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A new stop at Assembly



The new Orange Line T station was officially opened on Tuesday, officiated by civic leaders and attended by the public. For more info and pictures turn to pages 12–13.  
— Photo by Donald Norton

Q&A with 34th Middlesex District State Rep. candidates

By Jeremy F. van der Heiden

The Somerville Times recently reached out to several candidates running in the forthcoming election for 34th Middlesex District State Representative of Massachusetts, all of which are vying for the seat vacated by Carl Sciortino this past April.

The following is comprised of direct transcripts from email-based questions and answers with three of the candidates.

Craig Rourke, Democrat

How would you describe your mission as an elected official?

According to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the mission of a state representative is as follows: “The redress of grievances, for correcting, strengthening and confirming the laws, and for making new laws, as the common good may require.” See Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Declaration of Rights, Article XXII.

Why did you choose to run in this election?

I am running in this election because we need a state representative, and I have the experience and skills needed to do

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Alibrandis league champs once again

By Jim Clark

The Somerville Alibrandis have won the Yawkey Baseball League Championship for the fifth straight year in a row, having beaten the Al Thomas Athletics in 5 games.

While Somerville largely dominated the series, the Athletics gave them a run for their money. In game 1 Somerville prevailed over the A’s 3–2, beginning the championship series with a 1-0 lead.

The Alibrandis made all three of their runs in the 2nd inning. Singles were hit by Gillis, Demartines, and DesRoches. Mendonca hit a 2 RBI single with 2 out, sending Demartines and DesRoches home. Gillis scored the third run on a single by Maguire.

The Athletics earned their only run in the 4th inning when John Kostas hit a single with one out, and then scored on Matt Jacobs’ sacrifice fly to right.

Al Thomas scored their second run in the 5th, after hitting three singles.

Anthony Perry ended the game with a thrilling high fly off the fence

Continued on page 14



Pitcher Sean Sullivan played a big role in helping the Somerville Alibrandis nail down its fifth consecutive championship title.

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This week begins the school year here in Somerville, so watch out while you're driving down the streets and be careful of kids darting in and out between parked cars, especially near the schools. We wish all the students and teachers a great year of learning.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Somerville Chamber of Commerce kicks off of their monthly Business After hours social this Thursday, September 4 from 5-7 p.m. in Davis Square at Orleans on Holland St. (directly across from our good friend Nellie's Wildflowers – stop in and check out why she's the best). All members and guests, bring your business cards. It's a great way to network and say "Hi" to new and old friends alike who are all doing business here in Somerville. RSVP with name(s) and affiliation(s) for you and your guests to [smackey@somervillechamber.org](mailto:smackey@somervillechamber.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

The Greek Music & Food Festival is coming up, beginning this Friday, September 5 from 5-11 p.m., Saturday 12-11p.m., and Sunday the 7th from 12-9 p.m. Free admission, great fun and food for the entire family, at the Dormition of the Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church, 29 Central Street, Somerville. For more information go online to [www.dormitionchurch.org](http://www.dormitionchurch.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

It was the 47th Year Anniversary for Patti and Donald Norton, who enjoyed a nice quiet day this past Monday. She was smiles all day.

\*\*\*\*\*

Also celebrating this week is candidate Erin DiBenedetto and her husband. She said it has been 25 years of happiness. We wish her and her husband the best for their next 25 years. Hopefully 75 years more, and maybe this anniversary she will win the Democratic nomination for State Representative here in Ward 4 and Ward 7 and the other part of the district is in Medford. We know our publisher Ross Blouin likes her very much and is hoping for a big win for Erin and the City of Somerville.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to our own Bob Doherty and his wife Cynthia, who are celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary this week. Bob is extremely dedicated to

*Continued on page 11*

# TheSomervilleTimes

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## TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

### Response to *Supporting local workers and local businesses*

PixiePocahontas says:

Artie T wins Market Basket! The best Labor Day celebration for thousands of Market Basket workers, affiliates and customers! Let this be a lesson to all corporate raiders- organized labor movements CAN change the course of company takeovers. \$1.5 billion–sale price, Artie will triple that in no time!

ritepride says:

What congress, politicians, unions, business, could not do... People power did in the Market Basket situation. If only people power would get together and vote on election day we would be able to get this country back on its feet and stop the tyrannical moves of big business and some elected officials.  
Unfortunately the author of this article does not practice what he preaches when it comes to city employees, he lays them off so he can hire loyal hacks.

Joe Lynch says:

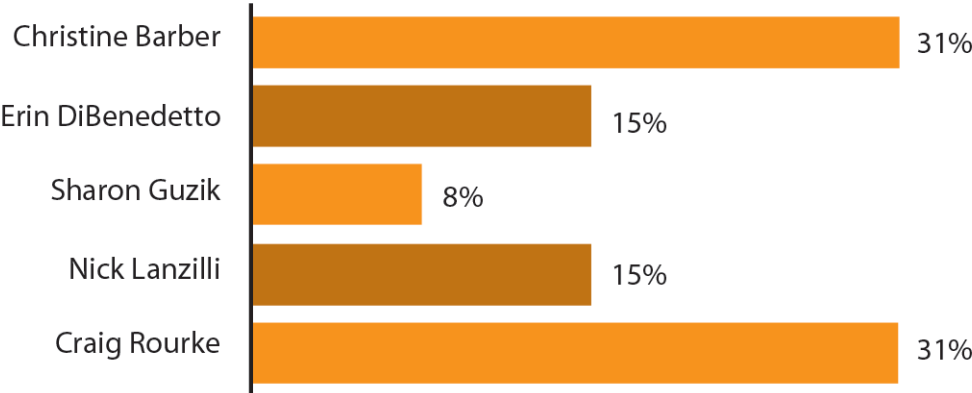
Pixie,  
I, like many others, are very happy for the seemingly happy ending for the Market Basket story. But one word of caution from my old, former corporate brain cells. If you think that the firm that just pumped a half billion dollars into Market Basket on Artie T's behalf, and no doubt will end up with at least one seat on the new board of directors, won't want a hefty return on their investment and will pressure Artie T. to do so, think again.  
The investment firm that is being reported in the media is one with a very long reputation of appearing to be the white knight, but eventually shows they have a very sharp sword to get their money back.

*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 which candidate you would like to see elected to fill Carl Sciortino's former 34th Middlesex District seat. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com.

### Which candidate would you like to see elected to fill Carl Sciortino's former 34th Middlesex District seat?



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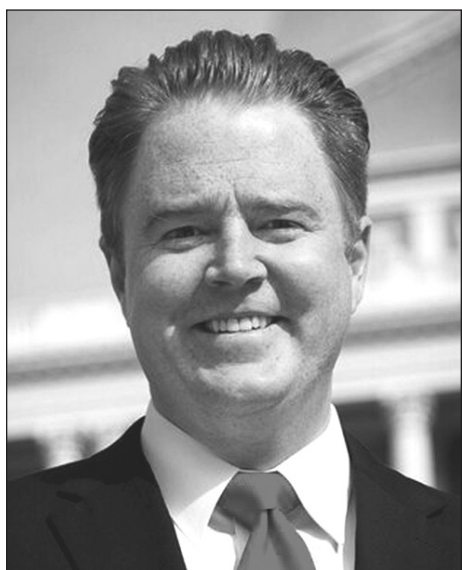


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Q&A with 34th Middlesex District State Rep. candidates

CONT. FROM PG 1



Craig Rourke, Democrat

the job on day one in office. As many of you know, the residents of the 34th Middlesex District have been without a representative in the General Court since April of 2014. Therefore, our next state representative must be able to hit the ground running hard. I am an attorney and a hard worker. I have drafted legislation and argued laws before the courts of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Thus, I have the experience and skills needed to perform the duties of state representative on my first day of work.

**What will you do to better the 34th Middlesex District as its representative?**

To start, I will wake-up every day and work hard for the hardworking folks of the 34th Middlesex District. In addition, I will respond to your phone calls and emails in a timely manner. Further, I will make certain that every voice is heard. I am not a single-issue candidate. I came to work hard for all of the hardworking folks of the 34th Middlesex District.

**Which problems the district is facing are**

**you most interested in correcting?**

It's time to create high-wage, high-skill jobs in this growth economy for the hardworking folks of the 34th Middlesex District. To achieve this goal, I will work hard to bring Federal grant money back to the district for continuing education and worker retraining, by partnering with high-tech businesses, labor organizations and public colleges. Moreover, I will draft and introduce a living wage bill as my first order of business as your next state representative.

It's time for affordable housing. We can achieve this goal by (1) passing a living wage bill that ensures that wages keep pace with housing costs, and (2) partnering with developers of state land to ensure that new units are designated for rental or sale at 30% below market rate. By partnering with responsible developers, we can transfer state land in 99-year lease agreements for one dollar, in exchange for covenants running in favor of the tenants. As such, the developers realize a 30% savings with respect to land acquisition costs, and the hardworking folks of the 34th Middlesex District get a 30% reduction in their monthly housing costs.

It's time for free preschool and lifelong education. Education is the silver bullet that can combat crime, drug addiction and poverty. As your next state representative, I will draft legislation that supports free preschool for all children. Further, as noted above, I will bring Federal grant money back to the district for every resident that wants to improve their skills and broaden their knowledge over the course of their entire lifetimes.

It's time to combat the growing plague of opiate addiction. As your next state representative, I will amend our criminal statutes to provide opportunities for drug rehabilitation so that our brothers and sister, mothers and fathers, friends and co-workers, will have a chance to heal from this debilitating medical condition. We need more and better halfway houses. Moreover, we need to control the supply of these highly addictive opiates by requiring doctors practicing in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to submit to additional education and training prior to prescribing these powerful drugs to our citizens.

It's time to pass legislation that supports

an 80% reduction in fossil fuel emissions by 2050. Folks, this will not require a radical change in lifestyle or technology. In addition to wind and biofuel, we can achieve this goal by making much needed improvements to our existing energy infrastructure. Smart grids, carbon capture and storage, low or zero emission homes and smart cities will be a reality within a decade, if we remain ambitious. We must remain ambitious.

Finally, it's time to extend the Green Line through Somerville, into Medford, and to a terminus at Route 16.

**What separates you from the other candidates?**

My legal training separates me from the other candidates. I have served as the state legislative law fellow for the Human Rights Campaign in Washington, D.C., which is the largest gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender advocacy group in the United States. During that time, I drafted legislation at the state level to support equality and opportunity for all. Moreover, I have years of experience practicing law in the courts of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

As such, I have experience in drafting legislation and arguing the court's interpretation of those laws on behalf of my clients. As your next state representative, I will draft unambiguous legislation that will not be open for misinterpretation in the future. When I draft a bill, we will know what is in it and why it benefits us as citizens of the 34th Middlesex District, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the United States of America.

**Christine Barber, Democrat**

**How would you describe your mission as an elected official?**

I am running for State Representative to be a strong leader to serve the needs of Somerville and Medford residents, and to bring progressive values to state policy. I have the experience and knowledge to be an effective legislator. For years, I have been a committed advocate for working people in the community at local, state and national levels. As an elected official I will study the issues, talk to people on all sides, and work to make good policy to help people in the community. I believe that leading on progressive public policy is the best way that I, as a State Representative, can improve Medford and Somer-



Christine Barber, Democrat

ville and represent the citizens.

**Why did you choose to run in this election?**

I am running for State Representative because it is an incredible opportunity to work with my neighbors, strengthen my community and improve the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I believe that I bring the experience in state government, commitment to our communities, and the dedication to the shared progressive ideals of Medford and Somerville to be an exceptional advocate. My work in and around the State House has taught me that it is possible to improve the lives of my neighbors and strengthen the community through good policy but only when we endeavor to understand all of different perspectives and find a solution.

