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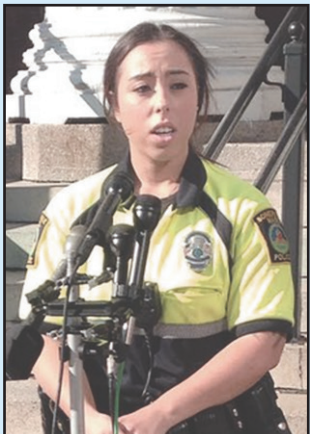
TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

Inside:



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The Best of Somerville 2015

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VETERANS DAY

The Somerville Times salutes those who have bravely served their country

Saluting veteran Kenneth F. Cook



Somerville's own Kenneth F. Cook served with distinction in the U.S. Army during the Korean conflict. — Photo by Claudia Ferro

By Gabriela Martínez

Kenneth F. Cook, known by many as the crossing guard for St. Catherine's, was Private First Class and member of 196th Field Artillery Battalion in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He did everything from operating 155mm Howitzer canons to manning the telephone lines and driving back for ammunition.

During his year in service, he was stationed in different cities in Korea and took part in one of the most significant battles of the war, known as Heartbreak Ridge. He remembers the cold snowy winters and the rainy summers. Despite the harsh conditions and the danger of incoming attacks, Cook survived the war without any major wounds.

His time there went by so fast, he said. "Yesterday I was 17. Today I'm 82." *Continued on page 4*

Davis Square speaks up at Ward 6 ResiStat meeting

By Amy Swain

Residents of Ward 6 gathered at Somerville Community Baptist Church last Thursday, November 5, for the latest ResiStat meeting for the area.

Refreshments were served, agendas were dispersed, and the Davis Square semi-annual neighborhood meeting opened with Mayor Curtatone addressing the most recent happiness survey. Questions requested information on general happiness as well as satisfaction with physical beauty of the neighborhood, the neighborhood in general, and the city of Somerville. Each category showed an overall increase in happiness between 2013 and 2015, and no average response fell below 7.5 out of 10.

Police Chief David Fallon followed the mayor, presenting information prepared by the Crime Analysis Unit. This began with a discussion on community engagement. Statistics showed that engagement in community *Continued on page 5*



Social Media & Community Engagement Specialist Meghann Ackerman, Senior Planner of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development Dan Bartman, and Deputy Chief Stephen Carrabino were on hand at the meeting to inform and engage with interested members of the Ward 6 community.

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First of all, we want to thank all active duty service men and women and all our veterans, who fought for our freedom to live in this great country of ours. God bless you all and thank you for your service. A ceremony honoring them will be held this morning at Dilboy Post in Cutter Square at 10 a.m. Then join Historic Somerville and representatives from the City of Somerville at 2:30 pm, for a Veterans' Day Remembrance Ceremony at Milk Row Cemetery (next to Market Basket). Local members of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts will conduct a ceremony to remember those veterans from Somerville who are buried and memorialized in this hallowed ground.

Have you ever wondered what Somerville was like back in the 60s? A special media event will be happening here in the city on Wednesday, November 25 at the Davis Square Theatre, 255 Elm Street. A suggested donation of only \$10 is gladly accepted. The name of the show is Class of 1969 Reunion. The media event will be hosted by Charles Kelley, who grew up on Winter Hill and graduated from Somerville in 1969. He later became a neighborhood activist throughout the 1970s. Charlie has put together a collage of both video and still pictures of Somerville in the 60s. Next week we will be giving more information, but in the meantime you can contact Charlie Kelley by email at: kelthink22@gmail.com.

The election turnout was very small, one of the smallest city elections in our memory. We found it interesting that Ward 1 Alderman Matt McLaughlin was over in Cambridge working for a Cambridge City Councilor (not Tim Toomey, who is a city councilor as well). And we heard that Ward 5 Alderman Mark Niedergang was out working door to door in Ward 4 for School committee candidate Andre Green. We heard he sent out emails endorsing two of the four Aldermen at Large he serves with. His personal endorsement was for Aldermen Bill White and Dennis Sullivan, but not for Mary Jo Rossetti and Jack Connolly. He was a busy Alderman, personally working in Ward 3 and 4 on Election Day. Meanwhile, several of Mayor Joe

Continued on page 11

TheSomervilleTimes.com Comments of the Week

Response to: *Newstalk – November 4*

CAP says:

OK, doing the math here . .

If less than 8% of registered voters voted, based on the city's population (I'm calling it closer to 85,000. Nobody who pays attention thinks that Somerville's real population is only 75,000), that would mean that about 4.5% percent of residents actually cast a ballot for mayor, aldermen, and school committee. That's not 45, that's 4 point 5. The numbers skew a little when cut them down to ward races, but they hold up in the citywide races. So the mayor, running unopposed, received actual ballot box support of around 4% of city residents. And each Alderman-at-Large, even less. And then the ward alderman - varying tiny amounts

I guess that they can say that the 96-97% of residents who didn't vote for them think they're doing such a great job that there was no reason to actually go to polls and prove it.

Matt says:

I assume that most folks, like me, did not have many choices to make. When you don't have a choices to make voting seems less important.

While I voted, I would have preferred having some choices to make. Even a few non-binding referendums on topics like zoning, development etc would be valuable.

Response to: *Somerville's 2015 City Election Unofficial Results*

Giuseppe Arrivato says:

Recount!!!! :)

Pixie Pocahontas says:

Some people really should retire.

A Moore says:

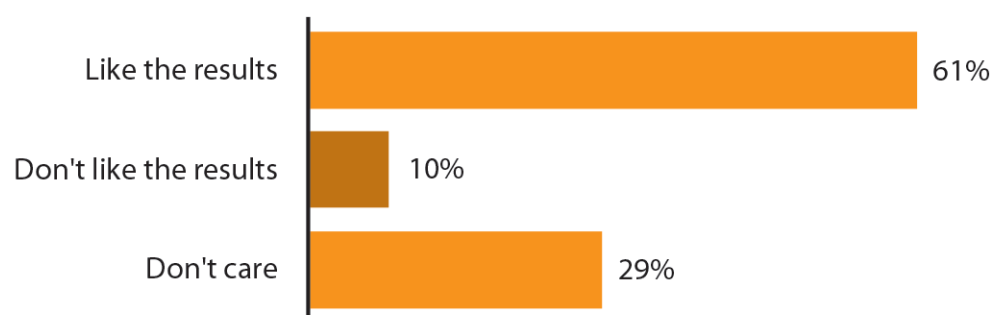
Even if they run unopposed you have a right to vote and should do so. Even just to fill in a blank vote which does mean something. Look at the blank votes. For someone considering running this would give them incentive when they are looking for stats to see if they can get elected. I always think about the people who fought and died for us to have these rights and the least we can do is take a couple of minutes and vote.

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 what you thought of last Tuesday's election results. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleTimes.com.

What did you think of Tuesday's election results?



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A garden grows in Greentown: Grove launches new Ecosystems

By Haley ED Houseman

There's a small Eden being built in the Greentown Labs incubator space off Union Square. The space is getting greener, as the largest company within, Grove, reached a major milestone with over \$200,000 raised via Kickstarter, more than twice the company's goal.

Grove held a launch party for their newest line of products on November 4, kicking off a national tour to showcase the new and improved line of Ecosystems. The model has moved beyond early adopter systems and prototypes to full-fledged, flexible biospheres for plug and play urban gardening.

After going through a start-up accelerator, they began to grow at Greentown Labs in Somerville, a green technology incubator around Union Square. They now vie for the title of the site's largest unit, with more than 20 people as a part of a complex team of biologists, ecologists, software engineers and designers.

In 2014, Grove raised over \$2 million in seed funding to get the company properly under-

way. The startup was launched in a fraternity house by two MIT students, Jamie Byron and Gabe Blanchet. In the months after creating the first prototype, a veritable jungle had sprung forth from their room: beans, lettuce, kiwis, and some dozen other plants filled the window, fertilized by filtrate from a fish tank below.

This small pocket of biodiversity had birthed a community

As it grew, other fraternity brothers would wander in to drink their beers garden-side, munching on greenery and watching the fish. This small pocket of biodiversity had birthed a community. Wandering the space in Greentown Labs, you can see this ethos still at play, with Byron nibbling on bits of herbs and greens as he gives a tour, sampling the growing crops and greeting the various members of the development team in the lab space that houses the experiments.



The "growing revolution" is on as Grove's new Ecosystems come online at Greentown Labs' incubator space in Union Square.

— Photos by Haley ED Houseman



There are a lot of offers to try this or that plant in the lab, encouraging visitors to taste, touch and smell the product. It also speaks to the desire of Grove's team to educate, not just provide a self-sufficient product.

The Grove's newest ecosystem is a bookshelf-sized unit that includes specialized, customizable grow lights, seedling trays and the endlessly fascinating animal element. It also comes with an app that monitors, tracks and assesses the system, so even beginners have step-by-step help in keeping their ecosystem healthy. There are features like a vacation mode for leaving the system attended, and a photographic diagnostic function that gives feedback based on the snapshot of a leaf.

It is these features that make the Grove products accessible to even the novice urban gardener, along with an app that

integrates a tracking system, growers' community, a digital gardening almanac, and a supply marketplace. There is even a growing team on call to reach out to when the technology isn't enough. The whole system costs about \$35 to run over the course of a month, with all settings customizable to trade off production for energy use.

The components work together to create a closed ecosystem, eliminating to a great extent both pests and weeds. The system feeds water through the fish tank stocked with filter feeder and fish, which fertilize the plant growing medium and create a community of microbes that keep the plants healthy. The plants grow under the specialty grow lights in a soil-less hydroponic medium and aquaponic fish (snails or shrimp) feed the system, cultivating the microbes that feed the plants.

The system is self-cleaning and self-contained, so you can focus on the growing aspect. The set up is best for starting seedlings and specializes in herbs and greens, as well as a selection of fruiting vegetables such as peppers, beans and tomatoes.

If you are considering the indoor gardening system, you are not alone. There will be an early adopter system in a local Somerville classroom within the next month. Mayor Curtatone has expressed interest in the newest line of ecosystems, as well as a few local schools and residents. Former Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley was an early adopter of the original prototype systems.

You can look into purchasing the systems at a sharp discount via their Kickstarter campaign, or wait until the systems become available at retail once the campaign closes.

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Somerville High School Project community forum

The Somerville High School Project Committee has been busy reviewing options for bringing our 19th century Somerville High School building into the 21st century, and we invite you to attend a Community Forum to discuss our work so far. Options being reviewed range from targeted updates to a full renovation to building a new structure. A brief presentation on the discussions to date will be followed by a Q&A. The forum will be held on Thursday, November 19, 2015, in the Somerville High School Library beginning at 6:30 p.m. All interested parties are welcome and encouraged to attend. The City of Somerville encourages all people to participate in its programs and activities. Persons with disabilities who anticipate needing special accommodations or who have questions about physical access should call 311 (617-666-3311), TTY 1-866-808-4851 in advance of the meeting.

THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Intoxicated driver lives 'over there'

Police officers patrolling in the vicinity of Tennyson and Medford Streets last Friday evening were suddenly cutoff by a vehicle that had suddenly appeared, turning from Tennyson onto Medford St. while running a stop sign.

The officers had to make a sudden stop in order to avoid a

collision with the other vehicle, according to reports.

The officers then reportedly observed the vehicle proceed the wrong way along a one-way portion of Tennyson St., and then turn in order to correct the direction in which it was moving.

The car then reportedly pulled over and parked, blocking a

driveway, police said.

The officers then activated their vehicle's blue lights and pulled up behind the car in question.

As the officers approached the vehicle, the driver, Erick Giron Ramirez, stepped out of the car on his own volition. The officers advised Ramirez that he should remain in the

car unless asked to step out.

Ramirez was asked to provide his driver's license and vehicle registration, but could only produce the registration, according to reports. He was reportedly asked three times for his license, but each time he responded by saying, "I live over there."

Ramirez was asked out of the

car and administered a series of field sobriety tests. It was reportedly determined that he was intoxicated, whereupon he was placed under arrest and charged with operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and marked lanes violation.

Crime Tip Hotline: 617-776-7210 Help Keep Somerville Safe!

SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Melissa Baker, of 83 County Rd., Plympton, November 3, 2:49 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on warrant charges of common streetwalker and larceny under \$250.

Jason Hickey, of 47 Lymon Ave., Medford, November 3, 6:40 p.m., arrested at Middlesex Ave. on a charge of larceny over \$250.

John Morabito, of 75 Burns Ave., Quincy, November 5,

10:48 a.m., arrested on a warrant charge of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Michael Haley, of 413 Central St., Saugus, November 5, 10:48 a.m., arrested at Robinson St. on a warrant charge of attempt to commit a crime.

Derek Agresti, of 413 Central St., Saugus, November 5, 1:10 p.m., arrested on a charge of lewd, wanton and lascivious conduct.

Danyelle Marshall, of 47

Dane St., November 5, 3:32 p.m., arrested at home on warrant charges of larceny from a building and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

Adrianna Sousa, of 48 Laurel St., November 6, 3:20 p.m., arrested at Somerville Ave. on a warrant charge of assault and battery.

Rudy Umana, of 10C Memorial Rd., November 6, 4:33 p.m., arrested on a warrant charge of witness intimidation.

Erick Giron Ramirez, of 21 Pembroke St., November 6, 10:33 p.m., arrested at Medford St. on charges of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, and failure to stop or yield.

Sarah Whitman, of 211 South St., Hingham, November 7, 2:30 a.m., arrested at McGrath Hwy. on charges of operation of a motor vehicle

under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and marked lanes violation.

Kimberly Semenza, of 381 Broadway, Lynn, November 7, 2:03 p.m., arrested at Beacon St. on warrant charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, marked lanes violation, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, and unsafe operation of a motor vehicle.

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Powered by:



Saluting veteran Kenneth F. Cook

CONT. FROM PG 1

Cook was born in 1933 and grew up in North Brighton in a working class neighborhood that was predominantly Polish and Italian. He was the middle child in a family of nine children and had six brothers and three sisters.

"It was good growing up. We didn't have all the modern conveniences. I didn't see a television until I went to Fort Dix, New Jersey in 1950," Cook said.

