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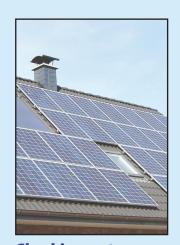
# The Somerville Times

VOL. 6 NO. 16

SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 2018

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

### **Inside:**



Checking out the green page 3



Local attorney honored page 8



SHS Career fair 2018 pages 12–13

# City tackles shortage of playing fields for Somerville youth



With the closure of Conway Park, youth athletic organizations are looking to alternative playing areas such as Dilboy Field to provide them with the spaces needed to function. - Photo by John Phelan

By Jim Clark

With the temporary closure of Conway Park due to concerns over soil contamination, many youth athletic groups have been left wanting in terms of playing spaces for their regularly scheduled activities.

The City of Somerville Board of Aldermen took up the issue at their latest regular meeting last week, looking to find solutions to the ongoing problems faced by youth athletic organizers.

A number of orders and resolutions were put forward at that meeting, seeking to move the process along.

One such order asked that the Director of Parks and Open Space share progress updates with the Board on all current parks projects in order to determine if they are on schedule and what might be needed to enable park projects to stay on schedule going

Continued on page 4

### Starting Over Festival set for Sunday, April 22

Celebrate Arbor Day and Earth Day at the Quincy Street open space with a tree planting, art activities, a clothing swap, nature walks, art projects, and interactive activities for people of all ages.

The Somerville Arts Council and the City of Somerville, in partnership with Greg Cook, present the Starting Over Festival, a free Arbor Day and Earth Day celebration at the city's tiniest "urban wild." The festival will take place at Quincy Street Open Space, 16 Quincy St., from noon to 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 22 (Rain date: April 29). Join a scientist on a tiny hike in the park exploring wildlife here in Somerville. Help plant a tree and take home a free seedling. Hear poetry. Participate in activities, games and art. Bring clean, unwanted clothing for a free clothing swap – or donate your clothes to be recycled.

During the festival, you can explore the park on your own using a subway-style map designed by Rajiv Raman that offers Continued on page 5



Tour the park with Jef C. Taylor of Boston's Urban Nature Walks group. Photos by Greg Cook, from Tiny Great Outdoors Fest 2017.

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This Friday, April 20, the Dave Martini and Nick Peters Scholarship Fund is having A Night with Jim Plunkett. The event is being held at the Dante Club, 5 Dante Terrace off Craigie Street here in Somerville. It's a great time and lots of fun. Tickets are \$40, and include well-known local singer Jim Plunkett, plus a 50/50 auction, lots of raffles, and a buffet dinner. For tickets, please contact: Janet7345@yahoo.com or you can purchase tickets at the Eventbrite page, www.eventbrite. com/e/dave-nicvk-scholarship-fundraiser-with-jim-plunketttickes-44716590526

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

The 16th Annual Sports Scholarship Benefit in loving memory of Edmund J. Medeiros will be held Saturday, April 21, 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m., at the Dante Club, 3 Dante Terrace (off Craigie St.) in Somerville. Call Judy at 617-599-8088 or email Judy.Medeiros1957@yahoo.com. Cost is \$25, over 21 only. Checks to be made out to The Medeiros Family Fund c/o Nancy Medeiros, 87 Wheatland St. Somerville 02145.

Another Giggles Comedy Night is coming up, this time for the Masonic Lodge on Highland Avenue. Specifically, the Building Association is having its 6th Annual Giggles Comedy Night at Giggles on Rte. 1 in Saugus on Wednesday April 25 at 6:30 p.m. Lots of laughs with 3-4 professional comedians, over 23 gift baskets specially made for the event, and a great time for all. Only \$25 per ticket for all the pizza you can eat and all the laughs you can stand. It's not a tax deductible night but a funable night. Tickets at the door or email Donald Norton at donaldfnorton@gmail.com.

On Thursday, April 26, A Taste of Immigrant City, hosted by YUM, will be held at the Arts at the Armory, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. For more information and cost, go to www.brownpapertickets.com. Explore foods from around the world. The evening will include tastes from local immigrant-run restaurants, entertainment, raffles, a cash bar, and an awards presentation honoring the work of local community leaders, Josh Zakim and Natalicia Tracy. They are also Continued on page 11

### The Somerville Times

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### TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

### Response to: Paying for the beloved community

#### Oliver Ellsworth says:

To those who are proponents of the 'moral argument': how is it moral to put a gun to the head of homeowners and demand ANY portion of what they own? How is it acceptable to violate basic principals of consent? Taking from someone else something you didn't earn is the definition of Theft. Coveting what is not yours is the definition of greed. Yet, it is the property owners who are labeled greedy and covetous. Private property is a commodity, not a public good. The minute you declare that a commodity is a public good to be regulated by the government, then the government has the right to take that amenity away depending on the political motivation of the ruling party. Alderman Scott made the same argument against the city's seizure of his property through eminent domain (in the name of creating more housing/commercial property via private developer). He even made a presentation to the CAC about the value of his private business over proposed new development which would provide much needed housing that his current property would not. If Alderman Scott can make the case that his gym on his private property should be exempt from the deal between the City and a private developer, then property owners should be able to make the case that the profit from the sale of their property should be exempt from City management.

### Response to: One Affordability Proposal – Can we find a way for it to unite, not divide our community?

sd says:

So many thoughts. If you sell a 2 family in Somerville you probably can afford a nice house in Dover with the money. Even if there is a 1% transfer fee. But what I want to know is why you think that the city misuses affordable housing money. There is no proof of that anywhere. The City has done so much with the affordable housing money that they have. There may be reasons to be against this but you have not yet given one good one.

#### Old Taxpayer says:

The large projects in the city who are supposed to supply a percentage of affordable housing like FRIT can get out of it by reducing the percentage. So why does it boil down to me? And no, I can't buy a house in Dover. I do have a mortgage as I have made improvements on the house. And the 2 of us making less than \$50000 a year while taking no rent in. Yes I want every dime coming to me and it probably is not enough to take care of my simple needs. And I have no reason to think this administration will do the right thing.

### Katie Gradowski says:

The aldermen are doing an incredible job, approaching this legislation with an eye to keeping longtime residents in place, protecting owners, and preventing displacement. That is admirable. I urge people to look past the cynicism on this thread, and I encourage those who think they'll hate it to read the legislation and proposed amendments before passing judgment. The first version was good, and included protections (i.e exemptions) for seniors, long-term residents, and in-family transactions. The proposed amendments make it even better. If you hate developers, condo-flippers, and outside investors, this is the tax for you. I'm really pleased with the changes that have been suggested, and I think it makes for a much stronger piece of legislation. As for the aldermen, they are exactly who I thought they were, and I'm very grateful to ALL of them for taking the time to do this right.

### C. Collins says:

I call on Our Revolution to post their tax returns and contributors. They are not legally required to do so, but everyone should know where the money is coming from that support their activities and how they spend the money.

Why not a 1 or 2% tax on rent payments too? That would raise a lot of money since there are more renters than homeowners.

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments



### CEUCC outlines green project, studies new policies

By Shira Laucharoen

The Somerville Commission on Energy Use and Climate Change (CEUCC) convened on April 11 at the Somerville City Hall to design new initiatives and reflect on recently passed legislation relating to sustainability. The chief topics discussed during the meeting were shadow carbon pricing and recent state-level developments.

The Commission explored the idea of creating a culture of shadow accounting in order to keep track of and raise awareness of carbon emissions. Carbon pricing is the practice of charging a tax on the release of carbon into the atmosphere as a method of

combatting global warming. In the case of Somerville, this cost would be a "shadow price" generated with the purpose of building consciousness, rather than a real monetary charge.

Commission members also questioned what stakeholders would be allied with this project and might have the attention of the mayor. Director of Sustainability and Environment for the City of Somerville Oliver Sellers-Garcia suggested that SomerStat, the Mayor's Office of Innovation and Analytics, as well as the city's Purchasing Department would be good candidates.

The meeting moved on to consider updates on new state-level developments, looking at three different pieces of legislation. Members reviewed the Environmental Bond Bill, which provides funding for the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. They also tangentially visited the Municipal Preparedness Vulnerability Grant Program, which offers funding to create a process for identifying hazards and climate related challenges.

The Commission discussed the Energy Omnibus Bill, which aims to provide a path towards renewable energy, sets targets for emission reductions, and plans to curb fossil fuel usage. Finally,



members looked at Governor Charlie Baker's new bill requiring that by 2021, people selling their homes must complete an energy scorecard. This legislation has been met by some opposition by the realtor lobby.

The CEUCC's purpose is to counsel the city on climate change and clean energy issues,

collaborating in the design of related programs. The Commission has helped to develop an energy performance contract for city buildings, spoken out about transportation alternatives, and created outreach concerning greenhouse gas impacts. The group meets every month, and sessions are open to the public.

### Somerville High School Building Project Update

Phase 1 of the Somerville High School Building Project gets under way on Monday, April 23rd. Over the April break, several English and social studies classes will be relocated to the modular units on the concourse. Students in those classes will begin meeting in the modular classrooms upon their return from April break. The modular classrooms are equipped with all the appropriate classroom technology including Smartboards and each classroom has its own heating/air conditioning unit. The classrooms are secured, with a safety plan in place.



The high school traffic pattern will change as the concourse will no longer be available as a vehicle pass-through. Until April 21, the City Hall/SHS concourse will be closed to all traffic to allow for the concourse and driveway areas to be reconstructed. Portions of the existing driveway and sidewalk will be excavated to widen the driveway closest to City Hall and install a roundabout that will allow for two-way traffic throughout the overall project. Beginning Monday, April 23, all traffic will enter and exit the City Hall/SHS concourse via the driveway closest to City Hall. The current "exit" driveway (closest to the SHS Library) will be closed during construction for the safety of students, teachers, and staff. With the new configuration, vehicles will enter the driveway, proceed to the newly constructed roundabout, and exit the concourse via the same driveway. In order to minimize traffic congestion, parents/guardians who drop their SHS student(s) off in the morning and/or pick them Continued on page 17

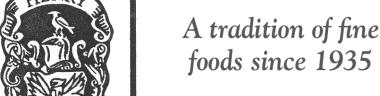
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# WEEKINCE By Jim Clark

### Yarmouth police officer allegedly shot and killed by Somerville man

A Somerville man, Thomas Latanowich, was placed under arrest for allegedly shooting and killing a Yarmouth police officer on Thursday while police conducted a search warrant raid at a Marstons Mills location.

The K-9 officer, Sean Gannon, were involved in the search when Latanowich reportedly opened

fire, killing Gannon with a shot to He was arraigned in the First Disthe head, and wounding the police dog, Nero.

A brief standoff followed before Latanowich surrendered to police.

Latanowich was subsequently taken to jail and charged with the murder of Gannon and the wounding of the K-9 unit dog.

trict Court of Barnstable on Friday, where he plead not guilty to the charges. He was ordered held without bail.

According to reports, Latanowich is regarded as a "career criminal" by authorities, having been convicted of more than 100 violent crimes over the years. He was serving a 5 year term of probation, due to end on November of this year. When he failed to report for a mandatory drug test earlier this month a warrant was issued for his arrest, leading to the fatal events of Thursday.

A probable cause hearing is scheduled for Latanowich on June 26.



Thomas Latanowich.

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### Help Keep Somerville Safe!

### **Arrests**:

Angelina Demelio, of 34B North St., April 9, 11:20 a.m., arrested at 34R North St. on warrant charges of witness intimidation and body disinter.

Zachary Colon, of 5 West St., Old Town, ME, April 11, 12:12 p.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of assault and battery, violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon,

and armed robbery.

Jamal Escobar, of 99 Dartmouth St., Everett, April 11, 5:38 p.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of disorderly conduct and threat to commit

a crime.

Jamal Escobar, of 99 Dartmouth St., Everett, April 13, 4:49 p.m., arrested at Memorial Rd. on a charge of trespassing. Richard Smith, of 65 Ar-

izona Terrace, Arlington, April 15, 10:14 a.m., arrested at Alewife Brook Pkwy. on warrant charges of threat to commit a crime and assault and battery.

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### City tackles shortage of playing fields for Somerville youth

**CONT. FROM PG 1** 

forward, especially as they make budget decisions later in supporting youth organizations the year.

A resolution put forward by over finding places to play." Alderman At-Large Stephanie Hirsch pointed out that Hirsch and co-sponsored by the entire Board called for the Administration to consider the following steps to address the field space crisis: petition the Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) for a waiver for a reduced expectation to schedule regional uses, cover costs of using Dilboy Field for teams displaced from less expensive fields to Dilboy, and prioritize youth sports over adults sports for field usage.

Speaking on behalf of the plan, Alderman Hirsch told the Board, "We know there's an incredible urgency for finding more and better field space, and until we can have that we need to put real money behind that are pulling their hair out

groups that had been displaced from playing at Conway Park would be paying higher fees if forced to use Dilboy Field instead. "That's something we can pay for through our general fund as a transfer into the Dilboy account," said Hirsch.

Alderman At-Large Mary Jo Rossetti agreed with the urgency of taking immediate action on the issue. "It's very painful," Rossetti said. "I can never get it out of my head, I think it was two budget seasons ago, when so many of the families and children came and begged us. And nobody should have to beg to be able to play in their own community. But there was begging, and

we still weren't able to give them what they were asking of us. And here we sit now, this many years later. I predict that's what we are going to be hearing about this budget session as well."

Along with the approval of this resolution, a related resolution was submitted by Ward 6 Alderman Lance Davis and Ward 4 Alderman Jesse Clingan asking that the Administration put the Conway Park renovation out to bid without delay.

Alderman Davis told the Board, "This was the worst case scenario that was raised back when we heard those folks talk about the budget and going back to when the Lincoln Park renovation was being discussed. That there was a number of people in the community who said we should take care of Conway first, so that's done and online before



 $Several\ members\ of\ the\ Board\ of\ Aldermen\ expressed\ their\ frustration\ with\ the\ cursive and the property of\ the \ Board\ of\ Aldermen\ expressed\ their\ frustration\ with\ the\ cursive and\ their\ frustration\ with\ the\ cursive\ frustration\ with\ th$ rent situation with regard to the shortage of playing fields in the city.

we take Lincoln Park online, essentially forever, given the actual capacity that we'll have on those fields after the fact."

Ward 2 Alderman J.T. Scott expressed reservations about the proposed resolution, telling the Board that he questioned the seriousness of the situation

at Conway Park in terms of just how toxic the reported pollutants may be, and that the park might be opened right away, at least in part.

