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The future of dogs unleashed

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MBTA gets set to lay tracks GLX construction starts this month



Residents can expect traffic disruptions as the rail bridge over Medford Street is rebuilt to add tracks for the coming Green Line Extension.

By Elizabeth Sheeran

After years of discussion and planning, the Green Line Extension is finally moving from the conference room to the job site. Contractor Barletta Heavy Division will start work this month on the first phase of the long-awaited project, which will extend the MBTA light rail through Somerville to Medford, adding six new Green Line stations.

An important first step in the \$1.3 billion mass transit project, Phase One takes care of two bridges and a building that stand in the way of plans to lay Green Line tracks alongside the existing commuter rail lines to Fitchburg and Lowell.

The MBTA's commuter rail right-of-way is wide enough to fit the extra tracks in all but two places, where the railway crosses the road on elevated bridges. Barletta will rebuild and widen the rail bridges over Medford Street in Somerville, near the Somerville Avenue Target store, and over Harvard Street in Medford, near Saint Clement School. Phase One also includes demolishing a building on the site of the new Lechmere

Continued on page 7

Trash to treasure

By Harry Kane

Consuelo Perez, 49, is a Somerville artist who lives in Davis Square. She immigrated to the area in 1987 and has been part of the art community ever since. Perez refers to herself as, "the trouble-maker of the whole city." But really, she's just a friendly Peruvian artist who makes trash into treasure.

Back in Peru, as a young girl, Perez was taught by her mother to knit and sew. They made clothing, sock puppets and toys. They didn't have much money, so Perez had to learn how to be resourceful. It was a colorful time in Perez's life, listening to her grandfather's exaggerated stories of fighting with an octopus and serving in the navy.

No doubt, her unusual upbringing had etched a framework for her future artwork.

Now, many years later, Perez is married and has two daughters. And her house is very colorful, filled with love and spirit. The living room of Perez's house has art projects from wall to wall. They are all made from trash she found in other neighbors' receptacles.

"I'm not embarrassed

Continued on page 3



Art - and trash - is strictly in the eye of the beholder, as proven by the highly creative work of Somerville artist Consuelo Perez.

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NEWTALK

Tonight: Business Town Meeting VIII with Mayor Joe Curtatone, City of Somerville's business and economic agenda "Questions & Answers Session" at Davis Square Theatre, 255 Elm Street (Next to Foundry on Elm). Opens at 5:00 p.m. Business Town Meeting starts 5:30 p.m. After hour's reception at Saloon, 7 p.m. Free appetizers. Contact Somerville Chamber of Commerce, 2 Alpine St, 617-776-4100 or smackey@somervillechamber.org, www.somervillechamber.org.

This Thursday, the 21st, The 11th Annual Brian Higgins Foundation Trivia Night will be held at Tufts University's Cousens Gym. Starting time is 6 p.m. If you would like to take part in this worthy cause in memory of Brian Higgins, contact www.thebrianhigginsfoundation.org or follow them on facebook.com/thebrianhigginsfoundation.

Rumor persists that longtime Ward 3 Alderman, Tom Taylor isn't going to run for re-election this year so that will make it wide open in the ward for the seat. Several names are popping up all over the ward. We hear Bob McWaters, the popular political pundit here in the Ville, mentioned. Never mind the fact that he would be an early favorite who might consider running. With his experience, he would run for all the right reasons. not like some others. We also hear that Matt Capobianco, whom some have said is a Republican, might run and the name that keeps coming up again and again in Ward 3 is former Mayor Dorothy Kelly Gay, who is getting a lot of calls, we hear. We even heard someone would be willing to donate a campaign headquarters for her. We hear that there might be more names mentioned in weeks to come.