**What will you do to better the 34th Middlesex District as its representative?**

I am ready to stand up for our communities and make sure that state policy reflects our needs and values. My first priority is to ensure that the Green Line is extended all the way to Route 16. Rep. Sciortino and the local delegation did a great job in getting this project moving in the State Legislature, but there is work to be done still to ensure that this happens on time, on budget and that it fits the needs of the community. My second priority is strengthening our schools. Public education is the best way that we can provide opportunity to everyone in the community and to fight economic inequality. I am proud to have the support of the teachers' unions involved in the race. My third priority is to use my in-depth knowledge of health care policy to work to contain costs and

Continued on page 9



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# THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

## Bicyclist pays her tickets

A uniformed Somerville police officer on bicycle patrol in Union Square last week attempted to stop another cyclist for a violation, but was met with resistance by the violator.

Police said that the cyclist, Jessica Dasilva, 30, ignored the officer's request to stop and attempted to leave the area with-

out regard to the order to stop.

The officer blocked Dasilva and asked her to identify herself, at which time she reportedly refused to do so, stating that she would not provide identification.

According to reports, the officer told Dasilva that she did not legally have to show ID, but she did have to give her information.

The officer reportedly tried to convince Dasilva to identify herself and, after much conversation, and when she tried to walk away from the scene, she was told that she was being placed under arrest.

As the officer attempted to handcuff Dasilva she reportedly flailed her arms in and screamed,

"I pay parking tickets here. I give the city plenty of money."

Dasilva and the officer were in the middle of Union Square, police said, and the ruckus was drawing a crowd and impeding the flow of pedestrian traffic.

As Dasilva continue to resist, the officer called for backup. When additional officers arrived

Dasilva was finally subdued and handcuffed.

Charged with bicycle violator refusing to identify self, disorderly conduct, bicycle violation, and resisting arrest, both Dasilva and her bicycle were taken into custody and transported to police headquarters for booking and further processing.

## Sports bag contents packs a bigger punch

Members of the Somerville Police Gang Anti-Crime Unit were tipped off about a possible sawed-off shotgun being in the possession of a young Gilman St. resident last Friday.

The informant reportedly told police that he had discovered

a sports bag as he was clearing weeds behind a Gilman St. residence. Expecting to find a baseball bat, he unzipped and looked inside the bag saw what he at first thought was a BB gun, but soon realized that it was actually a sawed-off shotgun.

According to reports he left the bag where he found it and later witnessed a man, Cameron Bourque, 20, come and take the bag with him inside the home.

The informant told the investigating officers that he feared for his safety and therefore alerted

them to the situation, on condition of his maintaining anonymity, according to reports.

The officers reportedly inquired at Bourque's residence and were met by his mother, who gave consent for them to enter the home to investigate.

They found Bourque in his room and persuaded him to turn over the weapon, police said.

He was placed under arrest and charged with possession of a sawed-off shotgun without a permit and possession of a firearm without a FID card.

## SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

### Arrests:

**Christopher MacInnes**, 32, of 64 Gibbon St., Medford, August 25, 3:27 p.m., arrested at 540 Broadway on warrant charges of miscellaneous municipal ordinance violation and shoplifting by concealing merchandise.

**Rose Louis**, 46, of 3 Sargent Ave., August 25, 3:47 p.m., arrested at 540 Broadway on warrant charges of threat to commit a crime and assault.

**Hakeem Ruffin**, 25, of 125A Alewife Brook Pkwy., August 25, 11:34 p.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of assault and battery and kidnapping.

**James Coco**, 39, of 40 Harvard St., August 26, 7:27 p.m., arrested at Harvard Pl. on warrant charges of possession of a class B drug, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, and unregistered motor vehicle.

**Charles Kaasa**, 55, of 69 Lowell St., Malden, August 26, 9:28 p.m., arrested at 14 Broadway on a charge of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor.

**Maura Quinlan**, 37, of 112 Pearson Rd., August 27, 8:14 a.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of possession of a class B drug and assault and battery.

**Stanley Jenkins**, 48, of 2 North St., August 27, 8:40 a.m., arrested at home on a

warrant charge of assault and battery on a police officer.

**Jessica Dasilva**, 30, of 10 Glenwood, August 27, 5:08 p.m., arrested at 40 Union Sq. on charges of bicycle violator refusing to identify self, disorderly conduct, bicycle violation, and resisting arrest.

**Thomas Hunt**, 51, of 8 Crowell Rd., East Falmouth, August 27, 10:52 p.m., arrested at 257 Elm St. on a warrant charge of miscellaneous municipal ordinance violation.

**Theodore Meserve**, 24, of 134 Broadway, August 28, 2:33 p.m., arrested at 75 Mystic Ave. on warrant charges of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery on a person over 60 or disabled, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, and unregistered motor vehicle.

**Cameron Bourque**, 20, of 88 Gilman St., August 28, 9:52 p.m., arrested at home on charges of possession of a sawed off shotgun without a permit and possession of a firearm without a FID card.

**Gisele Queiroga**, 48, of 30 Parkside Pl., Malden, August 29, 11:10 a.m., arrested at Central St. on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended registration and no inspection sticker.

**Jimmy Preval**, 24, of 10 Colson St., Randolph, August 30, 11:07 a.m., arrested at 35 Memorial Rd. on a charge of operation of a motor vehicle with a

suspended license.

**Jose Hernandez**, 39, of 17 Dexter St., Medford, August 30, 5:52 p.m., arrested at 145 Middlesex Ave. on a charge of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor.

**Craig Preston**, 31, of 2815 Old Greensboro Rd., Winston-Salem, NC, August 30, 7:34 p.m., arrested at 67 Boston St. on a warrant charge of disturbing the peace.

**Shawn Clough**, 33, of 268 Washington St., August 30, 9:36 p.m., arrested at home on a warrant charge of threat to commit a crime.

**Samuel Re**, 68, of 140 Beech St., Belmont, August 31, 1:00 p.m., arrested at 337 Broadway on a warrant charge of operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

**Jesus Ortiz**, 23, of 50 Bickford St., Jamaica Plain, August 31, 6:54 p.m., arrested at 122 Cross St. on warrant charges of armed robbery and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

**Christopher Blake**, 24, of 50 Albion St., September 1, 5:55 a.m., arrested at 106 Central St. on warrant charges of larceny under \$250, motor vehicle operator refusal to identify self, and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

### Incidents:

#### Theft:

August 26, 1:27 p.m., police reported a theft at 200 Mc-

Grath Hwy.

August 26, 8:30 p.m., police reported a theft at Stickney Ave.

August 27, 2:24 p.m., police reported a theft at Somerville Ave.

August 27, 11:27 p.m., police reported a theft at Thorpe St.

August 28, 11:45 p.m., police reported a theft at 1 Davis Sq.

August 29, 7:47 p.m., police reported a theft at Newton St.

August 30, 11:14 a.m., police reported a theft at College Ave.

August 30, 5:58 p.m., police reported a theft at Alewife Brook Pkwy.

August 31, 9:53 a.m., police reported a theft at Holland St.

### Breaking & Entering:

August 27, 9:56 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Line St.

August 28, 10:16 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Perry St.

August 29, 11:40 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Summer St.

August 31, 11:08 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Grant St.

### Vehicle Theft:

August 25, 11:38 a.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Sycamore St.

August 25, 11:54 a.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Putnam St.

August 26, 8:07 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at 151 Linwood St.

August 28, 2:29 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at 37 Mystic Ave.

August 29, 8:13 p.m., police reported a vehicle theft at Fells-way W.

### Assault:

August 25, 10:35 p.m., police reported an assault at Alewife Brook Pkwy.

August 27, 8:19 p.m., police reported an assault at Broadway.

August 29, 10:23 p.m., police reported an assault at Medford St.

August 31, 1:32 a.m., police reported an assault at Tufts St.

### Destruction of Property:

August 27, 1:18 p.m., police reported a destruction of property at Elm St.

August 27, 5:00 p.m., police reported a destruction of property at 69 Webster Ave.

August 27, 5:25 p.m., police reported a destruction of property at 345 Medford St.

### DUI:

August 26, 9:28 p.m., police reported a driving under the influence at 14 Broadway.

August 30, 5:52 p.m., police reported a driving under the influence at 145 Middlesex Ave.

### Disorderly Conduct:

August 27, 5:08 a.m., police reported a disorderly conduct at 40 Union Sq.

August 28, 3:28 a.m., police reported a disorderly conduct at Medford St.



# Flight path noise addressed by BOA



By Jim Clark

A resolution regarding the impact of Logan Airport flight paths was discussed and adopted by the Somerville Board of Alderman at their General Meeting last Thursday.

Citing the multitude of complaints from residents made to members of the Board of Aldermen and the government of the City of Somerville about the noise from flights taking off from Logan Airport since the beginning of this spring and continuing through this summer, the Board unanimously resolved to take measures to try to alleviate the problem.

The operation of Logan's Runway 33L directs each and every plane departing from Logan Airport to fly directly over the City of Somerville, sometimes beginning before 6:00 am and running constantly until 11:30 p.m., often for many days in a row.

Somerville residents have often been subjected to the noise of hundreds of planes for days without a letup. Because the jets fly so close to the ground, the noise they generate is so great that people often cannot speak in a normal way during conversations or even enjoy being outdoors.

Alderman At Large Mary Jo Rossetti emphatically urged the Board to take action. "People have had it," according to Rossetti. "Some of the constituents are sending me copies of their communications. One gentleman said that their two-year-old child was shaking and saying, 'Daddy, is that plane going to land

on our roof?'"

Rossetti went on to report a litany of complaints from concerned citizens regarding the issue. "I know some people are telling me we're beating a dead horse because this has happened before and they do nothing," she said. "We cannot let this go on. This is not right."

Rossetti acknowledged that a lot of calls have been taken by Massport and the FAA, but also that a backlog exists in their efforts to respond to citizen outrage. She further urged everyone to continue their efforts to send the right message to authorities, emphasizing the extreme nature of the situation.

Board President and Alderman At Large William A. White Jr. noted that attempts have been made in the past to take legal action against those in control of the flights, albeit unsuccessfully up to this time, and agreed that new initiatives are in order that will hopefully affect real change in the situation.

The Board's resolution proclaims that it is unreasonable to subject people to this continuous noise from early in the morning until late in the evening, which substantially derogates from the quality of life that people expect to enjoy in their homes, community and backyards.

With the passage of the resolution, the Board will convey the impacts of these flights on Somerville residents to Massport and the FAA, requesting that they take measures to reduce the impact of noise from the use of Runway 33L. Members of the Somerville state delegation and the office of Congressman Michael Capuano will also be lobbied on the matter.

Additionally, it has been ordered by the Board that the City Clerk request from Massport a detailed report of complaints received relative to air traffic from April 2014 to the present day, and that the Director of Constituent Services (311) also maintain a log of complaints from residents.

Concerned citizens are encouraged to lodge their complaints by calling Massport is 617-561-3333 or by going to their website at: <http://www.massport.com/environment/environmental-reporting/noise-abatement/noise-complaints/>.

## Letter to Massport

By a frustrated Somerville resident

EVERY THIRTY SECONDS. Every thirty seconds starting at 6 a.m. this morning (a Sunday!) we've had to deal with the constant roar of planes that sound like they're about to land on our roof. Are you serious with this?! I sleep directly next to my air conditioner and I could STILL hear every single plane that came (and continues to come) by (since I started writing this, 3 planes have gone overhead). The last plane barely passes out of earshot when the next one starts up, and no, that is not a gross over-exaggeration.

I've lived in this City, mostly in this same house, for 30 years (my entire life), and though this noise has gotten to be much more of a nuisance in recent years, this is by far and away the most terrible it has ever been. It is honestly almost life changing, and NOT in a good way. This weekend I happen to be pretty ill, and it is IMPOSSIBLE to sleep, rest, or THINK due to the severity of the noise - both the frequency of the planes and the volume of the engines due to their low height.

It's next to impossible to hold a conversation with someone you're sitting next to, whether you're indoors or outdoors, when the planes pass by, which has been every 30-60 seconds recently, so you can imagine how hard it is to talk to anyone (PS- 3 more have now gone by).

This morning I actually got so frustrated I screamed into my pillow. This is complete insanity.