The resolution was ultimately approved and referred to the Open Space Committee for further action.

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#### Starting Over Festival set for Sunday, April 22 CONT. FROM PG 1

activities for kids and grownups to do. Tour the park with Jef C. Taylor of Boston's Urban Nature Walks group, a naturalist specializing in urban wildlife, bugs, mushrooms, creepy crawlies and weird stuff. Hear spoken-word poetry by Eddy Toussaint Tontongi, a Haitian immigrant who plans to read his poem responding to Donald Trump's insults of his homeland, and by Marshall Gillson, who was a National Poetry Slam finalist as a member of the 2016 House Slam team from Boston's Haley House. Paint mosaic-style animals with muralist Liz LaManche. Make animal masks to take home with Kari Percival. See Andy Pepper's sculpture of a fallen tree truck made from recycled plastic wrap. Try out worm-bin composting with Groundwork Somerville. Learn about how we can reduce our carbon output and live more sustainably by playing educational games presented by the city's Sustaina-Ville program.

The idea for the Starting Over Festival was dreamed up by Greg Cook, the freelance event planner behind the Pity Party in 2015, the Tiny Tall Ships Festival in 2016 and the Tiny Great Outdoors Festival 2017. The festival's title is meant to evoke the new beginnings of spring as well as turning over a new leaf socially and politically. He created the festival to celebrate "urban wilds," a term for what are often small pockets of nature within our cities. The Quincy Street Open Space is one of these urban parks. Located on the site of a burned down house, it's been reclaimed as a tiny sustainable woodland landscape created in a dense, residential urban neighborhood.

For more information go to: www.somervilleartscouncil.org/artsunion/2018/ StartingOver.

If you have any questions about the festival, please contact Special Events Manager, Nina Eichner at 617-625-6600 x2998 or NEichner@somervillema.gov. For photos or interviews contact Greg Cook, freelance event producer, 781-388-2665.

— City of Somerville



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### Working together



The D2 Design and Site Plan Review Community Meeting Notice

Q: What's been going on with the Union Square revitalization project?

A: Since our last meeting in December, we've been working to advance the plan and would like to share our work-to-date with you. Please join us to learn more and share your feedback at our the first neighborhood meeting for the Design Site Plan Review of the D2 buildings and civic space.

Date: Thursday, April 19, 2018

6:00-8:00 PM Time:

Public Safety Building Academy Room Location:

> 220 Washington St Somerville, MA 02143

Q: What's the agenda?

The developer, US2, will show preliminary schematic plans and is seeking community input as a first step in the Design and Site Plan Review process for the D2 buildings and civic space. Representatives from the design team working on this parcel will be sharing their work-to-date.

Q: Who should attend?

Everyone is welcome to attend. Community participation and feedback is welcomed and encouraged as we reimagine the future of Union Square together. If you're unable to join us but have question or concerns, please call us at 617-804-1000 or e-mail us at info@unionsquarestationassociates.com.

US2 (Union Square Station Associates LLC) is the Designated Master Developer working in partnership with the community, the Somerville Redevelopment Authority and the City of Somerville to realize the shared vision for Union Square's revitalization.

### **Beacon Hill Roll Call**



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

THE HOUSE AND SENATE: Beacon Hill Roll Call records local senators' and representatives' votes on roll calls from the week of April 9-13.

### RULES FOR HOUSE BUDGET DEBATE (H 4399)

House 120-33, voted strictly along party lines and approved a set of Democratic leadership-sponsored rules to be followed when the House considers the \$40.983 billion fiscal 2019 state budget beginning on Monday, April 23. Provisions include requiring all amendments to be filed online by Friday, April 13 and any proposed tax hikes or reductions to be considered early in the process.

Republican attempts to amend the rules failed on voice votes without a roll call. Defeated were amendments to give representatives until April 17 instead of April 13 to file amendments and at least two hours to review consolidated amendments prior to voting on them. The consolidated amendment system works as follows: Individual representatives file dozens of amendments on the same general subject matters including local aid, social services and public safety. They are then invited to "subject meetings" in Room 348 at which they pitch their amendments to Democratic leaders who draft lengthy consolidated amendments that include some of the individual representatives' amendments while excluding others. The House then approves the consolidated amendment.

Supporters said these rules are fair and responsible and will help make the budget debate go smoothly. They noted the House has adopted many reforms over the years to make the process more transparent.

Opponents said the rules include several provisions that are anti-democratic and weaken the input of individual members. They noted legislators should have more time to file budget amendments and review complicated consolidated amendments which are often voted on before members can finishing reviewing them.

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

Rep. Christine Barber Yes Rep. Mike Connolly Yes Rep. Denise Provost Yes

### STUDENT LOAN BILL OF RIGHTS (S 2380)

Senate 36-0, approved and sent to the House a bill giving greater protections to borrowers in disputes with companies servicing their student loans.

Provisions include requiring that all student loan servicers be licensed by the Division of Banks; creating the position of Student Loan Ombudsman in the attorney general's office; assisting in resolving complaints from students; allowing the Commissioner of Banks to revoke or refuse to renew a lender's license if the company is engaged in abusive practices such as overcharging students or steering them into costlier repayment plans to make higher profits; and permitting the Commissioner of Banks to take enforcement action against companies that are violating any of these laws or regulations.

"A college degree has never cost so much," said Sen. Eric Lesser (D-Longmeadow), the lead sponsor of the bill in the Senate. "As a result, students are taking on substantial debt, and they are being taken advantage of by servicers who use deceptive practices and wrongly steer them into costly repayment plans. While the Trump Administration, led by Education Secretary Betsy DeVos, continues to side with large for-profit student loan servicers and strip away protections for student loan borrowers, we in Massachusetts are standing up to protect our residents from predatory student loan companies."

"It is critical that we protect our students and student loan borrowers from predatory and unscrupulous loan servicers," said Deirdre Cummings, Legislative Director of MASSPIRG. "The need for state oversight could not be more urgent."

"With the cost of college tuition skyrocketing, more students and families are driven to seek student loans to pay for it," said Theresa Soldan, a student at Salem State University and chair of MASSPIRG Students. "Data collected by The Institute for College Access and Success (TICAS) shows that in Massachusetts last year, nearly two-thirds of students in an undergraduate program graduated with student debt. This debt amounted to almost \$30,000 per student on average -- an astonishing 75 percent increase since 2004. Massachusetts students have the 11th highest average student debt in the nation, according to TICAS."

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Ye

### \$600 MILLION FOR LOCAL ROADS AND BRIDGES (S 2409)

Senate 36-0, approved a bill authorizing \$600 million over three years to fund the maintenance and repair of local roads and bridges in cities and towns across the state. The package is a bond bill under which the funding would be borrowed by the state through the sale of bonds. Another provision reduces the term of the bond from 30 years to 20 years and will save an estimated \$50 million.

Supporters said the \$600 million would help cities and towns keep their roads and bridges safe and allow many vital municipal road projects to move forward. They noted that approving \$200 million per year for three years is helpful to cities and towns who will now know the money is guaranteed each year.

The House has approved only one-year funding of \$200 million and a House-Senate conference committee will now work out a compromise version.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

### ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

OVERSIGHT OF MOUNT IDA COLLEGE AC-QUISITION – The Senate approved a bill authorizing the Senate Committee on Post Audit and Oversight to hold a hearing on the pending acquisition of Mount Ida College by UMass Amherst.

According to the bill the hearing will be on "the merits of the pending acquisition of Mount Ida College by the University of Massachusetts as it relates to the fiscal impact of assuming debt and related impacts on the well-being of students, access to and quality of public higher education opportunities, existing student loans and scholarships, and impacts on other public institutions of higher education."

UMass has promised current Mount Ida students in good academic standing admission to UMass Dartmouth next year. But skeptics said there are students at Mount Ida who are in programs that aren't offered at the Dartmouth campus.

"We in the Massachusetts Senate feel as though we do not have enough information on this hasty acquisition," said Senate President Harriette Chandler (D-Worcester). "I hope that more information is soon to come so that we can better analyze the diverse impacts of such an acquisition."

"The pending acquisition of Mount Ida College by UMass came as a surprise to my colleagues and me," said Sen. Mike Rodrigues (D-Westport). "There are a lot of unanswered questions about how this will affect the well-being of students and educators and impact the UMass system as campuses struggle to minimize costs. Protecting our students is, and must continue to be, our number one priority as we seek to learn more about the impacts of the acquisition on our public higher ed institutions."

the past two months, various committees shipped several bills off to a "study committee." Most measures that are sent to a study committee are never actually studied and are essentially defeated. Here are some of the bills that were sent to a study committee by the Education Committee and will likely be refiled by

their sponsors in 2019:

EQUAL CHANCE AT ATHLETICS (H 273) - Ensures that students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to try out for and participate in mainstream physical education and athletic programs. The measure also requires that each school make reasonable modifications necessary to provide students with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate, to the fullest extent possible, in these programs. Schools are exempt from these requirements if any present a safety risk to the student or to others or fundamentally alter the nature of the program.

"Every student should have the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of organized athletic competition," said the bill's sponsor Rep. Kevon Honan (D-Boston).

REQUIRE HAND SANITIZERS IN ALL CLASS-ROOMS (H 317) – Requires each classroom and entrance to a school to have a wall-mounted hand sanitizer dispenser that dispenses liquid chemical germicide like Purell that is used to clean hands and reduce the spread of germs.

Supporters say the requirement would teach good hygiene habits and reduce illnesses.

"At the beginning of each school year parents are asked if they can supply hand sanitizer for their child, specifically in the lower grades, and many do but when the supply is exhausted it is not replaced," said the measure's sponsor Rep. Al Silvia (D-Fall River). "This would resolve the problem for educators, and parents. It is not an expensive project and could be instituted at a very low cost."

STUDENTS USE OF SUNSCREEN AT SCHOOLS (H 229) - Gives Bay State students the right to use sunscreen during the school day without a physician's prescription. Under current law, sunscreen products are regulated as "drug" products and cannot be

### Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



No Senate session

Senate 11:03 a.m. to 11:43 a.m.

used by students on school grounds without a prescription.

Massachusetts would join five other states that allow this: California, New York, Utah, Oregon and Texas. According to the Skin Cancer Foundation, just one sunburn event during childhood or adolescence more than doubles a person's chances of developing melanoma later in life.

"Routine application of sunscreen significantly reduces children and young adult's risk of developing Melanoma skin cancer in life," said sponsor Sen. Julian Cyr (D-Truro) during a hearing on the bill. "Schools that set policies to educate students on UV radiation exposure and allow our youth to use sun protection are in the public's best health and safety interests."

#### ALLOW SCHOOLS TO DONATE LEFTOVER

(S 292) – Allows Bay State schools to donate excess, unconsumed food and beverages from meals served at the school to community food pantries, soup kitchens and other non-profit organizations that distribute food to the poor and disadvantaged.

The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education would notify schools and the organizations of this new opportunity and develop guidelines on how the schools can best donate excess food in a safe and sanitary manner.

Supporters say it is irresponsible not to allow schools to help feed hungry families instead of throwing the food out.

Opponents express concern over the safety of donating food and the problems of keeping the conditions

### ERGONOMICALLY CORRECT SCHOOLS (H

279) – Requires the state's School Building Assistance (SBA) program to consider the integration of ergonomically correct models for classrooms and laboratories of new or renovated schools.

The SBA program is the state program that provides grants to communities for building new schools or renovating older ones.

Ergonomics is the science of designing equipment, furniture and a building's environment to ensure comfort and reduce fatigue. This includes classroom design, lighting, computers and furniture.

Supporters say that many schools are way behind the times in ergonomics and argued that these problems can affect a child's education.

### 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 April 9-13, the House met for a total of four hours and one minute while the Senate met for a total of five hours and 25 minutes.

Mon. April 9 House 11:03 a.m. to 11:11 a.m. Senate 11:11 a.m. to 11:26 a.m.

Tues. April 10 No House session

Wed. April 11 House 11:01 a.m. to 2:54 p.m.

Wed. April 11 House 11:01 a.m. to 2:54 p.m. Senate 11:13 a.m. to 3:43 p.m.

Thurs. April 12 House 11:08 a.m. to 11:18 a.m.

Fri. April 13 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:					
MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72251238	24 Dane Ave	7 room, 4 bed, 1f 1h bath Colonial	146	\$549,900	\$610,000
72273990	62 Fairfax St	6 room, 3 bed, 1f 0h bath Colonial	31	\$569,900	\$550,000
72235989	22 Wellington Ave	8 room, 3 bed, 1f 0h bath Other	110	\$599,999	\$550,000
72243908	5 webster St	8 room, 3 bed, 1f 1h bath Colonial	103	\$729,000	\$600,000
72286285	35 Corinthian Rd	7 room, 4 bed, 2f 1h bath Other	8	\$999,000	\$1,210,526.18

Recent Condominiums Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:					
MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72147331	375 Canal Street U:711	4 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	33	\$884,000	\$949,000
72269977	48 Morrison Avenue U:48	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 0h bath 2/3 Family	3	\$999,000	\$1,010,000
72256571	5-7 Pearson Road U:2	7 room, 4 bed, 3f 1h bath 2/3 Family	58	\$1,029,000	\$1,010,000
72280553	60 Clyde St U:8	6 room, 2 bed, 3f 1h bathTownhouse	9	\$1,050,000	\$1,126,000
72124747	375 Canal Street U:1117	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	41	\$1,099,900	\$1,099,900
72187444	30 Teele Ave U:2	7 room, 3 bed, 2f 1h bath 2/3 Family	188	\$1,149,900	\$1,145,000
72147302	375 Canal Street U:PH117	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	65	\$1,225,600	\$1,225,600
72116251	375 Canal Street U:1010	5 room, 2 bed, 2f 0h bath Mid-Rise	54	\$1,307,900	\$1,352,900

Recent Multi-Family Homes Sold in Somerville Over the Past Month:					
MLS#	Address	Description	DOM	List Price	Sale Price
72257828	28-28A Sterling St	2 unit, 10 total room, 4 total bedroom 2 Family	23	\$940,000	\$1,000,000
72271803	127 Hillsdale	2 unit, 13 total room, 4 total bedroom 2 Family	5	\$989,000	\$1,001,000
72243912	7 Webster St	2 unit, 11 total room, 3 total bedroom 2 Family	103	\$999,000	\$900,000
72259228	91 Pearson Rd	2 unit, 11 total room, 7 total bedroom 2 Family	93	\$1,185,000	\$1,100,000
72289841	32 Ivaloo St	2 unit, 10 total room, 6 total bedroom 2 Family	9	\$1,195,000	\$1,280,000
72256737	94 Conwell Ave	3 unit, 15 total room, 6 total bedroom 3 Family	46	\$1,300,000	\$1,150,000
72212809	17-19 Wheeler St	3 unit, 17 total room, 11 total bedroom 3 Family	38	\$1,495,000	\$1,595,000

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

# Local attorney honored for his dedication and commitment to Freemasonry



#### By Donald Norton

Local attorney and a lifelong member of Somerville's business community, Philip Privitera, was honored last week at one of his final meetings to preside over the Mystic Valley Lodge in Arlington.