In Ward 5, Mark "the Shark" (his Tufts College days nickname) Niedergang is out there campaigning and spreading nasty rumors, we hear, about the incumbent, *Continued on page 8*

TheSomervilleNews.com Comments of the Week

Response to *Sláinte Somerville!*

Rosalie says:

I'm glad this race was so much fun for the runners and the bars who made money on it, but for anyone who lives in the triangle from Cedar St. to Teele Square, Highland Ave. to Broadway, you were unable to leave that triangle for at least 3 hours on Sunday. That left people stranded, unable to get to work, unable to get to the grocery store, unable to visit a sick relative, unable to get to church, etc., etc., so that a bar could have a road race. These races are becoming far too frequent and far to disruptive. Why is the bike path not utilized rather than 2 major thoroughfares? Who is paying for the police overtime? How much do the organizers pay to the city for the privilege of usurping so much of the city for 3 hours? And why, in a city the size of Somerville, do they allow a race with 5,000 registered runners?

Courtney O'Keefe says:

I would like to see the City reconsider the locations of the SomerStreets events to streets situated near parks, along the Community Path or other open space around Somerville-rather than closing down major thoroughfares. Franey Road by Trum Field is a better location for a SomerStreets event than Highland Avenue, as an example.

mememe says:

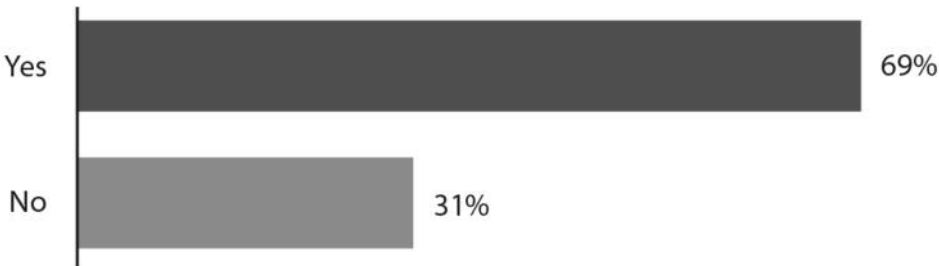
Seems like ridiculously obvious answer, but considering our dear leader... City claiming it needs more revenue, including to fix up/ expand streets. To many people putting claims on street time? Offer bidding to run races each year. Say we only want 5 races a year, bid on the right to manage it. 5 highest bidders get the weekend they want, picked in the order from most to least.

Log onto TheSomervilleNews.com to leave your own comments

TheSomervilleNews.com poll of the week

In addition to breaking news, sports and opinion, TheSomervilleNews.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 whether or not you think the street closures due to road races in Somerville are becoming too frequent and too much of an inconvenience for you to travel through the city on weekend mornings. If you don't agree with the results, simply log onto TheSomervilleNews.com.

Are the street closures due to road races in Somerville becoming too frequent and too much of an inconvenience for you to travel through the city on weekend mornings?



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Greater access initiative for off-leash dogs

By Harry Kane

An increase in recreational areas for off-leash dogs is under consideration after a recent Board of Alderman meeting on March 14. Dogs may soon be allowed more access to run free during designated times in specified open spaces.

At-Large Alderman Dennis Sullivan submitted the resolution for a program to grant dog owners and dogs more availability for off-leash play and exercise time. "The concern was that we have great dog parks here in Somerville," Sullivan said. "But, they're not accessible easily, except by car."

There are currently three off-leash recreational areas in Somerville, but some residents say, not enough. Expanding access to existing parks would make life easier for dog owners.

"If you live in West Somerville, you're driving your car to Ward 3 or Ward 1 to enjoy the dog park," Sullivan said, referring to commuting time.

Another issue under discussion includes the overuse of dog parks by dog-walking businesses.

Sullivan often takes his dog to Zero New Washington Park. This 0.75 acre dog-playground is located at the corner of Inner belt Road, close to the Holiday Inn.

"You'll see a van pull up and they'll be a nondescript dog

walking service, and out will come ten dogs with the dog walker. We're augmenting that person's business and we're not getting anything for it," said Sullivan.

People from Malden, Charlestown and Melrose, among other communities, are also coming to use Somerville dog parks.

Melrose resident Sheila Barry brings her 11-month-old beagle, Mia, to Zero New Washington Park because the park in Malden is not as play friendly. "This is the only park I know," Barry said, while watching Mia play with the other dogs.