As a child growing up in Brighton, Cook played games like hopscotch and tag. He swam freely in the Charles River with his friends without thinking twice about polluted water.

One of his first jobs was in Allston, where he worked as a marker, cleaning stables and taking care of horses at a racing track that was once on Soldier's Field Road, at a site that is now occupied by Artesani and Herter Parks.

Cook went into the service in 1950. He joined the regular

army and had his basic training at Fort Dix in New Jersey. Before joining the army, Cook was in the National Guard. When he was done with basic training, Cook became part of the 105 mm battery, 9th Division Artillery, and stayed there until 1951.

He wanted to go overseas, but his superior wouldn't let him because he was too young. "Talked to my sergeant and he said 'if you really want to go, put in for the European command, because they always give you what you don't want.' Three days later I got my orders cut out. I was going to Korea," Cook said. "I was a wild kid before that. I would have been in a lot of trouble had I not gone," Cook said.

Cook came back from the Korean War on a ship that left from Japan and arrived in San Francisco. When they were passing under the Golden Gate Bridge, he saw Alcatraz in the distance and commented on how beautiful it was. Later on,

one of his shipmates let him know that what he thought was beautiful was actually a prison. He said everything looked better because he was back in the United States.

"I was a wild kid before that. I would have been in a lot of trouble had I not gone"

"What would you like you eat?"—This was of the first questions Cook had to answer, after a year of living in rough conditions and eating rationed food. He ordered steak and fries.

"We ate anything we could get our hands on," he said. One of the most common delicacies was rice balls, which are made from leftover rice. Cook stopped eat-

ing them after he discovered a fish eye in one of them.

Cook concluded his service in May 1953 and got offered a job at Lynn Insole Manufacturer, which paid 95 cents an hour. If he had not found a job right away, Cook said he would have gone back to the army.

In 1955, he got married with Virginia Cook and moved to Somerville.

In 1962, he started working for Industrial Adhesives. Later, he got hired at Somerville Lumber, where he sold construction supplies. He retired from that job in 1998.

A friend of Cook's who worked for the Somerville Police invited him to work as a crossing guard. He accepted and has been working as a crossing guard for 14 years helping students from St. Catherine of Genoa cross the street.

After finding out Cook's sister, Margaret Pitts, has pancreatic cancer, Scot Silveira, the fifth

grade teacher at St. Catherine's, had his class write get well cards for her. "I sent them to my sister and she was ecstatic," Cook said. "They're really, really good kids."

Cook calls Lorna Terp, his other sister in Vermont every day, sometimes two or three times a day. "He is very generous," Terp said. "I know there was a lady in his neighborhood who needed a wheelchair. He gave it to her. He gave her a wheelchair, a hospital bed."

Cook belongs to Korea Veterans of America, chapter 300. He has meeting and events every year, including a Christmas party.

He also teaches students about the history of the Korean War. One of his friends, who works as a teacher, invited him to Winchester High School to give class about the Korean War. He was also invited to Mr. Silveira's fifth grade class and to Somerville High School.

Car stop for speeding leads to flowers, sympathy

By Rebecca Danvers

Last week, Chief David Fallon reported that a Somerville Police Officer was so moved by her experience with a woman she had originally pulled over for speeding that the officer sent the woman flowers afterward.

On Wednesday morning, October 4, Officer Ashley Cataao, a five-year veteran of the Somerville Police Department, was conducting traffic enforcement on Alewife Brook Parkway (Rt. 16) when she noticed a vehicle driving 40 mph in the 30 mph zone, and subsequently pulled the driver over to issue a violation for speeding. Because the driver had a clean driving record, Officer Cataao only issued a written warning, which she indicated to the driver. When she returned to the driver's vehicle with the citation, the woman was crying and very visibly upset. Officer Cataao engaged her in conversation and learned that the driver was on her way to see her mother, and that the family just got news that she was going to be coming home on hospice end of life care. Officer Cataao offered the driver some words of comfort and made sure she was OK before she went on her way.

Later, the officer learned that the driver was from Winchester, and she called a local florist to have a bouquet of flowers and a kind note delivered to the driver and her family. "As a police officer, even when I am pulling a motorist over for speeding or another infraction, I try not to lose track of the fact that I serve this community and that people driving in Somerville are real people with real things happening in their lives," Officer Cataao said. "I think it's very important that police officers and the members of the communities we serve keep that fact in mind as we go about our days. I still have my mother, and I am a mother, and my heart goes out to that family for what they are going through."

Chief Fallon praised Officer Cataao's empathy and professionalism. "We can never, as law enforcement officers, forget about the people we serve, even when they are technically breaking the law," Chief Fallon said. "Officer Cataao's compassion should serve as a model for others that even in the simplest-seeming situations, police are often encountering people



Officer Ashley Cataao was praised by Police Chief Fallon and Mayor Curtatone for her act of compassion towards a grieving traffic law violator last week.

during their most vulnerable and critical times, and any comfort we can offer them in addition to our normal duties is a bonus."

The note read as follows: "I'm very sorry to hear about your mother. I hope you find comfort in knowing she lived a long life

and will continue to live on in your heart and in your memories. - Officer who pulled you over this morning."

Davis Square speaks up at Ward 6 ResiStat meeting

CONT. FROM PG 1

meetings, Park Walk & Talks, and citizens' contact with businesses have all increased dramatically since 2013 - something they believe will affect overall happiness and sense of community.

The overdose crisis was also discussed, and information was made available to interested parties (for those unable to attend, Somerville's Health and Human Services will have information). Statistics on this issue were expectedly troubling, but steps for recovery assistance were outlined.

There were some issues more specific to Ward 6. Bicycle theft continues to be a large issue, seemingly related to the neighborhood being home to the city's only MBTA stop. Travelers tend to leave their bikes locked outside the stop. Somerville PD are currently working with transit police to increase surveillance; for that to work they encourage those using this method to lock your bikes only to a bike rack, rather than sign posts or the like.

Car theft is a less prominent but still problematic issue in Davis Square. A trend seems to be unlocked cars. Burglars appear to be simply checking door handles,

and without drawing notice are able to quickly snatch valuables. Be sure to lock those doors.

Senior Planner of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development Dan Bartman took the mic next to discuss neighborhood planning, an action not taken since 1984. This topic got a big reaction from the crowd. Bartman acknowledged, as many residents were very aware, that the idea was brought up two years ago, and not discussed publicly since. However, the delay seems necessary.

When planning began, it became obvious to those involved that they didn't have the right methodology or tools to properly measure public life in Davis. In these two years of radio silence, many steps have been taken to ensure that once projects like streetscaping are begun, there should be no delays or surprise issues, such as drainage or inconveniences to drivers or pedestrians.

Testing has related to cost in relation to happiness. One example is chair placement in the park. In city planning in general, moveable chairs have proven a mistake, due to seem-

ingly inevitable theft. However, our planners feel that moveable chairs encourage social interaction, so they took the chance. Population of the park went up 20%, and no chairs have disappeared. So, while it may be frustrating waiting this long for answers, steps are being taken to make the neighborhood the best it can be to accommodate the individuality of the neighborhood.

More than 100 people have been out measuring activity in the neighborhood, revealing more activity in Davis Square per capita than in center city Philadelphia. Public meetings on neighborhood planning will resume this winter. Curiosities about a proposed hotel were also discussed, to which Bartman responded that yes, they would still like to get a hotel, but the priority remains bringing something into the neighborhood that is appropriate for its surroundings and residents.

Ward 6 residents are aware that winter storm parking has always been designated to the odd numbered side of the street. Rejoice, even-siders! From this year on, snow parking will alternate sides. This approaching winter

will remain odd, but from then onward the alternating system will be in place.

Douglas Kress, Director of Health and Human Services, closed the meeting with discussion on the neighborhood's demographics. This included mention of the department's Community Conversations on Race and Racism programs, which were held throughout October, which they would like to continue moving forward. For information on involvement in such a meeting, call 311. An obvious part of this discussion was that the neighborhood is overwhelmingly white.

The issue of gentrification was brought up, to which one resident noted, "I'm conflicted. I'm thrilled the value of our neighborhood is going up, but it's disturbing in a way. I like to see the neighborhood coming up, but I'm afraid I won't be able to afford living here, and that the feel of the classic Somerville home will be lost, turned into condos."

"The fact that Somerville wants to hear from us makes us want to engage," another resident revealed. This was obvious in the meeting running until after its

8 p.m. call time, and by speakers remaining to answer further questions. Keep up to date on public meetings by visiting the city's website.

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The Writers' Den

The following article was written by several of the members of "Pays to Write," an afterschool club at the West Somerville Neighborhood School. The students are hoping to establish a school-wide student newspaper.

Veterans Day

By Maria, Makaila, Bianca, Bella and Andon

United States, November 4, 2015. Next Wednesday, November 11, is Veterans Day. What does it mean besides a day off from school?

We celebrate Veterans Day to honor the people who were in the armed forces. The five branches are the U.S. Navy, Army, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard.

Bianca's grandpa was a veteran of the Navy. He liked to fly planes. *I don't know but I've been told, Navy wings are made of gold.* Bella's uncle served in the Air Force. He died in an air crash while in the service. The men on her grandpa's side of the family served in the military.

Bella's neighbor, her friend's dad, is now in the United States Army. He's away from home a lot.

Makaila reports that she has two aunts, an uncle, a grandpa, a great aunt and a great uncle who served in the armed forces—all five branches!

Maria has a great idea. "On Veteran's Day, make a poster with your family about the veterans in your family."

Bianca suggests that you can make a cake for Veterans Day. She and her mom have done this on patriotic holidays. Bake any flavor cake you want. Frost it with white icing and top it with strawberries, raspberries and blueberries. Arrange the berries in an American flag pattern.

Full Circle/Next Wave holiday fundraiser on its way for 2015

Full Circle High School & Next Wave Junior High School's annual fundraiser selling trees and wreaths for the holiday season is quickly approaching. Stop by Foss Park and pick out your tree while supporting Somerville students & public education! This is their 20th Anniversary.

Everything is put together and run by the students, staff, parents and coaches.

It's a great community service activity and really helps teach the students via hands-on business training. Please let them know if you have any questions or would like more information. They can be reached at 617 750 2398 anytime.



Sally O'Brien's
335 Somerville Ave.
617-666-3589



Monday November 16

Shawn Carter's Cheapshots Comedy Jam 7 p.m.
Marley Mondays with Duppy Conquerors 10 p.m.

Tuesday November 17

Juliet & The Lonesome Romeos 8 p.m.

Wednesday November 18

Free Poker, lots of prizes! 8 p.m.

Thursday November 19

The Ugly Beats (Get Hip Recordings), Muck and the Mires, The Downbeat 5 \$10 cover 9 p.m.

Friday November 20

Wooden Leg 6 p.m.
HearNowLive presents Low Sparks, The Inebriations, Shotgun Waltz \$10 cover 9 p.m.

Saturday November 21

Johnny Come Latelies 6 p.m.
One Thin Dime 9 p.m.

Sunday November 22

Annual Parkinson's Benefit - stay tuned! 2 p.m.
Roy Sludge Trio 5:30 p.m.



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Celebration of 20th Century Music

The Cambridge Symphony Orchestra, led by Cynthia Woods, Music Director, presents the opening concert of its 41st season, Mahler's Symphony No. 5 on Sunday, November 15, at 4 p.m. at Kresge Auditorium, MIT, 48 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge. Under the direction of Cynthia Woods, the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra follows on the success of last year's 40th anniversary celebration, in a return to Kresge for Mahler's electrifying Symphony No. 5 in C-sharp major. Acclaimed soprano Indra Thomas will join the CSO to sing Ravel's haunting song cycle *Shéhérazade*, based on *The Arabian Nights*.

Mahler's Symphony No. 5 proudly spotlights the work of Somerville-Cambridge Elder Services and Mystic Valley Elder Services. Both organizations provide much-needed support to elders, people with disabilities, and caregivers throughout Cambridge, Somerville, Malden, Medford, Everett, and many neighboring communities. Representatives will be present at the concert to share more about their mission and their work in our community.

Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$15 for students and seniors, and are currently available at cambridgesymphony.org.

This concert kicks off a year-long exploration of twentieth-century music, from Gershwin to Russian composers Prokofiev and Shostakovich. In June 2016, the CSO presents a unique ballet experience: Stravinsky's *The Firebird*, with world-class dancers and newly commissioned choreography in tandem with NorthEast ArtsSpace, a new performing arts collaborative.



Dorothy's Corner

BY DOROTHY DIMARZO



A Taste of Cuba

On a recent visit to Cuba I was lucky enough to travel with a group of 15 to a restaurant named Finca Agroecological El Paraíso, located in Pinar del Rio overlooking the Viñales Valley, about a 3 1/2 hour drive west of Havana.

Finca Agroecological El Paraíso has its own self-sustained terraced organic farm that supplies all the food for the restaurant. The extra fruits and vegetables the farm produces are donated to the surrounding community.

Upon our arrival we were greeted with a welcome drink consisting of fresh pineapple juice blended with basil and mint topped with cinnamon. Bottles of rum were also placed on the table to add to your drink if you chose to do so. And yes, I chose to do so! Cuba produces some of the best rum I ever tasted. While sipping away the views are a true feast for the eyes. The lush green countryside with beautiful flowers and rows upon rows of fresh fruits and vegetables were breathtaking.

For lunch we were treated to the traditional Cuban Christmas Eve dinner, crispy skinned and succulent roast pig (lechón asado) with many sides. The suckling pig is prepared by butterflying it to make it flat for more even cooking, seasoned with salt and pepper, then secured between two grates that hold the pig securely in place. The grate is then placed in an aluminum lined roasting box. Once the meat is placed in the box a solid tray is then placed on top of the box where hot coals are spread evenly over the tray. Every hour or so, more coals are added to the tray, keeping a constant indirect heat even. For more information about a roasting box go to <http://www.lacajachina.com>.



The sides included a hearty vegetable soup, black beans and rice, guacamole, yucca, tostones (fried plantains), plantains shaped into small cups and fried that hold seasoned meat, green beans, sweet potato, fish hash and cucumbers with shredded cabbage salad. For dessert, flan and café con leche (coffee with milk).

My visit to Cuba will be remembered for years to come, not only for the food, but for the richness of their culture expressed through their love of creating art. That's why I included information below about some artists of Cuba.

