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# The Somerville Times





VOL. 5 NO. 10

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2017

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

## **Inside:**



**Innovation Forum** succeeds

page 3



**Chalking it up** to good health page 5



A selfless donation to the Little Sisters page 8

**CPA-funded Prospect Hill Tour** 

inclusion video unveiled



Student/actors Emmaleigh DaSilva and Hana Belanger play teens who are discovering the history behind the Prospect Hill Tower in the CPA funded video George Washington on Prospect Hill?

#### By Jim Clark

A video tour of the Prospect Hill Tower, which was produced in association with and funded by the Community Preservation Act Committee, was premiered for those in attendance at the most recent regular meeting of the Board of Alderman on Thursday, February 23.

The presentation took place at the behest of Alderman At-Large Mary Jo Rossetti and Ward 3 Alderman Robert J. McWatters, who sponsored a resolution to have the video shown at the Board meeting.

Introductory remarks were made by Community Preservation Committee and Historic Preservation Commission Chair Dick Bauer, as well as the video's actors, Hana Belanger, Emmaleigh DaSilva, and Lawrence Willwerth.

Bauer reminded those present that one of the first projects taken on by the Continued on page 4

## **Celebrating 100 years of Fluff**

#### By Rebecca Danvers

It has been 100 years since Archibald Query concocted one of the most popular confectionary treats ever to grace our snack trays and tantalize our taste buds, right here in Somerville: the one and only Marshmallow Fluff.

The occasion has not been overlooked either, as fans and devotees are taking part in a series of celebratory events that will lead up the grand finale at this year's big What the Fluff? A Tribute to Union Square Invention festival in September.

This past Saturday, the 100th birthday of Fluff was celebrated at the Somerville Winter Farmers Market. What the Fluff? co-founder and organizer Mimi Graney also celebrated the launch of her new book chronicling the Fluff phenomenon, Fluff: The Sticky Sweet Story of an American Icon. She was present, along with vendors and crafters, greeting Fluff fans and signing copies of the book.

The event was just one of many scheduled to take place between now



Iconic Fluff expert and author Mimi Graney will be extolling the virtues and sharing the history of the sticky Continued on page 12 confection as she offers up her new book, Fluff: The Sticky Sweet Story of an American Icon.

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

\*\*\*\*\*\*

Happy birthday to a lot of our friends and fellow Villens here this week: Happy birthday to a popular guy and real estate agent here in the city, John Pratti, of the Norton Group. We hope he has a great birthday celebration. Happy birthday this week to our own Chris Haskell, who writes a column here at The Times. Chris lives in Winter Hill and also runs a podcast on Thursdays at the SCATV studios. We wish him the very best and hope his birthday is a great one. A nice guy! Happy birthday to our own Jim Clark, a great guy, awesome Editor and someone who knows his stuff. We of course want to wish him the very best and hope he has a great week for himself. Happy Birthday to Michelle Ferro, daughter of our photographer, Claudia. Michelle has a great family and we are sure they all celebrated together. We wish her a great year! Happy birthday to a great guy and a City of Somerville employee who is dedicated to his job and our city, we hope Mike Browne has a great birthday for himself. Also, another great City of Somerville employee, Eddie Nuzzo, a lifelong resident of East Somerville, we hope he has a great birthday. Good guy Marc Piro, from one of Somerville's most dedicated families, is celebrating his birthday this week as well. Happy birthday to Donald Coutoumas, who is another great guy and dedicated Shriner in the Clown unit. We hope he has a great day for himself. Happy birthday to Nick Kondilis, another dedicated real estate agent here in the city, working for many years at Bremis Realty. We hope Nick has a great day. To all others we missed here in the city, we wish them a happy Continued on page 11

## The Somerville Times

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## The Somerville Times.com Comments of the Week

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

#### LindaS says:

From what I was told by Alderman Niedergang, there was also going to be a question raised to the DPW as to why plows cannot slow down enough to prevent snow being thrown back onto already-shoveled sidewalks. I don't know if that was done.

Too often I believe that the reason for some walks not being cleared is simply because they have already been cleared more than once before plows have gone by and continually thrown snow back to undo what has already been done, forcing some to simply give up due to exhaustion or frustration or both.

I understand completely the need to have sidewalks shoveled after a snowstorm. But to what extent are many residents expected to have to do and re-do the same sidewalks repeatedly after a single storm?

There needs to be some effort to show consideration for those residents who have had to clear large amounts of snow from their properties and sidewalks. It's easy to move snow when you're in a plow, totally another thing to do it by hand.

Perhaps if the DPW had their own workmen clearing out the sidewalks, they would better understand how hard it is to do the same job several times over.

Tickets should only be issued to those who are clearly ignoring the clearing of their areas, but if it is evident that there has been efforts to clean snow and that it has been thrown back over by plows, then there should be some leniency.

I have always managed to clear my sidewalk soon after a snowstorm, and many times I have had it undone because a plow flew by and just threw it back onto the curb, forcing me to go back and do it all over again. I'm not getting any younger, and I'm the only one here to do the shoveling for my property. Shouldn't I or others like me have a right to complain?

The City is getting manual labor done for them for free by expecting residents to clean City-owned sidewalks. The least they owe us is some consideration when we are forced to feel like Sisyphus and have to re-do areas we have already spent considerable time cleaning at our own expense all over again because plows have wanted to get their job done as fast as possible.

They're getting paid to do their job. We're not. Maybe the City should start paying US to clear their sidewalks, they'd see a huge rise in compliance and an equally huge drop in complaints.

#### T.kelly says:

Way too many houses in ward 5 that do not comply with removing snow and ice from their side-walks. Children or adults for that matter shouldn't have to risk walking on the street because of this. Time for the city stop start cracking down and start fining people

#### MarketMan says:

I think it would work better for everyone if the city cleared the sidewalks, after all they are owned by the city and maintenance are the city's responsibility. Instead of paying for people to police and ticket homes that don't clear sidewalks, use that money towards clearing the sidewalks. Sure it will cost the tax payers, but it's much cheaper on the aggregate.

We are a walking city. Many people commute to work and school on foot. So the same way the city caters to drivers, it should cater to walkers.

#### Matt says:

MM I agree on specific main roads (Broadway, Medford, Somerville, Elm central, Lowell, Willow) that it could make sense to support commuters getting to and from public transportation, but I hate to imagine what that cost would be, I suspect it would be multiples of the road cost.

#### Response to: Appleton St. fire prompts scrutiny of AirBnb

#### Jim says:

If an entire house is rented as an AirBnB, it is a hotel and should be regulated and taxed as such. I totally support AirBnB for spare bedrooms or short term rentals (e.g., you AirBnB your apt while you are away), but when an entire house becomes a full time AirBnB, it is a hotel.

The trend of whole house AirBnB's is just another force making renter families an endangered species in Somerville. The BOA have to put a stop to this

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments



## **Innovation Forum a big success**

#### By Tom Bannister

On Tuesday, February 28, the Somerville Chamber of Commerce held a forum The Next Innovation Center: Why Not Somerville? Over 130 people packed the Holiday Inn to hear industry experts explain what biotech companies are looking for and what Somerville needs to do to attract the next generation of companies.

"The Chamber was proud to host an indepth conversation on the importance of economic development in Somerville. It was a great opportunity for the community to hear from industry leaders on the current market trends and how the City of Somerville can become the next innovation center," said Chamber President/ CEO Stephen Mackey.

The forum was comprised of three 10 minute presentations Innovation in Massachusetts: What's Next? given by Robert Coughlin, President and CEO of Mass-Bio; The Real Estate Outlook: Nationally, and Locally, by Kermit Baker, Chief Economist for the American Institute of Architects; and Market Dynamics, by Peter Bekarian, Managing Director for Jones Lang LaSalle.

After the presentations, the panel fielded questions from the audience for approximately 45 minutes. The discussion was moderated by Somerville Attorney Adam Dash, Esq.

According to the panelists, while the City of Somerville has some significant

challenges to overcome, it does have the ingredients to become an innovation center. Those ingredients include available land in close proximity to Logan Airport, a desirable workforce, and great culture and entertainment options. Challenges facing the city include a lack of public transportation, competition from surrounding communities, antiquated infrastructure and a lack of permitted sites.

MassBio President Coughlin, stressed that growing biotech companies are in search of built and fully permitted sites if built product is not available. He went on to explain that if these companies are faced with lengthy zoning and permitting processes, they will look elsewhere. "Today I drive through Somerville on the way to other towns," stated Coughlin. "That shouldn't be the case."

Peter Bekarian, Managing Director for Jones Lang LaSalle, one of the nation's largest commercial real estate brokers underscored Coughlin's point. He suggested that Somerville move forward with zoning and other entitlements and let professionals start marketing the city. "Once I see permitted sites, I can bring clients to Somerville. Without that, there is nothing to show." He also noted that projects in other communities are lining up to capture the demand; there are approximately 5,575,083 SF of permitted projects in Cambridge, 6,651,700 SF of permitted projects in Boston and 1,295,595 SF of



Forum panelists (L-R) Robert Coughlin, President and CEO of MassBio; Kermit Baker, Chief Economist for the American Institute of Architects, Peter Bekarian, Managing Director for Jones Lang LaSalle and – Photo by Kulbako Photo moderator Somerville Attorney Adam Dash, Esq.

permitted projects in the inner suburbs.

"I hope the community better understands the urgency to move forward. The zoning currently before the Board of Alderman provides a unique opportunity for the City to lure life science tenants to major squares, including Union Square," stated Mackey. "Today, companies are bypassing Somerville. We need to change that."

About the Chamber:

The Somerville Chamber of Commerce is the pre-eminent voice of the local business community and the leading network of employers, business owners and managers. The Chamber's mission is to serve the membership while enhancing Somerville's quality of life. Somerville is a place to visit, live, work and play. The New Group helps support the Chamber. Since 1997, the New Group has worked with the local community and greater Boston's business media, planners, investors and developers toward the advancement of a world-class Boston/Cambridge/Somerville urban nucleus. The Government Affairs Committee oversees the Chamber's public affairs events and public policy positions and initiatives.

More information is available at https:// somervillechamber.org/.

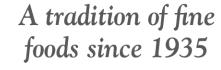
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## **Ward 7 Meetings & Notices**

North St/Clarendon Public Development Project - community meeting - continued discussion regarding Somerville Housing Authority along with private developer is seeking redevelopment the site. Current proposal is to add additional housing units ranging from 300 to 400 new housing units (=total 500-600 units). The topic of the meeting will be transportation.

> When: Monday, March 13 at 6:30 p.m. Location: West Somerville Neighborhood School 177 Powderhouse Blvd., cafeteria

Open Space, Environment and Energy (OSEE) - primary discussion trees, agenda will be posted by the end of this week.

> When: Tuesday, March 14 at 6:30 p.m. Location: Aldermen Committee Room, City Hall

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# By Jim Clark

## Police tipped off to alleged cocaine trafficking

Members of the Somerville Police Drug Unit received information from a confidential informant regarding someone who was actively selling cocaine in and around the city of Somerville, according to police reports.

The informant has given previous information to police that resulted in several arrests and convictions of people who violated controlled substance laws.

The informant was reportedly able to give information, including a physical description, of the suspect in question, Bryan Taborda, of East Boston.

Surveillance was established on several occasions where observations were made of Taborda making what detectives believed to be frequent short trips to different areas of the city of Somerville.

During these trips, Taborda reportedly engaged in what was believed to be street level drug transactions. On three separate occasions, Taborda reportedly entered the dwelling of a well-known cocaine user and quickly exited. After these trips a rolling surveillance of Taborda was maintained.

Taborda would head to an address in Somerville where police reportedly observed him meeting with Joao De Souza. According to reports, De Souza is well known to members of the Somerville Police Drug Unit as he was previously arrested for possession of cocaine.

Taborda was observed exiting his car and meeting De Souza at an intersection of Somerville. During these encounters, observations were reportedly made of Taborda handing an item to De Souza and receiving money in return. At this time, De Souza and Taborda would go their separate ways.

Based on their experience, investigators believed that they were witnessing street level drug transactions. Due to the ongoing investigation, surveillance was terminated as to not compromise its objective.

On Friday, March 3, members of the Somerville Police Narcotics unit reportedly observed De Souza pacing back in forth, on and off his cell phone, in the area of the Winter Hill Market. Police noted that this was the exact behavior De Souza engaged in during their previous observations of his meetings with Taborda.

Surveillance De Souza continued as he walked to a residence in Somerville. He was

observed pacing back and forth, making multiple quick phone calls on his cell phone once again, police said.

De Souza reportedly entered a residence at approximately 7:00 p.m. and within ten minutes Taborda was observed traveling to this address. He reportedly parked his vehicle in front of a fire hydrant, one house away from this residence. Taborda appeared to be on his cell phone as he exited his vehicle and walked into the residence.