MAKE. IT. STOP.

For the first time ever, I am dreading Labor Day Weekend because we can't have a BBQ or gathering with friends because it is really too much to be outside for any length of time trying to function (another 2 planes...)

MAKE. IT. STOP.

We have some level of tolerance. We know we live in an urban community close to an airport. Every 30-60 seconds for going on 4.5 hours now borders on abuse. I'd honestly not be shocked if the number of people who present for psych. evals at local hospitals hasn't gone up in recent weeks. It is that bad. It's grating on anyone's anxiety and seriously tests everyone's patience. (2 more planes).

If you were counting, there have been 10 planes in the less than 7 minutes it's taken me to write this email. TEN. (Nope, just went back to proofread...another plane has since flown overhead. ELEVEN.)

MAKE IT STOP.



**Erin DiBenedetto**

***Tough. Qualified. Dedicated to Somerville and Medford***

**Vote Erin DiBenedetto**

**for State Representative for the 34th Middlesex District on  
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# Meet the candidates for the forthcoming elections

By Jeremy F. van der Heiden

On September 9, Somervillains along with individuals from the rest of the state will once again leverage the power of the vote in the primaries to decide who will continue to campaign for several positions, including Governor, Lieutenant Governor and District Attorney, among others. Although *The Somerville Times* has interviewed several candidates in the past few weeks, there are plenty more to know and understand before stepping into the voting booth.

We begin with the gubernatorial race, as incumbent Governor Deval Patrick will be stepping down from his position at the end of the current

## Gubernatorial Primaries

### Martha Coakley, Democrat

The current Attorney General of Massachusetts, Martha Coakley has had a long and storied career in public service, beginning as an Assistant District Attorney back in 1986. A career prosecutor, Ms. Coakley was the District Attorney of Middlesex County before stepping into the Attorney General position in January 2007.



Martha Coakley, Democrat

The Attorney General is running on a platform social justice and improvement, focusing upon matters ranging from worker's, civil, veterans' and women's rights to gun control to healthcare, education and the economy.

### Steve Grossman, Democrat

A career entrepreneur and public official, Mr. Grossman is currently the State Treasurer and Receiver-General of Massachusetts and is looking to take a step further up the chain of command in the commonwealth. While he has run a business for decades, Treasurer Grossman also has served as the Chairman of the Massachusetts Democratic Party and Democratic National Committee.

The State Treasurer is running



Steve Grossman, Democrat

on a platform of common sense and community empowerment, as he has explained his intention to level the playing field between underserved households and those with more privilege.

### Donald Berwick, Democrat

A man of many hats, Mr. Berwick has been a pediatrician, executive and leader for roughly three decades, serving on the Obama administration's healthcare push as an official more recently. He also still runs the non-profit he created in 1991, the Institute for Healthcare Improvement, which operates on the global stage and led him to receive knight status from the Queen of England.



Donald Berwick, Democrat

Mr. Berwick has several visions for the commonwealth, including single-payer healthcare, renewable energy projects, putting an end to childhood poverty and improvements to the education system.

### Charlie Baker, Republican

Mr. Baker has had a long career in both the public and private sectors, acting as Secretary



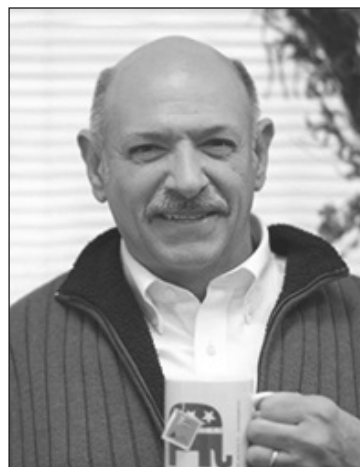
Charlie Baker, Republican

of Administration and Finance when Governors William Weld and Paul Cellucci were in office, as well as the chief executive officer of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care. Notably, during his time as CEO, the organization was voted as one of the best places to work.

The contender has focused his campaign efforts on the establishment of safer and stronger communities with strong education for all in the commonwealth, as well as economic growth and an improved healthcare system.

### Mark Fisher, Republican

A business owner hailing from Westfield, Massachusetts, Mr. Fisher is the owner of metal manufacturing facility Merchant's Fabrication. He holds a degree in nuclear engineering technology from Hartford State Technical College, and has been working in manufacturing-related fields since the early 1980s.



Mark Fisher, Republican

Mr. Fisher has called for a wealth of changes ranging from welfare problems in the commonwealth to taxpayer protection and a shift in mentality to view healthcare as a privilege rather than a right.

## Lieutenant Governor

### Steve Kerrigan, Democrat

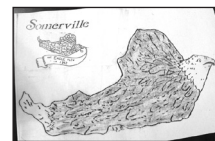
Mr. Kerrigan has served as the chief of staff to Attorney General Thomas Reilly, later stepping into the role of President for the Massachusetts Military Heroes Fund and acting in senior roles under the Obama administration.

*Continued on page 15*



Steve Kerrigan, Democrat

## The Somerville Times Historical Fact of the Week



### Eagle feathers #60

## The Sentinel

By Bob (Monty) Doherty

How old is Somerville? It depends on how you measure it. If you use the European settlement or when it was part of Charlestown as your barometer, it would date from 1628. If you use the time that it separated from Charlestown, it would be 1842. If you use when it became a city, it would be 1872.

Actually, these years are but seconds and micro seconds in her real age. The topography, or top layers of most of Somerville's soil, was deposited here by glaciers roughly 14 to 15 thousand years ago. As old as this topsoil description sounds, its age is incredibly minute compared to Somerville slate or Somerville bluestone, as it is known. Slate is old – 450 to 600 million years old. It predates humans, dinosaurs, and insects. The deep bedrock of Somerville is slate.



Its most prominent location surfaces at Quarry Hill on the edge of Powder House Square. Somerville bluestone was quarried from this location and brought to Union Square where it was cut for distribution.

Look around a bit, and you will find this slate throughout the city. Hundreds of homes sit on slate foundations and are covered by slate roofs. Throughout the years, Somerville bluestone has been used for walls, sidewalks and flagstone garden pavers in Somerville, Boston and elsewhere. Churches, schools, and firehouses across the city were built or partially built with Somerville slate.

In the mid 1980's, the 120-foot deep MBTA subway tunnel – the deepest in the metropolitan transit system – cut through Somerville bedrock on its way from Porter Square to Davis Square. The slate's uses bridged from school chalkboards to pool tables. The beautiful Goddard Chapel on Tufts' Walnut Hill was built of Somerville bluestone slate. It was used for colonial tombstones, including the gravestone of Jean Mallet, the architect of the city's symbol, the Powder House. Constructed of bluestone, it was built in 1703. Mallet is buried in Charlestown, under the shadow of Harvard's memorial to their founder, John Harvard.

This week the Powder House, Somerville's proud medallion, which denotes the revolutionary occurrence of September 1, 1774, celebrates its 240th anniversary. The British attack predated Lexington and Concord by eight months and planted the seed of the American Revolution. Somerville's oldest relic still sits on solid ground.





# Beacon Hill Roll Call



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Beacon Hill Roll Call can also be viewed on our website at [www.thesomervilletimes.com](http://www.thesomervilletimes.com)

**THE HOUSE AND SENATE.** There were no roll call votes in the House or Senate last week. This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* reports local senators’ roll call attendance records for the 2014 session through August 31.

**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.

The Senate has held 260 roll call votes. *Beacon Hill Roll Call* tabulates the number of roll calls on which each senator was present and voting and then calculates that number as a percentage of the total roll call votes held. That percentage is the number referred to as the roll call attendance record.

Only 16 of the Senate’s 40 members have 100 percent roll call attendance records.

Some senators may have poor attendance records because of a variety of reasons including health problems or military service. *Beacon Hill Roll Call* does not ask each individual senator why he or she missed roll call votes.

The senator who missed the most roll calls is Sen. Thom-

as McGee (D-Lynn), who missed 23 roll calls (91.1 percent attendance).

Rounding out the top five worst are Sens. Michael Rush (D-Boston), missed 15 roll calls (94.2 percent attendance); Gale Candaras (D-Wilbraham), missed 14 roll calls (94.6 percent attendance); James Eldridge (D-Acton), missed 13 roll calls (95.0 percent attendance); and James Timilty (D-Walpole), missed ten roll calls (96.1 percent attendance).

**SENATORS’ 2014 ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE RECORDS THROUGH AUGUST 31**  
The percentage listed next to the senator’s name is the percentage of roll call votes for which the senator was present and voting. The number in parentheses represents the number of roll calls that the senator missed.

Sen. Sal DiDomenico	100 percent (0)
Sen. Patricia Jehlen	99.6 percent (1)

## ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

**STATE DIVESTMENT FROM FOSSIL FUELS (H 4354)** - The House approved and sent to the Senate a bill creating an 11-member special commission to investigate the prospect of requiring the state’s pension funds to divest themselves of all fossil fuel companies including coal, oil and gas. The commission would evaluate the positive impact that divestment may have upon the environment weighed against the potential risk to the state’s pension funds and retirees. It would send its findings to the Legislature by February 15, 2015.

**LOWER STATE SHARE OF RACING REVENUE (H 4365)** - The House and Senate both accepted Gov. Deval Patrick’s amendment deleting a provision that would have reduced the state’s piece of the action on out-of-state greyhound races that are shown live at Raynham Park.

In his veto message, Patrick said that the bill does not provide any replacement for that lost revenue and “would leave the Racing Division nearly \$600,000 short of its operating budget this year, and would create an annually recurring shortfall of approximately the same amount.”

Supporters of the reduction said it would bring the state’s take on greyhound simulcast races to the same percentage the state receives from simulcast horse racing.

**TAX AMNESTY FROM SEPTEMBER 1 TO OCTOBER 31** - The Department of Revenue (DOR) announced the details of the tax amnesty program recently approved by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Patrick. If you owe the state back taxes, are issued a “Tax Amnesty Notice” from DOR and pay the full amount of tax and interest due by October 31, 2014, DOR will waive all penalties already incurred. For more details, go to [mass.gov/dor/amnesty](http://mass.gov/dor/amnesty)

**INTERIOR DESIGNERS (H 4303)** - Gov. Patrick signed into law a bill that establishes the right of interior designers to bid directly on state contracts. Currently, designers are prohibited from doing so and are only allowed to subcontract their services with architectural firms that are bidding on projects.

Supporters say that current law is unfair and puts interior designers at a disadvantage. They noted allowing di-

rect bidding would create competition, reduce costs and save taxpayers’ money.

**NATIONAL GUARD (H 4109)** - The Senate approved and sent to Gov. Patrick legislation originally filed by the governor, making changes in the state’s National Guard system. The measure gives the Guard the authority to address homeland security threats. Other provisions add new protections against discrimination on the basis of religion or sexual orientation; increase the penalty for obstructing an enlisted person while on duty; and prohibit students from being penalized academically if they have to take a break to serve in the Guard. Students would have the option to complete the course at a later date without penalty or withdraw from the course with a full refund of fees and tuition.

Supporters said the laws governing the Guard’s operation have not been updated since 1954. They noted this bill will bring the guard into the 21st century in many areas.

**THEFT FROM RETAIL STORES (S 2346)** - The governor sent to the Legislature an amendment to a bill creating new crimes relating to theft from retail stores. The new crimes include using coated bags, duct tape or other devices that block sensors designed to set off an alarm if not removed by the cashier; forging a bogus sales receipt or UPC code; and working in an organized retail theft ring.

Supporters said that these theft rings are estimated to cost Massachusetts retailers more than \$160 million annually.

Gov. Patrick amended the bill to allow prosecutors the discretion to bring anyone accused of the crime a second time to seek a lesser House of Corrections imprisonment rather than a state prison one. The Legislature will agree to the governor’s amendment, according to Sen. William Brownsberger (D-Belmont), the Senate chairman of the Judiciary Committee, who was instrumental in the bill’s passage.

