 people in Massachusetts died from Substance Use Disorder.

Since the foundation has been formed, AFF has supported The CASPAR Emergency Shelter, the Somerville Homeless Coalition, and Teen Empowerment. Their HopeFULL Backpack

Their HopeFULL Backpack

Project has provided backpacks filled with daily living essentials to clients at the CASPAR Shelter, as well as our homeless neighbors. The group also hosted a 2015 community forum on addiction, which included talks by doctors from McLean Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital, an Addiction Counselor, and a parent of two addicts.

Just recently they began a Somerville chapter of GRASP (Grief Recovery After a Substance Passing), offering comfort and support to others who have lost a loved one to addiction.

AFF's fundraiser, an evening of Rock 'n Hope, will be held on March 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Irish American Club in Malden. There will be music from One Moe Time, a great local cover

band which includes Somerville natives Bob DiGuardia and Mike Pantanella. There will be a special performance by Laura Sanscartier, a former resident member of the chorus of the Boston Symphony and Boston Pops Orchestras.

The evening will also include dinner from Dom's in Malden and raffles. Please join us for a fun evening of music, dancing, and friends while raising money to help others. Tickets are \$40/ per person and can be purchased by emailing AFF at alexfosterfoundation@gmail.com or visiting facebook.com/alexfosterfoundation.





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Thursday March 9 Asa Brebner, Randy Black & The Heathcroppers, Tony Savarino & The Savtones 8 p.m,

Friday March 10

David Johnston Band 6 p.m. HereNowLive presents Water \$5 cover 9 p.m.

Saturday March 11

Tom Hagerty Band 6 p.m. Clippertones Peter birthday jam, Damian Quinones & friends, Eleanor & the Tasties 9 p.m.

Sunday March 12 Bucky Bear & The Titanium Hipsters

6 p.m.

www.sallyobriensbar.com



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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

To the Editor:

I wanted to offer some questions I had after reading the paper. I just moved into my first apartment here the other day, so consider me a fresh set of eyes.

So, the mayor discusses 3 issues that don't fit together, policy-wise. He discusses creating jobs (and economic development) for residents of Somerville, creating more afforable housing, and supporting illegal immigrants politically.

Here's where I'm confused: the front

To the Editor:

I am Sharon Rose and last Wednesday 2/22, I was in Davis sq. getting onto my MBTA Ride lift. I put my rollator walker on the lift with my packages. (My once a month trip for prescriptions and what not). I went to back off of the lift as I was going to take the stairs up. My foot caught the edge of the side of the lift and I went down hard. I had a reverse shoulder replacement on my

page article emphasizes jobs like construction, which is low-skill, high-wage. If Somerville successfully executes 'sanctuary city' policies, then low-skill illegal immigrants will be competing with US citizens for these construction and other low-skill jobs, adding to what this week's paper presents as a current oversupply of labor. In addition, because low-skill illegal immigrants are very likely poorer than the average Somerville resident, they will disproportionately make use of new affordable housing, further enlarging local demand for scarce affordable housing.

If US citizens in Somerville lack jobs and affordable housing, doesn't it make sense to make sure they are economically secure before inviting non-citizen illegals to compete for these same resources and opportunities? Otherwise, illegal immigrants benefit at the expense of US citizens who may be in similarly difficult economic circumstances. I think this dynamic is what motivates the Trump administration's executive order.

That is not to ignore the difficulties that

right shoulder in 2014 and a revision of it in Dec. That is all I was thinking was that I would have to have a 3rd surgery. People started milling around with the weather being so nice, some said they were calling 911, however the T driver told them not to call that I was OK and would get up on my own. Well when I fell it was on my right side I rolled over onto my left and I was laying there

able to put my arm down. Also ended up with a black eye and bent the frames on my glasses.

Long story short I was in the hospital overnight, My Orthopedist looked at the X-rays and decided to let the 2 mm break heal on its own. Although it is just at the end of my implant I am concerned that something might have shifted.

I just want to thank all of the wonderful people that stopped and stayed until I was put into the ambulance. I have no some illegal immigrants face which motivates them to come to places like Somerville. Rather, my question is about the mayor's priorities because making illegal immigrants a top priority is--in two concrete policy areas, by the laws of economics--to deprioritize the needs of the legal residents of Somerville (including legal immigrants).

Sincerely, Alexander Marks-Katz Somerville

idea who any of them were, but you know if you are reading this. I appreciate all of the help and comfort you gave me. I will be 62 on 3/7 and up into this I have never broken a bone.

If you can edit this enough to print so the people will know how much I appreciated their help I would be grateful.

Thanks Sharon Rose Somerville

District Attorney Marian Ryan announces Project Linus

Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan has announced a new partnership with Project Linus to provide blankets to children in Middlesex County who experience an opioid-related, or other trauma.

Somerville is the first community to partner with District Attorney Ryan and Project Linus. As part of the twopart initiative, the Somerville Police Department will immediately begin handing out blankets to children and seniors from the Somerville Council on Aging will be volunteering their time to create new, handmade blankets that will be distributed both locally and across the Greater Boston area.

"This initiative is another way our office is partnering with police departweek rapid response trauma-informed intervention for children who witness a parent or loved one suffer an overdose. Early and appropriate trauma-informed care can help children cope with trauma, build resiliency and help reduce the cyclical effects of substance misuse.

holding my right arm by the wrist in

tremendous amount of pain. I was un-

"This is an important step in addressing the impact that the opioid crisis has on the entire community"

"The Greater Boston Chapter is so pleased to partner with Project C.A.R.E. to provide 'handmade hugs' to the children in our community. We look forward to a successful partnership with the Middlesex District Attorney's Office," added Lucy Maiullari, Greater Boston Chapter Coordinator, Project Linus. Blankets will also be provided to Middlesex County Chiefs of Police and other first-responders across the County to distribute when children have experienced other types of trauma such as witnessing a violent crime, loss of a parent or sibling or displacement from their home.



Gloria Mozzicato, Greater Boston Chapter Coordinator, Project Linus, Former Somerville Mayor Eugene Brune, District Attorney Marian Ryan, Somerville Mayor Joseph Curtatone, Lucy Majullari,

ments to provide early and informed care to high-risk children who have experienced trauma, specifically opioid related trauma," said District Attorney Ryan. "Starting today we will be putting handmade blankets into the hands of first-responders across Middlesex County that will then be distributed to these children to provide a sense of security and help them cope after experiencing a traumatic event."

Through this program Project Linus will also provide blankets to all children identified through Project C.A.R.E, a partnership involving the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, the Lowell Police Department, Lowell Fire Department, Trinity Ambulance and the Mental Health Association of Greater Lowell to provide a 24-hour, 7-day-a-

The announcement, made yesterday to over 100 seniors at the annual Valentine's Day luncheon hosted by the Somerville Police Department, also Greater Boston Chapter Coordinator, Project Linus, and Somerville Chief of Police David Fallon.

marks the launch of an effort to recruit volunteers to help support and sustain this initiative. Some Somerville seniors arrived at yesterday's luncheon ready to help with their knitting materials in hand, while others came with already-made blankets to be donated to the program.

After the announcement Somerville Chief of Police David Fallon took a supply of more than 100 blankets back to station, which officers will begin distributing immediately.

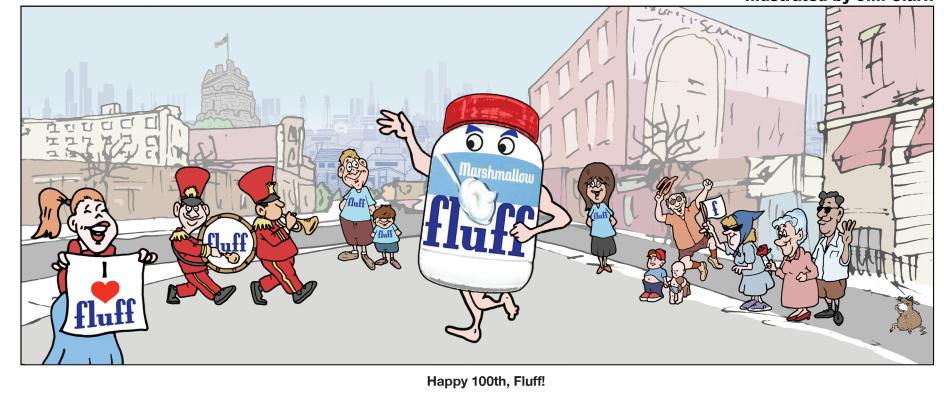
"We are honored to partner with District Attorney Ryan and Project Linus on this initiative," said Chief Fallon. "This is an important step in addressing the impact that the opioid crisis has on the entire community. Through this program we are providing early intervention to help some of the most vulnerable victims of the opioid epidemic, children."

Project Linus is a 100% volunteer organization dedicated to creating and delivering new handmade blankets to any child who may be in need of some extra comforting. Blankets can be knitted, crocheted, quilted or hand-tied by volunteers of all ages and abilities and are delivered to children in hospitals throughout the world or to any child in need of consolation. You can find more information about Project Linus and its Greater Boston Chapter at www.projectlinus.org.

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Our View Of The Times



venerated honoree. It's sure to be a great way to reacquaint ourselves with Fluff culture until the reg-

ular festival takes place in the fall. That's what it's all about in the end. So

happy birthday, Fluff. Let's all stop by to enjoy the celebration and pay our respects accordingly. Archibald Query will be smiling down from on high.