The people of Cuba are very resourceful and are known to be great recyclers. The recycling is quite evident through technique and available supplies in the stunning artwork produced by its artists and displayed at the artists' homes as well as museums throughout Havana and beyond.

For more information about the artists, including a documentary on Cuban art called *Alumbrones* featuring these artists and more; Sandra Dooley, Pedro Pablo Oliva and Isolina Limonta, see the links below.

<http://www.cubanartspace.net/Sandra-Dooley/sandradooley.php>

www.pedropablooliva.com

<http://www.wbur.org/2013/01/14/cuban-art-in-boston>

<http://www.alumbrones.com/>. Available on iTunes.

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Somerville filmmaker turns his lens on Burundi

By Josie Grove

Somerville-based documentary filmmaker Jamil Simon is working on his latest film, *Fragile Island of Peace*. The film is a documentary about conflict in the small East African nation of Burundi. Simon is interested in a conflict resolution style called peacebuilding.

Burundi's twelve-year civil war ended in a United Nations-brokered treaty in 2005, but the country remained volatile. The UN began a peacebuilding mission in 2006 to prevent the simmering conflict from erupting again.

"A peacebuilder works with parties of a conflict and they teach conflict resolution skills and communication skills, how arrive at win-win solutions, how to figure out what interests they have in common, and what goals separate them," explained Simon. "By and large, once people really start to explore their own self-interest and the interests of the parties they're on the battlefield with, they often find that what they all want is, or 60% of what they want is similar.

Simon's partner on the film, Liz McClintock, is intimately familiar with peacebuilding. "Liz is a peacebuilder. She's worked in South Sudan, she's worked in Liberia, Sri Lanka, she's worked in a lot of countries around the world." McClintock works for CM Partners, a Cambridge, MA conflict management consulting firm that works with private corporations as well as warring factions.

"Liz actually did a lot of the training in Burundi." Simon followed McClintock as she met with leaders in Burundi, filming the interactions and interviewing them about the experience.



Fragile Island of Peace is documentary filmmaker Jamil Simon's examination of the search for "peacebuilding" opportunities in the troubled nation of Burundi.

"I believe it's important to tell people stories about peacebuilding so that people understand that there are alternatives to violence." Simon worries that people in the United States are not exposed to models of non-violent conflict resolution, and he blames news coverage of war and violence. "I'm hoping to get it into the mainstream media. I'd like to get it broadcast on HBO or PBS or ABC or any of those platforms," said Simon. "I want people to see that even when it's not perfect, even when the solution is not black and white, and all neatly wrapped up in a bow, that peacebuilding is still far better than violence in resolving conflict. Peacebuilding is something that takes a long-term effort. You might say where do we get the money? But it's way cheaper than bombing."

The scale of the peacebuilding operation in Burundi should make the story interesting to audiences outside Burundi, Simon said. "They trained 30,000

people [in peacebuilding techniques] out of a country of 8 million. Imagine if we did the same thing in the United States," said Simon.

But the film is not just for foreign audiences. "I went in with a commitment to make a film for play in Burundi," said Simon. When he was filming in Burundi, Simon conducted interviews in both French and Kirundi, the primary language spoken in Burundi. "I have material to put together a really powerful Kirundi version of this film. They need to be reminded of how they achieved a level of peace that was very unusual."

Simon has finished shooting the film, and has edited ten minutes of footage. This short clip will be screened on Friday, November 13 at Tree of Life Tai Chi Center at 7 p.m. "Learning to walk in the shoes of others was a transformative experience for a lot of these people. And I hope we can capture it in this film."

Simon hopes the screening this Friday spur a dialogue. "We're going to have a discussion about what it takes to build peace in a violent world," said Simon. "It will be a fundraiser and we'll screen the film, but I'm hoping it will be a conversation, and that people will really learn something."

The screening will raise money to edit the two versions of the film, Simon said. "There's still a huge amount of work to do."



Born and Raised in the U.S.A.

I am not a poet by any stretch of the imagination, nor I an English Major. Thanks to the computer, I can now spell. I am a Somerville resident for the past six years. I started this poem as a parody to Bruce Springsteen's song Born in the U.S.A. and as I progressed with the poem I kept rewriting and adding words (about 20 times) and then changed the title to Born and Raised in the U.S.A. During the rewriting and reading what I wrote, I realized to my surprise that the poem was, for the most part, in chronological order. Thanks to my Cousin Patty who was a big part in the finishing of the poem with ideas and words that I needed to complete the poem. Thanks again for reading my poem.

Born and Raised in the U.S.A.

We were keepers of the country yesterday; it was our job to keep the country from going astray
 Our government said it was ok to kill the Native American, men woman and children alike
 Shoot them where they stand and let them die where they lie, until they were almost all gone away
 We killed the Bison, took away their way of life and stole their land
 No food to eat, no place to call home, no clothes to make, it was all done by hand
 No need to shed a tear, it's already been done, there's a trail of them

Born and Raised in the U.S.A.

We were told to fight against each other; the North and South could not get together
 Hundreds of thousands of fathers and brothers must die before we see eye to eye
 The Emancipation Proclamation is not for jubilation
 Even today race equality is still in the makin'

Born and Raised in the U.S.A.

We are the superpowers of the world today
 We need to keep the world from going astray
 We fight for freedom and for the poor
 Not even Germany could even the score

Born and Raised in the U.S.A.

Our leaders tell us its ok to kill the Yellow man, however we can
 Not once or twice but three times a charm
 Until we're told "no more fighting, put down your arms"

Born and Raised in the U.S.A.

There's an uneasy peace for a little while but we're still looking over our leery cold shoulder
 Until it's time to become a soldier
 We go to war against Iraq and Iran and to help restore peace with Afghanistan

Born and Raised in the U.S.A.

There's terrorism around the world today
 We hear about September 11th and bombings everyday
 And it's our job to keep the world from going astray
 It's our job to keep the world in order when we can't even watch our own boarders
 I love my country; it's the best place to be
 But these politicians are making it hard for me
 We're losing the war; let's stick to the battle at home.

— Wayne Lee

Beacon Hill Roll Call



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

Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Somerville:



Rep. Christine Barber

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



Rep. Denise Provost

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



Rep. 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 HOUSE AND SENATE: Beacon Hill Roll Call records local representatives' and senators' votes on roll calls from the week of November 2-6.

The House last week teed up and approved sever-

al pro-veteran bills. The bills now move to the Senate. Supporters said that the state's veterans are heroes who deserve to be treated, respected and helped. There were no opponents of the bills.

The first four roll calls below are on veterans bills. On all four roll calls, a "Yes" vote is for the bill.

FLAG HOLDERS (H 3173)

House 152-0, approved a bill that would make it a crime to destroy, mutilate or deface an American flag, veteran's commemorative flag holder or a commemorative flag holder representing service in both the police and fire department. Offenders would be sentenced to up to five years in prison. This law currently applies to tombs, monuments, gravestones, trees, shrubs and plants.

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes

FREE ACCESS TO STATE PARKS FOR VETERANS (H 3243)

House 151-0, approved a bill that would provide Purple Heart recipients free access to state parks, state forest recreation areas and state reservations. Currently free access is provided for disabled veterans and handicapped persons.

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes

SELLING VETS' GRAVE MARKERS (H 1306)

House 151-0, approved a bill that would impose up to a \$5,000 fine for a first offense of selling or attempting to sell a stolen veteran's grave marker. A second and subsequent offenses would trigger up to a five-year prison sentence. Some of these markers are made of bronze and are a target of scrap metal thieves who steal and sell them.

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes

STOLEN VALOR (H 1641)

House 149-0, approved a bill that would make it a crime for a person to misrepresent himself or herself as a veteran. Violators would be subject to a one-year prison sentence and/or a \$1,000 fine.

Rep. Christine Barber	Yes
Rep. Denise Provost	Yes
Rep. Timothy Toomey	Yes

REHOMING OF CHILDREN (S 2043)

Senate 37-0, approved and sent to the House a bill aimed at stopping and establishing penalties for "rehoming," the unregulated practice of exchanging an adopted child. Rehoming is when an adoptive parent who feels he or she can no longer care for the child, arranges for another person to take custody of the child without the knowledge or approval of the government and adoption agencies. The parent often posts an ad on the Internet offering the child to whomever wants him or her.

Supporters said this heinous practice must be stopped and pointed out how these exchanges often result in innocent children being taken by sexual predators and abusers. They argued that the state has an obligation to prevent this practice and ensure that adopted children are safe and that everyone works within the state's adop-

tion system.

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

Sen. Patricia Jehlen	Yes
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ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

TWO LEGISLATORS ARE ELECTED MAYOR

- Four legislators ran for mayor in last week's city elections. Two were elected and two were defeated. Sen. Bob Hedlund (R-Weymouth) was elected mayor of Weymouth and Steve DiNatale (D-Fitchburg) was chosen as the mayor of Fitchburg. Rep. Michael Finn (D-West Springfield) was defeated in West Springfield and Rep. Tom Stanley (D-Waltham) did not succeed in Waltham.

GOVERNMENT PAYS FOR LAW SCHOOL LOANS (S 816)

- The Judiciary Committee held a hearing on a bill providing that the state pay the student loans of anyone who graduates from a Massachusetts law school and practices "public interest law" including jobs at legal services corporations, public defender offices or district attorney offices

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

- The Judiciary Committee also held a hearing on a bill that allows justices of the peace to advertise their marriage services on the Internet (S 831). Current law lists specific places they can advertise including newspapers, telephone books and "other publications of general circulation" but omits the Internet because the law was written years ago. Currently a justice can be fined up to \$100 for advertising online.

The agenda also included legislation raising from \$25 to \$100 the fee for a person applying for a license to be a justice of the peace (S 833).

CAP SALARY OF CHARITY EXECUTIVES (S 875)

- Another measure on the Judiciary Committee's agenda was a proposal that would cap at \$500,000 the compensation of any executives working for a public charity that takes in \$1 million or more in annual gross revenue. The measure also prohibits any members of the board of directors from being paid. The proposal allows the charities to seek a waiver on the compensation question and grant it "only if deemed in the public interest of the commonwealth."

BABY SAFE HAVEN (H 114)

- The House gave initial approval to a measure allowing an emergency responder at an agreed upon location following a 911 call to accept the drop off of a baby under the age of seven days. The state would then place the baby into the state's foster care system and begin the process of terminating parental rights. The current Baby Safe Haven program allows the baby to be dropped at a police or fire station or hospital emergency room.

BULLYING OF TENANTS IN PUBLIC HOUSING (S 1984)

- The Senate approved and sent to the House a bill creating a special commission to study the prevalence and impact of the bullying of tenants, with a focus on elderly and disabled tenants, in public and subsidized multi-family housing. The commission would hold public hearings across the state and by December 31, 2006 come up with its findings and recommendations.

COMMISSION ON YOUNG PROFESSIONALS (S 2044)

- The Senate approved and sent to the House



Beacon Hill Roll Call continued

a proposal creating a special commission on young professionals to examine how the commonwealth can better engage, involve and educate young professionals in decisions and policies that affect them. The commission would develop policies to retain and “attract intellectual capital that will make the commonwealth a desirable place for young professionals to live, work and play.”

QUOTABLE QUOTES

“I just had a ton of pre-existing damage and if I was 28 instead of 58 it would get better a lot faster.” — Gov. Charlie Baker on why he is still on crutches since he aggravated a foot tendon injury in September.

“Children who are often adopted from overseas and desperate for family connection and stability can potentially end up in the hands of sexual predators with little more than a handshake between the original adoptive parent and the new individual or family. If safety of our children is a priority for the state, then this loophole must be closed.” — Erin Bradley, Executive Director of the Children’s League of Massachusetts, on the bill aimed at stopping rehoming which is when an adoptive parent who feels he or she can no longer care for the child, arranges for another person to take custody of the child without the knowledge or approval of the government and adoption agencies.

“The results of [last week’s] municipal elections are clear. Women candidates not only win open seats, but also tough races against incumbents. But we also know that our fight continues to elect more women to office

at both the local and state levels.” — Ann Murphy of the Massachusetts Women’s Political Caucus Political Action Committee.

“While this executive order will certainly level the playing field for Lesbian, Gay Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) business owners, it does nothing to protect transgender people, including business owners, when they are patronizing Massachusetts businesses. Currently, the commonwealth does not expressly protect transgender people from discrimination in public places such as supermarkets, parks, hospitals and restaurants.” — Kasey Suffredini, Co-Chair of the Freedom Massachusetts Coalition on Gov. Charlie Baker’s executive order updating the state’s supplier diversity program to include businesses owned by LGBT people.

“Our public colleges and universities educate much of our public and private sector leaders and are critical to the economic security of our nation. These institutions must be accessible to students of all backgrounds and reflect the diversity of experiences, perspectives and ideas necessary to compete in a global economy.” — Attorney General Maura Healey upon filing a brief in the U.S. Supreme Court urging it to allow public colleges and universities the flexibility to design admissions policies that take race into account as one of many relevant factors.

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 November 2-6, the House met for a total of five hours and 50 minutes while the Senate met for a total of eight hours and 41 minutes.

Mon. November 2	House 11:03 a.m. to 11:09 a.m. Senate 11:01 a.m. to 1:51 p.m.
Tues. November 3	No House session No Senate session
Wed. November 4	House 11:04 a.m. to 3:29 p.m. No Senate session
Thurs. November 5	House 11:00 a.m. to 11:19 a.m. Senate 11:09 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Fri. November 6	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com


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COMMENTARY

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

Remembering Somerville heroes of The Great War on Veterans Day



By Joseph A. Curtatone

This week we celebrate Veterans Day, honoring all who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces, but this day had another name in the past. Veterans Day began as Armistice Day to mark the end of fighting in World War I at the eleventh hour, on the eleventh day, of the eleventh month. So it's appropriate that our annual memorial service held with the Somerville Allied Veterans Council takes place at the Dilboy VFW Post, which is named after Somerville resident George Dilboy, who fought and died in World War I and received the Medal of Honor. Dilboy's story is well-known in our community, with the stadium named after him and his memorial that sits outside City Hall, but this Veterans Day, I'd like to highlight some other Somervillians who served our nation in WWI, The Great War.

