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Micky Finn's page 10



unfolds pages 12-13

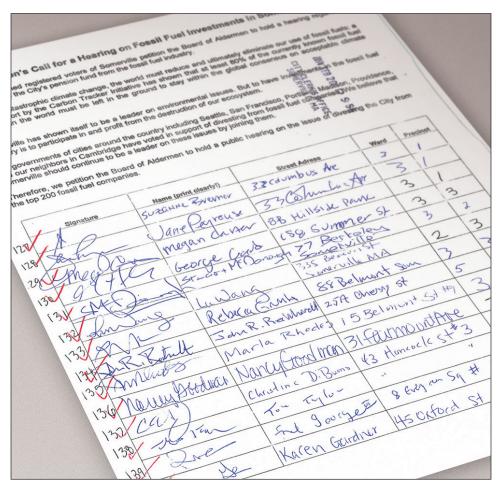


Old school games are cool page 21

The Week in Crime p.4 **Commentary p.10-11** Beacon Hill Roll Call p.8 TV Logs p.22 Off The Shelf p.23

Farewell to fossil-fuel investments?

Public hearing to address residents' petition



129 concerned registered voters have weighed in on the issue of divestment from the fossil fuel industry as part of the city's pension fund by signing a petition asking the Board of Aldermen to act on the matter.

By David R. Smith

A special meeting of the Board of Aldermen will be held at City Hall at 6 p.m. Thursday, March 13, to hold a public hearing on a petition signed by 129 registered voters asking the city's pension fund to divest from any investments tied to the fossil fuel industry.

"(This) is a growing movement. You're hearing more about in on the state level, and a variety of cities are starting to agree this is a good idea" Ward 6 Rebekah L. Gewirtz said during the BOA's Feb. 27 meeting. "We need to take action on our climate emergency, and this is a really great way that our city can do that."

Alderman At Large Mary Jo Rossetti said she attended the Feb. 19 screening of Do The Math at the Arts at the Armory Cafe. The film addresses the movement to encourage municipalities and corporations from divesting from the fossil-fuel industry.

"It was very powerful, and I'm glad I went," she said. "It helped better explain to me, who wasn't up to date, what this is all about."

A number of the aldermen made of point of saying they wanted to make sure they were available for the hearing, Continued on page 3

Possible future innovators get their start in Union Square

By Nidhi Mathson

Children from Somerville got a taste of what a future at companies like Google or Apple could look like as they convened in Union Square this past Sunday to learn how to make LED pop-up books, stop-animation movies and participate in guided workshops at the Somerville Builds: A Hands-On Kids Maker Event.

Held at Fringe, a business incubator and co-working space in Union Square, the event drew a large crowd of Somerville residents. It was sponsored by MakerState, an organization that empowers kids with real-world skills to enable their success in school, college and career in partnership with the Somerville Arts Council, Museum of Science and Parts & Crafts.

"They're learning engineering and programing," Stephen Gilman, founder and CEO of MakerState, who was at the event Sunday, said. "They're making video games to, say, learn programming. They're learning Continued on page 7



Local kids got a healthy dose of creative empowerment as MakerState and the Somerville Arts Council brought the Somerville Builds: A Hands-On Kids Maker Event to Union Square this weekend.

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Did you know that Somerville is 172 years old this week? Monday, March 3 of 1842, we became a town. Yup, Somerville broke away from Charlestown 172 years ago. Guess you could say we were "townies" back before then and on March 3 we became Villens. The residents tried unsuccessfully to break away twice before becoming successful, losing the votes twice before becoming a town. Did you also know that in both votes that lost different names were proposed? The first one was going to be "Walford" if they had won. Then 20 years later (in 1822), they lost again and were going to call it "Warren" after Gen. Joseph Warren of Bunker Hill fame. Then, being persistent and wanting to govern the small town themselves, they became successful in 1842 and named the town "Somerville." Thirty years later, we became a city. Our own local historian, Bob Doherty, is loaded with these facts, and we thought you'd want to know! So go out and wish yourself a happy birthday as a Villen. Although it's 172 years ago, we look pretty good for our age, don't we?

The first public hearing on hiring a new police chief is tonight (Wednesday, March 5) at 6 p.m. at the new East Somerville Community School. The screening committee set up by the city will entertain questions and suggestions from the community. Remember now that the last two chiefs were hired from outside Somerville and left office before their contracts were up. So this will be the third time in not so many years that the city is spending money on a committee to do a "nationwide search." Let's hope this new chief they send for final vote by the mayor and Board of Alderman stays awhile, as it must be getting costly hiring "private consultants." Rumor has it that former Chief Holloway, who still owns a house here in Somerville, might be interested on top of the well-known Deputy Chief Cabral.

You heard it here first back a few weeks ago, and guess we were right about these new jobs that former aldermen who retire will get. Congratulations to former Alderman At Large Bruce Desmond on his new job here at the city. According to sources, he will receive \$80K a year. Maureen Bastardi is heading to Council on Aging at a salary of about \$30K a year. Maybe that's until Cindy retires as director. We bet Maureen will be in line to be the new director.

Continued on page 11

The Somerville Times

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Publisher – Somerset Valley Publishing Inc.

Editor – David R. Smith

Assignment Editor – Bobbie Toner

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

Writers: David R. Smith, Jim Clark, Elizabeth Sheeran, Tom Bannister Contributors – Jimmy Del Ponte,William C. Shelton

The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday







TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to Scaled-down Union Square housing proposal nears approval

Sam says:

Too often development proposals require legal action in order for the residents to be heard. Too often development proposals are filled with 'special permits' allowing them to build beyond the scope of the zoning laws. There is an obvious pattern here. When was the last time special permits were denied for a large development project? When was the last time a special permit was denied for a homeowner? Homeowners are often told that their home is already nonconforming with current zoning laws but it is allowed as they are grandfathered. As if the current owner is responsible for 100 years of zoning and code changes.

philb says:

There should be no ground floor residential units in that area. We need more businesses especially on the ground floor to keep the area lively.

Somerbreeze says:

Very recently a couple of billionaire developers of upscale housing purchased big lots in Union Square...

I wonder what the reaction to Union Square residents and small business owners will be to THOSE, and how those kinds of developments will affect property values in Union Square.

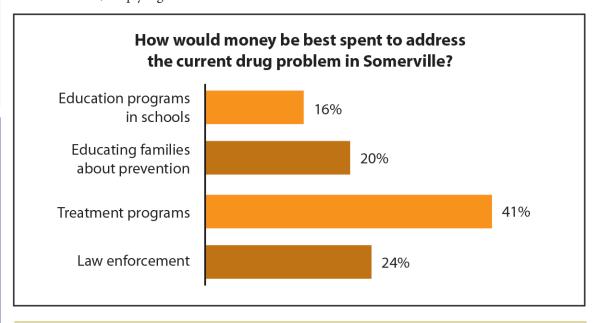
wth says:

Maybe it would be helpful if the members of the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals, instead of being political appointments were maybe architects, or builders, or contractors. My experience has shown me that in general these boards are unaware of many state laws and codes they are required to follow.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

TheSomervilleTimes.com poll of the week

In addition to breaking news, sports and opinion, TheSomervilleTimes.com also features a daily poll in which you, the reader, tell us where you come down on local issues. Last week's poll concerned your views on how money would best be spent to address the current drug problem in Somerville. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com.





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Creativity, community emphasized at budget meeting

By Izak Shapiro

A community budget meeting Thursday, Feb. 27, at the West Somerville Neighborhood School drew a fairly small audience. The meeting is one of three organized by the city in an effort to solicit input and tap the creativity of its residents. The first meeting was Feb. 24 and the third was held March 1.

"Budgeting impacts who we are," Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, who opened the proceedings, said. "We want our residents to rise up and take control of their values."

Ideally, he said, the budget of a city reflects its residents' values. Education receives more funding—29 percent of Somerville's budget—than any other department. The main topics of the meeting were community engagement, immigrant outreach, arts and culture, recreation and public health.

"Investing in public health is critical to everything we do," Curtatone said.

Director of Public Health Paulette Renault-Caragianes echoed Curtatone's sentiment.

"Shape Up Somerville isn't just a program, it's a strategy," Renault-Caragianes said in ref-

erence to the city's initiative to involve all people of Somerville in increasing access to healthy foods and physical activity. "It's a way to help people make healthy choices."

She went on to cite the city government's impact on kids' choices. Since the mayor took over in 2003, students in Somerville High School have reduced their alcohol use by 33 percent, marijuana use by 25 percent, and oxycontin use by 60 percent.

The city knows it does not reach all of its residents. For example, a third of Somerville's population does not speak English as their first language. Through on emphasis on communication, the city government hopes to engage all of its residents. At the far table during the budget meeting, a group of Spanish-speaking women sat together, listening as a translator reiterated everything the speakers had to say.

Gregory Jenkins, director of the Somerville Arts Council, emphasized the city government should take the initial steps, but success depends on whether the residents continue to create the Somerville they envision.

"It's not just people having a good time; it's creating spaces for people to get together," he said in reference to both government and art events. "It's the way the city acts as a catalyst to help people solve their problems."

After hearing complaints from parents about having to drive their children to suburbs for quality sports programs, Recreation Director George Scarpelli did what he could and created Somerville sports programs such as soccer and winter baseball.

"Most of our programs are affordable so every child can participate," Scarpelli said, who also cited the often expensive price tag that comes with the territory of suburban youth sports. "We use these programs as a feeder system for our high school sports"

This idea of give and take, listen and provide feedback occurred within the budget meeting itself. After each of the four city speakers said their piece, residents in attendance formed small groups, brainstormed ideas and discussed their conclusions directly with the city leaders. The city encourages residents to call 311 to provide ideas, email the government with any complaints or proposals and communicate via the city's social media platforms.

Celebrate Teen Empowerment's 10th year in Somerville

Event to honor Mayor Curtatone

Over 200 will attend Teen Empowerment's Celebration of Hope and Caring on March 12, 2014 at the Center for the Arts at the Armory at 6:30 p.m. The event, chaired by Somerville Aldermen Jack Connolly and Mary Jo Rossetti, honors Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and the City of Somerville for their dedication to improving youth development outcomes. It also marks Teen Empowerment's tenth anniversary of working in Somerville. The Celebration will include performances by youth, a silent auction and interactive activities for the diverse crowd, and hopes to raise \$60,000.

"Although many of the at-risk youth we've worked with over the last ten years in Somerville have dealt with significant struggles, they have overcome these to create safe spaces for their peers to come together toward positive change and to go on to accomplish great successes in their own lives," said Teen Empowerment Executive Director Stanley Pollack. "We are celebrating their work as well as the good work of Mayor Curtatone and the city, which has led to dramatic positive change for the youth population in Somerville."

Teen Empowerment was invited to start working in Somerville by Mayor Curtatone in 2004. Since that time, TE has employed over 100 youth who have planned and implemented initiatives to involve thousands of their peers, ranging from youth-police dialogue sessions to youth social events to the annual Somerville Youth Peace Conferences. A recent study of TE's work in Soemrville by UMASS Boston's Dr. Russel Schutt found evidence that TE's efforts were responsible for a 50% decrease in the level of juvenile crime in Somerville's highest crime neighborhoods and that compared to their peers, youth who worked at TE leave the program with higher levels of employability and greatly improved self-esteem and are more civically engaged, and these impacts are sustained over time.

The Center for Teen Empowerment, Inc. (TE) empowers youth and adults as agents of positive individual, institutional, and social change. Each year, TE youth conduct over 150 initiatives involving some 6,000 youth and adults in Boston and Somerville, MA and in Rochester, NY. During its 22 year history, Teen Empowerment has brokered a lasting gang peace treaty, conducted police-youth reconciliation projects, worked to promote tolerance and understanding in Boston schools, and trained well over 2,000 youth to work as community organizers. TE's work has touched the lives of more than 30,000 youth and adults. For more information, visit www. teenempowerment.org.

Farewell to fossil-fuel investments? CONT. FROM PG 1

which created some difficulty in nailing down a date.

Ward 4 Alderman Tony Lafuente, after numerous dates were floated and rejected, said as much as he wanted to be part of the hearing, it was fine with him if the meeting was held when he was out of the country. Although he will not be in attendance, he expressed his support for the

"This is extremely important work," he said. "I have met with these folks, and this is something we need to consider very, very highly."

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By Jim Clark

Something he just couldn't get at Shaw's

Police drug investigation officers focused their attention on a particular individual last Saturday, as he appeared to behave in a manner consistent with someone waiting to make an illegal drug purchase, according to police reports.

Jake Silveira, 22, had reportedly been using his cell phone frequently and appeared to be waiting for someone to arrive where he was located, at the Shaw's Supermarket on McGrath Hwy.

As Silveira waited inside the store, another individual arrived

in a car, Joseph Flynn, 23, who police reportedly recognize as someone who had been arrested before on drug dealing charges.

Police watched as Flynn met with Silveira inside Shaw's. They were observed walking around in the store but they made no purchases before coming outside, police said.

The two men were stopped outside the store and questioned about what they were doing.

Flynn reportedly told officers that he only came to the store to buy cigarettes, even though he never did so.

Both men were found to be in possession of drugs and were placed under arrest, charged with possession, conspiracy to violate drug law. Silveira was found to have an active warrant out for disorderly conduct.

SOMERVILLE POLICE GRIME LO

Arrests:

Paul Tancredi, 35, of 179 Governors Ave., Medford, February 24, 3:37 p.m., arrested at 175 Fellsway on warrant charges of assault and battery, abuse prevention order violation, witness intimidation, and attempted murder.

Mauricio Lopez, 28, of 701 Bennington St., Boston, February 25, 12:55 p.m., arrested at 261 Broadway on a warrant charge of marked lanes violation.

Christos Champas, 48, of 404 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, February 25, 2:56 p.m., arrested at 137 Washington St. on warrant charges of failure to stop or yield and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Gregory Moulton, 24, of 326 Somerville Ave., February 27, 11:55 a.m., arrested at 338 Somerville Ave. on warrant

charges of receiving a stolen motor vehicle and possession of a class B drug.

Jake Silveira, 22, of 1366 Broadway, February 27, 4:10 p.m., arrested at 14 McGrath Hwy. on charges of conspiracy to violate drug law, possession of a class A drug, and on a warrant charge of disorderly conduct.