The off-leash dog initiative could seek to duplicate what the city of Brookline has done, which is named The Green Dog program. In Brookline there is an annual fee of \$50 for residents and a \$100 for non-residents.

Brian Davis, President of Som Dog, a non-profit organization advocating for canine rights said, "I would be shocked and surprised if the city of Somerville ever taxed a resident. I doubt that could happen."

Davis thinks local business dog-walkers may have to pay-up for the use of the park, and that would help cover the cost for another dog officer.

"We're pumped, because this would essentially mean that dogs would get to run in specific parks on green grass, and that would

be exciting for us," Davis said.

Ward 2 Alderman Mayann Heuston is in support of the new program but has some reservations.

"I know that there are several parks in my Ward that people are very concerned about off-leash dogs," she said.

Lincoln Park residents are especially concerned about off-leash dogs, according to Heuston. In the past, leash laws have been violated along the bike path.

"They've had some issues over the years," Heuston said. "I think we have to take it on a park-by-park basis."

Ward 5 resident Courtney O'Keefe likes the idea of the new off-leash dog program. She said it would encourage dog owners to use these designated parks at specified times, rather than try and sneak-in with off-leashed dogs on the community path.

"To have something like this...I think would alleviate unleashed dogs in other areas where they're not allowed to be unleashed. It's giving residents an option, and your giving dogs an option to run freely," O'Keefe said.

O'Keefe believes that animal control officers and Somerville Police Department have made significant progress in deterring dog owners from letting their dogs run wild along the bike path. "Even though it's

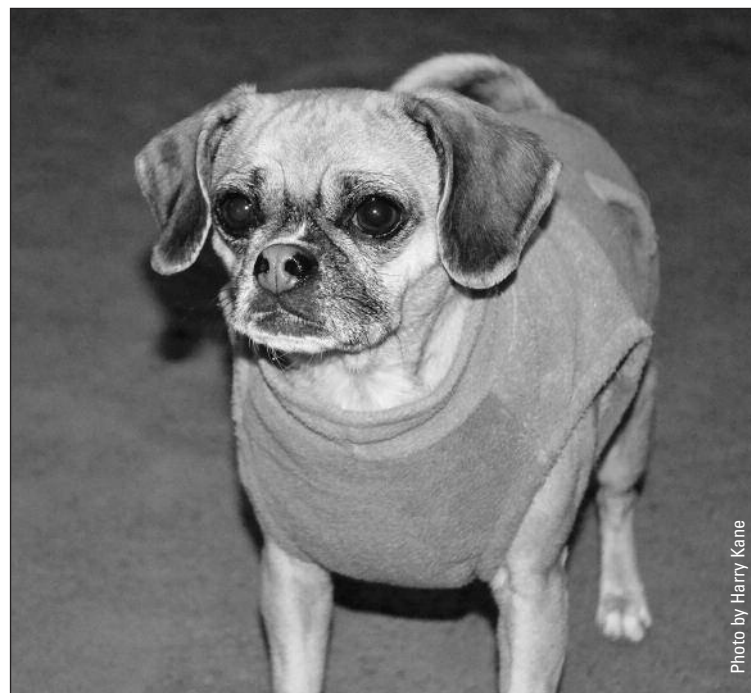


Photo by Harry Kane

Our four-legged friends are looking for more places to play freely in Somerville, and they just may be getting them soon.

still a problem," she said, "it's nothing to the extent of what it used to be."

O'Keefe just hopes that if there is an annual fee for joining the off-leash dog program, that it would cost less than the Brookline program. She's hopeful there will be a compromise.

"It's really about having a good harmony and a good balance between people who do own dogs and people who don't own dogs," she said.

Al Weisz is a Somerville resident who uses Zero New Washington Park many times a week. He has a black Labrador named Stella. "I think more off-leashed hours would be beneficial to the dogs and the city," said Weisz.

"The parks would get used. It's a great idea."

At-Large Alderman Bruce Desmond weighed-in with his opinion. "With this type of service or opening parks up, comes a lot of problems. People from the outside, people not following the rules, so there's a lot of policing that goes on with this for it to go correctly," he said.

The item has been referred to the Committee on Housing and Community Development, chaired by Ward 4 Alderman Tony Lafuente.