Take for instance Howard Kullberg. The Air Service of the U.S. Army—the forerunner to today's Air Force—rejected Kullberg because it deemed him to be too short, according to the Royal Air Force Museum. So, he traveled to Toronto and joined the British Army's Royal Flying Corps (RFC) in 1917 (now that's true Somerville gump-tion!). The following year, he deployed to France, joining the No. 1 Squadron and claiming 19 combat victories during the war. Kullberg's final victory was shortly followed by a chase in which he was shot three times in the leg, and spent the rest of the war in the hospital. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service.

Coincidentally, Kullberg wasn't the only Somerville resident to join the RFC in World War I. Elliot Adams Chapin was born and raised in West Somerville and had a history of military service in his family. Chapin left Harvard before completing his degree and enrolled in the Naval Reserve Force when the U.S. entered the war, but a minor defect in one eye prevented his admission to the Air Service, and he was honorably discharged. Another Somervillian

who wouldn't take no when it came to defending his country, he then enlisted in the RFC, became a first lieutenant and was deployed to France. During a bombing run on Thionville, he was shot down by a German plane. According to *Memoirs of the Harvard Dead in the War Against Germany*, a friend and fellow 99th Squadron member, Lieutenant Walker, was fifty feet away from Chapin when his plane went down, and wrote of his death, "When he saw death staring him in the face, I saw him turn around to his observer, reach out h/his hand, and shake hands with him. He died a hero's death, unafraid, and was a son for any parent to be proud of."

Another Somerville resident who displayed extraordinary heroism was Herbert W. Barrett, a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army, Company H, 8th Infantry, 2d Division. According to his citation, on Oct. 3, 1918, near Blanc Mont, France, other officers in his company had been killed during battle, and Barrett reorganized the company and led them in an attack. Under heavy fire from an enemy machine gun, Barrett rescued two of his men who had been wounded and buried

by a high-explosive shell, and he himself was wounded while administering first aid to a member of his company. The attack he led ultimately led to the capturing of the machine-gun nest.

Two other Somerville natives who went on to have distinguished careers in the Armed Forces had their service begin in World War I. Ralph Waldo Christie eventually became a vice admiral in the U.S. Navy and its "premiere torpedo expert," commanding submarine operations in the South Pacific during World War II, but his career started during World War I. After graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1915, he was assigned to the U.S.S. New Jersey and then the U.S.S. Montana, before becoming one of the first graduates of the Naval Submarine School in Connecticut. He eventually was assigned to the Atlantic Convoy during World War I, before earning his master's degree from MIT and going on to his distinguished career.

Meanwhile, Paul Gardner was one of the "Monuments Men"—soldiers assigned to the Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives section that protected cultural artifacts and art during World War II, and the

first Monuments Man to reach mainland Italy. But before then, he was a Somerville High graduate who attended MIT from 1913 to 1917, leaving before completing his degree to join the U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corp. Serving in France during World War I, according to the Monuments Men Foundation, Gardner attained the rank of Captain and at the age of 21 was awarded France's Croix De Guerre with Palm medal, which is given to those who demonstrate acts of heroism when engaging with the enemy.

These are only a few stories of Somerville veterans who served in World War I, and only a fraction of the stories of service of Somervillians throughout the generations, from the Revolutionary War to those in the Armed Forces today. As you enjoy this Veterans Day holiday, I hope you can find the time to express your thanks to those who have served our community and our nation. And as you carry on throughout the year, I hope too that you'll remember that these brave, selfless and determined individuals also helped shape that special mix of verve and doggedness that still makes us proud to be Somervillians today.

Who pays the piper calls the tune



By William C. Shelton

On October 27 the Principle Group presented its Neighborhood Plan for Union Square and Boynton Yards.

Most of its content consists of worthwhile design and policy ideas that incorporate every new-urbanist virtue as well as concerns expressed by neighbors over the last year. The redesign of Union Square's streets is particularly good.

Call all of that the "aspirational" section because the Plan contains no explanation of how this cornucopia of great ideas might become reality. Or who

would pay for it.

When the Plan turns to what would actually be built and when, it betrays the SomerVision Comprehensive Plan and the consistently and continually expressed preferences of neighborhood leaders and groups. Call that the "getting real" section.

In preparing the elegant twenty-year SomerVision plan that was adopted in 2012, SomerVision's steering committee thoughtfully identified and set goals for each of the city's "transformative" development districts.

The Neighborhood Plan's "Highlights" section claims consistency with SomerVision by stating that it has maintained SomerVision's 60%/40% split between new commercial development and housing development.

It neglects to highlight the fact

that it more than quadruples the amount of new development specified by SomerVision for the neighborhood. And that does not include required parking. Not does it offer an explanation as to why cramming in so much more development is desirable or even feasible.

The plan's aspirational section contains appealing rhetoric advocating "human-scale" development. But the getting-real section calls for an inhuman-scale development pattern on the redevelopment blocks set aside for US2, the Redevelopment Authority's chosen master developer partner.

Outsized buildings dominate superblocs that lack the frequent openings, spaces, and paths needed to shape the convenient and enjoyable walking environment humans feel most comfortable in.

The Plan's solution is to put

continuous and moderately sized storefronts on the superblocs' ground floors. But Union Square will never be able to support that much retail. It already lacks a daytime population sufficient to support a thriving retail environment.

Building massive residential developments will do nothing to change that. But the Neighborhood Plan inflates SomerVision's housing goal from 850 new housing units in Union Square and Boynton Yards to 3,130—more than half of SomerVision's housing goal for the entire city. And that figure does not include the opportunistic conversion of existing commercial buildings to residential units that is already taking place in Union Square and will only increase.

The Plan states that it is focused on "creating significant new job opportunities and meeting our portion of the regional

need for new housing..." But the SomerVision steering Committee never considered housing goals in a regional context. As is often cited, Somerville is already New England's densest city, and Union Square, one of its denser neighborhoods.

While the Plan grossly inflates SomerVision's goal for housing units, it reduces their average size by 20%. Assuming that 80% of these residential buildings are living space, the average new unit would be 657 square feet—not the family housing that Somerville most needs.

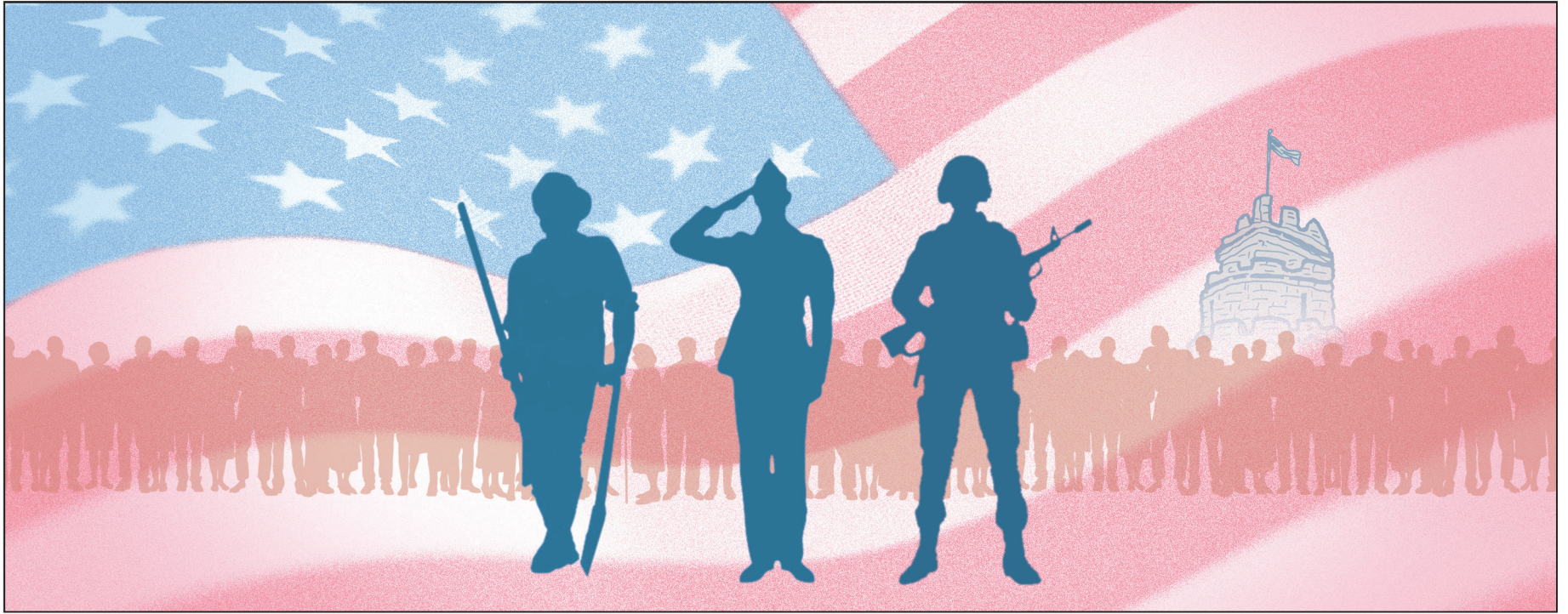
US2 became the master developer partner by responding to a solicitation that clearly stated the housing goal for Union Square as "350 housing units for Somerville residents of all socioeconomic levels..." But in February, US2 presented a plan to build 525 units of housing for millennials

Continued on page 17

COMMENTARY

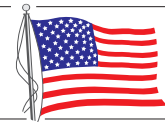
SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Somerville proudly celebrates Veterans Day.

Our View Of The Times



We see them every year and we regard them with awe and deepest admiration. Stoic and humble in countenance, they seem to simply play their part in our ritualistic celebration of their courageous contributions to the well being of our nation. The well being of ourselves as a society.

The flesh and blood reality is even more awe-inspiring as we realize how fragile

life truly is, and yet these brave men and women each took a stand and declared that no harm should come to their fellow countrymen. Not on their watch.

Veterans Day is a time when each of us has a rare opportunity to reflect a small fraction of that magnificent commitment to humanity back upon the heroes who helped to make us all so much safer in a sometimes savage world.

Those of us who never served in the military cannot know the hardship, privation, and sacrifice that these people have made on behalf of all of us. Some have made the supreme sacrifice. It is for them most of all that we bow our heads and utter prayers of solace and of gratitude for the precious gifts that they have laid before us. Those of liberty and a future free from fear of ene-

mies seen and unseen.

We must endeavor to express our thanks at every possible opportunity. Veterans Day is one opportunity, but there can be many more if we choose to make them. It is up to us to do just that.

We can take a stand and commit ourselves to celebrating the contributions of our beloved champions, one and all, each and every day to come. Let it be so.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 2

Curtatone's administration people, including his aide Omar Boukili, were over in Revere all day campaigning for the newly elected Mayor Brian Arriago, who was a two term city councilor as well as a former employee here in Somerville. Maybe Omar Boukili will be offered a job in Revere? We hear it's possible. That would be good for Omar. There are a lot of good restaurants over there.

It's interesting that on Election Day Ward 3 Alderman Bob McWatters received the most votes here in the city for a ward alderman, just under 1,000. School Committeeman Paul Bockleman received the most with the School Board at just over 1,000 votes. Mayor Joe received about 25% blanks on Election Day.

Speaking of elections for the state legislators next year, take a long look at what our representatives are doing on Beacon Hill, you might be surprised. We think a lot of our present elected legislators here might see some opponents next year. The rumblings over the recent city elections just might get a reaction by some to think strongly about running.

The city makes robo-calls to residents the day before certain streets and bridges will be closed because of work. Why the day before? Isn't there any plan in place on a time frame? In particular, the poor homeowners on Medford and School Streets, along with Goode Gas. How are they being negatively impacted? How long have they been working on School Street Bridge, Medford Street Bridge and McGrath Bridge at the same time? Imagine running a business that has major disruptions in the flow of traffic every single day, or a local resident just trying to get around? Take a look at the three houses in particular where they can't even park in front of their homes. It's been going on for months now and looks likely that it will continue for over a year. The city will tell you they can't do anything, but our state senator and representatives surely can. Let them hear from them on what the time frame is for DOT. We bet if you call they can't tell you what time frame for the work is. This week (Thursday night), at the Board of Alderman meeting, Ward 3 Alderman Bob McWatters, Ward 4 Alderman Tony Lafaunte and Alderman President Bill White will be putting forth a resolution to the Department of Trans-

portation to hold a public meeting to talk about how long it's going to be and what's going on. Let's hope Senator Pat Jehlen, Rep. Denise Provost and Rep. Christine Barber demand that DOT hold this meeting soon and to have answers for all the residents and businesses that are affected and feel abused.

Inspectional Services Department update: The Mayor wrote a column here in the paper regarding ISD and how fantastic they're doing down there with the Department head Goran Smiljic. We didn't criticize the Department employees, the Inspectors. We criticize the job Goran Smiljic is doing with the backlog of permits being issued and the process of what people have to go through to get their permits issued. We actually were not surprised at the mayor defended the department, it's just too bad he doesn't actually see or hears what is going on down there, from the inspectors point of view or better yet the many residents that are or have been tied up getting their permits issued. We know it's not all bad, but we also know that we're being told that it's not bad enough to be a problem. We are also being told if you complain to an alderman about a permit issue, nor-

mally that alderman will call Goran Smiljic and the permit is taken care of immediately. Now, for this week's update on what is going on down at the department (by the way if what we're being told is wrong let us know) the two job's for ISD inspectors are still vacant. We heard through reliable sources that Goran Smiljic has applied for two other positions within the city. We heard he inquired about a "project manager" position as well as Head of Capital Buildings. So, if the mayor is proud of the job he's doing, why is he applying or wants to apply for another position? The missing paperwork that was forged with those two properties on Holland Street is still missing. And finally we hear, right now as of this week, there are about 150 permits waiting to be issued. So if you're one of those with permits waiting, maybe you should call an alderman and they will make a call for you.

Happy Birthdays this week to some of our Villen and friends as well as friends of *The Times*: Sheila MacEachern is celebrating this week and we wish her a happy birthday. Although not from Somerville, we're sending out a happy birthday to both

Continued on page 17

Somerville artist on display

Diane Blouin, a life-long resident of Somerville, MA, began painting in oil when she was 18 years old and has painted in various media for more than 40 years. She is principally known for her portraits in oil. Her art education has spanned an intense classical study of art and art history as well as many hours at the easel with noted Boston painters.