A lot of public events come and go over the course of each year: road races, music festivals, family events...you name it. What is it though about the celebration of the sticky, sweet and gooey confection called Marshmallow Fluff that kindles a spot of warmth in so many of our hearts? Is it the generally whacky nature of the event itself? The overall tongue-in-cheek nature of each event within the event?

It is certainly a unique affair, with a rich history and heritage that sparks the imagination and brings out the kid in all of us.

Whatever mysterious forces may exist that compel us to smear, spread, consume or bathe in the stuff, most of us have a real good time at it.

This year marks the 100th anniversary

of its invention by Archibald Query, right here in Somerville.

The Armory will play host to the celebration on Saturday, March 4, during its regular Farmers Market hours. Fluff treats will be offered, the history of the confection honored, and all sorts of fun activities are promising to make the day a special occasion for all who appreciate the

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Heuston has a candidate who will be opposing her this year. This will be her first opponent since she originally ran.

Ward 6 Alderman Lance Davis is rumored to have an opponent. We can't as of now verify her name but we hear that a woman is considering running against him.

Happy birthday to a lot of our friends and fellow Villens here this week: Happy birthday this week to Christine **Resmini**. We hope she has a great day and week for herself. A nice Somerville native who has a good heart. Happy birthday to a potential candidate for either mayor or Alderman At-Large, Sean Fitzgerald. We think it will pretty much be Alderman At-Large. We certainly hope he has a great day for himself on his birthday. He is very closely associated with and worked for both Mayor Gay and Senator Shannon. A person who, if he decides to run, is well qualified. Happy birthday this week to the very patient, understanding, and good-humored Ms. Nancy Trane, the wife of Bob Trane, the former Alderman of Ward 7. Happy birthday this week also to good old time friend Steven Buckley of the famous Buckley family that populated East Somerville. Growing up in East Somerville, they were everywhere, and Steven is now a resident of Assembly Row. We hope he has a great day for himself as well. Again, if you know of anyone celebrating and want their name mentioned, let us know and we will put it here. Happy birthday to all others here in the Ville who are celebrating.

There's a new website in town. Check it out at **www.somervillema.com**. *The Somerville Times* is on the site. Also check people applying for it, especially women. We can tell you first hand here that it's a great course and quite thorough. The same goes for this in *Newstalk*. The club has informed us that many residents of Somerville have called or gone to the club to find out about certification.

It's 2017 and **Demet's Donuts** over on Mystic Avenue is the best. We're noticing more and more Somerville residents over there getting their coffee and donuts overs. They are the best. Get a nice hot one out of the kitchen with some butter, you'll be asking for more.

Join the Somerville Chamber of Commerce for excellent networking, free appetizers, business card drawing, cash bar, sponsored by Thalia Tringo & Associates Real Estate. Hosted by Dana Iacopucci of Cubby Oil & Energy. Olde Magoun's Saloon, 518 Medford Street, Somerville MA 02145, Thursday, March

out **www.medfordma.com**. Someone asked online why we keep these two websites in *Newstalk*. We guess it's because we like them.

For those that might be interested in obtaining certification for firearms should look up the **Lawrence Rod & Gun Club**. They provide an extensive program at the end of which you receive certification for Massachusetts/NRA Certified Firearm Safety Classes. They run a class once a month, which is limited to 10 people and we hear that this is the place to go to learn safety when handling guns. Email gunclub@earthlink.net for more information and or go to their website at www. lawrencerodandgunclub.org and read up about the course. We've been told that the course has seen a major increase in to start the day. The ladies working there are fantastic and always smiling. If you're in the mood for a huge, great tasting donut drop over early since they disappear as the day gets on.

Nobody works harder than the people at **Goode Gas** on Pearl Street. If you're having a problem with your car they work hard to make sure it runs smoothly without costing you a lot. Stop in for gas and say "Hi" to **George** at the pumps. He's never shy for comments on what's going on here in Somerville. We're big fans here at *The Times* and always have been. You can say we grew up knowing **Vinny** and his brother. Mention that you saw it here.

Yes, we're big on the Mt. Vernon Restaurant, but we have to remark on the pop-

2, at 5:00 p.m.

Jesse Clingan is running for Ward 4 Alderman. Jesse will have his official campaign kickoff on Saturday, March 4 at 4:00 at Casey's Grill, 173 Broadway Somerville. The event is open to the public. All are welcome.

The Tufts University Department of Music presents Angel of Desire: The Funk Rock and Soul Jazz of Adrian Sicam in the Distler Performance Hall at the Perry and Marty Granoff Music Center on Sunday, April 2 at 3:00 p.m. Singer-songwriter and pianist Adrian Sicam will present the very best of his original songs and arrangements from the start of his career through to the present.

bfresh market opens in Davis Sq.

CONT. FROM PG 5















Go to www.thesomervilletimes.com for more photos

Photos by Bobbie Toner





Construction Technology visited

The Somerville Times photographer, Claudia Ferro, visited the The Construction Technology department at Somerville High School this week.

The department is the gateway to one of the highest paid, in demand, occupations in the United States today. Entering students get a comprehensive introduction to safety, hand and power tools. The students will then progress to construction techniques and eventually residential house construction and re-modeling.

Off site projects are common in the third and fourth year of study. Fourth year students are encouraged to obtain co-operative work placements. Post secondary articulation agreements are in place and all construction technology students are directed whenever possible to study at the post-secondary level. Business classes make a fine addition to the students four year course of study.

Licenses, certifications, and affiliations include OSHA-30, First aid and AED/CPR certification, Ladder Safety Certification, Carpenter Local 218, Laborers Local 55

The school program is staffed by Lead Teacher Mario Sousa and by Robert Day.











Go to www.thesomervilletimes.com for more photos

Photos by Claudia Ferro





SPORTS

Somerville students learn leadership skills at Playworks New England Convention

By Rebecca Danvers

On February 22 and 23, Playworks New England welcomed 150 fourth and fifth grade students, representing 29 Boston Public Schools and five schools in Somerville (Arthur Healey School, East Somerville Community School, West Somerville Neighborhood School, Albert F. Argenziano School, Benjamin Brown Elementary School), during the nonprofit's eighth annual Junior Coach Leadership Convention at Northeastern University.

Participating students, who are Playworks Junior Coaches and lead their peers on the playground during recess for the nonprofit, engaged in organized games and activities to devel-

Ms. Cam's

op leadership skills to be used during school, at home and in their communities.

During the two-day event, Playworks staff, volunteers and other special guests led students in organized skill-building games and activities across campus. The goal of the two-day event was to keep students socially, emotionally and physically engaged while providing them with the opportunity to play with their peers during February school vacation.

On the first day, Eliza Shirazi, creator of Kick It by Eliza, and Adelle Girvan, a Kick-It By Eliza Instructor kicked off the two day event with a fun-filled kickboxing class followed by discussion about the importance of inclusion and bullying prevention.



Many Somerville elementary school students gained some valuable leadership skills last week as they participated in Playworks New England's eighth annual Junior Coach Leadership Convention at Northeastern University.

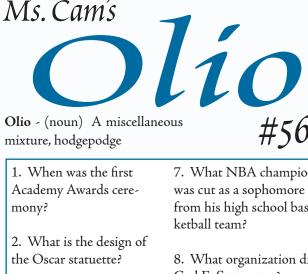


In the afternoon, 15 of Playworks New England's Ameri-Corps Program Coordinators broke students into five different groups to engage in anti-bullying conversations. During this time, Playworks Junior Coaches discussed their roles as leaders in and out of school and ways in which they can reinforce positive sportsmanship during recess. In addition, they developed life maps and shared their current and future goals. On the second day, varsity student-athletes from Northeastern University and a member of the Boston Renegades professional women's team shared how their experiences playing sports have helped shaped them into leaders on their teams, in the classroom, and in their communities during a Q&A-style discussion

panel. Panelists emphasized the importance of engaging in positive extracurricular activities and doing well both socially and academically in school. The event concluded with a student scavenger hunt across campus, leading Junior Coaches to explore classrooms, lecture halls, the library and student store. Official campus tours were also provided by Northeastern University Tour Guides. "This year's Junior Coach Leadership Convention was a great success," says Jonathan Gay, Playworks New England Executive Director. "Our Junior Coaches participated in many skill-building activities and conversations that will enable them to become better leaders in school and in life. For many students, this was the first time visiting a college campus and we

hope we have inspired them to pursue a college education and achieve their dreams."

Playworks New England is



3. What instrument's name translates to "jumping flea" in Hawaiian?

4. What toy was Arnold Schwarzenegger searching for in the comedy Jingle All The Way?

5. What was the first YouTube video to reach one billion views?

7. What NBA champion was cut as a sophomore from his high school basketball team?

#567

8. What organization did Carl E. Stotz start?

9. On what golf course can you find "Amen Corner"?

10. What animal has four knees?

11. What are corzetti pasta shaped like?

6. Why is Facebook primarily blue?

12. Which American city is a slang name for a pineapple? Answers on page 17

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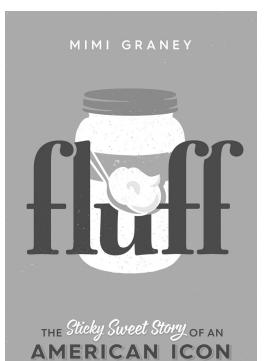
leading the regional recess revolution. The nonprofit, which is part of a national organization, brings play and youth development programming into schools during recess as a means to improve the health and well-being of children and to enhance learning through the power of play.