Joseph Flynn, 23, of 12 Maine Ave., February 27, 4:10 p.m., arrested at 14 McGrath Hwy. on charges of conspiracy to violate drug law, possession of a class B drug, drug possession to distribute, and drug violation near a school.

A juvenile, February 27, 4:10 p.m., arrested at 14 McGrath Hwy. on charges of conspiracy to violate drug law, possession of a class B drug, drug possession to distribute, and drug vi-

olation near a school.

Katashia Brooks-Crump, 38, of 20 Fellsway West, February 28, 10:58 a.m., arrested at home on charges of drug possession to distribute and drug violation near a school.

McKenna Minson, 19, of 45 Memorial Rd., February 28, 10:17 p.m., arrested at home on a warrant charge of assault and battery.

Pedlyde Caze, 29, of 45C Memorial Rd., March 1, 11:32 a.m., arrested at 220 Washington St. on warrant charges of uninsured motor vehicle and no inspection sticker.

Jose Dejesus, 43, of 243 Broadway, Cambridge, March 1, 1:23 p.m., arrested at 105 Broadway on a warrant charge of destruction of property over \$250.

Tyson Valcourt, 20, of 10 Memorial Rd., March 1, 5:44

p.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of assault and battery and larceny over \$250.

Incidents:

Theft:

February 24, 10:44 a.m., police reported a theft at Beacon St

February 24, 10:33 p.m., police reported a theft at Pearl St. February 25, 12:16 p.m., po-

February 25, 12:16 p.m., police reported a theft at Somerville Ave.

February 25, 12:46 p.m., police reported a theft at River Rd.

February 27, 9:22 a.m., police reported a theft at 201 Willow Ave.

February 28, 8:41 a.m., police reported a theft at Gilman St. March 1, 8:50 p.m., police reported a theft at Highland Ave.

Breaking & Entering:

February 24, 6:34 p.m., police

reported a breaking and entering at 740 Broadway.

Vehicle Theft:

February 28, 9:26 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at South St.

Assault:

February 24, 11:45 a.m., police reported an assault at 5 Cherry St.

February 27, 9:47 a.m., police reported an assault at 5 Cherry St.

Drug Violation:

February 27, 4:10 a.m., police reported a drug violation at 14 McGrath Hwy.

February 28, 10:58 a.m., police reported a drug violation at Fellsway West.

Disorderly Conduct:

February 26, 3:05 p.m., police reported a disorderly conduct at Columbus Ave.

Detective Mario Oliveira retires

The following is Detective Mario Oliveira's Retirement Letter he sent to the Somerville Police Department thanking them and others for their support.

S.P.D.,

I hope this email finds you well. I am sending you this letter to thank you all and to make you aware that I will be officially retired as of March 1, 2014 with special legislation.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mayor Joe Curtatone, the Board of Aldermen, Senator Pat Jehlan, State Representative Denise Provost and Senator Ken Donnelly - who all worked tirelessly writing and passing the special legislation that was signed by Governor Deval Patrick. A heartfelt thank you to the citizens of Somerville who stood by my family and I. The citizens of Somerville, including young students, sent me letters, cards and called with

well wishes. My family and I are forever grateful and will never forget such acts of kindness and compassion.

I also want to thank Interim Chief Charles Femino, Deputy Chief Fallon, and Retired Deputy Chief Paul Upton, for keeping in constant contact with me throughout the past year. I want to thank my Union President Mike McGrath for being a great listener, assisting me throughout my recovery and retirement paperwork. It was a rough year for me and my family to say the least. Not knowing my future took a toll on me mentally. These men showed me the true meaning of compassion, not just because they are my work colleagues, it was because they truly cared and are genuinely good hearted and family men. They kept me going when my spirits were down and was sitting around not knowing what the future would hold with my retirement. I also want to thank all of my brothers and sisters from the SPD who called or texted periodically to check on me and my family. The constant phone calls meant SO MUCH to me, you don't even know....

I couldn't leave without publicly thanking my heroes that saved my life on November 2, 2010. These officers will always have a special place in my heart.

Thank you to Lt. Jerry Reardon, Sergeant Joe McCain, Detective Ernie Nadile and Detective Mike Kiely. Words cannot express the gratitude I have for your heroism on that night. I am forever indebted to you all.

I especially want to publicly recognize and thank Deputy Chief Mike Cabral, who was the acting Chief of Police on the evening I almost made the ultimate sacrifice. Deputy Chief Cabral raced to the hospital immediately upon learning that I was shot and in critical condition. He immediately took control

and made sure that my family was taken care of. He met with the hundreds of police officers who came to the Massachusetts General hospital and comforted my family and friends. He and Mayor Curtatone came to the hospital everyday to visit with me and my family. He even organized an unbelievable escort of Somerville police motorcycles and cruisers to take me home when I was released from the hospital. Deputy Chief Cabral has been by my side at every awards ceremony, including the Massachusetts State House and in Washington, D.C.

In closing, I know being a police officer has its ups and downs. You see things during your careers that most people will never see in two lifetimes, and it comes with a heavy price. Please remember that your life can be taken from you at any time. Cherish your families, be grateful for the opportunity you've

been given to protect and serve the great community of Somerville. Always wear your uniform proudly. Don't sweat the small stuff that goes on at work and remember family comes first. We as police officers deal with so much negativity with work that we lose sight of what really is important in our lives. Please take care of yourselves and each other. I am proud to have served the Somerville community with each one of you and thank you for always having my back when I needed it. I am thankful for all the fond memories we've made throughout the last 15 years. In my heart, I'll always remain a proud Somerville Police Officer. God Bless you all. I pray that each of you make it home safely to your families at the end of every shift.

Respectfully, Detective Mario Oliveira (Ret.) Badge #241

Alderman asks for change to parking policy

By David R. Smith

Ward 7 Alderman Katjana Ballantyne, in what was first listed as an order but subsequently changed to a resolution, requested the city explore changing the snow-emergency policy regarding parking, In particular, she would like to see the rules alternate from one year to the next so that emergency parking is not always required to be on the odd-numbered side of the street, which is the current policy. Instead, she would like to see odd-numbered one year and even-numbered the next.

"I have just gotten nonstop calls about parking," she said, "and I think there's a lot of good suggestions out there from the community."

BOA President Bill White said that idea, as well as other changes to the policy, have been discussed in the past.

"It's pretty much been the view of the administration and the folks at the Traffic Commission that they don't intend to change it," he said. "Now that doesn't mean we can't explore it again and have the issue re-looked at."

Ward 5 Alderman Mark Niedergang agreed with Ballantyne and asked to have his name added to the resolution.

"I think this is a good idea and have for a long time," he said.

And while Alderman At Large Dennis Sullivan also supported the idea, he pointed out that there were reasons it hadn't already been changed.

"For my entire adult life in Somerville, I have lived on the even side and had to deal with this, and I totally agree," he said. He added, though, that part of the past concern was such changes would make the policy too confusing for residents. He also said he believed there was a study conducted that showed there were more parking spots available on the odd side of the city's streets overall.

"I'd like to revisit it again," he said, "and if we can alternate it, I think that would be fair."

The resolution was approved and will be taken up with the Traffic Commission.

SHS program receives 10K in tools

By David R. Smith

The Somerville High School Machine Technology Program is the recipient of \$10,000 in tools donated to the program by the late Bill Wright, a research and development machinist who passed away last fall after a short battle with cancer.

In a letter to the Board of Aldermen, which accepted the gift at its Feb. 27 meeting, Wright's siblings, Somerville City Solicitor Francis X. Wright Jr., Mary Ellen Fava and Kathleen M. Sullivan, explained why the gift was being offered.

"In fulfillment of Bill's wish

that his professional tools and instruments be given to a machine-shop educational program for students to develop the skills he learned in a similar high school machine-shop program, we offer these tools and instruments, as is, as a gift to the Somerville High Machine Tech program for the purpose of the tools being used to train students and develop the skills and knowledge necessary to utilize and care for such tools and instruments," the letter stated.

"He was very adamant that be done," Ward 2 Alderman Maryann Heuston told the board."It was one his dying wishes, and we are the lucky recipients of those tools."

The letter also included a comment from Wright's former boss, who said, "He was an excellent R&D machinist. Arthur D. Little only hired the best and demanded nothing less than exceptional. Bill easily met these requirements. He was capable of working with everyone from our young MIT staff to our old dinosaurs. Bill's skills and professionalism are sadly becoming lost in America."

The board voted to send a letter of thanks to the family.

COMMUNITY MEETING

Bibim Restaurant is coming to Davis Square!

Bibim, a family-owned restaurant featuring unique, modern Korean cuisine, is hosting a community meeting: Monday, March 10, 2014, 7:00 – 8:30pm The Davis Square Theatre, 255 Elm Street, Davis Square, Somerville, MA (fully-accessible and located next to Saloon Restaurant)

- Come learn about this vibrant new restaurant that is locating to 243 Elm Street (the former McDonald's location) and sample menu items.
- Bibim's chef-owner Young Kim, originally from Korea, has been lauded for her dedication to culinary excellence at her restaurant in Brighton by the Boston Globe and other publications.
- She will present her new sit-down restaurant concept for Davis Square. Feel free to ask questions and show your support!

Bibim is applying for a City liquor license at a meeting of the Somerville Licensing Commission on March 17, 2014, at the Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland Street, Somerville, MA.

For questions or comments, please call us at (617) 905-4115 or e-mail at Bibimrestaurant@gmail.com

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



Eagle feathers #47

Somerville: For Hire

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

Not too long ago, many newspapers agreed that Boston's answer to James Bond was Spenser. Spenser was a character born out of the brilliant and prolific mind of the late author, Robert B. Parker, who generated dozens of Spenser mystery novels and created the Jesse Stone Series (starring Tom Selleck). The Spenser stories were then developed into the well-known 1980's television series, Spencer: For Hire.



The episodes centered around a "rough and tumble" former state cop and boxer (played by Robert Urich, who also starred in the television series Vega\$). Because of his police background, his occupation evolved into private detective work. In gratitude, after once rescuing one of their own, Boston's firefighters gave Spenser access to an unused Beacon Hill firehouse for his lodging and an office. Later he operated out of the Charlestown Naval Yard.

His vast neighborhood of operation was mainly Boston and its suburbs. He could handle most of the dangers his occupation served up. When he couldn't, he would enlist the help of his best friend, Hawk (played by Avery Brooks, also known for his role as Captain Benjamin Sisko in Star Trek: Deep Space Nine). The two often worked out in the boxing ring together. Their personalities in boxing language would have described Spenser as "rough around the edges," (like Sylvester Stallone's Rocky,) or a "shot and beer" type guy. Hawk was a more suave and classy type, like Muhammad Ali or a James Bond, "shaken but not

For three years, filming was done in many locations in and around Boston, including Somerville. Most Somerville locations were shot in the Prospect Hill, Union Square, and Spring Hill areas. Somerville fans would see movie stars, directors, and stage workers in their own neighborhoods. Avery, a sports-car enthusiast, could be seen at the Hawkins Street Garage admiring their foreign cars. Union Square churches and buildings provided centuries-old backdrops that would be hard-pressed to recreate on Hollywood sets. A large, handsome Queen-Anne style house at the corner of Walnut and Munroe Streets was rented for a year and used for many episodes. One famous scene had to have a Somerville fire engine and its crew standing by while they filmed the front door being blown apart. Another notable scene was a car chase through Elm Square and down Somerville Avenue into the Somerville Car Wash. The cars rushed through the entrance and continued on through with a high-speed soapy exit.

Through the years, the idea of "Somerville for Hire" has provided film and fodder for other movies such as, A Civil Action and The Social Network. Because of Somerville's unique history, it would be great to see the wagon train of Hollywood's trucks and trailers through Somerville grow even longer.

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Possible future innovators get their start in Union Square CONT. FROM PG 1

paper engineering to learn engineering. But perhaps what's even more important is that they're learning 21st-century skills in collaboration, creativity and critical problem solving that we, as parents and educators, hope they're learning in school. We're dedicated to empowering these kids with these so-called soft skills that, honestly, employers out there are saying they're not getting."

According to Gilman, companies like Google, Apple, Ford and NASA already know the kinds of people they will be looking to hire 20 to 30 years out from now, and unfortunately schools are not supplying those graduates in the marketplace.

Michael Moroney, a parent of one of the child participants, was

in town from Fitchburg visiting his sister, who lives in Somerville. He said his wife found out about the event on the Web.

"We wanted our kid to get out and do something," Moroney said, adding that his child had some interest in technology and that's what made them come. He also said that if there were similar opportunities, he would certainly enroll his kid in such programs.

"What's cool over here is we're doing this basic activity, which is how to make a little monster with one eye that lights up," Zannah Marsh, director of curriculum & product development at MakerState, said as she pointed to an existing station at the event. "And they're actually learning about basic cir-



cuits and polarity on batteries and light-emitting diodes and how electricity flows through a closed loop in a circuit, and it's something that little kids can do. It's a hands-on thing, and they're getting that first exposure to conductive materials. You can actually see the circuit, you trace it out in copper tape, you see two different legs of the LED, so it's electronics that they can do in 10 minutes; a 4year-old can do it.

MakerState is focused on improving education, particularly in the fields of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics – or STEAM/STEM.

"We're what? Thirty-fourth in the developed world in science and math combined? And 28 of the top 30 careers in the next 15 years are going to require science and math as core skills," Gilman said. "We've done research on what kids need to learn and what they might not

be learning so well in school, and [our] team is building a curriculum around that."

As a growing hub for technology, Boston is one of the main locations for MakerState's efforts to bring innovation and technology into education.

"We're trying to create educational experiences for kids that bring them into masteries around subjects that they're going to need most in their lives,"



Cities unite to address opioid addiction

Strategies to expand efforts to prevent heroin and opioid use and overdoses, including the use of the opioid overdose nasal antidote Narcan, are now being developed by the four-city Massachusetts Opioid Addiction and Prevention Collaborative (MOAPC) that includes Somerville, Cambridge, Everett and Watertown. Funded by a \$100,000 Massachusetts Department of Public Health MOAPC grant awarded in July 2013, the Collaborative conducted a needs assessment and presented its findings on Feb. 10 to Somerville's new Substance Use and Mental Health community stakeholder group, which unites community stakeholders working on suicide prevention, jail diversion and substance use.