Diane studied and painted with Angela Snelling, who taught art at Harvard University, and for eight years with Gladys Maynard, who taught at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts School. Diane has been a member of The Copley Society of Art for 25 plus years. Diane has received many complimentary critiques from such notables as Christy Ruffo, teacher and President of N.E. School, William Maynard, teacher, Maynard Studios Brookline and Provincetown and Dorothy Lepler, teacher and doyenne of Boston artists. Diane achieved notable artistic acceptance at a one week show, by invitation, at the New England School of Art, Newbury Street, Boston, in 1995.

Diane's love of portraiture and the works of the great portrait artists have given the most influence to her work. Many of her paintings go beyond Impressionism to what she refers to as "Expressionism." Above all, Diane is a colorist with superb design sense who is always keen to learn new techniques and styles.

Most recently, Diane's love of color, depth and design has led to many Expressionist paintings in acrylic and mixed media abstractions.

You can see her artwork at the Open House this Sunday at 63 College Ave., 1:00-3:00 p.m.



The winners of The Somerville Times Reader's Choice results for THE BEST OF SOMERVILLE 2015

Congratulations to the winners! Please support their businesses and let them know you saw them in The Somerville Times

Readers choices for 2015

Best Idea in 2015:

Food truck events in the city

Worst Idea:

Too many road races

Best Somerville Food & Restaurants:

Best Breakfast: **Supreme Kitchen**, 233 Highland Ave

Best Combination Breakfast & Lunch: **Ball Square Café**, 708 Broadway

Best Italian Food: **Vinny's at Night**, 76 Broadway

Best Italian Specialty Store: **Dave's Fresh Pasta**, 81 Holland St.

Best Portuguese Restaurant: **J and J Restaurant**, 157 Washington St.

Best Chinese Food: **China Delight**, 524 Somerville Ave.

Best Mexican Food: **The Painted Burro**, 219 Elm St.

Best Variety and All Around Restaurant: **Mount Vernon Restaurant**, 14 Broadway

Best Seafood Restaurant: **Out of the Blue Restaurant**, 215 Elm St.
(Honorable mention: **Pescatore**, 158 Boston Ave.)

Best Local Deli: **Victor's Deli**, 710 Broadway

Best Irish Pub: **Sally O'Brien's**, 335 Somerville Ave.

Best Bar for Bands: **Johnny D's**, 17 Holland St.

Best Bar/Restaurant: **Highland Kitchen**, 150 Highland Ave.

Best Bar Food/Creative Drinks: **River Bar**, 661 Assembly Row

Best Thai Food: **Thai Hut**, 93 Beacon St.

Best Hamburger: **Burger Dive**, 702 Grand Union Blvd.

Best Hot Dog: **Moe's BBQ Trolley**

Best Roast Beef Sandwich: **Mount Vernon Restaurant**, 14 Broadway

Best Pizza: **Caesar's Pizza & Subs**, 401 Somerville Ave.

Best Bakery: **Lyndell's**, 720 Broadway

Best Sub Shop: **Leone's Sub And Pizza**, 292 Broadway

Best Coffee Shop Franchise: **Dunkin' Donuts**, 379 Alewife Brook Pkwy.

Best Local Coffee Shop: **3 Little Figs**, 278 Highland Ave.

Best Cook: **Omar Djebbouri**, Ball Square Café

Best of Somerville Services:

Best Doctor: **Dr Rachel Wheeler, MD**, Union Square Family Health
(recently retired)

Best Eye Doctor: **Dr. Alan Titelbaum**, Eye Associates of Somerville,
174 Broadway

Best Dentist: **Brendan T. McLaughlin, DDS**, DentPlant, 281 Broadway

Best Electricians: **Sanibel Electrical**, 27 Cutter Ave.

Best Plumber: **T.J. Sillari, Inc.**, 99 Albion St.

Best Law Firm: **Dropkin & Matza**, 424 Broadway

Best Attorney: **Neil Berman**, 402 Highland Ave.

Best Insurance Agency: **Wedgewood-Crane & Connolly**, 19 College Ave.

Best Bank: **Winter Hill Bank**

Best Bank Employee: **Lisa Ramos**, Century Bank, Fellsway West

Best Receptionist: **Paula LeBlanc**, O'Donovan Law Office

Best Real Estate Company: **The Norton Group**, 699 Broadway

Best Real Estate Agent: **Marie Howe**, Marie Howe Real Estate

Best Real Estate Rental Agent: **Bill Murphy**, Colony Real Estate

Best Florist: **Nellies Wildflowers**, 72 Holland St.

Best Laundromat: **Spin Cycle**, 6 Main St.

Best Liquor Store: **Winter Hill Liquors**, 313 Broadway

Best Wait staff: **Waitstaff at the Mt Vernon**, 14 Broadway

Best Bartender: **Bill Hausar**, Mt Vernon (40 years), 14 Broadway

Best Barber: **Paul McGlashing**, Alibrandi's Barber Shop, 194 Holland St.

Best Hair Salon: **Amal Niccoli**, 731 Broadway

Best Gas Station: **Good Gas**, 345 Medford St.

Best Auto Body Shop: **A Plus**, 297 Medford St.

Best Carpenter: **Frank Sarno**

Best Painter: **Bill Faber**, Main St.

Best Employee: **Vinnie Sabatino**, Walgreens, 343 Broadway

Best Pest Exterminator: **Best Pest Control Services**, 63 Elm Street

Best Dry Cleaners: **Mystic Cleaners and Tailors**, 282 Broadway

Best of Somerville Municipal Services:

Best Somerville Department: **DPW Repair Garage**

Best Somerville Official: **Rick Willette**, Director of Operations, DPW

Best Somerville DPW Foreman/Supervisor: **James (Jimmy) DiFraia**

Best City Employee DPW: **Mike Browne**

Best City Employee City Hall/Annex: **Bonnie Tanner**, Purchasing

Best City Elected Politician: **William A. White, Jr.**, President
(Alderman-at- Large)

Best Teacher: **Victoria "Vicki" Macrokanis**, 6th grade West Somerville
Neighborhood School

Best Principal: **Sophia Carafotes**, Somerville Adult Evening School

Best Nurse: **Nydia Woods**, Capuano School

Best Police Officer: **Somerville Police Officer Ashley Catatao**

Best Fire Fighter: **Fire Deputy Jack Memory**

Best Coach: **Paul Goode**, Somerville Pop Warner

Best Bar Advocate Somerville District Court: **Attorney Damien D. Gillietti**

Best of Somerville Arts/Entertainment:

Best Comedian: **Stephen Macone**

Best Somerville Poet: **Doug Holder**

Best Photographer: **Claudia Ferro**

Best Commentary Writer: **William C. Shelton**

Best Somerville Celebrity: **Jimmy Del Ponte**

Best Somerville Historian: **Bob "Monty" Doherty**

Best Somerville Non Profit Agency: SHS Scholarship Foundation

Best Creative idea in 2015: City purchasing giant snow blowers

SPORTS

PEP Talk – Waypoint Adventure Programming

By Tom Bannister

Two classrooms at the Kennedy School had the opportunity to take part in some exciting adventures through the Waypoint Adventure program this past month. Waypoint's mission is to help youth and adults with disabilities discover their purpose, talents and strengths through the transforming power of adventure. Both classrooms participated in team-building sessions prior to the adventures, during which students defined "teamwork" and engaged in a team-building activity that required them to put teamwork into practice.

After the team-building session, Ms. Sweeney's class ventured into the Fells to partake in a rock climbing adventure that provided them with the opportunity to work as a team to over-

come challenges as they climbed. Earlier this week, Ms. Berkowitz's class took to the woods and went on a long hike that culminated at Wright's Tower where the group enjoyed lunch at a site overlooking the Boston skyline. Both programs were a huge success, and students and teachers are excited about future possible adventures with Waypoint, moving into the winter and spring months.

The PEP grant supports adventure programming and more to foster a culture of health and wellness in the Somerville community. Learn more about Somerville PEP and ways in which you and your family can stay healthy and active year-round by visiting www.somerville.k12.ma.us/pep. The PEP program is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.



Oh, look – it's a rainbow!



An unusually shaped rainbow was spotted over Nunziato Field Dog Park last week.

— Photo by Kevin Dickinson

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#500

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. John Tenniel drew the illustrations for what famous book? | 6. Which 1979 movie won the Oscar for best visual effects? |
| 2. <i>The Last Tycoon</i> was whose last unfinished novel? | 7. What zodiacal sign is Harry Potter? |
| 3. Which band made the albums <i>Deguello</i> and <i>Tejas</i> ? | 8. Which country in Africa extends farthest north? |
| 4. What live trophy from the Lewis and Clark expedition to the American Northwest did President Thomas Jefferson keep on the grounds of the White House? | 9. In which decade did Honda start to manufacture cars? |
| 5. In his day job, which paper does Spiderman work for? | 10. How much did the first Brownie box camera cost? |
| | 11. How long can a whale go without eating? |
| | 12. Why do icebergs float? |

Answers on page 23

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www.medfordma.com

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The Somerville Times call
Bobbie Toner: 617-666-4010

New paper store opens its doors

By Jim Clark

Central Paper, a full service retail paper store, opened its latest location here in Somerville's Ball Square at 691 Broadway last week.

The Grand Opening took place on Tuesday, Nov. 3, and many turned out to meet the staff and check the wide array of papers, envelopes, invitations and more.

Remember them when you need to restock your paper items and wish to shop local. They are also available online as Paperworks.

691 Broadway, Somerville, MA 02144, 617-440-6300. Open Monday through Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

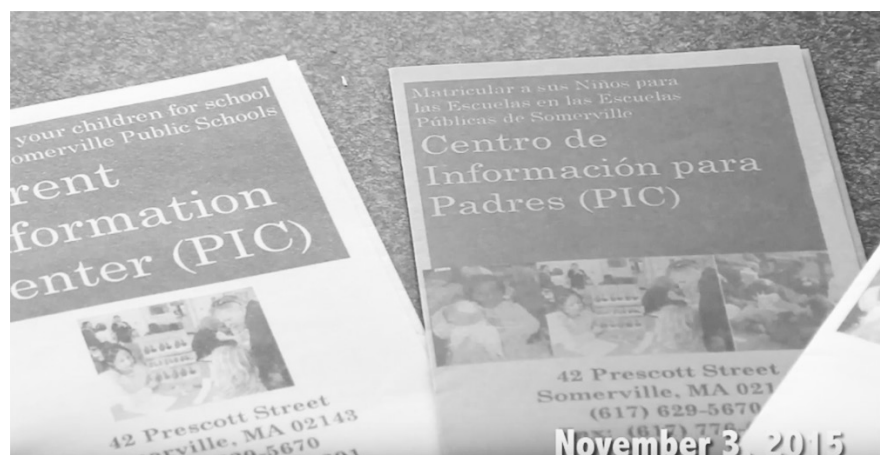


What's on Somerville Neighborhood News

Somerville Neighborhood News is a production of Somerville Community Access Television, made by professional journalists, volunteers and staff. The half-hour news show has as its mission to provide a lively, informative newscast focusing on the events, issues and information impacting Somerville residents. Here is one featured story from SNN #52:

Somerville Public Schools Welcome English Language Learners with a Formula for Success

In Somerville, 50% of kids in elementary and secondary school have a mother tongue other than English. And 17% of them are enrolled in English Language Learner classes. In Somerville Public School, the English Language Learner (ELL) program serves more than 900 students.



Sarah Davila is the Director of English Learners Programs for the Somerville public schools, and the District Administrator for families and partnerships.

"More than half of the students in the Somerville Public Schools come from homes where another language is spoken. So we have a program that meets the needs of each child by providing them English as a second language instruction. That's what we call Shelter English Immersion. It uses special instructional techniques to make the content meaningful and accessible to every child," she says.

Hannah DeSouza-Rodrigues is a 3rd grader teacher at the Argenziano School in Union Square. She teaches a shelter class that currently welcomes kids from 8 different countries. She told SNN that on average it takes kids 5 years to become fluent in English.

"We are always having new students arriving in the classroom which creates a very interesting dynamic because you might be new today and I will welcome you with open arms and so will the students. They are always so excited to have a new student in the classroom and learn about their culture and where they are from, what languages they speak. And then, next week you are already not the newest person, so it's this circle of life almost in the classroom," says Desouza Rodrigues.

For Desouza Rodrigues, it's not the variety of languages in the classroom that is her biggest challenge, it's teaching kids in a same classroom working at different levels of English proficiency.

To read the full story and others, please visit somervilleneighborhoodnews.org and watch SNN on SCATV Ch.3 at 7 p.m.



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

**MICHAEL F. GLAVIN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

PLANNING DIVISION

**LEGAL NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING**

A public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Zoning Board of Appeals on **Wednesday, November 18, 2015** at 6:00 p.m. at the Argenziano School Cafeteria, 290 Washington Street, Somerville, MA.

14 Oak St: (Case #ZBA 2015-62) Applicant, Dan Spinosa, seeks a Special Permit per SZO §4.4.1 to construct decks on the second and third stories within the rear yard setback. RB zone. Ward 2.

72 Dimick St: (Case #ZBA 2015-70) Applicant, Kevin Kee, seeks a Special Permit per SZO §4.4.1 to alter a non-conforming structure by building a 3-story front porch within the front yard setback. RB zone. Ward 2.

88 Dover St: (Case #ZBA 2015-82) Applicant, Sing Cheung, seeks a Special Permit per SZO §4.4.1 to substantially alter an existing, non-conforming 2-family building to construct a 3-family structure. Applicant seeks a Special Permit per SZO §9.13 for relief from parking space dimensions. Ward 6.

41 Horace St: (Case #ZBA 2015-96) Applicant & Owner, Ihor Chaban, seeks a Special Permit to alter a nonconforming single-family structure (SZO §4.4.1) to add 60sf addition to the second floor. RB zone. Ward 2.

15 Dane Ave: (Case #ZBA 2015-97) Applicant and Owner Lynette Tsiang seeks a special permit to modify a nonconforming structure by demolishing a previous rear addition, and adding a single-story addition in the rear and side yards. Zone RB. Ward 2.

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

Attest: Dawn Pereira, Administrative Assistant

As published in The Somerville Times on 11/4/15 & 11/11/15.