Entering its 11th year, Playworks New England serves 50,000 students in more than 100 elementary schools across Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire. To date, the nonprofit has served 160,000 youth. For more information, visit: http://www. playworks.org/communities/ massachusetts.

Local history was never so sweet

No other food conjures such intense feelings of loyalty as the 100-year-old Marshmallow Fluff.

Indeed, tens of thousands of people descend upon Somerville's Union Square every September to celebrate the whimsy and wonder of this beloved product. Join in on Thursday, March 2, at Somerville Brewing Company, 15 Ward Street, Somerville, as we celebrate the launch of Fluff: The Sticky Sweet Story of an American Icon by the fabulous Mimi Graney.



- all in the name of history. Books will be available for sale - come get your copy signed by the author, hot off the press!

There will be fluffy treats, cold beers, and dancing Flufferettes

Can't make it to the launch party on March 2? Don't worry your fluffy little head: Mimi is making the rounds this spring! On Saturday, March 4, it's Happy 100th Birthday, Fluff! Celebrate at the Somerville Winter Farmers Market from 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and enjoy special Fluff treats from the vendors. Wear your Fluff t-shirt or say "I'm a friend of Archibald Query" for special

discounts throughout the market. Visit author Mimi Graney at her booth, where she will be signing and selling copies of Fluff.

Graney, founder of the What the Fluff? festival, has a knack for leveraging the assets of flagging communities to revitalize neighborhoods and local economies. When tasked with breathing new life into Union Square, Graney harnessed the power of Fluff – first invented there by Archibald Query in 1917 – and the festival was born.

As it enters its 12th year, Graney remains stuck on Fluff. To Graney, Fluff is more than a retro ingredient in a folksy sandwich. It is a story about the merits and pitfalls of adaptation and innovation."Durkee-Mower, the small, family-run company behind Marshmallow Fluff, is one of the few remaining New England businesses manufacturing just a single product," says Graney. "Its leaders have been able to respond to different demands across the company's history."

During its early years, Durkee-Mower expanded its factory and pursued the new advertising opportunities of radio. In the 1950s and 1960s, with a modernized plant and strong relationships with a number of major supermarket chains, Durkee-Mower stood up to national competitor Kraft, building a product identity that's endured for generations.

In Fluff, Graney deftly brings the factory floor to life, weaving a fascinating narrative about New England's forgotten candy industry, changing social roles for women, the advent of commercial radio and modern advertising, and the supermarket revolution.

Fluff has survived two world wars, nutrition battles, and the rise and fall of manufacturing towns. The world has changed around it, yet this icon of nostalgia remains the same.



What's on Somerville **Neighborhood News**

Somerville Neighborhood News is a production of Somerville Community Access Television, made by professional journalists, volunteers and staff. The half-hour news show has as its mission to provide a lively, informative newscast focusing on the events, issues and information impacting Somerville residents. Below are our latest news segments from SNN #78.



Somerville Storytelling Project

In honor of Somerville's 175th birthday, the City has begun a Storytelling Project, encouraging members of the community to share their Somerville experiences. An event was held at the Somerville Public Library (MA) to kick off the project.

We Are One Somerville: Sanctuary City Rally

On February 4, the City of Somerville in partnership with The Welcome Project held a rally for Sanctuary Cities and Inclusion. Speakers included city officials, local business owners, Somerville High School students and more.

Maple Tree Tapping with Groundwork Somerville

On January 28, Groundwork Somerville held it's annual Maple Tree Tapping Day at Tufts University. The event is part of their Maple Syrup Project which will continue with the Maple Syrup Boil Down Festival on March 4. Check it out!



"People feel a personal, emotional connection with Fluff, associating it with the innocence and comfort of childhood and home," says Graney. "Opening a jar of Fluff is like returning to your mom's kitchen."

Fluff author Mimi Graney.

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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE **OF PUBLIC HEARING**

A joint public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Planning Board and the Board of Aldermen Land Use Committee on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers on the Second Floor of Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive public comments concerning the following:

AN UPDATED AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO CREATE NEW CCD-55 AND CCD-45 COMMERCIAL SUBDISTRICTS, A NEW COORDINATED DEVELOPMENT SPECIAL PERMIT, A NEW UNION SQUARE OVERLAY DISTRICT, AND RELATED CHANGES TO ARTICLE 5 AND THE ZONING MAP.

AN UPDATED ARTICLE 16B IN THE CITY'S ZONING ORDINANCES, WITH ATTENDANT ZONING MAP CHANGES, TO ESTABLISH A MINIMUM MIXED USE RATIO IN DESIGNATED AREAS.

AN AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE TO ADJUST THE DEFINITION OF NET FLOOR AREA, CLARIFY AFFORDABLE HOUS-ING REQUIRED IN RA AND RB DISTRICTS, AND CONFIRM THE PROCESS TO APPROVE SUBDIVISIONS, LOT SPLITS, LOT MERG-ERS AND LOT LINE ADJUSTMENTS.

AN AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE MAP TO REZONE **PROPERTIES ON EMERSON STREET AND A PORTION OF EVERETT** STREET TO RESIDENCE B.

Copies of these 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/

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

Attest: Kevin Prior, Chairman, Somerville Planning Board Attest: Lance Davis, Chair, Land Use Committee of the Somerville

Board of Aldermen

To be published in Boston Herald on February 21, 2017 and February 28, 2017

To be published in the Somerville Times on February 22, 2017 and March 1, 2017

2/22/17, 3/1/17 The Somerville Times

TO PLACE LEGAL ADVERTISMENTS IN THE SOMERVILLE TIMES, CONTACT US BY 12 PM MONDAY PH: 617.666.4010 FAX: 617.628.0422





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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE **OF PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

28 Hawthorne Street: (Case #ZBA 2016-142) Applicant/Owner, Hawthorne Development Ventures, LLC, seeks a Special Permit under SZO \$4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure, \$9.13 for parking relief, and a Special Permit with Site Plan Review under §7.2 to locate more than one principal structure on the lot by constructing a new single family dwelling on the locus. RB zone. Ward 6.

10 Miner Street: (Case #ZBA 2017-12) Applicants and Owners, Carolyn Hayes and Matthew Daniels, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to perform an alteration within the required left side yard of a nonconforming structure, RA zone, Ward 5.

91-93 Rogers Avenue: (Case # ZBA 2017-13) Applicants and Owners, Arthur and Maria O'Callaghan, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to increase the FAR of a nonconforming structure by finishing the basement. RA Zone. Ward 6.

8 Hamilton Road: (Case # ZBA 2017-09) Applicants and Owners, 8 Hamilton, LLC, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to increase the FAR by finishing the basement and attic, and a Special Permit under Article 9 of the SZO for parking relief. RA Zone. Ward 7.

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

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant

As published in The Somerville Times on 3/1/17 & 3/8/17.

3/1/17 The Somerville Times

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT THE PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT DEPARTMENT SALE OF REAL ESTATE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Docket NO. MI 16P4974EA

MIDDLESEX DIVISION Estate of Mary T. Barry Date of Death: June 3rd, 2016 Late of Somerville in the County of Middlesex

A petition has been presented in the above captioned matter by the personal representative, David W. Barry of Reading in the State of Massachusetts, praying for license to sell at a private sale - certain real estate of said deceased wherefore your petitioner prays that they may be authorized to sell said real estate situated in Somerville of said deceased at a private sale or public auction.

If you desire to object to the allowance of said petition, you or your attorney must file a written appearance in said Court of Cambridge on or before 10:00 a.m. in the forenoon of the 27th of March 2017.



ADVERTISEMEN1

The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Roofing Contractors for the Corbett Apartments Roof Replacement, located at 125 and 32 Jaques Street Somerville Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by Winslow Architects, phil@winslowarchitects.com.

The Project consists of: All labor, materials, equipment and supervision necessary to remove the existing asphalt roofing and properly dispose of and install new asphalt roofing.

The work is estimated to cost \$195,000.00

Bids are subject to M.G.L. 149 & 44A(2) (B)& to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 to 27H inclusive, and the Prevailing Wage rates, whichever hourly rate pays more.

General Bids will be received until 2:00 p.m., Thursday, March 8th, 2017 electronically only at Bid DocsOnline.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available only electronically on Bid Docs Online.

A prebid meeting will be held at 125 Jaques Street, Somerville, Ma on Wednesday March1st, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. It is strongly suggested that all prospective bidders attend the pre-bid meeting.

Questions should be directed to Brian Langton at (617) 625-1152 Ext 331 or Email at brianl@sha-web.org

The Somerville Housing Authority reserves the right to waive any informalities in or to reject any and all bids, or to waive any informalities in the bidding. No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of thirty (30) days. Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after approval of the award by the Somerville Housing Authority without written consent of the Somerville Housing Authority.

2/22/17, 3/1/17 The Somerville Times



CITY OF SOMERVILLE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT IFB 17-57

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

Winter Hill Community School Park3

Bid packages for may be obtained online at <u>http://www.somervillema.</u> <u>gov/bidpostings</u> or may be picked up at the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, First Floor, Somerville, MA 02143 beginning on Wednesday March 8th, 2017.