Privitera was recognized for his work and dedication to Free-masonry in both Arlington and Somerville. He presided over his lodge for the past three years and on this, one of his last meetings before stepping down, was congratulated and visited by three present and past Grand Masters of Freemasonry.

Pictured above, left to right, is WM Phil Privitera, next to him is the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Prince Hall Grand Lodge Yves-R Maignan, then Most Worshipful Paul

Fulton Gleason Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts and the Most Worshipful Jean Reed Past Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Quebec/La Grande Loge du Quebec.

Also attending were many dignitaries from around Massachusetts as well as locally here in Arlington and Somerville.

Privitera was presented with many gifts as gestures of gratitude from the three GMs. Philip, on behalf of the Privitera Family charity, donated many thousands of dollars to his guests the three GMs.

It is not often that three Grand Masters, both present and past, are together. The Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts Most Worshipful Paul F. Gleason is himself from Winchester. Wor. Phil Privitera and his fa-

ther Frank Sr. have done a lot for local charities, in particular here in Somerville, over these past many years.

Privitera, who grew up in the Ten Hills in Somerville, has his office in Union Square, along with his Father Frank Sr. He will leave office as presiding Master in a short two months from now, after some great years where he and his lodge members have seen prosperous times in Freemasonry both in Arlington and Somerville.

Massachusetts Freemasonry is flourishing and has recently seen a resurgence in membership, many tens of thousands here in Massachusetts and millions worldwide in just about every country. If you are interested or want to inquire, you can go online to www.massfreemasonry.org.







# The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #151

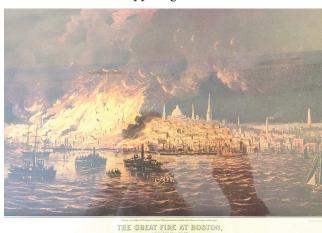
### The Year Was 1872

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

The date was January 1, 1872, a time when Somerville would celebrate her incorporation from a thirty-year old sleepy town into a young city. One of her immediate priorities was public safety. Less than three months earlier, a fire destroyed the city of Chicago on October 8 and 9, 1871. It remained the worst fire in American history until the attack on the World Trade Center in New York on September 11, 2001. The Chicago fire killed over 250 people, burned over 200 acres and destroyed over 17,000 structures.



The following summer, insurance balloons were flown above Boston for the first time ever. Their purpose was to assess the city's fire danger; and as a result, many insurance policies were cancelled. Chicago was such a fire prevention wake-up call across America and the world, that you would think it would never happen again ... but it did.



Just thirteen months later to the day, on November 9 and 10, Boston experienced its own conflagration. It destroyed over 776 buildings and consumed over 65 acres of downtown property worth over 75 million dollars before it was extinguished. Eleven firefighters lost their lives and 17 were severely wounded. The main reason for the fast spread of fire was a horse-flu called the Epizootic Plague that crippled almost all metropolitan fire horses including Somerville's. As an emergency measure, five hundred men were added to Boston's department to physically haul its fire apparatus. Outside towns performed half marathons under load, dragging their engines from over twelve miles away.

On notification of the fire, Somerville's Continued on page 20

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### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

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To the editor:

Two months ago, the dust settled on yet another tragedy, and the world looked to America for a response. They saw bodies strewn across the streets in communities nationwide but no action from the government. They saw legislators and assault weapons bought and sold with the NRA pulling the strings. We as students rose up to offer an alternative vista. We stepped up and demanded change from people who attempted to silence us. We set a precedent, we foreshadowed the incredible social strides that will be made with us at the forefront.

In no world of reason and tranquility should students be responsible for the lives of their

peers. Not once should it fall upon the youth of this nation to rise up and demand protection from elected officials. However, that is exactly the peril these leaders have let us descend into, and after thousands of gun deaths, we the students are now the ones forcing an end to this slaughter. Over the past two months, we have been told that our protests would make no difference, that no one would pay us any mind, yet in this short time we found a bill to focus our efforts around, we protested and lobbied tirelessly, overcoming hurdles of bureaucracy and refusing to fall victim to the complacency of certain lawmakers. We found allies in the Statehouse and across the Commonwealth. Together we saved gun control legislation that had been stalled and ignored for over a year, and here we stand. In the waning moments before the April 15th reporting deadline, the Massachusetts Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security has unanimously voted to move the Extreme Risk Protective Orders (House Bill 3610) out of committee and on to the next stage toward enactment.

Across Massachusetts students called on their representatives to pass the ERPO to allow household members to report persons in possession of firearms that are an imminent danger to themselves or others. Across Massachusetts students like us have been staging

walkouts, sit-ins, phone banks, and Statehouse visits to fight for common sense gun control policies that will save lives like ours, and yours. We know that this is not a new fight; it did not start with Parkland and will not end with it either. Gun violence intersects with a wide range of social issues in our nation, with firearms disproportionately terrorizing communities of color. These issues manifest in contexts such as the racially motivated murders at Emanuel AME church in Charleston, South Carolina to the police killing people of color in the streets of our cities and towns.

Even though we have reached our first significant milestone, the fight for our generation does not end here. We will

not cease in our advocacy until this bill is passed and stricter gun regulation is enacted nationwide. Massachusetts must not be content to hide behind our past achievements. The strength and poise shown by the Parkland students led the way for youth like us across the country to stand up and finally say enough is enough. College students have been at the forefront of many movements for social change, but this time it has fallen to high school students. We cannot vote, yet here we are on the verge of passing major gun control legislation.

Amalia Hochman Somerville High School Students Against Gun Violence March For Our Lives Boston

### **Public Safety Committee recommends** gun control measure

By Bob Katzen Beacon Hill Roll Call

The 19-member Committee on Public Safety has recommended passage of a bill that would authorize courts to prevent people from owning guns if they are deemed an extreme risk. The proposal gained momentum following February's school shooting in Parkland, Florida. It gives courts the authority to order an extreme risk protection order that would bar the person from possessing a gun for one year. The court must first find that the person "poses a significant danger of causing personal injury to himself or herself or others by having in his or her custody or control, purchasing, possessing, or receiving a firearm."

determining whether grounds for an extreme risk protection order exist, the court may consider any relevant evidence including a recent act or threat of violence by person the against himself or herself or others, whether or not such

violence or threat of violence involves a firearm; a pattern of acts or threats of violence within the past year; any dangerous mental health issues; a domestic violence conviction; any prior arrest for a felony offense or violent crime; and corroborated evidence of the abuse of controlled substances or alcohol.

"[Polls show] it is abundantly clear that the people want their legislators to create a meaningful mechanism for intervention when a gun owner is determined to pose an extreme risk to themselves or others," said Janet Goldenberg, Chair of the Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence. "We look forward to continuing to work with state legislators to move this bill forward to a House vote in the coming weeks."

"This is exactly the kind of gun legislation that can effectively save lives from preventable daily gun violence and mass shootings," said John Rosenthal, founder of Stop Handgun Violence. "I applaud the Public Safety Committee and look forward to bipartisan support on the House and Senate floors and with Gov. Baker."

"After careful examination on the committee level, productive meetings with Speaker DeLeo, survivors of gun violence and hearing from countless individuals across the commonwealth, we feel it is important to report this bill out favorably," said Rep. Hank Naughton (D-Clinton), Co-chair of Public Safety Committee. "We look forward to continuing to work on this with Speaker DeLeo, House members, and various stakeholders in an effort to keep public safety in the commonwealth a priority."

The Gun Owners Action League (GOAL), the Massachusetts affiliate of the National Rifle Association (NRA), opposes the measure.

GOAL's executive director, Jim Wallace said that this type of legislation is "both very cruel to the individual and his/her civil rights and extremely dangerous to the general public."

He noted that it is "extraordinarily cruel for the law to treat a person who is suicidal or depressed in the same manner as a potential mass murderer."

Wallace continued, "Local firearm licensing officials in Massachusetts have extraordinary powers to suspend a License to Carry Firearms and confiscate a person's guns on a moment's notice ... and a process to deal with people that are having mental health problems that might cause them to be a danger to themselves ... and can also conduct what is referred to as wellness visits."

"Seeking to identify potential monsters among us [is something that] GOAL agrees is a worthy task," Wallace said. "However, if we are identifying people who present such an extreme public safety risk, why are we setting them free, and why are we only taking away their ability to legally own or possess guns?"

The bill now goes on the House agenda and is expected to be up for debate and a vote soon.

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### COMMENTARY

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

# Challenging Somervillians to address the harmful impacts of increased screen time



By Joseph A. Curtatone

There's no denying that technological advances have made many positive contributions in our communities and lives, but they have also radically changed the way we interact with each other and how much time we're spending in front of screens. Time in front of electronics is increasingly replacing time spent on physical activity and movement, social and family interactions, and even sleep. And as screen time increases, physical and mental health tends to decrease.

Most concerning though is that no group has felt the full effect of the digital wave more than our young people. From a young age, tablets, video games, and smart phones are an ever-present part of daily life —and that's on top of watching good old-fashioned TV. Added up, total screen time

statistics for kids are startling. Data from the American Academy of Pediatrics shows that today's children are spending an average of seven hours per day on devices and entertainment media, which carries health risks. Locally, the numbers are better but still concerning.

Data from the 2016 high school Youth Risk Behavior Survey shows that half of Somerville High School students report playing video or computer games or using the computer for something other than school work for at least two hours per day. This includes Xbox, PlayStation, iPod/iPad/tablet, smartphone, YouTube/Facebook/other social networking tools, and the Internet.

Additionally, 53 percent report spending at least two hours per day watching TV or videos. The middle school results are slightly higher with 55 percent of Somerville students who completed the 2017 middle school Youth Risk Behavior Survey reporting that they spend at least two hours each day watching TV or videos. If accurate, the data above, which is self-reported by the students, may indicate our youth remain more active than average. But

even three to four hours a day of recreational screen time on top of schoolwork screen time can still add up to notable consequences. Higher levels of screen time put children, and people of all ages, at a higher risk for being overweight or obese due to being more sedentary.

It also makes you less likely to have an interest in outdoor activity and exercise, more likely to get less sleep or poorer quality sleep, and more likely to overeat as a result of mindless snacking and higher exposure to junk food marketing. At the same time, excessive time in front of a computer, phone, tablet, or TV screen can also lead to being more prone to anxiety, depression, and even cyber bullying.

Screen time can also lead to poor coping skills, being less confident in social in-person interactions, and adversely affected language development for younger children. If all of these consequences came in a box, my guess is most of us wouldn't have it on our pantry shelves. But managing screen time is more challenging than simply not bringing a sugary snack home. Parents and caregivers, of course, play an essential role in limiting screen time. Some

strategies recommended by field experts include turning off all screens during family meals and at bedtime and keeping any devices with screens, including TVs, out of your children's bedrooms. Make sure children have a variety of free-time activities, like spending time with friends and playing sports, and encourage them to take part.

And finally, treat screen time as a privilege that needs to be earned, not as an entitled right. As the Mayor of a city striving to ensure its children have the best opportunities and outcomes and as a father of four - I recognize that this is an issue we must keep at the forefront of our community conversation. We have to start thinking more deeply about how we can address screen time not just in our homes but more holistically at all levels in Somerville. Campaigns like the Somerville Family Learning Collaborative Talk campaign, which highlights the importance of talking and interacting with children of all ages, will continue to push this work forward.

We know that one of the best ways to decrease screen time is to seek out alternative activities, and Somerville has no shortage of them. The public libraries have not only an excellent selection of books (which are great replacements for screen time) but also a variety of programming for all ages, including upcoming activities and events for "Screen Free Week" from April 30 to May 6. Then there's the option of exploring one of our vibrant squares, taking part in the fun at the city's numerous festivals, renting some Blue Bikes (formerly known as Hubway), or heading to one of the regular free public skating sessions at Veteran's Memorial Rink. What about visiting a park or open space?

Did you know that 99 percent of Somerville residents live within a five-minute walk of some form of open space? Limit screen time and get to know our local parks with the Parks Pass during the Wellness Challenge beginning in May. You could even win a prize. Whatever option you choose, let's collectively work together to limit screen time and mitigate those harmful impacts for our youngest Somervillians. But remember, high levels of screen time impact us all, regardless of age, so let's also challenge ourselves to lead by example. In fact, if you're reading this online, why not decide to sign off right now.

# Historical reflections while on a sentimental journey



By William C. Shelton

For many of my generation the Vietnam War was the defining experience of our lives. Whether we were there, or here, what we chose to do about it, and how we came to understand it, influenced who we became. And who we became, divided us.

Fifty years ago, the 1968 Tet Offensive by the Vietcong and the North Vietnamese Army (NVA) marked a watershed in American opinion. So I determined that I would spend February in Vietnam.

Tết is the lunar new year, Viet-

nam's most important holiday. Bombs bursting in air above the Hue Citadel on the eve of this year's Têt were fireworks, rather than the American artillery that in 1968 destroyed much of the Imperial City. The Citadel's occupants then were Viet Cong troops, but the Vietnamese who surrounded me this pleasant February midnight were warm, welcoming, and generous of spirit.

The next day, a young man drove me to Khe Sanh, where the DMZ met the Laotian border. For 108 days in 1968, two U.S. Marine regiments there held off two NVA divisions, with the support of 100,000 tons of U.S. bombs and 158,000 artillery rounds. About 5,500 Vietnamese and 1,520 Americans were killed. Although both sides ultimately claimed victory, the U.S. closed down the base

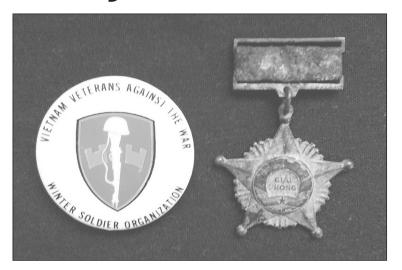
that July, and the NVA took control of the region.