11/4/15, 11/11/15 The Somerville Times



The **Somerville Housing Authority** invites sealed bids from Vendors to supply and delivery of Refrigerators and Stoves to our Somerville, Massachusetts location/s, in accordance with the documents prepared by the Somerville Housing Authority Purchasing Department Job No. P-APP-122015.

Description of Work:

Supply and deliver Refrigerators and Stoves as needed. Deliver to Somerville, MA address. Delivery price shall be included in the cost.

Term of contract is 1095 days from receipt of notice to proceed.

The work is estimated to cost \$140,000.00 throughout the life of the contract.

Sealed Bids will be received Until 12:00 P.M., on November 24, 2015 and opened forthwith.

If mailed, bids should be sent to Somerville Housing Authority, Purchasing Department, Attention Anthony Crespo, 30 Memorial Road, Somerville, MA 02145 no later than the time specified.

Bid Forms and Specification will be available for pick-up at Somerville Housing Authority, Administration Offices, at 30 Memorial Road, Somerville 02152 after 12:00 P.M., on November 9, 2015

All inquiries regarding this bid shall be directed to the Purchasing Department (617) 625-1152 Extension 336 or by email to Tonymc@sha-web.org.

The Somerville Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality.

The SHA, any of its employees or officers will not be held responsible for bids not received or received late.

11/11/15 The Somerville Times



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
IFB # 16-43**

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department invites sealed bids for:

Snow Removal From City Roofs

The anticipated contract is for 1 year, from 11/25/2015 through 11/24/2016.

An Invitation for Bid (IFB), including all specifications, may be obtained online:

<http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/bids>

or from the Purchasing Department, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143 on or after **November 9, 2015**.

Sealed bids will be received **until Wednesday, November 25*, 2015 at 11:00 A.M.** The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all bids if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

Please contact **Alex Nosnik, Asst. Purchasing Director, x3400, or email anosnik@somervillema.gov, for information, and bid packages.**

**Angela M. Allen
Purchasing Director
617-625-6600 x. 3400**

11/11/15 The Somerville Times



**LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF HEALTH
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR**

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held at the Winter Hill Community School cafeteria, 115 Sycamore St., Somerville, (entrance on Medford St.) on November 19, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. to review and hear comments relative to proposed amendments to the *Regulation of the Board of Health Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Regulation Prohibiting Smoking in Workplaces and Public Places*. Proposed policies in the draft regulations include, but are not limited to, the following: expansion of definition of Nicotine Delivery Products, restrictions on flavored products, banning of blunt wraps, legal sales age of 21, cigar packaging, no electronic cigarette smoking in smoke free locations.

Douglas Kress
Director
Department of Health & Human Services

11/4/15, 11/11/15 The Somerville Times

A hearing to all persons interested will be given by the **Somerville Licensing Commission** on **Monday November 16, 2015** at the Senior Center, Tufts Administration Building, 167 Holland St., Somerville, MA at **6:00PM** on the application of Oliveira's Steak House, for an Alteration of Premises, at 120 Washington St., Somerville, MA

For the Commission
Andrew Upton
Vito Vaccaro
John J. McKenna

**Attest: Jenneen Pagliaro
Executive Secretary**

11/4/15, 11/11/15 The Somerville Times

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Belmont – 3 Bedrooms – 1 Bath

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Legislators against punitive uses of test scores

By Tom Bannister

A group of legislators recently called for a moratorium on the punitive uses of standardized tests, citing a “perfect storm” that has undermined the credibility of the state’s test-based accountability system.

In Massachusetts, low scores on standardized tests lead to severe sanctions meted out to schools and districts, including school closures and district takeovers. Low scores can keep high school students from getting their diplomas even

if they pass all their courses. Student scores are also factored

into teacher evaluation.

“We are not saying tests shouldn’t happen,” said Sen. Patricia Jehlen (D-Somerville). “But these tests should be used to improve instruction, not to punish.”

Sen. Jehlen’s bill S.294 would call a three-year moratorium on test score-based sanctions against schools and districts.

“We have had a decade of standardized testing that continues to affirm that Massachusetts is leading the nation in educational success—this was true prior to MCAS and this continues to be true—for some of our students,” said Rep. Marjorie

Decker (D-Cambridge).

Rep. Decker has filed H.340 to stop all punitive uses of state test scores for three years while a commission that includes parents and educators works on a new and better system for improving schools.

“After over a decade of high-stakes standardized testing, we know that many of our low-income, under-resourced families and minority children are not thriving on the test,” said Decker. “Those who pass the MCAS and are lucky enough to make it to community college are overwhelmingly enrolling in remedial courses.”

Sen. Barbara L’Italien (D-Andover), Rep. Mary Keefe (D-Worcester), and Rep. Benjamin Swan (D-Springfield) also spoke at the press conference. They have filed bills that would give high school students their diplomas if they pass all their courses and meet all other requirements, even if they have not passed the state standardized test.

Sen. L’Italien spoke of a student with disabilities who worked hard, met all expectations except for passing the test, but now faces enormous barriers in pursuing education or employment because she did not pass

MCAS, the state test.

Rep. Keefe described an innovative Worcester program that brought low-income children to the nearby Worcester Art Museum to learn social studies and art, until it was dropped to make time for test prep.

Rep. Swan said many students get discouraged if they can’t pass the state test and wind up dropping out of school.

Sen. Jamie Eldridge (Acton), Rep. Denise Provost (Somerville), Rep. Frank Smizik (Brookline), and Rep. Aaron Vega (Holyoke), co-sponsors of the legislation, also attended the press conference. *Continued on page 20*

Who pays the piper calls the tune CONT. FROM PG 10

on the block that is the site of the Union Square Green Line station, and another 400 on the other side of the tracks.

Since our city has the worst jobs-to-workers ratio and the worst commercial-to-residential property tax base in the Commonwealth, the proposal was not well received by neighborhood leaders and organizations.

Yet it seems to be what the Neighborhood Plan’s getting-real section specifies for that block. It calls for a twenty-story residential tower next to the Green Line Station, a seven-story commercial building at the other end, and a large wraparound building in the middle that would be 6 or 7 stories of commercial or residential space. The wraparound building’s configuration and color-coding indicate that it is, in

fact, residential.

One rationale that I recently heard for building many small units is that they would free up family housing that is now often shared by millennials who live together. But I personally don’t know any Somerville millennials who could afford US2’s housing. The new units would most likely draw affluent newcomers, while family housing stock continued to decline, and its occupancy remain unchanged.

Leading the redevelopment effort with these kinds of projects would make getting to the promised commercial development highly unlikely. The reasons extend beyond the obvious fact that they would usurp the locations most attractive to employers.

Another essential reason is

that Union Square and Boynton Yards cannot simultaneously accommodate both the level of development proposed and the transportation/parking infrastructure needed to support it. Leading with massive housing would absorb infrastructure needed for commercial development.

In traditional residential and commercial projects, the parking ratios are about 3 spaces per 1,000 square feet of building. At Assembly Square, they’re about 2. The parking ratio implicit in the Neighborhood Plan is 0.6, and this won’t be achievable within the lifetimes of most living Villens.

After realistically accounting for the Plan’s proposed development levels and their implicit parking requirements, scant

room remains for SomerVision’s third goal—more open space. Somerville has the lowest proportion of open and green space in the Commonwealth, and Union Square has less than most Somerville neighborhoods.

SomerVision set a goal of 125 acres of new, publicly accessible open space. The Union Square Civic Advisory Committee set a goal of 20 acres. The Neighborhood Plan sets a goal of 12 acres, and it is not clear from its getting-real section what exactly it considers as open space.

Nor is it clear how this open space would be paid for, particularly without large increases in the tax revenues that commercial property generates.

Smart developers know that open space increases the value of their projects. In my last

column I mentioned that the Vertex building that is part of the Fallon Company’s Fan Pier development generates more tax revenue than all Somerville commercial property combined.

Open space constitutes 54% of that development. But in the Neighborhood Plan, open space is hard to find among the seven redevelopment parcels set aside for US2.

It is difficult to understand the stark disconnect between what SomerVision and community groups advocated, and what the Neighborhood Plan proposes. If you believe that the simplest explanation that fits the facts is probably the truth, then consider these facts: The Neighborhood Plan was prepared on a non-competitive-bid contract and paid for by US2.

Newstalk CONT. FROM PG 11

Gov. Charlie Baker and Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito. Also celebrating this week is Jerry DiGiovanni.

There’s a new website in town. Check it out at www.somervillema.com. The Somerville Times is on the site. Also check out www.medfordma.com.

Word of the Week: Bipolar. The National Institute of Mental Health says that bipolar disorder, also known as manic-depressive illness, is a brain disorder that causes unusual shifts in mood, energy, activity levels, and the ability to carry out day-to-day tasks. Symptoms of bipolar disorder are severe. Sound familiar?

ResiStat meetings this fall will provide updates from city staff as well as the mayor and aldermen regarding ongoing projects and initiatives. Ask questions and share your feedback with neighbors: Ward 2: Mon., Nov. 16, Argenziano School, 290 Washington St.; Ward 1: Wed., Nov. 18,

East Somerville Community School, 50 Cross St. Both meetings run from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Come by at 6 p.m. to enjoy pizza and other refreshments while you talk with neighbors.

Those who might be interested in obtaining certification for firearms should look up the Lawrence Rod & Gun Club. They offer an extensive program at the end of which you receive certification for Massachusetts/NRA Certified Firearm Safety Classes. They run a class once a month, which is limited to 10 people and we hear that this is the place to go to learn safety when handling guns. Email gunclub@earthlink.net for more information and or go to their website at www.lawrencerodandgunclub.org and read up about the course.

For all of your shoe needs, go online to www.shoebuy.com. Our own local good guy and Shoebuy VP Zachary Zasloff lives in Prospect Hill and is a community activist. Wow! What prices, and you get them delivered straight

to your home.

Open House this Sunday at 63 College Ave., 1:00-3:00 p.m. displaying the artwork of local Somerville resident Diane Blouin throughout the entire first floor.

The Somerville School system is still looking for anyone interested in becoming a crossing guard. Crossing Guards provide essential public safety by ensuring safe student crossing at intersections along the routes to school. Salary is \$33.66 per day Uniforms and on-the-job training provided Personal vehicle is preferred but not required, Work BOTH mornings and afternoons based on school year calendar. Must pass a pre-employment CORI and drug screen, Applications are available and must be submitted at the City Hall Personnel Office, located at 93 Highland Ave., Somerville, MA 02143. Inquiries can be sent to School Safety Officer Sean Sylvester at (617) 625-1600, ext. 7248 or by email: ssylvester@police.somerville.ma.us.

To our good friend Bob McGowan, who recently went through open heart surgery over at Mt. Auburn, we wish him a speedy recovery back at home and back in touch with his many friends across the city. Bob is a West Somerville resident who is also a lifelong resident, originally from the old neighborhood in East Somerville. Get well fast Bob!

The Annual Veterans Ball, hosted by Somerville Post 19 last Saturday – ongoing for the past 40 years or so – recognized Somerville Fire and Somerville Police officers of the year. This year the Thomas Chatham Award was given to Somerville fireman Jay McKenzie and the Alexander McQuestion Award to Police Officers Jean Jacques and Officer Albert Gee. We congratulate all three and thank them, along with all fireman and police here in the city, for a job well done. Present at the awards representing the city was Board of Alderman President Bill White and in a sharp tux Alderman at Large Dennis Sullivan.

SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

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

All clubs and groups welcome new members.

Holland Street: 167 Holland Street
Monday through Friday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
617-625-6600 Ext. 2300

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

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

Attention! The summer hiatus is over! Bowling, Dalcroze Eurhythmics, Yoga and Walking Group are back! Please call Chris Kowaleski at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300 for more information on any of our Health & Wellness programs, start dates and times and for registration.

The Moonlighters are back – Running through June, 2016 – Somerville’s Swinging Singing Seniors will be meeting at our Holland Street Center from 10:30 – 11:30 every Monday. Sing One – Sing All – Please contact Connie at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300 if you require additional information.

Fabulous array of vocal, cabaret, and instrumental programs at Berklee School of Music. Dates: Monday, December 7th: Cabaret showcase; Monday, December 14th: Backgrounds and Beyond background vocal ensemble; and Tuesday, December 15th: Berklee Marimba Concerts 1 and 2. Space extremely limited. Please call Janine Lotti at (617) 625-6600, ext. 2300 for details and to sign up.

Yoga – Starting on Thursday, October 29 from 9:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. and running for 5 weeks (October 29th, November 5th, 12th & 19th and December 3rd) at our Holland Street Center. This is a class for all levels and there is a \$20. fee. You MUST RSVP – space is limited – please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to register or if you should have any questions.

De-cluttering for the Holidays –Friday, November 13 – 9:30 A.M. to 10:30 P.M. at our Holland Street Center. Want some tips and tricks to stay on top of your clutter? Then these workshops are for you. Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to register

Thanksgiving Dinner with Mayor Curtatone – Saturday, November 14 – at the Holiday Inn on Washington Street – 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. – doors open at 3:45 P.M. – To sign up please call Connie at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

Foundations of Knowledge Lecture Series – Monday, November 16th, 10:00 A.M. at our Holland Street Center. “History, Memory, Identity” featuring the compelling photographic work of Somerville Artist and Photographer, Dana Mueller. For details, additional information or to register please contact Janine Lott at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300

Planning for the Future – Monday, November 16 – at our Holland Street Center from 5:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. Planning for the future can be difficult and hopefully this workshop will make it easier. There will be a financial planner, an attorney and a funeral professional present. Please call 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to register.

Panini Day – Tuesday, November 17 – 11:30 A.M. at our Holland Street Center. Please call Judy at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 by November 6th to make your reservation.

Mind Full, or Mindful? – Monday, November 30 – 9:30 A.M. at our Holland Street Center. This is a free workshop. Mindfulness & Stress Management – when you are mindful, you focus active, open attention on the present. You observe your thoughts and feelings from a distance, without judging them. Come practice and learn more with Patty Contente, LICSW. Please contact Janine Lotti at 617-625-6600, ext. 2300 to register or for more information.