The assessment's review of hospital and 911 call data confirmed that the primary at-risk population in Somerville is young adults, mostly males, ages 20 to 29. The rate of overdoses in Somerville is slightly lower than in the state, but data from stakeholder interviews indicates that in all four communities, there is growing concern about overdoses and misuse of prescription drugs. With the resources and supports of the current grant, the Collaborative has identified the following goals to work toward prevention:

- 1. Disseminate information to address the misconceptions around prescription drug use.
- 2. Provide education on the proper disposal of prescription drugs including via the kiosk available 24/7 at the Public Safety Building, 220 Washington St, no questions asked.
- 3. Raise awareness about supports for the recovery community including:
- Massachusetts Substance Use Helpline: 1-800-327-5050.
- Families Anonymous @ 121 Washington St., Medford. Meets Tuesday 7 p.m. 781-727-
- · Learn 2 Cope @ Spaulding Hospital, 1575 Cambridge St., Cambridge. Meets Monday 7 p.m. 508-738-5148. Use main entrance and follow signs to the 3rd Floor Chapel. If you have questions, stop at the reception desk. Free visitor parking at Lot E on Hovey Avenue.

"We recognize this is just a start and we also recognize the need to gain further input from many perspectives including those in recovery as well as family members, faith groups and providers," Trauma Response Network Manager and Clinical Youth Specialist Patricia Contente said. "This is a problem that we need to solve together as a community—and across communities—and we thank the state for their support of our efforts."

The Collaborative builds on the ongoing, long-term prevention efforts by the city's Office of Prevention, Somerville Cares About Prevention, and the Somerville Trauma Response Network, including their "How to Save a Life" program established in 2011 in response to an increase in fatal overdoses that year. In 2011, the city had 23 nonfatal overdoses and three fatal overdoses of individuals between the age of 26 and 34. Narcan is an antidote for overdoses caused by opioid class drugs, which include heroin but is not effective on other substances such as cocaine or alcohol.

"Through the Collaborative, we have been working once again to train local providers in the use of Narcan, and in Somerville we are fortunate that Cataldo ambulance services carry this antidote and that police and fire have been moving quickly to get

their members trained to carry in response to the increase in fatal overdoses in the region in the past few months," Cory Mashburn, the director of the Somerville Office of Prevention, said. "At the same time, it's important to remember that we must also focus on prevention efforts long before we ever get close to the risk of an overdose."

"When we faced this crisis nine years ago, we went through a lot of healing. We learned a lot. And one thing we learned is that addiction charges us to be vigilant. We must take a comprehensive approach to opioid use and overdose prevention," Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone said. "The work of saving a life begins much earlier than the moment someone dials 911."

The Somerville Fire Department reached out to the Cambridge Health Alliance earlier this year to establish Naarcan training for Somerville firefighters, which they expect to begin soon, and the Somerville Police Department will begin Narcan training as part of their CPR program this month.

"Heroin and prescription drug addiction can affect any family, and we need to make sure that the resources needed to support those struggling with addiction or the addiction of a family member are not just available, but also that they address this problem from start to finish, from drug prevention to overdose rescue," Ward 1 Alderman Matt McLaughlin said. "This is not just an individual or isolated issue that some should battle alone. Unaddressed addiction impacts the whole community and puts others, especially our younger residents, at risk of being drawn into this destructive cycle."

The next stakeholder meeting on Substance Use and Mental Health will be held from noon to 2:30 p.m. at the Somerville Public Safety Building. The Office of Prevention is also in the process of scheduling "How to Save A Life" April 8 and a promotion highlighting National Take Back Day April 26.

For more information, or to participate in upcoming programs, contact Patty Contente at 617-625-6600, ext. 4325, or pcontente@somervillema.gov or Cory Mashburn at 617-625-6600 ext. 2570 or cmashburn@ somervillema.gov. Also look for announcements on the city calendar and our Facebook (search "SomervilleCares").

Beacon Hill Roll Call



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THE HOUSE AND SENATE. Beacon Hill Roll Call records the votes of local representatives on two roll calls and local senators on four from the week of February 24-28.

Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Somerville:



Rep. Denise Provost

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



Rep. Carl Sciortino

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. Timothy Toomey

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



Sen. Patricia Jehlen

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

ANTI-BULLYING (H 3909)

House 145-4, approved and sent to the Senate a bill adding some provisions to the 2010 anti-bullying law that requires all public and private schools to develop and implement a plan to prevent bullying from occurring and to discipline bullies. The bill requires that each plan recognize that some students may be more vulnerable to become targets of bullying based on "race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, socioeconomic status, homelessness, academic status, gender identity or expression, physical appearance, pregnant or parenting status, sexual orientation, or mental, physical, developmental or sensory disability."

Other provisions include requiring schools to annually report bullying data to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the attorney general and the Legislature and inform the parents of the victim about the department's problem resolution system and the process for seeking assistance or filing a claim.

Supporters said these changes will enhance the law and save countless children from a lifetime of physical and emotional scars and worse.

All four opponents agree that bullying must be stopped but said the bill is another unfunded state mandate that stretches administrative staff with additional unnecessary paperwork. One of the opponents said it is divisive to enumerate categories of students and said all students deserve a safe learning environment.

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

Rep. Denise Provost Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino Didn't Vote
Rep. Timothy Toomey Yes

BABY HEART SCREENINGS (S 1919)

House 147-0, approved a Senate-approved measure and sent to Gov. Deval Patrick a bill that would require all newborns to have a test that will determine whether he or she has a congenital heart defect. The test would be required to be preformed prior to the infant being discharged.

Supporters said 27 other states have this mandate and noted the requirement will save lives.

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

Rep. Denise Provost Yes
Rep. Carl Sciortino Didn't Vote
Rep. Timothy Toomey Yes

DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER (S 2016)

Senate 37-0, approved and sent to the House a bill aimed at funding much needed drinking water and wastewater infrastructure repairs in cities and towns. The bill increases from \$88 million to \$138 million the spending capacity of the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust. It also authorizes low-interest loans for water infrastructure projects based on a sliding scale interest rate on loans from zero to 2 percent and allows cities and towns to levy a water infrastructure surtax on real estate of up to 3 percent.

Supporters said the bill takes a huge step toward making critical investments in the state's declining water infrastructure and noted that cities and towns simply do

not have the funds to undertake these costly projects on their own. They argued the reforms in the bill will protect the environment and water supply.

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

Sen. Sal DiDomenico Yes Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

NON-MWRA COMMUNITIES (S 2016)

Senate 19-17, approved an amendment that would allow communities that are too far away to be able join the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) to be eligible for the same additional one-to-one match funding for which MWRA communities are eligible.

Amendment supporters said there are many non-MWRA communities that have major infrastructure problems and should be eligible for the same funds.

Amendment opponents said the bill is carefully balanced and noted there is just not enough money in the budget to give everything to every community.

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

Sen. Sal DiDomenico No Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

ALLOW COMMUNITIES TO ASSESS 3 PER-CENT SURCHARGE (S 2016)

Senate 31-5, approved an amendment that would allow cities and towns to levy a water infrastructure surcharge on real estate of up to 3 percent to help fund projects. The surcharge would have to be approved by the city council or town meeting and then by the voters at the next regular municipal or state election.

Amendment supporters said this surcharge is modeled after the Community Preservation Act local option surcharge that has worked well. They noted many communities do not have the resources for these costly projects and this option will give them the opportunity to raise some revenue.

Amendment opponents said they oppose what just amounts to an unwanted and unnecessary tax.

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

Sen. Sal DiDomenico Yes Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

REQUIRE CITY COUNCIL OR TOWN MEET-ING APPROVAL (S 2016)

Senate 31-5, approved an amendment that would require any city or town that wants to adopt an impact fee to approve the fee by a vote of the city council or town meeting. The impact fee would help offset environmental impacts caused by developments requiring new or increased water and sewer system withdrawals.

Amendment supporters said that local governing bodies should have a say in whether or not to establish the fee. They argued that without the amendment, any entity that wants to assess the fee can do so by designating the board, commission or official responsible for assessing, collecting and expending the fee.



Beacon Hill Roll Call

continued

Some amendment opponents said they had some reservations about the original version of the amendment. They noted that in the end, the redrafted version was fine but since they did not have sufficient time to read it before the roll call vote, they voted against it.

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

> Sen. Sal DiDomenico Yes Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

GRADUATED INCOME TAX - The 15-member Tax Fairness Commission created by the Legislature in July has recommended that the state adopt a constitutional amendment that would allow the Legislature to impose higher income tax rates on taxpayers in higher income brackets and lower rates on those in lower income brackets. This controversial graduated income tax, similar to the federal government's income tax, would replace the state's current 5.2 percent tax. Massachusetts voters have rejected the graduated income tax proposal on the ballot five times. The most recent defeat was in 1994 by better than two to one with 1,442,404 voters against the tax and 630,694 in favor.

TRANSGENDER PROTECTION (H 3625) - The House gave initial approval to a bill that would add gender identity as a class protected from discrimination in the Boston housing market and give the Boston Fair Housing Commission enforcement powers. Current law prohibits discrimination in several areas including race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, religion, handicap, source of income and military status.

RAISE MINIMUM INSURANCE REQUIRE-MENT FOR TAXIS (H 854) - The House gave initial approval to a bill that would raise from a flat \$8,000 to \$100,000 per person and \$300,000 per accident the minimum amount of personal injury protection coverage that taxis and other commercial vehicles must have.

NEW STATE SEAL AND MOTTO (H 2873) - The State Administration and Regulatory Oversight Committee's hearing included a proposal creating a special commission to examine the state seal and motto and develop a revised version of it. The current state seal includes a Native American holding a bow and arrow. The motto is "By the sword we seek peace, but only under

liberty." The commission would determine "whether the seal and motto accurately reflect and embody the historic and contemporary commitments of the Commonwealth to peace, justice, liberty and equality, and to spreading the opportunities and advantages of education."

Supporters of the revisions say the current seal is politically insensitive and historically inaccurate. They note that it depicts a Native American who represents a tribe from Lake Superior rather than Massachusetts and argued that the bow and arrow depict violence.

Supporters of the current seal say that it is appropriate and noted that arrow is pointing downward which is known as a Native American symbol signifying peace.

OTHER BILLS - Other measures on the same committee's agenda included requiring the state purchasing agent to give preference to products or services manufactured or produced in the United States (H 2804); prohibiting alcohol advertising on state-owned property (H 2897); prohibiting any state offices or facilities that are served by public water supplies from purchasing bottled water except for safety, health or emergency situations (H 2875); and repealing a current law that charges non-governmental groups and individuals for using the Statehouse for functions during business hours, unless the fee is waived by the superintendent of state office buildings (H 2833). The proposal would allow the state to charge for use of the Statehouse only during non-business hours.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"It would be feasible to host the 2024 Summer Olympic Games." - From a draft of the report of a commission studying the feasibility of Boston hosting the 2024 Summer Olympic Games. The committee notes the report is not intended to recommend whether or not to proceed with a bid.

"Boston is already the greatest sports town in the world, but bidding for the Olympics shifts resources away from education and core infrastructure statewide. If you want better schools or an improved MBTA, say 'no' to the Boston Olympics." - Chris Dempsey of "No Boston Olympics," which issued a report stating the 2024 Summer Olympics in Boston could cost between \$10 billion and \$20 billion.

"Not yet, no." – Speaker Robert DeLeo, when asked by WBZ-TV's News' Political Analyst Jon Keller, whether the early departure of 13 state representatives from the Legislature, the majority for jobs with larger salaries, might spur an effort to raise legislative pay.

"There's our headline." - Keller's response to DeLeo.

"The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is helping consumers get relief from shoddy debt collector practices. Many consumers who don't owe debts are being harassed by lazy debt collectors who don't verify consumer identities." - Deirdre Cummings, Consumer Program Director for MASSPIRG Education Fund, on their recent report that collectors trying to collect debt from the wrong people were the top source of complaints.

HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION?

Beacon Hill Roll Call tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of the Legislature's job and that a lot of important work is done outside of the House and Senate chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that have been filed. They note that the infrequency and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late night sessions and a mad rush to act on dozens of bills in the days immediately preceding the end of an annual session.

During the week of February 24-28, the House met for a total of four hours and 13 minutes and the Senate met for a total of 3 hours and 49 minutes.

Mon. February 24 House 11:03 a.m. to 11:24 a.m. Senate 11:05 a.m. to 11:09 a.m.

Tues. February 25 No House session Senate 11:03 a.m. to 11:07 a.m.

Wed. February 26 House 11:01 a.m. to 2:42 p.m. No Senate session

House 11:02 a.m. to 11:13 a.m. Thurs. February 27 Senate 1:00 p.m. to 4:41 p.m.

No House session Fri. February 28 No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

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COMMENTARY

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

Community budgeting targets our values— and return on investment



By Joseph A. Curtatone

When I announced in my inaugural address that we would launch a new community budget process, which we held over the course of three public meetings last week, I said that when I submit a proposal to the Board of Aldermen, it will be our budget, reflective of what we as a community want to collectively accomplish. But what is a budget? It's more than just an accounting spreadsheet. A municipal budget might be the clearest indication of what a community values. You can tell which communities value the arts and culture, getting kids active, keeping

their community healthy, and listening to residents by which communities invest in those areas. We've been fortunate in recent years that, despite cuts to state aid and an economic downturn, we didn't have to resort to slashing important community services like recreation and school athletics, like many surrounding communities. We even increased services in some areas. And though we have one of the most transparent and detailed budgets in the state, it's the community's needs that are important to us as a city, and we always strive for even more transparency and community input.

Education remains a priority for us, as do infrastructure, public safety and public works. But the community told us in SomerVision to invest more in recreation, public health, arts and culture, and in civic engagement, including more targeted outreach to immigrant commu-

nities. Those are the areas we delved into during last week's community budgeting sessions, soliciting every idea we could, the crazier the better. And by crazy I mean innovative, creative and outside-the-box thinking—the kind of thinking that makes us so Somerville.