As I walked between a rusting C-130 and a Chinook, onto what had then been a cratered airstrip and was now a vast meadow, something felt jarringly out of place. It wasn't so much the greenery, or the clear blue sky, or the absence of people. It was, it came to me, the serene silence.

And I was wracked with convulsive sobs.

Sometime later, a bird pecking for insects caught my attention. I was sitting on the ground, and my driver had withdrawn. I suppose that weeping American men of my generation are not an unfamiliar sight in that location.

Walking back toward the visitor center, I encountered a Vietnamese man who looked old enough to have fought the French, although we may well



have been my age. We did not share enough language to have a conversation, but we communed. Mostly with our eyes.

I gave him my Vietnam Veterans Against the War button, and he gave me a corroded medal bearing the words, "Giải Phóng." Google Translate tells me this means "Liberate."

On the ride back to the coast, Mark Knopfler's "Brothers in Arms" kept playing in my head. I turned to my driver and said, "I hope you appreciate how much your grandparents sacrificed to win your country's independence."

I sank into somber contemplation and reflected that I was really talking to my own nation's young people. Except I couldn't think of anything that we had won, or ever Continued on page 17

### COMMENTARY

### SIGNS OF THE TIMES

## Illustrated by Jim Clark



### Our View Of The Times



Community volunteerism is an uplifting thing to observe and, especially, to participate in. When the efforts involved result in making the community a bit cleaner and a more comfortable place to live then it is all to the better.

So it is with the annual Somerville Spring Cleanup coming up this Saturday

as many residents pitch in, pick up, and sweep out the old, unwanted refuse and generally celebrate our mutual appreciation of the city we live and work in.

It's all part of the SustainaVille Week intitiative, wherein we take note of environmental concerns and sustainability of vital resources.

Aside from the Spring Cleanup, many educational events are being presented at various venues throughout the city all week long, from April 21 to 29.

It is comforting to see that in these times when so many with a cynical view of modern day society feel that most people are too selfish or lazy to contribute

to the common good, such ideas can be very wrong. There are still a lot of folks around who are more than willing to give of themselves in order to make the community a better place for all.

Check out the SustainaVille Facebook page for complete listings of the scheduled events.

### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

extremely excited and honored to have Roberto G. Gonzales as their keynote speaker for the evening. YUM promotes immigrant-run local restaurants, highlighting contributions of the city's immigrant communities. All proceeds of this event will benefit The Welcome **Project**, a non-profit in Somerville, MA. The Welcome Project builds the collective power of Somerville immigrants to participate in and shape community decisions. This event is sure to sell out so get your tickets early. Interested in sponsoring this event? Email ben@welcomeproject.org. They are happy to offer special pricing for Boston area students. Email kenia@welcomeproject.org for the student password/promo code.

The Somerville High School Scholarship Foundation presents its 2018 drawing to help our students that are graduating. The drawing is for the chance to win \$10K plus by selling \$100 tickets. If you have done this in the past you know how it's done. Make out a check payable to the S.H.S. Scholarship Foundation and mail it to SHS Raffle c/o Joesph Favaloro PO Box 440275, Somerville 02145. Or you can call **Joe** at 617-666-8473 or **Gene Brune** at 617-628-5835. As soon as they receive your check they will mail out the ticket(s) to you. Only a certain number of tickets are being sold, so hurry up. Help a student and get the chance to win \$10K. The drawing is set for May 18, 7:00 p.m., at the Highlander Café, Somerville High **School**. Refreshments will be served.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Happy birthday this week to several locals: A big happy birthday to Ward 7 Alderman Katjana Ballantyne, who also this year is President of the Board of Alderman. A nice lady, very well informed, not to mention extremely busy. We hope she has a great birthday for herself with her family. Happy birthday to former alderman and great guy, Jack Connolly of Wedgwood-Crane & Connolly Insurance in Davis Sq. We hope he has a great birthday, and a much quieter one since he has retired from the Board of Aldermen. Happy birthday to local Sory DeOliveira who is a realtor and a family from Somerville. Happy birthday to a good friend and another realtor with ERA Key Realty Services in Millis, Janet Potts. A great lady and fantastic RE agent. Happy birthday to an old friend, Hernan Mosquera Sr., celebrating this week as well. To all the others we may have missed and, yes, we must admit there are a few more out there, we sincerely wish them the very

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

best of birthdays.

Congratulations to Clifton and Soi-

mise Verdieu on the birth of their second child. Jaythan David was born on April 12. Clifton is an agent at The Norton Group. He and his wife make great parents and Samuel will be a great big brother to Jaythan. We wish the best for them with their growing family. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

There is still no answer as to why there has been no audit for 10 years now on the Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Fund. After all, the Board of Al**dermen** should be asking questions as to why there has been no audit before turning over any money to them. How much money was raised and given by the taxpayers of Somerville? Who got the money? How much and were they residents of the city before they got the money? Many question and no answers. Why? \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

We hear that there is talk by some here in the city of starting their own newspaper. We think that's great. We hear it's going to be similar to the old **Somerville** Community News, or are they going to change the name to ??? The Somerville Community News, which was a monthly paper, if we recall correctly (so were we back in the 80's), declared itself then as left leaning (some would say communist, but we wouldn't use that name - or would we?). We hear some of the same people aligned with old Community

News are starting it up. We also hear that some elected officials are going to be part of the paper. We welcome competition, we love it. We just hope those elected officials declare themselves as being involved. We're also just wondering since they hate "gossip" columns, does that mean the old Somerville Snoop will rear its ugly head? Makes our Newstalk pale by comparison, just saying. Since we just pulled some from our old filing cabinet - a bunch of them and just for old times' sake - and read some of those gossip columns. Wow, we are tame in comparison here at *The Times*. Maybe if they have that column again we will have to step up to the plate, or maybe not. In short, we welcome competition. We say bring it on, we love it and thank you.

There will be a Public Hearing before the Board of Aldermen's Committee on Housing and Community Development on Monday, April 30, at 6:30 p.m., in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, on the Order of Alderman Ben Ewen-Campen, Chair of the Committee, for public input on the condition of affordable housing units in the city, and whether there is an affordable housing crisis that constitutes a public emergency (Docket #205334). The public is invited to attend and be heard.

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

## Somerville High Career Fair 2018

Somerville High School students from all grades attended the annual Career Day event on Wednesday, April 11, organized as part of Somerville High School's College and Career Readiness programming.

86 exhibitors were on hand to talk with students, answer questions and provide materials. Some students left the event with employment interviews scheduled.

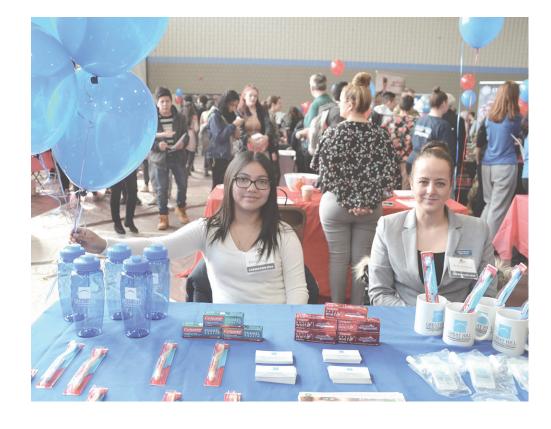
Exhibitors included local and national businesses, non-profit organizations, military branches, state and federal agencies, and represented a broad spectrum of fields from retail to health care.

































Go to www.thesomervilletimes.com for more photos

Photos by Claudia Ferro







### **SPORTS**

### 3rd Annual Just One Run

In Memory of Anthony D. Giurleo

The Ryan Harrington Foundation is honored to be hosting the Just One Run Fundraiser in Memory of Anthony D. Giurleo on Sunday, June 3, 10:00 a.m. -

The Just One Run is a 5k fundraiser, the proceeds of which will directly impact the lives of those affected by the disease of addiction. Participation includes the 5k adult race and walk, a children's "Fun Run" plus refreshments, music and plenty of activities for the kids.

Registration: \$30 for adults and Kids age 13+ for the 5k Walk/Run.

\$15 for children 12 and under nup.com/go/apUCNFZ. for 5k walk or run.

Kids 12 and under Fun Run is free (need to register on line).

This will be a traditional 3.106 miles/5kilometer run which will start at the Blessing of the Bay Boat House in Somerville, MA. The Route will snake around the Mystic River over to Medford, through the Mystic River Reservation, crossing back over Wellington Bridge and finishing at the Boat House.

To register online go to http://www.lightboxreg.com/ just-one-run\_2018?func&mo-

Kids 1/2k Fun Run starts at 9:30 a.m. Race day registration closes at 9:45 a.m.

To volunteer go to http://sig-

— The Ryan Harrington Foundation



# Ms. Cam's 110 cellaneous #62

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

- 1. What square in Massachusetts does the Out of Town News stand sit in the center of?
- 2. Why is there a red seat at Fenway Park?
- 3. What was the most successful American magazine to publish ad-free, beginning with issue #33 and continuing through issue #402?
- 4. What Carole King song did David Palmer (formerly of Steely Dan) write the lyrics for?
- 5. What type of car was called the Tin Lizzie?
- 6. How fast can saltwater

- crocodiles swim?
- 7. What US newspaper has the nickname "The Gray Lady"?
- 8. What is another word for a small portion?
- 9. Who was the founder of modern nursing?
- 10. What color are SpongeBob SquarePants's pants?
- 11. What comedian is best known for his one-liner "Take my wife... please"?
- 12. What was the original name for the book Catch

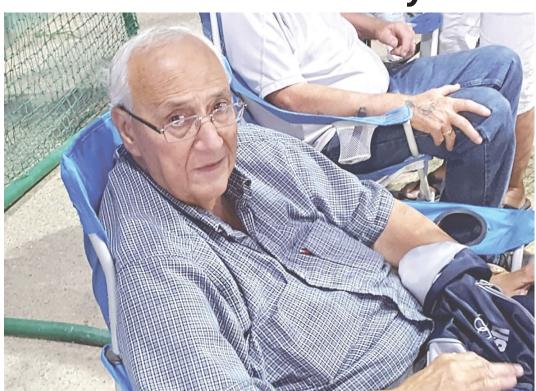
Answers on page 17

### Want to write local Somerville stories? Call 617-666-4010

and speak to the Assignment Editor

www.somervillema.com www.medfordma.com

### Welcome back Tony!



Whether you are an old customer or new one, we all offer a big welcome back after some major heart problems to Tony Alibrandi at his barber shop on Holland Street. He's looking good and he's cutting hair again like the pro that he is. He is celebrating almost 60 years of work cutting the hair of many notables here in the city. Tony is a great guy and he has a great assistant in Paul McGlashing. We were happy to see that Tony is back to work, with that Tony sense of humor and his vast knowledge of Somerville. On top of that, he is one of the biggest benefactors here, donating time and money to local sports for various teams, including teams named after him. Again, were glad he is back and doing well. His lovely wife Donna takes good care of him. They are one of the nicest couples in the city, and both lifelong residents. — Donald Norton

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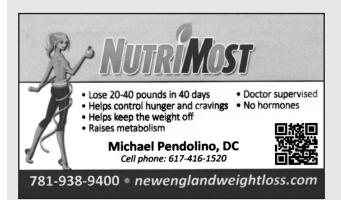
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NJBERMAN2@JUNO.COM

### **DAMIEN D. GILLIETTI**

Attorney At Law

19 Beacon Street Boston, MA 02108 Phone: (617) 576-9884 Cell: (617) 529-7871 Fax: (617) 523-5226 E-mail: ddglaw@hotmail.com



### DROPKIN & MATZA LLP

Attorneys at Law

424 Broadway Somerville MA 02145

Bankruptcy **Family Law Immigration Personal Injury** 

**Business Law** 

**Estate Planning and Probate Real Estate Elder Law Civil Litigation** 

mdropkin@dropkinmatza.com

### **LEGAL NOTICES**

#### Legal Notices can also be viewed on our website at www.thesomervilletimes.com



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA), 3rd floor Community Room, 259 Lowell Street, Somerville, MA.

\*\*\* Cases are sometimes postponed to later dates. To sign up for emails to inform you of a <a href="mailto:change of hearing date">change of hearing date</a> for a project near you, please use the URL associated with your address of interest that appears at the end of this legal notification.\*\*\*

114 Broadway (ZBA 2018-51): Applicant/Owner, 116 Broadway LLC, seeks a Variance under SZO §5.5 and §6.1.22 for reduction of the lot area per dwelling unit in the replacement a one-story building with a new construction 5-story mixed-use building (commercial ground floor and 8 residential units, 1 of which is an inclusionary unit). CCD Zone. Ward 1.

292 Beacon Street (ZBA 2018-13): Applicant and Owner, Kenn Spera, seeks a determination from the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) on a repetitive petition under SZO §3.2.11 and M.G.L. Chapter 40A, Section 16 that there are specific and material changes in the conditions upon which the previous unfavorable action (ZBA 2007-11-R3-3/2017) by the ZBA was based. A Special Permit is also being sought under SZO §7.11.1.c and §9.13 as well as a Variance under §5.5 and §8.5 to construct a new four-story wood framed structure with five dwelling units. RC Zone. Ward 2.

51 McGrath Highway (ZBA 2017-46): Applicant, Life Storage Limited Partnership, and Owner, Sovran Acquisition Limited Partnership, seek a Special Permit with Design Review (SPSR) under \$7.11.12.4.c and \$5.2 of the Somerville Zoning Ordinance (SZO) to construct a self-storage facility of 28,520 gross square feet. IA Zone. Ward 2.

45 Dane Street (ZBA 2018-26): Applicant, Alex Van Praagh, and Owner, Philbrick Holdings LLC, seek a Special Permit with Site Plan Review under SZO §7.2 to construct a second principle structure on the lot to build a new single-family dwelling and Special Permits under SZO §4.4.1 and §9.13 to do a gut renovation of the existing nonconforming three-family dwelling and convert it into a two-family dwelling and to add rear porches and a side egress stair. RC Zone. Ward 2.

5-7 Curtis Street (ZBA 2018-42): Applicant and Owner, Arun Ravindran, seeks a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming structure by finishing a portion of the basement. RA Zone. Ward 7.