A Christmas Carol –Tuesday, December 1 – At the Four Points Sheraton in Norwood. Be entertained by a performance of A Christmas Carol as Ebenezer Scrooge

is visited by the ghost of Christmases, Past, Present and Future. Meal choices are Holiday Chicken with Potato and Vegetable or Baked Meat Lasagna – includes: salad, bread, dessert, coffee and tea. Departing our Holland Street Center at 9:30 A.M. and our Ralph & Jenny Center at 10:00 A.M. with an approximate return time of 5:00 P.M. For additional information or to reserve your spot please contact Connie or Kim at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

Friendly Caller Program - Do you know someone who could benefit from a friendly call? Maybe you are feeling isolated and want someone to talk to – or you just want someone to listen. Please call Natasha at 617-625-6600 ext. 2300 to sign up for our “Friendly Caller” Program. The trip to New York City scheduled for November 7 & 8 is SOLD OUT.

Thanksgiving Dinner with Mayor Curtatone scheduled for Saturday, November 14 is BOOKED SOLID.

The Holiday celebration at the Winter Hill Yacht Club scheduled for Monday, December 14 is BOOKED SOLID.

The trip to Atlantic City scheduled for January 10, 11 & 12 of 2016 is SOLD OUT.

Bowling at Flatbreads has resumed on Wednesdays at 1:00 P.M

LGBT EVENTS:

LGBTQ Monthly “Movies To Come Out To” – Monday, November 16 – 5:30 P.M. in the Atrium of our Holland Street Center. Yet to be determined movie and meal. This event happens the 3rd Monday of every month excluding City Holidays and snow emergencies.

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

LGBTQ Holiday Party – Tuesday, December 1 – 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at Johnny D’s Uptown Restaurant & Music Club, 17 Holland Street (Davis Square), Somerville – Thanks to the generosity of Johnny D’s the wine & cheese tasting Holiday party is our gift to you. There is no charge for this event but you must RSVP as an accurate head count is a must. Please RSVP by noontime on November 23rd to Maureen at 617-625-6600, ext. 2316 or email 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 or email her at MBastardi@Somervillema.gov.

STAY ACTIVE:

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

The award winning Fit-4-Life Program is NOW at our Cross Street Center – 165 Broadway – And there are still some open spots. A unique combination of exercise and nutritional support opportunity under the direct supervision of a certified exercise trainer and participate in individual and group counseling with a nutritionist. The cost to you is \$10.- a month that gives you access to fitness & nutritional Fit-4-Life classes each week. Limited scholarships are available – Need more information? Please contact Chris Kowaleski our Health & Wellness Coordinator at 617-625-6600 ext. 2315 or email him at CKowaleski@somervillema.gov This is for older adults 55+ Space is limited so sign up early.

Weekly Exercise Class Schedule

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

Mondays:

8:30 Walking / Talking Group (H)
8:30 Fit-4-Life Group C (H)
12:00 Nutrition Counseling with Mimi (H)

1:00 Fit-4-Life (H)

Tuesdays:

9:15 Strengthening - \$3 per class (H)
10:30 Fit-4-Life Cross Street* (C)
1:00 Dalcroze Eurhythmics - \$2.00 (H)
6:00 LBT Fit 4 Life (H)

Wednesdays:

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

Thursdays:

9:00 Yoga (H)
9:30 Strengthening - \$3 per class (RJ)
10:30 Fit 4 Life (C)
6:00 LBT Fit 4 Life*

Fridays:

8:45 Fit 4 Life* Group A
9:55 Fit 4 Life* Group B
11:00 Nutrition Counseling with Mimi

*All Fit 4 Life classes are \$10/month and require pre-registration**If you are interested in our Yoga classes, please call Chris Kowaleski, our Health & Wellness Coordinator at 617-625-6600, Ext. 2315.

Upcoming Schedule

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

Wednesday|November 11

All Center Closed

Veterans Day

Thursday|November 12

10:00 Cards (RJ)
10:00 English Conversation (C)
10:00 Scarves for Soldiers (RJ)
10:00 Current Events (H)
11:00 Computer tutorial with Barbara (by appointment only) (H)
11:30 Lunch (H, RJ)
12:00 Lunch (C)
12:45 Bingo (H)
No Bingo at R&J today

Friday|November 13

9:30 De-cluttering for the Holidays (H)
11:00 Nutrition Counseling with Mimi (H)
11:30 Lunch (H)
12:45 Bingo (H)

Monday|November 16

9:00 Walking & Talking Group (H)
9:00 Gardening Club (H)
9:30 Monthly Breakfast – Community Conversation
10:00 Let’s Get Healthy With Mimi (RJ)
10:30 Moonlighters
11:30 Lunch (H, RJ)
12:30 Movie (RJ)

Tuesday|November 17

10:00 Cards (RJ)
10:00 English Conversation (C)
10:00 Scarves for Soldiers (RJ)
11:30 Lunch (RJ)
12:00 Computer tutorial with Norbert (by appointment only) (H)
12:00 Lunch (C)
12:45 Bingo (RJ)
Panini Day at (H)

Wednesday|November 18

10:00 Cards (RJ)
10:00 English Conversation (C)
11:00 Let’s Get Healthy With Mimi (H)
11:30 Lunch (H, RJ)
12:00 Lunch (C)
12:45 Bingo (H)
1:00 Bowling at Flatbreads

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Test scores

CONT. FROM PG 17

President Obama has also called for less testing in recent weeks, offering grants to states to develop innovative, more useful measures of student learning and school success.

The state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education is due to make a decision Nov. 17 on whether to continue using the existing MCAS state test, switch to a new multi-state test known as PARCC, or – a third

option announced just recently by Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education Mitchell Chester – some form of hybrid using PARCC-type questions but under Massachusetts control.

Opponents of high-stakes testing cite the uncertainty over which test students should prepare for as an additional reason for a moratorium on punitive uses of the tests.

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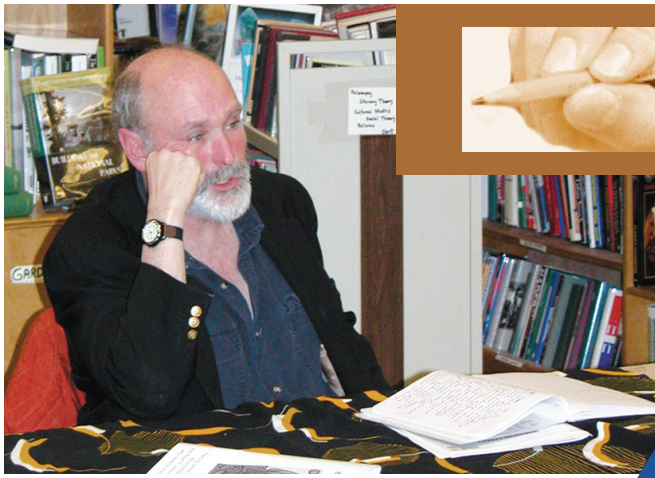
Wednesday, November 11							
6:00am	What's new @ SCATV	5:30pm	All Things Victorian	12:30pm	Color In Your Life	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
6:30am	Exercise with Robyn	6:00pm	Color In Your Life	1:00pm	Chefs Table Series	1:00pm	Visual Radio
7:00am	The Struggle	6:30pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	1:30pm	Eat Well Be Happy	2:00pm	The Literati Scene
7:30am	Somerville Neighborhood News	7:00pm	Taking Back your Health (Live call-in)	2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia and Dez	2:30pm	Hollywood Makeover Show
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:30pm	Let's Talk About Real Estate	3:00pm	Telemagazine	3:00pm	Exercise With Robyn
9:00am	Legacies	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (Live call-in)	4:00pm	The Somerville Line	3:30pm	MAPS
9:30am	All Things Victorian	9:30pm	Music Mania Television	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	4:00pm	Free Speech Television
10:00am	Color in Your Life	10:00pm	Throwback Thursday!	6:00pm	Courage to Change: Male Batterers' Stories	5:00pm	Telegalaxie
10:30am	Rare Groove Revolution	11:00pm	Rare Groove Revolution	7:00pm	JuPrey Productions	6:00pm	Public Access Block
11:00am	Chef's Table Series	11:30pm	MAPS	8:00pm	David Pakman (Free Speech TV)	6:30pm	Somerville Public Library
12:00pm	Free Speech TV	Friday, November 13		9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	7:00pm	Let's Talk About Real Estate
1:30pm	Physicians Focus	6:00pm	Fakkahar Speaks	10:00pm	Open Line News with Davey D	7:30pm	Music Mania Television
2:00pm	What's New @ SCATV	6:30pm	Healthy Hypnosis	11:00pm	Gay News USA (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	The Somerville Line
2:30pm	Road to Recovery	7:00am	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	Sunday, November 15		9:00pm	Dedilhando au Saudade
3:00pm	Healthy Hypnosis	7:30am	Color In Your Life	6:00am	Program Celebrai	10:00pm	Bate Papo com Shirley
3:30pm	Health is Wealth	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:00am	Nossa Gente's e Costumes	11:00pm	Rare Groove Revolution
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	9:00am	Energy Theater	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ	11:30pm	Fallon's Daily Toast
5:00pm	Esoteric Science	10:00am	The Somerville Line	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	Tuesday, November 16	
5:30pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	11:00am	Color In Your life	10:00am	Fakkahar Speaks	6:00am	Art at Scat
6:00pm	Hatian poetry	11:30am	All Things Victorian	10:30am	International Church of God	6:30am	Esoteric Science
7:00pm	Meet the Merchants	12:00pm	Free Speech TV	11:00am	Chef's table Sries	7:00am	JuPrey Promotions
7:30pm	MAPS on TV	1:00pm	Health Is Wealth	11:30am	Eat Well Be Happy	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits	1:30pm	SCATV Events	12:00pm	Baystate Biking News	9:00am	Events At SCATV
8:30pm	SCATV Community Announcements	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	1:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News	9:30am	Chefs Table Series
9:00pm	Bay State Biking News	2:30pm	Taking Back Your Health	1:30pm	Let's Talk Real Estate!	10:00am	Eat Well Be Happy
10:00pm	Laughter Club	3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	2:00pm	Legacies	10:30am	Cooking With Georgia and Dez
11:00pm	Visual Radio	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show	2:30pm	JuPrey Promotions	11:00am	Hello Neighbor
Thursday, November 12		5:00pm	Reeling Review	3:00pm	Dedilhando a Saudade	11:30am	Hollywood Makeover Show
6:00am	JuPrey Promotions	5:30pm	Somerville Pundits	4:00pm	Dead Air Live	12:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
7:00am	The Struggle	6:00pm	This is East	5:00pm	Abugida TV	1:00pm	Color In Your Life
7:30am	The Literati Scene	7:00pm	Gay USA	6:00pm	African Television Network	1:30pm	Somerville Pundits
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	8:00pm	Cinema Somerville Presents: Noir November	7:00pm	Cinema Somerville Presents: Noir November	2:00pm	Exercise With Robyn
9:00am	Esoteric Science	10:00pm	Dog House TV	8:00pm	Dog House TV	2:30pm	Healthy Hypnosis
9:30am	Somerville Pundits	10:30pm	At SCATV	11:00pm	Dog House TV	3:00pm	Taking Back Your Health
10:00am	Dead Air Live	11:00pm	Acronym TV (Free Speech TV)	11:30pm	rare groove revolution	3:30pm	Physicians Focus
11:00am	Hollywood Makeover Show	11:30pm	Rare Groove Revolution	Monday, November 15		4:00pm	Ring of Fire (Free Speech TV)
11:30am	Greater Somerville Live	Saturday, November 14		6:00am	Health is Wealth	5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer
12:00pm	The Thom Hartman Show	6:00am	SNN	6:30am	Taking back your Health	5:30pm	The Literati Scene
1pm-3pm	SCATV Cooking Bloc	6:30am	Eat Well Be Happy	7:00pm	Healthy Hypnosis	6:00pm	The Struggle
1:00pm	Chef's Table Series	7:00am	This Is East	7:30am	Reeling the Review Show	6:30pm	Music Mania Television
2:00pm	Eat Well be Happy	8:00am	Physicians Focus	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:00pm	Somerville Neighborhood News
2:30pm	Cooking with Georgia and Dez	8:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	9:00am	The Stephanie Miller Show	7:30pm	Greater Somerville
3:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:00am	Baystate Biking News	10:00am	Road To Recovery	8:00pm	Dead Air Live
4:00pm	Free Speech Television	10:00am	Tele Galaxie	10:00am	Somerville Neighborhood News	9:00pm	Henry Parker Presents
5:00pm	Poet to Poet/Writer to Writer	11:00am	Hatian Poetry	11:00am	All Things Victorian	9:30pm	Let's talk about Real Estate!
		12:00pm	All Things Victorian	11:30am	Art At Scat	10:00pm	Energy Theater
						11:00pm	The David Pakman Show