We also value smart, strategic investment, based on analysis of data that shows we will get a return on that investment. And we know the return we can get by investing more in those areas that the community pointed to in Somer Vision. Investing in recreation goes a long way toward preventing problems in our children's future, according to a 10year study by Harvard's Youth Violence Prevention Center. We can't arrest our way out of crime. We need to look at the root causes and support high-quality education and strong families. And supporting high-quality education also means educating the whole child. We go beyond the classroom and have programs that support our kids not only academically, but in their social and emotional growth.

We know in Somerville about the value of investing in public health. Our Shape Up Somerville program has become a model for the nation, because it shows how we can take a community-wide approach that promotes healthy living. Results of the initial Shape Up Somerville program showed that children in the program learned to make healthier choices and their health benefitted from it. Fewer Somerville children were obese or overweight after two full school years of the intervention. Compared to two similar control communities, Somerville children had decreased prevalence of overweight/obesity and increased remission of overweight/obesity.

Arts and culture aren't luxu-

ries. They are part of a vibrant community and have a direct impact on our economy. A study of ArtsUnion's economic impact in fiscal years 2007 and 2008 showed investing in arts activities has a great impact on our local economy. In fiscal 2007, every dollar spent by ArtsUnion created 3.1 dollars in economic impacts. In fiscal 2008 the return was even higher, with every dollar spent creating 4.4 dollars in economic impacts. Arts and culture activate our neighborhoods and squares, make them destinations and directly support our local businesses.

We also want to invest in community engagement, because we are all the richer for your ideas, perspectives and contributions to all city efforts. It's why we share data at ResiStat meetings and through our new online data dashboard. Sharing information with an engaged community helps Continued on page 15

Life in the Will by Jimmy Del Ponte

Mickey Finn's: Menswear and much more!



In 2009, I did a story about shopping in Davis Square. Someone left this comment: "I had a relative, Hyman Kimmel, who owned

a store called Mickey Finn's in Somerville. Do you know how I could find more data about this store or the owner?"

I couldn't find anything about Hymen, but I sure gathered a lot of info about Mickey Finn's. It was one of my favorite stores in the square back in the '60s and '70s. We seem to recall that it was right next to the Smoke Shop.

Mickey Finn's was the place to go for Dad's Christmas, Father's Day or birthday gift. You could get a belt, a shirt, a hat and pretty much anything else a man could need. I don't know how they fit so many different types of merchandise in that medium-sized store. They sold these funky things called "jac-shirts." It was a shirt that you wore untucked, like a jacket. They came in a variety of gaudy fabrics and prints. I can still see the revolving rack of shiny sparkling and very loud vests. These items were great for bands and other performers. Of course I had a few! You could also get your official Somerville jacket with your name embroidered on the sleeve at Mickey Finn's.

You just had to be careful when you wore it in Medford (Meffa.) It was one of my prized possessions.

They sold work clothes and Dingo boots there. A friend of mine told me that she bought every single color of Levi corduroys that were ever made for her boyfriend. You could buy swanky neck scarves, bandanas and even Western bolo ties at Mickey's. Many Somerville kids got their first pair of Converse All Stars at Mickey Finn's. My friend Jeff bought his pants with a "continental cut" there along with a snazzy leather jacket.

For Christmas and birthdays, my cousin Carol bought her dad initialed hand-kerchiefs—and every year he loved them. They carried Boy Scout gear, as well as camping necessities like canteens. If you needed a compass/whistle, you went to Mick's. You could also buy your "pegged pants" there. Pegged pants were what we called slacks that were very tight. You could buy them that way or have the tailor peg them for you.

A young Somerville athlete in the '60s probably got his first baseball glove or pair of ice skates at Mickey Finn's, along with other sporting goods. My cousin Butch bought his "engineer boots" there, and I got them when he outgrew them! What a sweet deal! They sold all kinds



of cool hats there, too. When painter's pants, farmer's jeans and overalls were the rage, Mickey's was the place to get them. It was quite the haberdashery!

In the '60s, Mickey Finn's was the mop top shop...that is...it's where my friend Pat's dad bought him and his brother Dennis their authentic Beatle suits, which included the jacket, pants, shirt and thin tie. The Beatle boots, or "Gauchos" as they were called, were purchased next door at Highland Shoe. The official Beatles wigs sold for \$2.00 across the street at Woolworths. Pat remembers that the suits cost

\$25 and the boots were \$15. With a little help from Mickey Finn's, the O'Neil boys looked fab!

Common opinion seems to think that Mickey Finn's was gone by the '80s. There was also a Mickey Finn's in Boston's Combat Zone area.

So chalk up another great store from the past that a lot of Somerville people remember. I bet if you look in the back of your closet (or your dad's), you may find one of those loud, sparkly shirts that came from good old Mickey Finn's in Davis Square.

COMMENTARY

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



The View Of The Times



Raise your hand (metaphorically, at least; it would look strange to do so while reading the paper in print or online with others around you) if you've had to do the bowlegged John Wayne walk this very long winter trying to traverse over patches of sidewalk covered with ice and snow from homeowners or businesses that either made a half-hearted (to use a polite phrase) effort at shoveling or who just hoped global warming would do the work for them.

And raise your hand (again, not literally, but you get the point) if you've had to step on the street and around park cars already forced too far in the road from the curbside snow banks so you pretty much have to walk into the flow of traffic because a resident or business just opted not to shovel at all.

And if you can't raise your hand, even if you wanted to, because your elbow or shoulder is injured from actually falling in these situation this winter, then listen up: Report the problem to the city. There are rules and regulations about shoveling, and there are even fines attached to the violations.

No one wants to be a snitch (or any word that may rhyme with it), but the city can't realistically be expected to go up every side street and walk every sidewalk looking for evidence of the lazy and liable. Fear of enforcement is what makes us feed the meters and not park in front of the bus stops because we've seen the

tickets being written. If you don't report it, they won't come. Call 311.

In some cases, it may be a case of an elderly person or someone who, for one reason or another, is physically incapable of shoveling. If that should be the case, bringing it to the attention of an enforcement officer could result in him or her finding someone who might be able to help.

And if you call and call and no one comes, then call us. We may not come with a shovel, but we always love a good story.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

We heard that Courtney O'Keefe was going to be assistant clerk of committees at the Board of Aldermen. But that got squashed, so they're trying quietly to take care of her, which is good, we guess.

So far the only alderman who left office not having a job with the city is Bob Trane, but maybe he's too hot to handle? We still think he's going someplace other then the city, but who knows?

****** Happy birthday to the following Villens, both here in the city and wherever they are spread across the Internet. Bigtime happy birthday to Mike Browne down at the DPW. We wish him a great day. Our own Jim Clark, who is the best editor/cartoonist and just all around nice guy is celebrating this week as well. And to someone who is a great guy and smart when it comes to computers and software, John Pratti, who is a real estate agent with The Norton Group and is from the famed Somerville Pratti

family, happy birthday! And HB to Steven Buckley of East Somerville of the very large Buckley family. Another well-known East Somerville guy, Eddie Nuzzo, is celebrating this week, and we wish him a good day. State Rep. Denise Provost is celebrating this week. What a nice lady! We know she works very hard for Somerville, and we wish her the very best. Last week our good friend Diane Blouin celebrated her birthday and was trying to be quiet about it, but we heard and we know she has a devoted husband, Ross, who made sure she had a great birthday. And let's not forget her lovely mother, who will be 102 this year in September and still goes to bingo. Looks like Diane will be celebrating many more birthdays, doesn't it? ******

Our good neighbors next door in Medford are having a St. Patrick's Day party, and it's this coming Saturday, March 8, from 7 to 11 p.m. at the American Legion Post 321 on Winthrop Street in Medford just after the rotary. TICKETS MUST BE PURCHED BEFORE THE EVENT! This will sell out and there will be no tickets at the door. The cost is \$20 per ticket and tables of 10 for \$200. The party will feature live music from Irish band Erinog, Irish step dancing from Deirdre Goulding's Dance Studio and food from La Hacienda. Cash bar only, 50 /50 raffle, parking in the street is allowed. To get your tickets, call 781-395-1546.

It's not often that someone would recommend a dentist, but here we go. One of our Somerville Times readers was looking to make an appointment with a dentist to get some minor work done when he realized we have an ad in the paper from DentPlant at 281 Broadway (Grant and Broadway), so he called and got and appointment for three days later (not three months) - and the total experience was awesome. Dr. Brendan McLaughlin, with his large state-of-theart practice, made the experience for our reader just great. If you're looking for a dentist, this guy is well worth the experience. He made the whole thing totally relaxing and a most enjoyable experience - and the cost was so reasonable. We recommend him because of his ad and he's with us, but this fan of The Times is going around highly recommending him. If you need work done DentPlant is the place to call. His ad is on the front page and you can reach them at 617-591-9888 or visit www.dentplant.com. Make sure you let them know you saw it here. He is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese, as well as a local guy.

Heard from former School Committee member from Ward 4 here in the Ville the other day, Charlie Ciano, who served the schools well back in the '70s but comes through Somerville every day. He agrees the city has changed, and change is always good. We think so! Charlie was a young progressive in his days here in Somerville.

Ward 3 had its special little Democratic caucus this past

Continued on page 17

A Winter Festival in Union Square

Fire spinners, ice sculpting, and family-fun activities galore took place Saturday, March 1 in Union Square.

Professional fire spinners, A Different Spin, took the stage outdoors keeping everyone entertained while Don Chappelle of Brilliant Ice Sculptures, demonstrated his craft on two blocks of ice.

Black Magic Coffee brewed outdoors. Kids enjoyed some fun winter activities including ice bowling, sand art by SVB, and a recycled lava lamp craft sponsored by Next Step Living Inc.

























Photos by Claudia Ferro

SPORTS

Somerville Youth Hockey takes Championship

On Sunday, February 23, the Somerville Youth Hockey Middle School Team won the Valley League Middle School Championship.

Entering the playoffs as the #3 seed, Somerville would begin their road to the championship with a tough 3-0 win over Groton, next came a 6-1 win over Amesbury, before finishing with a decisive 8-1 win over Lexington in the championship game.

Somerville would prove to be peaking at just the right time, winning their 3 playoff games by a combined score of 17-2.

As the Middle School players, parents, coaches and siblings celebrated on the ice after the game, the team received their new Middle School Championship trophy, along with their individual Championship hats.

The elated 2014 Somerville Middle School Championship Team was made up of 7th and 8th grade students, Anthony Parziale, Sean Sullivan, C.J. Resmini, Derek Doane, Chris Desousa, Nathan Herra-Valente, Jake Gunther, Brandon Lafee, Dylan Zraket, Ryan Vogel, Bobby Lavey, Gus Hawkins, Shayne Murphy, Nolan Roche and Jason Cassidy.

For more information about programs offered by Somerville Youth Hockey, visit them online at http://www.somervilleyouthhockey.org.



The 2014 Somerville Youth Hockey Middle School Team, post game, celebrating their Valley League Championship win in the locker room. Front row lying down, Ryan Vogel. 2nd row kneeling, left to right, Chris Desousa, C.J. Resmini, Nolan Roche, Gus Hawkins. 3rd row, left to right, Nathan Herra-Valente, Sean Sullivan, Anthony Parziale, Shayne Murphy, Jake Gunther. Back row, left to right, Jason Cassidy, Dylan Zraket, Derek Doane, Bobby Lavey and Brandon Lafee.



The 2014 Somerville Youth Hockey Middle School Team celebrating on the ice after winning the Valley League Championship.

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Saint Clement post-season wrap up

The Saint Clement High School girls basketball team had a great season, finishing with a 12-8 record and qualifying for the state tournament for the second year in a row. The Lady Anchors were led by third-year head coach Alyssa Jann and sophomore standout Katie Monestime.

The team had three players named to the Catholic Central League all-star team: sophomore guard Katie Monestime; junior forward captain Jessica Popken; and junior center Sidney Cezil.

Monestime has been on the team since her eighth-grade year and is having a great season averaging, 23.1 points per game, nine rebounds, six assists and five steals per game. Junior captain Jessica Popken, who has been on the varsity team since her seventh-grade year just recently became the fourth female member to join the prestigious 1,000th Point

Club at Saint Clement High School. Ju- Catholic Central League nior Sidney Cezil is leading the team in rebounding for the second season in a row, averaging 12 rebounds per game.

Boys Basketball

The boys basketball team had its greatest regular season in recent memory, going an impressive 19-1. They won the Catholic Central League and secured the number one seed in the division four state tournaments for the second year in a row. The anchors are led by 12-year coach Leo Boucher, third-year coach Larry Washington and second-year coach Matt O'Donnell. Saint Clement boys basketball team had five players named to the Catholic Central League all star team: junior guard Brandon Williams; junior guard Jack Hartnett; junior guard Emaru Pena; senior forward Khaneil Bruce; and junior center Eamonn Joyce. Khaneil Bruce was also named co-MVP of the

High school hockey team

Saint Clement High School hockey played on a cooperative team with Saint Joseph Preparatory High School of Brighton for the second season in a row. The team plays their home games at Watertown Rink. Saint Clement High School had 11 students on the team this year, and Saint Joseph Prep contributed eight players. The team was led by Saint Clement senior captain William Rennie and fellow seniors Connor Sullivan, Joshua Mains and Nicholas Codair. Saint Clement High School had two league all star selections: junior forward Alex Watson from Medford; and junior forward Patrick Sullivan from Charlestown. The team will look to build from this season and put themselves in position to be back in state tournament contention next season.

Somerville resident joins YMCA's **Boston Marathon team**

Somerville's Beth Kaufman considers herself one of the lucky ones. Last Marathon Monday, as she stood on Boylston Street, a block away from the bombs that struck Boston, she was able to flee from the scene of the tragedy physically unscathed.

She remembers seeing the fear, chaos, destruction and injured runners; things that can never be unseen.

"It's hard to describe," Kaufman, 36, said. "Although I wasn't physically injured and no part of the bomb actually touched me, weeks after the event I was still terrified to leave the house. I wouldn't take the T because anyone that had a backpack seemed suspicious to me. I can't even imagine what it must have been like to be physically injured in the attacks."

Weeks went by, and Kaufman slowly regained her confidence and trust in the city. An avid runner, who had taken on the Boston Marathon in 2004, she decided that she needed to take control of the situation, take back the celebratory event, and she became determined to run this year's Boston Marathon.

She signed up for the Twin Cities Marathon, a qualifying race for Boston, and included sections of the Boston Marathon route into her training runs.