## QUOTABLE QUOTES

“Most people in Massachusetts do the right thing and pay their taxes to support critical government services. This amnesty program provides those who are delinquent on their taxes the opportunity to pay their share without additional penalties.” — *Department of Revenue Commissioner Amy Pitter on the state’s tax amnesty program giving some delinquent taxpayers two months to pay their taxes without paying any penalty.*

“As we move our operations to a new Boston neighborhood next month, we are offering the public the opportunity to attend the plate drawing and get a sneak peek at our new branch in Haymarket Center.” — *Registrar of Motor Vehicles Celia Blue on the low license plate lottery to be held on September 10 at Boston’s new RMV adjacent to the MBTA’s Haymarket Station. This year’s batch includes 160 low number license plates.*

“Market Basket is a major employer in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, and an important local resource for the communities the company serves. We are delighted that the parties have reached agreement on terms of sale and resolution of operating authority, so that employees can return to work and customers will once



# Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



again be able to rely on these stores to meet their needs.”  
— From a joint statement by Gov. Patrick and New Hampshire Gov. Maggie Hassan.

“Well, of course, I mean, yeah, that’s human nature ... But, in general, I’m pretty satisfied with my decision.”  
— Congressman Michael Capuano (D-Somerville) when asked about whether he had any regrets about his decision last year not to run for governor but to run for re-election to Congress instead.

“State regulators welcome innovations that lead to greater choice and lower costs, but we also want to understand any consumer and marketplace risks as we evaluate the overall benefits of virtual currencies.” — Massachusetts Commissioner of Banks and Chair of the national Emerging Payments Task Force on the task force’s study of Bitcoin, a controversial, peer-to-peer digital currency.

**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 August 25-29, the House met for a

total of 34 minutes while the Senate met for a total of 42 minutes.

Mon. August 25	House 11:06 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Senate 11:02 a.m. to 11:07 a.m.
Tues. August 26	No House session No Senate session
Wed. August 27	No House session No Senate session
Thurs. August 28	House 11:01 a.m. to 11:26 a.m. Senate 11:04 a.m. to 11:41 a.m.
Fri. August 29	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at [bob@beaconhillrollcall.com](mailto:bob@beaconhillrollcall.com)

## Q&A with 34th Middlesex District State Rep. candidates CONT. FROM PG 3

improve the quality of care delivered to patients to help support families.  
**Which problems the district is facing are you most interested in correcting?**

Two significant issues in our communities are the potential displacement of residents due to economic development and the addiction epidemic. Over the last decade, Somerville and Medford have faced a lot of changes from economic development in the area, and this trend is going to continue as our communities are appealing places to live and work. We need a State Representative who will be able to work with the community to ensure that economic development will fit the needs of the community. Somerville and Medford currently need to address maintaining and expanding the availability of affordable housing and ensuing we are bringing good jobs to our cities to help people continue to thrive here. In addition, our communities must address the ongoing opiate epidemic. Governor Patrick has rightly declared opiate abuse a public health emergency. The complexities of addiction and its stigma mean that many do not seek help. I plan to address the ongoing drug addiction problem by prioritizing substance abuse treatment over incarceration, ensuring adequate emergency response to prevent further overdose fatalities, and funding and health coverage for on-going treatment.

**What separates you from the other candidates?**

I have spent my entire career working on policy solutions to support working families. From my work as a community organizer working with low-income women in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps to my current role as a senior health policy analyst at a national organization, I have worked with people with differing opinions to create policy solutions to difficult issues. As a research analyst in the House of Representatives, I played a key role in the largest expansion of health care coverage in Massachusetts’s history by helping draft our historic reform legislation, which now provides quality, affordable health coverage to hundreds of thousands of people. It was an incredible experience, and one that taught me that by working

hard to learn the issues, listen all sides, and bring expertise to the debate, we can create real solutions to social issues.

Like Rep. Sciortino, I will be a strong voice for the progressive issues we care about at the state level. I will be a leader on women’s health and reproductive rights, on fair taxation and fighting for the middle class. Somerville and Medford are leading in a lot of these areas, and I will bring those values to the State House.

**Erin DiBenedetto, Democrat**  
**How would you describe your mission as an elected official?**

My mission is to be the “People’s Representative”. I want to be the legislature on Beacon Hill that the people from my district feel comfortable calling or stopping by to visit. As a taxpayer in this community I do my best to support transparency in government and open up the doors of our democracy to all citizens. We need to have public officials who are respectful of the needs of our community in the most honest and trustworthy way possible. As an elected official I have been known to ask the hard questions and when the information has not been fully presented to request it to be brought forward again in a manner that is transparent to all. I will give this job the respect it deserves while giving the people of the district the representation they deserve.

**Why did you choose to run in this election?**

I am running for State Representative because I feel I am the best candidate to represent Medford and Somerville. As a life-long member of both communities with a track record of community service, I have the history, knowledge, and experience necessary to represent this district.

My background in public service began as a teenager in Somerville where I worked as a youth organizer helping the elderly. After graduating from Saint Cement’s, I moved to Medford and immediately became involved in many aspects of the community. I currently serve as a member of the Medford School Committee and work as a Special Education Coordinator in a local school district. Every day I am on the front lines of advocating for children and the families in

both cities. I know how to listen to the needs of the people in our neighborhoods and fight with heart and courage to protect the best interests of our community. I will give the people of the district the representation they deserve.

**What will you do to better the 34th Middlesex District as its representative?**

As State Representative of the 34th Middlesex District I will be able to bring my history and knowledge of our community and our needs and hopes and dreams for our future to the floor on Beacon Hill. This is our district. My first hand knowledge of driving down the streets, shopping at our local businesses, raising our children, paying our taxes and socializing in our neighborhoods will always be with me on Beacon Hill. I will fight for good jobs, affordable housing, care for our elderly and I will consider how new policy would affect the people I represent. I will give the people of the district the representation they deserve.

**Which problems the district is facing are you most interested in correcting?**

Economic Development and Affordable Housing. Somerville and Medford are on the move and that means new businesses are interested in investing in our area. I am committed to being a strong advocate for smart growth while ensuring that lifelong residents and families aren’t priced out.

Good Jobs in Our Community. I am proud to support legislation that would require workers to be provided with reasonable earned sick time/paid sick leave. As the proud wife of a union carpenter, I recognize the value of unions and will work to protect and enhance collective bargaining rights. I will fight to ensure equal pay for women becomes a reality in the Commonwealth as a fundamental right and an economic necessity to grow our economy. And I am committed to increasing funding for job training and vocational education in our schools to better prepare workers for a 21st Century economy.

Substance Abuse in Our Community. The time has come to deal with the substance abuse epidemic in our community head on and take action to help those struggling with addiction to recover their lives and rejoin our community. I believe



Erin DiBenedetto, Democrat

that we must take real and substantive action to train first responders, family, friends and community members and equip our community with the programs and resources we need to stop the erosion of a generation of Somerville and Medford citizens.

**What separates you from the other candidates?**

As the only elected official in the race, I am a proven leader within our Community. As a school committee member, I have fostered great relationships and have been able to work with our leaders to improve the life of our students and will continue that work by opening the doors on Beacon Hill. My experiences and skills I have developed will help me to apply effective change and be a good check on accountability and the effective use of taxpayer dollars as a member of the House of Representatives.

I have walked every street in the district at least once in the last 5 months, talking with as many residents as possible. I have listened to their concerns as well as their pride in living in Medford and Somerville. I will keep their ideas and needs in my heart everyday as I represent the people of the 34th Middlesex District at Beacon Hill.

We thank the candidates for their time and wish them the best of luck.

As a note, Democratic candidate Sharon Guzik and Independent candidate Nick Lanzilli could not be reached in time for the publication date. We wish them the best of luck in the election as well.



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.

Accelerating education in Somerville schools



By Joseph A. Curtatone

This week, Somerville students are returning to a district that is accelerating education. Last year, Somerville Public Schools led all Massachusetts urban school districts in student growth on the Spring 2013 MCAS, putting our schools on par with some of the highest-performing districts in Massachusetts. That means Somerville is helping each and every student continually improve, regardless of where they start academically. Somerville High School made a two-level leap on the state’s accountability rating scale to

the highest rating, Level 1, and was named as one of the state’s top 15 “dream schools” by the Boston Globe. The Kennedy School also earned a Level 1 designation last year. This year we look to continue that success. Last year, we had the largest year-over-year budget increase for Somerville Public Schools in city history. That funding provided more students than ever before with hands-on learning in science and technology. It expanded our foreign language program with Spanish offered beginning in sixth grade and the opening of the state-of-the-art Somerville High School Language Lab. More students had the opportunity to take music classes and participate in intramural sports—programs that other districts have scaled back on to save costs even though they are proven to improve a student’s academic success. Those initiatives will continue

as our schools stay committed to supporting the whole child, not only their academic performance but their physical, social and emotional well-being. That means supporting our students and families before they even start kindergarten. Somerville Schools are taking a monumental step this year in implementing a universal kindergarten readiness program. While many districts are taking the laudable step of examining how to provide universal preschool to students, Somerville is going a step further by working with community partners to establish an innovative early childhood network with a single point of entry for both public and private providers. Through this program, we aim to ensure that every student and their families receive the support and services they need from diapers to day one of kindergarten, so that students enter kindergarten with the skill they need to reach

their full potential. High-quality preschool education narrows the achievement gap by as much as half, and Somerville Public Schools are moving to make sure every student in our city has this advantage. Another innovative new initiative is the STELLAR program, a district-wide collaboration between Somerville Schools and Tufts University. STELLAR will bring together veteran and student teachers both in Somerville classrooms and seminars at Tufts to jointly develop best practices for teaching children in preschool through second grade. These are only a few of the initiatives Somerville Schools will undertake this school year as our educators continue to refine how our students are taught and prepared for life’s challenges. Meanwhile, day for day, parents and guardians will be providing that critical foundation and support in the home—helping with

homework, inspiring curiosity and giving our kids the healthy home environments that enable them best to learn. I hope too to see some of you at PTA meetings, school events and parent-teacher nights. As we strive to provide our students the best possible learning opportunities, engaged parents and guardians will undergird our success. Our schools are the foundation of our community. Every success of our city, from our stunning drop in crime to the thriving local economy, starts with how highly we value education. In Somerville, we’ve shown that no matter where you start academically, you can achieve your full potential if we value education, put in the work and seek continuous improvement, both in our students and our educators. The 2014-2015 school year is shaping up to be an exciting year in Somerville, and I’m looking forward to what we achieve together next.

Life in the VILLE by Jimmy Del Ponte

Ring ring goes the bell!



Summer vacation 2014 is history. While I was directing the Somerville Sunsetters song and dance troupe, I was not allowed to mention that 6 letter word ... school. Anytime the subject of school is mentioned, I channel my dad and start preaching. “You kids today have it so easy compared to when I was in school!” I tell them how we had things like dress codes ... and ... BUILDING MASTERS!!! If you dared to wear “dungarees” or your hair was over your collar (for boys) you were sent to the dreaded building master. Some of them were not very nice. I always get a strange fluttering in my stomach at this time of year. Building masters and nuns made for some very scary memories. Back to school meant the end of waking up at 9 a.m. and throwing your “play clothes” on and heading over to your pal’s house. What was in store for the day? Perhaps building a buggy with wheels from a shopping cart, or climbing the rocks at Powder House Park. On Sunday afternoons we used to ride our bikes around checking out people’s trash. We called it barrel picking. There were lots of things to keep us busy back in the late 60’s. We had no cell phones so we actually went to our friends’ houses

and yelled out their name. “Hi Yo Charlie!!” His mom would come out on the front porch and tell me that he would be right out. We tried to make every second of summer vacation count. I guess we were getting bored one particular day when Archie decided to perform a daredevil stunt. He doused his skateboard with lighter fluid and skated down one of Powder House Parks walk lanes. Hopefully today a prank such as that will be limited to a video game. (We put Archie out with no injuries!) I can’t believe that some of the desks we had in school were the old wooden ones, bolted to the floor, with the ink well hole in it. Remember? I also recall big fat crayons with a flat side. I finally figured out that the flatness was so the crayon wouldn’t roll off the desk. When I was in “sister school” the nuns were perched on a platform that set them about four inches above the students. If you stepped on the dreaded platform without permission you were in big trouble. My eight years in parochial school were not pleasant. I still can’t believe our parents subjected us to that abuse. I still get nervous around this time each year but driving by the old sister school definitely stirs my stomach. Thankfully, my kids went to Somerville public elementary schools and are doing just fine. I dropped my middle son off at his college dorm on Sunday. He is at a fine



school in Boston. He is in a “quad” with three other guys. I met them and their families and I think he will be just fine. I was getting my usual emotional self until I got lost in the hot, smelly underground parking garage. I’m just glad I was able to get another kid to college. I DID get misty as I was driving home after dropping him off. I am very proud of him. I just hope he doesn’t have as much fun in college as I did! Summer vacation 2014 is just a memory, but for this dad it is a great memory. Visits to my new granddaughter, a trip to Maine with my sons, successful Sunsetters and summer theater pro-

ductions, and not one squawk out of my trusty truck made for one heck of a summer. To all the kids that were in my summer programs ... I’ll see you around! I am also anxious to get back to the piano with Somerville’s Swinging Singing Seniors, also known as The Moonlighters. We will rock the senior center for sure!! I hope you all had a great summer. Lets try to savor our memories of those warm lazy days, and carry them with us all year long. Summerville Rocks!!! By the way, the building in the photo is the old Western Junior High School on Holland Street.