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

Wednesday, November 11							
12:00am	Senior Circuit	1:10pm	Inside Market Basket	1:33pm	SomerViva nan Kreyol	9:00am	George Dilboy & the Second Battle
12:30am	SomerViva en Español	2:02pm	ADA Presentation	1:57pm	Metal, Cars, & Meat		of the Marne
12:57am	Espiritu Latino	4:23pm	Upcoming Meeting Agenda	3:07pm	SomerViva em Português	3:30pm	Ames Historic Exhibit Opening Reception
1:57am	Navigating Addiction: A Community Forum	Friday, November 13		6:30pm	Metal, Cars, & Meat	10:30pm	SomerViva en Español
9:00am	Veterans' Day Remembrance Ceremony	12:00am	SomerViva nan Kreyol	7:39pm	Navigating Addiction: A Community Forum	Tuesday, November 17	
9:09am	Veterans in the 'Ville	12:22am	ADA Presentation	10:00pm	Espiritu Latino	12:00am	George Dilboy & the Second Battle
12:00pm	Navigating Addiction: A Community Forum	2:43am	Voices of Somerville	Sunday, November 15			of the Marne
2:18pm	Voices of Somerville	9:00am	Chamber of Commerce Dinner 2015	12:00am	Chamber of Commerce Dinner 2015	12:50am	ADA Presentation
2:47pm	Espiritu Latino	12:00pm	Espiritu Latino	1:30am	Haiti & Brazil Hit the Ville	3:11am	Espiritu Latino
3:36pm	Somerville: Past & Present	12:49pm	What the Fluff?	1:47am	SomerViva nan Kreyol	9:00am	Espiritu Latino
6:30pm	Congressional Update	1:04pm	Congressional Update	2:10am	Metal, Cars, & Meat	12:00pm	Senior Circuit
7:00pm	Veterans' Day Remembrance Ceremony	1:34pm	Aldermen at Work	3:20am	Ames Historic Project - Family Interview	12:30pm	George Dilboy & the Second Battle
7:09pm	Veterans in the 'Ville	2:04pm	Inside Market Basket	3:52am	Ames Historic Exhibit Opening Reception		of the Marne
7:34pm	Domestic Violence Vigil	3:01pm	SomerViva nan Kreyol	9:00am	Ames Historic Project - Family Interview	1:20pm	Metal, Cars, & Meat
8:06pm	Inside Market Basket	6:30pm	Chamber of Commerce Dinner 2015	9:32am	Ames Historic Exhibit Opening Reception	2:30pm	Aldermen at Work
9:00pm	Veterans in the 'Ville	8:00pm	Metal, Cars, & Meat	12:00pm	Voices of Somerville	3:00pm	Domestic Violence Vigil
9:30pm	Upcoming Meeting Agenda	9:09pm	Aldermen at Work	12:30pm	Ames Historic Project - Family Interview	3:32pm	SomerViva nan Kreyol
Thursday, November 12		9:39pm	SomerViva em Português	1:02pm	Navigating Addiction: A Community Forum	7:00pm	Senior Circuit
12:30am	Somerville: Past & Present	10:08pm	Inside Market Basket	3:20pm	SomerViva em Português	7:30pm	George Dilboy & the Second Battle
1:30am	Aldermen at Work	Saturday, November 14		3:49pm	What the Fluff?		of the Marne
2:00am	SomerStreets Monster Mashed Up	12:00am	Chamber of Commerce Dinner 2015	6:00pm	Inside Market Basket	8:30pm	School Committee Meeting -
2:15am	Jane's Walk: Hidden Assets of Union Sq	1:30am	Aldermen at Work	7:00pm	Senior Circuit		REPLAY OF 11.16.15
3:30am	Congressional Update	2:00am	Metal, Cars, & Meat	7:30pm	Connecting Communities - Fire Safety	Wednesday, November 18	
9:00am	SomerViva nan Kreyol	3:09am	SomerViva em Português	8:00pm	SomerViva nan Kreyol	12:00am	Inside Market Basket
12:00pm	Senior Circuit	9:00am	Metal, Cars, & Meat	Monday, November 16		12:52am	Navigating Addiction: A Community Forum
12:30pm	SomerViva nan Kreyol	12:00pm	Espiritu Latino	12:00am	Senior Circuit	3:11am	Voices of Somerville
12:52pm	Haiti & Brazil Hit the Ville	12:49pm	SomerStreets Monster Mashed Up	3:30am	Congressional Update		
		1:05pm	Voices of Somerville	4:00am	Pity Party in Union Square		

Educational TV 15 Schedule

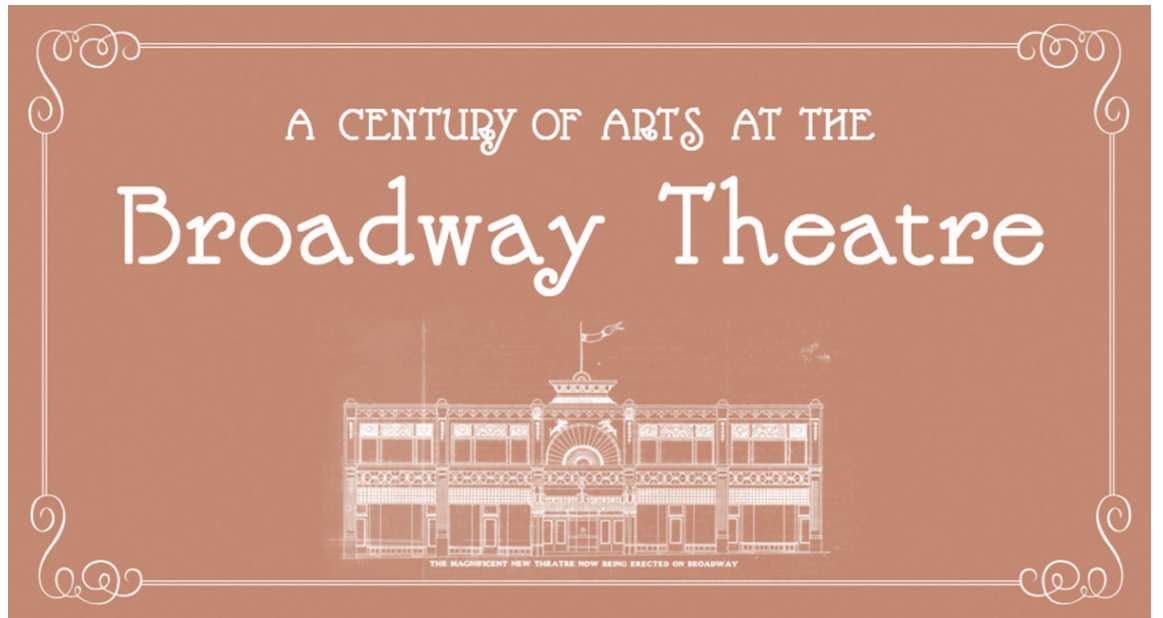
Wednesday, November 11							
9:00am:	SHS Boys Soccer v Medford	8:00pm:	SHS Volleyball v Waltham	12:00pm:	SHS Football v Everett	12:00pm:	Navigating Addiction: A Community Forum
11:00am:	MIAA Playoff: SHS Boys Soccer v Everett	10:00pm:	SHS Volleyball v Methuen	2:00pm:	SHS Girls Soccer v Lawrence	3:00pm:	SHS Scholarship Foundation Gala
1:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City - Building Literacy	Friday, November 13		4:00pm:	MIAA Playoff: SHS Boys Soccer v Everett	4:00pm:	SHS Volleyball v Waltham
2:00pm:	SHS Scholarship Foundation Gala	12:00am:	Our Schools, Our City	6:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City	6:00pm:	SHS Football v Boston Latin
3:00pm:	Navigating Addiction: A Community Forum	1:00am:	SHS Football v Belmont	7:00pm:	SHS Football v Boston Latin	8:30pm:	SHS Football v Belmont
6:00pm:	SHS Boys Soccer v Medford	3:00am:	Public Domain Theater - November	10:00pm:	SHS Volleyball v Methuen	11:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City
8:00pm:	MIAA Playoff: SHS Boys Soccer v Everett	9:00am:	SHS Girls Soccer v Matignon	Sunday, November 15		Tuesday, November 17	
10:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City - Building Literacy	11:00am:	SHS Boys Soccer v Medford	12:00am:	SHS Football v Boston Latin	12:00am:	MIAA Playoff: SHS Boys Soccer v Everett
11:00pm:	SHS Scholarship Foundation Gala	1:00pm:	SHS Football v Belmont	2:00am:	Public Domain Theater - November	2:00am:	Navigating Addiction: A Community Forum
Thursday, November 12		3:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City	9:00am:	Our Schools, Our City	4:30am:	Public Domain Theater - November
12:00am:	Navigating Addiction: A Community Forum	4:00pm:	SHS Scholarship Foundation Gala	10:00am:	SHS Girls Soccer v Lawrence	9:00am:	SHS Volleyball v Waltham
2:30am:	SHS Girls Soccer v Stoneham	5:00pm:	SHS Volleyball v Waltham	11:30am:	Navigating Addiction: A Community Forum	11:00am:	SHS Football v Boston Latin
9:00am:	Connecting Communities - Fire Safety	7:00pm:	SHS Girls Soccer v Matignon	2:00pm:	SHS Boys Soccer v Dracut	2:00pm:	SHS Volleyball v Methuen
10:00am:	SHS Girls Soccer v Malden - 10/19	9:00pm:	SHS Boys Soccer v Medford	4:00pm:	SHS Girls Soccer v Lawrence	3:30pm:	Brown School Student of the Qtr Awards
11:30am:	SHS Volleyball v Waltham	11:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City	6:00pm:	SHS Football v Belmont	4:00pm:	SHS Volleyball v Waltham
1:30pm:	SHS Volleyball v Methuen	Saturday, November 14		8:00pm:	SHS Football v Boston Latin	6:00pm:	SHS Football v Boston Latin
3:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City	12:00am:	SHS Football v Boston Latin	11:00pm:	Our Schools, Our City	8:30pm:	Brown School Student of the Qtr Awards
4:00pm:	SHS Football v Belmont	2:30am:	Public Domain Theater - November	12:00am:	SHS Football v Boston Latin	9:00pm:	SHS Volleyball v Methuen
6:00pm:	Connecting Communities - Fire Safety	4:30am:	Chris Herren Speaks to SHS	2:30am:	Public Domain Theater - November	12:00am:	SHS Football v Boston Latin
6:30pm:	SHS Girls Soccer v Malden - 10/19	9:00am:	SHS Girls Soccer v Medford	9:00am:	MIAA Playoff: SHS Boys Soccer v Everett	2:30am:	Public Domain Theater - November
		10:30am:	SHS Boys Soccer v Dracut	11:00am:	Our Schools, Our City		



OFF THE SHELF
by Doug Holder

The Lost Theatres of Somerville

Lyrical
SOMERVILLE
edited by Doug Holder



Michael Todd Steffen's poems and articles have appeared in *Connecticut Review*, *Poem (HLA)*, *ACM (Another Chicago Magazine)*, *Ibbetson Street*, *Wilderness House Literary Review*, *Muddy River Poetry Review*, and in the window of the Grolier Poetry Bookshop. His is the co-director of the Hastings Room Poetry Reading Series in Cambridge, Mass.

Leaving Usher Street

Snugly into cardboard tubes the prints
Were stowed to lie safe in the moving van.
The picture frames left by the wall held nothing—
Their mystery. Without the evidence...

A motley acrobat had posed in one.
Others I remembered vaguely filled—
Vine on a trellis, old west trail, an island...
Imagined they had been. Now they had gone

Like granddad's speech and recollection thanks
To the stroke that put him in the hospital
Where mom and her sisters, "daddy's portraits," sat
Drawing from their creator searching blanks.

The frames in oak or varnished pine at last
Were packed off with the rest of our belongings
For the new house. While this one's walls widened—
Of our tomorrows emptied, of its past.

— Michael Todd Steffen

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

Amidst grading seemingly hundreds of college writing papers; I found the time to interview Somerville artist Angela Cunningham. Cunningham is a resident of Winter Hill, a full-time studio artist working out of the Mudflat Studio in East Somerville, as well as President of the Board of Mudflat Studio. Last month she co-curated the *Lost Theatres of Somerville* exhibit at the Studio along with Tracy Redmond. The *Lost Theatres* exhibit was courtesy of David Guss and The Somerville Museum, who own the intellectual and theatrical rights.

Doug Holder: What is the Mudflat Studio?

Angela Cunningham: Mudflat Studio is a non-profit ceramic arts school and artist studio in East Somerville. We serve the metropolitan Boston area with classes, workshops, and outreach programs for students of all ages. We also provide private studio spaces to 40 clay artists. www.mudflat.org

DH: Tell us about your event.

AC: *Lost Theatres of Somerville*, courtesy of David Guss and the Somerville Museum, was part of a larger series of events celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Broadway Theatre in East Somerville. The exhibit used photographs, movie posters, artifacts, and memorabilia to explore the glory days when as many as 14 movie houses operated in neighborhoods throughout Somerville.

DH: Give us a brief history of Broadway Theatre.

AC: The Broadway Theatre first opened in November 1915. It was built by a man named Hurst, who financed the construction by selling shares for \$10, which entitled shareholders to free weekly admission for a year as well as to a share in the profits. Unfortunately, Hurst's Broadway Theatre went into bankruptcy just months after opening. Under new ownership, Hoffman's Broadway Theatre operated until 1929, when it was again sold to Arthur F. Viano, who was joined in business by his sons, Arthur Jr and Robert. The Viano family also came to own the Somerville Theatre and Teele Square Theatre, as well as the Regent and Capitol in neighboring Arlington. They were truly the "first

family" of Somerville's movie theatre scene.

Broadway Theatre remained open until 1982. For decades after the theatre closed, the building was used as a warehouse, and later sat vacant except for a small, storefront dentist office until purchased by Mudflat Studio. Mudflat began renovations in 2010, creating artists studios, classrooms, offices, and a community meeting room. In 2011, Mudflat moved into the building, once again bringing life, community, and the arts back to the Broadway Theatre.

Mudflat's renovation of the building carefully and thoughtfully preserved as many details as possible from the former theatre, including grand wood and plaster molding that panels the walls, areas of tin ceiling, and a grand proscenium arch framing the back wall where the movie screen once hung. Mudflat also renovated the exterior of the building to highlight the original theatre's detailed decorative elements, and added a balcony and arched window that recall the original stained glass window that once emblazoned the front facade.

DH: How did the germ of the idea for the *Lost Theatres of Somerville* come about?

AC: The exhibit reflected the passion of Tufts University anthropology professor Dr. David Guss, who became intrigued by a 1945 photograph of the old Broadway Theatre and who set off to learn about the storied past of Somerville's movie houses. In the course of his research, Dr. Guss was invited by the Somerville Museum to curate an exhibition; the "Lost Theatres" project was the culmination. The exhibit had been on view one other time in 2003-4 at the Somerville Museum. Here is a link to David Guss' award winning essay on the *Lost Theatres of Somerville* in the *Journal of the Theatre Historical Society of America*: http://www.losttheatres.org/Lost_Theatres_Marquee2006.pdf

This past summer, Mudflat approached David Guss and the Somerville Museum about the potential of hosting the *Lost Theatres* exhibit as part of our Centennial Celebration. Mudflat's exhibition of "Lost Theatres" focused especially on the history of our own Broadway Theatre building.

Ms. Cam's

From on page 14

Olio

Answers

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. Alice in Wonderland | 8. Tunisia |
| 2. F. Scott Fitzgerald | 9. 1960s |
| 3. ZZ Top | 10. One dollar |
| 4. A grizzly bear | 11. 3 months |
| 5. The Daily Bugle | 12. They are made of fresh water, therefore they are less dense and lighter than sea water |
| 6. Alien | |
| 7. Leo | |

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