Sealed bids will be received until Wednesday March 22nd, 2017 at 11:00am. Late bids will not be considered. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all bids if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please contact Michael Richards at 617-625-6600 x 3403, or email mrichards@somervillema.gov for information and the bid package.

> **Michael Richards** Assistant Purchasing Director

3/1/17 The Somerville Times

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday February 13, 2017 at the Senior Center, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at 6:00PM on the application of Somerville Café Inc. for an Entertainment License by Devices at 376 Mystic Ave., Somerville, MA

> For the Commission Andrew Upton John J. McKenna

Attest: Lori Jean Batzek Administrative Assistant

Witness, Hon. Edward F. Donnelly, Jr. Esq., First Justice of said Court, this 27th of February 2017.

> Tara E. De Cristofaro **Register of Probate**

3/1/17 The Somerville Times

3/1/17 The Somerville Times

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

Public Hearing on the Union Square Master Land Disposition Agreement March 8

The Somerville Redevelopment Authority (SRA) invites the public to comment on the Master Land Disposition Agreement (MLDA) with Union Square Station Associates (US2) at a special SRA meeting and public hearing on Wednesday, March 8, at 5:30 p.m. The MLDA between the Somerville Redevelopment Authority and Union Square Master Developer US2 was submitted to the SRA for review at their meeting on February 16. The SRA will hear comments at the March 8 meeting, and comments are also currently being accepted via email. All email comments must be submitted via email to Emily Hedeman at ehedeman@somervillema.gov by 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday March 8. The meeting will be held at Somerville City Hall, in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue. To view the MLDA, please visit somervillema.gov/US2MLDA. For more information, please visit somervillema.gov/unionsquare or contact Emily Hedeman at ehedeman@somervillema.gov or (617) 625-6600 x2546.



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

Q: What are the differences between MassHealth, Medicaid, and Medicare?

By Corrine Lofchie

A: That's something that people often get confused about – Medicare vs. Medicaid, or Mass-Health.

So I'll start by saying that MassHealth and Medicaid are the same thing. In Massachusetts, we call our Medicaid program MassHealth, because we wanted our own name for it. Some other states also have their own names, while others just call it Medicaid.

I had a teacher once who explained the difference between Medicare and Medicaid to me this way, and it stuck with me: Medicare – we care for the elderly and disabled, and Medicaid – we aid the poor. The creators of the programs set them up with that intention.

Medicaid is primarily based on income, although there are oth-

er factors that apply. Medicare is primarily based on your age and whether or not you have a disability. So it's mostly for those 65 and older, or younger people with disabilities.

MassHealth funds many programs for people who need care. It covers costs of long-term care, either in a nursing home or at home.

Medicare is a federal health insurance program that comes in several parts. Part A is hospital insurance, which covers inpatient stays, care in a skilled nursing facility, hospice and some home health care. Part B is medical insurance, which covers some doctor services, outpatient care, medical supplies and preventative services. Part D offers prescription drug coverage.

As part of our Aging Information Center, one of the things we do is health insurance counseling. It's a free service that's open to anyone who's looking for assistance around Medicare and MassHealth planning – there are no guidelines in terms of eligibility. If you're around age 65, we encourage you to give us a call so we can help you figure out who you need to talk to and how to do that planning.

Corinne Lofchie, LICSW is an Elder Care Advisor at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES), a non-profit agency that supports the independence and well-being of older people in Somerville and Cambridge. For more information, check out the Things to Know When Turning 65 episode of Aging Well at the SCES Youtube Channel, or contact the SCES Aging Information Center at 617-628-2601 for free advice and guidance.



LICSW is an Elder Care Advisor at Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES), Corinne Lofchie.

City seeking participants for 2017 energy efficiency program

Both Somerville residents and the city stand to benefit if 1,500 Somerville households sign up for a no-cost Mass Save® Home Energy Assessment in 2017 as part of the City's Be SEEN! program (Be Somerville Energy Efficient Now!).

The home energy assessments help residents save on energy costs and include free energy saving equipment such as LED and CFL light bulbs, programmable thermostats, and smart power strips. Meanwhile, if 1,500 households complete assessments and a cumulative 743 energy upgrades, the city can receive up to \$40,000 in grants from the National Grid Community Initiative.

"This program is a win-win for the community," said Environmental Housing Programs Coordinator Christine Andrews. "Residents who participated last year will cumulatively save \$118,000 annually on their utility bills going forward and they will reduce Somerville's greenhouse gas emissions by 1,900 metric tons every year. And thanks to them, the city also received a \$36,482 grant award from National Grid last year for meeting and exceeding our 2016 Community Initiative goals. We hope to achieve even more savings this year."

Residents, both homeowners and renters, who have not had a Home Energy Assessment in the past two years are eligible to Continued on page 21



Immersing oneself in Robyn Hitchcock

CONT. FROM PG 8

wisdom or libraries or knowledge, for The Egyptians, and I used Anubis, who was the god of the underworld – the jackal god – for [the 1984 album] *I Often Dream of Trains*.

And The Venus 3 was, my father had written a book called cade of music? *Venus 13,* a sort of comedy about people trying to have sex in space. I was calling them The Minus 3 at that point, because they were a version of The Minus 5, Scott [McCaughey] and Peter [Buck]'s band. And I looked at Minus 3 one day with my glasses off and it looked like Venus 13, so it mutated. TST: How do you decide which songs by other artists are worthy of your treatment? **RH:** I don't decide. I sing any song that I would like to have written myself. If I don't think that I would have liked to have written it then I don't bother. Certainly the ones that I recorded on that last record of mine [The Man Upstairs]. The five on

that are all songs I wished I'd written. Anything you find me singing at the end of the night, any encores, I'll sing songs from my record collection.

TST: Do you, from a listener's perspective, have a favorite decade of music?

RH: Well from my perspective, I suppose it goes from, you know, '65 up to ... a lot of what's called "the sixties." It probably goes from about The Byrds up to ... I mean, David Bowie and Roxy Music were still doing great stuff into the eighties. But it's what hits you when you're that age, you know? If the first thing you heard was The Pixies, that's going to mean more to you than going back to listen to The Velvet Underground or David Bowie. I was 14 when [Jimi Hendrix's] Are You Experienced? came out. I was 15 when I heard The Velvet Underground. I was 13 when I discovered Bob Dylan. Those

things are just hardwired into me. It's the kind of thing that they can put on in a health club to make you feel young.

My psychedelic bar mitzvah was 1966. I turned 13, and that was the year of *Eight Miles* High [The Byrds] and Revolver [The Beatles] and Visions of Johanna and Blonde on Blonde [Bob Dylan]. I was just there. I coincided with it and that's kind of why I make the music I make. If I'd grown up a decade later, listening to For Your Pleasure [Roxy Music] and Aladdin Sane [David Bowie] and Electric Warrior [T. Rex] or something, I'd probably be making a different kind. I love those records, but my approach would be different. Or another decade after that, and I was listening to Murmur [R.E.M.] and The Queen is Dead [The Smiths] and Doolittle [The Pixies]. They're all good records; they're all great records in a way.

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Answers 1. May 16, 1929 6. Mark Zuckerberg is color blind and he sees 2. A knight holding a crusader's sword, standblue best ing on a reel of film with five spokes, signifying the 7. Michael Jordan original branches of the Academy: actors, writers, 8. Little League Baseball directors, producers, and technicians 9. Augusta National 3. Ukulele 10. Elephant 4. Turbo Man 11. Coins 12. Chicago 5. Gangnam Style

•••• VILLENS ON THE TOWN ••••

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Wednesday|March 1 East Branch Library Preschool Storytime 11 a.m.-11:30 a.m. 115 Broadway

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

Thursday March 2 Central Library Preschool: Storytime for 3 to 5 year olds 10:30 a.m.- 11:15 a.m. 79 Highland

Ave **East Branch Library** Lego Club

3:15 p.m.-4:45 p.m.|115 Broadway West Branch Library

Leao Club 3:30 p.m.- 4:45 p.m.|40 College Ave

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

Central Library Girl Scouts - Daisy Meeting 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Friday March 3

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

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

Saturday March 4

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

Monday March 6

Central Library Sing Along 11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.|79 Highland Ave Central Library Creative Drama Workshop 4 p.m.-5 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Tuesday March 7

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

Central Library Homeschool Reading Group for Ages 13-15 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

Wednesday|March 8

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

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

MUSIC ARTS

Wednesday|March 1 Sally O'Brien's Bar Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.|335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room Exile on Elm Back Room Backroom Series: Runa PLUS Skipper's Alley|7 p.m. Comedy Night With Jordan Handren-Seavey|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge Burnt village Hail Nothing

Bellows Christian Holden (from The Hotelier), Horse Jumper of Love 156 Highland Ave

The Rockwell HUSH: Silent Film-Live Music, Dr. Jekyll and Mr.Hyde 7:30 p.m.|255 Elm Street

Arts at the Armory Wiretap Wednesday Open Stage 7 p.m. Café **BrilliantBrits** 7:30 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Thursday|March 2 Sally O'Brien's BYO Bluegrass with Dave Rizzuti grassy Thursdays |7:30 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room Lunchtime Concert Series|1-2pm Matt Borrello, Mike Verge & Company|9:30 pm Backroom Series: Scattershots|10

247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge Early Show ft. Mosspoint Luck The People's Ensemble Dancehall Lounge 345 Somerville Äve