A few minutes later Taborda reportedly exited the residence, entered his car and began driving. It was at this time that detectives conducted a motor vehicle stop in front of the residence to conduct a threshold inquiry of Taborda. Detectives removed Taborda from his vehicle as he was moving around in a furtive manner.

Taborda was asked where he had just come from and he reportedly stated that he had parked his vehicle but never exited it. Taborda was also asked if he entered any houses, to which he replied he did not.

Taborda was informed that detectives had observed him entering a residence. At this time, Taborda became extremely nervous and began breathing heavily, according to reports.

Taborda was then asked if he had any drugs on his person and he reportedly began to stutter, but would not reply.

As police spoke with Taborda, De Souza exited the residence and began to walk up the street towards their location, not realizing they had just stopped Taborda.

Officers stopped De Souza and handcuffed him as they learned that he had an active arrest warrant. De Souza was questioned and asked where he had just been come from and what he had been doing. De Souza reportedly stated that he and another male had ordered cocaine and had been waiting inside a residence for the delivery. De Souza then stated that the delivery was never made, and went on to say that the cocaine order was supposed to be delivered by "that kid" as he looked over at Taborda and gestured towards him.

A cursory search of Taborda's person was conducted and an abnormal bulge in his groin area was felt. Taborda was once again asked if he had any drugs on his person, but he reportedly refused to reply.

Detectives continued the search and were able to determine that Taborda had something hidden in his groin area. A small black bag containing a large clear glassine bag with several smaller baggies of a white powdery substance was reportedly located in Taborda's underwear. It was believed by police that the white powdery substance was cocaine.

Taborda was placed under arrest and transported to the Somerville Police Department where he was booked in the usual manner.

Taborda's car was towed and transported to the Somerville Police garage.

Police noted that Taborda was in possession of \$1,572 in cash, and two cellular phones at the time of arrest.

The preliminary weight of the white powdered substance believed to be cocaine totaled approximately 40 grams. It was field-tested positive for cocaine.

During a search of Taborda's vehicle, a false bottom container was located under the front passenger side seat.

De Souza was placed under arrest on warrant charges of possession of a class B drug and resisting arrest.

## SOMERVILLE

#### Arrests:

**Justin Robinson**, February 27,5:29 p.m., arrested at Washington St. on warrant charges of unregistered motor vehicle,

motor vehicle lights violation, larceny from a person, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, trespassing, resisting arrest, disorderly conduct, and assault and battery.

Stephanie Cole, of 76 Norwood St., Everett, March 1, 9:01 p.m., arrested at Walnut St. on warrant charges of larceny over \$250 and possession of a class B drug.

**Joao De Souza**, of 89 Cross St., March 3, 7:09 p.m., arrested at Jackson Rd. on warrant charges of possession of a class

B drug and resisting arrest.

 $(\circ)$ 

Bryan Taborda, of 31 Saratoga St., E. Boston, March 3, 7:09 p.m., arrested at Jackson Rd. on a charge of trafficking in cocaine.

## CPA-funded Prospect Hill Tour inclusion video unveiled CONT. FROM PG 1

CPA was the restoration of the Prospect Hill Tower. "For the first time in years, people can go up [the Tower]," Bauer said. "However, not everybody can go up, and so we also produced the video so that people can see what it would be like even if they themselves can not go up."

Bauer then introduce the three actors featured in the video, beginning with Docent Lawrence Willwerth who read a prepared statement that said in part, "Thank you for the opportunity to introduce Prospect Hill and the history it witnessed. As a longtime Somerville resident-citizen soldier, I am honored to be a guide

for all citizens to witness and to participate in our common history and heritage."

Emmaleigh DaSilva, who plays one of the two teens in the video, offered her thanks to the city for making the video possible, saying, "I think it's very important for so many youths in Somerville to watch this video because not many people know about the history that Prospect Hill has. As a Somerville resident, all my life I heard of it but hadn't grasped the history behind it. So showing this video means a lot to me."

Hana Belanger, who played the other teen, said of her experience, "I'm a disability advocate, and also an activist for disability, rare disease, mental illness, etc., and this film is really important to me because handicap accessibility around historical places is often either non-existent or not that easily accessible. This makes it hard for the disabled using mobility aids to access historic areas and get the full experience, as an able-bodied person would. Using modern technology and ingenuity, the disabled have access to historical sites just as well as their able-bodied peers."

Prospect Hill Tower was built in 1903 with funds from the Union Square Women's Organization to commemorate the site where the first American flag was raised during the Revolutionary War. The video, entitled George Washington on Prospect Hill?, provides viewers with a tour of the interior of the Tower, with views of Boston, Cambridge and Somerville from the top, and information about the history of Prospect Hill.

Because the Tower is closed during cold weather and the many stairs mean that not everyone can climb to the top themselves, the Community Preservation Committee, Board of Aldermen, and the City of Somerville wanted to provide an option to give people an immersive experience from the comfort

of their own homes.

The video includes closed captioning in English, Portuguese, and Spanish with Haitian Kreyol coming soon. People who cannot climb the stairs are also encouraged to come to events at the Tower, as docents use smart phones to provide real time virtual tours for participants.

The video was created by local production company, Hendrix Productions. The cast includes local Somerville historian Willwerth, along with actors Belanger and DaSilva.

The information-packed, visually stunning video can be viewed by going to www.somer-villema.gov/prospecthilltour.

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## SPFJr: 'Most SHS Students DON'T Smoke!'

#### By Charles Lane

Somerville Cares About Prevention (SCAP) has announced that its youth leadership group, Somerville Positive Forces, Junior Edition, will take to the streets on March 8 to promote smoking prevention messages in a colorful way along sidewalks around Somerville High School as part of the National "Kick Butts" Campaign.

SPFJr. is a group of Somerville middle school students that work to reduce youth substance abuse and related issues such as bullying. Youth are supported by SCAP, the Somerville Office of Prevention, and the Somerville Health and Human Services Department.

SPFJr. leaders join the "National Kick Butts Campaign" for the eighth year in a row, to alert their peers that the tobacco industry is targeting teens as replacement smokers. Their messages aim to increase awareness among youth that they are Big Tobacco targets, but they don't have to be their replacement smokers.

Consider these facts:

- · Each day, more than 1,000 youth become new regular smokers; roughly onethird of them will die prematurely from a tobacco-related disease.
- The tobacco industry makes its products available in places young people regularly visit: convenience stores, gas stations, pharmacies, mini-marts, and grocery stores.

"Youth have tremendous power to reach their peers and influence their decisions"

+ Every day, as many as 100,000 young people around the world become addicted to tobacco. If current trends continue, 250 million children and young people alive today will die from tobacco-related diseases.

SPFJr. will conduct its awareness campaign in Somerville by chalking preven-



Somerville Positive Forces, Junior Edition will be out in force sketching smoking prevention messages on the sidewalks of Somerville.

tion messages on the sidewalks, including, "MOST SHS DON'T SMOKE," "#IKICKBUTTS," and "1-800-Quit NOW." SPFJr. expects most of the approximately 1,200 SHS students to see their sidewalk messages as they travel to and from school this week, in addition to the thousands of community members that walk about our streets each day.

Beyond promoting the harms of smoking, the group also aims to promote the fact that 95% of Somerville High School students do not smoke cigarettes, as reported in the 2016 SHS Student Health Survey. In fact, tobacco use has steadily declined over the last decade with numerous public health efforts in Somerville, with cigarette use among youth at an all-time low.

"Many youth begin smoking because they think everyone is doing it. Simply spreading the word that 'MOST DON'T' can help save lives," said Lovelee Heller-Bottari, SCAP Program Director. "Youth have tremendous power to reach their peers and influence their decisions. SCAP engages youth to make positive change around issues that impact their lives and campaigns like Kick

Butts are at the heart of our work. Year after year we do this campaign and are inspired again and again from the many positive outcomes, including a steady decline in smoking."

"Working on this campaign was very eye opening. I saw so many students reading the messages and many asked questions, so we could really see that our work is reaching our peers," said Jasmine Fridman, SPFJr. Youth Leader.

"To expand our efforts beyond the sidewalks, we encourage youth to take a stand by join us on social media #IKICK-BUTTS and share the harms of tobacco on social media networks," said Ben Buchheit, SPFJr. Youth Leader.

For more information about Somerville Positive Forces and Somerville Cares About Prevention or to volunteer, please contact: Lovelee Heller-Bottari, SCAP Program Director, at 617-625-6600 or LHeller@somervillema. gov. Visit our social media networks on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ SomervilleCare. Visit kickbuttsday. org the84.org and makesmokinghistory.org to learn more about these tobacco prevention initiatives.



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## **Beacon Hill Roll Call**



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Somerville:



Rep. Christine Barber

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



Rep. Denise Provost

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



Rep. Mike Connolly

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



#### Sen. Patricia Jehlen

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

THE HOUSE AND SENATE: There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week. Immigration continues to be one of the widely debated and most discussed topics across the nation.

Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Where do Massachusetts state senators stand on the issue? This week, Beacon Hill Roll Call records local senators' votes on several roll calls on the immigration issue in 2013-2014. There were no roll calls on the issue in the 2015-2016 session.

#### LOWER TUITION RATES FOR ILLEGAL IM-MIGRANTS (H 57)

Senate 12-25, rejected an amendment that would prohibit illegal immigrant students from paying the preferred, lower in-state tuition rates and fees at Massachusetts universities. The amendment would supersede a policy, implemented several years ago by former Gov. Deval Patrick, allowing some students who are not in the country legally to pay the lower tuition rates.

Amendment supporters said the state should not offer financial rewards to anyone who has broken the law and is in this country illegally. They argued it is outrageous to offer low tuition rates to these students while legal citizens from outside Massachusetts, including war veterans, are required to pay higher rates if they attend a state school.

Amendment opponents said many of these students were babies when they were brought here by their parents and had no choice about entering the country illegally. They noted some hardworking students are currently required to pay out-of-state tuition rates that are up to five times higher than the in-state rate.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

#### SHOW PROOF OF RESIDENCY TO REGISTER CAR (S 3)

Senate 13-25, rejected an amendment that would require applicants to provide specific proof of legal residence in order to register their cars. The accepted IDs include a driver's license, Massachusetts identification card, social security number or other proof of legal residence issued by the state or the federal government.

Amendment supporters said this would prevent illegal immigrants and people who lose their driver's license in other states for things like drunken driving from illegally registering their cars here. They argued that the Registry of Motor Vehicles has refused to enforce this law which is already on the books and is still allowing people to register their cars by just showing a utility bill.

Amendment opponents said allowing an illegal alien to own a vehicle in Massachusetts does not jeopardize the public's safety. They argued the bill seems aimed at using the Registry of Motor Vehicles to identify and police undocumented people.

(A "Yes" vote is for requiring proof of legal residence. A "No" vote is against it.)

> Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

#### STUDY THE FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS **AMENDMENT (S 1835)**

Senate 31-7, approved an amendment that would require the state to study and determine the costs and benefits of limiting eligibility for state assisted public housing to individuals who qualify under federal guidelines. The amendment would replace a proposal that would require applicants qualify under federal guidelines. Federal eligibility standards and proof of identity for housing assistance are stricter than state standards and include requiring a social security number.

Supporters of the study said requiring applicants to meet federal guidelines is unconstitutional and would take housing away from immigrants including people who were granted temporary status from countries with oppressive regimes.

Opponents of the study said it is outrageous that currently people can get subsidized housing ahead of verified citizens without producing a social security number. They noted the federal guidelines offer exemptions for some categories.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

#### MUST PROVIDE SOCIAL SECURITY NUM-BER FOR PUBLIC HOUSING (S 3)

Senate 11-27, rejected an amendment prohibiting potential tenants who cannot provide a social security number from being placed in a public housing unit prior to any applicant who can do so.

Amendment supporters said this would ensure that illegal immigrants who are breaking the law are not given priority over citizens and others who abide by the nation's laws. They argued it is outrageous that illegal immigrants should be considered for scarce public housing units prior to legal residents of the community.

Amendment opponents said the number of illegal immigrants in public housing is minimal. They argued it would be unfair and inhumane to deny housing to these immigrants.

(A"Yes" vote is for requiring a social security number. A "No" vote is against requiring it.)

> Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

## ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS TO HANSCOM (H

Senate 9-29, rejected an amendment requiring the state to submit a report on the details of and the cost to the state of the transport of illegal immigrants to the Hanscom Air Force Base and Logan Airport by Federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The amendment was proposed to a bill that would fund the state temporarily until the Legislature approves a fiscal 2015 budget.

Amendment supporters said taxpayers have a right to know the details and cost, including whether any detainees were released from federal custody into the state, and whether the state has provided any detainees with state benefits.