The Somerville Police Department, the Animal Control Department and the Som Dog organization all will be part of the community conversation.

Trash to treasure

CONT. FROM PG 1

anymore," Perez says. She's been sorting through trash for too long to care anymore.

Sometimes Perez even employs the help of a homeless woman. "She comes by the neighborhood and usually when I see her I ask her to collect bottles." In return Perez gives her a few dollars or buys her lunch. The woman gladly goes through

other people's trash in search of the hidden gems Perez needs for her artwork.

Perez has been making art from recycled bottles and cans for many years – from abstract pieces to jewelry and everything in-between.

"It's all in the blood – esta en la sangre," she says. Many of her family members back in Peru are

artists as well.

There's no lack of creativity in her art studio. A giant green lizard made of recycled bottles and scraps of trash, all colorfully painted, and adorned with Christmas-style lights, chills out on her wooden cabinet.

In the windowsill sits a pig made recycled juice bottles. On the wall, a collage is made of Cheeto bags.

Her inspiration comes from the shapes of the bottles and her imagination.

Her latest project started while she was on her way home. One day Perez was driving through Union Square and she saw a bottle underneath a car. She stopped her car, got out, and picked up the bottle. That's when she got the inspiration for a new creature. The shape of the bottle reminded her of a turkey's leg. Later she found that her neighbor had a Korean syrup bottle that worked perfectly for the head of the turkey. And, she'd already been collecting fur that will be used as the feathers.

Piece by piece she's putting the creature together.

Another project idea came from finding small green water bottles, which made her think about The Incredible Hulk and Frankenstein. "That was the beginning of how I came up with it. Little by little I started looking for the pieces." She calls it, "Incredible Juice Man." His feet are

made of Listerine bottles, his arms are orange juice bottles and his legs are 2 liter Ginger Ale bottles.

From a bottle-capped sheep to skeleton's feet made of Aunt Jemima syrup bottles, Perez does it all, turning trash into treasure.

Contact Consuelo Perez at (617) 669-8598 or email: Co-peal2002@Yahoo.com.





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THE WEEK IN CRIME

By Jim Clark

Don't go away mad...

Police were dispatched to the intersection of Willow Ave. and Broadway late last Friday night on reports that several individuals were engaged in a street brawl. Upon arrival, the officers found three men struggling to hold one other man down on the ground, according to reports.

Inquiries by police officers revealed that the men attempting to restrain the individual on the ground were the owner of the Powderhouse Pub and two of his employees. The bar personnel were reportedly trying to hold the man until police arrived. It was alleged that the man

being held, Cord Deal, 21, of Medford, had smashed the plate glass window of the pub after being asked to leave the establishment. Security personnel at the club reportedly told police that Deal had become belligerent in the bar and was asked to leave. Deal reported-

ly attempted to reenter the bar but was refused entry. Witnesses told police that they observed Deal outside of the bar throwing a trash can to the ground. Deal then reportedly hurled a rock through the club's plate glass window, according to witness testimony.

Upon questioning, Deal reportedly admitted that he was asked to leave the club and that he tried to go back in and was turned away, but he said that he did not remember breaking the window. Deal was placed under arrest and charged with destruction of property over \$250.

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SOMERVILLE POLICE CRIME LOG

Arrests:

Walter Bennett, 55, of 349 Broadway, Chelsea, March 11, 1:42 p.m., arrested at 75 Mystic Ave. on charges of larceny over \$250 and assault and battery, and on warrant charges of failure to signal, failure to stop or yield, conspiracy to violate drug law, drug possession, and operation of a motor vehicle with suspended registration.

Henry Enrique, 19, of 30 Minnesota Ave., March 11, 2:16 p.m., arrested at 272 Broadway on a charge of violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon.

Daniel McLean, 55, of 268 Washington St., March 12, 1:48 p.m., arrested at Knowlton St. on a warrant charge of abuse prevention order violation.