COMMENTARY

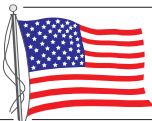
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



The Orange Line Assembly station is here at last!

The View Of The Times



Well, what is so special about the opening of yet another T-stop in our city, one might ask? On the Orange Line, no less? After all, the big news is the Green Line Extension, isn't it? What with its blazing a new trail through previously untouched territory, transit-wise that is.

Not so fast, though. As we all know, the route towards the redevelopment of the Assembly area has been a long and

torturously twisting one. Riddled with false starts, unfulfilled commitments, and ultimately triumphant in the realization of its present state as a modern, thriving commercial success story.

Those who have followed the area's history remember the agonizingly slow pace of progress through the years, and can feel a special sense of appreciation for what has been accomplished.

A city's public transportation system is a reflection of its arterial health, an undeniably vital part of its infrastructure. This this station, as well as the GLX project that is still in development, serve to prove that our city is thriving and growing ever stronger with the passage of time.

In these days when we have seen so many great cities go under economically, it is encouraging to observe just how

well we ourselves are doing, in the greater scheme of things.

Just another one of many stops along the way? For some this may be so. But for those of us who seek to view the bigger picture over the longer haul, it can be a comforting thought to know we have achieved this milestone.

And a beautifully elegant milestone it is. Next stop, who's to say?

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

the historical facts about our city. He never ceases to astound us with his knowledge about Somerville, and makes us all proud. Bob and Cynthia must have a pretty big home, with all the stuff he comes into the office with to use in his column. It's nice to know another couple has lasted, we wish them the very best and many more years to come.

\*\*\*\*\*

Keep calling in on those low flying planes buzzing over the city every night. It's having an impact. We hear that the sheer amount of calls to Massport is driving them nuts over there at the airport. Keep it up and call every time you hear them flying over. Thanks to our Board of Alderman and especially Mary Jo Rossetti, who is on top of what's going on at the airport for all of us. The number to call at Massport is 617- 561-3333 or you can go online at: <http://www.massport.com/environment/environmental-reporting/noise-abatement/noise-complaints/>. We still haven't heard from our congressman Mike Capuano if he's in on the fight to get the planes to stop flying over our city nights keeping us awake.

\*\*\*\*\*

Happy Birthday to a few of our good friends here in the Ville. Happy Birth-

day this past Sunday to Heigh Harkins-Gerow. We wish her the very best. To our good friend Rick Pye, a long line of Villens here going back many generations and a nice family. We wish Rick the very best HB. Chris Siggins, another one who grew up here, went to school here, and his heart is still here. We wish him Happy Birthday. One of the finest ladies with class, Grace Abruzzio, who lived here almost all her life, was Alderman-At-Large for many years and before that a truly dedicated hard worker here politically. We wish her the very best of birthdays and many more to come. Our good friend and sister of the former publisher/owner of The Somerville News, and also a great lady herself, Ms. Marilyn Publicover, whose heart and soul is here in our city all the time. Happy Birthday Marilyn. Happy Birthday to our own Bob Doherty this week as well. A nice guy, full of fun historical stuff about Somerville, and a retired Somerville Fireman. We wish him the very best of Birthdays. Another person whose heart is still here is Pat Roberto who grew up here, went to school and started his Real Estate career here with his own company over in Everett, ERA Millennium Real Estate. Of course, to these and all the other friends of *The*

*Times*, we wish you a happy birthday, each and every one.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Legal on the Mystic, a Legal Sea Foods one-off, opened at Assembly Row in Somerville on Tuesday, September 2. Legal on the Mystic is a casual bar-centric concept whose atmosphere lends to the location's industrial past while melding traditional with contemporary. This will be President & CEO Roger Berkowitz's seventh brand in the Legal Sea Foods family of restaurants.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Don't forget, next Tuesday, the 9th, polls will open for the primary. Mostly unopposed candidates for local office of Senator and the Representative seat now with Denise Provost. But for the residents of Ward 4 and Ward 7 there is a primary on the democratic side for State Representative. There are two candidates from our city who are running: Craig Rourke from Ward 4, a lifelong resident who is married and lives in Winter Hill, and also Christine Barber, who also lives in Winter Hill. They are running against Erin DeBeneditto, a former resident of Winter Hill who grew up here and went to St. Clements. Not to mention she is currently on the School Board in Med-

ford, with the highest vote in last year's city elections. Another Medford resident we haven't heard much about is Sharon K. Guzik, a former Medford School Board member. We sort of like Erin. She's so up front and holds nothing back and is very outgoing. And, more importantly, we think she's more like us than the others. Nicholas Lanzilli is running as an independent and won't be on the September 9 ballot. He will be on the ballot in November. He's from Medford.

\*\*\*\*\*

Two other races we have to mention: Marian Ryan, the current Middlesex County District Attorney, is running to keep her job to which she was appointed to by Governor Patrick earlier last year when the former DA resigned. Marian Ryan grew up here in the city, went to school here and started her career with the District Attorney's office 30 years ago. She would be the first women elected who is from Somerville. She's done a great job and if you meet her you'll understand when we say she's a fantastic person who you can talk to and you know she's telling you the truth. We certainly hope she gets re-elected. She deserves the job and Somerville will be better off with her in office.

*Continued on page 17*



# A new T station at Assembly

The grand opening of the Orange Line Assembly Station T-stop in Somerville, MA—the first new MBTA T-station to open in more than a quarter century— and Somerville’s newest neighborhood Assembly Row took place on Tuesday, Sept. 2.

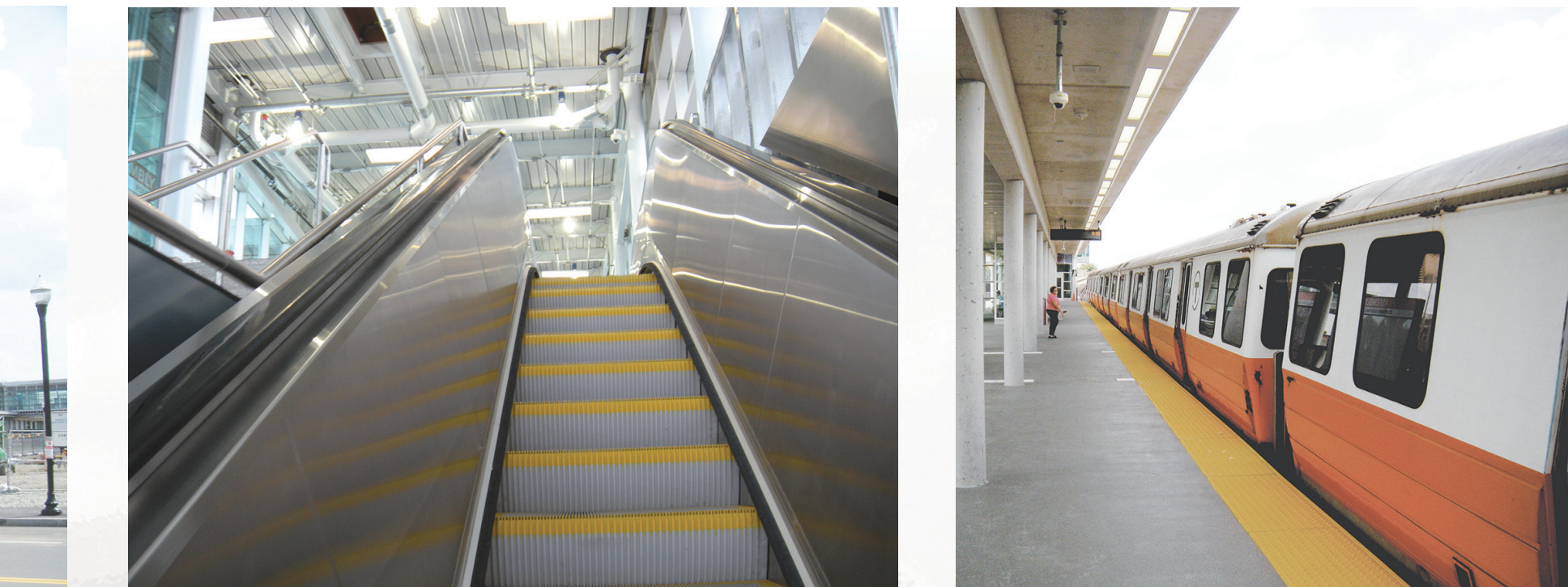
Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, representatives of Federal Realty, along with other Somerville officials and the general public participated in the celebratory walk to the official ribbon cutting ceremony.

Everyone got an up-close look and the gleaming new station and its state-of-the-art facilities.

— Photos by Donald Norton







Photos by Donald Norton





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SPORTS

Alibrandis Yawkey League champs once again

CONT. FROM PG 1



Your 2014 Yawkee Baseball League Champions, The Somerville Alibrandis.

in the 7th inning. Somerville’s pitching was strong as Chris McKenzie threw for the first five innings. Reliever Sean Sullivan was awarded the save. Will Clang’s six innings for the Athletics was a solid effort. Al Thomas led 1-0 in the first inning of game 2, then Somerville scored four runs in the 2nd inning and maintained their lead take the game by a score of 4-1. Bobby Barrett and Marc Des-

Roches both hit singles at the top of the 2nd. Demartinis then walked to load the bases. Mark Addesa hit a single that brought DesRoches home. Maguire was then walked by A’s pitcher Dan Goughan, which sent Barrett to the plate. Kevin Salines’ 2 RBI single shot followed, giving the Alibrandis a 3 run lead. Pitcher Chris Foundas earned the win, with Tanguay closing in the 7th.

The Athletics’ Dan Gaughan gave up 4 runs on 7 hits in his 6 innings on the mound. DesRoches was 2 for 3 for Somerville, and James Katsiroubas was 3 for 4, doubling for the A’s. Game 3 went Al Thomas’ way as they led off in the first with a two RBI double by Lambert. Willie Archibald took it from there. Matt Jacobs recorded 3 hits while rookie Matt Lavasseur lunched a huged RBI double in the 6th inning. The Athletics’ fortunes changed in game 4 as Steve Lambert knocked a 2-out single then moved to second base on Matt Rodrigues’ hit in the 4th inning. Chris McDonough sin-

gled and then John Kostas drove in the only runs the A’s would score in the game. Pitching was controlled through the 4th inning. Relievers Bobby Freeman (AT) and Sean Sullivan (Somerville) took over from there. The Alibrandis’ 4 big runs in the 5th inning stepped up the pace. Mark Addesa’s double followed by a Maguire 1-out double sent Addesa home to score. Kevin Salines then hit a single and Teddy Dziuba singled to get Maguire home. Salines and Dziuba scored on a Bobby Barrett hit to give Somerville a 4-2 lead. Sullivan held off the A’s through the 6th inning when Tanguay took over and earned

his second save in the championship series. Somerville won 3-2 in game 5. Shawn Sullivan and Chris McKenzie shared MVP honors. The Alibrandis’ Marc DesRoches is retiring after this season. He has contributed to 15 championship wins over the past 19 years, mostly as captain of the team. DesRoches is widely recognized as the Yawkey Baseball League’s all-time greatest player. The Alibrandis have won the league championship 15 times in past 25 years. The team will be honored by the Boston Red Sox at a luncheon on September 24.