Amendment opponents said they weren't necessarily opposed to the idea but noted that the passage of the temporary budget cannot be delayed with consideration of amendments, or the state will run out of operating

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

> Sen. Patricia Jehlen No

#### Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



#### ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

Several laws approved by the House and Senate and signed into law by Gov. Charlie Baker at the end of 2016 go into effect this month including:

ADULT MALNUTRITION COMMISSION (S 2499) - Establishes a 17-member commission on malnutrition prevention among older adults. The commission will investigate and study the effects of malnutrition on older adults and the most effective strategies for reducing it. It will also provide a report to the Legislature by December 31, 2017.

Supporters say that incidents of malnutrition among seniors are increasing in the Bay State. They argue that it is a serious problem that can lead to illness and even death.

"Elder malnutrition is often diagnosed as a secondary condition when an older person is admitted to the hospital for an acute illness and is frequently cited as the primary reason for readmission to a hospital after treatment," said bill's sponsor Sen. Jennifer Flanagan (D-Leominster). "This commission seeks to find out how to reach elders out there who may be suffering from food insecurity and malnutrition and I hope that the recommendations will result in better health outcomes for our elder population."

**DUCK BOAT TOURS (S 2473)** - Prohibits a driver of any amphibious sightseeing vehicle, commonly known as Duck Boats, from providing commentary

about the tour while driving and requires companies to add a second worker to narrate the tour. It requires the vehicle to be equipped with safety equipment including blind spot cameras and proximity sensors and that the Registrar of Motor Vehicles set new rules for the operation of duck boats by April 1, 2017. Violators will be fined up to \$500 for the first offense and \$1,000 for any subsequent offenses.

The bill was filed in June 2016 in response to the tragic death in April in which a Duck Boat struck and killed Allison Warmuth. The vehicle ran over Allison's moped near her Beacon Hill residence, killing the graduate of Messiah College, a Christian school in Pennsylvania, who was a senior underwriter for hospitals and medical practices.

"It makes Boston safer, but more than that, gives a little bit of positive meaning to the otherwise completely wasteful death of a fine young woman in her prime," said the bill's sponsor Sen. William Brownsberger (D-Belmont).

The popularity of the duck boats can continue while the public safety is better preserved," added Rep. William Straus (D-Mattapoisett).

#### 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 27-March 3, the House met for a total of nine minutes and the Senate met for a total of 20 minutes.

Mon. February 27 House 11:02 a.m. to 11:05 a.m. Senate 11:08 a.m. to 11:15 a.m

Tues. February 28 No House session No Senate session

Wed. March 1 No House session
No Senate session

Thurs. March 2 House 11:06 a.m. to 11:12 a.m. Senate 11:00 a.m. to 11:13 a.m.

Fri. March 3 No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

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#### Recent Single Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month: **Address Description DOM List Price** Sale Price 26 Hinckley St 6 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath Other 14 \$619,000 \$701,000 17 Kingman Rd 10 room, 4 bed, 2f 0h bath Colonial 67 \$699,900 \$707,000

Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:									
Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price					
341 Highland Ave U:3	4 room, 2 bed, 1f 0h bath 2/3 Family	21	\$475,000	\$482,000					
39 Oliver St U:3	4 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	81	\$499,000	\$490,000					
18-20 Arlington St U:4	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	46	\$574,900	\$574,900					
14 Gordon Street U:1	5 room, 2 bed, 1f 1h bath 2/3 Family	26	\$589,900	\$600,000					
65 Oak Street U:1	6 room, 2 bed, 1f 1h bath 2/3 Family	89	\$644,900	\$644,900					
16 Gordon Street U:2	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	26	\$649,900	\$649,900					
14 Fiske Ave U:2	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	22	\$649,900	\$660,000					
51 Pitman U:2B	4 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	28	\$659,900	\$692,000					
18 Lowell St U:18	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	41	\$669,900	\$670,000					
14 Fiske Ave U:1	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	22	\$674,900	\$675,000					
18-20 Arlington St U:5	4 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	46	\$674,900	\$672,666					
16 Lowell St U:16	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	41	\$699,900	\$715,000					
31 Hancock U:1	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	194	\$725,000	\$720,000					
79 Benton Rd U:2	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	33	\$729,000	\$755,000					
42-44 Puritan Road U:2	8 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath Townhouse	27	\$739,900	\$733,000					
42 Myrtle Street U:B4	6 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Loft	8	\$749,000	\$782,000					
56 Line St U:3	6 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	31	\$869,900	\$870,000					
79 Benton Rd U:1	7 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	28	\$899,900	\$890,000					

Recent Multi-Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:							
Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price			
31-33 Hamlet Street	2 unit, 14 total room, 7 total bedroom 2 Family	29	\$859,000	\$890,000			
61 Bay State Ave	2 unit, 13 total room, 8 total bedroom 2 Family	7	\$1,100,000	\$1,400,000			
91 Cedar St	2 unit, 10 total room, 4 total bedroom 2 Family	25	\$1,100,000	\$1,025,000			
292 Beacon Street	2 unit, 6 total room, 2 total bedroom 2 Family	106	\$1,850,000	\$1,750,000			

## **Anonymous donation made to Little Sisters of the Poor**



This past week, Ward Three Alderman Bob McWatters presented a check for \$10,000 on behalf of an anonymous donor and admirer of the work that the Little Sisters of the Poor do here in Somerville. From Left to right: Sister Patrice along with resident Tina Quintal, Alderman Robert McWatters and Sister Mary Vincent. The Little Sisters of the Poor has been serving the needy here in Somerville and local area for over a 100 years. This donation is very generous and was well received by everyone associated with the home.

## Candy store chain cited for violations

#### By Charles Lane

A Massachusetts candy store chain has been cited nearly \$40,000 in restitution and penalties for various wage and hour violations including violating the child labor, overtime, and earned sick time laws, Attorney General Maura Healey announced today.

The AG's Office issued citations totaling \$37,363 in restitution and penalties against Boston Total Sugar, LLC, Dedham Total Sugar, LLC and Somerville Total Sugar, LLC (together referred to as "Sugar Heaven") and the company's sole corporate officer, David Sapers, for child labor violations, failure to pay wages in a timely manner, failure to pay overtime, and failure to comply with the Massachusetts Earned Sick Time Law.

Sugar Heaven is a local candy store chain with business locations in Boston and Somerville, and previously in Dedham. Many of Sugar Heaven's employees are minors under the age of 18. The AG's Fair Labor Division began an investigation after receiving a complaint about child labor and earned sick time violations.

The AG's investigation revealed that Sugar Heaven and Sapers regularly violated child labor laws by scheduling and allowing minors to work later or



for longer than what is permitted and failing to obtain work permits for minors, as required by law. Employees who were under 18 would regularly be responsible for closing the stores late at night.

Sapers also allegedly violated the earned sick time law, which allows for workers to use earned sick time if they (or their child, spouse, parent, or spouse's parent) are sick or injured or have a routine medical appointment. Employees were not aware of an earned sick time policy at Sugar Heaven and were required to find a replacement worker if she or he called out sick. No one was paid for sick days and if the employee could not find coverage, she or he would have to appear for work.

The investigation also found that Sapers failed to pay overtime to four employees. The state's overtime law requires employers to pay qualifying employees time and one half their regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a work week.

Sapers also allegedly failed to pay several workers their final paychecks on a timely basis and required employees to pay for cash register shortages and mistakes that he alleged they were responsible for. The AG's Fair Labor Division has cited Sapers for violations in the past, most recently in July 2016 for failing to furnish payroll records.

Workers who believe that their rights have been violated in their workplace can also call the office's Fair Labor Hotline at (617) 727-3465. More information about the state's wage and hour laws is also available in multiple languages at www. mass.gov/ago/fairlabor.

This matter is being handled by Assistant Attorney General Jennifer Scully and Investigator Kevin Shanahan, both of AG Healey's Fair Labor Division.

## The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



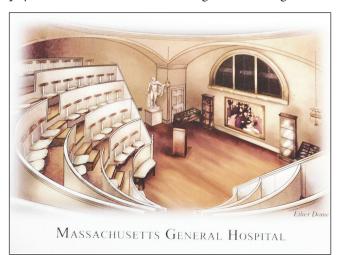
Eagle feathers #124

#### A Pain in the Neck

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

On October 16, 1846, painless surgery was first performed at Massachusetts General Hospital's Bulfinch Dome to remove a tumor from a patient's neck.

The surgeon was Dr. John Collins Warren, nephew of Revolutionary War General and Doctor Joseph Warren of Bunker Hill fame. At one time, Somerville almost named itself after that patriot. Dr. John Warren, like every other physician at that time, was at war against suffering.



On that memorable day, he and Dr. William T.G. Morton and others observed the defeat of pain. The successful application of ether as a surgical anesthetic was the answer. This was the birth of mankind's medical miracle, an end to surgical pain.

The next day, The Boston Evening Journal reported on the successful operation that took place at McLean Hospital. Somerville native and Harvard president Edward Everett first made news of the operation public in one of his speeches.

The operation created a "who's who" dilemma. Who was to be given credit? Three New England men fought for the honor. They were Dentist Horace Wells, Dentist William Morton, and Doctor Charles T. Jackson who were acquaintances.

The recurring debate goes on today. Wells was the first to administer ether in a failed mixing attempt at Mass General Hospital. When the patient cried out in pain, Wells was laughed out of the operating chamber, never to return. Discouraged and dejected, he moved to New York City where he sank into chloroform addiction. He took his own life in the city's Manhattan Detention Complex, also known as the Tombs, while being held for crimes he committed under the drug's influence.



Through the years, many people have thought that the story of Horace Wells was the inspiration behind Robert Lewis Stevenson's novel, The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.

Dr. Charles T. Jackson was a highly regarded, Harvard-educated geological surveyor

Continued on page 15

### OPEN HOUSE

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## Six Massachusetts districts launch consortium to bring alternative measures to schools

#### By Louise Carpenter

On January 30, Senator Patricia D. Jehlen (Second Middlesex District) hosted a briefing at the Massachusetts State House to introduce the Massachusetts Consortium for Innovative Education Assessment (MCIEA) to the state legislature. The briefing was sponsored by the 2015-2016 Senate Special Committee on Innovative and Alternative Education. Senator Jehlen, leaders of MCIEA, and key partners introduced the newly launched initiative and discussed how their work will redefine the way we measure student learning and school quality in Massachusetts. MCIEA is a partnership of six MA public school districts and their local teacher unions from Attleboro, Boston, Lowell, Revere, Somerville, and Winchester.

Senator Jehlen kicked off the event with a brief introduction, speaking to the importance of assessment reform to benefit schools and students. "Though Massachusetts has been an in-

novator in many aspects of education, it has yet to innovate in the way it measures the progress of students and the quality of schools due to the one-size fits all accountability required under NCLB and Race to the Top," observed Senator Jehlen. "Now that those restrictions have been lifted at the federal level, the Commonwealth has an opportunity to explore creating and utilizing broader and more accurate measures rather than high-stakes multiple choice tests in essentially two subjects."

Judy Evans, Superintendent of Winchester Public Schools and member of the MCIEA Governing Board, affirmed Senator Jehlen's statement. "MCIEA is taking a look at multiple factors to assess how well schools are doing, with the goal of not just holding ourselves accountable, but working on continuous improvement. This very careful work by this group of six districts, which I hope will expand, will net huge rewards for the participants. We will learn from and with each other."

Erik Fearing, President of the Revere Teachers Association and co-chair of the MCIEA Governing Board, was next to speak about how MCIEA will measure the quality of participating schools. "We want to make sure that every school can reach a mark of proficiency, and can reach the goals that their communities set for them. And we want to make it clear that this goes beyond just a test score."

> "We will learn from and with each other"

Jack Schneider, professor at the College of the Holy Cross, followed Mr. Fearing to discuss MCIEA's School Quality Measures framework, which includes multiple academic, social-emotional, and school culture measures. Professor Schneider explained that the consortium's work "is rooted in the idea that school quality cannot be captured fully or fairly by standardized test scores." Data, he observed, "can do a great deal to inform a school's stakeholders and to strengthen educational outcomes, but only if those data are valid, comprehensive, and clear."

Dan French, Executive Director of the Center for Collaborative Education, was next to introduce MCIEA's new approach to assessing student learning that is focused on teacher-created performance assessments. "Performance assessments," he explained, "are activities that allow students to show what they know and can do through real-world application. Students are given the opportunity to demonstrate proficiency in ways that will be expected of them later in college, career, and life." Teachers in MCIEA districts are participating in professional development institutes and schoolbased coaching focused on the creation of curriculum-embedded performance assessments.