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

Orleans Restaurant and Bar 65 Holland St|617-591-2100 Bull McCabe's

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045 Joshua Tree

256 Elm St. |617-623-9910 Samba Bar & Grille 608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

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

Thunder Road Black Samurai & The Conscious Collective (Psych Rock) 8 p.m. 379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom The Joy Formidable Phoebe Bridges 8 p.m.|56 Highland Ave

The Rockwell The Irish Comedy Tour 8 p.m.|255 Elm Śtreet

Arts at the Armory Smut Slam 7:30 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Friday March 3

Sally O'Brien's Hashtag Hoedown |6 p.m. King Radio, Michael Murray doing Imperial Bedroom, The Bamboo Steamers|9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Backroom Series: Alice Howe & Marina Evans|7 p.m. Young Love & the Thrills|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge Blue Hyenas (Boston) The Mangroves (VT) Color & Friends (Boston) The Bonnets (VT) 345 Somerville Áve

On The Hill Tavern 499 Broadway |617-629-5302 M'BOLO 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street The Rockwell Shit-Faced Shakespeare: Romeo & Juliet 7 p.m. Vallis Alps 10 p.m. 255 Elm Street

Saturday March 4

Sally O'Brien's Stan Martin & The Moonshiners 6 p.m. Crushing Low, Tad Overbaugh & Late Arrivals, Bitter Bastids \$5 cover |9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589 The Burren Front Room: Bluegrass Session|2 p.m. The BagBoys|5 p.m. Irish Session|9:30 p.m. Back Room The Burren Backroom Saturday & Sunday Jazz Brunch with Tom Pendergast 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Evan Goodrow and the Highlanders 7

Cover Up|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

p.m.

P.A.'s Lounge Kate Taylor Mighty Keren Ábreu The Mountain and the Viper Off World OTP After The Burn Monkey Knife Fight 6 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave Orleans Restaurant and Bar Karaoke

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

Bull McCabe's

TBA 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045 Joshua Tree DJ El Sid!

256 Elm St. |617-623-9910 Samba Bar & Grille Live Band & DI 608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

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

Thunder Road

Soule Monde Feat. Russ Lawton & Ray Paczkowski of Trey Anastasio (funk) 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Featuring DJ lpek 7 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom Sephardic Sounds and Spices: Asefa in concert

8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave The Rockwell KERPLUNK!|11 a.m. Shit-Faced Shakespeare: Romeo &

Juliet 7 p.m. 255 Ėlm St Arts at the Armory

Somerville Songwriter Sessions 8 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Sunday|March 5

Sally O'Brien's Bar The Natural Wonders|4:30 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589 The Burren 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896 PA'S Lounge

The Rockwell Jeffrey Foulcault 7:30 p.m.|255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory Journeys in Sound Presents: Passepartout Duo plus Julian Loida -Contemporary Configurations 4 p.m.| Cafel|191 Highland Ave

Monday March 6

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

The Burren

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

P.A.'s Lounge Slimey Mondays w/ Yoshi Walsh Old School Mondays

345 Somerville Ave On The Hill Tavern 499 Broadway|617-629-5302

Bull McCabe's Pub Stump! Team Trivia

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045 Thunder Road The Murdock Manor Stripped Sets Monday Night Series 7:30 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom The John Frazee Trio

8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave The Rockwell HipStory Films Premieres Vitiligo & Art of Being Haunted 7:30 p.m.|255 Elm St

Arts at the Armorv Queer Tango Boston 6 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday | March 7 Sally O'Brien's Bar

TBA 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room Jason Anick and the Swingers Swing/ jazz|8:30 p.m. Back Room: Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan|10

p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA's Lounge Open Mic Night 345 Somerville Ave

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

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

Highland Kitchen First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling

Bee Night hosted by Victor and Nicole of Egoart. The fun starts at 10:00p.m.

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

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

Pub Ouiz 10 p.m.|239 Holland St.|617-625-8200

Thunder Road 379 Somerville Ave The A-Beez – Funk & Soul 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

Highland Kitchen 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

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

HUSH: Silent Film-Live Music, Dr.

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

CLASSES AND GROUPS

Library Staff Scheduling Meeting

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

Dying Well Prepared: Conversations

and Choices for Terminal Patients 7 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Central Library Income Inequality Reading Group

7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Thursday March 2

40 College Ave

East Branch Library

West Branch Library Learn English at the Library!

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

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

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

Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step

program for people with problems

Weekday working group meeting 10 a.m.-12 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Central Library Opening: Exhibition Paintings of

Celoni Espinola 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

9:30 a.m. Performance Hall 191

Somerville Writers and Poets meet

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

Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon

Enter upstairs, meeting is in base-

weekly to discuss their work

Family Groups 7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street

Sunday March 5

Unity Church of God

Monday March 6

Somerville Winters Farmer Market

with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor). For more info call: 781-762-6629

First Church Somerville

Friday March 3

Saturday March 4

Central Library

Highland Ave

Bagel Bards

Holland St

ment

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom

7 p.m. 156 Highland Ave

7:30 p.m.|255 Élm Street

Wednesday March 1

Pub Trivia

Simpsons Trivia

The Rockwell

Jekyll and Mr.Hyde

Arts at the Armory

Central Library

Central Library

The Canvas Collective 8 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

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

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

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

Thunder Road

1st Annual Thunder Road Boogie Nights feat. Bearly Dead -Wednesday Night Grateful Dead Residency 8 p.m.| 379 Somerville Ave

Highland Kitchen 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

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

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom Sad13

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

Bull McCabe's TBA 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

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

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

Thunder Road 1st Annual Thunder Road Boogie Nights feat. Max Creek (Jam) 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom Robyn Hitchcock Emma Swift 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co.

345 Somerville Ave

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

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

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

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

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

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom Clap Your Hands Say Yeah Steady Holiday 8:30 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. **Rvan Alvanos** 2 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom Power Trip / Iron Reagan Glory, Prison Hit, Hardware 7:30 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Arts at the Armory Rough Cut Media Screening 7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

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

The Burren 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896 P.A.'s Lounge The Spots Kat Kennedy Tory Silver Victoria Rios 8 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

On The Hill Tavern 499 Broadway 617-629-5302

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

Bull McCabe's Pub

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

West Branch Library Drop in Knitting at West Branch 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|40 College Ave

Central Library Nicole Sullivan 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Central Library Chess Night 7 p.m.-8:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Tuesday | March 7

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

Wednesday March 8

Central Library Board of Library Trustees Meeting 6 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

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

All clubs and groups welcome new members.

Holland Street: 167 Holland Street

*Monday through Friday 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300

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

Cross Street Center: 165 Broadway Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. Wednesday – 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. (Please note time change) (617) 625-6600 Ext. 2335.

Ralph and Jenny Center: 9 New Washington Street, Tuesday through Thursday 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. (Please note time change) (617) 666-5223.

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

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

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

Silver Alert Program – The Somerville Council on Aging with the Somerville Police Department have implemented a program to take a proactive approach towards protecting some of Somerville's most vulnerable citizens who suffer with serious cognitive impairments that put them at risk for wandering and getting lost. The Silver Alert Program is designed to collect specific information about a potential missing person, along with photo identification. This confidential information will be kept on file for immediate use in the event a loved one is reported missing. Please contact the SCOA at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 for additional information or to register. Free Groceries Every Month? - You may be eligible for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program! CSFP is a once a month food distribution for individuals 60 years of age or older. You may be eligible to receive two free bags of food once a month containing healthy shelf stable products. Proof of identity and age are all that

p.m. - \$10 fee – limited seating and transportation – contact Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300

St. Patrick's Day Celebration – Friday, March 17 – at the WHYC – 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. – limited seating and transportation – contact Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to reserve your spot

Twin River Casino – Monday, March 27 – Lincoln, RI -\$20 fee includes motor coach transportation and a yet to be determined package – contact Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300

Fiore's Restaurant – Wednesday, March 29 – check in at Holland Street at 10:45 a.m. and Ralph & Jenny at 11:00 a.m. – approximate return time of 3:00 p.m. -\$25 – meal choice, chicken parm., salmon, ricotta & spinach manicotti, lasagna or vegetable lasagna – To reserve your spot please call Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300

The Johnny Come Latelies – Thursday, March 30 at 10:30 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Join us for a great morning of All-Acoustic Irish Music. Please RSVP by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Multicultural Day – Thursday, April 6 – at our Cross Street Center located at 165 Broadway – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. – lunch will be served at noontime – come learn about the music, languages, foods and cultures of Somerville's older adults. This is a free event – must RSVP to Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335 by Monday, April 3rd.

Author Daphne Kalotay – Thursday, April 13th - 10:30 at our Holland Street Center. Join us for a reading and a behind the scenes look at a writer's life. Lunch & bingo will be served following the discussion. Please RSVP by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

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

Howie Newman – Thursday, April 20 - 10:30 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Join us for a morning of baseball songs and trivia. Lunch & bingo will be held following the performance. Please RSVP by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

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

Older American's Month Celebration – Monday, May 1 – at the WHYC from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. - \$10 fee – limited seating and transportation – contact Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to reserve your spot

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

Friendly Caller Program - Do you know someone who could benefit from a friendly call? Maybe you are feeling isolated and want someone to talk to – or you just want someone to listen. Please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300 to sign up for our "Friendly Caller" Program contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

2017 Advisory Dates 4:30-5:30 p.m. at Holland St. March 13, July 10, October 16.

2017 Event Dates

April 27 – Health Fair @ Holland St. Center 4:30-6 p.m. June 2 – Dance @ The Holiday Inn 6:00 p.m.