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#438

1. Brandon Lee died during the making of which movie?

2. Who won super bowl X?

3. Who was the defending champion when Bjorn Borg first won the Wimbledon singles?

4. What was Beatle John Lennon's middle name?

5. Bogart's trademark sneer was due to an injury sustained in which conflict?

6. In the 70's which gangster film won an Oscar as did its sequel?

7. Name the island whose wildlife is 90% unique?

8. What kind of creature sleeps with one eye open?

9. What's the name of rock musician David Bowie's son?

10. What earthly creature has four "noses" and 3,000 tiny teeth?

11. Which Japanese company bought CBS records in 1988?

12. What product was originally promoted with the advertising slogan "You press the button - we do the rest"?

Answers on page 20

Market Basket, Saturday afternoon



Here's a shot of the parking lot at Market Basket on Somerville Ave. last Saturday afternoon. Need we say anymore?



# Meet the candidates for the forthcoming elections

CONT. FROM PG 7

Notably, he was also one of Senator Ted Kennedy's trusted aides for more than 10 years.

## Mike Lake, Democrat

A former Special Assistant of White House Operations under President Clinton and current President and chief executive officer of Leading Cities, Mr. Lake has worked on the local, state, national and international stages



Mike Lake, Democrat

in several capacities. He believes in public and private sector partnerships that will be beneficial

to the people of the commonwealth.

## Leland Cheung

A City Councilor in Cambridge, Mr. Cheung is a fiscal progressive that has had a career



Leland Cheung

in the private sector, holding degrees in physics, economics and aerospace engineering, as well as an MBA and masters in political administration. He is running on a platform of progressive investments to improve education, infrastructure and other matters

in Massachusetts.

## Middlesex County District Attorney

### Michael Sullivan

Current Clerk of Courts of Middlesex Superior Court, Mr. Sullivan has served in public service through several major roles including Cambridge City Councilor, Assistant Attorney



Michael Sullivan

General, and Assistant District Attorney, and served as Mayor of Cambridge for roughly two

years. He is also Clerk Magistrate in Middlesex and the acting President of the Massachusetts Superior Court Clerks Association.

Mr. Sullivan has been running on a platform of responsibility and expertise, asserting that this position can only be properly handled with the right types of skills with respect to leadership, oversight, negotiation and the like.

### Marian T. Ryan

Appointed to the Middlesex District Attorney position when Gerry Leone stepped down in April 2013, Ms. Ryan served as a public prosecutor for roughly 35 years as an Assistant District Attorney. She also held the position of General Counsel for the Massachusetts District Attorney's Office, and runs a multitude of special programs across the county.

Ms. Ryan has focused on the creation of more preventative measures to begin improv-



Marian T. Ryan

ing public safety in Middlesex County, and is running on a platform of extensive experience and management skills within the District Attorney's office.

As a reminder, the primaries will be held on September 9, and *The Somerville Times* would like to wish all of the candidates the best of luck. We encourage you to get out and exercise your right to vote.

## What's on Somerville Neighborhood News

### Green Line and gentrification headed to Ward 5

By Somerville Neighborhood News

Ward 5's aldermen and residents are mostly happy the Green Line will reach the neighborhood in the near future, but they are worried about the side effects.

"The Green Line will create half a dozen new subway stops in Somerville through the heart of the city and give us the kind of public transportation that we deserve," Ward 5 Alderman Mark Niedergang told Somerville Neighborhood News as he walked around the Lowell Street neighborhood recently.



"What I love about this community is that it's a mixed-income community," he said, but he added that he's very concerned about property values around the Green Line stations, possible rent hikes and displacement.

A recent report from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council predicts that rents could go up as much as 67 percent over the next few decades. Because two-thirds of the city's households are renters, the rent hike could have major impact on the city's economic, racial and ethnic diversity.

After speaking at a recent forum on gentrification in Boston, Professor James Jennings of Tufts University noted that gentrification has already started in Somerville.

"I think what the Green Line extension means to me and what I take out of today's forum is that residents have to be aware of how real-estate is going to go up," Jennings said.

The professor of urban policy and planning recommended that residents find out "exactly who's responsible for what level of decision making and how can they, as residents, impact decision making before it's made."

Residents of Ward 5 offered differing viewpoints.

"I'm sure it will gentrify the area," said Rachael Weisz of the future Green Line stop. "I mean, we are already seeing some of the garages here, there's one right across the street that's been taken down. And condos are going up."

Madeline Micalizio, another resident, said she thinks possible rent and housing value increase is "not very cool", but at the same time, said she is happy there will be more accessible transportation.

To read and watch this full Somerville Neighborhood News story and for other stories, please visit [www.somervilleneighborhoodnews.org](http://www.somervilleneighborhoodnews.org) or on Channel 3 Tuesdays at 7 p.m. We also stream this podcast on BostonFreeRadio.com Fridays at 6 pm.

To advertise in  
**The Somerville Times**  
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# SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

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

**All clubs and groups welcome new members.**

**Holland Street:** 167 Holland Street  
(between Davis Square and Teele Square)  
Monday through Friday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
617-625-6600 Ext. 2300

**Cross Street Center:** 165 Broadway  
(East Somerville)  
Tuesday & Wednesday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
(617) 625-6600 Ext. 2335

**Ralph and Jenny Center:** 9 New Washington Street  
(behind the Holiday Inn)  
Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
(617) 666-5223

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:**

The trip to the Hampton Beach Seafood Festival scheduled for September 7th is SOLD OUT.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

**The Mobile Farmer’s Market** is at our Holland Street Center every Thursday throughout the summer from 1:00 to 3:30 PM.

**Suffolk Downs** –Wednesday, September 17.

**LGBT EVENTS:**

**LGBT Advisory Group** – Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month.

**LGBT Dinner & Movie** – Monday, September 15 – 5:30 meal time – 6:30 movie time –September’s movie is “Shelter” and back by popular demand is pizza & salad for dinner. \$5.00 fee. Must RSVP by 10:00 AM on Monday, September 15.

\*If you require additional information or have any questions regarding the LGBT Lunch, Dinner & Movie or the Advisory Group please contact Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2316 or email her at MBastardi@Somervillema.gov.

\*If you require additional information or have any questions regarding the LGBT Lunch, Dinner & Movie or the Advisory Group please contact Maureen Bastardi at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2316.

**LBT Women Fit-4-Life** - Fitness and Nutrition Classes. Classes are Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting at 6 p.m. \$10 a

month fee - scholarships available & it just might be covered under your insurance. We have available slots and would love to have you. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact our Health & Wellness Coordinator, Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2300.

On Thursday, October 16 from 9:00 AM to Noon, the Somerville Council on Aging will be holding its **4th Annual Health & Wellness Fair**. This year the fair is entitled “Mastering the Aging Process” and will be held at our Holland Street Center located at 167 Holland Street. If you are interested in being a participate or one of our sponsors please contact Suzanne Norton at 617-625-6600 Ext. 2318 to register or if you go to the SCOA’s portion of the City’s web site and go to the “Department Calendar” on that day you will be able to access a registration form.

**STAY ACTIVE:**

**Mondays:**  
Wii Bowling, noon, Free. (H)  
Fit 4 Life\* Group C, 1:00 P.M. (H)

**Tuesdays:**  
Strengthening, 9:15 A.M., \$3 per class (H)  
Dalcroze Eurhythmics, Free, 1:00 P.M., (H)  
LBT Fit 4 Life\*, 6:00 P.M., (H)

**Wednesdays:**  
Fit 4 Life\* Group A, 8:45 a.m. (H)  
Fit 4 Life\* Group B, 9 a.m. (H)  
Fit 4 Life\* Group C, Noon (H)  
Bowling @ Flatbreads, 1 p.m., \$10/week for shoes and dues  
Zumba for All, 5:15 p.m., \$3 per class (H)

**Thursdays:**  
Strengthening, 9:30 a.m. \$3 per class (RJ)  
LBT Fit 4 Life\*, 6 p.m.

**Fridays:**  
Fit 4 Life\* Group A, 8:45 a.m.  
Fit 4 Life\* Group B, 9 a.m.  
Fit 4 Life\* Group C 12 p.m.

\*All Fit 4 Life classes are \$10/month and require pre-registra-tion.

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

**Wednesday|September 3**

10:00 Cards (RJ)  
10:00 English Conversation (C)  
11:30 Lunch (H, RJ, C)  
1:00 Bowling Flatbreads

**Thursday|September 4**

10:00 Current Events (H)  
10:00 Cards (RJ)  
11:00 Computer tutorial with Barbara (by appointment only) (H)  
11:30 Lunch (H, RJ)  
12:45 Bingo (H, RJ)  
1:00 Mobile Farmer’s Market (H)

**Friday|September 5**

10:00 Book Club (H)  
11:30 Lunch (H)  
12:45 Bingo (H)

**Monday|September 8**

9:30 Monthly Breakfast resumes (H)  
11:30 Lunch (H)  
11:30 LGBT Lunch (H)  
4:30 LGBT Advisory Group (H)

**Tuesday|September 9**

10:00 Learn about Facebook with Meghann Ackerman  
10:00 English Conversation (C)  
10:00 Cards (RJ)  
10:30 Low Vision Group  
11:30 Lunch (RJ, C)  
12:45 Bingo (RJ)

**Wednesday|September 10**

10:00 Cards (RJ)  
10:00 English Conversation (C)  
11:30 Lunch (H, RJ, C)  
12:45 Bingo (RJ)

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**We have a Facebook page.** Check us out at [www.facebook.com/somervilleCOA](http://www.facebook.com/somervilleCOA).

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

## Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

\*\*\*\*\*  
Now, for the Attorney Generals contest: First of all, Warren Tolman’s commercials are so wrong in many ways. He tells us nothing. Actually, everyone we hear from agrees. His commercials will hurt him in the end. We hope so. We hope everyone goes out and votes for Maura Healey for AG. What a candidate, and what a back-ground in the AG’s office. We need some-one like her. Just listen to both of their commercials and you’ll see for yourself why Maura Healey is the best choice. We hope you vote for Ms. Healey.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**We only got to interview one candi-date for Governor, and that was Steven Grossman. He sat with us for almost two hours and, frankly, showed us why he is so popular. You can call him a Somerville guy with his Ames Enve-lope experience. He ran the company for many years, was very active here in the city and has remained a good friend to Somerville over the past four years as State Treasurer. We hope he gets your vote. We think he would be a good governor. As for the other candi-dates, we honestly can tell you we tried to get Martha in but it just wouldn’t happen. And as for the other guy, Don Berwick, we should have gotten him in, but we didn’t. In any even,t we’re about Somerville and so far Steve Grossman is our candidate. That is if we were to endorse one. Our paper didn’t, but we guess Newstalk did.**

\*\*\*\*\*  
Finally, lets hear it for the blanks. If you see candidates running unopposed we

suggest you blank them, so that those candidates don’t get carried away with themselves, like they often do. Such as with the continuation of the famous Gas Tax, which the citizens of Massachusetts will hopefully repeal in November. The current house and senate voted for this shameful bill foisted on us, so that they wouldn’t be held accountable. This bill allows the state to automatically increase – and never decrease – the tax we pay for gas. And worst of all it’s not mandated to the roads and bridges in Massachu-setts. In November we will let you know who voted for this and why you should vote against it and them. No tax increas-es should be automatic. Funny how the various candidates for public office don’t give their view on this tax. Maybe we should all ask them?