Noel Pefine, 44, of 14 Newburne Ave., Medford, March 12, 3:53 p.m., arrested at Holland St. on warrant charges of abuse prevention order violation, number plate violation, and operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Bryan Exume, 21, of 290 Arlington Rd., Woburn, March 13, 2:13 p.m., arrested at Pearl St. on a warrant charge of drug possession.

Thiago Nunes, 27, of 422 Mystic Ave., March 13, 6:18 p.m., arrested at 121 Temple St. on a warrant charge of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Gregory Mayala, 25, of 812 Memorial Dr., Cambridge, March 14, 12:42 p.m., arrested at 73 Bartlett St. on charges of carrying a dangerous weapon and violation of city ordinance

possession of a dangerous weapon.

James Pasteur, 24, of 8 Magnolia St., Malden, March 14, 1:37 p.m., arrested at 124 Broadway on charges of drug possession to distribute and drug violation near a school or park.

Kevin Merzier, 28, of 9 Bartlett St., March 14, 5:18 p.m., arrested at 16 Cross St. on charges of drug possession to distribute and drug violation near a school or park, resisting arrest, and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

Cord Deal, 21, of 4 Hillside, Medford, March 15, 12:09 a.m., arrested at 682 Broadway on a charge of destruction of property over \$250.

Jaime Rivera-Tejada, 41, of 734 Cambridge St., Cambridge, March 15, 12:36 a.m., arrested at 181 Somerville Ave. on charges of unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, marked lanes violation, and lights violation.

Christopher Sanecchiaro, 42, of 371 Broadway, March 15, 8:59 a.m., arrested at 103 Bailey Rd. on warrant charges of inspection sticker violation, operation of a motor vehicle with a suspended license, and speeding.

Frank Sepulveda, 32, of 3 Howland St., Dorchester, March 15, 12:27 p.m., arrested at 77 Middlesex Ave. on warrant charges of larceny over \$250, crosswalk violation, drug possession, assault and battery on a police officer, unregistered motor vehicle, and forgery or misuse of a RMV document.

Brian Harron, 29, of 150

Tremont St., Malden, March 15, 3:39 p.m., arrested at 44 Professors Row on a charge of open and gross lewdness.

Fernando Silva, 32, of 141 Pearl St., March 15, 5:19 p.m., arrested at 15 Cross St. on a charge of possession of a class B drug, and on warrant charges of possession of an open alcohol container in a motor vehicle, failure to wear a seat belt, drug possession, unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, and miscellaneous equipment violation.

Stephen Woodman, 54, of 53 Preston Rd., March 16, 3:33 p.m., arrested at home on a charge of abuse prevention order violation.

Dashion Howard, 27, of 3 Youngs Terr., Everett, March 17, 5:47 a.m., arrested at 345 Medford St. on a charge of violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon.

Timothy Costello, 27, of 244 Pleasant St., Rockland, March 17, 5:47 a.m., arrested at 345 Medford St. on charges of possession of an open alcohol container in a motor vehicle and violation of city ordinance possession of a dangerous weapon.

Kenneth Hubbard, 24, of 1823 Dorchester Ave., Boston, March 17, 5:47 a.m., arrested at 345 Medford St. on charges of operation of a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor and marked lanes violation.

Said Janale, 27, of 1370 Broadway, March 17, 7:44 p.m., arrested at Broadway on charges of failure to stop or yield and speeding, and on warrant charges of unregistered motor vehicle, unlicensed oper-

ation of a motor vehicle, and number plate violation.

Incidents:

Theft:

March 12, 12:08 p.m., police reported a theft at Fitchburg St.

March 12, 2:40 p.m., police reported a theft at Liberty Ave.

March 12, 4:49 p.m., police reported a theft at 320 Broadway.

March 14, 1:04 p.m., police reported a theft at 180 Somerville Ave.

March 15, 12:01 a.m., police reported a theft at Willow Ave.

March 15, 9:59 a.m., police reported a theft at Fenwick St.

March 15, 10:59 a.m., police reported a theft at Carlton St.

March 15, 11:54 a.m., police reported a theft at Sewall St.

March 15, 7:08 p.m., police reported a theft at Highland Ave.

March 16, 1:00 a.m., police reported a theft at Cambridge St.