STAY ACTIVE:

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

Weekly Exercise Class Schedule

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

Mondays:

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

Tuesdays:

9:15 Strengthening - \$3 per class (H) 11:15 Fit-4-Life (C) 1:00 Dalcroze Eurhythmics*** 6:00 LBT Fit-4-Life* (H)

Wednesdays:

8:45 Fit-4-Life Group A (H) – Exercise 9:00 Fit-4-Life Group B (H) - Nutrition 10:00 Fit-4-Life Group B (H) – Exercise 10:00 Fit-4-Life Group A (H) – Nutrition 12:00 Fit-4-Life Group C (H) - Nutrition 1:00 Fit-4-Life Group C (H) - Exercise 5:15 Zumba for All - \$3 per class (H)

Thursdays:

9:00 Yoga (H) (5 week series) – On hiatus till January 9:30 Strengthening - \$3 per class (RJ) 11:15 Fit-4-Life (C) 6:00 LBT Fit-4-Life*(H)

Fridays:

8:45 Fit-4-Life Group A (H) - Exercise
10:00 Fit-4-Life Group B (H) – Exercise
*All Fit-4-Life classes are \$10 per month and require pre-registration
One-on-one nutrition is on hiatus til further notice.

Wednesday, March 1

9:00 Bowling at Flatbreads 10:00 – 3:00 Wacky Wednesday (RJ)

Thursday, March 2

10:00 Current Events (H)
10:00 English Conversation (C)
11:00 Computer tutorial with Barbara (by appointment only) (H)
11:30 Lunch (C, H, RJ)
12:45 Bingo (H, RJ)
1:00 Arts & Crafts (C)

Friday, March 3

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

Monday, March 6

is required to apply. For more information or to apply please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 – applications are available at the front desk of our Holland Street Center.

Dying Well Prepared: A discussion with Author Alan Bingham – Wednesday, March 1st - at the Central Library Auditorium located at 79 Highland Avenue from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Co-sponsored by the SCOA and the SPL - Please contact the SPL at 617-623-5000 or visit www.somervillepubliclibrary.org for additional info.

S&S Restaurant – Wednesday, March 1 – check in time is 10:30 a.m. at Holland Street – Lunch on your own though there is a \$10 fee to hold your seat which will be given back to you the day of the trip. Contact Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 for more information.

Death Café – Wednesday, March 15 - Gather to eat cake, drink tea and discuss death at the Somerville Public Library located at 79 Highland Avenue starting at 7:00 p.m. Co-sponsored by the SCOA and the SPL -Please contact the SPL at 617-623-5000 or visit www. somervillepubliclibrary.org for additional information.

St. Patrick's Day Super Bingo – Thursday, March 16 – at our Holland Street Center from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00

rogram.

The trip to the Kentucky Derby is sold out. There is a waiting list if you would like your name placed on the waiting list please call Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300

The day trip to Twin River scheduled for Monday, March 27th is SOLD OUT.

LGBTQ EVENTS:

LGBTQ Advisory Group – This group meets quarterly in the conference room of our Holland Street Center at 4:30 p.m. and run for one hour. We are always looking for new members who would like to serve on the Advisory Group. Please call Debby Higgins, Outreach Coordinator at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321 or email dhiggins@Somervillema.gov if you have any questions or if you should need additional information.

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 9:30 Monthly Breakfast at Highlander Café 10:00 English Conversation (C) 11:30 Lunch (C)

Tuesday, March 7

10:00 English Conversation (C)
10:30 Men's Group (H)
11:30 Lunch (C, RJ)
12:00 Computer tutorial with Norbert (H)
12:45 Bingo (RJ)

Wednesday, March 8

9:00 Bowling at Flatbreads 10:00 – 3:00 Wacky Wednesday (RJ)

DID YOU KNOW?

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

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



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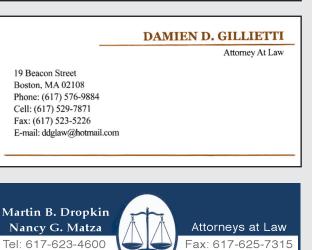


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City seeking participants for 2017 energy efficiency program CONT. FROM PG 17

participate in this year's program. The Mass Save® Home Energy Assessment takes about 1 to 3 hours and helps to identify health risks in the home, provide ways to save on heat, electricity, and water bills, and create a more comfortable living space. After the assessment, participants are eligible for rebates and incentives like no-cost air sealing, \$2,000 off insulation costs, the 0 percent interest Mass Save® HEAT loan, or discounted Wi-Fi thermostats that can be controlled from anywhere via a smart phone.

"Each energy saving step that the program supports adds up," said Andrews. "The energy assessment program has been critical in earning Massachusetts the top spot as the American Council for Energy-Efficient Economy's most energy efficient state in the country. And in Somerville, residents who participate are helping us reach our goal to become carbon neutral by 2050. About onethird of Somerville's greenhouse gas emissions stem from the residential buildings. So programs like the National Grid Community Initiative that address home energy use help the city reduce its overall carbon footprint." Since 2013, more than 5,700 residents have completed Home Energy Assessments and more than 2,750 energy upgrades have been completed through the Mass Save program. The National Grid Community Initiative helps inspire communities to take advantage of the statewide program. Somerville was recently selected as one of 10 communities to participate in the 2017 Community Initiative Program.

To learn more and sign up, visit www.somervillema.gov/beseen or contact the Environmental Housing Programs Office at 617-625-6600 ext. 2567.

Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide Celebrating 30 years of making grassroots community media for Somerville Want to learn TV production? Final Cut Pro? Soundtrack Pro? Green-screen? Call us today for more info! 617-628-8826 5:30pm Creative Somerville Series 10:00am Tele Galaxie 11:30am Art at SCATV Wednesday, March 1 11:00am 6:00pm Villain News Network Haitian Poetry 12:00pm The Thom Hartmann Show Life Matters 6:00am Somerville Neighborhood News 12:00pm The Somerville Line 6:30pm 1:00pm Infinite Momentum Exercise with Robyn 6:30am 7:00pm Taking Back your Health (Live call-in) 1:00pm Start Up TV 1:30pm Legacies 7:00am Poet to Poet SCATV Presents: Duck Village Stage Mass Climate Action Network 7:30pm 2:00pm 2:00pm The Literati Scene 7:30am Somerville Neighborhood News 8:00pm Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (Live call-in) 3:00pm Telemagazine SCATV Bulletin Board 2:30pm 8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) Henry Parker Presents Chef's Table Series 9:30pm 4:00pm 9:00am The Literati Scene 3:00pm Exercise with Robyn 10:00pm Road to Recovery 5:00pm Tele Kreyol Mass Climate Action Network 9:30am 3:30pm MAPS Simply Hanging with Pete and Nate Effort Pour Christ 6:00pm 11:00pm 10:00am Somerville Storytime 4:00pm Free Speech Television 11:30p 7:00pm Grown Up Storytime Gay USA 10:30am Somerville Good Old Days 5:00pm Telegalaxie Creative Somerville Series 8:00pm 11:00am Chef's Table Series Friday, March 3 The Struggle 6:00pm 9:00pm Nossa Gente e Costumes Free Speech TV The Literati Scene 12:00pm 6:00pm 6:30pm Start Up TV 10:00pm Open Line News with Davey D 1:30pm Life Matters Physicians Focus 6:30pm 7:30pm Somerville Good Old Days 11:00pm Gay News USA (Free Speech TV) 2:00pm Road to Recovery 7:00am Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer 8:00pm The Somerville Line Sunday, March 5 2:30pm Blokesworld 7:30am Color in your life 9:00pm Dedilhando au Saudade 3:30pm SCATV Bulletin Board 8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) 6:00am Somerville Story Time Bate Papo com Shirley 10:00pm 4:00pm Free Speech Television 9:00am Middlesex Senate District Debate 6:30am Eckankar 11:00pm Visual Radio 5:00pm Art At SCATV 10:00am Middlesex Representative District Debate 7:00am Nossa Gente's e Costumes 5:30pm Tuesday, March 7 Messier Mantra 10:30am Somerville Good Old Days 8:00am Effort Pour Christ 6:00pm Somerville Story Tellers Haitian Poetry 11:00am 9:00am Heritage Baptist Church 6:00am Art at Scat 7:00pm 10:00am Creative Somerville Series 12:00pm Free Speech TV Aging Well 6:30am **Esoteric Science** 7:30pm MAPS on TV Health is Wealth 10:30am International Church of God 1:00pm 7:00am JuPrey Promotions 8:00pm Somerville Pundits 1:30pm Aging Well 11:00am Chef's table Series 8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) 8:30pm SCATV Bulletin Board 2:00pm Henry Parker Presents 12:00pm Middlesex Senate District Debate 9:00am Chefs table Series 9:00pm Bay State Biking News 2:30pm Carven Salsa Dancing 1:00pm MIddlesex Representative District Debate Fat well be happy 10:00am 10:00pm SCATV Presents: Duck Village Stage 3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) 2:00pm Mass Climate Action Network 10:30am Cooking with Georgia and Dez 11:00pm Warm up Wednesday 4:00pm Gay USA (Free Speech TV) 2:30pm Monday's at 9 The Somerville Line 11:00am Infinite Momentum 11:30pm Rare Groove Revolution 5:00pm **Reeling Review** 3:00pm The Thom Hartmann Show 12:00pm 5:30pm Somerville Good Old Days 3:30pm Greater Somerville Thursday, March 2 1:00pm Aging Well Words on Film 6:00pm 4:00pm Dedilhando a Saudade 6:00am JuPrey Promotions 1:30pm Somerville Pundits 6:30pm Finger on the Pulse 5:00pm Dead Air Live The Struggle 7:00am 2:00pm The Struggle **Beyond Boston** 7:00pm 6:00pm Abugida TV SCATV Bulletin Board 7:30am 2:30pm Health is Wealth Fallon's Daily Toast African Television Network 7:30pm 7:00pm 8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) 3:00pm Taking back your health 8:00pm CTBS 8:00pm Telemagazine 9:00am Esoteric Science 3:30pm Physicians Focus 10:00pm JuPrey Promotions Cinema Somerville 9:00pm Somerville Pundits 9:30am Ring of Fire (Free Speech TV) 4:00pm 11:00pm Simply Hanging with Pete and Nate Grownup Story Time 11:00pm Dead Air Live 10:00am SCATV Bulletin Board 5:00pm Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer 11:30pm 11:30pm Grown Up Story Time 11:00am Greater Somerville 5:30pm Duck Village Stage Saturday, March 4 Monday, March 6 11:30am Legacies 6:30pm Beyond Boston The Thom Hartman Show 6:00am Health is Wealth 12:00pm Life matters 6:00am Somerville Neighborhood News 7:00pm SCATV Cooking Bloc Eat well be Happy 6:30am Villain News Network 6:30am 1pm-3pm 7:30pm Greater Somerville Chef's Table Series 7:00am The Folkorist 7:00pm 1:00pm The Struggle 8:00pm Dead Air Live Eat Well be Happy Wild Tales - Song of the River 2:00pm 7:30am 7:30am Aging Well Cooking with Georgia and Dez 8:00am 8:00am Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) 9:00pm Mondays at 9 2:30pm Villain news Network Somerville Story Tellers Duck Village Stage 9:30pm Infinite Momentum 3:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) 8:30am 9:00am 10:00pm 4:00pm Free Speech Television 9:00am Jeff Jam Sing Song Show 10:00am Baystate Biking news Middlesex Senate District Debate Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer 5:00pm 9:30am Henry Parker Presents 11:00am Color in your Life 10:30pm MIddlesex Representative District Debate

