SOMERVILLE, MASS. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2014

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

## **Inside:**



No pension for **Buonomo** page 3



'Fresh Media' delivers the goods page 17



The gentrification of a cultural icon page 21

| Newstalk p.2              |
|---------------------------|
| The Week in Crime p.4     |
| Commentary p.10-11        |
| Beacon Hill Roll Call p.8 |
| TV Logs p.22              |
| Off The Shelf p.23        |

## Somerville's studios open once again



 $Some rville\ Open\ Studios\ returns\ to\ excite\ and\ delight\ participants\ who\ will\ be\ welcomed\ into\ the\ work\ space-interpretation and the space-interpretation of the space-interpretation$ es of the city's most creative artists. Turn to pages 12—13 for more information and pictures.

## **Facing heroin** head on

#### By Sarah L. Hopkinson

Less than two weeks ago, Somerville police arrested a man carrying 114 grams of heroin and 68 grams of cocaine, all trafficked drugs he was believed to be bringing into the city to sell. This arrest is a small step forward in local authorities' attempts to fight the heroin pandemic troubling the city. Since January 2013, authorities have witnessed a dangerous upward trend in the incidence of heroin overdoses in Somerville. According to Michael Cabral, the deputy chief of the Somerville Police Department, in little over a year, there have been seven fatal heroin overdoses and 21 non-fatal overdoses - this averages out at two per month. This trend is part of a nationwide resurgence that the federal Drug Enforcement Agency is tracking and which includes New York City, Pittsburg, Vermont and now Somerville.

Although authorities are unable to identify the reason for this recent resurgence in both heroin use and overdose, the potency of certain batches of heroin may be a contributing factor. Police have been finding that a large proportion of heroin being used and dealt in Somerville is cut with fentanyl, an opiate Continued on page 5

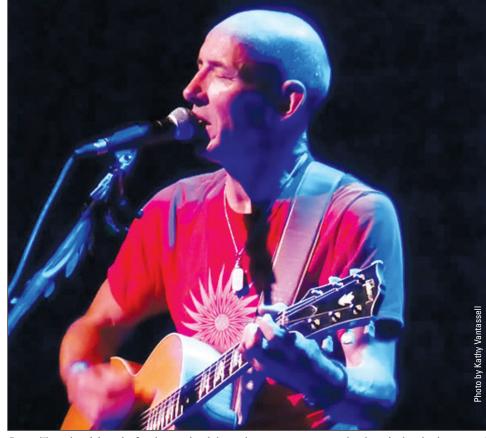
## 'Proud to be a Townshend'

#### By Blake Maddux

When Simon Townshend was born Oct. 10, 1960, his oldest brother, Pete, was five years away from becoming one of the most recognizable faces in rock 'n' roll. At 9, Simon contributed vocals to the song Smash the Mirror from The Who's album Tommy. Six years after that, he appeared as a newsboy in the movie based on that album.

Having released his first album in 1984 (Sweet Sound), Townshend accompanied The Who's lead singer, Roger Daltrey, on solo dates in the 1990s and began touring with his brother's reunited band in 2002.

While these gigs have certainly garnered him plenty of exposure and some surely pretty paydays, the fact is that Simon Townshend, as a singer-songwriter, deserves more than just the attention that being Pete's brother affords him. Granted, his solo efforts have been few and far between. However, 2012's Looking Out Looking In was a major creative breakthrough, and Denial, which was released April 1, demonstrates that the youngest Townshend's Continued on page 15



Simon Townshend does the family proud, exhibiting his own unique musical style and talent both on record and in concert.

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## **Spring Special** Looking to increase business over the spring season? Run your ad with The Somerville Times. We are now running a 6-week advertisement Spring Special. For more details call:

or email ads@thesomervilletimes.com



Coming up Friday, April 11, is Prospect Hill Academy's huge fundraiser entitled "The Golden Twenties" at One Seaport Lane, Boston. Tickets are \$95 or \$125 at the door \$125. For tickets, contact Anja Bresler at 617-284-7822 or email abresler@prospecthillacademy.org. This Promises to be a great program with lots of prizes being offered.

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

The annual Somerville High Scholarship raffle is being planned for May 16 at the Highlander Café. Like every year since 1990, the raffle is limited to 250 tickets at \$100 each. The grand prize will be \$10,000 which is the last number called. Get your tickets early and support this fine organization that helps to give students at the high school scholarships. Make check payable to the SHS Scholarship Foundation and mail to the following: S.H.S. Raffle c/o Joseph Favaloro, P.O. Box 440275 Somerville MA 02144. Upon receipt of your check, your ticket will be mailed to you. Or you can call Gene Brune at 617-628-5835.

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

Coming up April 12 is the annual open house for the Masonic Lodge at 125 Highland Ave. from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is open to the public, so come view the historic building and get answers to any questions you might have about masonry in general. The lodge was founded in 1783 in Charlestown and was the owner and builder of the Bunker Hill Monument in Charlestown. The lodge has many ancient artifacts, including Paul Revere's works, that were donated to the lodge over the years. Drive up the driveway to the right of the building to the parking lot and come in the double blue doors to the rear building, which is the main entrance.

The Somerville Rotary Club is celebrating its 90th anniversary Friday, May 2, at Anthony's in Malden on Canal Street. Tickets are \$50 per person. RSVP by April 22 to am.ferraro@comcast.net. Somerville Rotary is very active here in the city with various charities that they contribute to, and it is open to members of the business community who would like to join, Rotary meets every Tuesday at noon at the Mt. Vernon Restaurant on Lower Broadway.

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Continued on page 11

## The Somerville Times

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The Somerville Times is published every Wednesday







#### The Somerville Times.com Comments of the Week

#### Response to SJC sides with retirement board in forfeiture of former alderman's pension

#### sharon says:

I'd like to know how a part-time elected position earns you a \$39,000.00 per year pension. And people wonder why the city, state, and federal government are broke. These are the same people who talk about raising the minimum wage so people can earn a 'living wage'. Well, those people could make a very decent living on your pension alone!

#### Vicky Halo says:

Throw the bum on the street! He betrayed our trust and he deserves nothing!

#### cambridgeyuppie says:

He blew it! He had a nice job and all... What a shame.

#### Max says:

This is 100% correct. He abused the public trust and got what he deserved. One question of course is this - how dis a person of such low integrity keep get elected to positions of authority in Middlesex County??

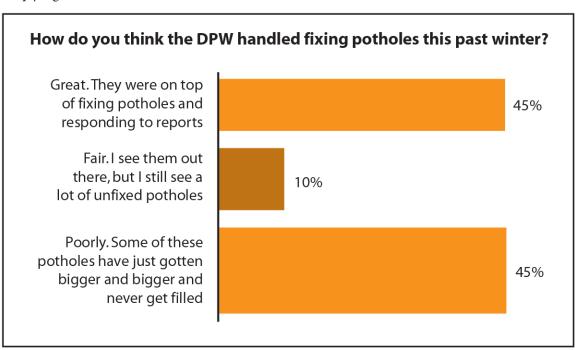
#### Jon says:

Could someone who knows respond to Sharon's question? Are we paying \$39,000 pensions to all of our former 'public servants'? How is it that you earn a pension larger than many peoples' yearly salary by holding a part-time elected position?

Log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com to leave your own comments

#### TheSomervilleTimes.com poll of the week

In addition to breaking news, sports and opinion, TheSomervilleTimes.com also features a daily poll in which you, the reader, tell us where you come down on local issues. Last week's poll concerned your views on how you think the DPW handled fixing potholes this past winter. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com.





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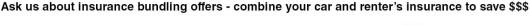


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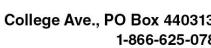






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# SJC sides with retirement board in forfeiture of former alderman's pension

By David R. Smith

The state's Supreme Judicial Court ruled April 2 that the Somerville Retirement Board is not obligated to pay former Middlesex County Register of Probate John Buonomo his nearly \$39,000 annual pension earned during his time on the Board of Aldermen (BOA).

Buonomo was convicted in 2009 on 18 counts of breaking into a depository, eight counts of larceny under \$250 and eight counts of embezzlement by a public officer during the time he was register of probate. Bunomo had argued he should receive the pension, as the crimes of which he was convicted were unrelated to his role on the BOA.

"We conclude that even though Buonomo's convictions involved violations of the laws applicable to his office or position as register of probate, he nonetheless forfeited his entitlement to a retirement allowance from the retirement board of Somerville (board) related to his prior service as a member of the board of aldermen," the SJC wrote in its opinion. Accordingly, we reverse the decision of the Superior Court that reached a contrary conclusion."

Buonomo retired from his position as a Somerville alderman in January 0f 2000 and began receiving pension benefits from the board. In November 2000, he was elected register of probate of Middlesex County.

After his election, Buonomo was eligible to join the state employees' retirement system as a member in service, but he

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chose instead to continue receiving his retirement allowance from the board. As a consequence, he remained an inactive member of the Somerville retirement system, while at the same time working and collecting his salary as register of probate.

Sgt. Brian P. Connors of the State Police filed an application in District Court in August 2008 for the issuance of a criminal complaint, charging Buonomo with the charges on which he was eventually convicted.

"...Buonomo violated the laws applicable to the office of register of probate, a position of public trust, and thereby forfeited his entitlement to any retirement allowance under (state law)."

In support of the application, Connors alleged that in June 2008, State Police assigned to the Public Protection, Anti-Terrorism, Corruption and Technology Unit of the Middlesex County District Attorney's office commenced an investigation into suspected ongoing theft of monies from cash vending machines attached to photocopiers located in the registry of deeds section of a building in Cambridge that housed the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, as well as the Middlesex Division of the Probate and Family Court Department and the Registry of Probate. Initial estimates of the losses were reported to be approximately \$2,000 per month over the course of 18 months. Personnel from the registry and other witnesses identified Buonomo as someone who had been observed accessing several of the

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cash vending machines without authority or permission to do so.

As a result of the information they gathered, officers conducted video surveillance for six weeks, focusing on two areas where the machines were located. On diverse dates between June 23 and Aug. 5, 2008, Buonomo was observed unlocking machines in the registry of deeds section of the building with a key, opening them, removing money, closing the machines and then leaving the area. Marked currency was used during the course of the investigation.

He pleaded guilty Oct. 15, 2009, to all 34 charges in Superior Court. Buonomo was sentenced to two and a half years in a house of correction on the charge of breaking into a depository, and he was given a concurrent sentence of two years on the charge of embezzlement by a public officer. He was placed on supervised probation for 10 years, which took effect from and after his house of correction sentences. He was ordered to pay a fine of \$1,000.

In a letter dated Nov. 24, 2009, the retirement board notified Buonomo that it intended to revoke his pension. At Buonomo's request, the board held an evidentiary hearing on the matter. In a decision dated Jan. 21, 2010, the board informed Buonomo that, in light of his criminal convictions, it had voted to forfeit his pension.

Buonomo appealed the board's decision to the District Court, which reversed the board's decision and reinstated Buonomo's pension. In a memorandum of decision and order dated May 28, 2010, a judge determined, among other things, that the board lacked a basis for revoking Buonomo's pension because the crimes of which Buonomo was convicted did not arise from or otherwise involve his work as a Somerville alderman, for which he was receiving the retirement allowance.

The board responded by filing a complaint July 14, 2010. The single justice ordered the matter transferred to the Superior Court for disposition. The parties proceeded to file cross motions for judgment on the pleadings. In a memorandum of decision and order dated April 27, 2012, a judge allowed Buonomo's motion, denied the board's motion and entered a judgment affirming the decision of the District Court.

The judge stated that although it was undisputed that Buonomo's criminal



Former Middlesex County Register of Probate and Ward 4 Alderman John Buonomo.

convictions were directly related to his position as register of probate, they were not related to his position as a Somerville alderman. Buonomo's misconduct, the judge continued, neither occurred while he was an alderman nor involved any of his duties in that capacity. The judge said that although the range of crimes leading to forfeiture of retirement benefits had been broadened under state law, it still required a connection between the offenses and the member's office or position. In the judge's view, because the board was unable to establish a direct link between Buonomo's criminal convictions and his position as a Somerville alderman, the board could not initiate forfeiture proceedings. Therefore, the judge concluded that the District Court judge did not commit a substantial error of law by holding that Buonomo was not required to forfeit his retirement allowance. The board appealed the judge's decision, the case was entered in the Appeals Court and transferred to the SJC, which disagreed with the District Court's interpretation of the relevant statute.

"The statute does not say that the office or position whose laws were violated be the same as the one from which the member is receiving a retirement allowance," the decision stated. "There simply is no such limiting language. We will not add words to a statute that the Legislature did not put there, either by inadvertent omission or by design.

"By pleading guilty to (the charges) by a public officer, Buonomo violated the laws applicable to the office of register of probate, a position of public trust, and thereby forfeited his entitlement to any retirement allowance under (state law)."

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# By Jim Clark

## Squatters unwelcome on Walnut St.

Police were called to a Walnut St. residence last Thursday afternoon on a complaint of two individuals trespassing at that location.

Upon arrival, the officers proceeded to the garage area of the residence, at which time they reportedly located the two individuals in question.

The door of the garage had been left open a few inches, al-

lowing the officers to see and hear Leodan Salmeron-Molina, 46, and Victor Villanueva, 41, of Roxbury, as they sat, drinking beer, police said.

The officers ordered the two men out of the garage, and it was noted that the same two individuals had been ordered to leave the property by the owner just an hour earlier, according to reports. The owner reportedly told the officers that he had prior difficulties with Salmeron-Molina, and that he had to order him off his property on more than one occasion. Police said that the property owner also told officers that the intruder had been found sleeping in the basement of his home.

The owner further stated that prior to confronting the

two men earlier in the day, he had observed them urinating in his yard.

Police questioned Salmeron-Molina about the presence of a mattress in the garage and he reportedly responded with, "I put it there," while laughing.

According to police reports, the property owner told the officers that he had a good deal of trouble keeping the two men off his property in the past few months.

The two men were questioned about being aware of the property owners wishes for them to stay away from his property, Salmeron-Molina reportedly said, "He just bought it."

Both Salmeron-Molina and Villanueva were then placed under arrest and charged with trespassing.

## The price of acting stupid

A police officer on duty in the early morning hours of April 6 at a Summer St. location took notice of a crashing noise in the nearby area.

In checking out the immediate vicinity, the officer spotted two males, later identified as Conor McArdle, 20, of Amherst, and Edmond Quirke, 22, of Jamaica Plain, as they travelled down

the Summer St. sidewalk, reportedly kicking cars as they passed them.

Seeking the source of the loud crash heard earlier, the officer located a City of Somerville fire box that had been knocked to the ground on a nearby side street.

Catching up with Quirke and McArdle, the officer had little

opportunity to confront them before they told him that they were stupid and that they would pay for the damages, according to reports.

The officer asked the men why they were kicking cars, and again they responded that they were acting stupid and they would pay the damages, police said.

The officer reportedly advised

the men that this would not be likely, since the damaged fire box was an extremely expensive equipment and that it had sustained significant damage.

Quirke and McArdle continued to insist that they would pay whatever price was necessary, and that they were in fear of being kicked out of the country, police said.

The owners of two cars that were kicked were notified and questioned about any damage to their vehicles, and both reportedly told police that the driver's side mirrors had been smashed.

Both Quirke and McArdle were placed under arrest and charged with destruction of property over \$250 and disorderly conduct.

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## SOMERVILLE POLICE GRIME LOG

#### Arrests:

Adilson Santos, 29, of 158 Walnut St., March 31, 7:46 p.m., arrested at Memorial Rd. on a warrant charge of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Maura Quinlan, 37, of 112 Pearson Rd., April 1, 1:48 a.m., arrested at home on a charge of assault and battery and on warrant charges of conspiracy to violate drug law and possession of a class B drug.

Frank Laporta, 30, of 896 Western Ave., Lynn, April 1, 3:19 p.m., arrested at Sewall St. on a warrant charge of larceny over \$250.

Jose Sahagun, 34, of 1105 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, April 2, 9:57 a.m., arrested at Merriam St. on warrant charges of no inspection sticker, unregistered motor vehicle, and uninsured motor vehicle or trailer.

Carlos Urias, 31, of 38 Green St., Malden, April 3, 8:01 a.m., arrested at Merriam St. on a warrant charge of unsafe operation of a motor vehicle.

**Leodan Salmeron-Molina**, 46, of 171 Walnut St., April 3, 2:04 p.m., arrested at home on

a charge of trespassing.

Victor Villanueva, 41, of 11 Washington St., Roxbury, April 3, 2:04 p.m., arrested at 171 Walnut St. on a charge of trespassing.

Zein Yassine, 52, of 75 Thurston St., April 3, 6:31 p.m., arrested at home on a charge of assault and battery.

Rakim Lopez, 22, of 16 Flint St., April 4, 6:15 a.m., arrested at home on a warrant charge of assault and battery.

Meggan Durant, 27, of 88 Meynard St., Roslindale, April 4, 7:16 a.m., arrested on warrant charges of receiving stolen property under \$250, Shoplifting by asportation, shoplifting by concealing merchandise, assault to maim, and trespassing.