54-56A Elm Street (ZBA 2018-47): Applicant, Melting Pot, Inc., and Owner, 54 Elm, LLC., seeks a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a non-conforming structure, §4.5.1 and §7.11 to change from one nonconforming use (previously approved retail space) to another nonconforming use (18-seat coffee shop), and §9.13 for parking relief. RB Zone. Ward 5.

265 Washington Street (ZBA 2018-04): Applicant and Owner, 265 Washington Somerville, LLC, seek Special Permits under §4.4.1 of the SZO to alter a non-conforming structure, including, but not limited to, increasing the GFA by more than 25%. Special Permits under §7.11 of the SZO to increase the number of dwelling units from two to four. Special Permits under Article 9 for parking relief. NB zone. Ward 2.

51 Cross Street (ZBA 2018-27): Applicant, Lee W. Thach, DMD Children's Dental Center, and Property Owner, 51 Cross Street, LLC, seek Special Permits under §7.10 of the SZO for a change-of-use to a dental office. Special Permits under Article 9 of the SZO for parking relief. RB zone. Ward 1.

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

114 Broadway: http://eepurl.com/dlrdWD
292 Beacon St: http://eepurl.com/doJIAr
51 McGrath Hwy: http://eepurl.com/drQ9UD
45 Dane St: http://eepurl.com/drQ- L
5-7 Curtis St: http://eepurl.com/drQ- lv
54-56A Elm St: http://eepurl.com/drRbGv
265 Washington St: http://eepurl.com/drRCpf

Submittals may be viewed in-person in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30pm <a href="https://www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning">www.somervillema.gov/planningandzoning</a>.

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

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant As published in The Somerville Times on 4/18/18 & 4/25/18

4/18/18 The Somerville Times

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Department 208 Cambridge Street Cambridge, MA 02141

MIDDLESEX Division

Docket No. MI18D1049DR

DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING

David Souza Reis vs. Camila Augusta Santos Silva

### To Defendant

The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for <u>Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage 1B</u>

The Complaint is on file at the Court.

An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party .SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: **David S Reis** 

20 Wheeler Street, Apt 2 Somerville, MA 02145

your answer, if any on or before **05/21/2018**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

 $\label{eq:Witness} \textbf{Witness, Hon. Edward F Donnelly, Jr., First Justice of this Court.}$ 

Date: April 9, 2018.

Tara E. De Christofaro Register of Probate

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### ADVERTISEMENT

SOMERVILLE HOUSING AUTHORITY INVITATION FOR BIDS

LEASE OF ROOFTOP SPACE FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS DEVICES SHA Job No.1805

The Somerville Housing Authority (the "Authority") is soliciting sealed bids for the lease and use of rooftop and penthouse space on Brady Towers operated by the Authority in the City of Somerville, Massachusetts. This space is available for the installation of communications facilities. These facilities can include, but are not limited to cellular telephone, personal communications systems, paging and land mobile radio, and internet antenna. The lease and use of these spaces will be on a non-exclusive basis.

Sealed bids will be received until 1:00 P.M., Friday May 11th, 2018, at the Somerville Housing Authority Modernization Department, 30R Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145. At such time, the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Invitation for Bids (IFB) copies are available free of charge for pickup on Wednesday, April 18th, 2018 at the Authority's Modernization Office, 30R Memorial Road, Somerville, MA. 02145. The Authority will e-mail an Invitation for Bids free of charge upon request.

Please direct questions, or requests for IFB documents, to Somerville Housing Authority, 30 Memorial Rd, Somerville, MA 02145, Attn:Brian Langton. Tel. 617-625-1152 ,Ext 331 Fax: 617-623-0137, or e-mail to BrianL@sha-web.org.

4/11/18, 4/18/18 The Somerville Times



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**PLANNING DIVISION** 

#### LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Planning Board on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Visiting Nurse Association (VNA), 3rd floor Community Room, 259 Lowell Street, Somerville, MA.

\*\*\* Cases are sometimes postponed to later dates. To sign up for emails to inform you of a change of hearing date for a project near you, please use the url associated with your address of interest that appears at the end of this legal notification.\*\*\*

5 Middlesex Avenue (PB2018-07): Applicant, CDNV Assembly LLC, and Owner, CDNV Assembly LLC & Somerville Office Associates Limited Partnership (c/o RD Management LLC), is seeking a Planned Unit Development-A Preliminary Master Plan (PUD-PMP) under Article 16 and Section 6.4 of the Somerville Zoning Ordinance (SZO) for approximately 9.38 acres (lots 88-A-1 & 99-A-15) in the Assembly Square Mixed-Use District (ASMD) to develop a transit-oriented mixed-use development consisting of five (5) buildings and approximately 1,500,000 square feet (including an existing 162,000 square foot office building) to include commercial (office/R&D/lab), residential, and retail. The following waivers are requested:

1. for relief under §6.4.12.A and §16.5.4 for additional building height as follows; a. "Block 21" commercial uses is composed of a 5-story podium and two towers - one building will be 200' to the top of roof, and the other 250' high – with a total of 646,000sf; b. "Block 25" will be a residential tower 220' high containing 167 units; and, c. "Block 26" will be a commercial building 135' high containing approximately 140,000sf.

2. for relief under \$16.5.5 to allow 8 loading docks to be shared between uses.

3. for relief under §13.3.5 to waive the Planning Board's right of first refusal or option to purchase the inclusionary units. ASMD zone. PUD-A Overlay District. Ward 1.

325 Assembly Row: Assembly Line Park — Building A (PB 2016-14-R2 (3/2018)): Applicant & Owner, Street Retail, Inc., seek a revision to Special Permit with Site Plan Review—A, final level approval (Decision dated September 22, 2016) of the food service or retail buildings located within Assembly Line Park to add decorative screening to cover mechanical louvers on the east and west elevations of Building A. Assembly Square Mixed Use District (ASMD); Planned Unit Development Overlay District - A (PUD-A) / Ward 1

\*\*\*\*

5 Middlesex Avenue: http://eepurl.com/drRe6b

325 Assembly Row, Assembly Line Park: <a href="http://eepurl.com/drRfKD">http://eepurl.com/drRfKD</a>

Submittals may be viewed in-person in the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, located on the third floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA, Mon-Wed, 8:30 am-4:30 pm; Thurs, 8:30 am-7:30 pm; and Fri, 8:30 am-12:30 pm. Staff reports, plans and Board decisions, when completed, are posted online at <a href="https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning">https://www.somervillema.gov/departments/ospcd/planning-and-zoning</a>.

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

Attest: Kevin Prior, Chairman As published in The Somerville Times on 4/18/18 & 4/25/18

4/18/18 The Somerville Times



NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING Removal of Public Shade Trees City of Somerville

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 87, the City of Somerville will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 5:30 pm at the Public Safety Building, 220 Washington St, Somerville, MA, in the Academy Room to consider the removal of the following public shade tree(s) for the renovation of Prospect Hill Park:

- 1. Opposite 45 Munroe Street removal of 5 inch diameter Red Maple.
- 2. Opposite 51 Munroe Street removal of 4 inch diameter Red Maple.
- Munroe Street, opposite 10 Bigelow Street removal of 6 inch diameter Red Maple.
   Opposite 75 Munroe Street removal of 3 inch diameter Lon-
- 4. Upposite 75 Munroe Street removal of 3 inch diameter London Planetree.

The trees identified above have been posted for public inspection. Any objections to their removal must be submitted in writing prior to or during the hearing. Written objections should be addressed to Somerville Tree Warden, and emailed to: <a href="mailto:trees@somervillema.gov">trees@somervillema.gov</a>, or mailed to: 1 Franey Rd, Somerville, MA. 02145.

4/18/18 The Somerville Times

### **LEGAL NOTICES**

#### Legal Notices can also be viewed on our website at www.thesomervilletimes.com



Public Hearing to Discuss Tree Removal Somerville Ave. Utility & Streetscape Improvements Project, May 2

The City of Somerville Tree Warden invites all interested residents and community members to a public hearing on Wednesday, May 2, to discuss upcoming tree removal as part of the construction process for the Somerville Ave. Utility & Streetscape Improvements Project. The hearing will begin at 6 p.m. at the Public Safety Building, 220 Washington St. Note: This is the second public hearing, however the same information will be covered at this hearing. No new information will be presented or discussed.

The Somerville Ave. Utility and Streetscape Improvements project funding was approved on December 14, 2017. Construction will begin in April 2018, and addresses legacy storm water flooding issues in and around Union Square as well as streetscape improvements on Somerville Ave. between the Bow St./Washington St. intersection and

For more information, please visit www.somervillema.gov/somer-

Individuals with disabilities who need auxiliary aids and services for effective communication, written materials in alternative formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, in order to access the programs and activities of the City of Somerville or to attend meetings, should contact the City's ADA Coordinator, Nency Salamoun, at 617-625-6600 x2323 or NSalamoun@somervillema.gov.

4/18/18 The Somerville Times



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

There will be a Public Hearing before the Board of Aldermen's Committee on Housing and Community Development on Monday, April 30, 2018, at 6:30 PM, in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, on the Order of Alderman Ben Ewen-Campen, Chair of the Committee, for public input on the condition of affordable housing units in the City, and whether there is an affordable housing crisis that constitutes a public emergency (Docket #205334).

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

JOHN J. LONG

4/18/18 The Somerville Times



#### CITY OF SOMERVILLE **COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE**

#### **Legal Notice of Public Hearing**

The Community Preservation Committee will hold a public hearing for all interested parties on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 7:00pm in the 3rd floor community room at the Visiting Nurse Association, 259 Lowell Street, Somerville, MA 02144.

The Committee seeks public input on how the City should prioritize spending Community Preservation Act funding. The draft FY19 Community Preservation Plan and other information about the Community Preservation Act in Somerville are available at www.somervillema. gov/cpa. A workshop for individuals and organizations interested in proposing a CPA funded project on City land will be offered before the hearing from 6:00-7:00pm.

Interested persons may provide comments to the Community Preservation Committee at the hearings and by submitting written comments through 12 noon on Thursday, May 17th by email to kstelljes@somervillema.gov or by mail to Kristen Stelljes, SomerStat, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143.

Attest: Michael Fager, Chair

4/11/18, 4/18/18 The Somerville Times



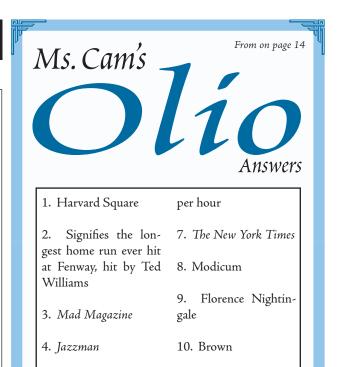
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING **Removal of Public Shade Trees** City of Somerville

Pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 87, the City of Somerville will hold a public hearing on Monday, April 23, 2018 at 6:00 pm at the Public Safety Building, 220 Washington St, Somerville, MA, in the Academy Room to consider the removal of the following public shade tree(s) for the construction of the Beacon Street Reconstruction Project:

- 1. 11 Beacon Street removal of 7 inch diameter Callery Pear.
- 2. 15/17 Beacon Street removal of 7 inch diameter Callery Pear. 3. 45/47 Beacon Street (1 of 2) - removal of 4 inch diameter Callery Pear.
- 4. 45/47 Beacon Street (2 of 2) removal of 6 inch diameter Callery Pear.
- 5. 85 Beacon Street removal of 14 inch diameter Callery Pear 6. 111 Beacon Street – removal of 16 inch diameter Norway Maple.

The trees identified above have been posted for public inspection. Any objections to their removal must be submitted in writing prior to or during the hearing. Written objections should be addressed to Somerville Tree Warden, and emailed to: trees@somervillema.gov, or mailed to: 1 Franey Rd, Somerville, MA. 02145.

4/11/18, 4/18/18 The Somerville Times



5. Ford Motor Company's Model T

11. Henry "Henny" Youngman

6. Up to 15 kilometers 12. Catch-18

### Somerville High **School Building Project Update**

**CONT. FROM PG 3** 

up at the end of the school day, are encouraged to do so in front of the atrium entrance to the high school.

If you would like to receive bi-weekly email updates from the City about construction, including timelines and impact, please sign up for the City's email list at: construction@somervillema.gov. Throughout the duration of this project, the district will be sending out regular updates regarding the impact of this project to Somerville High School to all SHS parents/guardians as well as parents/ guardians of rising 9th graders. Additionally, updates and information will be available on the project website, www. somervillema.gov/highschool.

— Somerville Public Schools

### Historical reflections while on a sentimental journey CONT. FROM PG 10

could have won. And Vietnam is as distant and irrelevant to them as World War I was to me in 1968. Both were a half century in our respective pasts, with Doughboys fading away then, one by one, and Vietnam

how we could have made war on such a beautiful people who could, and should, have been our allies. Ho Chi Minh, who once worked in Boston's Parker House, greatly admired the U.S. for having won its freedom from a colonial power. He and his colleagues drew on our Declaration of Independence and Constitution when drafting the first Vietnamese Constitution.

We were told at the time that we were fighting Communist aggression. That the Soviet Union and China intended to conquer a sovereign nation called "South Vietnam." And if they succeeded, everything from the South China Sea through India would "go Communist."

In fact, South Vietnam was an

historical fiction, created when the U.S. government prevented democratic elections, repudiated the Geneva Accords, and provided one set of corrupt thugs after another with backing, arms, and money.

Even a casual reading of East I still can't fully comprehend Asian history would reveal that the Vietnamese and Chinese had been enemies for two millennia. Indeed, they went to war again after the U.S.

> Decades later, Vietnam War architect Robert McNamara acknowledged that the U.S. could have achieved it's aims without ever having to fight. "Our misjudgments of friend and foe, alike, reflected our profound ignorance of the history, culture, and politics of the people in the area, and the personalities and habits of their leaders."

> While true, this isn't really an explanation. There was no excuse for such "profound ignorance," since the necessary knowledge existed, including within the State Department.

A second explanation began to emerge with early opposition to the War. It was that the U.S. had, perhaps with good intentions, stumbled into supporting one side in a civil war.

Daniel Ellsberg, who had been a Marine infantry commander before he assembled the Pentagon Papers succinctly dismissed this explanation: "It always was a war in which one side is entirely paid, equipped, armed, pressed forward by foreigners. Without the foreigners, no war. That's not a civil war."

Vietnamese who actually supported the Saigon government were scarce. And during the war years, an American in uniform could walk down Saigon's Tu Do Street on a river of spit.