March 16, 9:13 a.m., police reported a theft at Hudson St.

March 17, 8:10 p.m., police reported a theft at 278 Highland Ave.

March 18, 12:55 p.m., police reported a theft at 180 Somerville Ave.

March 18, 7:36 p.m., police reported a theft at College Ave.

Breaking & Entering:

March 12, 6:48 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Somerville Ave.

March 12, 7:57 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Skehan St.

March 12, 9:28 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Mossland St.

March 12, 9:42 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at

West Adams St.

March 13, 9:36 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Gilson Terr.

March 13, 10:20 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Cedar St.

March 14, 8:15 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Highland Ave.

March 14, 9:57 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Webster Ave.

March 15, 11:54 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Oxford St.

March 16, 1:51 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Perkins St.

March 16, 5:37 a.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Austin St.

March 16, 10:17 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Lewis St.

March 17, 8:21 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Willoughby St.

March 18, 3:26 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Broadway.

March 18, 10:43 p.m., police reported a breaking & entering at Lowell St.

Assault:

March 13, 7:12 a.m., police reported an assault at Tennyson St.

Drug Violation:

March 14, 1:37 p.m., police reported a drug violation at Broadway.

March 14, 5:18 p.m., police reported a drug violation at Cross St.

March 15, 5:19 p.m., police reported a drug violation at Cross St.

The Guidance Center opens a new Somerville location

By Cathleen Twardzik

At the recent open house of The Guidance Center's newest location, 12 Tyler St. in Somerville, Mayor of Curtatone was present to cut the ribbon and to give a short speech.

The open house provided people a chance to visit the programs at the new location, which include early intervention, intensive family services and care coordination services (CSA). The center's services concentrate on intervention, prevention and family support.

The center is a service of Riverside Community Care, which provides children's mental health services in Somerville and Cambridge. "The Guidance Center provides an array of integrated programs that help children and their families cope with developmental, mental health, social and behavioral difficulties, as well as a range of disabilities," said Katie Welch, Director of Development and Marketing of Riverside Community Care and The Guidance Center.

The center's major goals focus on the fact that it was, "Designed to build on the strengths and resilience of families. Our programs create lasting change for the families we touch, [for] their neighbors and for the whole community. We support the goals of all parents, to see their children grow into young adults who have healthy relationships with family and friends, thrive in school and envision a hopeful future. We aim to be a 'one-stop-shop' for families, with a range of services under one roof, a trusted place where they can return if they need to," said Welch.

Additional services which are available include: child and family counseling, child witness to violence programs, a therapeutic



The Guidance Center's newest location in Somerville opens.

after school, expert care coordination, supervised visitation and intensive stabilization and reunification services.

"We aim to be a 'one-stop-shop' for families..."

The Guidance Center has four locations located in Somerville and Cambridge. They include: 12 Tyler St. in Somerville, 111 South St. in Somerville, the main office, 5 Sacramento St. in Cambridge and 810 Memorial Drive.

Children between the ages of pre-birth to 22 are served at the center.

"The Guidance Center's model is to serve children and families together, and within the context of a broader network of support: schools, pediatricians, mentors, religious communities," she said.

The center offers predominantly home-based services, which refers to work, done with children and their families at their home or in "other natural environments."

The Guidance Center was

founded in 1954 as an independent mental health center and has grown into the leading provider of innovative, family-centered programs for children and families in Cambridge and Somerville.

"The most unique part of The Guidance Center is our ability to combine excellent therapeutic and clinical care with concrete support like food and housing assistance. We know that basic needs must be met before a child or parent can focus on their therapeutic goals. The Guidance Center's many community donors, partners and friends allow us to provide this kind of enhanced support," said Welch.

"The Guidance Center's goal is to continue to provide the highest-quality, most innovative and effective services. The year 2014 will be our 60th year of service," she said.

On April 11, The Guidance Center will hold a fundraising event, the Celebrating Families Gala, which is essential to their organization. That will be the center's 10th annual gala, and the event's keynote speaker will be Victoria Kennedy.

Individuals who are interested in that event may contact Ashlie Williams at (617) 354-2275.