"Running down Boylston Street was therapy for me," Kaufman said. "It helped me heal immensely. I would stop and stand where I stood last April, and it felt like I was standing up for my city."

She laced up and took on



Somerville resident Beth Kaufman, right, will be running the 2014 Boston Marathon as part of the YMCA of Greater Boston's team. All funds raised by Y Marathon team members will support the YMCA of Greater Boston's teen programs.

the Twin Cities route this past October, turning around all of fear and emotions to propel her forward. Despite her efforts, she missed the qualifying time for the Boston Marathon by just 25 seconds.

"I was devastated," she said. "All of that training and I thought I wasn't going to be able to fulfill my goal of running for Boston."

Then, just a week later after submitting an essay about her personal experience at the Boston Marathon to the Boston Athletic Association, and despite her 25-second timing miss in Minneapolis, the BAA granted her a bib to run.

Though Kaufman is not re-

quired to fundraise for her run, the director of operations at the YMCA of Greater Boston's Waltham branch will run as part of the YMCA's team, hoping to raise \$3,000 for her employer.

"I am not running so that I can eat a large pizza with no guilt," she says. "What will be driving me to run this April is supporting Boston, the community, the families, and everyone who was affected. The YMCA is so closely interwoven into the city of Boston and surrounding communities and makes a significant difference in the lives of hundreds of families, and so I thought it was the perfect organization to dedicate my run to."

Community budgeting targets our values-and return on investment CONT. FROM PG 10

us discover solutions that might tractual obligations we have to not obvious until we delve into helps us save money and operate more efficiently. A community engagement program like our Somerville Academy for Innovative Leadership (SAIL) is a small investment with a big return. And, of course, we don't want to talk to the community once and leave it that. We should constantly engage the community and learn how values or priorities may have shifted, so we can know how to build the city that you want.

We want to invest in these areas because we know we'll get a return on investment. At the same time, we have to spend wisely because we don't have a lot of wiggle room. Within the School Department, Public Safety and Public Works, there are con-

meet, usually with built in salathe numbers together. That ries. And we're legally obligated to fund our pension system and benefits, and to pay down our debt. Altogether, these categories account for 83 percent of the budget. We look for efficiencies in these departments wherever we can, like purchasing studier equipment and more affordable supplies, but that accounts for a small part of the budget. And we continue to do more with less, as our state aid has been reduced by 43 percent over the last 13 years, a net loss of more than \$20 million—without adjusting for inflation. Outside of fixed costs such as health care, contractual obligations and debt service, we have actually cut our discretionary spending, and my administration has never asked for an override or debt exclusion.

We spend to our obligationsand to our values.

This year we'll continue that conservative budgeting proach that bond rating agency Moody's specifically cited in reaffirming our highest bond rating ever last year. We'll find savings wherever we can and then keep investing in those areas that the community has told us they value. We've learned over the past decade that creating a better city means not cutting and running, but creating an effective government that makes smart investments and invests in our values. Our community values recreation, public health, arts and culture, and civic engagement, and we know value of investing in those areas. Our budget is and will be more than a list of numbers. It will be a collective statement of our values.

Ms. Cam's

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

- 1. What year was the first Academy Awards - now known as the Oscars first televised?
- 2. How far apart are the bases in a regular softball game?
- 3. What sign of the Zodiac begins from November to December?
- 4. When and how did the "mansard roof" originate?
- 5. What is the meaning of "Mardi Gras"?
- 6. James Cromwell became a vegetarian after his

7. What year did the

role in what movie?

- movie The Sixth Sense premiere?
- 8. What U.S. state is called the first state?
- 9. How did the name "cop" come to pertain to a policeman?
- 10. Approximately how far is the Earth from the Sun on average?
- 11. Which one of the Beatles was best man for Peter Boyle, of Everybody Loves Raymond?
- 12. How many doughnuts would you receive in baker's dozen?

Answers on page 21

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

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 19, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA.

36 Mead St: (Case #ZBA 2014-05) Applicant and Owner, Open Homes LLC, seeks a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to construct a dormer on the right side roof plane, add skylights, and alter window locations on the front and rear façades. RB zone. Ward 7.

240 Elm St: (Case #ZBA 2014-06) Applicant, Fitness Holdings Somerville, LLC, d/b/a Crunch Fitness, seek a Special Permit under SZO §7.11.6.3.b to establish a exercise facility over 10,000 sf and a Special Permit under SZO §9.13.a to modify parking space requirements for approx 2 parking spaces. Zone CBD. Ward 6.

86 Powderhouse Blvd: (Case #ZBA 2014-07) Applicants & Owner Jose & Maria Barros seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by enclosing the second floor of a rear porch. RA zone. Ward 7.

37-39 Morrison Ave: (Case #ZBA 2014-08) Applicant and Owner, Kimberly Mathai, seek a Special Permit per SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by extending an existing dormer, adding a 3rd floor rear deck, and window and door alterations. RA Zone. Ward 6.

457 Medford St: (Case #ZBA 2014-09) Applicant and Owner, Henry Donaldson, seek a Special Permit per SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by changing the building type from a side gable to 3-story flat roof structure and expanding rear additions. RB Zone. Ward 5.

22A College Ave: (Case #ZBA 2014-10) Applicant, American Baker's Inc., and Owner, Rosemary Nolan, Tara II Realty Trust, seek a Special Permit under SZO §7.11.10.2.1.a, to establish a fast order food establishment (bakery) and a Special Permit under SZO §9.13.a to modify parking space requirements for approx 4 parking spaces. Zone CBD. Ward 6.

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

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant

As published in The Somerville Times on 3/5/14 & 3/12/14.

3/5/14 The Somerville Times

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday March 17, 2014 at the Senior Center, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at 6:00PM on the application of River Bar, LLC for a New All-Forms Alcoholic Beverages 7 Day Restaurant License and an Entertainment license consisting of Entertainment by Performers, Patrons and Devices at 661 Assembly Row., Somerville, MA.

> For the Commission Andrew Upton Vito Vaccaro John J. McKenna

Attest: Jenneen Pagliaro Executive Secretary

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday March 17, 2014 at the Senior Center, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at 6:00PM on the application of Aguacate Verde, 13 Elm St. for alterations to the premises for the addition of a Bar.

> For the Commission Andrew Upton Vito Vaccaro John J. McKenna

Attest: Jenneen Pagliaro **Executive Secretary**

3/5/14 The Somerville Times



The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the Asbestos Abatement at Corbett Apartments at Corbett Apartments in Somerville, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by Hub Testing Laboratory, Inc.

The removal of fiberglass pipe insulation with hard packed asbestos containing elbows and fittings from the crawlspaces and ground floor maintenance/custodial room and storage room in the Corbett Apartments at 125 and 32 Jaques Street and a small room adjacent to the storage room at 125 Jaques Street. Removal in crawlspaces will be conducted using containment and removal in ground floor maintenance/custodial room, storage room and small room adjacent to the storage room may be conducted either in containment or by utilizing glovebag technique.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §826 to 27H inclusive.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. The bids are to be prepared and submitted at www.biddocsonline.com. Tutorials and instructions on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online (click on the 'Tutorial' tab at the bottom footer).

General Bids will be received until March 20, 2014 at 1:00 P.M. online, forthwith. All Bids shall be submitted electronically online at www.biddocsonline.com no later than the date and time specified above.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternates), and made payable to the Somerville Housing Authority.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for pick-up at www.biddocsonline.com (may be viewed electronically and hardcopy requested) or at Nashoba Blue, Inc. at 433 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749 (978-568-1167).

There is a plan deposit of \$25.00 (maximum of 2 sets) payable to BidDocs Online Inc.

Deposits may be electronically paid or must be a certified or cashier's check. The deposit will be refunded for up to two sets for general bidders upon return of the sets in good condition within thirty (30) days of receipt of general bids. Otherwise the deposit shall be the property of the Award-

Additional sets may be purchased for: \$. Bidders requesting Contract Documents to be mailed to them shall include a separate check for \$40.00 per set for UPS Ground (or \$65.00 per set for UPS overnight), payable to the BidDocs Online Inc., to cover mail handling costs (cashier's or certified

978 499-9014

781 430-2008

800 364-2059

Pre-bid Conference: The bidders are invited to visit the Project site

Date/time: March 12, 2014 at 1:00 P.M.

Location: 125 Jaques Street Somerville, MA

Appointments: NONE

The Contract Documents may be seen in person or by electronic media at:

Somerville Housing Authority 30 Memorial Road Somerville, MA 02145 Phone: 617-625-1152

BidDocs ONLINE Inc. Project Dog MHC/Joseph Merrit & Co.

3/5/14 The Somerville Times

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www.biddocsonline.com www.projectdog.com www.merrittgrapbics.com www.isqft.com



CITY OF SOMERVILLE OFFICE OF CITY CLERK **BOARD OF ALDERMEN**

Pursuant to City Charter Section 8, there will be a Public Hearing before the Board of Aldermen on Thursday, March 13, 2014 at 6:00 PM, in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, on the Order of Alderman William A. White, Jr., President of the Board, for public input on the matter of divestment of the city's pension fund from the fossil fuel industry, pursuant to a request for a public hearing on the subject submitted by 129 registered voters to the Board of Aldermen on February 27, 2014.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

JOHN J. LONG CITY CLERK

3/5/14 The Somerville Times

The Somerville Licensing Commission is accepting applications for FIVE available City Owned Alcohol Licenses. The available Licenses can be either All Forms of Alcohol or Wine and Malt Licenses for restaurants in Assembly Square District Area. Interested parties may obtain applications online at Somervillema.gov or at the City Clerks Office, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA Applications are being accepted until March 27, 2014.

> For the Commission Andrew Upton Vito Vaccaro John J. McKenna

Attest: Jenneen Pagliaro Executive Secretary

2/26/14, 3/5/14 The Somerville Times



LEGAL NOTICE

CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC HEARING

The Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning & Community Development (OSPCD) will hold a public hearing on the City's 2014 Draft One-Year Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program, and the HOME program. The public hearing will be held at the Ralph & Jenny Center (9 New Washington Street, Somerville, MA) at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 20, 2014. The purpose of the public hearing is to present the proposed 2014 Draft One Year HUD Action Plan (July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015) and to receive input and comments on this proposed plan.

Accommodations for persons with disabilities are available. Requests for accommodations should be made by the close of business on Friday, March 14, 2014 by contacting Betsy Allen at 617-625-6600 x2323. Accommodations for non-English speaking or hearing impaired persons are available by contacting (OSPCD) at 617-625-6600 x2500; requests for accommodations should be made by the close of busi ness on Friday, March 14, 2014. General questions about the hearing should be directed to the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) at 617-625-6600 x2500. Written comments will be accepted up to Monday, April 21, 2014 @ 4:30 p.m., and should be sent to the attention of Alan Inacio at the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD), 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143 or email to ospcd@somervillema.gov.

Joseph A. Curtatone Mayor

3/5/14 The Somerville Times

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A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday March 17, 2014 at the Senior Center, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at 6:00PM on the application of TBD Brewing, LLC d/b/a Aeronaut Brewing Company for a Farmer's Series Pouring Permit at 14 Tyler St./30

> For the Commission Andrew Upton Vito Vaccaro John J. McKenna

Attest: Jenneen Pagliaro Executive Secretary

3/5/14 The Somerville Times

TO PLACE LEGAL ADVERTISMENTS IN THE SOMERVILLE TIMES, **CONTACT CAM TONER BY 12 PM MONDAY** PH: 617.666.4010 • FAX: 617.628.0422

BOA approves 10 event permits

The spring and summer is already shaping up to be an entertaining time around the city, as the Board of Aldermen approved several event permits at its Feb. 27 meeting. They include:

- + Palm Sunday Donkey Walk, College Avenue from Nathan Tufts Park to Davis Square, 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. Sunday, April 13.
- Buffalo Exchange 40th Anniversary Airstream Trailer Event, 238 Elm St., 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 16
- Easter Sunrise Service, Nathan Tufts Park, 6 to 7 a.m. Sunday, April 20.
- Somerville Open Studios Information Booths, Davis Square and Union Square, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, May 3 and 4.
- Somerville Arts Council's Citywide PorchFest, noon to 6 p.m. Saturday, May 17 (raindate is Sunday, May 18).
- Goondocks performance at Porchfest, Pearson Road between Warner Street and Broadway, noon to 10 p.m. Saturday, May 17.
- + Somerville Arts Council's Squeezebox Slam, Seven Hills Park, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, June 14 (raindate is Sunday, June 15).
- + Somerville Arts Council's Joe's Jazz and Blues Fest, Powderhouse Park, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday June 21 (raindate is June 22).
- + Somerville Arts Council's ArtBeat, Davis Square, 1 p.m. to midnight Friday, July 18, and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday, July 19 1(the raindate is July 20).
- Somerville Dog Festival, Trum Field, 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 14.

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

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

Saturday and elected, amongst others, were Ward 3 Alderman Bob McWatters and Suzanne Bremer. Congratulations to them! They will join the rest of the wards in Worcester for the state convention in June.

Our own Cam Toner is out of the hospital and is home. Wow, is she one dedicated lady! In between the many doctors' appointments, she is managing to still do her Ms. Olio for this week. From all her many - and we mean many - fans, we wish her good health and long life. She's the best! If you'd like to send her an email of best wishes, you can at camtoner@yahoo. com. Send her your best wishes for a speedy recovery and let her know how much you like her column. She spends hours on it every week, and we know she has a huge following.

Join Groundwork Somerville at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 8, for the Maple Syrup Project Boil Down at The Growing Center, 22 Vinal Ave, Somerville. Community members of all ages are invited to watch and learn as sap from local sugar maple trees is boiled down into pure maple syrup over a warm fire. Attendees can expect to enjoy

syrup-tasting, music, activities, and more! Waffles, syrup and T-shirts will be on sale.

Wild Tales, a Somerville youth theater project, begins its fifth season Tuesday, March 18, at the Mystic Learning Center at 530 Mystic Ave. This free program will run Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. from March 18 to June 14. The program will culminate with a free performance at the Somerville Main Public Library at 11 a.m. Saturday, June 14. All children ages 6 - 12 are invited to participate in the year's Wild Tales. To learn more about Wild Tales, either come to the info party from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. Tuesday, March 11, at the Mystic Learning Center (or contact Liza Kitchell at 617 628-6685 or lpkitchell@ aol.com). Wild Tales is made possible through a grant from the Somerville Arts Council.