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Thank God for the Market Basket that this summer is over, and we, their cus-tomers, can get back to saving money and shopping at our favorite store. We love Market Basket and no one who reads our paper can say differ-ently. We wholeheartedly support the employees, who are actually the best, with such loyalty and dedication. The Somerville Ave. store is back in full swing, even two days afterwards. We couldn’t help but to head back there.**

\*\*\*\*\*  
We told you a couple of weeks ago, we have about 20 maybe 25 more boxes coming out into the streets very soon, so if you have a suggestion where you’d like to see a *Somerville Times* box placed, let us know by calling 617 666-4010.

We continue to grow. We love the calls on publication day, asking where the pa-per is. Last week Nancy from one of the elderly residency buildings called three days for the paper and we personally delivered it. Somerville has chosen our paper over the other so-called local com-munity papers. Remember, we are still the only one that is locally owned, oper-ated and staffed by Somerville residents. We welcome aboard our newest member, Kevin Dickinson, who is in advertising, and his first week was astounding. Kevin lives in Union Square and volunteers his time to Ruby’s. He is looking forward to a long relationship with our paper. If you would like to talk to Kevin or get information you can email him at [advertising@thesomervilletimes.com](mailto:advertising@thesomervilletimes.com). Kevin will be calling and be seen around the city more now that he’s associated with us, and you’ll be hearing a lot about *The Somerville Times*. We are seen and read by over 17,000 readers here in Somerville every single week, making us by far the largest paper in circulation. Remem-ber, we only have Somerville news in our paper, nothing but Somerville. We’ll leave Boston and the surrounding cities to all the others.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**The ribbon cutting ceremony for the new T-Stop here in the city was this week on Tuesday at Assembly Square’s beautiful new multi-million dollar sta-tion. It’s a great thing, but to listen to the press release people at City Hall, they might have gone overboard on this one by calling it “historic” – at least we think so. We think “historic” should**

**be saved for something else, not a new T-Station. Don’t get us wrong, but we really need to cut back on the drama. Just saying.**

\*\*\*\*\*  
We asked this question, and can’t get a straight answer, so maybe someone out there can tell us. What is the purpose of a “Dealer Plate” on a car? Especially the same plate on a car for a few years. We’ve been told different, things all of which offer different explanations.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**We hear through the office grapevine that our own Cam Toner just might be – might be – coming back to work soon. We certainly hope so, and then we be-gin our first week back at breakfast.**

\*\*\*\*\*  
We will, of course, soon be awarding the “Best of Somerville” awards, which this year is going to be a little different. We’re going to add categories such as Best Hamburger, Mac & Cheese, Pastry, Do-nuts, etc. And if you have a suggestion, again, send it along to 617-666-4010. Leave a message with the category you’d like to see nominated. We will be rolling out the ballots shortly for the “Best of Somerville 2014”.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**One of our longtime off-and-on writ-ers, Jeremy van der Heiden, is leaving again. He’s a very talented writer. We feel he’s going places and you will be seeing him on a major stage sometime shortly in the future. We wish him the very best in his career. He’s been a ma-jor asset to *The Somerville Times*, as well as a very nice guy.**



• • • • VILLENS ON THE TOWN • • • •



**CHILDREN AND YOUTH**  
**Thursday|September 4**

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

**West Branch Library**  
Lego Club  
Annamarie Almeida|617-623-5000 x2977  
3:30 -4:30 p.m.| 40 College Avenue

**Central Library**  
Lego Club  
Cathy Piantigini|617-623-5000 x2950  
3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.| 79 Highland Avenue

**Friday| September 5**  
**Central Library**  
Preschool: Storytime for 2 year olds  
10:30 a.m.-11 a.m.|79 Highland Avenue

**Monday|September 8**  
**Central Library**  
Sing-along  
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

**Tuesday| September 9**  
**Election Day - East Branch Closed**  
**West Branch Library**  
Preschool Storytime  
11 a.m.-11:45 a.m.|40 College Ave

**MUSIC**  
**Wednesday|September 3**

**Johnny D's**  
Ships have Sailed plus Wonder City and Emily Grogan Band|7:30 p.m.  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Exile on Elm  
Back Room  
Comedy@10  
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WEMF Radio|Hana|Brie Cecil|Satellite Sky|Spot Collins  
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

**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

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

**Arts at the Armory**  
Wiretap Wednesday Open Stage  
7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

**Thursday|September 4**  
**Johnny D's**  
Fruition plus Hymn for Her and Laney Jones|10 p.m.  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

**Sally O'Brien's**  
BYOBluegrass Party grassy Thursdays  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

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

**PA'S Lounge**  
"Free Your Soul!" (no cover)|feat. The Hep-tet  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

**Bull McCabe's**  
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

**Arts at the Armory**  
Singers' Open Mic with Bill Duffy  
7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

**Friday|September 5**  
**Johnny D's**  
Rock On! Concerts Presents : Amy Fairchild with Cliff Hillis|7:30 p.m.  
Rock On! Concerts Presents : Hall And Oates Tribute: HmFO|10 p.m.  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

**Sally O'Brien's**  
Jim Coyle & The Barroom Gentlemen |6 p.m.

Hillbilly Holiday, Jack Grace Band from NYC \$5 cover |9 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Irish Session|9:30 p.m.  
Back Room  
Fightin Fridays  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar**  
DJ 10 p.m.|65 Holland St

**PA'S Lounge**  
WEMF Radio|Run For the Roses|Uncle Johnny's Band|The Brewins|Hoot & Holle  
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**  
Eleanor Bigsby Beatles Tribute  
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

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

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**Saturday|September 6**  
**Johnny D's**  
Through the Doors|7:30 p.m.  
Qwill plus JD Debris & Bodek and The Frotations|10 p.m.  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

**Sally O'Brien's**  
Hillbilly Holiday, Jack Grace Band

from NYC \$5 cover |6 p.m.  
The Brooklyns w/ Liz Borden \$5 cover |9 p.m.  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Back Room  
Jimmys Down  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**Orleans Restaurant and Bar**  
Karaoke  
65 Holland St

**PA'S Lounge**  
WEMF Radio|Run For the Roses|Uncle Johnny's Band|The Brewins|Hoot & Holle  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

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

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**Arts at the Armory**  
Boston Indie Mafia  
6:30 p.m.|Performance Hall  
Somerville Songwriter Sessions  
8 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

**Sunday|September 7**  
**Johnny D's**  
Open Blues Jam! featuring Matthew Smart Band|4 p.m.  
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

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**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Fiendish Thingies |5 p.m.  
Amber Casares |8 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  
Burren Acoustic Music Series  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**PA’S Lounge**  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

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

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

**Monday|September 8**  
**Johnny D’s**  
Johnny D’s Comedy Showcase Presents:, Sketch Bucket|7 p.m.  
Stump! Pub Trivia|8:30 p.m.  
17 Holland St | 617-776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Shawn Cater’s Cheapshots Comedy Jam |7 p.m.  
Marley Mondays with The Duppy

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

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Bur-Run  
Helena Delaney, Johnny O’Leary & Friends Irish Session|9 p.m.  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

**PA’S Lounge**  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

**Tuesday|September 9**  
**Johnny D’s**  
Aotearoa plus People Like You and Bellwire|8:30 p.m.  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

**Sally O’Brien’s Bar**  
Honkytonk Masquerade  
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Jason Anick and the Swingers|8:30 p.m.  
Back Room  
Open Mic w/ Hugh McGowan  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

**PA’S Lounge**  
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

6045

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

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

**PJ Ryan’s**  
Pub Quiz  
10 p.m.|239 Holland St.|617-625-8200

**Wednesday|September 10**  
**Johnny D’s**  
Open Mic with Dr Grant|7:30 p.m.  
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

**The Burren**  
Front Room  
Exile on Elm  
Back Room  
Comedy@10  
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

**PA’S Lounge**  
WEMF Radio|Run For the Roses|Uncle Johnny’s Band|The Brewins|Hoot & Holle  
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

**Bull McCabe’s Pub**  
The Nephrok All Stars  
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6045

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

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

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

**CLASSES AND GROUPS**  
**Wednesday|September 3**  
**Central Library**  
Mystery Book Club  
7p.m. – 9 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

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

**Thursday| September 4**  
**Central Library**  
Annual CAPER Presentation  
6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

**First Church Somerville**  
Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems with money and debt. 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89 College Ave (Upstairs Parlor).  
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**Third Life Studio**  
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**Saturday|September 6**  
**Bagel Bards**  
Somerville Writers and Poets meet weekly to discuss their work  
9 a.m.-12 p.m.|Au Bon Pain| 18-48 Holland St

**Sunday|September 7**  
**Unity Church of God**  
Fourth Step to Freedom Al-Anon Family Groups  
7:00 P.M. | 6 William Street  
Enter upstairs, meeting is in basement.

**Third Life Studio**  
Discover Belly Dance with Nadira Jamal  
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com

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

**Central Library**  
Chess Night  
7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

**Tuesday|September 9**  
**Central Library**  
Learn English at the Library! 6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

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

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

**Wednesday|September 10**  
**Third Life Studio**  
Beyond beginning Belly Dance with Nadira Jamal  
7:30 p.m.|Level 2|33 Union Sq|www.nadirajamal.com



Photo by Ethan Backer

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Tuesday September 9

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Wednesday September 10

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Sunday September 14

Jody Blackwell 7 p.m.

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# Somerville Overcoming Addiction to hold vigil

By Cathleen Twardzik

A photo collage was created for display at Somerville Overcoming Addiction's (SOA) First Annual Vigil, which will occur on September 8. The purpose of the vigil is to recognize, to remember and to celebrate loved ones all of whom were lost to addiction.

On August 12, SOA hosted an event at 149 Broadway Somerville at Connexions to make the collage. Participants were asked to bring photos of their loved ones to produce it, and pizza was provided by Wicked Sober Inc.

Somerville Overcoming Addiction, which was founded last spring, is a new grassroots community organization. The group's members span a wide range, and include people working in the field, parents, all of whom have lost children to addiction and people in long-term recovery.

"We were born out of the community forums put on by the city in the early spring after the rash of overdoses that took so many lives. After the public forums put on by the city, Ward 1 Alderman Matt McLaughlin continued to hold meetings in his ward. A group of us that continued to meet, felt that we could do something, that we should do something. We couldn't sit by idly, as our children, friends and neighbors died. We decided to form a group and get to work on making a difference to the best of our abilities in our community," said Jesse Clingan, SOA Member and Community Organizer.

"What we aim to do is to connect the community with addiction support and recovery services, [to] work to lift the stigma of addiction, and to eliminate overdose fatalities in Somerville," Clingan said.

At present, to further its mission, the

organization has shown a screening of the documentary "The Anonymous People," which delves into success stories of people in long-term recovery. Approximately 300 people attended the screening.

"We felt it strongly that showing the film in Somerville, (for free at the Somerville Theatre) in conjunction with an Overdose Prevention and Narcan Training right there in Davis Square where many young lives have slipped away in the bathrooms of the local eateries, was a good way to start. We have no money, so we got the rights to hold a public screening from Adcare Hospital of Worcester," said Clingan.

Before the viewing of the film, SOA provided an overdose prevention and Narcan training, which was made possible by the Cambridge Needle Exchange, and more than 30 Narcan kits were distributed that night.

Public awareness events continue to be held by SOA, which the organization believes will "make an impact."

In late August, there was "a resolution drafted by SOA and brought forth to the BOA by Aldermen Katjana Bailantyne and Matt McLaughlin affirming September as recover month in Somerville. SOA member JoAnn Riveccio will speak on behalf of the group."