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

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Congressional Update

Wednesday, March 1 8:00am Fit-4-Life #3 2017 9:00am The Mayor's Report 9:12am SomerViva em Português School Committee Meeting - 2.27.17 12:00pm 3:00pm Somerville's Sanctuary City Rally 6:30pm **Connecting Communities** 7:00pm SomerViva en Español 7:26pm SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness 8:30pm SomerViva en Español 9:00pm The Mayor's Report Talking Business "Chill Ville" 9:12pm Raising Families "Special Needs Education" 9:31pm 10:00pm Community Preservation Committee Thursday, March 2 12:00amNunziato Stormwater & Park Project Meeting 1:51am Congressional Update The Mayor's Report 2:22am

2:35am	Somerville by Design	
8:00am	Fit-4-Life #3 2017	
8:30am	Sit & Be Fit Allamerican Workout	
9:00am	Aldermen at Work - Bill White	
9:30am	Somerville's Sanctuary City Rally	
12:00pm	Senior Circuit	
12:30pm	SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness	
1:34pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"	
6:30pm	SomerViva em Português	
7:00pm Architecture of Charles Bulfinch & Somerville		

Aldermen at Work - Bill White 8:31pm Nunziato Stormwater & Park Meeting 9:01pm 10:30pm Connecting Communities 11:00pm The Mayor's Report Friday, March 3 12:00amNunziato Stormwater & Park Project Meeting Talking Business "Chill Ville" 1:51am 2:09am Architecture of Charles Bulfinch & Somerville 9:00am Architecture of Charles Bulfinch & Somerville 10:30am Raising Families "Special Needs Education" 12:00pm **Community Preservation Committee** Aldermen at Work - Bill White 1:30pm 2:01pm SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness 4:00pm Fit-4-Life #3 2017 **Connecting Communities** 6:30pm 7:00pm SomerViva em Português 7:30pm

SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness 8:34pm Architecture of Charles Bulfinch & Somerville One Somerville - a MLK Day Celebration 9:30pm Saturday, March 4

8:00pm

12:00amTh	e History of Africanamericans in Somerville
12:53am	The Mayor's Report
1:05am	Talking Business "Chill Ville"
1:30am Arc	hitecture of Charles Bulfinch & Somerville
9:00am	Congressional Update
9:31am	Aldermen at Work - Bill White
12:00pm	SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness

4pm	Connecting Communities	
3pm	Nunziato Stormwater & Park Meeting	
0pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"	
0pm	SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness	
4pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"	
0pm The	e History of Africanamericans in Somerville	
3pm	l Feira de Educação	
1pm	SomerViva em Português	
0pm	Somerville's Sanctuary City Rally	
nday, M	larch 5	
00am	Rally Point	
23am	Somerville's Sanctuary City Rally	
0am	Community Preservation Committee	
0am	Connecting Communities	
0am	The Mayor's Report	
00pm	Senior Circuit	
30pm	Community Preservation Committee	
0pm	Fit-4-Life #4 2017	
0pm	SomerViva em Português	
0pm	Senior Circuit	
0pm	The Mayor's Report	
2pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"	
1pm	SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness	
5pm	SomerViva en Español	
2pm	Aldermen at Work - Bill White	
02pm	Somerville by Design	
00pm	l Feira de Educação	
onday, March 6		

12:00am	Aldermen at Work - Bill White
12:30am	Nunziato Stormwater & Park Project Meeting
2:21am	SomerViva em Português
2:51am T	he History of Africanamericans in Somerville
9:00am	Congressional Update
12:00pml	Nunziato Stormwater & Park Project Meeting
1:51pm	Talking Business "Chill Ville"
2:09pm	SomerViva em Português
2:39pm	SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness
4:00pm	Upcoming Meeting Agenda
7:00pm	School Committee Meeting - LIVE
Tuesday,	March 7
12:00am	Somerville by Design
1:00am	Raising Families "Special Needs Education"
1:30am	The Mayor's Report
1:42amN	unziato Stormwater & Park Project Meeting
8:00am	Fit-4-Life #4 2017
9:00am	SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness
10:04am	Raising Families "Special Needs Education"
12:00pm	Senior Circuit
12:30pm	Somerville by Design
1:26pm	SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness
2:30pm	The Mayor's Report
2:43pm	Somerville's Sanctuary City Rally
6:30pm	The Mayor's Report
7:00pm	Senior Circuit
7:30pm	Mayor's Discussion on Sanctuary Cities
7:46pm	SomerViva em Português
8:30pm	School Committee Meeting - 3.6.17

Educational TV 15 Schedule

Wednesday, March 1

SomerSafe: Sports Concussion Awareness 9:00am 10:30amStudent of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School 11:00amSHS Boys Basketball vs Malden - 1st Rd Playoff Student of the Qtr Awards-WHCS-2/17/17 1:00pm 1:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano SHS Boys Basketball v S. Boston 2:00pm SHS Girls Basketball v Austin Prep 3:30pm SomerSafe: Sports Concussion Awareness 5:00pm 6:30pm Student of the Otr. Awards - Kennedy School 7:00pmSHS Boys Basketball vs Malden - 1st Rd Playoff Student of the Qtr Awards-WHCS-2/17/17 9:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano 9:30pm SHS Boys Basketball v S. Boston 10:00pm

Thursday, March 2

12:00am	SHS Girls Basketball v Austin Prep
1:15am	SHS Hockey v Methuen
9:00am	Beginners Instrumental Concert
10:00am	SHS Hockey v Revere
11:30am	Student of the Qtr. Awards - WSNS
12:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Medford @ Tufts
1:30pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS
2:00pm	SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17
3:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Malden
4:30pm	Argenziano School MLK Concert
6:00pm	Beginners Instrumental Concert
7:00pm	SHS Hockey v Revere
8:30pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - WSNS
9:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Medford @ Tufts
-	-

10:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17 11:00pm

Friday, March 3

12:00amSHS Boys Basketball vs Malden - 1st Rd Playoff SHS Hockey v Methuen 2:00am SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17 9:00am 10:00am Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS 10:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown 11:00am Argenziano School MLK Concert 12:00pm Student Health Survey Results Presentation SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham 1:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School 3:30pm SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17 4:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS 5:00pm 5:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown 6:00pm Argenziano School MLK Concert 7:00pmSHS Boys Basketball vs Malden - 1st Rd Playoff 8:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School 10:00pmSHS Boys Basketball vs Malden - 1st Rd Playoff Saturday, March 4

12:00amSHS Boys Basketball vs Malden - 1st Rd Playoff 2:00am SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham 4:00am Public Domain Theater 9:00am Argenziano School MLK Concert 10:00am SHS Girls Basketball v Malden 11:30am SHS Girls Basketball v Medford 1:00pm SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS 2:30pm 3:00pm SHS Boys Basketball v Everett

4:30pm SHS Hockey v Medford 6:00pm Argenziano School MLK Concert 7:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham SHS Girls Basketball v Malden 8:30pm SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington 10:00pm 11:30pmStudent of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School