Get ready for baseball! Somerville Little League registration is now open. Stop by Tufts' Cousens Gym March 8 to register in person, or register online at www. somerville.littleleague.org. Anyone with questions can email registration@somervillelittleleague.org

or call (617) 849-8478. Visit the SLL website for more information: www.somervillelittleleague.org.

At 6 p.m. Thursday, March 20, the 12th annual Brian Higgins Foundation Trivia Night will be held at Tufts University's Cousens Gym. For more information, visit www.thebrianhigginsfoundation.org or email debby@ thebrianhigginsfoundation.org. \$25 donation per person; up to 10 people per table/team. Light dinner provided by Kelly's Roast Beef and dessert by Somerville High School Culinary Arts. Stay connected by "liking" BHF at www.facebook.com/TheBrian-HigginsFoundation.

The Green Line Extension (GLX) Design Working Group/Construction Working Group will meet from 4 to 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 11, at the Center for the Arts at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave. The focus of the meeting is intended to be an interactive session, discussing design, construction and upcoming community meetings. All meetings of the Design Working Group are open to the public. The agenda and meeting minutes will be posted on the GLX website, greenlineextension.eot.state.ma.us.

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Somerville



71578023 \$989,000
Condo. 7 rooms, 3 bedrooms, 4 baths. Davis
Square, large Luxury condominium. Open living/
dining area w/ fireplace.



71587711 \$749,000.
Sunday, March 9
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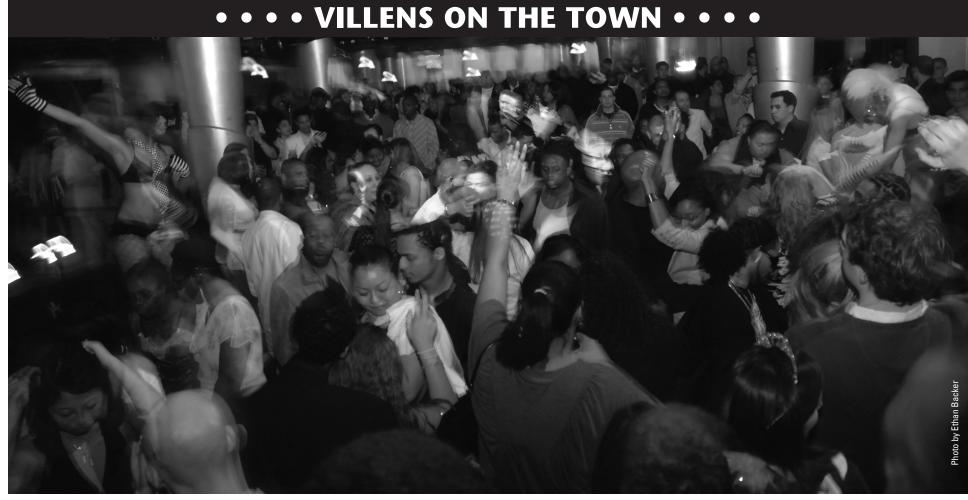


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FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Wednesday | March 5

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

Central Library

SomervilleYoung Life Gathering Sarah Brasington 617-930-8336 3 p.m.-4 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Thursday | March 6

Central Library

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

Central Library

Teen Craft: Sew a Cat-eared Fleece Hat Cynthia 617-623-5000-2969 2:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.|79 Highland

Friday | March 7

Central Library

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

land Ave

Central Library

Teen Game Day Cynthia or Ron 617-623-5000-

3 p.m.-5:30 p.m.|79 Highland

Veteran's Memorial Rink

Free public skating 12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave

Saturday | March 8

Central Library

When Asia Was the World Kevin|617 263 5000 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.|79 Highland

Sunday | March 9

Veteran's Memorial Rink

Free public skating 3:30 p.m.-4:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave

Monday | March 10

Central Library

Sing-Along with Fred Griffeth Cathy x2954 11 a.m.-12 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Arts at the Armory

Knucklebones 9:30 a.m.-11 a.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday | March 11

Central Library

Avenue

Homeschool Reading Group for Ages 9-11 Tammy McKanan|617-591-0216 9:30 a.m.- 12 p.m.|79 Highland

West Branch Library

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

Central Library

StoryCorps Interviews Maria Carpenter 617-623-5000 2:30 p.m.-5 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Wednesday | March 12

Central Library

Middle School Writers' Den Alan Ball|617 636-9033 12:30 p.m.-3:30 P.m.|79 Highland Avenue

East Branch Library

Dr. Seuss' (belated) Birthday Party! Meghan Forsell|617-623-5000

x2970

3 p.m. - 4 p.m.|115 Broadway

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

MUSIC

Wednesday | March 5

Johnny D's

Mass Mouth 7 p.m. 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

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

The Burren

Front Room

Exile on Elm

Back Room Comedy@10

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896 PA'S Lounge

Full Scene Ahead "CD Swap" 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-

On The Hill Tavern 499 Broadway 617-629-5302

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

Precinct Bar

Closed for renovations 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub

The Nephrok All Stars 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-

Highland Kitchen

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Radio Bar

379 Summer St

Joshua Tree Bar & Grill

Pub Trivia

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

Arts at the Armory

Red Cross Blood Drive 2 p.m. – 7 p.m.|Performance Hall Wiretap Wednesday Open Stage 7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Somerville Theatre

Josh Ritter (acoustic show) with special quest Gregory Alan Isakov 7:30 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Thursday | March 6

Johnny D's

Lera Lynn plus Putnam Murdock|7 p.m. Los Fletcheros 10 p.m. 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

Spring Hill Rounders grassy Thursdays 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room Acoustic/Bluegrass|9:30 p.m. **Back Room** Scattershot | 10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge

"Campfire" hosted by Ben Bullock w/ Revibe 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-

On The Hill Tavern

Live DJ Music

499 Broadway|617-629-5302 **Orleans Restaurant and Bar**

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Precinct Bar Closed for renovations 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Dub Down Featuring The Scotch **Bonnet Band**

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

Radio Bar

379 Summer St

Somerville Theatre

Josh Ritter (acoustic show) with special guest Gregory Alan Isakov 7:30 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Arts at the Armory

Singers' Open Mic with Celia Slattery and Bill Duffy 7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Friday | March 7

Johnny D's

Aaron Flanders - The Third Floor -CD Release Party 7:30 p.m. Free Friday featuring Aqueous / Mom and Dad Free Friday|10

17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

Stan Martin Band | 6 p.m. Modern Day Idols, Mt Peru, Abbie Barrett & The Last Date \$5 cover |9 p.m.

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room Irish Session|9:30 p.m. **Back Room** Dave Foley

247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

10 p.m.|65 Holland St

Precinct Bar

Closed for renovations 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

PA'S Lounge

Beardo|Van Walton|Dan Mc-Donough 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

On The Hill Tavern

499 Broadway |617-629-5302 **Orleans Restaurant and Bar**

DJ starting at 10 p.m.

65 Holland St|617-591-2100 **Bull McCabe's**

Mighty Grimey 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-

6045

Joshua Tree DJ McRiddleton

256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Samba Bar & Grille Live music

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

Casey's

Entertainment every Friday 173 Broadway|617-625-5195

Radio Bar

379 Summer St.

Arts at the Armory

Revels FRINGE

7:30 p.m.|Performance Hall A Very Special Evening with Vessela Stoyanova & friends 8 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Somerville Theatre Habib Koite

8 p.m.|55 Davis Square

Saturday | March 8

Iohnny D's Beatlejuice|9:30 p.m. 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

Sally O'Brien's

Tom Hagerty Band 6 p.m. Erie Blue \$5 cover 9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-

The Burren

Front Room Irish Session|9:30 p.m. **Back Room Spitting Vinnies** 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Precinct Bar

Closed for renovations 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

Karaoke

65 Holland St

PA'S Lounge

CTM|Easthampton Savings Band|Andrew Soucy 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-

On the Hill Tavern

Live DJ Music 499 Broadway 617-629-5302

Bull McCabe's

Toussaint the Liberator 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

Radio Bar

379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory

Rick Schilling 10 a.m. Cafe David Johnston

4 p.m.|Cafe A2Empowerment benefit featuring The Mood Swings 7 p.m.|Performance Hall David Tanklefsky and Friends 7 p.m.|Cafe||191 Highland Ave

Sunday March 9

Johnny D's

Open Blues Jam! featuring Matthew Smart Band|4 p.m. Billy Block Benefit Press Release | 8

17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Frank Drake Sunday Showcase |5 p.m

Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room

Sunday Americana with Sean Staples, Eric Royer, Tim Gearan, Dave Westner and Dan Keller 7

Burren Acoustic Music Series 247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge

345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

Precinct Bar

Closed for renovations 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub

Dub Apocalypse 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-

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

Radio Bar

379 Summer St

Samba Bar & Grille

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

Arts at the Armory

Lily Virginia

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

Monday | March 10

Johnny D's

Johnny D's Comedy Showcase Presents: One Microphone 7 p.m. Stump! Pub Trivia|8:30 p.m. 17 Holland St | 617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Shawn Cater's Cheapshots Comedy Jam |7 p.m. Marley Mondays with The Duppy

Conquerors 10 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Front Room Bur- Run|6:45 p.m.

Back Room TBA

247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

On The Hill Tavern

499 Broadway 617-629-5302

PA'S Lounge

Americana Night 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-

1557

Precinct Bar Closed for renovations

70 Union Sq|617-623-921

Bull McCabe's Pub

Stump! Team Trivia

8 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Radio Bar

379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory

Cambridge Symphony Orchestra 6:30 p.m.|Performance Hall|191

Highland Ave

Tuesday | March 11

Johnny D's

Paul Rishell & Annie Raines | 8

17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Mai Hernon Celtic Font with Nancy Hewett 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-

The Burren

Front Room Jason Anick and the Swingers|8:30 p.m. **Back Room** Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan

On The Hill Tavern

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

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge

Open Mic - Rock, Folk, R&B, Alt, Jazz & Originals etc. Hosted by Tony Amaral 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

Precinct Bar

Closed for renovations 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub

The Ghetto People Band 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen

First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling Bee Night hosted by Victor and Nicole of

The fun starts at 10:00p.m. 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

PJ Ryan's

Egoart.

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

Radio Bar

379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory

Somerville Climate Action / Rep. Denise Provost Film Series 6:30 p.m.|Cafe||191 Highland

Wednesday | March 12

Johnny D's

17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

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

The Burren

Front Room Exile on Elm Back Room

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

PA'S Lounge

Full Scene Ahead "CD Swap" 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-

On The Hill Tavern

499 Broadway|617-629-5302

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

Precinct Bar

Closed for renovations 70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub

The Nephrok All Stars 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-

Highland Kitchen

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

9177

Radio Bar

379 Summer St

Joshua Tree Bar & Grill Pub Trivia

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

CLASSES AND GROUPS Wednesday | March 5

Central Library

Mystery Book Club 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Third Life Studio

Beyond beginning Belly Dance with Nadira lamal 7:30 p.m.|Level 2|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com

Thursday | March 6

West Branch Library

Learn English at the Library! (Session 1)6:00 PM - 7:00 p.m. (Session 2)7:15 PM - 8:15 p.m. 40 College Avenue

Central Library

Authors Terry Kitchen and Rob 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland

Avenue **Central Library**

Drop-In Meditation Maria Carpenter 617-623-5000

1 p.m. - 2 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

First Church Somerville

Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor).

For more info call: 781-762-6629

Third Life Studio

Roots and Rhythm 33 Unions Sq. | www.libana.com

Friday | March 7

Arts at the Armory Prenatal Yoga

2 p.m.|Mezzanine|191 Highland

Saturday | March 8

Winter Farmers' Market 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Bagel Bards

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

Third Life Studio

Jazz Dance Brunch! A Six Week Jazz Dance Class Series with Jen Farrell January 25 through March 1 10:30am-12:00pm|33 Union Sq

Sunday | March 9

Unity Church of God

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

Third Life Studio

Discover Belly Dance with Nadira

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com

Monday | March 10

East 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. 115 Broadway

Third Life Studio

6 p.m.|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com Tuesday | March 11

Learn English at the Library!

Discover Belly Dance with Nadi-

6 p.m.-7 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Arts at the Armory

Central Library

Prenatal Yoga 7 p.m.|Mezzanine|191 Highland

Third Life Studio

The Art of Group Singing For Women with Susan Robbins, www.libana.

7 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.|33 Union Sq

Wednesday | March 12

Central Library

Somerville Arts Council Space **Brokerage Meeting** Gregory Jenkins-617-623-6600 x2985 6 p.m.-9 p.m.|79 Highland

Avenue **Third Life Studio**

Beyond beginning Belly Dance with Nadira Jamal 7:30 p.m.|Level 2|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com

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Place your Classified Ad in The Somerville Times today!

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 Center - 167 Holland Street

Ralph & Jenny Center - 9 New Washington Street

Cross Street Center - 165 Broadway

Holiday Inn Dance - Monday, March 24, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 30 Washington Street. \$20. Come and enjoy a terrific lunch, with good music and wonderful friends. To RSVP and for more information please contact Connie at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

Book Club - Friday, April 4. The book club meets the first Friday of each month, except for holiday weeks. April's book is "The Buddha in the Attic" by Julie Otsuka, The story of a group of young women brought from Japan to San Francisco as "picture brides" nearly a century ago. In most cases, copies of the book are available in the COA office. Contact Janine for details at 617-615-6600 Ext. 2321 or email her at jlotti@Somervillema.gov.