**Jose Moreno**, 27, of 69 Florence St., April 4, 10:14 a.m., arrested on a warrant charge of assault with a dangerous weapon

Tuan Truong, 27, of 1 Myrtle St., April 4, 11:27 a.m., arrested on a charge of distribution of a class B substance and on a warrant charge of distribution of a class B substance.

Rodrigo Yordi Robello, 27,

of 13 Central St., E. Boston, April 5, 12:35 a.m., arrested at 608 Somerville Ave. on charges of destruction of property over \$250, disorderly conduct, and resisting arrest.

Fredy Arbaiza, 21, of 25B Memorial Rd., April 5, 1:47 p.m., arrested at home on a charge of drug possession to distribute.

Conor McArdle, 20, of 161 Fearing St., Amherst, April 6, 2:26 a.m., arrested at Summer St. on charges of destruction of property over \$250 and disorderly conduct.

Edmond Quirke, 22, of 6 Newbern St., Jamaica Plain, April 6, 2:26 a.m., arrested at Summer St. on charges of destruction of property over \$250 and disorderly conduct.

Kurt Buffington, 48, of 110 Bartlett St., April 6, 2:43 a.m., arrested at home on charges of failure to stop for police and reckless operation of a motor vehicle

#### **Incidents**:

#### Theft:

March 31, 10:13 a.m., police reported a theft at 41 Inner

Balt Rd

April 1, 9:11 a.m., police reported a theft at 40 Holland St. April 1, 7:39 p.m., police reported a theft at Temple St.

April 1, 9:14 p.m., police reported a theft at Bennet Ct.

April 2, 9:25 p.m., police reported a theft at Kidder Ave.

April 4, 10:58 a.m., police reported a theft at Franklin St.

April 4, 11:41 a.m., police reported a theft at 14 McGrath Hwv.

#### Robbery:

April 1, 12:09 a.m., police reported a robbery at Glenn St. April 3, 10:44 p.m., police reported a robbery at Broadway.

#### **Breaking & Entering:**

March 31, 10:13 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Vernon St.

#### Vehicle Theft:

April 4, 1:23 a.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Mc-Grath Hwy.

#### Assault:

March 31, 4:52 a.m., police reported an assault at Day St. March 31, 10:16 p.m., police reported an assault at Washington St.

April 1, 1:48 a.m., police reported an assault at Pearson Rd.

April 2, 3:36 p.m., police reported an assault at 230 Highland Ave.

April 3, 6:31 p.m., police reported an assault at Thurston St.

#### Destruction of Property:

March 31, 7:44 a.m., police reported a destruction of property at Temple St.

March 31, 12:09 p.m., police reported a destruction of property at Hunting St.

#### Trespassing:

April 3, 2:04 p.m., police reported a trespassing at Walnut St.

#### Disorderly Conduct:

April 3, 9:19 a.m., police reported a disorderly conduct at George St.

April 4, 9:40 a.m., police reported a disorderly conduct at Oliver St.

#### Drug Violation:

April 4, 11:27 a.m., police reported a drug violation at Myrtle St.

## Somerville remains active in commitment to people with disabilities

#### By Jeremy F. van der Heiden

The ongoing fight to improve the livelihood of individuals living with disabilities has continued on the local, state and federal levels. In an interview with The Somerville Times, Colin Killick, chairman of the Somerville Commission for People with Disabilities (SCPD), explained some of the goings-on occurring in the community.

Killick stated three of the biggest problems facing people with disabilities are poverty, housing and employment, all of which are difficult matters overcome. Homelessness and independent living were the main topics of discussion in the interview, as local and state officials have been pushing the expansion of the Alternative Housing Voucher Program.

This piece of legislation has been around since 1995 and helps to ensure that people with disabilities who are not elderly can get rental vouchers for housing. Eligible participants must fit the criteria of state law (Ch. 667) and be under the age of 60, and it enables tenants to pay between 25 and 30 percent of their net income to the landlord. The state's local housing authority pays the balance.

Killick explained that the AHVP is a critical program given the high rate of homelessness among individuals with disabilities. What's more,

the commission and many officials have pushed hard to ensure that people with disabilities have the option to live relatively autonomous lives, rather than having the only option of staying in nursing homes or similar facilities.

More recently, state officials and advocacy groups have been pushing for an expansion of the program to be more inclusive and help a greater volume of individuals with disabilities.

"As I brought up before, people with disabilities tend to be poor, and we live in a state with very expensive housing where the least expensive housing is the least likely to be accessible; just think of the typical Somerville triplex with the rickety stairs," Killick said. "As a result, aside from those who wind up on the street, a lot of people with disabilities wind up in nursing homes -people who aren't elderly, who are capable of living on their own with (personal care assistant) support and who don't want to be there- because if you spend your savings down to essentially zero, MassHealth will pay for your nursing home care."

He went on to note that living in a nursing facility will generally cut the person off from leading a normal life, in that they cannot work, participate in volunteer programs or shop at local businesses.

"What the AHVP does is it liberates people from that; it lets



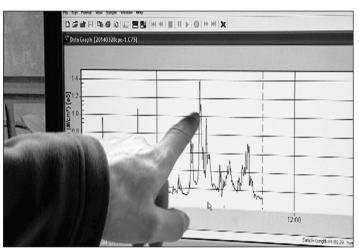
you live anywhere in the state, in an ordinary apartment, and guarantees that you won't pay more than 30 person of your income for it. Basically, it's a ticket to an independent life. And what we're fighting for, basically, is 150 more of those tickets," Killick stated.

State officials, including Rep. Timothy Toomey and former Rep. Carl Sciortino, who just stepped down from his position to be executive director of the AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts, have been especially active in the fight to expand funding for the AHVP. Killick noted that Sen. Pat Jehlen, who has been a major advocate of the people with disabilities community, and local officials such as the Board of Aldermen continue to work proactively for the betterment of Somerville's residents with disabilities through sidewalk repairs and other everyday activities.

Between the efforts of SCPD, other local advocacy groups and officials in each level of government, the community hopes to get more done to support individuals with disabilities.

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

Reported on in episode #12 of Somerville Neighborhood News is a recap of Somerville Community Access Television's Net Neutrality panel discussion, a sneak preview of the YUM festival, exclusive coverage on the murder of Deanna Cremin, an update on opioids and the fight against drug overdose, and Rt. 93 pollution. All of these news stories and more on SCATV Ch. 3, Tuesdays at 7 p.m. and always available online at scatvsomerville.org/SNN.







#### Facing heroin head on CONT. FROM PG 1

about 30 to 50 times stronger than heroin and therefore more dangerous. At the beginning of the year, there were 22 recorded overdose deaths in Pittsburg

The arrest made last Friday by the Somerville police may help to curtail the prevalence of heroin in the city, but, as Cabral says, arrests are never going to cure this problem.

"The police department realizes that you cannot arrest your way out of this problem," he said. "Therefore, we are making an ef-

fort to work in conjunction with other city agencies in a collaborative effort to educate, enforce and assist in any way we can. We realize that this problem affects from heroin mixed with fentanyl a lot of families and we are now training our police officers in Narcan use in the hopes that we may be able to save a life."

> Cabral spoke at an event Tuesday (April 8) in Somerville to warn people about how dangerous heroin mixed with fentanyl is. The event was hosted by the Somerville Department of Health and is part of a citywide

program, "How To Save A Life," to tackle heroin abuse in the area. The informational event also featured Jan Kauffman, vice president of addiction treatment at North Charles Inc. who talked about how to recognize and treat heroin addiction, and the Somerville Fire Department.

"How To Save A Life" is a program funded by a \$100,000 grant by the Massachusetts Department of Health and involves a variety of community providers, such as Somerville Department of Health, the Office of Prevention, the Somerville Fire Department, Teen Empowerment and the Somerville Police Department. The program seeks to educate Somerville residents about heroin abuse, how to treat it and how to administer Narcan - the drug to counteract overdose. The Somerville Police Department is training all of its officers in how to administer the drug.

Although education, community outreach and preventative measures will hopefully go a long way in tackling this increasingly widespread problem, there are other, more decisive measures that will play an important role. For instance, the Somerville Police Department is combining the efforts of their narcotics unit, gang unit and detective unit to try and understand the problem and is sending more officers out to investigate heroin-related deaths. Detectives are performing follow-up investigations on both fatal and non-fatal overdoses to find out where users are getting their heroin from and if it is laced with fentanyl.

Because of these increased and coordinated efforts, police were able to arrest a possible drug dealer last Friday and remove a substantial amount of narcotics from the street. According to Cabral, this is one of a number of arrests the narcotics unit has made in the past few months and, although aware this will not solve the problem, indicates that increased efforts are working.

However, the resurgence of a highly addictive drug is deeply worrying for city authorities and residents. Although Somerville has no statistics with which to compare those recorded since January 2013, police have noted increases in the last few months alone. Gov. Deval Patrick declared a statewide public health emergency March 27 due to the growing numbers of opioid overdoses and, thanks to efforts undertaken under the "How To Save A Life" and by public services such as the police department, Somerville is taking steps to tackle it.

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## Somerville DPW goes on 'Pothole Blitz'

In just three months, the Somerville Department of Public Works is on pace to break its record for potholes filled within one calendar year. After completing 1,520 externally and internally generated work orders for potholes in 2013, DPW crews have already filled 1,147 potholes through March 2014, including 552 in March alone. The annual average for potholes filled is 1,399, and the city is calling on residents to help keep the blitz going by reporting any and all pothole sightings to 311 (see below for five easy ways to report a pothole).

"Especially after an extremely cold and snowy winter, heavily trafficked city streets see a tremendous amount of wear and tear both from standard vehicle travel and from heavy public works trucks and plows that work around the clock to keep our streets safe and clear from snow and ice," said Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone. "Our crews are making great progress addressing streets in need of repair as winter finally winds down, and the public can help. We're surveying the streets for any potholes to repair but residents can make sure we don't miss any by reporting them to 311."

"Our goal is always to respond to requests for pothole patching as soon as possible and within the allotted two [business] day timeframe noted in the 311 Work Order system," said DPW



Commissioner Stan Koty. "This year we are being even more proactive in preparing for the warmer months with the addition of a second truck equipped for patching, which has allowed us to cover more ground. To date, 70 percent of the potholes filled have been proactively identified and entered as work orders by DPW crews."

The blitz has been timed to coincide with the warming weather because potholes form more frequently in winter. Potholes are created when water seeps into existing cracks and into underlying soil, weakening the pavement. Cold temperatures cause the water to freeze and expand and, with added weight of traffic on the weakened pavement, asphalt breaks, eventually leaving the hole that can become larger if not treated appropriately.

In March 2014, the city purchased a second truck equipped

for pothole patching that can hold up to four tons of hot top per load in preparation for spring. A second city-owned truck has the capacity for up to three tons.

"The health, safety, and quality of life of our residents is our top priority, and that starts by ensuring our streets and sidewalks are safe for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians," said Mayor Curtatone. "All of our city employees are expected to deliver accurate, courteous and easy customer service and I am proud to say that the Highway crew is exemplifying that mission by taking a more proactive approach to addressing our roadway safety infrastructure. The Pothole Blitz is far from over, and to help keep our streets in top condition we encourage constituents to continue to report potholes as you see them by calling 311, 24 hours a day, seven days a week."

## McCarthy Overpass, Medford Street Tunnel detours



Work on repairs to McGrath Highway/the McCarthy Overpass has required the complete closure of the overpass between Prospect Hill Avenue and Poplar Street, as well as the Medford Street Tunnel, from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Weather permitting, work is expected to continue overnight for two months.

During these work hours, vehicles will be detoured as follows: Medford Street Tunnel:

- Northbound traffic from Medford Street will be detoured left onto Somerville Avenue and right onto Washington Street (at Ricky's Flower Market).
- + Southbound traffic from

Somerville Avenue will be detoured left onto Washington Street (at Ricky's Flower Market), or may continue on to access Medford Street or McGrath Highway at Poplar Street.

#### McCarthy Overpass:

• Southbound traffic on Mc-Grath Highway will be detoured onto the surface road at Prospect Hill Avenue, across Somerville Avenue and back onto McGrath Highway at Poplar Street.

For the three-week look-ahead, visit somervillema.gov/alerts/city-construction-updates. Anyone with questions can call 311 (or 617-666-3311).

## Five Ways to Report a Pothole in Somerville

Call 311 (or 617-666-3311)

Email 311Updates@somervillema.gov

Post to 311's Facebook page www.facebook.com/311Somerville

Tweet to @311Somerville

Try the App Download 311's nifty mobile app via the links at http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/constituent-services and use the app for all your 311 requests.

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## **Beacon Hill Roll Call**



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THE HOUSE AND SENATE. Beacon Hill Roll Call records local senators' votes on one roll call and local representatives' votes on seven roll calls from the week of March 31 - April 4.

Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Somerville:



Rep. Denise Provost

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



#### Rep. Timothy Toomey

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



#### Sen. Patricia Jehlen

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

#### BENEFITS FOR FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS (H 4023)

House 149-0, Senate 39-0, approved and sent to Gov. Deval Patrick a bill increasing the benefits for families of public safety employees killed in the line of duty from \$100,000 to \$150,000. This change applies retroactively to the families of Firefighter Michael Kennedy and Lt. Edward Walsh, who were killed on March 26 while fighting a fire in Boston's Back Bay, and Plymouth Police Officer Gregg Maloney, who died in the line of duty on April 1.

Supporters said it is time to increase this benefit, which has not been raised since 1994. They argued this should be approved quickly in honor and memory of these fallen heroes, who made the ultimate sacrifice.

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

Rep. Denise Provost Yes Rep. Carl Sciortino Didn't Vote Rep. Timothy Toomey Yes Sen. Sal DiDomenico Yes Sen. Patricia Jehlen Yes

#### **INCREASE MINIMUM WAGE (H 3983)**

House 125-24, approved a bill hiking the current \$8 per hour minimum wage by \$2.50 over the next three years, beginning on July 1, 2014, to \$10.50 per hour. Another provision raises the minimum hourly wage of waiters, waitresses and other tipped employees from \$2.63 to \$3.75. The measure also makes changes in the state's unemployment insurance system and provides some protections for domestic workers.

Supporters said this pro-worker bill would ensure economic justice and help thousands of families that are living near the poverty level despite the fact that the breadwinners work in excess of 40 hours weekly. They argued that a minimum wage hike is one of the best anti-poverty programs available.

Opponents said the hike would cost businesses \$500 million while they are already faced with skyrocketing health care and energy costs. They noted it would also cost jobs and hurt consumers by forcing companies to raise prices.

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

Rep. Denise Provost Yes Rep. Carl Sciortino Yes Rep. Timothy Toomey

#### SMALLER HIKE TO \$9.50 PER HOUR (H 3983)

House 27-120, rejected an amendment that would hike the minimum wage to \$9.50 per hour over three years.

Amendment supporters said this is a more reasonable hike that is fair to both workers and employers.

Most amendment opponents said \$9.50 will not provide sufficient help to families living near the poverty level despite working 40 or more hours per week.

Two Republican representatives who voted against the hike to \$9.50 said they oppose any hike in the minimum

against it.)

Rep. Denise Provost No Rep. Carl Sciortino Didn't Vote Rep. Timothy Toomey No

#### **TERMINATION OF BENEFITS (H 3983)**

House 19-131, rejected an amendment that would require workers who receive unemployment benefits to accept any similar job offer from their former company or lose their unemployment benefits. The offer must be for at least a two-month period and must entail a similar skill level and substantially similar hours, wages and distance from their home. Workers are eligible for a hearing on whether the job meets all the requirements.

Amendment supporters said this would strongly encourage people to accept these job offers and get off of unemployment. They said there are many cases of workers refusing these positions and noted that current law is not as specific as the amendment.

Amendment opponents said current law already provides that a person's unemployment benefits end if he or she refuses to take a job in his or her "usual occupation or any other occupation for which he or she is reasonably

(A "Yes" vote is for the amendment. A "No" vote is

Rep. Denise Provost No Rep. Carl Sciortino No Rep. Timothy Toomey No

#### WAGE VIOLATIONS (H3983)

House 29-121, rejected an amendment that would repeal a 2008 law which requires employers who are convicted of not paying wages to an employee in a timely fashion to pay him or her triple the amount of money owed. The 2008 law was passed in response to a 2005 court ruling that left the amount of the award to the discretion of the judge.

Amendment supporters said that the 2008 law goes too far and takes away all discretion from judges despite the circumstances of the case. They argued that the law should be flexible because employers who make an honest error should not be required to pay triple damages.

Amendment opponents defended the 2008 law and argued that triple damages should automatically be awarded in order to discourage employers from holding back

(A"Yes" vote is for repealing the law and is against mandating triple damages. A "No" vote is against repeal and favors mandating triple damages.)

> Rep. Denise Provost No Rep. Carl Sciortino No Rep. Timothy Toomey

Beacon Hill Roll Call urges you to read the next two roll calls carefully and be aware that the studies were proposed in place of the amendment, so a "yes" vote is for the study and essentially is against the amendment. Conversely, a "no" vote is against the study and generally favors the amendment.

#### (A "Yes" vote is for the hike to \$9.50. A "No" vote is INDEFINITELY DELAY ALLOWING LOWER TRAINING WAGES FOR FIRST 90 DAYS (H 3983)

House 119-30, indefinitely delayed an amendment that would allow employers to pay workers 25 percent less than the minimum wage for his or her first 90 days of employment. The delay would require the Patrick administration to study and report back to the Legislature on the impact the training wage would have on the state.