Over time, the explanation that best fit the evidence was that the U.S., with its "allies," was intent on suppressing an anti-colonial struggle for national independence, as it had done successfully with elected governments in Guatemala, Iran, the Congo, and elsewhere.

But I've come to believe that the most truthful explanation is simpler and sadder. The primary motivation for the American War in Vietnam was to retain domestic political advantage.

Ken Burns' and Lynn Novick's documentary series reports a comment made by John F. Kennedy: "Those people hate us. They are going to throw our asses out of there at some point. But I can't give up that territory to the communists and get the American people to re-elect me."

In a 1964 recorded phone call, Lyndon Johnson told National Security Advisor McGeorge Bundy, "I don't think it's worth fighting for, and I don't think we can get out." The obstacle to "getting out" was vulnerability to Republican charges of being "soft on Communism."

And once Richard Nixon was in office, he repeatedly told advisors, "I won't be the first American president to lose a war."

Whatever explanation choose, we don't seem to learn much from historical evidence. The pretext for sending combat troops to Vietnam was a fictionalized incident in the Gulf of Tonkin. We were subsequently told that withdrawal from Vietnam would produce a "bloodbath." That bloodbath never happened, and now that we are no longer occupying their country, the Vietnamese seem to be quite fond of us.

The pretext for the Iraq invasion was fictional weapons of mass destruction. Dick Cheney told us that we would be greeted as liberators, create a "true democracy," and it would all be paid for with oil revenues. Iraq is now an Iranian client state, held together by American money, in which being an American is risky.

The ensuing struggles for domestic political dominance have only become more intense and less principled. We hunker down within our tribes, much more divided as a people than we were fifty years ago.

And so it goes.

### • • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

#### **CHILDREN AND YOUTH** Wednesday | April 18

**East Branch Library** Music with Emily!

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

**Central Library** 

Teens and the New Marijuana Laws 12 p.m.-2 p.m. Earth Day Gardening and Writing Activities with Regina

2 p.m.-3 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

West Branch Library Good CRAFTernoon

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

#### Thursday | April 19

**Central Library** 

Preschool: Storytime for 3 to 5 year olds

10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m. TELL (Teen Library Leaders) Meeting 3 p.m.- 5 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

West Branch Library Preschool Storytime

11 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Lego Club! 3:30 p.m.-5 p.m.|40 College Ave

#### Friday April 20

**East Branch Library** 

Pop Up Playgroup! 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway

Central Library

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

#### Sunday April 22

**Central Library** 

April Troop Meeting 2 p.m.-4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

#### Monday April 23

**Central Library** 

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

West Branch Library

Kids' Book Club 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|40 College Ave

### Tuesday | April 24

West Branch Library

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

**Central Library** 

Homeschool Reading Group for Ages 14-16

9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|79 Highland

**Central Library** 

Somerville High School Anime Club 2:45 p.m.-3 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

### Wednesday | April 25

East Branch Library

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

#### **MUSIC** | ARTS Wednesday | April 18

Sally O'Brien's Bar

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

Backroom Series with Brian O'Donovan (of "A Celtic Sojourn" on WGBH)|7:30 p.m. Comedy Night with Arty P.|10 p.m. Matthew Byrne 7:30 p.m.

P.A.'s Lounge

345 Somerville Ave

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

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Bull McCabe's Pub** 

The A-Beez

10 p.m.|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

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom

The Last Revel

8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Stace Brandt 8 p.m.

Maxwell Bailey|9 p.m, Leo Son & The Q-Tip Bandits 10 p.m. 14 Tyler Street

Arts at the Armory

notloB Music Presents: Gatorland 7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

The Rockwell

Starstruck- Close Encounters of the Awkward kind 7 p.m.|255 Elm St

#### Thursday April 19

Sally O'Brien's

Live music resumes Saturday!. 335 Somerville Ave 617-666-3589

The Burren

WUMB Presents Ryan Fitzsimmons|7

Scattershots 10 p.m. 247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

345 Somerville Ave

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

**Bull McCabe's** 

Krush Faktory(Dub Down) 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

**Thunder Road** 

Women In Comedy Festival 6 p.m. The Thursty Journeymen - An Evening of Whiskey and Song (Third Thursdays)|9 p.m. 379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom

The Smallest Town Ensemble Grown Up Noise, The Original Blue Ribbon Band

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

8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell

WICF: The Onion & Clickhole Present: Nerd Up Showcase|7 p.m. WICF: Rated G n' R @ The Rockwell|9:30 p.m. Café|191 Highland Ave

### Friday | April 20

Sally O'Brien's

Thanks for your patience while Sally makes herself beautiful. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Backroom Series with Tom Bianchi Sam Talmadge Album Release Show with The Ladles & Dogart | 7 p.m. Jimmy's Down | 10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

345 Somerville Ave

DJ starting at 10 p.m. 65 Holland St|617-591-2100

**Bull McCabe's** 

Pier Ave 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Joshua Tree

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

Entertainment every Friday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

**Thunder Road** Women In Comedy Festival|6 p.m. 8 p.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom 420 Cannapalooza 8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Peterossi 14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell

WICF: Anatomy of an Original Comedy Writing Sample|5p.m. WICF: The NBC Comedy Spotlight Series hosted by Caitlin Du-

rante|7:30p.m.

WICF: The NBC Comedy Spotlight Series hosted by Petey Gibson|9:30 255 Elm St

Saturday April 21

Sally O'Brien's

One Thin Dime |6 p.m. Sarah Mendelsohn CD Release | 9

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Danny Barnes |7 p.m. Closing Time p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

P.A.'s Lounge

345 Somerville Ave

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar** Karaoke

65 Holland St

**Bull McCabe's** 

Pop into the chemist 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Entertainment every Saturday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

**Thunder Road** 

Saturday Brunch – Bee Gees 10 a.m. Dub Apocalypse, Spotted Tiger|8

379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom The Mallett Brothers Band with Jon Fishman

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

Kevin William 8:30 p.m.|14 Tyler Street

The Rockwell

WICF: TV Guidance Counselor Podcast: Live with Ken Reid|1 p.m. WICF: The Onion & Clickhole Presents: The Art of Satire in a World of

Fake News|4 p.m. WICF: The NBC Comedy Spotlight Series hosted by Emma Willmann|7:30 p.m. 255 Elm St

### Sunday April 22

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Roy Sludge Trio|6 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

Beatles Brunch 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. Backroom series with Tom Bianchi|7 p.m.

Deborah Silverstein and the Band of Erics|4 p.m.

Cilla Bonnie, Katie Matzell |7:30 p.m. 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 **Thunder Road** 

Sunday Funday Brunch 11 a.m.|379 Somerville Ave

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom Hop Hop, Anson Rap, Sway Casey

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

8 p.m.|156 Highland Ave

Arts at the Armory

Cafe Rags

7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

WICF: Brunchzilla with Zilla Vodnas|1

Live|5 p.m. 255 Elm St

Shawn Carter's Cheapshots Comedy|7 p.m. Marley Monday with The Duppy

The Burren

Back Room: Stump Trivia|8:30 p.m.

P.A.'s Lounge

**Bull McCabe's Pub** 

Thunder Road

379 Somerville Ave

156 Highland Ave Aeronaut Brewing Co.

6:30 p.m.|14 Tyler Street Arts at the Armory Queer Tango

Tuesday | April 24

Sally O'Brien's Bar

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

The Burren Front Room Jason Anick and the Swingers Swing/

Open Mic Night with Aaron Yang|10

Jazz|8:30 p.m.

PA's Lounge 345 Somerville Ave

**Highland Kitchen** 

First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling

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

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131 PJ Ryan's

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

379 Somerville Ave

Heavy Metal Tuesday 7 p.m.

**Aeronaut Brewing Co** 

Indie Trivia 8 p.m.|14 Tyler Street Arts at the Armory

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Pub Sing 7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave Wednesday | April 25

Free Poker, lots of prizes!

The Burren Backroom Series with Brian O'Donovan (of "A Celtic Sojourn" on

Fellswater WITH Vox Hunters |7:30

P.A.'s Lounge

345 Somerville Ave

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

**Bull McCabe's Pub** 

The Nephrok Allstars 10 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-

**Thunder Road** 

440-6045

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

**Highland Kitchen** 150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom 156 Highland Ave

Aeronaut Brewing Co. Miles Hewitt|8 p.m.

**CLASSES AND GROUPS** 

**Central Library** 

Real Conversation to Real Action 6:30 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

**Central Library** OSE drop-in hours

5 p.m.-7 p.m.

**Constellations Poetry** 

Learn English at the Library 6 p.m.-8 p.m.|40 College Ave

**East Branch Library** 

First Church Somerville Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems

**Central Library** Senior Healthcare Forum 1 p.m.-3:45 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

**Somerville Winter Farmers Market** 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.|Arts at the Ar-

**Bagel Bards** weekly to discuss their work 9 a.m.-12 p.m Au Bon Pain| 18-48

Holland St

Sunday April 22 Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon **Family Groups** 

Monday|April 23 **East Branch Library** 

Chair Yoga

10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|115 Broadway **Central Library** 

Learn English at the Library

Tuesday|April 24 **Central Library** 

Learn English at the Library 6 p.m.-8 p.m. Our Revolution 4 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Wednesday | April 25

12 p.m.-1 p.m. Mystery Book Club

The Rockwell

WICF: Person About Town Podcast:

#### Monday | April 23

Sally O'Brien's Bar

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

247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

345 Somerville Ave

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

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom Toddlerbilly Takeover|7 p.m. Kelly Spyglass|8 p.m.

Board Game Bonanza

6:30 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

Bee Night

**Thunder Road** 

ONCE Lounge & Ballroom 156 Highland Ave

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

WGBH)|7:30 p.m. Comedy Night with Arty P.|10 p.m. 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

14 Tyler Street

Wednesday | April 18

Thursday April 19

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

Drop In Knitting 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|115 Broadway

with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor). For more info call: 781-762-6629 Friday | April 20

Saturday | April 21

mory|191 Highland Ave Somerville Writers and Poets meet

Unity Church of God Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement

7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street

Green Energy at Home 4 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave **East Branch Library** 

6 p.m.-8 p.m.|115 Broadway

**Central Library** SMEA Scholarship Committee

7 p.m.-8:15 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

### SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

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

#### **CENTER LOCATIONS, TIMES & SCHEDULES**

Holland Street Senior Center: located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square) Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Fridays: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. 617-625-6600, Ext. 2300

**Cross Street Center:** located at 165 Broadway (East Somerville)

Mondays & Tuesdays - 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Thursdays - 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 617-625-6600, Ext. 2335 Fax: 617-625-1414

Ralph and Jenny Center: located at 9 New Washington Street (behind the Holiday Inn)
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. 617- 666-5223

Main Office: located at 167 Holland Street (between Davis Square and Teele Square.)
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
617-625-6600, Ext. 2300 Fax: 617-625-0688

TTY: 866-808-4851

#### **ONGOING PROGRAMS**

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

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

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

Conversations of the Heart – Mondays (see dates below) from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at our Holland Street Center. When you experience a loss; whether it is a loved one, a place of employment or even a change in your life, don't process these feelings along; come join our group where we process difficult emotions together in a safe and welcoming environment. For more information or questions please contact Natasha at 617-625-6600, ext. 2317. Refreshments will be served. Future dates: Mar. 19, Apr. 2 and May 7.

Friendly Caller Program – Do you know someone who could benefit from a friendly call? Maybe you are feeling isolated and want someone to talk to – or you just want someone to listen. Please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2317 to sign up for our "Friendly Caller" Program.

Winds for All –Tuesday mornings – 10:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. \$10 per class – A music immersion class for those who have never played a woodwind instrument. To reserve your spot or for additional info please call Debby Higgins at 617-625-6600, ext. 2321. History Through The Beatles – Thursday, April 19 at

our Holland Street Center starting at 12:00 p.m. Fran

Hart of the 4EverFab group will be performing acous-

tic based songs of The Beatles along with a video slide show. Lunch at 11:30 a.m. and Bingo immediately following the performance. If you require additional information, have any questions or want to reserve your spot please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

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

Older American's Month Celebration – Tuesday, May 1 – 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn located at 30 Washington Street. \$10 – limited seating and transportation. For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot please contact Connie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

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

Finger Lakes Region – Monday, May 7th to Friday, May 11th – 5 days and 4 nights - \$989 per person double or \$1389 per person single – includes transportation, lodging, 4 breakfast, 2 lunches, 2 dinners, 1 winery, 2 casinos and so much more. For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot please contact Connie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Mother's Day Special Lunch & Bingo – Monday, May 14 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Holland Street Center. \$5 fee includes lunch, coffee and dessert. Limited seating and transportation. For additional information, questions or to reserve your spot please contact Connie by calling 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

Housing Fair – Thursday, May 17 – 10:00 a.m. at our Holland Street Center. Meet with local agencies to learn the many ways to age in place. Guest speakers will include Somerville Home, Just-A-Start, Somerville Cambridge Elder Services, Somerville Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development, The VNA & More. For additional information call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

### LGBTQ EVENTS:

**LBT Women Fit-4-Life** - Fitness Class is Thursday evenings starting at 6:00 P.M. \$10 a month fee - scholarships available & it just might be covered under your insurance. We have available slots and would love to have you. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2315.

LGBTQ Lunch: Come, relax, enjoy lunch and talk with your peers. Scheduled lunch dates for 2018 are April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17, November 14 and December 12.

### HOLLAND STREET GROUP INFORMATION

**Book Club** – Meets the third Friday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. This group self-facilitates. Group members choose both fiction and non-fiction titles on a quarterly basis. Books are available on reserve at the Central Branch of the Somerville Library. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional info call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

Caregiver Support Group – Meets the third Tuesday of each month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Our Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilitates this group. Are you caring for a parent, relative, spouse or close friend? Feeling isolated or overwhelmed? You are not alone! Come share your experience and practical support. Open to all and new members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional info please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318.

Current Events Group – Meets every Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Our Social Worker, Natasha Naim, facilitates this group. Join a group of your peers to discuss current events. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

**De-cluttering support group** - If you have concerns around your clutter, this group may be for you. This closed group meets both in spring and fall for 6-8 weeks. This group is co-facilitated by Natasha Naim and

Marina Colonas. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2317.