Twin River Casino - Tuesday, April 15. Located in Lincoln, RI. \$22 cost which includes Motorcoach Bus transportation, \$10 Free Bonus Play and a \$7 food credit. Check in time 8:30 a.m. at the Holland Street Center and 8:45 a.m. at the Ralph & Jenny Center. Approximate return time 6:30 P.M. Please contact Flo or Connie for more information or to RSVP - 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

Charleston, SC & Savannah, GA - May 4 to May 10. A 7-day/6-night tour of the rolling greens of these two beautiful cities. The tour includes deluxe motorcoach transportation, 6 breakfasts, 4 dinners, all hotel accommodations and hotel tax. \$696.00 per person double occupancy, \$921.00 single. For more details, to RSVP or if you have any questions please contact Connie or Flo at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

Low Vision Support Group – Do you know someone who has trouble seeing? Do you have low vision? Join the Somerville Council on Aging Low Vision Support Group beginning Tuesday, March 11 (running the 2nd Tuesdays of each month). From 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Holland Street Center, 167 Holland Street. Lunch and transportation may be available on request. Contact Suzanne at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

Movies are Back. Beginning this month, we will show feature movies on the last Monday of each month. Mark your calendars: March 31, April 28, and June 30. The movie for May will be on the third Monday, May 19. For more information and to sign up, contact Connie at (617) 625-6600, ext. 2300.

IMPORTANT INFO: An ongoing collaboration with the Somerville Fire Department has resulted in a program to distribute and install free, new smoke alarms in eligible households. For more information and an application, call us at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Ralph & Jenny Center Events:

Ralph and Jenny Center will be open four days a week (Mon-Thurs).

Cards and Games hour at Ralph & Jenny at 10:00 a.m. every day the center is open (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday). Come join your friends or make some new ones. Cards, Scrabble and Cribbage.

Do you crochet or would you like to learn? Thursdays at 10:45 a.m. At Ralph & Jenny Center. Join a great group in learning to crochet or share your projects you

Strengthening Exercises with Geoff. 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday.

BINGO every day at 12:45.

Cross Street Center Events:

Please note that due to construction the Cross Street Center and its events have been CANCELLED – The Cross Street Center is scheduled to reopen on March 25.

March 5

Bowling at Flatbreads at 1:00 pm

Holland Street Center

Fit 4 Life A|8:45 a.m. Fit 4 Life B|9 a.m.

Lunch|11:30 a.m.

Fit 4 Life C|1 p.m.

Zumba for All|5:15 p.m. 167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage 10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street 617-666-5223

March 6

Holland Street Center

Current Events 10 a.m. Lunch|11:30 a.m.

BINGO|12:45 p.m. LBT Fit-4-Life|6 p.m. 167 Holland Street 617-625-6600 x 2300

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage 10 a.m. Strengthening Exercise 10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street 617-666-5223 March 7

Holland Street Center

Lunch|11:30 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

167 Holland Street 617-625-6600 x 2300

March 10

Holland Street Center

Moonlighters 10:30 a.m.

Lunch|11:30 a.m.

Fit-4-Life C|1 p.m.

167 Holland Street 617-625-6600 x 2300

March 11

Holland Street Center

Strengthening Exercise 9:15 a.m.

SHINE by appt.|10 a.m.

Lunch|11:30 a.m.

Fit 4 Life LBT|6 p.m.

167 Holland Street 617-625-6600 x 2300

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage 10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street 617-666-5223

March 12

Holland Street Center Fit 4 Life A|8:45 a.m.

Fit 4 Life B|9 a.m.

Lunch|11:30 a.m.

Fit 4 Life C|1 p.m.

Zumba for All|5:15 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage 10 a.m. Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street 617-666-5223

Check out our Facebook site for photos from our events and exercise and tips for everyday healthy living

at www.facebook.com/somervilleCOA.

Channeling 'Dirty Dancing,' 'Roundhouse' and retro trivia at Old School Game Show

By Erica Scharn

For its Valentine-themed show Feb. 23, Old School Game Show demonstrated its love for all things Patrick Swayze with an interpretive dance and a mullet.

Old School Game Show (OSGS), an interactive variety show, takes place at The Davis Square Theatre on the last Sunday of each month. The retro-inspired live theater experience allows audience members to join the show as contestants in trivia challenges based on pop culture both old and new, while featuring local musicians, comedians, dancers and other talent. Local sponsors, which included Mixcard, High Energy Vintage and Somerville Skillshare, provided prizes and the dates for The Dating Game winners.

"It's a somewhat irreverent mockery of the whole game show culture," said Lawrence resident and first-time OSGS attendee Da Butcha, who participated as a contestant in the trivia challenges. "I just enjoyed the whole evening, it's really fun. It's a good way to spend a Sunday evening." He said that his favorite part was standing behind the buzzer stand and corral: "It felt like a muppet the two-hand muppets."

Slow Jam Jubilee had a romance theme, complete with a Dating Game-like segment featuring local celebrities and risqué, unexpected make-out sessions between the characters. The next show on March 30 will have an action movie theme: Get To The Chopper, Panty Dropper!

"I was very impressed. I thought it was great," said Catherine Capozzi from Brighton. "I didn't have any expectations whatsoever - I didn't really know anything about it. It was entertaining; they totally moved it along. I liked the accordionist Martha that came out [Baby Making Polka Music with musical guest Martha Marin]."

With a collage of pictures from Patrick Swayze movies on the large screen behind the OSGS house band, D'Angelo donned a black leotard and joined house dance troupe The Cubic Zirconia Dancers (who wore gold leotards and orange legwarmers) for a faux-dramatic dance channeling Dirty Dancing. To pay homage to another type of Patrick Swayze movie, Roundhouse, a hillbilly with a mullet made an appearance.

"I'm a big Roadhouse and Patrick Swayze fan, and those two worlds - loving something and realizing how ridiculous and kind of dumb but brilliant at



The Old School Game show beckons you to take the plunge into their fishbowl of fun and games.

the same time," OSGS Host and Creator Mike D'Angelo said. "There's a lot of that stuff that happens in the show about the stuff we like, and the physical show itself – like how ridiculous and silly and stupid it is, but also hopefully done cleverly."

There were high fives and back patting amongst team members, although teams were created randomly through the drawing of audience names from the OSGS fishbowl. Da Butcha said that he felt like he bonded with his teammates. Sound effects and music from the OSGS house band, coupled with dramatic lights, accentuated the trivia challenges.

D'Angelo and Announcer Mo Lotman jokingly chided Dating Game contestant and winner Ryan Bambery for going "rogue" and not waiting for the bachelorette's multiple-choice options. D'Angelo reminded contestants to keep their hands on the shag covering the buzzer stand rather than hovering over the buzzers. There was even some playful audience heckling: the audience collectively groaned "Nooo!" when one of the contestants named

the wrong Jim Carrey movie in PartyLine To The Other Side, a new OSGS trivia challenge in which Supernatural Special Guest Barry White, voiced by Colin Metz, crooned a TV Guide summary and the contestants guessed the TV show or movie.

But OSGS is about having fun and not the ultimate win, and D'Angelo said that he aims to make everyone feel comfortable. "We do have the game show spirit - hopefully that kind of communal thing. We aim to create a very warm and loose atmosphere," said D'Angelo. "We want to make it more like game night at someone's home."



FOR SALE: Beautifully cared for in great condition a Cherry Wood dinning room set, with two leaf table, six chairs, large wall china cabinet and large corner glass cabinet, also custom pads, asking \$500. A must see. Email donnortonera@yahoo.com for appointment. Must be able to make arrangments to move it out.











2. 60 feet apart

3. Sagittarius

4. In the 11th Century, Parliament metered the number of floors to a building. Francois Mansard got around the law, by lifting up apart of the roof, giving the building an extra floor

5. It is French for "Fat Tuesday" and dates back from a medieval French Tradition of slaughtering a fatted bull or ox before lent, a period in which

eating meat was once forbidden

6. When he played Farmer Hodgget in Babe

7. 1999

8. Delaware

9. The verb cop means to "nab"and their main function is to nab miscreants a policeman was called a copper, shortened to a cop

10. 9,300,000 miles

11. John Lennon

12. 13

Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

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Wednesd	ay, March 5	5:30pm	The Folkorist	11:00am	11:00am Dead Air Live		Farrakhan Speaks			
7:30am Life Matters		6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	12:00pm	Reeling the Movie Review Show	11:00pm	Penny's Dreadful and Shilling Secrets			
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News (re-run)	12:30pm	Youth Violence in Society	Monday, March 10				
9:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	7:00pm	Taking Back your Health	1:00pm	Play by Play	7:30am	Eckankar			
10:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News	7:30pm	Chatting with History	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)			
10:30am	Art at SCATV	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou	2:30pm	Culture Club	9:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading			
11:00am	Abugida TV	9:30pm	SCATV's 2014 Annual Meeting	3:00pm	Telemagazine	10:00am	Bay State Biking News			
12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	Friday, M	arch 7	4:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	11:00am Nossa gente e Costumes				
1:00pm	Hello Neighbor	7:30am			Somerville Housing Authority	12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)			
1:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	2:00pm	Tufts Films for Social Change Series			
2:00pm	Physician Focus	9:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	6:00pm	Press Conference on Gentrification	2:30pm Copy Cat Festival (at the Arts at the Armory)				
3:00pm	Medical Tutor	10:00am	0:00am High School Peer Pressure		6:30pm Art at SCATV: Christine Change		3:00pm Exercise with Robyn and Max			
3:30pm	Healthy Hypnosis	11:00am	Sound Off	7:00pmTu	fts University's Films for Social Change Series	3:30pm	Esoteric Science			
4:00pm T	4:00pm The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)		Peace by Piece	7:30pm	7:30pm Everybody has an accent		4:00pm The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)			
5:00pm	Health is Wealth	12:00pm	Somerville Housing Authority		why is mine a problem?	5:00pm	Youth Violence in Society			
5:30pm	Peace by Piece	12:30pm	Critical Focus	8:00pm	David Pakman (Free Speech TV)	5:30pm	Press Pass TV			
6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	1:30pm	A View of Taiwan, a song of the forest	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)			
6:30pm	Health and Wellness	2:30pm	History of the West End	10:00pm	Somerville Porchfest 2013	7:00pm	Nepali Producers Group			
7:00pmTut	7:00pmTufts University's Films for Social Change Series		Brunch with Sen. Bernie Sanders	11:00pm	Gay USA	8:00pm	Outside the Lines			
8:00pm	8:00pm Somerville Pundits		he Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	Sunday, N	Aarch 9	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade			
8:30pm	Perils for Pedestrians	5:00pm	Greater Somerville	6:00am	Program Celebrai	10:00pm	Bate Papo com Shirley			
9:00pm	Bay State Biking News	5:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	7:00am Rompendo em Fe		Tuesday,	March 11			
10:00pm	Creepy Castle	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ	7:00am	The Struggle			
Thursday	, March 6	6:30pm	Reeling the Movie Review Show		9:00am Heritage Baptist Church		Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)			
6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	7:00pm	Real Estate Answers Show	10:00am	International Church of God	9:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading			
7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	7:30pm	Couch's Corner	11:00am	The Folklorist	10:00am	Contemporary Issues in Science			
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	Visual Radio	11:30am	Basic Buddha	12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)			
9:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News (re-run)	9:00pm	The Folklorist	12:00pm	Play by Play	2:00pm	The Folklorist			
9:30am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	9:30pm	Culture Club	1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	2:30pm	SCATV's 2014 Annual Meeting Special			
10:30am	Talking about Somerville	10:00pm	Press Pass TV	1:30pm	Somerville Newspaper Reading	4:00pm Tl	he Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)			
11:00am	Critical Focus	10:30pm	SCATV Featured Program	2:30pm	Life Matters	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer			
12:00pm Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)		Saturday,	March 8	3:00pm	·		The Literati Scene			
1:00pm	African Television	6:00am	Arabic Hour	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)			
2:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking w/ Candy	7:00am	High School Peer Pressure	5:00pm	Ethiopian Satellite TV	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News			
2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez	8:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	6:00pm	Abugida TV	7:30pm	Greater Somerville			
3:00pm	Chef's Table Series	8:30am	Art at SCATV	7:00pm	African Television Network	8:00pm	Dead Air Live			
4:00pm The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)		9:00am	Festival Kreyol	8:00pm	Tele Magazine	9:00pm	MEH Kyown's Television			
5:00pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	9:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	10:00pm	Penny's Dreadful Shilling Shockers			
		+ v. C	abla TV Scho		a for the Wa	ماد				

City Cable IV Schedule for the Week

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Wednesday, March 5

Shape Up Somerville - Historic Overview 9:00am: 9:15am: SomerViva 12:00pm: School Committee Meeting - REPLAY OF 3.3.14 3:00pm: Asian Night: Philippines Tsunami Benefit 6:30pm: MAPS Free Citizenship & Health Days 7:30pm: Aldermen at Work 8:00pm: SomerViva Shape Up Somerville - Historic Overview 8:30pm: Asian Night: Philippines Tsunami Benefit 8:45pm: 9:45pm: Voices of Somerville

Thursday, March 6 12:00am: MAPS Free Citizen Ship & Health Days 1:00am: SomerViva 1:30am: Aldermen at Work 2:00am: Shape Up Somerville - Historic Overview 2:15am: Asian Night: Philippines Tsunami Benefit 3:15am: Voices of Somerville 9:00am: A Discussion on Somerville Housing 10:00am: Sit & Be Fit: Diabetes Workout 12:00pm: Senior Circuit 12:30pm: Asian Night: Philippines Tsunami Benefit 1:30pm: Congressional Update 2:00pm: SomerViva A Discussion on Somerville Housing 2:30pm: 7:00pm: Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting A Discussion on Somerville Housing 8:00pm: 8:30pm: Congressional Update ₹:00pm: BOA Public Meeting on Housing

Friday, March 7 Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting 12:00am: 1:00am: A Discussion on Somerville Housing 1:30am: Congressional Update 2:00am: **BOA Public Meeting on Housing** 9:00am: Congressional Update 12:00pm: Voices of Somerville 12:30pm: **BOA Public Meeting on Housing** 6:30pm: MAPS Free Citizenship & Health Days 7:30pm: Voices of Somerville 8:00pm: Aldermen at Work Shape Up Somerville - Historic Overview 8:30pm: Asian Night: Philippines Tsunami Benefit 8:45pm: 9:30pm: Green Line Extension Meeting Saturday, March 8

12:00am: Voices of Somerville 12:30am: Aldermen at Work Shape Up Somerville – Historic Overview 1:00am: 1:15am: Asian Night: Philippines Tsunami Benefit 2:00am: Green Line Extension Meeting MAPS Free Citizenship & Health Days 9:00am: 12:00pm: Voices of Somerville 12:30pm: Aldermen at Work Shape Up Somerville – Historic Overview 1:00pm: 1:15pm: Asian Night: Philippines Tsunami Benefit 2:00pm: Green Line Extension Meeting 6:30pm: Voices of Somerville 7:00pm: Shape Up Somerville - Historic Overview 7:15pm: Asian Night: Philippines Tsunami Benefit