Amendment supporters said the minimum wage hike would discourage employers from hiring inexperienced teens under 18 to train for their first jobs. They said the amendment would give businesses more flexibility to hire those teens.

Amendment opponents said the reduced training wage is simply unfair and would apply to both teens and adults. They argued that unscrupulous employers might

### **Beacon Hill Roll Call**

#### continued

just continue hiring teens under 18 for 90 days, pay them the lower wage and then let them go.

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

> Rep. Denise Provost Yes Rep. Carl Sciortino Yes Rep. Timothy Toomey Yes

#### INDEFINITELY DELAY EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (H 3983)

House 117-31, indefinitely delayed an amendment that would increase over four years the earned income tax credit for low-income working families with children living at home from 15 percent to 25 percent of the federal credit. The credit is applied toward the taxpayer's liability, and if it exceeds the liability, the taxpayer receives the excess credit as a refund. The delay would require the Patrick administration to study and report back to the Legislature on the impact the amendment would have on the state.

Amendment supporters said this increased credit will help thousands of low-income working families who are struggling to make ends meet and will result in many of them paying little or no state income tax.

Amendment opponents said the increase would cost the state more than \$100 million which it cannot afford.

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

> Rep. Denise Provost Yes Rep. Carl Sciortino Yes Rep. Timothy Toomey Yes

#### ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

#### TAX CREDIT FOR HOMEOWNERS (H 2627) -

The House gave initial approval, on a voice vote without debate, to a bill making more homeowners eligible for a tax credit equal to the amount by which the taxpayer's real estate tax payment or the rent constituting real estate tax payment on the person's primary residence exceeds 10 per cent of the taxpayer's total income.

The home cannot be assessed at more than \$600,000 and the maximum credit is \$750. In order to qualify, a taxpayer's total income cannot exceed \$40,000 for an individual and \$60,000 for a couple. Currently, only taxpayers over 65 are eligible for this tax credit. The bill would repeal the age requirement and make all taxpayers who qualify financially eligible.

#### SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING (H 443) -

The Education Committee approved a bill that would require all public school personnel to receive a minimum of two hours of suicide awareness and prevention training annually.

Supporters say that suicide is the third leading cause of death among youths between 10 and 19 years old. They note that there are often warning signs that training will help teachers pick up. They argue that suicide is often preventable and that this training will save many lives.

FINANCIAL LITERACY (S 234) - The Education Committee also gave a favorable report to a bill requiring the state to develop and allow cities and towns to institute a program to teach students financial literacy including understanding banking and financial services, loans, interest, credit card debt, online commerce, renting or buying a home, saving, investing and planning for retirement, balancing a checkbook, state and federal taxes and charitable giving.

ASSISTED SUICIDE (H 1998) - The Public Health Committee has recommended that a bill allowing physician-assisted suicide for the terminally ill be sent to a study committee. Voters defeated a similar measure on the 2012 ballot by a slim 51 percent to 49 percent margin. Most measures shipped off to a study committee are never actually studied and are essentially defeated.

OFFICIAL GROUNDHOG (H 2864) - The House approved and sent to the Senate a bill making Ms. G., the popular groundhog at the Massachusetts Audubon Society's Drumlin Farm, the official groundhog of Massachusetts. Ms. G. is the Bay State counterpart to Pennsylvania's Punxsutawney Phil. The measure also requires that the popular groundhog be used to educate elementary school children on the importance of meteorology.

The bill was filed by Rep. Alice Peisch (D-Wellesley) on behalf of elementary school students at the Hunnewell School in Wellesley. Many of these types of bills are filed by legislators on behalf of classes of students as part of an exercise for youngsters to learn about the legislative process.

STUDENT RIGHTS (H 3942) - The Higher Education Committee held a hearing on legislation that would require college officials to inform students of their right to call their parents and their right to have an attorney present in the event of a disciplinary hearing that may result in expulsion.

#### **QUOTABLE QUOTES**

"With this vote to increase the minimum wage and to reform our unemployment insurance system, the House has strengthened two important aspects of our state's social and economic fabric." — House Speaker Robert De- Fri. April 4 Leo (D-Winthrop).

it's simply bad policy to make it even harder to run a business and employ people. It's very saddening to see that so many representatives chose to feel good, not do good, by joining the speaker in advancing this misguided bill." — Paul Craney, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Fiscal Alliance.

"We encourage housing authorities to adopt smoke-free housing policies in state-aided public housing units to protect the health of residents from second-hand smoke, prevent fires and fire-related deaths from smoking, and reduce unit turnover costs." — Aaron Gornstein, undersecretary for the state's Department of Housing and Community Development.

"\$59,328." — The amount of money left at the end of 2013 in retiring Senate President Therese Murray's campaign account. Murray held a "Thank You Madame President" Boston fundraiser last week at the UMass Club on Franklin Street. A recommendation on the invitation encouraged donations of \$200 to \$500.

#### 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 March 31-April 4, the House met for a total of ten hours and 37 minutes and the Senate met for a total of one hour and 46 minutes.

Mon. March 31 House 11:04 a.m. to 11:14 a.m. Senate 11:00 a.m. to 11:24 a.m. Tues. April 1 No Senate session No Senate session Wed. April 2 House 11:02 a.m. to 8:58 p.m. No Senate session House 11:02 a.m. to 11:33 a.m. Thurs. April 3 Senate 3:00 p.m. to 4:22 p.m. No House session No Senate session

"At a time when the so-called recovery is still sputtering, Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com



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## **COMMENTARY**

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

## A unified community front against opioid addiction



By Joseph A. Curtatone

Massachusetts—and the nation-face an epidemic and Somerville is not immune. In four months starting on Nov. 1 of last year, 185 people in the Bay State died from heroin overdoses according to the State Police, and that number does not

include Boston, Springfield or Worcester, Deaths from drug overdoses now surpass deaths from motor vehicle accidents nationwide, according to an October 2013 report from nonprofit Trust for America's Health. That report also found that between 2000 and 2010, the number of states that surpassed the alarming benchmark of more than 10 drug overdose deaths per 100,000 increased sevenfold—from five states to 38. One of those states was Massachusetts, which rose from a rate of 7.5 deaths to 11—an increase of 47 percent.

Tragically, Somerville is all too familiar with the devastating impacts of opioid addiction. When I first took office, our city was in the midst of its own epidemic, suffering from high rates of suicide and drug abuse among our youth, particularly related to OxyContin and heroin. We had to find a way to intervene early, stop opioid abuse before it began, and provide supports to those already affected. That meant we had to work collaboratively with all our stakeholders, from mental health professionals to law enforcement and school officials, embracing and supporting the vulnerable members of our community with every service available—education, intervention, support and treatment. We had to come together as a community, form a unified front and heal together. And that's how we have to combat this epidemic today—through collaboration, and it should not stop at city borders.

Ten years ago, we brought the substance abuse prevention effort Somerville Cares About Prevention under the Health Department to strengthen community services and bring together our community partners.

We also tapped the expertise of the Institute from Community Health in Cambridge, which poured over the data and identified links between those who had fallen to substance abuse and suicide. Prevention trainings for community stakeholders spread the message about drug prevention throughout our community. We convened a task force that led to the creation of the Trauma Response Network, a group of community volunteers including educators, coaches, health professionals, and police officers, who we trained in responding Continued on page 16

## The best explanation for our growing economic inequality



By William C. Shelton

Economics has been called the "dismal science" ever since Thomas Carlyle turned that phrase in 1849. But a blazing discussion is illuminating the gloom. Its light source is the English publication of Capital in the Twenty-First Century by French economist Thomas Piketty.

His timely subject is economic inequality. His exhaustive research and elegant analysis challenge economists, left, right, and center, obligating them to respond. Usually conservative in its views, The Economist writes that his work can change how we think about two centuries of economic history.

In 1993, at age 22 Piketty began teaching here at MIT, having already earned a PhD. But after three years he returned to France, bored with mainstream economics and with economists who were "too often preoccupied with petty mathematical problems of interest only to themselves." He writes, "I was only too aware of the fact that I knew nothing at all about the world's economic problems."

He chose to focus on capital accumulation. By "capital" he means assets that generate income, such as factories, intellectual property, real estate, stocks, and bonds.

Dissatisfied with explanations offered by classical economists like Adam Smith, David Ricardo, John Stewart Mill, and Karl Marx, Piketty set aside theoretical assumptions and undertook comprehensive research. Of course he had access to data sources that they could never imagine.

With his colleagues, he spent ten years compiling historical data on wealth, income, and inequality in France, the U.S., Britain, China, India, Japan, and twenty other countries. His findings contradict conventional wisdom.

I was taught in college that inequality increases during the early stages of industrialization, but as an economy continues to develop, incomes converge. This assumption permeates much of academia, journalism, and popular culture. But taking the long view, Piketty found the opposite

The reason for this is elegant in its simplicity. Whenever the after-tax return on capital exceeds the growth of the economy, income produced by capital rises faster than wages and salaries. And as capital accumulates, it generates ever more capital for those who own it.

It makes intuitive sense that if those with a lot of capital are absorbing wealth at a greater rate than the economy is producing it, they will become ever more wealthy, while those with little or no capital will become less so. And this has been the case for most of capitalism's history.

Continued on page 17

## Life in the June by Jimmy Del Ponte

## Good pats on 'The Hill'



Here is another story by my good friend Anthony Accardi Jr.

With all of the eating places, other small

businesses and a Star Market, Winter Hill was at one time a bustling area with both high foot and vehicular traffic. It was a place where people could do their food shopping, run their errands and grab a quick bite to eat - all within walking distance of each other.

At the corner of Broadway and Mc-Grath Highway (across from Foss Park), there is a Dunkin' Donuts. At one time on that site stood The White Tower. From what I've heard, during the 1950s and '60s it was a hangout for the locals from

Winter Hill and East Somerville. The White Tower was a chain like McDonald's that served burgers, fries, soft drinks and shakes. When the White Tower closed down, it became an Arby's Roast Beef. After Arby's closed, the building was torn down and replaced. First it was an Arthur Treacher's Fish & Chips. I remember the food there was just OK. For a short while, it became Scooby's Fish & Chips, and now (and probably forever), it is a Dunkin' Donuts.

There was also Primo's Pizza, which was actually in three locations. First it was at the corner of Wheatland Street and Broadway (where the Winter Hill Market is). The original building at that corner burnt down around 1970, and Primo's moved further up and to the other side of Broadway (across from the Star). When Walnut Drug (at the corner of Sargent Avenue and Broadway) closed down around 1978, Primo's moved there and was there until they closed a few years ago. It was at this last location they expanded their menu to include pasta, steak tips and various grilled foods. I have to mention that Walnut Drug also featured a soda fountain with a counter and stools.

Next up Broadway is Leone's Sub Shop. Their illuminated sign with "SUBS" written vertically with a green neon zig-zag is a Winter Hill landmark. They have been on Broadway since 1955. First they were in a block of buildings that stood where the Star Market building is. They moved to their current location when that block

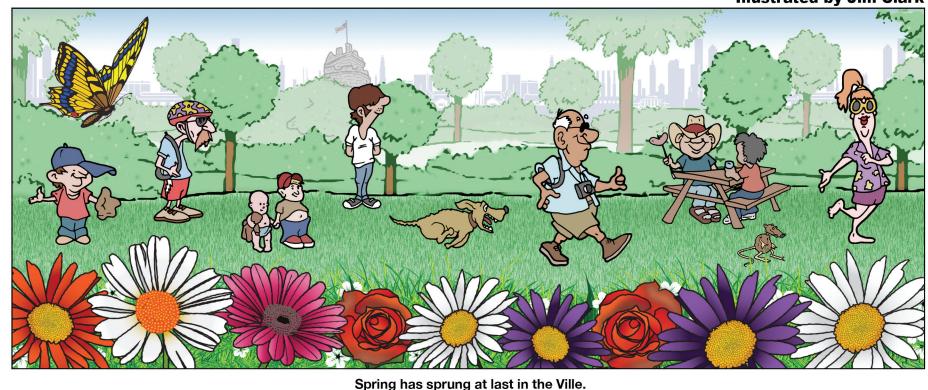


was torn down to make way for the Star. Vic and Louise Leone started the shop. In the late 1970s, due to competition from Primo's down the street and Mama Lisa's up the street, Continued on page 19

## COMMENTARY

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

## **Illustrated by Jim Clark**



## The View Of The Times



Green Line extension stops, master plan discussions for Union Square and grand visions for Assembly Row have taken up much of the planning talk around the city, and now it's time to take an overdue look at Winter Hill.

The upcoming Central Broadway streetscape improvements meeting at the Winter Hill Community School, which will be held at 630 p.m. Wednesday, April 16, will hopefully begin a discussion among residents and city officials on development plans both big and small.

The area being looked at runs along Broadway from Route 28/McGrath Highway intersection to just east of the Broadway/Medford Street intersection where the Magoun Square improvements begin.

It is hard to imagine rejuvenating the

area without addressing the long-vacant Star Market site, which Ward 4 Alderman Tony Lafuente's has been pushing to get some answers on. It may be too small for the supermarket chains that believe bigger ("super") is always better, so it will take some creative thinking to figure out what could be developed at the site that would truly benefit residents. There will also be new ward representation when a

successor to former Rep. Carl Sciortino, who recently resigned from his position to become executive director of the AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts, is elected in the fall.

Those who live in the area and plan to stay know better than anyone what is and isn't needed, and that first-hand input combined with innovative planning can bring a neglected area back to life.

#### Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Congratulations to Joey DelPonte, the proud son of the ever-popular Jimmy DelPonte, who was recently accepted into Suffolk University Honors Program. Keep up the good work, and we wish him well.

The 40th PTA Scholarship Dinner

Dance for the Somerville Council of PTAs will be held May 2 at Anthony's in Malden.

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Our sympathy goes out to the Ludwick family on the recent passing of Margaret "Tootsie" Ludwick after a long illness. Some of us from East Somerville remember the Ludwick family used to own a store on lower Washington Street, and Mrs. Ludwick was widely known to many down there.

Happy Birthday this week to Bruce Rollins III, who turns 46 this year. Bruce works for NSTAR, grew up here in the Ville and lives with his family in Woburn, but he is in Somerville all the time. Pat Scrima is another person from a well-known Somerville family, and we wish him all the best. Steve MacEachern, who is superintendent of lights and lines here in the city, we wish him all the best and hope he has a great day. The new mayor of Boston, Marty Walsh, cel-

ebrates his birthday. Although not from the Ville, he has lots of friends here -real friends. Realtor Ida Fasano, who works here at the Norton Group, celebrates her birthday this week. To all the other birthdays this week, we wish you all the very best and hope you have a great day. \*\*\*\*\*\*

Our good friend and one of the best ladies here in Somerville, Cam Toner, is back and forth out of Mass General. We wish her a speedy recovery and hope she is back on her feet very soon. Even though she's ill, she's still working (We caught her asking for pen and paper to do her Ms. Cam's Olio trivia). She is the heartbeat of The Somerville Times and is popular with a lot of the residents here in Somerville. Get well

The city is looking for residents to serve on the new Recreation Task Force, which will review the current recreation programming available to Somerville residents of all ages and make recommendations on how the city might strengthen its offerings. Members will meet at least monthly for the next eight months starting in late-April. Applications are due Wednesday, April 16. The group will study and discuss programming delivered by the city, such as services carried out by the Recreation Department, the Council on Aging, and the Arts Council, as well as review programming delivered citywide by traditional private providers such as the YMCA and by newer organizations offering everything from circus arts to Zumba. To submit your name to be considered for appointment, complete the short form posted at http://tinyurl. com/SomRecTaskForce by April16.

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

For all you history buffs out there, the city's 239th annual Patriots' Day celebration will be held at Foss Park from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Monday, April 21. Co-sponsored by the Historic Preservation Commission, Historic Somerville, the Somerville Museum and East Somerville Main Streets, the day's events will include Colonial games and songs, light refreshments, youth readings, and a visit from Paul Revere on horseback on his historic ride from Boston to Lexington through Somerville. The event will begin with live music by the Somerville High School band, games and refreshments, followed by a brief speaking agenda with youth poetry readings and the arrival of Paul Revere. Children will receive a "Colonial Times Passport" and are invited to participate in various Colonial-era

games. Children who complete each of the six stations will receive a small prize. Volunteers will be dressed in traditional Colonial attire and attendees are encouraged to do the same. For more information, contact Executive Director Brandon Wilson at 617-625-6600 ext 2532 or bwilson@ somervillema.gov or Barbara Mangum, president of Historic Somerville by emailing admin@historicsomerville.org or by calling 617-625-5809.

The first-ever Somerville Food Truck Festival at Assembly Row will be held Saturday, June 7. Launching the 2014 Food Truck Festivals of New England season, the Somerville Food Truck Festival will also launch the second season of ASSEMBLED, the handmade arts market at Assembly Row that will include New England Etsy artisans. There will be food trucks, a beer tent, specialty food vendors, live music, sampling tents and children's activities. The festival will run from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. with popular New England food trucks, plus many newcomers, all serving up a variety of dishes including bacon favorites, Asian fusion, local seafood, BBQ, gourmet grilled cheese, homemade ice cream and more. Ticket information will be available shortly.