Gardening Club – Meets the second Monday of each month starting at 9:00 a.m. and running for an hour most times. Principal Master Gardener, Vilma Sullivan, facilitates this group. A different topic each month ranging from gardening tips & secrets to inexpensive "greenhouses." If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300. This group does not meet in January and February.

Golden Gals: a.k.a. Women's Group - Meets the last Tuesday of the month from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Social Worker, Ashley Speliotis, facilities this group. A fun, safe, social group to discuss women's issues and growing older. Next date: December 26th - For more information, please call Ashley at 617-625-6600 ext. 2318.

#### **CROSS STREET GROUP INFORMATION**

English Conversation – Meets every Monday, Tuesday & Thursday beginning at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator and Sandy Francis, Cross Street Center Volunteer, work together to facilitate this group. No books, no tests, no stress – just a great group of older adults from all over the world who help each other to listen, speak and learn English. Continue conversation throughout a healthy lunch. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

Arts & Crafts – Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month starting January 11th - from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Join us in a relaxing atmosphere as we learn about a wide range of arts & crafts from weaving to watercolor pencils. Maureen Bastardi, Program Coordinator facilitates this group. Must call a week in advance if you plan on attending. This is necessary to ensure we have enough material for everyone. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335.

Social Service Drop In – The 3rd Thursday of every month Social Workers, Ashley Speliotis and Natasha Naim will be taking turns and having a Drop-in Social Service hour from 11:00 a.m. to noon at the Cross Street Center. They will be available to address any of your Social Service needs. Stop by or if you need additional information please call Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2335

### RALPH & JENNY GROUP INFORMATION

Knitting Blankets – Every Tuesday & Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Join us as we knit blankets for babies. If you are interested in joining, have any questions or require additional information please call Judy at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300.

### <u>WEEKLY EXERCISE AND NUTRITION CLASS SCHED-ULE</u> (Please cut out and save)

Monday: Keep Moving Walking Club\*\* - 9:15 a.m. (H) / Tai Chi – 11:30 a.m. (H) / Fit-4-Life Group C - 1:00 p.m. (H)

**Tuesday:** Strengthening - 9:15 a.m. - \$3 per class (H) / Fit-4-Life - 11:15 a.m. (C) / Bike Club - 12:15 p.m. (H)

Wednesdays: Fit-4-Life - Group A (exercise) - 8:45 a.m. / Group B (nutrition) - 9 a.m./ Group B (exercise) - 10:00 a.m. (H) / Group C (nutrition) - noon (H) / Group C (exercise) - 1:00 p.m. (H) / Zumba 4 All - 5:15 p.m. - \$3/class (H)

**Thursdays:** Yoga - 9:00 a.m. (H) / Fit-4-Life - 11:15 a.m. (C) / LBT Fit-4-Life, 6:00 p.m. (H)

**Fridays:** Fit-4-Life - Group A - 8:45 a.m. (H) / Fit-4-Life - Group B - 10:00 a.m. (H) /Group A (nutrition) 10:00 a.m. (H)

 $\label{eq:continuous} \textbf{Adventure Group} - \textbf{Please call for details}$ 

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

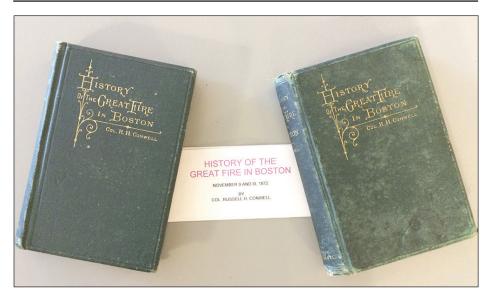
\*\* Keep Moving Walking Club is on hiatus until the Spring

### DID YOU KNOW?

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

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

### Historical Fact CONT. FROM PG 8



James Hopkins, in his first year as Chief, ordered his entire department to respond to Boston's aid. They worked the fire at Winthrop Square until ordered to reposition to protect the historic Old South Meeting House/Church that was amazingly saved. One of the steamers, the Kearsarge-Engine #3, arrived by train from Portsmouth, New Hampshire just in time to help save the Meeting House's steeple.

The last building to burn in this horrific fire was a foundry owned by Edward Revere Curtis, grandson of Paul Revere. He served in the Common Council of Somerville and was also a member of its Board of Alderman. Curtis Street was named after him.

Four years later in 1876, Somerville's Mary Tyler, object of the poem *Mary Had a Little Lamb* would help rescue the Old South Meeting House/Church once again. This time it was to save it from developers. She gave talks to hundreds of children and sold bits of yarn made from her lamb's wool that were auctioned off for the cause.



Colonel Russell Conwell, Editor of the Somerville Journal, felt that words had to be written to describe the horrific fire in depth. The following year in 1873, his book, History of the Great Fire in Boston, went to press. Its dedication read, "To the City of Chicago who, not withstanding her recent suffering and losses, was the first to offer assistance in the hour of Boston's greatest trial." In this way, Chicago became America's second City of Brotherly Love.





# **Upcoming Somerville Media Center Happenings**



SPECIAL APRIL 2018

#### Weird Local Film Fest #4

Thursday, April 19, 7:00 p.m. at Warehouse XI Sponsored by Somerville Media Center

Don't miss "WLFF Episode 4: Return to WLFF Island", the hit follow-up to "WLFF 3-D: Gameover", "WLFF 2: The Squeakquel" and the beloved original "WLFF: A New Hope".

The Weird Local Film Festival (WLFF) is a bi/tri-monthly(ish) event featuring work by filmmakers in reasonable proximity to Somerville, MA.

Before each event, judges sort through all submissions for 90 minutes of WLFF-quality films (whatever the hell that means).

#### April Media Mixer & Pitch Event

Sunday, April 29 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Arts at the Armory Cafe

Let's celebrate creativity by throwing a Media Mixer and Pitch event! Come to the event to meet other media makers, filmmakers, editors, actors, aspiring creatives and more. They also welcome attendees to PITCH their ideas and skills to others in the room. Use this space to talk through your project ideas, help craft the logistics, and even market your own skills.

At this mixer, they are joined by their creative friends at Women in Film and Video: New England for this media mixer as they will share more about who they are and the work they do in the film and media industry.

### STUDIOLAB & Free Camera Training

Monday, April 30, 8:00 p.m. at SMC Studios

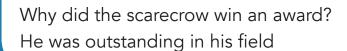
Want to be part of a crew? Want to help out but don't have training? No worries. They are organizing a special FREE TV Studio Camera trainings on Monday, April 30 from 8:00pm – 8:30pm. Following the training, they will have their first in-house production called STUDIOLAB from 8:30-9:30pm. This is staff led and member supported.

We are offering this free TV Main Studio Camera class for Creative Collective members. They are specifically targeting you all because they understand that you have required quarterly volunteer hours (5 hours) and this way when there is a need for crew assistance, you can help out.

If you can attend, please RSVP to Erica Jones at ejones@somervillemedia.org by Monday, April 23.

### Bobby's Dad Jokes Corner

By Bobbygeorge Potaris



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### SCATV Channel 3 Schedule

SCATV is part of Somerville Media Center, home to Boston Free Radio, Somerville Neighborhood News and SMC Youth Media! Join SMC today to make your own TV or Radio Production, learn skills like editing and field production and sign up for special media making workshops and classes for youth and adults! somervillemedia.org

Wednesd	ay, April 18	9:00pm	The Beantown Beatdown	4:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
12:00am	Free Speech TV	9:30pm	Local Students Talk Gun Control	5:00pm	Reeling Review	9:00am	The Stephanie Miller Show
6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	10:00pm	The Chatman Booth	5:30pm	Both Sides of the Bars	10:00am	Both Sides of the Bars
7:00am	Wide Angle	10:30pm	TUTV	6:00pm	The World Fusion Show	10:30pm	SOM ARTS
7:30am	DW In Good Shape	11:00pm	DIWHY the show	6:30pm	Dear Little Black Girl, Dear Little Black Boy	11:00am	Road to Recovery
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	Friday, Apr	il 20	7:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	11:30am	DW Conflict Zone
9:00am	DW Global 3000	12:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	7:30pm	SOM ARTS	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
9:30am	Both Sides of the Bars	1:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	Beyond Boston	1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
10:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	8:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	1:30pm	DW Global 3000
10:30am	Somerville Storytellers	7:00am	The Bill Press Show (Free Speech TV)	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	2:00pm	Science 360
11:00am	Fallon's Daily Toast	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	10:00pm	DIWHY The Show	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	9:00am	Perils for Pedestrians	11:00pm	SCATV Secret Stash	4:00pm	DW Euromaxx
1:00pm	Health is Wealth	9:30am	Cambridge Calendar	11:30pm	Ojo Rojo	4:30pm	NASA TV
1:30pm	Green Card Voices	10:00am	NASA TV	Sunday, A	April 22	5:00pm	Tele Galaxie
2:00pm	SOM ARTS	11:00am	SOM ARTS	12:00am	Flotilla	6:00pm	Reeling Review
2:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	11:30am	DW Tomorrow Today	1:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	6:30pm	The Kamla Show
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	2:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	7:00pm	LIVE - The Yellow Jacket Lady
4:00pm	NASA TV Video File News Feed	1:00pm	The Yellow Jacket Lady	3:00am	Free Speech TV	7:30pm	SMC Presents: Duck Village Stage Sessions
5:00pm	Special SMC Programming	1:30pm	Art Seen at SMC	6:00am	Evangelista Camillo Fodera	8:00pm	(LIVE) Somerville Overcoming Addiction
5:30pm	Greater Somerville	2:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	7:00am	Nossa Gentes e Costumes	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
6:00pm	Beyond Boston	2:30pm	SMC Youth Media	8:00am	Tele Magazine	10:00pm	Donnie steubins
7:00pm	Donnie Steubins	3:00pm	Democracy Now	6:00am	NASA TV	11:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party
7:30pm	LIVE - Greater Somerville	4:00pm	Gay USA	7:00am	Nossa Gentes e Costumes	'	, , ,
8:00pm	LIVE - The Somerville Line	5:00pm	The Chatman Booth	8:00am	Tele Magazine		April 24
8:30pm	MediaBot Short Cuts	5:30pm	What's New in Massachusetts?	9:00am	Tele Kreyol	12:00am	Free Speech TV
9:00pm	LIVE - Boston Come Through	6:00pm	SOM ARTS	10:00am	Art and Ideas	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board
10:00pm	LIVE - Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	6:30pm	New England Pride TV	10:30am	Boston Sapthaha Day	7:00am	DW Euromaxx
11:00pm	Flotilla	7:00pm	(LIVE) Fallon's Daily Toast	11:00am	The Chef's Table Series	7:30am	Esoteric Science
'		8:00pm	The Grandstanders	12:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
Thursday,		8:30pm	Greater Somerville	12:30pm	Effort Pour Christ	9:00am	The Chef's Table Series
12:00am	SCATV Secret Stash	9:00pm	The Boston Medium	1:30pm	Teen Empowerment: Youth Matters Media	10:00am	SMC Roundtable
1:00am	Free Speech TV	10:00pm	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	2:00pm	StartUp TV Boston	10:30am	DW In Good Shape
6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board Perils for Pedestrians	11:00pm	Totally Working Out	3:00pm	African Television Network	11:00am	DW Tomorrow Today
7:00am		11:30pm	Totally Working Out	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	11:30am	Road to Recovery
7:30am	DW Focus on Europe	•	, ,	5:00pm	Art Seen at SMC	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	Saturday, A		5:30pm	MediaBot Short Cuts	1:00pm	Words on Film
9:00am	DW Tomorrow Today	12:00am	DIWHY The Show	6:00pm	The Grandstanders	2:00pm	Somerville Overcoming Addiction
9:30am	Hello Neighbor	1:00am	SCATV Secret Stash Hour	6:30pm	New England Pride TV	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
10:00am	The Kamla Show	2:00am	Heavy Leather Topless Dance Party	7:00pm	Gay USA	4:00pm	Perils for Pedestrians
10:30am	Somerville Pundits	3:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	Dear Little Black Girl, Dear Little Black Boy	4:30pm	Teen Empowerment: Youth Matters Media
11:00am	Art and Ideas	5:00am	Effort Pour Christ	8:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer
11:30am	The Real Estate Answers Show	6:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	9:00pm	Words on Film	5:30pm	What's New Massachusetts?
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	7:00am	Tele Magazine	10:00pm	The Boston Medium	6:00pm	SCOUTV
1:00pm	The Somerville Line	8:00am	Democracy Now	10:30pm	The Boston Medium	6:30pm	Community Lens
3:00pm	Democracy now!	9:00am	SMC Youth Media	11:00pm	Box House Productions Presents	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
4:00pm	Hello Neighbor!	9:30am	Somerville Storytellers	11:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash	7:30pm	Greater Somerville
4:30pm	The Struggle	10:00am	Dead Air Live	'		8:00pm	LIVE - The Somerville Line
5:00pm	Words on Film	11:00am	Haitian Poetry in 3 Languages	Monday,	•	9:00pm	LIVE - The Somerville Line
6:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00pm	Telegalaxie	12:00am	Free Speech TV	10:00pm	Public Access Boyz
6:30pm	Somerville Pundits	1:00pm	African Television Network	5:00am	Evangelista Camillo Fodera	10:30pm	SCATV Secret Stash
7:00pm	LIVE - The Boston Medium	2:00pm	Beyond Boston	6:00am 7:00am	SCATV Community Bulletin Board	11:00pm	Box House Productions Presents
7:30pm	LIVE - The Boston Medium	3:00pm	Democracy Now!		Perils for Pedestrians	11:30pm	SMC Member Submissions
8:00pm	Startup TV Boston	4:00pm	Graphic Content	7:30am	Going Postal	11.30pill	Sivic Melliper Submissions
	·						

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

9:00am 9:30am 11:30am 1:00pm 1:30pm	Rally Point "Women In the Military Congressional Update GLX Public Info Meeting - 3.28.18 Rally Point "Women In the Military Celling Your Sou
6:30pm	SomerViva em Portuguê:
7:00pm	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte
7:30pm	Conway Field and Playground Information
8:30pm	Greek Independence Day Celebration
9:35pm	GLX Public Info Meeting - 3.28.18
11:00pm	Raising Families "Special Needs Education"
Thursday	, April 19
12:00am	SomerViva em Portuguê:
12:30am	Legislative Matters Committee
8:30am	Sit & Be Fit Allamerican Workou
9:00am	Aldermen at Work - Wil Mbah
9:30am	Rally Point "Women In the Military
11:30am	Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte
12:00pm	Senior Circui
12:30pm	GLX Public Info Meeting - 3.28.18