8:00pm: Aldermen at Work 8:30pm: Green Line Extension Meeting 10:00pm: Congressional Update

Sunday, March 9 12:00am:

Voices of Somerville 12:30am: Congressional Update 1:00am: Green Line Extension Meeting 2:00am: A Discussion on Somerville Housing 2:30am: Aldermen at Work 9:00am: Sit & Be Fit: Diabetes Workout 12:00pm: Senior Circuit 12:30pm: Sit & Be Fit: Diabetes Workout 1:00pm: MAPS Free Citizenship & Health Days 2:00pm: BOA Public Hearing - Property Assessment 7:00pm: Senior Circuit Sit & Be Fit: Diabetes Workout 7:30pm: 8:00pm: Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting MAPS Free Citizenship & Health Days 9:00pm: 10:00pm: SomerViva

Monday, March 10 12:00am:

12:30am:

1:00am: Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting 2:00am: MAPS Free Citizenship & Health Days 3:00am: SomerViva 9:00am: Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting 12:00pm: MAPS Free Citizenship & Health Days 1:00pm: Congressional Update A Discussion on Somerville Housing 2:00pm:The Spirit of Somerville: Eugene Brune Lecture MLK Day Celebration 7:00pm: Congressional Update 8:30pm: Asian Night: Philippines Tsunami Benefit 9:00pm: 10:00pm: Shape Up Somerville - Historic Overview

Tuesday, March 11

12:00am Congressional Update 12:30am: MLK Day Celebration 2:00am: Asian Night: Philippines Tsunami Benefit Voices of Somerville 9:00am: 9:30am: Aldermen at Work 12:00pm: Senior Circuit 12:30pm: Sit & Be Fit: Fibromyalgia Workout 1:00pm: SomerViva 1:30pm: Voices of Somerville 7:00pm: A Discussion on Somerville Housing 7:30pm: Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting 8:30pm: Sit & Be Fit: Fibromyalgia Workout 9:00pm: **BOA Public Meeting on Housing** 12:00am: 12:30am: Sit & Be Fit: Diabetes Workout **BOA** Public Meeting on Housing 1:00am:

EDUCATIONAL CHANNEL 15 Wednesday, March 5

9:00am: 10:00am: 10:30am: Student of the Quarter Awards- WHCIS 11:00am:

SFLC Workshop: Ages & Stages Student of the Quarter Awards -**Brown School** Superintendent's Awards: Argenziano School - 2/13/14 12:00pm:SFLC Workshop: Brain Development of Teens

1:30pm: Asian Night! 2:30pm: SHS Boys Basketball vs. E Boston SFLC Workshop: Ages & Stages 4:00pm: 5:00pm:Student of the Quarter Awards - Brown School Student of the Quarter Awards- WHCIS 5:30pm: 6:00pm: Superintendent's Awards: Argenziano School - 2/13/14 7:00pm: SHS Boys Basketball vs. E Boston

SHS Boys Basketball vs. Everett

SHS Girls Basketball vs. Woburn

Thursday, March 6

8:25pm:

10:30pm:

Senior Circuit

Sit & Be Fit: Diabetes Workout

12:00am: SHS Boys Basketball vs. E Boston 1:25am: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Everett 9:00am: kid stuff -Groundwork Somerville 9:30am: SHS Girls Basketball vs. Norwood 11:00am: SHS Girls Basketball vs. Cambridge 12:30pm: Student of the Quarter Awards- Kennedy 1:00pm:Student of the Quarter Awards - Healey School SHS Hockey vs. Latin Academy Student of the Quarter Awards- WSNS 4:00pm:SFLC Workshop: Brain Development of Teens 5:10pm:Student of the Quarter Awards - Brown School SFLC Workshop: Ages & Stages 5:30pm: 7:00pm: SHS Girls Basketball vs. Woburn 8:30pm: Student of the Ouarter Awards- WSNS SHS Boys Basketball vs. E Boston 9:00pm: 10:30pm: SHS Hockey vs. Everett

Friday, March 7

12:00am: SFLC Workshop: Ages & Stages 1:00am:SFLC Workshop: Brain Development of Teens 2:30am: SHS Boys Basketball vs. E Boston Our Schools, Our City 9:00am: 10:00am: ESCS African-American History Month 11:00am: Student of the Quarter Awards - ESCS SHS Boys Basketball vs. Everett 11:30am: 1:30pm: SFLC Workshop: Ages & Stages SHS Girls Basketball vs. Woburn 2:30pm: 4:00pm: Our Schools, Our City 5:00pm: SHS Boys Basketball vs. E Boston 6:30pm: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Everett 8:15pm:Student of the Quarter Awards - Brown School 8:30pm: SFLC Workshop: Ages & Stages SHS Girls Basketball vs. Woburn 9:30pm: 11:00pm: Asian Night!

Saturday, March 8

12:00am: SHS Boys Basketball vs. E Boston 1:30am: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Everett 3:30am: SHS Girls Basketball vs. Woburn 9:00am: SFLC Workshop: Ages & Stages 10:00am:SFLC Workshop: Brain Development of Teens 11:30am: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Burke HS 1:00pm: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Cambridge 2:30pm: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Everett 4:30pm: SHS Bovs vs. Malden Catholic 6:00pm: SFLC Workshop: Ages & Stages 7:00pm:SFLC Workshop: Brain Development of Teens 8:15pm: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Burke HS SHS Boys Basketball vs. Cambridge 9:30pm: 11:05pm: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Everett

Sunday, March 9

SHS Boys vs. Malden Catholic 1:00am: 2:30am: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Peabody 9:00am: Our Schools, Our City kid stuff -Groundwork Somerville 9:30am: 10:00am: SHS Girls Basketball vs. Malden 11:30am: SHS Girls Basketball vs. Medford 1:00pm: SHS Girls Basketball vs. NDA 3:00pm: SHS Girls Basketball vs. Woburn 4:30pm: SHS Hockey vs. Latin Academy 5:30pm: SHS Hockey vs. Revere 7:00pm: SHS Hockey vs. Latin Academy 8:05pm: Our Schools, Our City kid stuff -Groundwork Somerville 8:35pm: SHS Girls Basketball vs. Malden 9:00pm: SHS Girls Basketball vs. Medford 10:30pm:

Monday, March 10

SHS Girls Basketball vs. NDA 12:00am: SHS Girls Basketball vs. Woburn 2:00am: 3:30am: SHS Hockey vs. Latin Academy 4:30am: SHS Hockey vs. Revere SFLC Workshop: Ages & Stages 10:00am:SFLC Workshop: Brain Development of Teens 11:30am: Student of the Quarter Awards- WSNS 11:30am: Asian Night! 12:30pm: Our Schools, Our City 1:00pm: Student of the Ouarter Awards- WSNS 1:30pm: Student of the Quarter Awards- Kennedy 2:00pm:Student of the Quarter Awards - Healey School SFLC Workshop: Ages & Stages 3:30pm:SFLC Workshop: Brain Development of Teens 5:00pm: Our Schools, Our City Student of the Quarter Awards- WSNS 6:30pm: Student of the Quarter Awards- Kennedy 7:00pm: 7:30pm:Student of the Quarter Awards - Healey School SHS Bovs Basketball vs. E Boston 8:00pm:

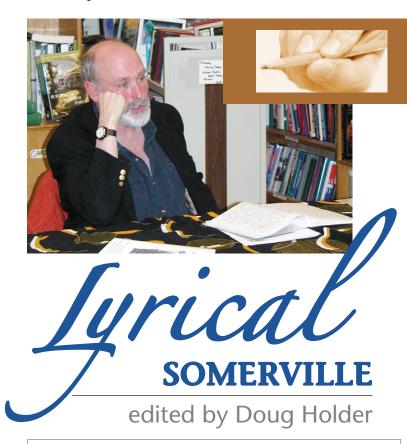
Tuesday, March 11

9:30pm:

12:00am: SHS Girls Basketball vs. Woburn 1:30am: SHS Girls Basketball vs. NDA 3:10am: SHS Girls Basketball vs. Medford 9:00am: kid stuff -Groundwork Somerville 9:30am: Our Schools, Our City 10:00am: Student of the Quarter Awards- WSNS 10:30am: Student of the Ouarter Awards- Kennedy Student of the Quarter Awards - ESCS 11:00am: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Reading 11:30am: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Arlington 1:00pm: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Medford 2:30pm: 4:00pm: Kennedy School Winter Concert 5:00pm: kid stuff -Groundwork Somerville 5:30pm: Our Schools, Our City Student of the Quarter Awards- WSNS 6:00pm: 6:30pm: Student of the Quarter Awards- Kennedy 7:00pm: Student of the Ouarter Awards - ESCS 7:30pm: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Reading 9:00pm: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Arlington 10:30pm: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Medford 12:00am: SHS Boys Basketball vs. Everett SHS Girls Basketball vs. Woburn

3:30am:SFLC Workshop: Brain Development of Teens

SHS Boys Basketball vs. Everett



From the Poetry Foundation website: "An enduring presence in American poetry, Maxine Kumin's career spanned over half a century. She was the recipient of prestigious awards such as the Pulitzer Prize, the Ruth Lilly Poetry Prize, and an American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters Award.



She was the poetry consultant for the Library of Congress in 1981-1982, and taught at many of the country's most prestigious universities, including MIT, Princeton, and Columbia."

Poet B.Z. Niditch has written a poem for the late, great poet:

MAXINE KUMIN'S LAST JOURNEY

Now buried beneath New England's sands your voice remains as you were brought back to us after your accident as any equestrian, you overwhelmed us by your multiplied words harboring new strength covered by poem's'safety where you again shined with your chosen path to respect an environment for nature and animals, Maxine, we knew you would be back romping greensward earth on Cambridge Common or out at your farm you will turn up, Maxine on hills or green mountains with all living things

– B.Z. Niditch

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

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OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

Drunk with Richard Yates, sipping soda with Liberace, and the author of a new novel:

Interview with Somerville writer Daniel Gewertz

Somerville resident Daniel Gewertz made a living as a Boston-based freelance journalist for 28 years, writing largely about music, theater and movies. From 1995 to 2005, he wrote a weekly Boston Herald column on folk and blues music. Over the years, Gewertz has written for periodicals ranging from Harvard Magazine, Boston Globe Magazine and New York Times, to the Cambridge Chronicle and The Tab.

In the last 10 years, Gewertz turned his attentions toward more creative writing, namely personal essays, short memoir pieces, story-telling and fiction. Recently, he completed his first novel, "Ghost To Genius." He frequently performs his work on stage. He has taught writing at Cambridge Center for Adult Ed., Brookline Center for Adult Ed., Lesley University and Bay State Community College. He holds a B.S. from Boston University in journalism. Or rather, he keeps it in a bottom bureau drawer.

Doug Holder: In your career as a journalist at *The Boston Herald* and elsewhere you have had many experiences with significant figures in the arts. You told me you had lunch with Glen Close, a soda with Liberace, and you got drunk with the novelist Richard Yates, author of the novel *Revolutionary Road*. Tell me about your experience with Yates—he is a favorite author of mine.

Dan Gewertz: That was a strange thing. This was during the time The Boston Herald had a pretty decent sized Sunday magazine back in the 80s. I needed a few hours of interviews for a good story. He was teaching at Boston University at the time. I don't believe he wrote his last novel yet. But he was drinking extremely heavily. We were at the bar the "Crossroads" in the Back Bay of Boston. Both of us drank an enormous amount during the afternoon. I got three hours of him on tape. After the first hour he became more and more slurry and confused. I ended up being baffled what to do with the interview because I didn't want to show him in a bad light. So I never used it until it the interview was used on Robin Young's radio show on WBUR. So I was able to use the interview after all the years that had past.

DH: Recently you finished writing a novel *Ghost to Genius*. One of the themes is the disconnect between commercial success and artistic talent.

DG: The novel is an emotional journey not only a message novel. But, on that theme—especially with music and movies—I feel that they have been brought down to the lowest common denominator. It has always been true that intellectuals looked down on anything that was popular. The Golden Age of Hollywood in the late 1930s and 40s was dismissed by people of this ilk as sentimental garbage. But the studios really knew how to create art in those days. And now...well...with Hollywood today, they found out that people under 45 weren't going to the movies, so they made movies for 20and 30-year-old people.. Then they found out people in their 30s weren't going to the movies so they made movies for people ages 10 to 24 The blockbuster has taken over...same with music. When I wrote for The Herald I mostly wrote about the



Daniel Gewertz.

blues, jazz, American roots music...stuff that was outside the mainstream.

DH: The future of journalism, at least print journalism, looks pretty bleak.

DG: Yeah. I left *The Herald* in 2011. As far as I know *The Herald* is presently operating with a skeleton staff. The days when newspapers look for local-out of the way-stories, is a thing of the past. Now, an art/entertainment critic has to write about the biggest productions and try to find something interesting to say about them. Lady Gaga is written more about than other serious artists.

My book Ghost to Genius takes all this as an underpinning. The story of the book is about a little known, middle-aged singer/songwriter Philip Levinson. He is making a bare living with his songs despite having a sterling critical reputation. He has been at it a long time and he is becoming demoralized. He is a widower, a loner, and he gets an opportunity when he meets a high-powered entertainment lawyer in New York City. The lawyer wants him to be a ghost writer for a legendary singer/songwriter who can't write anymore. The legendary singer is playfully based on Bob Dylan. So it is a secret job—if Levinson tells anyone he loses it and all the money that comes with it. But this is also a fun novel. There are depictions of Cambridge and Somerville that is full of eccentric people.

DH: You teach memoir writing. Aren't the same essential elements of fiction true for memoir: character development, realistic dialogue, vivid description, setting, etc...?

DG: Those are all good. I tell students that the bottom line for a good memoir is one that provides an emotional punch and a great story. All of memoir is based on memory—and why this memory mean so much to the author. In terms of getting all the facts right, I try to research things because the reader may think why should I believe the author if many of the facts are wrong or inaccurate.



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