The legislative briefing then transitioned to a panel discussion with MCIEA Governing Board members, featuring two superintendents and two teacher union representatives. The panel members spoke about why their district decided to join the consortium and their goals for rethinking assessment and accountability in their schools. As Adeline Bee, President of the Attleboro Education Association, put it: "We are all pushing to get these kids challenged, to ask them questions, to make them really think about the world out there, and to use the resources to solve problems. It's not a test score; it's so much more."

Paul Tritter, Director of Professional Learning at the Boston Teachers Union, added: "We're going to keep doing the work, and as we keep doing the work, we will show people about our students, about our teachers, about our schools, and about the great work that we can do by integrating real-world application and valuable assessment for learning and of learning."

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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

#### When We Were Young

We weren't thinking about the future, only about the upcoming Class Day and then graduation. Later, a train would take us on a trip to a more serious place, a place where we'd begin the process of evolving into adults. It was waiting there at the station. Our teachers were aware of the train, they'd seen it come and go many times. So they continued to feed us huge spoonful's of knowledge, hoping we'd digest enough of it to be prepared for our journey.

We knew the train was there, but we weren't ready yet to leave the station. Not yet would we worry about what lies ahead. This was our last fling at being young. This senior year was the last of our golden days, our best of times, and except for childhood memories, this time

Somerville High School, 1954. sports, record hops, pizza and coke down at the local hangout and Saturday night dates with that special someone. We wished it would go on forever. But it didn't, Class Day came and went, quickly followed by Graduation Day.

> So we said our goodbyes, proceeded to our assigned compartments, and began our long train journey that would carry us on to our tailored future. Some to college, others to start a career in the business world. Friends were not forgotten, just put on the back burner for a while as we began weaving yet another section of the fabric of our lives.

This train would stop on schedule every so often to renew friendships and memories by celebrating our class reunions. We hadn't changed that much, at least we didn't seem to. No

would be the greatest of all. The need to look at yearbook pictures pinned onto jackets, no need to try to remember names, we knew them all. We were still young.

> Then this, our sixtieth class reunion. The train stopped again to revisit old friends and renew old memories. It was a scheduled stop, but only for a brief moment to allow us to return to 1954, at least in our hearts, when we were young.

> This time though, there were less of us, a little harder to recognize, difficult for eyes to focus in on yearbook pictures pinned onto jackets. But we were persistent and quickly broke through the cloudy haze of past years and renewed memories with each other, laughed, danced and added new memories that night as well. But as quickly as it began, the last dance was danced, the final memory retold, addresses exchanged and then, the hard

est of all, the goodnights.

We quietly got back on the train to continue our journey. Along, the way more of us will have gotten off at unscheduled stops. We'll be saddened by the loss or our classmates because part of ourselves will leave us as well. But we'll also be enriched by all the happy school day memories they left behind for us to relive over and over again.

Will there be another Somerville High School 1954 reunion? Possibly, but no matter. This paper and the printed words upon it will yellow and fade with time but the memories will never fade in our minds. We'll always remember that special place we once attended, Somerville High School, that magical year, 1954, and that fleeting time, when we were young.

Hal Farrington Lexington, MA

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## COMMENTARY

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## Working together to combat opioid use



By Joseph A. Curtatone

Opioid-related deaths have increased dramatically in recent years across the Commonwealth, and Somerville is not immune to this tragic loss of life. In 2012, 698 opioid-related deaths were confirmed in Massachusetts and that number has been steadily climbing since. Last year, 1,465 such fatalities were confirmed and another estimated 514 opioid-death confirmations are pending. In Somerville, the numbers are equally heartbreaking. The city saw an increase from 3 narcotics deaths in 2012 to 21 deaths in 2016. Again, that's 21 lost, when even one is too many.

These trends underscore the severity of this health crisis, and each individual loss has surely caused tremendous personal suffering that we'll never see measured by the data. But still there are signs of hope. Cities, towns, nonprofits and others are doubling down to support those struggling with addiction and prevent deadly overdoses.

Here in Somerville, our police department has been working diligently on community policing initiatives, several of which are essential to addressing addiction as the health issue it is - and not as a crime. Thirty percent of our officers have received Crisis Intervention Training, and through the COHR (Community Outreach, Help, and Recovery) Program, they work with those struggling with addiction to divert them from the criminal justice system and to

get them the help they need for a successful recovery. As Chief David Fallon says, officers are taught to use arrest as a last resort in these instances.

We know that getting people that initial help is just part of the solution in combatting opioid addiction. That's why we work to foster a successful recovery at many different stages of the process. The Recovery Coach Academy has already trained 36 volunteers so that they can support our community members through the recovery process. Additionally, in January 2017, we kicked off our Pathways to Recovery meetings, which happen once per month and aim to provide a network of support for those in recovery.

We know that addiction doesn't just affect individuals, but also their families, friends, and loved ones. Nearly all reported overdoses happen in a residence or a place where someone feels safe,

and people are usually found by a family member or significant other. So we're working to develop better outreach methods for those impacted by a loved one's addiction, including community support events like the Lasting Images art night held just this week.

Continuing our Take Back Initiative is another important effort that anyone can take part in. Abuse of prescription drug opioids is increasing at alarming rates, and more than half of young heroin users reported starting with prescription drugs according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse. That's why there is a permanent MedReturn Drug Collection Kiosk in the lobby of the Somerville Police Department where you can dispose of unused medicine free and anonymously, 24/7. It's better to be safe and always dispose of your extra medicine than leave

around unused prescriptions.

While each of these programs and initiatives aims to help support those struggling with or impacted by addiction, we must continue to push the conversation more broadly. We must continue working to limit barriers to those seeking treatment and put an end to the stigma of addiction by talking about and addressing addiction as the illness it is. I truly believe that if we work together across all City departments and with our community partners and members, we can find ways to reverse these trends and keep our neighbors safe and healthy. Saving lives starts long before anyone dials 911.

If you are struggling with addiction, or know someone who may be, or interested in the recovery meetings, please contact Patricia Contente at 617-625-6600 ext. 7281 or by emailing pcontente@somervillema.gov.

## Can Somerville be the next innovation center? Maybe



By William C. Shelton

Somerville has the worst jobsto-workers ratio and commercial-to-residential-property ratio in Massachusetts. Both accelerate the displacement of long-term residents, while limiting revenues that can support city services. And a tiny commercial tax base means high homeowner taxes.

Yet Somerville Chamber of Commerce CEO Stephen Mackey tells us, "Today, companies are bypassing Somerville." He's right, despite our city's being well positioned to lure tech firms.

At a forum that his organization sponsored last week on our potential for becoming "The Next Innovation Center," 130 attendees heard what many of us have been saying for years.

Peter Bekarian told the audience that Somerville already has most of the ingredients that it needs. Mr. Bekarian is Managing Director of Jones Lang La-Salle, a leading real estate brokerage and consulting firm.

He says that we enjoy critical advantages that competing communities, including the flourishing Seaport District, do not. We are a mile from the densest innovation cluster on the planet, with easy access to the foremost research centers. Our residents and city government have an "entrepreneurial, creative spirit."

We are well serviced by transit, and will become more so with the Green Line's arrival. Already, 30.5% of us get to work using public transportation, as opposed to 12.3% for Greater Boston.

We have a "built-in talent pool." The proportion of our population that is between the ages of 25 and 34 and that has college degrees is, respectively, 226% and 129% that of Greater Boston. And we have the density of dining, entertainment, and cultural offerings that competing areas can only envy.

As Mr. Bekarian's list may suggest, much of what influences tech companies' location decisions is what will attract and retain talented employees, particularly those who are early in their careers. Talent is these companies' most critical success factor and accounts for 80% of their cost structures, as opposed 8% for real estate. So Human

Resources Directors increasingly have as much influence on location decisions as CEOs do.

Bob Coughlin is President of the Massachusetts Biotechnology Council, a trade association with almost a thousand member organizations. He told the Forum audience that employees want to "live, work, and play in the same place." While acknowledging that Somerville offers that, he seemed unaware that he was echoing the City's own promotional message.

He's right, of course. Commercial brokers tell me that many small and emerging tech companies would happily locate here if there were only space that could accommodate them.

Except for a 250,000-squarefoot commercial project proposed by Federal Realty in Assembly Square, no such developments are in the pipeline.

The reason is not, as some suggest, that we need to "activate" the Union Square area with additional residential and retail development. We are already considerably more "active" than competing districts. Indeed, it is the lack of a daytime population that is holding back growth in retail and service businesses, not

Nor does concern about a

near-term economic downturn seem to be an obstacle. Kermit Baker, Chief Economist for the American Institute of Architects reported at the forum that although we are "in the latter stages of the economic/construction/ real estate cycle, [a] downturn does not appear imminent."

In fact, the nature of demand for biotech products, and emerging biotech firms' reliance on venture capital and National Institutes of Health funding, make this industry segment less vulnerable to economic cycles. As the New England manager for one of the world's largest biotech space developers told me, "Until death is cured, there will always be public and private investment in the life sciences. Cycles may affect us, but they won't shut us down."

For some developers, uncertainty about the Green Line and other infrastructure development remains a sticking point. And some would like greater certainty on future zoning, the first batch of which—for Union Square—is now before the Board of Aldermen.

But two commercial developers are looking to do major projects in Boynton Yards now, whether or not the Green Line is coming. And they feel that what they intend could be accomplished under current zoning, with some minor variances.

Zoning matters to the extent that it is ambiguous, and a slow approval process can, indirectly, undermine financing. It is very difficult for developers to finance projects for which tenants have not yet been secured—what the industry calls "speculative" or "spec" projects. Even within well capitalized firms, investment committees want to see executed leases or letters of intent for at least half the space.

But the kind of small and emerging companies that most commend themselves as tenants here have rapidly evolving space needs, which can change in as little as two years.

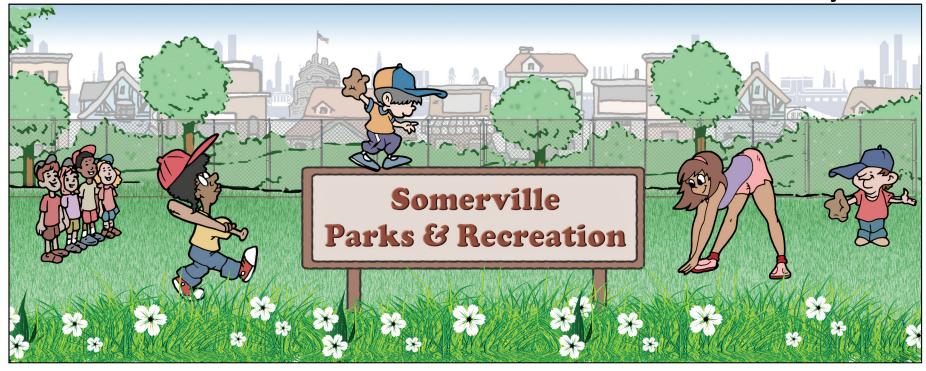
For these kinds of projects, the average time between when the project is marketed and a lease begins is eleven months. Mr. Bekarian reports that his brokerage will not begin offering project space until permitting is at or near completion.

Consequently, developers are obligated to self finance all of their own predevelopment costs. Even then, the expected time between permitting and occupancy may be too long for potential tenants to make the kind of commitments that investors re-Continued on page 16 quire. This

## COMMENTARY

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

#### Illustrated by Jim Clark



## **Our View Of The Times**

Somerville Parks & Recreation is kicking it into gear.



If there is one invaluable resource that all city residents can appreciate and be proud of, it is the Somerville Parks & Recreation Department.

They operate year-round programs throughout the city's public facilities, playgrounds, schoolyards, and various other locations to promote positive and healthy activities for all members of the Somerville Community, in our particular our kids.

A veritable plethora of programs and activities are made available throughout the year, but the spring and summer months are especially active as the weather brings us all out for exercise and play.

Whether it's the KidStop program, Dilboy Pool membership, various sporting clinics, Project Star, April Vacation program, Kennedy School Friday Night Out, Adventures In Space, Sprout Sports, music classes, and a myriad of other exiting and educational activities, the department is there to offer the community the best it can offer in recreational activities.

This coming Saturday, the department is holding its 2017 Somerville Parks & Recreation Fair at the high school gymnasium from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., where it will offer up a day filled with fun activities for all who attend.

The department brings the community invaluable opportunities for enhancing the wellbeing of all residents who are interested in maintaining their health and learning new skills. Let's show them some love this weekend and check out the Fair.

#### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

birthday, and if you want to be mentioned here or know of someone who should be recognized, let us know.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

With people's comfort in mind, due to the sub-freezing temperatures and high winds on Saturday, Groundwork Somerville postponed the Maple Syrup Boil Down Festival until March 11, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Somerville Community Growing Center, 22 Vinal Ave. They will have all the regularly scheduled fun including music, pancakes and, of course, the boiler going full steam. Please check their Facebook page for further updates.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

Historic Somerville presents the 2017 Local History Lecture Series: Inventing the Charles River, a talk by Karl Haglund, Sunday, March 12, 2:00-3:00 p.m. Reception to follow at the Somerville Museum, One Westwood Road. \$8 General admission, free to Historic Somerville and or Somerville Museum members. Karl Haglund, author of Inventing the Charles River, has spent the last 25 years as Project Manager for the Department of Conservation and Recreation for the new Charles River Basin. His book was published by MIT Press and received an honor award from

the American Society of Landscape Architects. For more information, visit their website: www.HistoricSomerville. org. To contact them, email: info@historicsomerville.org or call Brandon Wilson at 617-625-6600 -X2532.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

At this month's Somerville Garden Club, Warren Leach, talented garden designer and owner of Tranquil Lake Nursery in Rehoboth, MA, will recommend a diverse selection of superlative plants in his talk. He will discuss plant combinations that you can translate into your own garden, echoing leaf colors and texture to brighten the garden through the seasons. Leach is a passionate plant collector and landscape horticulturist with a depth of knowledge of all garden plants. He is also a distinguished and award-winning garden designer who enjoys sharing his horticultural and garden design knowledge with others through garden lectures, mentoring and through the gardens that he designs. This meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 8, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland Street, Somerville. Meetings are on the second floor, wheelchair accessible. Parking is available on site and the building is a short walk from the Davis Square T station and is on the #87 bus route. All Somerville Garden Club meetings are free and the public is invited to attend. For additional information please visit www.somervillegardenclub.org.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

There's a new website in town. Check it out at www.somervillema.com. The Somerville Times is on the site. Also check out www.medfordma.com. Someone asked online why we keep these two websites in Newstalk. We guess it's because we like them.

For those that might be interested in obtaining certification for firearms should look up the Lawrence Rod & Gun Club. They provide an extensive program at the end of which you receive certification for Massachusetts/NRA Certified Firearm Safety Classes. They run a class once a month, which is limited to 10 people and we hear that this is the place to go to learn safety when handling guns. Email gunclub@earthlink.net for more information and or go to their website at www.lawrencerodandgunclub.org and read up about the course. We've been told that the course has seen a major increase in people applying for it, especially women. We can tell you first hand here that it's a great

course and quite thorough. The same goes for this in Newstalk. The club has informed us that many residents of Somerville have called or gone to the club to find out about certification.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

It's 2017 and Demet's Donuts over on Mystic Avenue is the best. We're noticing more and more Somerville residents over there getting their coffee and donuts to start the day. The ladies working there are fantastic and always smiling. If you're in the mood for a huge, great tasting donut drop over early since they disappear as the day gets on.

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

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Yes, we're big on the Mt. Vernon Restaurant, but we have to remark on the popovers. They are the Continued on page 16

## **Celebrating 100** years of Fluff

CONT. FROM PG 1

and the big festival taking place on September 23 of this year as Graney offers her insights on the history of Fluff.

Upcoming events include:

March 10: Catch Graney at Spindler Confections from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Get your signed copy of Fluff and sample Spindler's tasty caramel swirls, made with - what else? - Marshmallow Fluff.

March 22: Learn about Fluff's sticky 100-year legacy from Graney herself at the Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation for a book talk and signing at 6:30 p.m.

March 26: Join Graney in Fluff's hometown of Somerville for a book talk and signing at the Somerville Public Library at 3:00 p.m.

April 1: Chat about all things Fluff and snag yourself a signed copy at the charming and funky Somerville gift shop Davis Squared from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

For more information about Graney's scheduled events, contact caitlin@ unionparkpress.com. For information about the festival in September, go to http://www.flufffestival.com.

































## **SPORTS**

## Prospect Hill Academy in championship game

#### By Ashley Richardson

The Lady Wizards of Prospect Hill Academy will face-off against the Community Charter School of Cambridge Lady Cougars in the Massachusetts Charter School Athletic Organization's championship game on Friday, March 10, at 6:30 p.m. at the Clark Athletic Center on the campus of the University of Massachusetts at Boston.

Prospect Hill earned a berth in the title affair by overwhelming the Pioneer Charter School of Science Lady Pirates II from Saugus, MA 76-32 in the tournament quarter-finals this past Friday and squeaking by the Edward M. Kennedy Health Career Lady Huskies 47-43 in the semi-finals on Saturday. Pioneer Charter finished

the 2016-2017 campaign with an overall record of 12-6 and EMK wrapped up the season 17-3 overall. PHA's opponent will be the Community Charter School of Cambridge Lady Cougars who steamrolled through Dorchester's Boston Collegiate Charter 69-20 in its quarter-finals, and followed this up with a 31-22 win over KIPP Academy Lynn Collegiate in the semi-finals.

The Lady Wizards appearance in next Friday's title tilt will be the fourth time in the past four years that PHA has participated in the championship game. On the first two occasions, Prospect Hill walked away with the runner-up trophy. Last season, PHA took home the champion's hardware. The Lady Wizards will enter Friday's game with a



The Prospect Hill Academy Lady Wizards tangle with the Community Charter School of Cambridge Lady Cougars in the Massachusetts Charter School Athletic Organization's championship game this Friday. - Photos by Correen Demers



mixture, hodgepodge 1. What is the only

english word that ends in

2. What is the meaning

of semidiurnal?

"mt"?

3. Does the American flag have more red or white strips?

4. What product used "I can't believe I ate the whole thing" in their commercial?

5. Who obtained a patent for roller coasters in 1885?

6. What is a pulsar?

7. Which planet has a

great dark spot?

8. How many heart chambers does a human

9. At resting, the heart beats close to how many beats per minute?

10. In which city was the peace treaty ending the Vietnam war signed?

11. Which auto company manufactured the first car to run on diesel?

12. What is the distance between bases on a little league baseball field?

Answers on page 16

16-0 overall record. The Lady Cougars boasts an overall mark their respective divisions 12-0. The Lady Wizards were the MCSAO Division I undefeated champion and CCSC was the undefeated champion of MCSAO Division II. In early February, PHA gave CCSC its only loss of the season in a non-league affair. CCSC has won 10 straight games since then and is now looking to avenge the loss and give PHA its only blemish on the court in the last two seasons and post-seasons of play.

The Lady Cougars have been averaging 51 points per

game on offense while holding opponents to an average of 27-1. Both teams finished in of 22 points per game. CCSC is led in scoring by a trio of Juniors—Shaheedah Sheba Austin and Dora Duguay—who combine for about 28 points per game. Prospect Hill has averaged 59 points per game and while holding their opposition to 24 points per contest. PHA has relied on balance scoring from Senior guard Agar Felix, Sophomore guard Ashley Cadet and Sophomore forward Kaleesha Joseph who during the season united for just over 35 points per game. In the quarter-final

41 points, and in the semi-finals they combined for 43.

Three months ago, twenty teams kicked off the 2016-2017 Massachusetts Charter School Athletic Organization girls' basketball season. Eight of these teams qualified for last Friday's quarter-final round in the MCSAO post-season tournament. After last Saturday's semi-finals, only two teams remained with a chance to be anointed tournament champion—the Prospect Hill Academy Lady Wizards and the Community Charter School of Cambridge Lady Cougars. Who will be the last team standing?

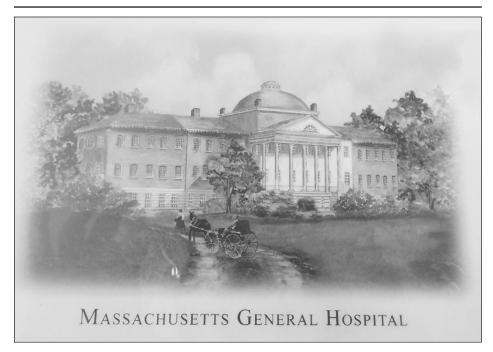
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game the three players scored

## Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 8



and chemist. After the Wells embarrassment, his friend William Morton picked up the torch and ran with it. He told his story and shared information with Dr. Jackson, developing a mask for ether delivery. Next, they received permission from MGH for a demonstration, which was successful.

One would think that would be all, but the story did not end there. How could the miracle discovery of ether, the vapor that eliminated human pain, cause so much agony to its creators? The answer was in who received the credit for the discovery. All three men battled each other for the rest of their lives for fame, glory, honor, and homage for themselves. In the end, their lives were broken.

Morton, who held the central role in the ether controversy, collapsed and died in New York City's Central Park having attained no financial award or profit. He was only 49 years old. Lastly in 1873, Dr. Jackson was committed to the section of Somerville's McLean Hospital known as the double domes, where he died seven years later. There were still other claimants. One was Dr. Crawford Long of Athens, Georgia, who asserted that he had used ether in surgery as early as 1842, the year of Somerville's division

from Charlestown.

In 2018, Massachusetts will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first statue built in the Boston Public Garden, the Ether Monument, commonly called the Good Samaritan Statue. The memorial doesn't mention the first men who practiced with the mysterious vapor ... it simply praises ether and its wondrous contribution to mankind.



#### **SHS Science & Engineering Fair – March 9**

The Somerville High School Science Department hosts its annual Science and Engineering Fair on Thursday, March 9. Students in grades 9-12 spend several weeks researching one topic and following the scientific method and/or engineering design process to investigate one question deeply. Projects will be judged from 8:30-11:30am by scientists and engineers from Biogen, Brammer Bio, Wolfe Labs, Tufts University, Harvard University, and more. Projects will be set up in room 420 (Life Science Projects), room 423 (Chemical and Physical Science Projects), and room 425 (Physics and Engineering Projects). Projects will be available for public viewing during the Science Fair Exhibition from 4:30-5:30pm in classrooms 420, 423 and 425. An Awards Ceremony, open to the public, will take place in the SHS Auditorium from 5:30-6:00pm.

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## What's on Somerville **Neighborhood News**

Please check out the latest Somerville Neighborhood News headlines and video segments. Somerville Neighborhood News is a production of Somerville Community Access Television, made by professional journalists, volunteers and staff. We also invite you to become more involved with SNN! You can join as a community reporter, researcher, contributor or in some other volunteer capacity. You can reach out to us at news@scatvsomerville.org. Below are the latest SNN story headlines and you can watch the full news segments online at www. somervillenighborhoodnews.org!



#### Bfresh Market Opens in Davis Square

Davis Square rejoices over the grand opening of the new organic grocery store bfresh. The stores main goal is to provide local and healthy options to urban communities.

#### Video Essay: Development and Displacement

Somerville residents and business owners continue to fear displacement as a result of ongoing citywide zoning reformations. Changes proposed in the community include conserving residential areas, improving Davis Square, and fully renovating Union Square.

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#### **ADVERTISEMENT TO BID**

The Somerville Housing Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from General Contractors for the Stair & Bridge Replacement, DHCD #274106 in Somerville, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by Allen & Major Associates, Inc.

The Project consists of: replacement of exterior concrete stairs and railing. Patch repair of the existing concrete retaining wall cap.

The work is estimated to cost \$37,633.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §§26 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 2:00 PM on Wednesday, 29 March 2017 and publicly opened online, forthwith.

All Bids should be submitted online at  $\underline{www.biddocsonline.com}$  and received no later than the date and time specified above.

General bids and sub-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

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 \$50.00 per set (maximum of 2 sets) payable to BidDocs ONLINE Inc.

Plan deposits may be electronically paid or by check. This deposit will be refunded for up to two sets for general bidders and for one set for sub-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 Awarding Authority.

Additional sets may be purchased for \$50.00

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), non- refundable, payable to the BidDocs ONLINE Inc., to cover mail handling costs.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT: Date and Time: Wednesday, 15 March 2017 at 10:00 AM Address: 32 & 125 Jacques Street, Somerville

SITE VISIT BY APPOINTMENT: NONE

The Contract Documents may be seen, but not removed at:

Somerville Housing Authority 30 Memorial Road Somerville, MA 02145

Nashoba Blue Inc. 433 Main Street Hudson, MA 01749

3/8/17 The Somerville Times

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MICHAEL F. GLAVIN **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 

**PLANNING DIVISION** 

#### LEGAL NOTICE **OF PUBLIC HEARING**

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

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

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

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

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

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

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant

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

3/1/17, 3/8/17 The Somerville Times

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

> For the Commission Andrew Upton John J. McKenna

**Attest: Lori Jean Batzek** Administrative Assistant

3/1/17 3/8/17 The Somerville Times

#### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

best. Get a nice hot one out of the kitchen with some butter, you'll be asking for more.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

The Somerville Redevelopment Authority (SRA) invites the public to comment on the Master Land Disposition Agreement (MLDA) with Union Square Station Associates (US2) at a special SRA meeting and public hearing tonight, Wednesday, March 8 at 5:30 p.m. The MLDA between the Somerville Redevelopment Authority and Union Square Master Developer US2 was submitted to the SRA for review at their meeting on February 16. The SRA will hear comments at the meeting, and comments are also currently being accepted via email. All email comments must be submitted via email to Emily Hedeman at ehedeman@somervillema.gov by 3 p.m. on Wednesday March 8. The meeting will be held at Somerville City Hall, in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, 93 Highland Avenue. To view the MLDA, please visit somervillema.gov/US2MLDA. For more information, please visit somervillema.gov/unionsquare or contact Emily Hedeman at ehedeman@somervillema.gov or (617) 625-6600 x25.