# Somerville Open Studios 2014

On the first weekend in May, over 400 Somerville artists will open their doors and invite the public into their studios for one of the largest single-weekend open studio events in the nation.

Now in its 16th year, the weekend continues to grow throughout the city, drawing in scores of local businesses and becoming a festive destination. In the US, only New York has more artists per capita than the City of Somerville.

During SOS, artists will open in every kind of working space, showcasing every kind of visual media. Throughout the city a visitor can see glass-blowers, jewelers, sculptors, digitally-based and interactive media artists, painters, photographers, weavers, printmakers, furniture makers, fashion designers, and artists whose media are too new to even have a name.

Historic, converted industrial spaces such as Vernon Street and Joy Street hold more than 100 artists each; mid-sized buildings such as Mad Oyster Studios, Washington Street Art Center, Central Street, and others count their numbers in the dozens and often mount small group shows inside their buildings; Somerville's Artisan's Asylum is one of the largest maker spaces in the country.

Not to be forgotten or overlooked, many visitors thrill to see how the scores of independent artists who make their studios in their homes integrate domestic and artistic lives into one. Somerville Open Studios is the only opportunity to get an intimate glimpse into some of these more private artist lives in what becomes equal parts Open Studios and home show.

For Somerville artists without space to open to the public, SOS offers a Community Space at Arts at the Armory. The Cafe at the Armory will also house a Kid's Art show for Somerville's smallest future artists.

The weekend features:

- Free trolleys to transport visitors from one neighborhood to the next (Sat & Sun)
- Mapbooks available at artist-made stands throughout the city
- \* Information kiosks located in both Davis and Union Squares
- Orange balloons mark artist sites
- + Free, no-hassle parking in several city lots: leave your car and ride the free Trolley; City resident parking restrictions will also be lifted for this event
- + Some sites and one trolley will be handicapped accessible. Please check mapbook for details.

The Volunteer Exhibit at BLOC 11 Café, 11 Bow Street, Union Square, runs through May 17. Art by SOS volunteers who have contributed time and effort in organizing Somerville Open Studios in the past and present.

The Opening Reception for the Artist's Choice Exhibit is Friday, April 11, 7-9 p.m. at the Somerville Museum, 1 Westwood Rd. The show, running through May 10, is a group exhibit of SOS participants to help art lovers plan their studio visits.

SOS Beyond the Pattern Fashion Show Arts will be at the Armory, 191 Highland Ave., Thursday, May 1. Doors open at 6 p.m., show at 7 p.m., featuring a live runway presentation showcasing the dazzlingly diverse work of local artists in fashion and wearable art.

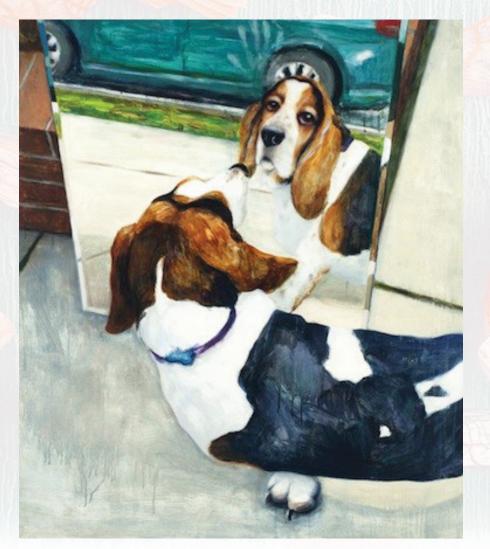
For more information please see www.somervilleopenstudios.org.







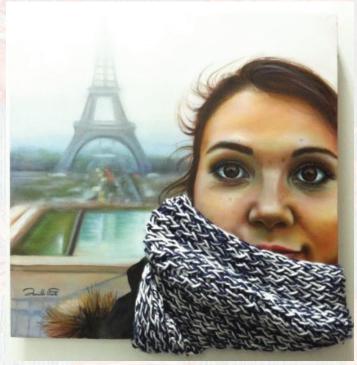


















Photos courtesy of Somerville Open Studios

## **SPORTS**

## 'Team Collier' recognized for fundraising success

By David R. Smith

Somerville resident Laura Mancuso became friends with Sean Collier playing on an adult kickball team, and now she is honoring his memory as co-captain of "Team Collier" in the annual Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk.

She and her fellow co-captain, Quincy resident Chandra Allard, recently received a "Spirit Award" at the Jimmy Fund and Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's third annual Summit on Fundraising for raising \$61,000 during last year's walk. Collier's sister, Jennifer Lemmerman, attended the event with Allard and Mancuso.

"We thank Chandra and Laura for leading Team Collier during a time of uncertainty and sadness in the Boston community," Jimmy Fund Director Suzanne Fountain said. "Their leadership is an extension of the unwavering commitment that Sean maintained for years, and they have inspired us and so many others to go the extra mile."

Mancuso and Allard had initially started two teams in honor of Collier and later merged them to create a larger group that walked up to 26.2 during last year's event.

Collier, the 27-year-old Somerville resident and MIT police officer who was fatally shot by the alleged marathon bombing suspects April 18 of last year, was a dedicated supporter of the Jimmy Fund since high school, making recurring gifts on a monthly basis. As teenagers in high school, Collier and his sister heard about the Jimmy Fund while listening to the annual WEEI/NESN Jimmy Fund Radio Telethon during a summer job they held together at a medical office.

"Sean would talk about the stories of the young cancer patients on our car ride home, and you could tell they had an impact on him," Lemmerman said. "He wanted to do something to help, so he set up automatic payments from his bank account in order to make regular contributions to the Jimmy Fund, and he did that up until he died."

Mancuso met Colllier in 2011, with both playing on an adult kickball team called "Kickhopopotamus," which she described as a close-knit group.

"Sean Collier was a good friend of mine," she said. "After Sean was killed, we began looking for things to do to both heal and honor Sean. When we heard that the Jimmy Fund was Sean's favorite charity, we knew we had to be involved. I was able to connect with Sean's siblings and hear other stories about him and share my own, which was nice."

Team Collier, which crossed the finish line together, wore matching T-shirts and exceeded its fundraising goal of \$26,200 - a thousand dollars for every mile of the Boston Marathon route. In 2013, Team Collier raised more than \$61,000 for the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk.

"A play on 'Boston Strong," 'Collier Strong' has become a slogan for many members of the team," Lemmermen said. "At every mile marker throughout the walk, teammates would shout, 'How strong? Collier Strong!' and received a thumbs up or even hugs from spectators who were inspired by Sean's story."

She added that she received a message prior to the event that the police chief in Hopkinton



Laura Mancuso, of Somerville, Jennifer Lemmerman, of Melrose, and Chandra Allard, of Quincy.

would like to meet the team before they started. What the team didn't know, though, was that the police departments in the first several towns along the route were planning a police escort for the team, riding alongside them with their lights on in a show of support for Sean and everyone walking in his memory.

"It was amazing," she said.

Team Collier will join more than 8,500 participants in the

walk Sunday, Sept. 21. The 2014 event goal is to raise more than \$7.5 million, bringing the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk's 26-year fundraising total to more than \$100 million.

"My experience participating in the event was very meaningful," Mancuso said.

To register, or to support a walker participant, visit www. JimmyFundWalk.org or call 866-531-9255.



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## **Del Ponte wins Suffolk honors**

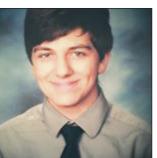
Congratulations to Joey Del Ponte for being accepted into Suffolk University's elite honors program. Joey, son of Cathy and Jimmy Del Ponte, will be graduating from Matignon High School in May.

The Suffolk University undergraduate honors curricula are designed to offer students extra challenges within a community of committed scholars. The program features outstanding academic opportunities, mentoring and recognition events from orientation through graduation. Academic and social events are designed to promote leadership and public service, so students may develop valu-



able networking and other career-oriented skills. Del Ponte has also been offered a very generous scholarship.

He is an intern for Scout magazine and the lead singer for The Poison Girls Club band. His brother Jimmy is the drummer in the band. His sister Nikki, brotherin-law Brandon and niece Christiana live in Cranston, R.I. Del Ponte plans to study journalism.



#### Strongman pushes for bombing victims

Jerry Bowser, also known as the "Boston Brawler" from his professional wrestling days, will carry, in a wheelbarrow, 2,350 pounds 900 feet across Ball Square in order to raise money for two friends of his who each lost a leg during last year's Boston Marathon bombing. It will cost each man \$1.4 million

to get and maintain a prosthetic leg through the age of 70. He will begin the power push at 2 p.m. Saturday April 19.



mixture, hodgepodge

- 1. What is the approximate deepest point of the Pacific Ocean?
- 2. How many signatures are on the Declaration of Independence?
- 3. In what year did Sony introduce the Walkman?
- 4. In baseball, how wide is home plate?
- 5. How many spaces are there on a standard Scrabble board?
- 6. In what year did FedEx begin delivering packages?

- 7. What color is the \$100 bill in the game of Monopoly?
- 8. Approximately how many earths could fit inside the planet Jupiter?
- 9. What year did Mc-Donald's sell its first Happy Meal?
- 10. What was the name of the dog on My Three
- 11. Who wrote the book Jurassic Park?
- 12. In what year did the NFL and AFL merge?

Answers on page 17



"Best of Somerville" 2009 & 2010

Eat-In Take-Out

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#### 'Proud to be a Townshend'

creative juices are still fully flowing.

Despite having being involved in a car accident two days earlier while driving home to London from Buckley, Wales, Townshend kindly kept his appointment to speak to The Somerville Times via Skype on the eve of his American tour, which will bring him to Johnny D's Friday, April 12.

Blake Maddux: From where are you speaking to me?

Simon Townshend: My studio in London. It's in the loft of my house. I had an extension put on a few years ago, and that's where I recorded this album [Denial], actually. (Later in the interview, Townshend revealed that he lives in the house in which he was born.)

BM: How are you feeling after your recent car accident?

ST: I've got a sore neck, but other than that, I'm OK. I'm a bit shaken up. I was lucky I hadn't had a drink or anything. I'm clean. I've got an insurance claim, and I should get a replacement vehicle. All good.

BM: I assume that you were raised in a creatively nurturing environment.

**ST:** My father was a fantastic musician. He was kind of the real musician in the family. He sight-read music, he played clarinet and saxophone and was promoted by the BBC as the best in the country two years running. I guess that Pete was very influenced by him. He used to go and watch him play jazz gigs. I had a small amount of that, obviously. My main influences were probably more Pete than my father. My brother, Paul, was playing music as well, but he drifted away from it. I was playing guitar at age 8. Once I was 10, I started playing piano for a few years, and then I went back to guitar when I was around 16 or 17. So I'm lucky, you know, I had those influences, and it kept me interested.

BM: What sort of personal taste did you develop in music when you were growing up?

**ST:** I was always influenced by singer-songwriters. I really got heavily into the American artists, like James Taylor and Carole King. And I also loved Elton John. Stevie Wonder was probably one of my biggest influences at a young age. I adored him. But obviously The Who were, from when I was very young, I was very influenced by them. I thought Tommy was probably the album that I was at an age where I could really identify with the music on that, and I understood it. Whereas perhaps previous to that, it was always just like the quirky stuff I used to like, like [The Who songs] Call Me Lightning and Dogs, things that were more obscure and more fun. As I grew up, I got more into singer-songwriters.

BM: Did both you and your brother, Paul, audition for the speaking role as Pete Townshend on The Simpsons episode A Tale of Two Springfields?

ST: No. I was away touring at that time. Pete refused to do it. I think Roger (Daltrey) and John (Entwistle, The Who's bassist) did theirs. Paul not only looks more like Pete than I do, but he sounds a little more like Pete, so he would've gotten the job over me anyway. Paul fit perfectly in it, and he still gets the royalty checks today, so he's very happy about that!

BM: In his autobiography, Pete mentions leaving you "in David Bowie's care" at the Royal Albert

Hall when you were 8 years old. Do you remember this?

**CONT. FROM PG 1** 

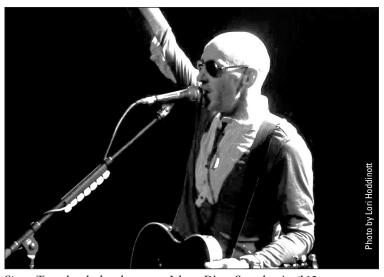
ST: I have a vague memory of that, actually. Pete told me about this. I started to remember a few years ago, I started to remember the time. Yeah, I sat on his knee and watched the concert, yes. Interesting, isn't it? I think he's a really nice guy, David, from what I know. I haven't really talked to him since. I have met up with him, but we were working and Roger was there, and we didn't get much of a chance to chat about that. I would love to one day talk to him about that and see if he remembers as well.

BM: How differently do you feel when playing before hundreds of people as opposed to thousands of people?

ST: I think when you play to a small club, you have an intimate connection that you've got to learn how to get on a bigger stage. On bigger stages, it did take me quite some time to start to feel that you can connect to the people at the back, even if it's 50,000-capacity. It's not easy at first, but now I consider myself incredibly lucky, because I'm doing both. I'm able to play a club, and then when The Who are on tour, I'm out with them on the biggest stages. I think the most important thing is to just relax, to talk, to connect with your personality. And I think some artists don't realize how important that is. [The people are] hearing the songs, they're hearing your personality in the music, but they do want to hear you as a person, as well.

BM: How did the writing and recording of Denial differ from 2012's Looking Out Looking In?

ST: With this album, it kind of wrote itself. It's a kind of family-driven record, isn't it? We had



Simon Townshend takes the stage at Johnny D's on Saturday, April 12.

so many problems. My son lost one of his children at birth, and then we had the problems with the addiction running through. My daughter had problems, and my brother, Paul, and his wife, they had problems. And I think it just sort of spilled out of me. I realized that one thing that you gotta do when you're writing a song is if you've got something good, get it down quickly, because if you leave it for six months, when you come back to do it, it's a totally different scenario. I was influenced by a comment John Lennon made, which is "write the song one day, record it the next, release it the next."

BM: Is it true that you are close friends with Eddie Vedder of Pearl Jam?

ST: Eddie Vedder, well he's a family friend, really. I met Eddie back when Jerry [Garcia] was still alive. He came up, and he and Jerry were talking about my album Sweet Sound. I was like, "Wow, these guys know my first album." And then Eddie leaned over, put his lips to my ear and started singing one of my songs in my ear, something called Palace In the Air, and it was on Sweet Sound. You talked about the Looking Out Looking In album;

he loves that record. He played the Still Love song at his daughter's christening. He's a good guy. I've spent a lot of time hanging out with Eddie in hotels.

BM: Finally, you know I have to ask: What is it like being the youngest brother of one of popular music's greatest visionaries?

ST: A lot of people ask me that. It's a weird one, isn't it? In the early days, perhaps for me it was harder, because I was a young guy trying to make it in a band, and my big brother was in the biggest band in England and America. So, you know, it was probably difficult then. But Pete has always been incredibly helpful, and he wrote me the most incredible email tonight about my new album. I mean, he's blown away by it. I have so much respect for him.

People say, "What's it like being in his shadow?" I'm not in any shadow. To me it's a freaking honor. I love being Pete's brother. I'm very proud to be a Townshend.

Simon Townshend will be at Johnny D's Friday, April 12. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$20.

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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 

**PLANNING DIVISION** 

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

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on Wednesday, April 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA

25 Auburn Ave: (Case # ZBA 2014-12) Applicant and Owner, Steven Teixeira, seeks a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter a nonconforming dwelling to add a by-right second unit, which includes a rear addition, a dormer, and modifications to windows and doors. The Applicant also seeks a Variance under SZO §9.5.1.a for two spaces of parking relief. RB zone. Ward 1.

71-73 Grant St: (Case #ZBA 2014-13) Applicant & Owner, Evelyn Ullman, seeks a Special Permit per SZO §4.4.1 to relocate and/or add windows, doors, and skylights on a nonconforming structure. RB Zone. Ward 4.

153 Willow Ave: (Case #ZBA 2014-17) Applicant & Owner, Stephen Stack, seeks a Special Permit per SZO §4.4.1 to add a dormer on a nonconforming side yard. RA Zone. Ward 6.

399 Highland Ave: (Case # ZBA 2014-18) Applicant and Owner, Rockland Trust, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to alter the commercial façade of a nonconforming two-story structure, which includes modifications to windows, doors, and storefront materials as well as relocated existing signage. CBD zone. Ward 6.

864 Broadway: (Case #ZBA 2014-20) Applicant, Mary McPartland, and Owner, Charles Kostopoulos, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.5.1 to change the nonconforming use from a furniture store to an ice cream sandwich shop and a Special Permit under SZO §9.13 for relief from parking requirements. RB zone. Ward 6.

19 Cambria St: (Case # ZBA 2014-21) Applicant and Owner, Willard D. Cunningham, seeks a Special Permit to alter a nonconforming two-family structure, under SZO §4.4.1, to add 2 dormers, an approx 30sf addition and a rear deck. RA / Ward 3

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

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant

As published in The Somerville Times on 4/2/14 & 4/9/14.