Sunday, March 5

SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham 12:00am 1:30am SHS Boys Basketball v S. Boston Public Domain Theater 3:00am 9:00amSHS Boys Basketball vs Malden - 1st Rd Playoff 11:00am Argenziano School MLK Concert 12:00pm SHS Hockey v Methuen 1:30pm **Beginners Instrumental Concert** SHS Boys Basketball v Medford @ Tufts 2:00pm 3:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School 4:00pm SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17 5:00pmSHS Boys Basketball vs Malden - 1st Rd Playoff 7:00pm Argenziano School MLK Concert SHS Hockey v Methuen 8:00pm 9:30pm **Beginners Instrumental Concert** SHS Boys Basketball v Medford @ Tufts 10:00pm 11:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School

Monday, March 6 12:00am

1:00am

9:00am

10:00am

11:30am

SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17 SHS Girls Basketball v Austin Prep Argenziano School MLK Concert SHS Girls Basketball v Malden SHS Girls Basketball v Medford

1:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Arlington	
2:30pm	Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS	
3:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v Everett	
4:30pm	SHS Hockey v Medford	
6:00pm	Argenziano School MLK Concert	
7:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Malden	
8:30pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Medford	
10:00pmSHS Boys Basketball vs Malden - 1st Rd Playoff		

Tuesday, March 7

12:00amSHS Boys Basketball vs Malden - 1st Rd Plavoff 1:30am SHS Girls Basketball v Austin Prep Beginners Instrumental Concert 9:00am 10:00am SHS Hockey v Revere 11:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - WSNS 12:00pm SHS Boys Basketball v Medford @ Tufts 1:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS 2:00pm SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17 3:00pm SHS Boys Basketball v Malden 4:30pm Argenziano School MLK Concert 6:00pm **Beginners Instrumental Concert** SHS Hockey v Revere 7:00pm 8:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - WSNS SHS Boys Basketball v Medford @ Tufts 9:00pm 10:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS 11:00pm SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17 12:00am SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham 1:30am SHS Boys Basketball v S. Boston



SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

Gary Rainford lives year-round on Swan's Island with his wife and daughter. He is the author of the poetry collection, *Salty Liquor*, founder of *Island Verse*, a creative writing literacy enterprise, editor-in-chief for *The Island Reader*, and an adjunct Professor of English at Monroe Community College. Summer 2016 Gary's suite of po-



Pittsburgh, PA

112 Pages

\$15.95

ISBN 13: 978-0-8229-6458-2

How does a man endure a lifetime of mind-numbing phys-

ical work, then go on to write a body of profound, ethereal

poetry unlike anything else being written today? Ask poet

Afaa Weaver. He's not the first poet/writer that has bro-

ken out of a hard knocks life. But his measured, sometimes

soaring verse, distilled from years of drudgery, offers up an

unusual intoxication worthy of the most engaging, indeed

Using Chinese mystical metaphors Afaa Weaver, in his

new book *Spirit Boxing*, revisits his coming-of-age experiences and blue collar workplaces he and others labored

in with keen insight and a racial sensitivity both adamant

Appropriately enough the collection opens with a poem,

John Henry Sleeping in the Grass, that summons a vision of

the African American folk hero, John Henry. Charged with

hammering holes into rock for explosives, Henry met his

end in a mythic contest against a steam-powered hammer

drill. Henry, according to the story, won the contest before

his heart gave out. Weaver's piece highlights a dream-like

potential and determination in the sleeping figure of the

symbolic Henry. Consider these telling lines,

his destiny, John is motion at rest,

suns igniting hearts of molten iron,

the hammer in his crib...

tides of moon and waves in still waters,

a hardened conviction, rose petals in rain.

Sleep is a dream, the real world a poundage,

work a sentence for being his mama's son,

Review by Dennis Daly

the best, of modern writing.

and gentle.

... black steel

ems called *We Are Here* was an honorable mention selected by Betsy Sholl for The Gabriel Zimpritch Memorial Poetry Prize at the Thomas Memorial Library in Cape Elizabeth, ME. Gary's next collection of poetry, *Liner Notes* – 64 ekphrasic poems describing 64 musicians as artists making music – is forthcoming.

Blue Skies

"Summertime," Ella Fitzgerald eyes closed and sweat running down her cheeks—jazzes

every syllable into a thin line of horn-like phrasing which conveys a lifetime: her mother's fatal

car accident, her stepfather's lewd, felonious hands, the Colored Orphan Asylum in Riverdale,

New York, winning amateur night at the Apollo Theater, the Decca years with Dizzy Gillespie

and Louis Armstrong, be-bop, a Grammy-winning "Mack the Knife" performance, congestive heart

OFF THE SHELF by Doug Holder

'Spirit Boxing' by Afaa Michael Weaver



Not for nothing is *Spirit Boxing*, the title poem of this
collection, reprinted on the back cover of this book. The
lines rivet one's attention with a vengeance. Set in a soap
factory, the protagonist seeks his internal spirit and intellectual life while fending off the back-breaking labor of his
allotted duties. The irony of providing the soap for America is not without wit. Weaver even invokes John Henry for
a second, and very effective, appearance. Here's the heart of the piece,

... the shift is young, my body a heavy meat on bones, conveyors not wired for compassion, trucks on deadlines, uncaring

pressure of a nation waiting to be washed, made clean, me looking into the eye of something like death, and I look up, throwing fifty-pound boxes,

Jesus now John Henry pounding visions of what work is, the wish for black life to crumble, snap under all it is given...

Throwing bales of hay with one arm leads into a poem entitled *When the Farms Give Out*. Weaver describes a promised land that has betrayed its owners and which ultimately evicts them into an amoral urban world where humans are commodities. The piece concludes contemplating a dismal future,

... the farms worn down to rusted weeders,

manure spreaders, mules too high on themselves to keep a simple humility, and what do we know when we have to take to reaching for electric fans

as clerks in stores that go way out to sell paper shacks, lard, and salt to folks living in the hills chewing on piles of dry corn. Call me Isaac,

trying to ward off what's coming to all of us, the day the end comes to these, the hot mills, cement plants, grain silos, docks, the places

we left the land for when the land could not give back what we planted. We moved to cities, the broad hand of justice turning dirt into dust.

Weaver's poem *Grabbing Lunch in the Morgue* surprises in this collection with its rude audacity and existential bent. A female morgue assistant plays the protagonist perfectly, observing the peculiarities of the morticians and each dead person's kin. The poet sets up the piece with earthy humor and indelicate description. Then the tone turns to a philosophical lamentation against death and finally rage. Weaver begins the tone transition this way,

failure, both legs amputated, diabetes, her final days wheelchaired in the backyard of her Beverly Hills

mansion, and her granddaughter. "I just want to smell the air, listen to the birds and hear Alice laugh,"

she tells her son, a soft smile on her face, fish jumpin', the cotton high, and where the livin' is easy.

— Gary Rainford

To have your work considered for the Lyrical send it to: Doug Holder, 25 School St.; Somerville, MA 02143. dougholder@post.harvard.edu turing abnormalities devolve into their natural elements and even human sentiment. Notice the bit of generational rivalry and the pride toughness dispenses to the protagonist son. The poet says,

Working in an ice house not only negated seasons and

froze passions, but it molded the human will with its met-

aphoric inclinations. Weaver in a poem entitled Houses of

Ice, 1969 meditates on operation, on how harsh manufac-

... In the freezer

it was a winter I had to bundle up to fight, in an insulated coat my father used to wear working in the steel mill where I thought things must have been kinder because this frozen hell was against all nature, each block the same except for the chips the ice hook made when I grabbed them to feed the scoring machine. Things need a process, a method for becoming real, even ice, which is wise enough to return to water, to unmask itself from the stamp of human hands, to become mist, steam, dried spots where it spreads itself as light as air or nothing, not enough of it for miles to become three hundred pounds again, each pound the weight it takes to kiss, or to fall in love, hoping love will last.

The families come just after the Coca-Cola made her burp,

opening the door to the cabinet so they can see how naked

death is, none of the things we accumulate beside us,

none of the failures, the prizes, the big houses, no thing in itself, while whatever memories they had are somewhere

where dreams go and die. When peering eyes of parents wet,

then burst into the floods of sorrow, she stares at nothing, the bright glow of sunlight under the morning clouds, and

when they are gone she presses the door closed, her hands

holding each other, her arms in a bow like a hammer ...

Yet another sublime poetic collection from Afaa Weaver.



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*Annual Percentage Rate ("APR") is effective 2/7/2017. This offer may be subject to change or be withdrawn without prior notice. APR of 1.99% is fixed for the first 12 months. After the introductory period, APR on outstanding balance is variable and based on the Prime Rate plus 0.00% (currently 3.50%), adjusted monthly. Min. APR is 3.50%, Max APR is 18%. The APR is a variable rate adjusted monthly equal to the highest Prime Rate listed in the Wall Street Journal on the last business day of each month and is subject to change. State required recording fees. Hazard and Title Insurance may be required. Flood insurance and Property Appraisal fee required where necessary. All Equity Lines subject to \$50.00 annual maintenance fee. Offer available on new lines on owner occupied 1-4 family properties. Maximum 80% combined loan-to-value. Other terms and conditions may apply. Consult your tax advisor regarding tax deductibility.