The 2017 Somerville Parks & Recreation Fair takes place on Saturday, March 11, 1:00 p.m. at the Somerville High School Gymnasium, 81 Highland Ave. Join in for a fun-filled day of activities for all ages. Come learn about all that Parks & Recreation has to offer. For more information visit www.somervillerec.com.

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\*\*\*\*\*\*

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day week with the hit Irish play Jimmy Titanic at The Rockwell. Winning the 2014 IRNE award for best solo performance, Jimmy Titanic is a hit Irish play produced by Tir na Theatre. A century after the sinking of the Titanic, after fictional accounts and conjecture, documentaries, and journalism, Jimmy Titanic is a remarkable piece of pared down theater that manages to entertain, inform, move, and comment from a completely original point of view. Wednesday, March 15 and Sunday, March 19 at The Rockwell, 255 Elm Street Somerville. Info: https://therockwell.org/shows/ jimmy-titanic/.

#### Can Somerville be the next innovation center? Maybe CONT. FROM PG 10



1. Dreamt

7. Neptune

2. Occurs twice a day

8. 4

3. Red (7)

9.72

4. Alka Seltzer

10. Paris

5. LaMarcus Adna

Thompson

neutron star

11. Mercedes Benz

6. A rapidly rotating

12. 60 feet

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Boynton Yards' "frontier" status may pose no problem for potential tech tenants, it does for some developers, and even more so for their investors. We need pioneer developments that will demonstrate

cle, which in turn, can be aggravated

Finally, while Union Square's and

by delayed permit approval.

those neighborhoods' viability as tech-company locations.

Competition with other regional

increases this imperative's urgency. As do increasing interest rates and building materials costs.

But while the Union Square Zoning now before the Board of Alderman specifies a 60%/40% ratio between new commercial and residential development, it contains no mechanisms to effectively enforce this split.

And the draft contract between the Somerville Redevelopment Authori-

challenge may be the greatest obsta- locations for first mover advantages ty and US2, the Union Square Master Developer, allows US2 to delay commencement of office/lab space construction until two years after Green Line station construction begins, which itself is at least three additional years out.

> In the meantime, MassBio President Bob Coughlin says, "Today I drive through Somerville on the way to other towns. That shouldn't be the case."

No, it shouldn't.

## Kate's Café celebrates first annual **Kate Thomas Award**

#### By Nathan Lamb

Six years ago, Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services (SCES) Elder Care Advisor Kate Thomas organized a monthly dinner for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) older adults and friends. At a recent event, SCES and the LGBT Aging Project honored her memory with the inaugural Kate Thomas Spirit Award.

Before her untimely passing in 2014, Thomas followed her passion for working with LGBT older adults through her role at SCES. She founded SCES' LGBT Aging Task Force and the monthly dinner, now known as Kate's Café. Thomas partnered with Ryles Jazz Club in Inman Square to provide food and venue, and also fostered an ongoing relationship with Harvard College to provide intergenerational programming for LGBT older adults and students.

"Her legacy is reflective of the kindness and creativity she brought to her work," said current LGBT Aging Task Force Chair Melissa Bryant.

Those qualities also inspired the LGBT Aging Project-- a non-profit focused on the rights and needs of LGBT older adults-- to create an award in her name, said organization director Lisa Krinsky.

"We thought the best way for the Aging Project to remember Kate would be an award, to help us keep that legacy of her energy, her spirit, her love for LGBT aging," said Krinsky. "We wanted to give it to a person who inspires the same feelings and enthusiasm."

The inaugural award was presented at the February Kate's Café to Jayne Davis, who is currently the Nutrition Director at HESSCO, the Aging Services Access Point (ASAP) in Sharon.

Davis was previous Nutrition Director at Ethos-- the ASAP in Jamaica Plain-and while there created Boston's Café Emmanuel and Out2Brunch mealsites for LGBT older adults, which were among the first in the state. When she moved to HESSCO, Davis started planning a new community there. With the help of the LGBT Aging Project, she established the Lakeside Café at the Sharon Council on Aging. Davis said the best part of the work has been getting to know the older adults who attend the meals.

"My work with the LGBT



Jayne Davis (second from left) was recently presented the inaugural Kate Thomas Spirit Award, for her work in establishing LGBT meal sites for older adults. The new award was launched by the LGBT Aging Project, in part to honor the contributions of SCES case manager Kate Thomas, who passed in 2014.

older community began 20 years ago, and my greatest gift has been the many friends I have met along the way, who have inspired me to become a better person," said Davis as she accepted the award.

"I'm so grateful to have had the opportunity to work with and become friends with so many who are here tonight," she added. Roughly 90 people attended the dinner, including SCES staff members and friends who came to honor Thomas' memory. Thomas' former spouse, Tina Cincotti, spoke about the meaning of the award.

"The best thing that I try to do is keep Kate's memory alive, and this is a wonderful way to do that. It's really beautiful to see so many people here, remembering her," said Cincotti.

The Kate Thomas Spirit Award will be presented annually at the Kate's Café dinner. Nominations can be submitted to Lisa Krinsky at lkrinsky@ fenwayhealth.org.

Somerville-Cambridge Services is, a non-profit agency that supports the independence and well-being of older people in Somerville and Cambridge. For more information, contact the SCES Aging Information Center at 617-628-2601 for free advice and guidance, visit eldercare.org or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

## Expanded access and support leads to impressive increase in Somerville Public Schools AP enrollment and success

#### By Louise Carpenter

After implementing a campaign encouraging students to meet with their counselors to consider taking an Advanced Placement (AP) course, Somerville Public Schools saw the number of its students enrolled in AP classes increase by more than 50% in just one year. With nearly three-quarters of the district's students qualifying for free and reduced-price meals, Somerville also committed to covering 85-95% of the cost of AP Exams, with help from the national nonprofit Mass Insight Education (MIE). Now in their second year of partnering to increase student participation in AP science, math, and English classes, MIE and Somerville High School are expanding access and opportunities for success.

Superintendent of Schools Mary Skipper attributes the success to a simple formula of student empowerment and consistent support. "The secret to our growth is that we

encouraged students to push themselves and also helped them determine which courses were right for them," she stated. "But our success just wouldn't be possible without our counselors and dedicated AP teachers, who work so hard to help all students in Somerville reach their potential."

"By expanding access to all Somerville High School students, more are enjoying the benefits of AP classes, including the confidence to embrace the AP challenge and the resulting greater understanding of the expectations of college," commented School Committee Chair, Laura Pitone. "This is one of the targeted ways SPS is striving to increase future opportunities for all our students."

"It is a testament to the Somerville Public School District, its staff, and in particular its teachers that with one small change, they have positively impacted the lives and enriched the futures of so many of our students," said Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone. "Somerville has been

a leader among urban districts in MCAS growth, and that AP class enrollment grew by 50% in just one school year clearly indicates how committed our District and teachers are to ensuring that Somerville's students have every tool possible in order to succeed."

"... Somerville's students have every tool possible in order to succeed"

Since 2012, both the total number of Somerville High School students taking an AP course and the number of AP courses in which students are enrolled have steadily increased. In 2016, 225 students - about 15% of the SHS student population - were enrolled in a total of 597 AP courses, an increase of more than double in two years. Also on the rise is the percentage of AP exams that SHS students are taking. Of the 597 exams that could have been taken in 2016, 589 were taken (99%). From 2012 to 2016, the number of AP exams taken by Somerville High students more than tripled, providing greater opportunities for students to gain college credit, take more advanced courses in college, and have the experience of a college-level exam. While the percentage of SHS students scoring 3.0 or higher on an AP exam has decreased in the last two years as the number of AP exams taken has more than doubled, it remains consistent with the global percentage (58.2 vs. 60.2). The number of SHS students with scores of 3.0 or higher on an AP exam has increased each year and nearly doubled since 2012. The SHS mean scores for several subjects remain above the national mean.

Among the benefits of AP courses noted in a recent news release by the College Board, are the development of skills that students will need for college and the potential cost- and time-savings gained by earning college credit. They also cite research which shows that students who succeed on AP Exams are more likely to earn higher GPAs in college, take more classes in their discipline, and graduate college on time.

Somerville High School students will have more opportunities to participate in AP courses as the SHS AP menu and student supports continue to expand. This year, SHS students had 16 AP courses from which to choose, including AP Italian Language and Culture, which was offered for the first time in 2016-2017. A potential new AP course in the coming year is AP French Language and Culture. Somerville High School will continue to partner with MIE with the goal of providing access to rigorous AP courses for all students, and will look for ways to mirror services for Social Studies and World Language AP courses that MIE provides for English, math and science AP courses.

#### **CHILDREN AND YOUTH** Wednesday | March 8

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

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

#### Thursday | March 9

**Central Library** Preschool: Storytime for 3 to 5 year

10:30 a.m.- 11:15 a.m.|79 Highland **West Branch Library** 

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

**Central Library** Teen Advisory Board Meeting 3 p.m.-4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

#### Friday | March 10

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

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

#### Sunday | March 12

**Central Library** Peer Critique Meeting 2 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

#### Monday | March 13

**Central Library** Sing Along 11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

#### Tuesday | March 14

West Branch Library Preschool Storytime

11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.|40 College Ave

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

**Central Library** Somerville High School Anime Club 2:45 p.m.-4:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

#### Wednesday | March 15

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

#### **MUSIC** | ARTS

Wednesday | March 8

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

The Burren Front Room **Back Room** 

Backroom Series: Teada with Seamus Begley|7 p.m. Comedy Night With Jordan Han-

dren-Seavey|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge The Spots Kat Kennedy Tory Silver Victoria Rios

8 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave

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

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

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

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

**Highland Kitchen** 150 Highland Avel617-625-1131

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

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

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom Simpsons Trivia

7 p.m.|156 Highland Ave The Rockwell Laugh, Drink, and Fundraise! 7:30 p.m.|255 Elm Street

Arts at the Armory Been Out Here Teen Open Mic 6 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

#### Thursday|March 9

Sally O'Brien's

Asa Brebner, Randy Black & The Heathcroppers, Tony Savarino & The Savtones |8 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room Lunchtime Concert Series|1-2pm Matt Borrello, Mike Verge & Compa-Backroom Series: Aaron Shadwell and Jamie Kallestad|7 p.m. Scattershots 10 p.m.

247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge Early Show ft. Coffin Salesman Slow Coyote Dancehall Lounge 345 Somerville Ave

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

Orleans Restaurant and Bar 65 Holland Stl617-591-2100

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

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

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

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

Thunder Road Steve Morse & Patty Colley Moore Present: A Benefit For Outside The Lines Arts Studio Featuring: Jesse Dee, Barrence Whitfield, Sister Kate Taylor, Dennis Brennan & Danielle Miraglia 7 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom Mass Hysteria: A Local Beer and Taco

7 p.m.|56 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. The Mystical Misfits 8:30 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell Something Big with John Conroy 8 p.m.|255 Elm Street

Arts at the Armory Pub Sing at The Armory 7 p.m.|Čafe|191 Highland Ave

#### Friday | March 10

Sally O'Brien's David Johnston Band |6 p.m.

HearNowLive presents Water | 9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589 The Burren

Backroom Series Christine Fawson|7 Jimmy's Down|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge Tim Gibson The House on Cliff Cosmonaut Radio Matt Heaton & the Electric Heaters 345 Somerville Ave

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** 

10 p.m.|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-

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

**Thunder Road** SYM (Rock n' Roll) 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave ONCE Lounge & Ballroom

Agent Orange Guttermouth, The Queers, The Atom Age 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Boycott!