4/2/14, 4/9/14 The Somerville Times



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

MICHAEL F. GLAVIN **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** 

**PLANNING DIVISION** 

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

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Planning Board on Thursday, April 17, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Visiting Nurse Association, 259 Lowell Street, 3rd Floor, Community Room, Somer-

161 Broadway: (Case #PB 2014-08) Applicant, PJ's Motor Cars, Inc., and Owner, Somerville Realty Ventures, LLC, seek a Special Permit under SZO Section 6.1.22.D.5.a to alter the structure by adding a garage door and relocating a man door to provide access to Minnesota

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

Attest: Kevin Prior, Chairman To be published in The Somerville Times on 4/2/14 & 4/9/14.

4/2/14, 4/9/14 The Somerville Times

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday April 28, 2014 at the Senior Center, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at 6:00PM on the application of Radio Bar, LLC, 379-381 Somerville Ave. to transfer the All-Forms Alcoholic Beverages 7 Day Restaurant License to DemApples, LLC and for a change of location of the license to 230 Somerville Ave, Somerville, MA.

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

**Attest: Jenneen Pagliaro Executive Secretary** 

4/9/14 The Somerville Times

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

There will be a Public Hearing before the Board of Aldermen's Committee on Licenses and Permits on Wednesday, April 16, 2014, at 6:00 PM, in the Committee Room on the 2nd Floor of City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, on the Petition for a Mobile Food Vendor License for Fugu Foods LLC, which seeks to operate in Davis Square as a Mobile Food Vendor, Wednesday and Friday, from 11 AM to 2 PM.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND AND BE HEARD.

JOHN J. LONG

4/9/14 The Somerville Times

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the Somerville Licensing Commission on Monday April 28, 2014 at the Senior Center, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at 6:00PM on the application of Fuji at Assembly, Inc., for a New All-Forms Alcoholic Beverages 7 Day Restaurant License and an Entertainment license consisting of Entertainment by Devices at 320 Canal St., Somerville, MA.

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

Attest: Jenneen Pagliaro **Executive Secretary** 

4/9/14 The Somerville Times

## TO PLACE LEGAL **ADVERTISMENTS IN** THE SOMERVILLE TIMES, CONTACT CAM TONER BY 12 PM MONDAY

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#### A unified community front against opioid addiction **CONT. FROM PG 10**

to suicides, suicide attempts, drug overdoses and other traumatic incidents. Focus groups for suicide survivors and crisis counseling and programs sup-In 2005, the epidemic subsided, and we have continued our prevention efforts. But the threat is still there.

Today, however, we know that a collaborative approach that taps into the wealth of resources in our community and addresses the problem from every angle—and before it begins—is the model for combating opioid addiction. Lifetime OxyContin use among our youth has fallen 66 percent over the past eight years, along with less use of alcohol and marijuana, but we cannot lose our resolve in the face of this insidious epidemic. Much of the news coverage to-

of Narcan, the drug that can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose and save people who can then get the treatment they ported victims of the epidemic, need. Having Narcan available in a collaborative funded by eral leaders are working to retheir family and their friends. to our first responders is im- a state Department of Public verse that trend. SAMHSA's portant, and our police officers and firefighters are currently undergoing training with Cataldo Ambulance Service and should be equipped with the drug this month thanks to an agreement with Cambridge Health Alliance. However, Narcan addresses the problem when addiction has already gotten its hooks into our children, friends and family. We need to do the work at the front end as well, as we had to learn a decade ago. The work of saving a life starts long before anyone dials 911.

We need as a region, state and nation to go back to the approach of investing in pre-

day focuses on the availability vention, education and intervention. We're still doing that in Somerville today, and expanding our efforts, working with Cambridge, Everett and Watertown Health grant. Just this week, our Trauma Response Network held another "How to Save a Life" program for the public.

But as a state and a nation, we have foolishly cut back on those investments. The federal sequester in 2013 forced a \$168 million cut in the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA), which included \$83.1 million slashed from grants for substance abuse treatment programs. The sequester also led to cuts in the state Probation Office's drug and mental health treatment for people on supervision after release from incarceration. It's

state and nation now faces a public health crisis from rising levels of opioid abuse.

Fortunately, our state and fedbudget for fiscal year 2014 restores most of the sequestered funds and \$130 million more in youth-focused mental health prevention and treatment programs. Gov. Deval Patrick has also declared a public health emergency and committed \$20 million to increase drug treatment and recovery services in Massachusetts. When we made those investments in the past, they saved lives. It's an encouraging step in the midst of a terrible crisis that can affect anyone.

And it can affect anyone. The victims of addiction are people we know. I know people near and dear to me who have fall-

horribly no surprise that our en victim to addiction—family, friends, young men I've coached in athletics. Sadly, many of us today have some experience either directly or indirectly with addiction, and it is changing our mindset. When we can and survivors, their friends and family, and take a collaborative community-wide—and region-wide—approach, with support from the state and federal government, we can once again beat back this epidemic.

> For addiction prevention and information, please contact Somerville Cares About Prevention (SCAP) through Director Cory Mashburn at 617-625-6600 x2570 or cmashburn@somervillema. gov, or Clinical Youth Specialist Patty Contente at 617-625-6600 x4325 or pcontente@ somervillema.gov.

## 'Fresh Media' encourages interaction

#### By Jack Adams

Fresh Media held its opening reception at the Nave Gallery in Somerville this past Friday. Fresh Media is an exhibition of interactive works put on by the Dynamic Media Institute, which is comprised of graduate students at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design. The exhibit will stay open through April 11.

Fresh Media's website describes itself as "a unique prototyping event presented in a gallery environment. We use this opportunity to conduct user-testing and to think beyond the classroom."

Most of the pieces on display were interactive. Artist Sofie Elena Hodara's piece, called "IHear," requires the viewer to put on headphones and move their hand above a small black box.

"[IHear] is a little box that plays music. The idea is that as you put on the headphones, you can interact with the sounds, and you manipulate them," Hodara said.

The IHear has four light sensors, each one connected to a different recording of a cellphone ringtone. As you move your hand closer, the ringtones

"The idea is that by manipulating these ringtones, the piece is sort of asking its user to reconsider the relationship they have with their devices," Hodara said. "It's really fun to play with, that's the main point. You play and then, through sort of this playful process, you hear these things as ringtones."

To make the piece, Hodara used computing hardware called Arduino and free software called Pure Data. She mapped the light sensors to the ringtones, as well as four LED lights, to show which ringtones were activated.

"It's taken me a while; it's a little bit of math," she said. "I think what was hard for me was learning how to program, how to use the programming tool in the way that I needed to."

Artist Phil Gedarovich took a slightly different approach with his piece, called "Brain Drain."

"The idea behind the Brain Drain is that it's sort of an educational piece, where you interact with parts of the brain and then learn about the functions of that area," Gedarovich said.

In addition to being a student and an artist, Gedarovich also helped curate the exhibit. He said the Fresh Media show is a prototype exhibition and a way for the students involved to get feedback on their pieces.

The Brain Drain is supposed to teach viewers about their own brains and how the different parts function. It consists of a malleable plastic brain on a table with a screen in front of it. When the viewer pushes on a particular part of the brain, information about that part comes up on the screen.

"The idea with this is that it involves touch and tactile qualities to help encourage remembering of things. You touch a part of the brain, and then it presents information about that particu-



Dream State is one of many fascinating works of art on display at the Nave Gallery's Fresh Media exhibition, now through April 11.

lar structure of the brain," Gedarovich said.

Although in the Nave Gallery the brain was on a table with all of the other art, Gedarovich said he would prefer if the piece were by itself in a dark room, where the viewer would have to sit and also wear the brain on their head. He said he wants the whole experience to feel as if you were about to be brainwashed.

"I'm trying to design unexpected experiences," he said. "I'm sort of calling it subversive, with a question mark, design. It's sort of a creepy or strange thing that you wouldn't want to touch, but then it ends up being beneficial."

A piece called "Germ'd" requires the viewers to draw their own germs, which then appear floating around on a large screen.

"The idea is it's a PSA, but the "P" stands for "participatory," to raise people's awareness about germs by drawing their own versions and Continued on page 21

#### The best explanation for our growing economic inequality **CONT. FROM PG 10**

The six decades between 1914 and 1975 were an exception. For a variety of reasons, economic growth exceeded returns on capital:

- Two world wars destroyed vast amounts of physical capital.
- · Stock market crashes, debt crises, and high inflation destroyed vast amounts of financial capital.
- Nations imposed progressive taxes on wealth and income to finance their wars.
- · A global depression empowered labor movements, increasing wages and producing entitlement programs and other social benefits.
- England, France and post-colonial countries nationalized industries and expropriated land.
- Steep marginal taxes applied to vigorous postwar income growth financed infrastructure investment, further stimulating

Maverick Republican Theodore Roosevelt had advocated steeply progressive income taxes, and under his cousin Franklin, the top marginal rate was over 90%, while large estates were taxed at 70%.

The Thatcher/Reagan "revolutions" changed all that by slashing taxes on the wealthiest, imposing anti-union regulations, deregulating the financial services industry, privatizing publically owned industries, abolishing or shrinking many social programs, and disinvesting from infrastructure and research. To-

day, average returns on capital are about 5-6%, while economic growth in the developed world is half that.

From 1976 to the financial meltdown of 2007, America's wealthiest 1% absorbed 60% of its economic growth. Since the end of the Great Recession, they have absorbed 95% of income growth.

Today, the richest 10% of households owns 70% of the nation's wealth. The richest 1% owns 35% of our wealth, while the poorer half owns just 5%.

Oxfam reports that the richest 85 people on the planet own as much as the 3.5 billion who comprise humanity's poorer half.

Piketty has annoyed both conservatives and liberals. But his research is so rigorous and his analysis so tight that few quarrel with his central thesis, and fewer with his historical analysis. Instead, they contest his predictions, which are bleak, and his prescriptions, which are not

He forecasts "levels of inequality never before seen." During the reviled Gilded Age, corporate chief executives were paid about 20 times what their average employee earned. Today, already that figure is 200 to 1.

Piketty, who like his countryman Alexis de Tocqueville admired America's egalitarian values, writes, "The egalitarian pioneer ideal has faded into oblivion, and the New World may be on the verge of becoming the Old Europe of the twenty-first century's globalized economy."

Some of Piketty's critics suggest a different future wherein accelerating economic growth exceeds returns on capital, perhaps driven by technological innovation. But in recent decades, those who derive their income from capital have appropriated productivity gains for themselves.

Others suggest a future wherein capital accumulation becomes so great relative to the entire economy that returns on capital decline. This would decelerate the pace at which the rich get richer, but I don't see how it would make the poor less poor.

Meanwhile, the wealthiest buy the government they want, making policies that might reduce inequality increasingly un-

Piketty does not advocate abolishing capitalism. His solution is an annual wealth tax of 1% on those households with a net worth between \$1 million and \$5 million, and of 2% for those with a net worth more than \$5 million. He proposes a graduated income tax with an 80% top bracket on incomes above \$1 million. The tax regime would be global, to eliminate the possibility of tax havens.

These rates are lower than those imposed by the U.S. during its economic "golden age." And reinvesting tax proceeds

would boost world economic growth. But his proposal is as politically feasible as mandating the Easter Bunny to create a trust fund for unicorns.

Piketty acknowledges the improbability of implementing such a policy. But he offers it as an ideal or standard against which to evaluate policy alternatives.

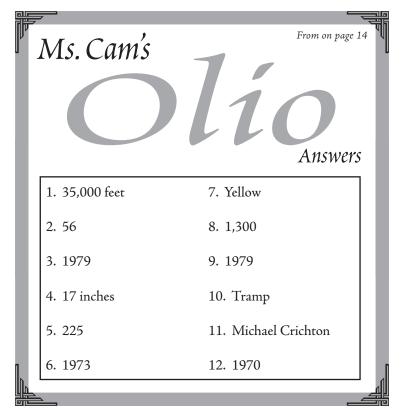
What demonstrably has not

worked is the Republican fantasy that shrinking government and further reducing taxes on the rich will stimulate economic growth, providing trickle-down benefits to all. Austerity policies have put European economies into a tailspin and produced a double-dip British recession.

I made a series of policy suggestions in the series that I wrote about inequality. But I don't imagine that any of them will resolve what Piketty calls capitalism's "central contradiction."

You may ask, dear reader, why I choose to discuss this defining book about global economics in a publication focused on Somerville. The economic problems that confront our city—fiscal constraints, the worst jobs-toworkers ratio in the Commonwealth, inadequate commercial tax revenue, gentrification, and affordable housing—are shaped, and their solutions constrained, by the dynamic that Piketty describes.

The old injunction remains: Think globally. Act locally.



### **FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

Wednesday April 9

**East Branch Library** Preschool: Storytime

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

**Central Library** 

Middle School Writers' Den Alan Ball617 636-9033 12:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

**Central Library** 

Book Group for Kids Ages 9-12 Cathy Piantigini|617-623-5000 x2950 7 p.m.-8 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

#### Thursday April 10

**Central Library** 

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

#### Friday April 11

**Central Library** 

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

**Central Library** 

Teen Anime & Manga Meet-up Cynthia M.| 617-623-5000 x2969 2:30 p.m.-5 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Veteran's Memorial Rink

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

#### Saturday|April 12

**Central Library** 

Saturday Homework Help Ron Castile/617-623-5000 x2969 1 p.m.-2:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

#### Sunday | April 13

Veteran's Memorial Rink

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

#### Monday|April 14

Babies Crv: Have A Plan Anitza Guadarrama-Tiernan 617 502 8751|9 a.m.- 2 p.m.

**Central Library** 

Sing-along w/ Jeremy Lyons Cathy Piantigini| 617-623-5000, x2954 11 a.m. 11:45 p.m.||79 Highland Ave

#### Arts at the Armory

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

#### Tuesday | April 15

**Central Library** 

Homeschool Reading Group for Ages Tammy McKanan|617-591-0216

9:30 a.m.- 12 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

**West Branch Library** 

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

**Central Library** 

StoryCorps Interviews

Maria Carpenter|617-623-5000 x2910 2:30 p.m.-5 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

#### Wednesday April 16

**East Branch Library** Preschool: Storytime

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

#### **MUSIC**

#### Wednesday | April 9

Johnny D's

Bill Blumenreich Presents : Members Lounge with Ken Reid|7:30 p.m. 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

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

Front Room

Exile on Elm **Back Room** 

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

PA'S Lounge

345 Somerville Ave 617-776-1557

On The Hill Tavern

499 Broadway|617-629-5302

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar** 

65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Precinct Bar

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

**Bull McCabe's Pub** 

The Nephrok All Stars 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045 **Highland Kitchen** 

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Radio Bar 379 Summer St

Joshua Tree Bar & Grill

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

#### Thursday | April 10

Johnny D's

Richie Pace Jr. presents Chasing Static 17 Holland St 617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

Flatt Rabbit grassy Thursdays 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

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

247 Elm Street 617-776-6896

PA'S Lounge 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

On The Hill Tavern

Scattershot |10 p.m.

Live DJ Music 499 Broadway 617-629-5302

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

Precinct Bar

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

**Bull McCabe's** 

Dub Down Featuring The Scotch Bonnet Band

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Joshua Tree

256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Samba Bar & Grille

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

**Somerville Theatre** 

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

Radio Bar

Arts at the Armory

Book Launch: Carla Schwartz's "Mother, One More Thing" 7 p.m.|Cafe 2014 YUM: A Taste of Immigrant City 7 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland

#### Friday April 11

Johnny D's

John Nemeth & The Bo-Keys|7:30 p.m. Free Friday featuring Daphne Lee Martin / Laney Jones 10 p.m. 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

Bucky Bear Band |6 p.m.

Hear Now Live presents Evan Gavry & The Tin Stars, Jennifer Greer \$10 cover 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

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

Dave Foley

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896 Orleans Restaurant and Bar

10 p.m.|65 Holland St

**Precinct Bar** 

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

PA'S Lounge

Sa|Jordan Renzi

345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

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

Bull McCabe's

Brian Jones 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Joshua Tree

DI McRiddleton

256 Elm St. |617-623-9910

Samba Bar & Grille

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

Casey's

**Entertainment every Friday** 173 Broadway 617- 625-5195 Radio Bar

379 Summer St.

Arts at the Armory

Trilingual Press & Tanbou present Haitian-American Poetry / Pwezi Ayisyen-Ameriken

• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •

7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Saturday | April 12

Johnny D's

Simon Townshend|7 p.m. Milo Z|10 p.m. 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's

Tom Hagerty Band |6 p.m. Jiblantos, The Creek River String Band \$5 cover |9 p.m.

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren

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

**Spitting Vinnies** 247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

Karaoke 65 Holland St

PA'S Lounge Ten Foot Polecats|Fog Wizard|Throwdown|Bonus Round|Epicenter

345 Somerville Ave 617-776-1557

On the Hill Tavern Live DI Music

499 Broadway|617-629-5302 Bull McCabe's Side Project of Members of The Thievery

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Ioshua Tree DI El Sid!

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

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

Entertainment every Saturday 173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Radio Bar 379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory Dance + Series 10 a.m.|Performance Hall

David Johnston 4 p.m.|Cafe

Somerville Homeless Coalition's Annual Gala: Under the Roof 6 p.m.|Performance Hall

David Tanklefsky and Friends

7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Sunday April 13

Iohnny D's Open Blues Jam! featuring Dr Grant & The Medical Marijuana Band|4 p.m.