Wednesday, February 18

6:00pm

6:30pm

7:00pm

9:00pm

10:00pm

9:00am

10:00am

8:00pm

8:30pm

Wednesday, April 18

Rally Point "Women In the Military' Senior Circuit Celling Your Soul Conway Field and Playground Information Women's History Month Celebration

Student of the Qtr. Brown School

Our Schools, Our City - WHCIS

SHS CTF Fair

Student of the Otr. Brown School

10:30pm Greek Independence Day Celebration Friday, April 20

12:00am The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism 1:30am Aldermen at Work - Wil Mbah 2:00am First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 8:30am Congressional Update First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 9:00am Conway Field and Playground Information 11:30am 12:30pm Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte 1:00pm Middlesex County Update Greek Independence Day Celebration 1:30pm Talking Business 2:33pm 3:00pm SomerViva em Português 6:30pm Middlesex County Update 7:00pm Board of Aldermen Meeting - 4.12.18 11:00pm SomerViva em Português

Saturday, April 21 First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 12:00am 1:03am Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte 1:30am Chamber of Commerce Breakfast 3:00am **Talking Business** Rally Point "Women In the Military 9:00am Aldermen at Work - Wil Mbah 11:30am Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte 12:00pm Rally Point "Women In the Military 12:30pm Public Health & Safety - 4.10.18 2:00pm Congressional Update Conway Field and Playground Information 2:30pm

6:30pm Rally Point "Women In the Military' 7:00pm Raising Families "Special Needs Education" 7:30pm Celling Your Soul Greek Independence Day Celebration 9:30pm 10:33pm Middlesex County Update 11:00pm SomerViva em Português Sunday, April 22

12:00am Senior Circuit April 2018 "Assisted Living" 12:30am First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 2:00am Cellina Your Soul 8:30am Fit-4-Life #4 2017 9:00am Rally Point "Women In the Military' 9:30am Celling Your Soul 12:00pm Senior Circuit Aldermen at Work - Wil Mbah 12:30pm Legislative Matters Committee 1:00pm 6:30pm Rally Point "Women In the Military' 7:00pm 7:30pm Senior Circuit Middlesex County Update 8:00pm Aldermen at Work - Wil Mbah 8:30pm Congressional Update Chamber of Commerce Breakfast 9:00pm Women's History Month Celebration 10:08pm 10:30pm Conway Field and Playground Information

Monday, April 23 12:00am Senior Circuit GLX Public Info Meeting - 3.28.18 Congressional Update

2:30am Raising Families "Special Needs Education" 8:30am Sit & Be Fit Fibromyalgia Workout 9:00am Middlesex County Update First Flag Raising at Prospect Hill 2018 9:30am 11:30am Rally Point "Women In the Military" Board of Aldermen Meeting - 4.12.18 12:00pm 4:00pm Upcoming Meeting Agenda 7:00pm School Committee Meeting - LIVE

Tuesday, April 24 Chamber of Commerce Breakfast 12:00am 1:30am Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte Celling Your Soul 2:00am 8:30am Aldermen at Work - Wil Mbah 9:00am Rally Point "Women In the Military' Congressional Update 11:30am 12:00pm Senior Circuit GLX Public Info Meeting - 3.28.18 12:30pm 2:00pm SomerViva en Español 2:30pm The Bilingual Brain: Benefits of Bilingualism 6:30pm Middlesex County Update Senior Circuit 7:00pm Greek Independence Day Celebration 7:30pm

8:30pm School Committee Meeting - 4.23.18 Wednesday, April 25 12:00am Senior Circuit Public Health & Safety - 4.10.18 12:30am SomerViva en Español Greek Independence Day Celebration 2:30am

### Educational TV 15 Schedule

12:30am

2:30am

9:00am

11:00am

12:00pm

12:30pm

1:00pm

2:00pm

4:00pm

5:00pm 7:00pm

8:00pm

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	our cerioois, our enty Triteis
11:00am	Boys' Indoor Soccer Finals
12:00pm	Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals
1:00pm	Celling Your Soul
3:00pm	SHS Alumni Tour
4:00pm	SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18
5:00pm	Student of the Qtr. Brown School
6:00pm	Our Schools, Our City - WHCIS
7:00pm	Boys' Indoor Soccer Finals
8:00pm	Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals
9:00pm	Celling Your Soul
11:00pm	SHS Alumni Tour
Thursday, A	April 19
12:00am	SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18
12:30am	SHS CTE Fair
9:00am	El Sistema Spring Concert
10:00am	SHS FOOTBALL 2017
11:00am	SHS CTE Fair
11:30am	Student of the Qtr. Brown School
12:00pm	SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair
12:30pm	Somerville Recreation Activities Fair
1:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn
3:00pm	Our Schools, Our City - WHCIS
3:30pm	SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18
4:00pm	Celling Your Soul
6:00pm	El Sistema Spring Concert
7:00pm	SHS FOOTBALL 2017

9:00pm SFLC Summer Camp & Activities Fair 9:30pm Somerville Recreation Activities Fair SHS Boys Basketball @ Woburn 10:00pm Friday, April 20 Our Schools, Our City - WHCIS 12:00am

SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18 12:30am 1:00am Public Domain Theater 9:00am El Sistema Somerville 2018 Gala 10:00am Our Schools, Our City - WHCIS Boys' Indoor Soccer Finals 11:00am 12:00pm Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals 1:00pm 3:00pm SHS Softball vs Winthrop Student of the Qtr. Brown School 4:00pm SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18 5:00pm El Sistema Somerville 2018 Gala 6:00pm 7:00pm Our Schools, Our City - WHCIS Boys' Indoor Soccer Finals 8:00pm Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals SHS Softball vs Winthrop 9:00pm 11:00pm Student of the Qtr. Brown School

Saturday, April 21 12:00am SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18 12:30am SHS Softball vs Winthrop 2:30am Public Domain Theater SHS Alumni Tour 9:00am Our Schools, Our City - WHCIS 10:00am El Sistema Somerville 2018 Gala 11:00am 12:00pm SHS Softball vs Winthrop 1:00pm Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals Boys' Indoor Soccer Finals 2:00pm SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18 3:00pm

4:00pm SHS CTE Fair 5:00pm SHS Alumni Tour Our Schools, Our City - WHCIS 6:00pm 7:00pm El Sistema Somerville 2018 Gala 8:00pm 9:00pm SHS Softball vs Winthrop Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals Boys' Indoor Soccer Finals SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18 10:00pm 11:00pm Sunday, April 22 SHS CTE Fair 12:00am

> Public Domain Theater Celling Your Soul Boys' Indoor Soccer Finals SHS CTE Fair Student of the Otr. Brown School Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals SHS Softball vs Winthrop El Sistema Somerville 2018 Gala Celling Your Soul Boys' Indoor Soccer Finals SHS CTE Fair Student of the Qtr. Brown School Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals SHS Softball vs Winthrop

SHS Softball vs Winthrop

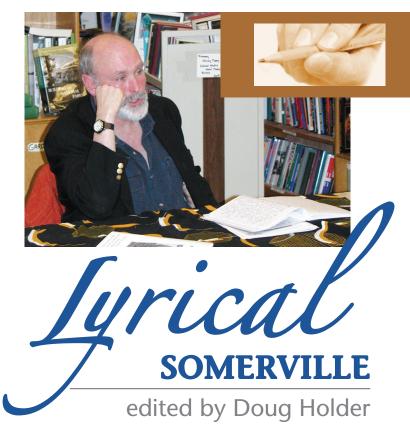
Monday, April 23 El Sistema Somerville 2018 Gala SHS Alumni Tour SHS FOOTBALL 2017 El Sistema Somerville 2018 Gala Our Schools, Our City - WHCIS

11:00am Boys' Indoor Soccer Finals Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals 12:00pm 1:00pm SHS Softball vs Winthrop 3:00pm Student of the Qtr. Brown School 3:30pm SHS FOOTBALL 2017 SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18 4:00pm 5:00pm El Sistema Somerville 2018 Gala 6:00pm Our Schools, Our City - WHCIS 7:00pm Boys' Indoor Soccer Finals 8:00pm Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals SHS Softball vs Winthrop 9:00pm 11:00pm Student of the Qtr. Brown School 11:30pm SHS FOOTBALL 2017

Tuesday, April 24 12:00am SHS Boys' Volleyball vs GLTS 2:00am Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals 9:00am SHS Alumni Tour SHS Boys' Volleyball vs GLTS 10:00am El Sistema Somerville 2018 Gala 12:00pm 1:00pm Our Schools, Our City - WHCIS 2:00pm Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals 3:30pm Student of the Qtr. - ESCS 4:00pm SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18 5:00pm 6:00pm SHS Alumni Tour SHS Boys' Volleyball vs GLTS Student of the Qtr. - ESCS 8:30pm 9:00pm 10:00pm Our Schools, Our City - WHCIS Girls' Indoor Soccer Finals Boys' Indoor Soccer Finals 11:00pm

Wednesday, April 25

SHS BOYS BASKETBALL 2017-18 12:00am 12:30am SHS Boys' Volleyball vs GLTS



Maryann Corbett is the author of four books of poems, most recently Street View from Able Muse Press. Her poems appear widely and have been featured on Poetry Daily, Verse Daily, American Life in Poetry, The Writer's Almanac, and the Poetry Foundation website. She is a past winner of the Willis Barnstone Translation Prize



and the Richard Wilbur Award. One of her poems will appear in The Best American Poetry 2018.

#### Late Intrusion

Bug-eyed, two a.m. Strung out on caffeine, the screen, and the world's groaning,

I'm gripped by a stare, slanting through the bedroom blinds: cold-sharpened spring moon.

How should I reply? First invoke Li Bai, although our bed is not quite

his moon-filled river? True, on our undulant sheets and bodies' ripples

stripes of moon tumble, light so clean, so blunt the slats lay down white slices—

Ah, but that's Larkin mooning for lost youth, and not old Li Bai, drowning

in the moon's embrace. No, I'm cold sober, barred from both those lost lushes:

Virtuous Sidney, courtier, soldier, tracker of the moon's sad steps,

teach me to greet her with your own graceful longing (but a different plea,

since I lie beside the very love you groaned for, poor unsleeping soul).

— Maryann Corbett

OFF THE SHEL

by Doug Holder

### **Interview with Poet Michael Casey:**

### From the Mills of Lowell to the Combat Zones of Vietnam

From Michael Casey's website:

In 1972, Michael Casey won the Yale Younger Poets Prize for Obscenities, a collection of poems drawn from his military experience during the Vietnam War. In his foreword to the book, judge Stanley Kunitz called the work "a kind of anti-poetry that befits a kind of war empty of any kind of glory" and "the first significant book of poems written by an American to spring from the war in Vietnam." Its raw depictions of war's mundanity and obscenity resonated with a broad audience, and Obscenities went into a mass market paperback edition, and was stocked in drugstores as well as bookstores. In the decades since, Casey's poetry has continued to document the places of his work and life. Then and now, his poems foreground the voices around him over that of a single author; they are the words of young American conscripts and their Vietnamese counterparts, coworkers and bosses, neighbors and strangers. His compressed sketches and unadorned monologues have appeared in The New York Times, The Nation, and Rolling Stone. There It Is: New and Selected Poems presents, for the first time, a full tour through Casey's work, from his 1972 debut to 2011's Check Points, together with new and uncollected work from the late 60s on. Here are all the locations of Casey's life and work - Lowell to Landing Zone, dye house to desk - and an ensemble cast with a lot to say."

I talked with Casey on my Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer TV show at the Somerville Media Center

**Doug Holder:** You started out as a physics major at Lowell Tech, but you wound up as a poet. How did this happen?

Michael Casey: As it turned out I was not a good match for physics. I was always a big reader and I enjoyed the English classes I took. I only took physics because my friends were. The teacher who inspired me was William Aiken. He was a very nice man and he encouraged my writing. He gave me lists of magazines where I could send my work. He influenced my style. When you grow up in New England like I have - you try to write like Robert Frost. Aiken did not care for my Robert Frost-like poems but he did like my poems about mill workers. When I grew up I worked in textile mills and even one that produced fish sticks.

DH: You were a military policeman during the Vietnam conflict. Your Yale Younger Poet Prize-Winning collection titled Obscenities was based on your experiences. Tell me about your time in the military police.

MC: At the beginning of your army experience you are given a battery of tests. They test you about leadership potential, your inclination toward adventure. They asked me if I would like to be a mountain climber or a librarian. I said librarian. My intelligence test indicated I would be best placed as a military police officer. This was a very good job in the army. People would enlist just to get the job. But it seemed every Irish name over 180 pounds went to the military police school. I was uniquely unsuited to be a policeman. People would enlist just to get that job. You would see a lot



of humanity pass by on any given day. Ask any policeman what does he or she think about the goodness of mankind, you would be laughed at. They see the worst in mankind. It was fairly well-established that members of the military police were in the black market in Vietnam. We were privileged in many ways. I think because we were the last defense for the officers. They could call on us if they needed help.

DH: Were you writing poems then or was that after the fact?

MC: Yes. I kept my ears open and I listened to the stories. So not all the stories were mine by any stretch. The idiom of the soldier was fascinating. You know, I would write idiomatic poems about mill workers. So it was a logical step to write about army life. I remember Pogo - the comic strip -Walt Kelly used the language of the soldiers who were denizens of the South's swamp lands. The way they talked was fascinating to me.

**DH:** Diction adds a lot to poetry.

MC: Yes, it does. Like the boxing manager, whose fighter loses. He might exclaim, "We was robbed!" Well, if he said, "We were robbed!" it wouldn't have the same effect. But in some cases its use is excessive. In the case of the movie Raging Bull, there were too many four letter words used. It became too much for me. That being said, every time you walk down the street you hear something interesting, to my way of thinking.

DH: In your bio it said that you were the first poet to write about the soldier's experience in

MC: That is a bit exaggerated. There were a lot of Vietnamese who wrote poetry about it. Bill Ehrhart came out with a chapbook of poetry before me. But I was one of the first.

DH: You have a deep connection to Lowell, like Paul Marion - the founder of the Loom Press who published your new collection.

MC: Yes. I grew up in a house in Lowell where my parents never used any four letter words. But when I worked in the mills there was no restriction on language there. Also, there were always a lot of immigrants in Lowell, Portuguese, Cambodians, etc. In Lowell, I got used to different languages. And yes, Marion has been a big supporter of my work.

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