At the vigil on September 8, "We will gather in the names of those we've lost to addiction. There will be a beautiful song sung by the very talented Maggie Leon. We will hear from a parent who has lost a child to addiction. We will also hear the recital of the poem "The Fallen Addict," which will be read by JoAnn Riveccio, who lost her son Frank four years ago to addiction. We will hear a story of hope and survival from someone in long-term recovery. We will hear a poem from Thomas Warner, whose brother Chris Sousa was murdered



Somerville Overcoming Addiction's vigil honoring those who have been lost due to substance abuse will be held next Monday at Connexions in Somerville.

for his Xbox by an addict in need of a fix," she said.

Following that, candles will be lit and a moment of silence taken. The reading of the names will round out the night.

"We believe this event is an important community healing event. It's been quite a few years since such a vigil has been held in Somerville, despite the ever-growing list of names of Somervillians lost to addiction," said Clingan.

Approximately 35 people contributed to the collage, which will be at the vigil. However, on September 8 people may pin up photos throughout the vigil.

"The most important message of Somerville Overcoming Addiction is to never give up hope. There are people out there who do care. If your loved one is in the throes of addiction, just know that there are 23 million Americans living in long-term recovery. Our society just doesn't celebrate or talk about sobriety.

Don't listen to those who say it's hopeless. Recovery is possible, you can have you son or daughter back," said Clingan.

"We can't say for sure what we might add to future vigils, except that hopefully this vigil will grow in numbers of attendees, as the stigma of addiction gets broken down, and people become more and more comfortable talking to others about how their loved one died. Unfortunately, what we will undoubtedly add to the vigil are the names of more young people that have died from overdoses," she said.

Interested individuals may view additional information about the event at <https://www.facebook.com/events/651158844981176/>.

Additionally, if you would like your loved one's name to be read at the vigil on September 8, visit [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1P4dMPp8WqNYtajM-tyfuf1AaibIdDdW\\_n4np9xoQCs-8/viewform?edit\\_requested=true](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1P4dMPp8WqNYtajM-tyfuf1AaibIdDdW_n4np9xoQCs-8/viewform?edit_requested=true).



Above: making collages. Below: State Representative Tim Toomey visits.



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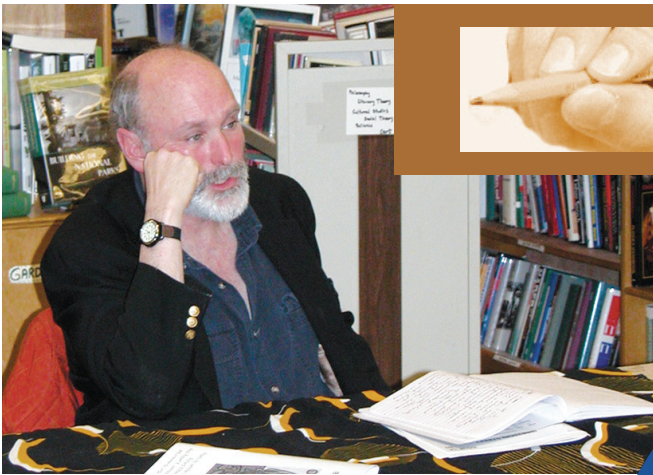


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<b>Wednesday, September 3</b>							
6:30am		5:30pm	The Folklorist	11:00am	Dead Air Live	6:30am	Creating Cooperative Kids
7:00pm	Road to Recovery	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	12:00pm	Reeling the Movie Review Show	7:30am	Eckankar
7:30am	Drawing with Mark	6:30pm	Health is Wealth	12:30pm	Taking Back Your Health	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
8:00am	Life Matters	7:00pm	Taking Back your Health (Live call-in)	1:00pm	Dr Gangrene Presents	9:00am	The Stephanie Miller Show (Free Speech TV)
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:30pm	Active Aging	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	10:00am	Net Neutrality Panel Discussion
9:00am	Somerville Journal & Somerville Times Reading	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (Live call-in)	3:00pm	Telemagazine	11:00am	Nossa gente e Costumes
10:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News	9:30pm	Meh Kyown's Television Ship	4:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
10:30am	Art at SCATV: Bonnie Lanzillotta	10:00pm	Somerville Film Group: Walt Whitman	4:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority	1:00pm	Dead Air Live
11:00am	Abugida TV	11:00pm	Potluck and Lecture Series	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	2:00pm	Greater Somerville
12:00pm	The Big Picture with Thom Hartmann Show	<b>Friday, September 5</b>		6:00pm	Down the Lynde	3:00pm	Exercise with Robyn and Max
1:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	6:00pm	Somerville Film Group: Walt Whitman	7:00pm	Mystic Learning Center: When Fish Run	3:30pm	Esoteric Science
2:00pm	Physician Focus	7:30am	Shrink Rap	7:30pm	CrossRoads: A Search for the American Dream	4:00pm	Free Speech Television
2:30pm	Healthy Hypnosis	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	David Pakman (Free Speech TV)	5:00pm	Henry Parker Presents: Mass Incarceration
3:30pm	The Kevin Murphy Show	9:00am	Somerville Journal & Somerville Times Reading	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	10:00am	ArtBeat 2014	10:00pm	Open Line News with Davey D	6:30pm	International School of Boston Presents
5:00pm	Energy Theater	11:00am	The Art of Animation: a series of Karen Aqua	11:00pm	Gay News USA (Free Speech TV)	7:00pm	The Somerville Line
6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	12:00pm	Brunch with Sen. Bernie Sanders	<b>Sunday, September 7</b>		8:00pm	Abugida TV
6:30pm	SCATV Presents: Art Beat 2014	1:00pm	Climate Change in Somerville	6:00am	Program Celebrai	9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
7:30pm	Crossroads: a Search for An American Dream	2:00pm	Ablevision	7:00am	Rompendo em Fe	10:00pm	Bate Papo com Shirley
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits	2:30pm	Art at SCATV: Bonnie Lanzillotta	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ	11:00pm	The Entertainer's Show
8:30pm	Greater Somerville	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	<b>Tuesday, September 9</b>	
9:00pm	Bay State Biking News	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	10:00am	International Church of God	7:00am	The Struggle
10:00pm	Art at SCATV: Bonnie Lanzillotta	5:00pm	Somerville Jazz Festival 2014	10:30am	Active Aging	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
10:30pm	SCATV: a year in review	5:30pm	Mystic Learning Center: Variety Hour	11:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	9:00am	Somerville Journal & Somerville Times Reading
11:00pm	The Entertainer's Show	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)	11:30am	Basic Buddha	10:00am	This is East
<b>Thursday, September 4</b>				12:00pm	Play by Play	11:30am	Ablevision
6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	6:30pm	Reeling the Movie Review Show	1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)
7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	7:00pm	Somerville Labor Coalition Candidate Forum	1:30pm	Somerville Journal & Times Reading	1:00pm	What the Fluff Festival?
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	Visual Radio	2:30pm	Life Matters	2:00pm	Active Aging
9:00am	Cancer Explained! TV show	9:00pm	The Entertainer's Show	3:00pm	Rompendo em Fe	2:30pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show
10:00am	Dead Air Live	9:30pm	Meh Kyown's Television Ship	4:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	3:00pm	Henry Parker Presents: Mass Incarceration
11:00am	Greater Somerville: Tom Conroy	10:00pm	The Somerville Line	5:00pm	International School of Boston Presents: Cabaret	4:00pm	Ring of Fire (Free Speech TV)
11:30am	Ablevision	11:00pm	Acronym TV (Free Speech TV)	6:00pm	Abugida TV	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show (Free Speech TV)	11:30pm	Somerville ArtBeat 2014	7:00pm	African Television Network	5:30pm	The Literati Scene
1:00pm	Chef's Table Series	<b>Saturday, September 6</b>		8:00pm	Tele Magazine	6:00pm	France 24 World News (Free Speech TV)
2:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking w/Candy	6:00am	Arabic Hour	9:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	6:30pm	Culture Club: Urban Agriculture
2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez	7:00am	The Somerville Line	10:00pm	Farrakhan Speaks	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show: The Candy Episode	11:00pm	100-Second Film Festival	7:30pm	Greater Somerville
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	8:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show: Green Screen	<b>Monday, September 8</b>		8:00pm	Dead Air Live
5:00pm	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show: Spring Time	9:00am	Festival Kreyol	6:00am	Ablevision	9:00pm	Energy Theater
		10:00am	Tele Galaxie			11:00pm	The David Pakman Show (Free Speech TV)





## OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

### Miranda Aisling: Portrait of an Artist as an Idea Machine



## Lyrical SOMERVILLE

edited by Doug Holder

The Sherman Cafe in Union Square is where I write poems and eat scones. Although I miss the classic oatmeal/cherry scone, I have done perfectly well with the morning glory muffin, and other assorted delicacies – one must move on afterall. Anyway, while sitting at the cafe, a young man came up to me and asked me if I am a poet. I said, “Yes.” And one thing lead to the other, and well ... he is published. He sent me his bio: “Craig Ronan was born in Malden, raised in Woburn and is currently living in Somerville. He is a hockey player who has attended such various academic strongholds as the University of Edinburgh, School of the Museum of Fine Arts and Tufts University studying English Literature, Art History, Philosophy and earning a Masters in Art Education. Currently, he performs and records in a band named Roses (rosesband.bandcamp.com); is working on a new body of paintings to exhibit; writes and draws a comic book that will be releasing Issue #1 in September; flirts with fashion ideas and produces clothes under the pseudo-company dejaguarvu (dejaguarvu.com); and writes poetry. His first collection of poems is entitled *Mystical Visions of the Insane: or, Simple Verses of Truth*.



#### heaven help us

when the cord is cut  
when separated from the breast  
upon our first step  
when we take on angriness  
when we have doubt and disagree  
when we drop onto our knees  
when we love  
and taste of new breasts  
when we love what we now detest  
when there is no helpfulness  
just malaise and apathy  
when we use and abuse our body and brain  
when we fall again  
when in recovery  
when we find another  
and when we realize we found each other  
for whatever is next  
and when our time is called  
and when their time is called

— Craig Ronan

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

On Miranda Aisling’s website she describes herself as an “idea machine.” And indeed, Aisling is chock-full of ideas for different creative projects. Aisling, who lives on the Somerville/Arlington line, loves the area. She said, “I love all the artists and young creative people that are running art-based businesses.”

Aisling, who holds an advanced degree in Community Arts from Lesley University, has recently written a book, *Don’t Make Art, Make Something*. In a nutshell the book deals with the creative block most people encounter in their lives. Aisling said, “Once people create, just the act of creating opens things up. I want people to recognize their creativity. Not everyone is going to be an accomplished artist but everyone has their own degree of creativity.”

Aisling told me she is very interested in creating with groups. She feels group work in the arts strengthens the community at large. With this in mind, Aisling is hoping to create an art hotel. The hotel, which does not have a set location as of yet,

will be a place that will be appointed with furniture, paintings, and other trappings made by artists. Guests could conceivably buy art in the rooms if they are so inclined.

Currently, Aisling heads a collective of artists called “Miranda’s Hearth.” She hopes that this group will develop a physical hotel at some point. At this time her group hosts monthly dinners with artists of all stripes, often at the Democracy Center in Harvard Square.

Aisling, who is a classically trained pianist and singer/songwriter, pays her bills by working as an office manager at the Umbrella Community Arts Center in Concord, Mass. She has worked as a teacher at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and traveled to El Salvador where she worked on producing a mural in a rural town with a fellow artist.

Aisling tells me she likes to go to the open mic nights at the Bloc 11 Café in Union Square, and other venues that our city has to offer. To find out more about Aisling go to: <http://www.mirandaaisling.com>.

### Timothy Gager book release

A release celebration for Timothy Gager’s new book *The Thursday Appointments of Bill Sloan* was held on Tuesday evening at the Porter Square Shopping Center in Cambridge.

Timothy Gager is the author of eleven books of short fiction and poetry. His latest, *The Thursday Appointments of Bill Sloan*, (Big Table Publishing) is his first novel. He has hosted the successful Dire Literary Series in Cambridge, MA for over thirteen years and is the co-founder of Somerville News Writers Festival. His work appears in over 300 journals, of which nine have been nominated for the Pushcart Prize. His work has been read on National Public Radio.



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