17 Holland St.|617-776-2004 Sally O'Brien's Bar

Frank Drake Sunday Showcase | 5 p.m 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589 The Burren

Front Room

Sunday Americana with Sean Staples, Eric Royer, Tim Gearan, Dave Westner and Dan Keller|7 p.m. **Back Room** 

24/ Elm Street|61/-//6-6896

PA'S Lounge 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

**Precinct Bar** 

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

**Burren Acoustic Music Series** 

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

Sunday Night Live Music

**Highland Kitchen** Sunday Brunch Live Country & Blue-

150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

Orleans Restaurant and Bar

Game Night 65 Holland St|617-591-2100

Radio Bar 379 Summer St

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

Monday | April 14

Johnny D's Comedy Showcase Presents Storyteller Cafe

Stump! Pub Trivia|8:30 p.m.

17 Holland St | 617-776-2004

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Shawn Cater's Cheapshots Comedy Jam Marley Mondays with The Duppy Con-

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

The Burren Front Room

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

**Back Room** Science by the Pint

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

PA'S Lounge Americana Night

345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557 Precinct Bar

Closed for renovations 70 Union Sq|617-623-921

**Bull McCabe's Pub** Stump! Team Trivia

Radio Bar

379 Summer St Arts at the Armory

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

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

land Ave

Tuesday | April 15 Johnny D's

17 Holland St|617-776-2004 Sally O'Brien's Bar

Honkytonk Masquerade |7:30 p.m. 335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

Front Room Jason Anick and the Swingers 8:30 p.m. **Back Room** 

Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan

Stump Trivia (with prizes)

247 Elm Street 617-776-6896 On The Hill Tavern

499 Broadway|617-629-5302 PA'S Lounge Open Mic - Rock, Folk, R&B, Alt, Jazz &

Originals etc. Hosted by Tony Amaral

345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

Bull McCabe's Pub The Ghetto People Band

366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045 **Highland Kitchen** First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling Bee hosted by Victor and Nicole of Egoart.

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

608 Somerville Ave|617-718-9177

Samba Bar & Grille

PJ Ryan's

10 p.m.|239 Holland St.|617-625-8200 Radio Bar

379 Summer St Arts at the Armory First and Last Word Poetry Series

7 p.m.|Café|191 Highland Ave

Sally O'Brien's Bar

Free Poker, lots of prizes!

Wednesday | April 16 Johnny D's

Grev Season with Dave Austin and the Sound & Dustin Newhouse 8:30 p.m. 17 Holland St|617-776-2004

335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589 The Burren

Front Room Exile on Elm Back Room

Comedv@10

247 Elm Street|617-776-6896 PA'S Lounge 345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

Precinct Bar

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

**Bull McCabe's Pub** 

The Nephrok All Stars 366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

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

Radio Bar

379 Summer St

Pub Trivia

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

Arts at the Armory Avi Wisnia & Denise Reis

Joshua Tree Bar & Grill

6:30 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave Somerville Theatre The Mountain Goats (solo)

8 p.m.|55 Davis Square **CLASSES AND GROUPS** 

Wednesday April 9 **Third Life Studio** Beyond beginning Belly Dance with

7:30 p.m.|Level 2|33 Union Sq|www.

nadirajamal.com Thursday April 10

Nadira Iamal

West Branch Library Learn English at the Library! (Session 1)6:00 PM - 7:00 p.m.

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

Drop-In Meditation Maria Carpenter 617-623-5000 x2910

College Ave (Upstairs Parlor).

For more info call: 781-762-6629

40 College Avenue

**Central Library** 

1 p.m. – 2 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue First Church Somerville Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89

Third Life Studio Roots and Rhythm 33 Unions Sq.| www.libana.com

Friday | April 11

Arts at the Armory Prenatal Yoga 2 p.m.|Mezzanine|191 Highland Ave

Saturday | April 12

Arts at the Armory

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

weekly to discuss their work 9 a.m.-12 p.m.|Au Bon Pain| 18-48 Holland St **Third Life Studio** Jazz Dance Brunch!

A Six Week Jazz Dance Class Series with

Somerville Writers and Poets meet

January 25 through March 1 10:30am-12:00pm|33 Union Sq

Jen Farrell

Sunday April 13 **Unity Church of God** 

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

Discover Belly Dance with Nadira Jamal

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

Discover Belly Dance with Nadira Jamal

Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon Family

ww.nadiraiamal.com Monday | April 14 Third Life Studio

Third Life Studio

6 p.m.|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.

Tuesday | April 15 Arts at the Armory

**Third Life Studio** 

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

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

Wednesday | April 16

Third Life Studio Beyond beginning Belly Dance with

Nadira Iamal 7:30 p.m.|Level 2|33 Union Sq|www. nadirajamal.com

PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

#### HAPPENINGS: CENTER

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

All clubs and groups welcome new members.

Holland Street Center - 167 Holland Street

Ralph & Jenny Center - 9 New Washington Street

Cross Street Center - 165 Broadway

Some exciting events in the coming weeks:

Afternoon at the Movies: Monday, April 28, Holland Street Atrium, 12:30 p.m. The second movie in our Afternoon at the Movies series is 'Lee Daniel's The Butler'. Oscar winning Forest Whitaker delivers a powerful performance as Cecil Gaines, who served as the White House butler under eight presidents. His three decades of service unfold against a backdrop of unparalleled change in American history. Rated PG-13. Running 132 minutes. Please contact Flo at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 to RSVP or for additional information.

Holiday Inn Dance: Monday, April 14, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. 30 Washington Street. \$20. Come and enjoy a terrific lunch, with good music and wonderful friends. To RSVP and for more information please contact Connie at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

Foster's Clambake: Monday, August 18. Join us as we go off to the beaches of York, Maine. We transform one of Maine's best known facilities for lobster into our very own clambake. Meal choices include lobster, BBQ chicken or a vegetarian meal. Meals also include chowder, clams, mussels, corn on the cob, potatoes, rolls & butter, dessert, coffee, tea, iced tea or lemonade. \$62. per person. Check in time is 9:00 a.m. at Holland Street and 9:15 a.m. at Ralph & Jenny Center. Approximate return time is 5:00 p.m. For more information and to RSVP please contact Connie or Flo at 617-625-6600 Extension 2300.

Taj Mahal Resort & Casino: Monday, October 13-Wednesday, October 15. This resort which is located on the boardwalk in Atlantic City has world class restaurants, non-stop entertainment and a dazzling array of shops. Trip includes: Motorcoach transportation, 2 nights lodging and \$45 Slot Dollars. \$222 per person double occupancy or \$344 single. A \$50 deposit per person on or before May 5 is required. For more information or if you should have any questions, please contact Connie or Flo at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

Mohegan Sun: Tuesday, May 20. Located in Uncasville, CT. Package includes motorcoach transportation, \$10 food coupon and \$10 free bet. Check in time is 8:30 a.m. at Holland Street and 8:45 a.m. at the Ralph & Jenny Center with an estimated return time of 8:00 p.m. Cost \$25. Please contact Connie at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 to RSVP or for additional information.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT INFORMA-

The Twin Rivers trip scheduled for April 15th is SOLD OUT. The Charleston, SC & Savannah, GA trip scheduled for May 4th to May 10th is **SOLD OUT**.

**IMPORTANT INFO:** 

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

#### **LGBT EVENTS:**

LGBT Lunch: Monday, April 14: 11:30 a.m. Lunch provided by Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services. \$1.50. RSVP and for additional information please contact Maureen at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 or email at MBastardi@Somervillema.gov

LBT Women Fit-4-Life - Fitness and Nutrition Classes: Classes are Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting at 6:00 p.m. \$10 a month with scholarships available. Please contact Chris at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300 for more information. We have available slots and would love to have you.

LGBT Advisory Group: Will now meet on the second Monday of each month. Our next meeting is Monday, April 14 at 4:30 p.m. If you are interested in serving on the Advisory Board please contact Maureen at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300 or email MBastardi@Somervillema.gov

The Somerville Council on Aging LGBT Advisory Group has decided to postpone the Dinner/Dance originally scheduled for June 6. When the Group decides on a new date we will be sure to keep you posted.

This month, unfortunately, Dinner & Movie night falls on a holiday, Patriot's Day. We will return to our regularly scheduled thirrd Monday of the month next month.

Wii Bowling League: At Holland, Mondays at noon. Free. If you haven't tried this, come as you will love it. No bowling ball but you still swing and hope for the best.

Zumba for All with Cheryl: At Holland, Wednesdays at 5:15-6:15. \$3 or \$15 for 6 classes. Come at the end of the day, after work. Open to all.

Strengthening Exercise with Geoff: Tuesdays at 9:15 a.m. Holland and 9:30 a.m. Thursdays at R&J. \$3.

Fit-4-Life LBT Tuesday and Thursday Evenings Fit-4-Life: General Wednesday and Friday Mornings.

Bowling at Flatbreads: Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

#### **April 9**

Bowling at Flatbreads Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

#### **Holland Street Center**

Fit 4 Life A|8:45 a.m. Fit 4 Life B|9 a.m. Lunch|11:30 a.m. Fit 4 Life C|1 p.m.

Zumba for All|5:15 p.m.

167 Holland Street 617-625-6600 x 2300

#### **Cross Street Center**

English Conversation 10:30 a.m. 165 Broadway|617-625-6600 x 2335

#### Ralph & Jenny Center

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

9 New Washington Street 617-666-5223

#### April 10

#### **Holland Street Center**

Current Events 10 a.m. Lunch|11:30 a.m. BINGO|12:45 p.m. LBT Fit-4-Life 6 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage 10 a.m. Strengthening Exercise 10 a.m. Bingo|12:45 p.m. 9 New Washington Street 617-666-5223

#### April 11

#### **Holland Street Center**

Lunch|11:30 a.m. Bingo|12:45 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

#### April 14

#### **Holland Street Center**

Moonlighters | 10:30 a.m. Lunch|11:30 a.m.

Wii Bowling League 12 p.m.

Lunch|11:30 a.m. Fit-4-Life C|1 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

#### Ralph & Jenny Center

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

9 New Washington Street 617-666-5223

#### April 15

#### **Holland Street Center**

Strengthening Exercise with Geoff |9:15 a.m. SHINE by appt. 10 a.m.

Lunch|11:30 a.m. Fit 4 Life LBT|6 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

#### **Cross Street Center**

English Conversation 10:30 a.m. 165 Broadway 617-625-6600 x 2335

#### Ralph & Jenny Center

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

9 New Washington Street 617-666-5223

Bowling at Flatbreads Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m.

#### **Holland Street Center**

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

Lunch|11:30 a.m.

Fit 4 Life C|1 p.m.

Zumba for All|5:15 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

#### Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage 10 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

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#### Good eats on 'The Hill' **CONT. FROM PG 10**

they began to serve pizza. My friend Val dime. A slice of pizza was only 25 cents. Another place worth mentioning on gutted them out to make one restaurant DePerrio worked there at the time, and we were always in there for lunch (and, of course, to bother Val at work). Their pizza is thick-crusted Sicilian style the only place on The Hill to offer it that way. This differentiated them from their competition and tastes great. Vic and Louise have retired, and their son Vic Jr. and his brother-in-law Nick Ruccolo run the business.

Further up Broadway is Mama Lisa's Pizzeria, which was originally called "Mama Lisa's Pizza House." Theirs is how a perfect pizza should be: thin, crispy crust, light sauce, a good blend of cheeses and baked until well done. I remember when they opened in 1969. My family ordered there that first Friday night and had to wait an hour for the pizza. Back then, the price of a plain cheese pizza was just \$1.10. Extra cheese was an extra

To this day, two slices of pizza and a can of tonic will still get you change for a \$5 bill. Mama Lisa's is still run by the same owners that opened it in 1969.

Next to the Star was Brigham's. In addition to ice cream, they also served a full menu of food and the best lime rickey ever. Brigham's closed in the late '80s to early '90s as Star needed the space to expand. Brigham's was a hang out for the older folks on Winter Hill and was sadly missed by them when it closed.

Also on Winter Hill we had Dawn's Donuts. It was located between Leone's and the old Marshall Hall. The building burnt down sometime in the late '70s to early '80s, and Dawn's moved down Broadway just after the Sunoco Station. It then became John's Donuts, which served a full breakfast. It then closed and is now a barbershop.

Broadway is Ruth's Deli. It was near the corner of Broadway and Temple Street in the spot where Insurance by George now occupies. The place had a horseshoe-shaped counter with the kind of stools that spun around.

Other places not on Broadway but still considered Winter Hill was The Thurston Spa at the corner of Medford and Thurston streets. Everyone knew it as "Johnnie's." According to Rosemary Desimone Clark, Johnny was none other than John DeMaso. Although he passed away many years ago, his store is still referred to as "Johnnie's."

Down and around the corner from Thurston Spa was the Paddock. Next door to it was a small mom-and-pop store called "The Marshall Spa." Sometime in the 1980s, I believe, new owners took it over and also the Marshall Spa. They and kept the name as "The Paddock." The Paddock closed down a few years ago and is now a restaurant called Sarma that serves Turkish cuisine.

Just like everything we write about Somerville, we all wish these former eateries could somehow come back, even for one day. Currently Winter Hill is somewhat in the middle of a recession. The area has since been rezoned so that mutli-story/mixed-use structures can be built. Seems to me the plan is to go back to residential apartments on the upper floors with small businesses at the street level. You know the old saying: "What comes around goes around." Winter Hill holds many memories for us to tell stories about. We want the next generation to be able to have their own stories from their recollections of "The Hill."

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## OFF THE SHELF by Doug Holder

## Insights into the gentrification of Somerville:

## 'Inside the Dream Palace: The Life and Times of New York's Legendary Chelsea Hotel'

I have often called my hometown Somerville, Mass., a burg just outside Boston and Cambridge, the "Paris of New England." And what I mean by this is not that it remotely resembles Paris physically, but that it harbors that same creative energy and that molten core of poets, writers, and artists, all in close proximity. And of course with encroaching gentrification of our town — the new developers, and the desire to attract the upscale folks — rents rise, and the artists will look to cheaper environs that are more inviting to a bohemian sensibility. This may or may not happen here in Somerville, but if we look at history, we will see that it is more or less inevitable. And in some ways the artistic community of the Chelsea Hotel and its fate reminds me of my hometown.

The Chelsea Hotel in New York City has always been a source of fascination for me. This Victorian-era building, in the Chelsea section of New York City has housed some of the great names of music, literature and the arts since 1884. There was a great cross- fertilization going on here, musicians and poets and painters all influenced each other. Folks like the author Thomas Wolfe, composer Virgil Thomson, playwright Arthur Miller, rocker Patti Smith, Bob Dylan, poet Dylan Thomas, all have walked the dark, melancholy halls that were once peppered with artwork by many famous and not so famous denizens over the many decades.

The hotel is now a shell of its former self. With the gentrification of New York City, and the ousting of the benevolent Bard family who nurtured and protected the many artists who lived here over the years, the hotel is in rapid decline. Ed Hamilton, the author of *The Legends of the Chelsea Hotel* told me in a recent interview that many of the residents have been evicted, the artwork that graced the lobby and halls has been removed to places unknown, and many of

the rooms in the hotel have been gutted. History is second to the bottom line.

Recently I had the pleasure to interview Sherill Tippins, author of the book Inside the Dream Palace... The book is a comprehensive history of the hotel and a record of its influence with the arts in New York City and far beyond. The days of rooming houses and affordable housing in our major cities is a distant dream in our collective past. The artists who came to the Chelsea and the vicinity and other gone-to-seed backwaters in many other cities, often revitalized the areas and then ironically they were forced to move on. The Chelsea may well become another boutique hotel surrounded by trendy Thai restaurants, and the prerequisite Starbucks — but I think its legacy will live on because of all the creative tendrils it spread across New York, the country and the

Doug Holder: Sherill, you wrote a previous history about the communal Brooklyn home that poets and authors like W.H. Auden, Richard Wright, Carson McCullers and others shared. What is it about this shared space among creative people that attracts you?

Sherill Tippins: I'm interested in looking at artists and their work in the context of their environment — the relationships, working conditions, and activities that affect their work in all kinds of ways. I find it so helpful in terms of understanding, say, Carson McCullers' The Member of the Wedding, to know that as she began working on the book she was eating breakfast each morning with W. H. Auden, who informed her that she needed to work on developing her intellectual side (as opposed to her intuition), and whose love, Chester Kallman, had as a child actually experienced the central event that McCullers' protagonist, Frankie, undergoes. Likewise, I gained a new outlook on Arthur Miller's play After the Fall, knowing that he wrote it while irritated by what he considered the irresponsible moral relativity of his pop-artist neighbors at the Chelsea Hotel.

I'm also fascinated by the delicate dynamics of these kinds of group creative life — that fact that even a slight shift in the balance between structure and spontaneity can poison the atmosphere so that the work fails to satisfy or the group disbands. What are the specific requirements for creative cohabitation? How can privacy be protected while also leaving room for others' creative input? Who should do the housework? Should the household be run on a democratic or autocratic basis? How high can the rent be before earning it takes up too much of each resident's time? These nuts-andbolts issues are not only interesting as practical experiments from which others can benefit, but they can make for high comedy which makes learning about them enjoyable.