6:30 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell

Shit-Faced Shakespeare: Romeo & Juliet|7 p.m. B.U.M.P|9:30 p.m. Dirty Disney 11 p.m. 255 Elm Street

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

Arts at the Armory

Symphony Nova and Kieran Jordan Dance present: Dance at the Armory 7:30 p.m.|Performance Hall Broad Appeal Comedy Night 8 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

#### Saturday | March 11

Sally O'Brien's

Tom Hagerty Band | 6 p.m. Clippertones Peter birthday jam, Damian Quinones & friends, Eleanor & the Tasties|9 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge Private event 345 Somerville Ave

Orleans Restaurant and Bar Karaoke

65 Holland St

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

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

Joshua Tree DJ El Sid! 256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

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

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

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

Aeronaut Brewing Co. DJ J Wall 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom Secondhand Serenade Hawthorne Heights (Acoustic), Ronnie Winter Of The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus, Kenny Holland 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

The Rockwell KERPLUNK!|11 a.m. Shit-Faced Shakespeare: Romeo & Juliet|7 p.m. Comic Con Vixens: Nerdy Burlesque|11 p.m. 255 Elm St

Arts at the Armory Laughing Liberally Boston 8 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

#### Sunday|March 12

Sally O'Brien's Bar Bucky Bear & The Titanium Hipsters|6

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589 The Burren 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**PA'S Lounge** 345 Somerville Ave Bull McCabe's Pub

Dub Apocalypse 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045 **Highland Kitchen** 

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

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

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

**Thunder Road** Americana Sundays w/ Greg Klyma 7 p.m. | 379 Somerville Ave **ONCE Lounge & Ballroom** 

Aeronaut Brewing Co. 2 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

156 Highland Ave

Arts at the Armory I-Opener 10 a.m.|Performance Hall Pitnacree and Friends

7 p.m.| Cafel|191 Highland Ave

#### Monday | March 13

Sally O'Brien's Bar

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

The Burren Front Room Bur-Run

Helena Delaney, Johnny O'Leary & Friends Irish Session|9 p.m. Back Room: Science by the Pint|8

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

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

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

345 Somerville Ave

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

**Thunder Road** The Murdock Manor Stripped Sets Monday Night Series 7:30 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom New Music Night with DJ Bad Squirrel|6 p.m. Chandler Travis Three-O

8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave Arts at the Armory Queer Tango Boston 6 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

#### Tuesday | March 14

Sally O'Brien's Bar

PA's Lounge

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren Front Room Jason Anick and the Swingers Swing/ Jazz|8:30 p.m. Back Room:

Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan|10 . 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Open Mic Night 345 Somerville Ave On The Hill Tavern

Stump Trivia (with prizes) 499 Broadway|617-629-5302 **Bull McCabe's Pub** The Ghetto People Band 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Highland Kitchen** First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling 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 Pub Quiz 10 p.m.|239 Holland St.|617-625-

Thunder Road Thunder & Lightning Sessions Featuring Erica Leigh 7:30 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom Wacken Metal Battle USA - Boston Upheaval, Leather Lung, Birnam 9 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Wednesday | March 15

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

The Burren 247 Elm Street 617-776-6896 P.A.'s Lounge

Jiblantos Keith Pierce Wet Guests Ten Dollar Mistake 8 p.m.|345 Somerville Ave On The Hill Tavern

499 Broadway|617-629-5302 Orleans Restaurant and Bar 65 Holland St|617-591-2100

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

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

**Highland Kitchen** 

150 Highland Ave 617-625-1131

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

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

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom The Moth: True Stories Told Live

8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Union Square Playlist presents: Shep-

herdess

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street The Rockwell Jimmy Titanic 7:30 p.m.|255 Elm Street

#### **CLASSES AND GROUPS** Wednesday | March 8

**Central Library** 

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

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

#### Thursday | March 9

West Branch Library Learn English at the Library! (Session 1) 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. (Session 2)7:15 p.m.-8:15 p.m. 40 College Ave

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

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

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

#### Friday | March 10

Lacan Reading Group

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

Saturday | March 11 **Central Library** 

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.|79 Highland **Somerville Winters Farmer Market** 9:30 a.m.|Performance Hall|191

Highland Ave

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

#### Sunday | March 12

**Central Library Christine Briggs** 

2 p.m.-4:15 p.m.|79 Highland Ave Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon **Family Groups** 

7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street Unity Church of God Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement.

#### Monday | March 13

West Branch Library

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

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

**Central Library** FSPL March Board Meeting 7 p.m.-8:15 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

Tuesday | March 14

Wednesday March 15 **Central Library** Death Cafe

7 p.m.-8:15 p.m.|79 Highland Ave **Central Library** Stronger Together 7 p.m.-8:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

### SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

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

All clubs and groups welcome new members.

Holland Street: 167 Holland Street

\*Monday through Friday 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M.

617-625-6600 Ext. 2300

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

Cross Street Center: 165 Broadway

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

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

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

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

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

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

Free Groceries Every Month? – You may be eligible for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program! CSFP is a once a month food distribution for individuals 60 years of age or older. You may be eligible to receive two free bags of food once a month containing healthy shelf stable products. Proof of identity and age are all that is required to apply. For more information or to apply please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 – applications are available at the front desk of our Holland Street Center.

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

**St. Patrick's Day Super Bingo** – Thursday, March 16 – at our Holland Street Center from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. - \$10 fee – limited seating and transportation – contact Connie at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300

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

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

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

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

Live Your Life Well – Tuesday, April 4th at the Highlander Café from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. – Join us for breakfast and discussions on a wide range of topics to help you live your life well. For more information or to reserve your spot please call Chris at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

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

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

The St. Patrick's Day Super Bingo scheduled for 3-16-17 is SOLD OUT.

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

#### LGBTQ EVENTS:

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

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

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

#### 2017 Event Dates

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

#### **STAY ACTIVE:**

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

#### Weekly Exercise Class Schedule

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

#### **Mondays:**

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

#### **Tuesdays:**

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

#### Wednesdays:

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

#### Thursdays:

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

#### Fridays:

8:45 Fit-4-Life Group A (H) - Exercise 10:00 Fit-4-Life Group B (H) - Exercise

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

One-on-one nutrition is on hiatus til further notice.

#### Wednesday, March 8

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

#### Thursday, March 9

10:00 Current Events (H) 10:00 English Conversation (C)

11:00 Computer tutorial with Barbara (by appointment only) (H)

11:30 Lunch (C, H, RJ) 12:45 Bingo (H, RJ) 1:00 Arts & Crafts (C)

#### Friday, March 10

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

#### Monday, March 13

9:00 Gardening Club (H) 10:00 English Conversation (C) 11:30 Lunch (C) 1:00 Bereavement Group (H) 4:30 LGBTQ Advisory (H)

#### Tuesday, March 14

10:00 English Conversation (C) 10:30 Low Vision (H) 11:30 Lunch (C, RJ)

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

12:45 Bingo (RJ)

#### Wednesday, March 15

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

#### DID YOU KNOW?

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

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

#### 20

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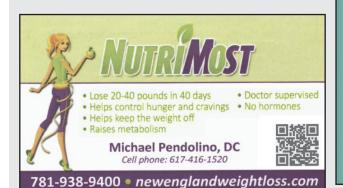
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Attorney At Law

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## Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

Celebrating 30 years of making grassroots community media for Somerville

	Want to learn TV production? Final Cut Pro? Soundtrack Pro? Green-screen? Call us today for more info! 617-628-8826							
Wednesday, March 8 7:00			(LIVE) Taking Back Your Health	3:00pm	Telemagazine	2:00pm	Esoteric Science	
6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	7:30pm	SCATV Throwback Thursday	4:00pm	Words on Film		Cyberspace Talk with Berkman Klein Center	
7:30am	Somerville Storytellers	8:00pm	(LIVE) Fouye No Nan Kalalou	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	6:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	4:00pm	Meet the Renegades (Free Speech TV)	
9:00am	Science 360	10:00pm	The Beantown Beatdown	7:00pm	SCOUTV	4:30pm	The Laura Flanders Show (Free Speech TV)	
10:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	11:00pm	Public Access Boyz	7:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	5:00pm	Tele Galaxie	
	Cyberspace Talk with Berkman Klein Center	11:30pm	SCATV Throwback Thursday	8:00pm	Visual Radio	6:00pm	The Struggle	
11:00am	DW Global 3000	Friday, M	larch 10	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:30pm	Fallon's Daily Toast	
11:30am	Hello Neighbor!	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	10:00pm	The Folklorist	7:00pm	Start Up TV Boston	
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	7:30am	What's Left	10:30pm	Act Out! (Free Speech TV)	7:30pm	(LIVE) The Yellow Jacket Lady	
1:00pm	Let's Talk Somerville Real Estate	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	Flotilla	8:00pm	(LIVE) Somerville Overcoming Addiction	
1:30pm	Fallon's Daily Toast	9:00am	Caring for Others: Caring for Ourselves	Sunday.	March 12	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade	
2:00pm	StartUp TV Boston	10:00am	Greater Somerville	6:00am	Hello Neighbor!	10:00pm	,	
2:30pm	Road To Recovery	10:30am	NASA X	6:30am	Eckankar	10:30pm		
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00am	The Story of Stuff	7:00am	Nossa Gentes e Costumes	11:00pm		
4:00pm	Pirate Television (Free Speech TV)	11:30am	DW Tomorrow Today	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ	11:00pm	Rare Groove Revolution	
5:00pm	Art at SCATV	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	Tuesday	, March 14	
5:30pm	Justicia Migrante	1:00pm	Aging Well	10:00am	Aging Well	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	
6:00pm	Rising Up! with Sonali (Free Speech TV)	1:30pm	Health is Wealth	10:30am	International Church of God	7:30am	Art at SCAT	
7:00pm	The Beantown Beatdown	2:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	11:00am	Chef's Table Series	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
8:00pm	LIVE: Somerville Pundits	2:30pm	SCOUTV	12:00pm		9:00am	The Chef's Table Series	
8:30pm	LIVE: Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	12:30pm		10:00am	Estoy Sano!	
9:30pm	Beyond Boston	4:00pm	Gay USA	1:00pm	Tufts University Jumbo Sports	10:30am	Fallon's Daily Toast	
10:00pm	SCATV Presents: Duck Village Stage Series	5:00pm	Reeling Review	3:00pm	Somerville Overcoming Addiction	11:00am	What's Left	
11:00pm	Flotilla	5:30pm	What's New Massachusetts	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	11:30am		
· ·		6:00pm	Real Estate Answers	5:00pm	Bate Papo com Shirley	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show	
Thursday		6:30pm	The Language of Business	6:00pm	DW In Good Shape	1:00pm	(LIVE) Words on Film	
6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	7:00pm	StartUp TV Boston	6:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News Digest	2:00pm	Somerville Pundits	
7:30am	Esoteric Science	7:30pm	(LIVE) Fallon's Daily Toast	7:00pm	African Television Network	2:30pm	Taking Back Your Health	
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	(LIVE) The Somerville Line	8:00pm	Telemagazine	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	
9:00am	SCATV Throwback Thursday	10:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	9:00pm	Public Domain Film Festival	4:00pm	Aging Well	
9:30am	Somerville Pundits	11:00pm	Simply Hanging with Pete and Nate	11:00pm		4:30pm	The Struggle	
10:00am	Dead Air Live	11:00pm	Ojo Rojo	11:30pm		5:00pm	(LIVE) Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	
11:00am	Greater Somerville		, ,		, ,	5:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	
11:30am	What's Left	,	, March 11		, March 13	6:00pm	What's New Massachusetts?	
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	6:30pm	Beyond Boston	
1:00pm	The Somerville Line	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:30am	Health is Wealth	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News Digest	
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	8:00am 9:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV) SCATV presents Duck Village Stage Sessions	7:30pm	(LIVE) Greater Somerville	
4:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	9:30am	Henry Parker Presents		1 3 3	8:00pm	(LIVE) Dead Air Live	
4:30pm	Off the Shelf	10:00am	TeleGalaxie	10:00am	Perils for Pedestrians	9:00pm	Public Access Boyz	
5:00pm	DW Global 3000	11:00am	Haitian Poetry in 3 Languages	11:00am	Art at SCATV	9:30pm	The Yellow Jacket Lady	
5:30pm	Legacies	12:00pm	Tufts University Jumbo Sports	11:30am	Somerville Neighborhood News	10:00pm		
6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	2:00pm	SCATV Presents: Duck Village Stage Series	12:00pm		10:30pm		
6:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News Digest	2:30pm	Hello Neighbor!	1:00pm	Science 360	11:30pm	Sexy as Folk	