**DH:** Have you ever lived in an environment — a bohemian retreat — like the Hotel Chelsea?

**ST:** Like many of us, I lived in a group house while in college, where I learned how possessive some people can be about their groceries, how important it is to specify who does which chores, how creatively stimulating it can be to stay up until the early morning hours discussing books and playing music together, and so on. Since college, though, I've lived a traditional life as part of nuclear family. Documenting bohemian retreats has become a secret fantasy life for me my real life may be predictable and even dull at times, but in my head I'm dining with Virgil Thomson at the Chelsea or chasing fire engines through the streets of Brooklyn with Gypsy

**DH:** A lot of the artists in the Chelsea lived under the benevolent hand of Stanley Bard, whose family owned the building for years. He in essence subsidized many artists. Did you



The Chelsea Hotel in New York City.

ever feel that there was a sense of entitlement among the residents there, that they should receive special treatment because they were "artists?"

ST: Stanley Bard, and his father David Bard before him, served the residents of the Chelsea with such care and respect that, naturally, they tended to believe over time that they deserved that respect. It helped, too, that a constant stream of tourists passing through the Chelsea were even more awed by the artists' presence. I don't believe, however, that the artists felt entitled to "special" treatment if that means better treatment than non-artists should receive. What they felt grateful for, at the Chelsea, was the Bards' understanding that as artists they had certain needs - privacy, tolerance, connection — and lived under certain conditions — erratic income, erratic hours — that differed from others living in the mainstream. Stanley Bard might allow a filmmaker to go for months or years without paying rent, for example, but he did expect to be repaid eventually, because he understood that a director's income may be enormous one year and completely nil the next. Any artist knows how difficult it is to manage this fact of life in a society that expects bills to be paid regularly each month. Naturally, once

the Chelsea residents had found partial relief from this hardship they didn't want to give it up, so I'd say their response to losing it was more a case of grief or even panic than a sense of entitlement.

**DH:** In your research did you find any similar hotels, etc., like the Chelsea, that existed in this country?

ST: As far as I have been able to discern, the Chelsea Hotel is the largest and longest-lived artists' community in the world — and in history, in fact, it would seem. There are other bohemian hotels in the world, of course, such as the former Chateau Marmont in Los Angeles before it got its makeover. And there were other Fourier-influenced cooperatives in the United States — in Boston, for instance - not to mention the earlier Brook Farm and other rural communities. But I know of no other hotel that was intentionally designed as a creative community and that continued to function as one year after year. If one ever did exist, I would love to know about it!

**DH:** Why do you think Europe is much more receptive to these type of living situations?

ST: The idea of creative community is an integral part of Europe's social history, and the idea got a huge boost with the advent of the nineteenth-century utopian philosophers. Philip Gengembre

Continued on page 23

## 'Fresh Media' encourages interaction CONT. FROM PG 17

having them hang out," artist Fish McGill said. "By engaging with it, it gets you to think about germs in a deeper way."

McGill said that although

the Javascript he needed to code the piece was difficult to learn, having a concept of what he wanted to make helped him.

"[Javascript is] difficult, but once you have an idea of what you want to do, you find the people that know certain things," he said. "It's like saying, 'Today we're going to make baking soda; today we're going to make flour instead of having an actual recipe. I'm going to make a pie; what are we going to need for that?' Rather than ingredients-based learning, this is recipe-based learning."

## Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

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|---|---|-----------|---|-----------|---|---------|---|
| Wednesday, April 9  |   | 6:00pm    | France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)         | 1:00pm    | Play by Play                                    | 7:30am  | Eckankar                                      |
| 7:30am  | Life Matters                                    | 6:30pm    | Somerville Neighborhood News (re-run)         | 2:00pm    | Henry Parker Presents                           | 8:00am  | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)               |
| 8:00am  | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)                 | 7:00pm    | Taking Back your Health                       | 2:30pm    | Culture Club                                    | 9:00am  | Somerville Journal & Somerville Times Reading |
| l   | Somerville Journal & Somerville Times Reading   | 7:30pm    | Basic Buddha                                  | 3:00pm    | Telemagazine                                    | 10:00am | Bay State Biking News                         |
| 10:00am   | Somerville Neighborhood News                    | 8:00pm    | Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou                          | 4:00pm    | Somerville Neighborhood News                    | 11:00am | Nossa gente e Costumes                        |
| 10:30am   | Art at SCATV: Chie Yasuda                       | 10:00pm   | Penny's Dreadful and Shilling Secrets         | 4:30pm    | Somerville Housing Authority                    | 12:00pm | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)               |
| 11:00am   | Abugida TV                                      | Friday, A | pril 11                                       | 5:00pm    | Tele Kreyol                                     | 1:00pm  | Jeff Jam Sing Song Show                       |
| 12:00pm   | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)                 | 7:30am    | Shrink Rap                                    | 6:00pm    | Jeff Jam Sing Song Show                         | 1:30pm  | Art at SCATV: Chie Yasuda                     |
| 1:00pm  | Hello Neighbor                                  | 8:00am    | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)               | 6:30pm    | Art at SCATV: Chie Yasuda                       | 2:00pm  | Tufts Films for Social Change Series          |
| 1:30pm  | Henry Parker Presents                           | 9:00am    | Somerville Journal & Somerville Times Reading | 7:00pmTu  | fts University's Films for Social Change Series | 2:30pm  | Copy Cat Festival (at the Arts at the Armory) |
| 2:00pm  | Physician Focus                                 | 10:00am   | High School Peer Pressure                     | 7:30pm    | Everybody has an accent                         | 3:00pm  | Exercise with Robyn and Max                   |
| 2:30pm  | Healthy Hypnosis                                | 11:00am   | Sound Off                                     |           | why is mine a problem?                          | 3:30pm  | Esoteric Science                              |
| 3:00pm  | Medical Tutor                                   | 11:30am   | Peace by Piece                                | 8:00pm    | David Pakman (Free Speech TV)                   | 4:00pm  | The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)       |
| 3:30pm  | The Kevin Murphy Show                           | 12:00pm   | Somerville Housing Authority                  | 9:00pm    | Nossa Gente e Costumes                          | 5:00pm  | Culture Club                                  |
|   | he Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)          | 12:30pm   | Somerville Neighborhood News                  | 10:00pm   | Independent Filmmaker Hour                      | 5:30pm  | Press Pass TV                                 |
| 5:00pm  | Health is Wealth                                | 1:00pm    | Press Conference on Gentrification            | 10:30pm   | The Folklorist                                  | 6:00pm  | France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)         |
| 5:30pm  | Peace by Piece                                  | 1:30pm    | Climate Change in Somerville                  | 11:00pm   | Gay USA   | 6:30pm  | Nepali Producers Group:                       |
| 6:00pm  | France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)           | 2:30pm    | Art at SCATV: Chie Yasuda                     | Sunday, A | April 13  |         | 104 Anniversary of L. Devkota by INLS         |
| 6:30pm  | Taking Back Your Health                         | 3:00pm    | Brunch with Sen. Bernie Sanders               | 6:00am    | Program Celebrai                                | 8:00pm  | Outside the Lines                             |
| 7:00pmTu  | fts University's Films for Social Change Series | 4:00pm T  | he Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)        | 7:00am    | Rompendo em Fe                                  | 8:30pm  | Don Berwick, Candidate for MA Governor        |
| 8:00pm  | Somerville Pundits                              | 5:00pm    | Greater Somerville                            | 8:00am    | Effort Pour Christ                              | 9:00pm  | Dedilhando au Saudade                         |
| 8:30pm  | Perils for Pedestrians                          | 5:30pm    | Somerville Neighborhood News                  | 9:00am    | Heritage Baptist Church                         | 10:00pm | Bate Papo com Shirley                         |
| 9:00pm  | Bay State Biking News                           | 6:00pm    | France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)         | 10:00am   | International Church of God                     | Tuesday | , April 15                                    |
| 10:00pm   | Creepy Castle                                   | 6:30pm    | Reeling the Movie Review Show                 | 11:00am   | The Folklorist                                  | 7:00am  | The Struggle                                  |
| Thursday  | , April 10                                      | 7:00pm    | Real Estate Answers Show                      | 11:30am   | Basic Buddha                                    | 8:00am  | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)               |
| 6:00am  | Atheist Viewpoint                               | 7:30pm    | Culture Club                                  | 12:00pm   | Play by Play                                    | 9:00am  | Somerville Journal & Somerville Times Reading |
| 7:00am  | Creating Cooperative Kids                       | 8:00pm    | Visual Radio                                  | 1:00pm    | Somerville Neighborhood News                    | 10:00am | Contemporary Issues in Science                |
| 8:00am  | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)                 | 9:00pm    | Porchfest                                     | 1:30pm    | Somerville Journal & Times Reading              | 12:00pm | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)               |
|   | Somerville Journal & Somerville Times Reading   | 10:00pm   | Independent Filmmaker Hour                    | 2:30pm    | Life Matters                                    | 2:00pm  | The Folklorist                                |
| 10:00am   | Somerville Neighborhood News (re-run)           | 10:30pm   | Somerville in Shorts (film series)            | 3:00pm    | Rompendo em Fe                                  | 2:30pm  | TedxSomerville on Greater Somerville          |
| 11:00am   | Tufts University's Films for Social Change      | Saturday  | , April 12                                    | 4:00pm    | Dedilhando a Saudade                            | 3:00pm  | Reeling Movie Show                            |
| 11:30am   | Ablevision                                      | 6:00am    | Arabic Hour                                   | 5:00pm    | Don Berwick, Candidate for MA Governor          | 4:00pm  | The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)       |
| 12:00pm   | Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)                 | 7:00am    | High School Peer Pressure                     | 5:30pm    | Art at SCATV: Chie Yasuda                       | 5:00pm  | Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer                 |
| 1:00pm  | African Television                              | 8:00am    | Jeff Jam Sing Song Show                       | 6:00pm    | Abugida TV                                      | 5:30pm  | The Literati Scene                            |
| 2:00pm  | Neighborhood Cooking w/Candy                    | 8:30am    | Art at SCATV                                  | 7:00pm    | African Television Network                      | 6:00pm  | France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)         |
| 2:30pm  | Cooking with Georgia & Dez                      | 9:00am    | Festival Kreyol                               | 8:00pm    | Tele Magazine                                   | 7:00pm  | Somerville Neighborhood News                  |
| 3:00pm  | Chef's Table Series                             | 10:00am   | Tele Galaxie                                  | 9:00pm    | Effort Pour Christ                              | 7:30pm  | Greater Somerville                            |
| 4:00pm The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)  |   | 11:00am   | Dead Air Live                                 | 10:00pm   | Farrakhan Speaks                                | 8:00pm  | Dead Air Live                                 |
| 5:00pm  | Jeff Jam Sing Song Show                         | 12:00pm   | Reeling the Movie Review Show                 | 11:00pm   | No Film Film Festival                           | 9:00pm  | MEH Kyown's Television                        |
| 5:30pm  | The Folkorist                                   | 12:30pm   | Youth Violence in Society                     | Monday,   | April 14  | 10:00pm | ·   |
| '   |   | '         |   |           | <u>-</u>  |         | 104 Anniversary of L. Devkota by INLS         |
|   |   |           |   |           |   |         |   |

## City Cable TV Schedule for the Week

|                        | Ci  |
|------------------------|---|
| CITY TV 1              | <u>3/22</u>   |
| Wednesda               | ny, April 9   |
| 9:00am:                | Aldermen at Work  |
| 12:00pm:               | School Committee Meeting –  |
|                        | REPLAY OF 4.7.14  |
| 3:00pm:                | Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte                                    |
| 3:30pm:                | Voices of Somerville  |
| 6:30pm:                | SomerViva: Espanol  |
| 7:00pm:                | Voices of Somerville  |
| 7:30pm:                | The Mayor's Report  |
| 8:00pm:                | Congressional Update  |
| 8:30pm:                | Consumer Affairs w/Barbara Anthony  |
| 9:00pm:                | Agenda for 4.10.14 BOA Meeting  |
| Thursday,              |   |
| 12:00am:               | Voices of Somerville  |
| 12:30am:               | Congressional Update  |
| 1:00am:                | The Mayor's Report  |
| 1:30am:                | Consumer Affairs w/Barbara Anthony  |
| 2:00am:                | Shape Up Somerville: Historic Overview                                    |
| 9:00am:                | Voices of Somerville  |
| 9:30am:                | SomerViva: Portugues  |
| 12:00pm:               | Senior Circuit  |
| 12:30pm:               | Mayor's Fitness Challenge Kickoff   |
| 12:45pm:<br>1:00pm:    | Shape Up Somerville: Historic Overview Greek Independence Day Celebration |
| 2:30pm:                | A Discussion on Somerville Housing  |
| 7:00pm:                | Board of Aldermen Meeting - LIVE  |
| •                      | 3   |
| Friday, Ap             |   |
| 12:00am:<br>12:30am:   | The Mayor's Report<br>Mayor's Fitness Challenge Kickoff                   |
| 12:30aiii.<br>12:45am: | Shape Up Somerville: Historic Overview                                    |
| 1:00am:                | Greek Independence Day Celebration  |
| 2:30am:                | A Discussion on Somerville Housing  |
| 9:00am:                | Congressional Update  |
| 9:30am:                | SomerViva: Espanol  |
| 12:00pm:               | Greek Independence Day Celebration  |
| 1:30pm:                | Voices of Somerville  |
| 2:00pm:                | Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte                                    |
| 2:30pm:                | Aldermen at Work  |
| 6:30pm:                | Shape Up Somerville: Historic Interview                                   |
| 7:00pm:                | Greek Independence Day Celebration  |
| 8:30pm:                | Voices of Somerville  |
| 9:00pm                 | Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte                                    |
| 9:30pm:                | Aldermen at Work  |
| 10:00pm:Tl             | ne Mystic River: A Natural & Human Story                                  |
|                        |   |

Greek Independence Day Celebration

Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte

Women's Commission 25 Anniversary

Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte

3:00am: The Mystic River: A Natural & Human Story

1:00pm: The Mystic River: A Natural & Human Story

Voices of Somerville

Aldermen at Work

SomerViva: Espanol

Voices of Somerville

12:00am:

12:30am:

1:00am:

Saturday, April 12

12:00am:

1:30am:

2:00am:

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9:00am:

12:00pm:

2:00pm:

12:35pm:

| 2:30pm:  | Aldermen at Work   |
|--|--|
| 3:00pm:  | Greek Independence Day   |
| 6:30pm:  | Mayor's Fitness Challenge  |
| 6:45pm:  | Shape Up Somerville: Historic Overview   |
| 7:00pm:  | Consumer Affairs w/Barbara Anthony   |
| 7:30pm:  | Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI   |
| 9:30pm:  | SHS Asian Night  |
| •  | g .  |
| Sunday, A  |  |
| 12:00am:   | Consumer Affairs w/Barbara Anthony   |
| 12:30am:   | Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI   |
| 2:30am:  | SHS Asian Night  |
| 3:30am:  | Aldermen at Work   |
| 9:00am:  | Voices of Somerville   |
| 12:00pm:   | Senior Circuit   |
| 12:30pm:   | Sit & Be Fit: Balance & Fall Prevention  |
| 1:00pm:  | The Mayor's Report   |
| 1:30pm:  | Mayor's Fitness Challenge  |
| 2:00pm:  | Consumer Affairs w/Barbara Anthony   |
| 7:00pm:  | Senior Circuit   |
| 7:30pm:  | Sit & Be Fit: Balance & Fall Prevention  |
| 8:00pm:  | The Mayor's Report   |
| 8:30pm:  | Board of Aldermen Meeting – REPLAY OF  |
| 4.10.14  |  |
| Monday,  | April 14   |
| 12:00am:   | Senior Circuit   |
| 12:30am:   | The Mayor's Report   |
| 1:00am:  | Board of Aldermen Meeting –  |
|  | REPLAY OF 4.10.14  |
| 9:00am:  | Sit & Be Fit: Balance & Fall Prevention  |
| 9:30am:  | Shape Up Somerville: Historic Overview   |
| 12:00pm:   | Board of Aldermen Meeting –  |
| -  | Board of Aldermen Meeting –  |
|  | REPLAY OF 4.10.14  |
| 3:00pm:  | 3  |
| 3:00pm:<br>7:00pm:   | REPLAY OF 4.10.14  |
|  | REPLAY OF 4.10.14<br>SHS Asian Night   |
| 7:00pm:  | REPLAY OF 4.10.14<br>SHS Asian Night<br>Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI   |
| 7:00pm:<br>9:00pm:   | REPLAY OF 4.10.14<br>SHS Asian Night<br>Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI<br>Congressional Update   |
| 7:00pm:<br>9:00pm:<br>9:30pm:<br>10:00pm:  | REPLAY OF 4.10.14<br>SHS Asian Night<br>Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI<br>Congressional Update<br>Aldermen at Work<br>Mayor's Fitness Challenge Kickoff  |
| 7:00pm:<br>9:00pm:<br>9:30pm:<br>10:00pm:<br><b>Tuesday</b> ,  | REPLAY OF 4.10.14<br>SHS Asian Night<br>Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI<br>Congressional Update<br>Aldermen at Work<br>Mayor's Fitness Challenge Kickoff<br>April 15  |
| 7:00pm:<br>9:00pm:<br>9:30pm:<br>10:00pm:<br><b>Tuesday</b> , 4<br>12:00am:  | REPLAY OF 4.10.14 SHS Asian Night Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI Congressional Update Aldermen at Work Mayor's Fitness Challenge Kickoff  April 15 Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI  |
| 7:00pm:<br>9:00pm:<br>9:30pm:<br>10:00pm:<br><b>Tuesday</b> , 1<br>12:00am:<br>2:00am:   | REPLAY OF 4.10.14 SHS Asian Night Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI Congressional Update Aldermen at Work Mayor's Fitness Challenge Kickoff  April 15 Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI SomerViva: Portugues   |
| 7:00pm:<br>9:00pm:<br>9:30pm:<br>10:00pm:<br><b>Tuesday</b> , 4<br>12:00am:<br>2:00am:<br>2:30am: T  | REPLAY OF 4.10.14 SHS Asian Night Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI Congressional Update Aldermen at Work Mayor's Fitness Challenge Kickoff  April 15 Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI SomerViva: Portugues The Mystic River: A Natural & Human Story   |
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| 7:00pm:<br>9:00pm:<br>9:30pm:<br>10:00pm:<br><b>Tuesday,</b><br>12:00am:<br>2:00am:<br>2:30am: T<br>9:00am:<br>12:00pm:  | REPLAY OF 4.10.14 SHS Asian Night Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI Congressional Update Aldermen at Work Mayor's Fitness Challenge Kickoff  April 15 Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI SomerViva: Portugues The Mystic River: A Natural & Human Story Greek Independence Day Celebration Senior Circuit   |
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| 7:00pm:<br>9:00pm:<br>9:30pm:<br>10:00pm:<br>Tuesday,<br>12:00am:<br>2:30am: T<br>9:00am:<br>12:30pm:<br>12:30pm:<br>1:30pm:<br>6:30pm:                                  | REPLAY OF 4.10.14 SHS Asian Night Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI Congressional Update Aldermen at Work Mayor's Fitness Challenge Kickoff  April 15 Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI SomerViva: Portugues The Mystic River: A Natural & Human Story Greek Independence Day Celebration Senior Circuit Sit & Be Fit: Balance & Fall Prevention Voices of Somerville omerville Police Chief Search Public Meeting Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte  |
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| 7:00pm:<br>9:00pm:<br>9:30pm:<br>10:00pm:<br>Tuesday,<br>12:00am:<br>2:30am: T<br>9:00am:<br>12:30pm:<br>12:30pm:<br>1:30pm:<br>1:30pm:<br>7:00pm:<br>7:30pm:            | REPLAY OF 4.10.14 SHS Asian Night Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI Congressional Update Aldermen at Work Mayor's Fitness Challenge Kickoff  April 15 Union Sq. Redevelopment Meeting VI SomerViva: Portugues The Mystic River: A Natural & Human Story Greek Independence Day Celebration Senior Circuit Sit & Be Fit: Balance & Fall Prevention Voices of Somerville preville Police Chief Search Public Meeting Seriously Somerville w/Jimmy Del Ponte Senior Circuit Women's Commission 25 Anniversary                                    |

| EDUCATIONAL CHANNEL 15 |   |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Wednesday, April 9     |   |  |  |  |  |
| 9:00am:                | Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes    |  |  |  |  |
| 11:00am:               | Highlander Forum - CTE                  |  |  |  |  |
| 12:00pm:               | SHS Multicultural Fair                  |  |  |  |  |
| 1:00pm:                | Our Schools, Our City - College Ready   |  |  |  |  |
| 2:00pm:                | Girls' Indoor Soccer Final: ESCS v WHCS |  |  |  |  |
| 3:00pm:                | 4th Annual Choral Festival              |  |  |  |  |
| 5:00pm:                | SFLC Workshop -Ages & Stages: Middle    |  |  |  |  |
| School Char            | nges                                    |  |  |  |  |
| 7:00pm:                | Highlander Forum - CTE                  |  |  |  |  |
| 8:00pm:                | SHS Multicultural Fair                  |  |  |  |  |
| 9:00pm:                | Our Schools, Our City - College Ready   |  |  |  |  |
| 10:00pm:               | Girls' Indoor Soccer Final: ESCS v WHCS |  |  |  |  |
| 11:00pm:               | SHS Multicultural Fair                  |  |  |  |  |
| Thursday, April 10     |   |  |  |  |  |
| 9:00am:                | SHS Baseball vs St. Clement             |  |  |  |  |
| 11:00am:               | Our Schools, Our City - College Ready   |  |  |  |  |
| 12:00pm:               | SHS CTE Open House                      |  |  |  |  |
| 12:30pm:               | Middle School Youth - Focus on Success  |  |  |  |  |
| 1:30pm:                | Highlander Forum - CTE                  |  |  |  |  |
| 2:00pm:                | SHS Multicultural Fair                  |  |  |  |  |
| 3:00pm:                | SHS Baseball vs St. Clement             |  |  |  |  |
| 5:00pm:                | Middle School Youth - Focus on Success  |  |  |  |  |
| 6:00pm:                | Our Schools, Our City - College Ready   |  |  |  |  |
| 6:30pm:                | SHS CTE Open House                      |  |  |  |  |
| 7:00pm:                | Middle School Youth - Focus on Success  |  |  |  |  |
| 8:00pm:                | Highlander Forum - CTE                  |  |  |  |  |
| 8:30pm:                | SHS Multicultural Fair                  |  |  |  |  |
| 9:30pm:                | SHS Baseball vs St. Clement             |  |  |  |  |
| Friday, Ap             | ril 11                                  |  |  |  |  |
| 12:00am:               | SHS Multicultural Fair                  |  |  |  |  |
| 1:00am:                | Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes    |  |  |  |  |
| 3:00am:                | Middle School Youth - Focus on Success  |  |  |  |  |

| 8:00pm:            | Highlander Forum - CTE                   |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 8:30pm:            | SHS Multicultural Fair                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9:30pm:            | SHS Baseball vs St. Clement              |  |  |  |  |  |
| Friday, Ap         | ril 11                                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12:00am:           | SHS Multicultural Fair                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1:00am:            | Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes     |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3:00am:            | Middle School Youth - Focus on Success   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9:00am: Na         | ational Honor Society Induction Ceremony |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11:00am:           | Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes     |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1:00pm:            | Highlander Forum - CTE                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1:30pm:            | SHS Multicultural Fair                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3:00pm:            | SHS Baseball vs St. Clement              |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5:00pm: Na         | ational Honor Society Induction Ceremony |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7:00pm:            | Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes     |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9:00pm:            | Highlander Forum - CTE                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9:30pm:            | SHS Multicultural Fair                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10:30pm:           | SHS Baseball vs St. Clement              |  |  |  |  |  |
| Saturday, April 12 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1:00am: Na         | ational Honor Society Induction Ceremony |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3:00am:            | Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes     |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5:00am:            | Highlander Forum - CTE                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5:30am:            | SHS Multicultural Fair                   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9:00am:            | Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes     |  |  |  |  |  |
|                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |

SHS CTE Open House

SHS Multicultural Fair

4th Annual Choral Festival

SHS Baseball vs St. Clement

Bovs' Indoor Soccer Final: ARGZ v WHCS

Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes

11:00am:

11:30am:

1:00pm:

3:00pm:

4:00pm:

5:00pm:

Senior Circuit

Congressional Update

Sit & Be Fit: Balance & Fall Prevention

Shape Up Somerville: Historic Overview

1:30am: The Mystic River: A Natural & Human Story

SHS CTE Open House 7:30pm: 4th Annual Choral Festival 9:00pm: SHS Baseball vs St. Clement 11:00pm: SHS Multicultural Fair

#### Sunday, April 13

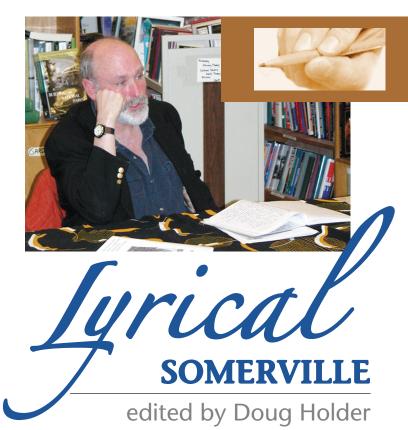
12:00am: Boys' Indoor Soccer Final: ARGZ v WHCS Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes 3:00am: National Honor Society Induction Ceremony 9:00am: Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14 10:00am: Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes Our Schools, Our City - College Ready 12:00pm: 12:30pm: SHS CTE Open House 1:00pm: Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14 2:00pm: SHS Baseball vs St. Clement Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14 4:00pm: 5:00pm: Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes 7:00pm: Our Schools, Our City - College Ready 7:30pm: SHS CTE Open House 8:00pm: Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14 9:00pm: SHS Baseball vs St. Clement

#### Monday, April 14 Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14

12:00am: 1:00am: Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes 3:00am: Our Schools, Our City - College Ready 9:00am: SHS Multicultural Fair Boys' Indoor Soccer Final: ARGZ v WHCS 10:00am: Girls' Indoor Soccer Final: ESCS v WHCS 11:00am: Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14 SHS Baseball vs St. Clement 1:00pm: 3:00pm: Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes 5:00pm: National Honor Society Induction Ceremony 6:00pm: SHS Multicultural Fair 7:00pm: Boys' Indoor Soccer Final: ARGZ v WHCS 8:00pm: Girls' Indoor Soccer Final: ESCS v WHCS 9:00pm: Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14 10:00pm: SHS Baseball vs St. Clement

#### Tuesday, April 15

12:00am: Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes 2:00am: National Honor Society Induction Ceremony 9:00am: Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14 10:00am: Middle School Youth - Focus on Success 11:00am: Highlander Forum - CTE 11:30am: 4th Annual Choral Festival 1:00pm: SHS Multicultural Fair Girls' Indoor Soccer Final: ESCS v WHCS 2:00pm: Lady Highlander Basketball 2013-14 3:00pm: 4:00pm: Middle School Youth - Focus on Success 5:00pm: Highlander Forum - CTE 5:30pm: 4th Annual Choral Festival 7:00pm: SHS Multicultural Fair 8:00pm: Girls' Indoor Soccer Final: ESCS v WHCS SHS Baseball vs St. Clement 9:00pm: 12:00am: National Honor Society Induction Ceremony 1:00am: Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes Ages & Stages: Middle School Changes 3:00am:



Now, Now ... I know many Lyrical readers don't like obscenity in their poetry, and it isn't often that we have it. But Thomas Benfield, a young area poet who studies at Endicott College (where I teach), came up with a poem inspired by Allen Ginsberg's poem Howl. I think Benfield's take on it is really fine. Ginsberg's poem Howl was once declared "obscene" but it is now taught at uni-



versities around the world and I am told even at West Point. So I hope you dig this.

#### Benzedrine Coffee

I cried, when oozing tar through my heart, tipped off the dogs to feed on romanticism.

When a jaw-line ashtray ruined the last meal of whorish fishermen on islands in Japan.

And walked through universities claiming dependence on W4s. I saw the bright eyed beat down novelties move into rehab centers, adopt 12 step programs and put down their pens for a work-study because adulthood fucked the creativity out of his blood

and the tattoos off of his back. and the separatists and the evangelists throwing literature in a riot of identity fraud yelling "I love you" in black ghettos for the republican vote.

So I threw my bones in a river wrapped tightly in my cloths like the James Ossuary with graffiti etched over its claims

only to have saw dust between my teeth and eyes sewn shut by a mortician waiting to pay her loans from beautician school.

who wouldn't buy street art laced with acid and thick spray paint stains running to the gutter for ten dollars but would for a thousand if enough writers wrote about his genius.

So come down, come down the jumper on the ledge talked down by humanity but revisited by the loneliness of cosmos

With iron painted hands and numbers printed in boots laying pennies on train tracks to up their value

With gypsy drone cloths and a Helvetica tattoo reading for veterans who can kill but can't write

And die beneath the rotting quilted sky of the middle east with a candle lit dinner of oil and freedom

But never individualism. Never trust that word because brokenness perpetuates and adulthood is the realization that you are a waste But my god how it can rain. when the skies open their legs to fuck in

and harshly clean heathen hearts from a riot of cocaine stained nights beyond tastefulness and apologies

climax with god and school and government aside.

So come out of your homes and flickering fucking boxes without taste to see drunkards raping drunkards and policemen pissing on themselves

and judges burning pot in the recesses of the court waiting for the gavel to come down at his fault

Now the last of us crying with benzedrine coffee and crowns at the dry cleaners and rosary beads wrapped over scars from failed suicides Jump from burnt rain-running-ink-edges of google maps into shallow graves of monotony-crippled- concrete-corking daisies from growing from corpse.

— Thomas Benfield

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

## OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

## Insights into the gentrification of Somerville CONT. FROM PG 21



Lobby, Chelsea Hotel, in better days.

Hubert, the Chelsea's creator and himself a Frenchman who came directly out of this proto-socialist climate and helped transfer its ideas to New York, wrote that Europeans were more comfortable with a communal, economically-mixed climate because they could rely on a rigid social structure to define their social status. Americans, on the other hand, lived in a supposedly classless society where money was the only measure by which they could define their social position. Maintaining one's social status in America therefore almost requires one to set oneself apart from others of lower economic standing, hoard one's financial assets, and focus on individual advancement rather than achieving synergy as a group.

**DH:** There were many eras to the Chelsea. Which one do you think cemented its reputation, as an outpost of bohemia and the avant-garde?

ST: It was an outpost of bohemia and the avant-garde from the very beginning, as evidenced by the novelist William Dean Howells' portrait of it in his 1893 novel The Coast of Bohemia. The American landscape artists who first occupied the Chelsea's top-floor lofts were as poor, free-living, and artistically adventurous as the artists who live there now. Trying to pinpoint the moment that the building's bohemian reputation for bohemianism cemented is exactly like trying to pinpoint the moment at which cement hardens - but I guess I would say that by the Depression era the hotel's reputation was widely known. By this time, for instance, Thomas Wolfe's editor Maxwell Perkins knew enough to send the author to the Chelsea when Wolfe needed an inexpensive, private, tolerant environment. There, Wolfe found a welcoming community of iconic but impoverished artists and writers, including Edgar Lee Masters and John Sloan, not to mention the slightly-less-impoverished Virgil Thomson. The W.P.A. subsidies greatly enhanced this atmosphere, allowing the residents to worry less about the rent and more about where art was going in America. The richness and excitement of this period carried forward into the 1950s and 1960s, which wouldn't have been the same without the underlying layer created by the W.P.A. artists.

DH: Residents like the musicologist Harry Smith and Arthur C. Clarke believed that art can change the world. And they tried to do it from their rooms in the Chelsea. Now, looking at the Chelsea, it is a gutted shell of its former self. Is the dream dead? Do you see other bohemian enclaves coming around? Or is it just college graduates posturing in Williamsburg until they get real jobs?

ST: I'm afraid I do feel, personally, that that particular dream is dead for the time being, at least in New York. As I implied in my treatment of Harry Smith's experience, I feel that in the battle between the bohemian vision of creative community and the capitalist ideals for a market-based society, capitalism won. Commodification kills truth in art; a high cost of living kills artistic productivity. However, there will always be artists and bohemians, just as there will also always be posturers. As Patti Smith herself suggested in a recent interview, the place to find creative communities is now more likely to be in smaller towns near big cities, say, in New Paltz, New York, now nicknamed "the new Brooklyn," or in failed cities such as Detroit, where the most important element for creative life low cost of living — and the second-most-important one, stimulating neighbors, still exist.

As for the Chelsea, I'm interested in following the current owner's stated desire to recreate an "artistic climate" at the hotel. Can it be forced into existence, with free rooms for visiting artists, exhibition and performance space downstairs, and expensive rooms to subsidize cheaper ones? One would tend to say no, but on the other hand the original Chelsea was itself an artificial construct. It's unlikely, but still remotely possible in my opinion, that the Chelsea will reassert its traditional purpose despite the hostile climate in the city surrounding it. And who knows, as New York mayors come and go and the economy continues on its erratic path, this city may hit the skids once again, allowing the bohemians to come rushing in to inhabit the places no one else wants, "like cockroaches," as the artist and Chelsea Hotel denizen John Sloan once memorably said.



## >>> Open House (

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 10 AM - 1 PM
ASSEMBLY ROW WELCOME CENTER: 85 FOLEY STREET, SOMERVILLE

Meet with the Assembly Row Team
 Learn about the new neighborhood & what's in store
 View the 12 foot architectural model



#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 4 PM - 9 PM LA QUINTA HOTEL: 23 CUMMINGS STREET, SOMERVILLE

Bring your resumes! Meet some of the retailers opening this summer and learn more about their opportunities from management to marketing. Participating retailer list at *AssemblyRow.com*.

## ☆ Summer Event Line-Up ☆

Assembly Row kicks off Grand Opening Season May 30, jumping into a jam packed summer of events & free community activities. Pet-Palooza, Race to the Row, Yoga, Food Truck Festival, Art in the Park, ASSEMBLED handmade art market, Riverfest & more! A full calendar of events is available at *AssemblyRow.com*.

VISIT US ON FACEBOOK TO JOIN THE CONVERSATION. ASSEMBLYROW.COM