	CITY	TV	22 (Comcast	)   1	13 (RCN) Sch	edu	le
8:00am 9:00am 9:30am 12:00pm	Ay, March 8  Fit-4-Life #4 2017  SomerViva en Español  The Mayor's Report  School Committee Meeting - 3.6.17	12:00am 12:30am 1:00am 9:00am 12:00pm 1:30pm	Connecting Communities Raising Families "Special Needs Education" Somerville's Sanctuary City Rally Somerville by Design Somerville's Sanctuary City Rally Nunziato Stormwater & Park Meeting	10:22pm 10:35pm <b>Sunday, I</b> 12:00am 12:30am	Aldermen at Work - Bill White Somerville's Sanctuary City Rally	6:30pm 7:34pm 9:03pm 9:33pm 10:03pm	SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness Somerville: The New Innovation Center SomerViva em Português Connecting Communities Nunziato Stormwater & Park Meeting
3:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 8:30pm 9:34pm 9:51pm 10:00pm	Charles Bulfinch & the Barrell Mansion Aldermen at Work - Bill White Somerville: The New Innovation Center SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness The Mayor's Report I Feira de Educacão Somerville by Design	4:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 8:30pm 8:42pm 9:00pm	Fit-4-Life #4 2017 Raising Families "Special Needs Education" Somerville by Design Somerviva en Español The Mayor's Report Mayor's Discussion on Sanctuary Cities Nunziato Stormwater & Park Meeting	2:00am 2:30am 9:00am 12:00pm 12:30pm 2:00pm 2:30pm	SomerViva en Español The Mayor's Report Somerville: The New Innovation Center Senior Circuit Somerville: The New Innovation Center Aldermen at Work - Bill White The Mayor's Report	12:00am 3:00am 8:00am 9:00am 9:30am	March 14  Board of Aldermen Meeting - 3.9.17  Rally Point  Fit-4-Life #5 2017  Congressional Update  Somerville's Sanctuary City Rally
<b>Thursday</b> , 12:00am 1:10am 1:41am 2:00am	Charles Bulfinch & the Barrell Mansion Congressional Update The Mayor's Report SomerViva em Português	10:38pm	Aldermen at Work - Bill White  7, March 11  SomerViva em Português  SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness  Charles Bulfinch & the Barrell Mansion	4:00pm 6:30pm 7:00pm 7:30pm 8:34pm	Fit-4-Life #5 2017 Aldermen at Work - Bill White Senior Circuit SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness Board of Aldermen Meeting - 3.9.17	12:00pm 12:30pm 1:00pm 2:04pm 6:30pm	Senior Circuit Connecting Communities SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness Somerville: The New Innovation Center Congressional Update
8:00am 9:00am 12:00pm 12:30pm 1:00pm	Fit-4-Life #4 2017 Somerville: The New Innovation Center Senior Circuit SomerViva em Português SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness	9:00am 12:00pm 1:30pm 1:42pm	Charles Bulfinch & the Barrell Mansion Charles Bulfinch & the Barrell Mansion Somerville: The New Innovation Center The Mayor's Report Talking Business "Chill Ville" Raising Families "Special Needs Education"	12:00am 12:30am 1:23am 1:31am	March 13  Senior Circuit  History of Africanamericans in Somerville  I Feira de Educacão  Talking Business "Chill Ville"	7:00pm 7:30pm 9:00pm 10:00pm	Senior Circuit Somerville's Sanctuary City Rally Somerville by Design SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness
2:04pm 2:16pm 4:00pm 7:00pm	The Mayor's Report Somerville: The New Innovation Center Upcoming Meeting Agenda Board of Aldermen Meeting - LIVE arch 10	2:30pm 6:30pm 7:40pm 8:00pm 8:31pm	SomerViva en Español Charles Bulfinch & the Barrell Mansion Talking Business "Chill Ville" Congressional Update Nunziato Stormwater & Park Meeting	2:00am 9:00am 10:04am 12:00pm 3:00pm	SomerViva en Español SomerSafe Sports Concussion Awareness Raising Families "Special Needs Education" Board of Aldermen Meeting - 3.9.17 Aldermen at Work - Bill White	Wednesd 12:00am 12:30am 1:00am 2:00am	Senior Circuit Congressional Update Somerville by Design SomerViva em Português

## **Educational TV 15 Schedule**

Wednesday, March 8	11:00pm	Our Schools, Our City	8:00pm
9:00am SomerSafe: Sports Concussion Awareness	Friday, March 1	0	9:00pm
11:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden	12:00amSHS Boy	s Basketball vs Malden - 1st Rd Playoff	10:30pm S
1:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Everett	2:00amSHS Boys	Basketball vs Everett - MIAA Qtrfinal	11:00pm
2:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School	6:00am	Public Domain Theater	Sunday, N
3:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham	10:00am SH	S Boys Basketball v Medford @ Tufts	12:45amSt
5:00pm SomerSafe: Sports Concussion Awareness	11:30am Studer	nt of the Qtr Awards-WHCS-2/17/17	1:10am
7:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden	12:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v S. Boston	2:30am
9:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Everett	1:30pm Studen	t of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School	3:20am
10:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School	2:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Georgetown	9:00am
Thursday, March 9	4:00pm	Our Schools, Our City	10:00am
12:00am SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham	5:00pmSHS Boys	Basketball vs Everett - MIAA Qtrfinal	10:30am
1:30am SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17	6:30pm	Our Schools, Our City	11:00am
9:00am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School	7:00pm SH	S Boys Basketball v Medford @ Tufts	12:30pm 5
9:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School	8:30pm Studer	nt of the Qtr Awards-WHCS-2/17/17	1:00pm
10:00am Student of the Qtr Awards-WHCS-2/17/17	9:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball v S. Boston	3:00pm Stu
10:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano	10:30pm Studen	t of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School	3:30pm
11:00am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano	11:00pm	SHS Girls Basketball v Georgetown	5:00pm
11:30am Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown	Saturday, Marc	h 11	7:00pm
12:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - WSNS	12:30am	SHS Boys Basketball vs Everett	8:00pm
12:30pm SHS Bovs Basketball vs Everett	2:00am	SHS Hockey v Methuen	8:30pm

Our Schools, Our City 2:15pm 3:30am Our Schools, Our City 3:00pm 6:00am 3:55pm SomerSafe: Sports Concussion Awareness 9:00am 5:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School 10:00am 5:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School 11:00am Student of the Qtr Awards-WHCS-2/17/17 6:00pm 6:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano 1:00pm 7:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - ESCS 7:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Brown 3:30pm 8:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - WSNS 9:00pmSHS Boys Basketball vs Everett - MIAA Qtrfinal

Public Domain Theater Chris Herren Speaks to SHS SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17 Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano SHS Boys Basketball v S. Boston 12:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden 3:00pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School SHS Hockey v Methuen 5:00pmSHS Boys Basketball vs Everett - MIAA Qtrfinal 7:00pm SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17

Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano SHS Boys Basketball v S. Boston Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden

March 12

Student of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School SHS Hockey v Methuen Chris Herren Speaks to SHS SHS Boys Basketball vs Everett SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17 Student of the Qtr. Awards - Argenziano Our Schools, Our City SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden tudent of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School SHS Hockey v Methuen SHS Bovs Basketball vs Everett SHS Varsity Swim Meet - 2/6/17 Student of the Otr. Awards - Argenziano Our Schools, Our City SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham 9:00pm 10:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School 11:00pm Argenziano School MLK Concert

Monday, March 13

12:00am Our Schools, Our City 12:30amStudent of the Qtr. Awards - Kennedy School 1:00am SHS Hockey v Methuen 2:30amSHS Boys Basketball vs Everett - MIAA Qtrfinal 9:00am Beginners Instrumental Concert 10:00am SHS Hockey v Revere Student of the Qtr. Awards - WSNS 11:30am

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

Tuesday, March 14

12:00am SHS Boys Basketball v S. Boston 1:30am SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham SHS Hockey v Methuen 3:00am SomerSafe: Sports Concussion Awareness 9:00am 10:30am Our Schools, Our City 11:00am SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden 1:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Everett 2:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School 3:00pm SHS Girls Basketball vs NDA Hingham 5:00pm SomerSafe: Sports Concussion Awareness 7:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Malden 9:00pm SHS Boys Basketball vs Everettl 10:30pm Student of the Qtr. Awards - Healey School 11:00pm Our Schools, Our City

Wednesday, March 15

12:00am SHS Boys Basketball v Medford @ Tufts 1:30am SHS Boys Basketball v Peabody SHS Boys Basketball v Danvers 3:00am

# 

I use a laundromat on Bow St. in Union Square religiously. A lot can go down in said establishments. One might – pardon the pun – air his or her dirty laundry. Local poet Linda Larson gives us her take on it...



#### At the Laundromat

There were just the two of us with time to kill. It was natural that we would fall into conversation. He was young: I was not.

"I'm an Aries," he said, "Maybe too much like my Dad. He was an Aries. He cheated on my mother in front of me. I was nine.

He never stayed at one job, never grew up.

But then I'm on the cusp of Taurus. Maybe I am bulling my way through life,

never knowing or caring who I hurt. Do you mind if I ask you?"

"I'm a Cancer," I reply.

"No wonder I am telling you this. Cancers are so motherly, domestic, caretakers.

My moon is in Cancer.

I had to quit on my best friend, my roommate. I made him move

He never did his laundry or cleaned his room. He is a Pisces, so talented.

He is in his last incarnation; he has everything. I gave him a choice. It was either me or the bottle."

I steal a glance at my New Yorker, then start to read it in earnest. Realizing I was guilty of being ill-mannered, I said to him,

"It's not you, it's me. I have this terrible habit. I am always reading, putting reading before chores, before human kind."

"I want to be a doctor," he said, finished folding his clothes,

and gently touched my shoulder in farewell.

— Linda Larson

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

## OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

### **Interview with Poet Martha Collins:**

Author of "Admit One..." a lyrical exploration of scientific racism

Martha Collins is the author, most recently, of Admit One: An American Scrapbook (Pittsburgh, 2016), Day Unto Day (Milkweed, 2014), White Papers (Pitt Poetry Series, 2012), and Blue Front (Graywolf, 2006), a book-length poem based on a lynching her father witnessed when he was five years old. Collins has also published four earlier collections of poems, three books of co-translations from the Vietnamese, and two chapbooks. I spoke with Martha Collins on my Somerville Community Access TV show Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer about her new poetry collection Admit One... that deals with the scientific racism of the early twentieth century, including the Eugenics Movement.

**Doug Holder:** You use as your starting point the St. Louis World's Fair of 1904. Why?

Martha Collins: Because it was the starting point. (Laugh) I was thinking of it because it was a family story. My mother's mother went to it when she was pregnant with my mother. My mom talked about it, although not from direct experience. I knew about the story for years. I heard about how the fair illuminated for its audience the wonderful scientific progress that was made at that time – the fake marble palaces, the splendor of it – but I also heard about the human exhibits. There were over 3,000 humans who were exhibited: Native Americans, Filipinos, Japanese, backwater African tribes, on display in their natural habitat. The "civilized" people could view them at a safe remove.

DH: Define scientific racism.

MC: It is a distortion of Darwinism. It became an even greater distortion as things moved to the Eugenics Movement. It is the belief that we ("civilized people") evolved, and we are quite different (or superior) to primitive people, and it was "our" responsibility to foster the most "fit" human beings, and let the others not survive.

**DH:** This sounds like Nazi Germany.

MC: The interactions of Nazis and Eugenicist were many. Madison Grant was a major figure in this movement, with his book *The Passing of the Great Race*. Hitler owned the book and claimed it was his bible. The Eugenics Movement was very popular at the time of the World's Fair. Eugenics courses were taught at over 300 colleges. People from the North– Nordic countries were considered the best of the white race, all others were inferior. There was a huge amount of anti-immigration sentiment, advocacy for the sterilization of "unfit" people, etc.

**DH:** Poet Kevin Gallagher, the author of the poetry collection *Loom*, wrote about how the Boston elite empowered slavery for their piece of the cotton trade. He told me he did a lot of research. A lot was from primary sources. Your poetry collection *Blue Front* dealt with the plight of the black man. How much research did you do?

MC: In *Blue Front* research became essential. This book was spurred on by my late father who witnessed a lynching. I had to do a lot of documentary work. I used the internet, and many other sources.

**DH:** Do you feel that *Admit One...* is even more important in the context of our times?

MC: I believe we have to understand our history, so we won't repeat it. We need to remember.



Alien, Part Three

Then Madison Grant met with Congressman Albert Johnson again to devise a formula for the 1924 Immigration Act,

which was based on the earlier census of 1890 (when there

were fewer immigrants from eastern and southern Europe),

thus reducing to 12% the influx of Jews, Italians, etc., from

a pre-World War annual million to (as it turned out) 20,000.

Seven eugenicists testified, including Harry Laughlin.

who in 200 pages of testimony cited analyzed Army IQ tests

with Nordics on top, Jews on the bottom, and said the formula

would favor Nordics over non-essential members of the community.

Grant, too ill to testify, wrote that the scientific and just formula

would keep out lower types who could displace native Americans

and wrote an article targeting immigrants as *criminal* insane

while the Saturday Evening Post and NY Times argued for passage.

Suddenly, said an opposing congressman, a new word made its way

into the English language—Nordic, Nordic—everywhere you turned.

But the Eugenicists lobbied congress members, bombarding

them with letters telegrams telephone calls — and after a long

debate on a clause excluding the Japanese (which led a Japanese publicist to predict *eventual collision on the Pacific*), the bill passed.

— From Admit One.../Martha Collins



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