The Somerville News Historical Fact of the Week



Eagle feathers #22

The first Big Dig

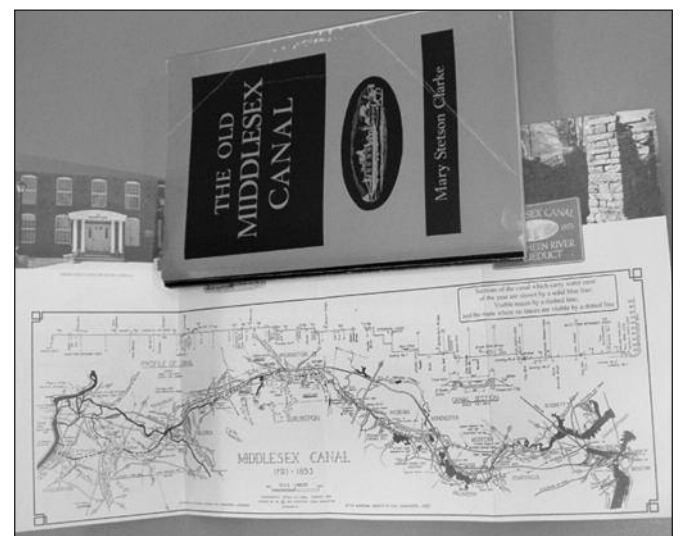
By Bob (Monty) Doherty

This year we saw a lot of snow fall in and around Boston. And as we all learned (as if we didn't already know), shoveling is hard work, even of it's just the light, fluffy stuff.

How would you like to shovel a ditch over 3½ feet deep, 33 feet wide and 24¼ miles long? My guess is, no matter how long it is, given the choice between the two, you'd pick your snow-filled driveway.

The historic truth is that the former option was actually achieved. It took ten years, but with shovels in hand, the Middlesex farmers dug the Middlesex Canal, which ran from Lowell to Charlestown. The Canal went through Somerville and eight other towns, finally ending in Boston.

In essence, the massive undertaking was Massachusetts's first "big dig." It was an engineering project of immense complexity for its time. It encompassed not only the digging of the canal itself, but also the construction of nearly 50 bridges, 20 locks and 8 aqueducts. The source of the water for the Middlesex Canal was the Concord River. For 50 years (1803 to 1853), the historic Concord River water, in the form of the Middlesex Canal, ran through the entire length of Somerville.



At the time, the canal was needed to help the City of Lowell and to export and import goods efficiently from Boston. Before the birth of the canal, the only way to move materials was via narrow and rut-ridden pathways traversed by wagon. With the canal, boats filled to the brim were towed by horses along walkways on each side of the canal.

It is difficult to articulate the ground breaking (pardon the pun) impact of the canal because we now live in a time filled with railroads, planes, highways and paved roads. For over 25 years, the canal was the main means of transportation between Lowell and Boston, until the train came into existence in approximately 1835. Ironically enough, the canal towed the very supplies that would be used to build the railroad that would eventually put the canal out of business.

Though the main purpose of the canal was commerce, its history is not without stories of notable personalities of the time who traveled it for pleasure. People would visit the canal both in the summer and winter, because once the canal froze, it became a marathon-length ice skating lane. The great Henry David Thoreau, author of the book *Walden* (1854), as well as *A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers* (1849), is one such person and the famed statesman of his time, Daniel Webster (namesake of Somerville's Webster Avenue) is another.

The canal was a pioneering enterprise that more than served its purpose for the time. Memorial markers sprinkle the length of what was once the thriving waterway that is mostly filled in today. In Somerville alone, four memorial markers mark the path of the canal. One can be found on the Medford/Somerville line on Boston Avenue at Alewife Brook Parkway. One is in front of St. Polycarp's Church. There is yet another at Foss Park, and the final marker lies by the East Somerville Library. Additionally, Somerville's Canal Lane and Middlesex Avenue are named after the canal, as is Boston's Canal Street.

So the next time you find yourself sitting in traffic and looking over in awe at the Big Dig, know that the first "big dig" was no less remarkable and just happened to run through your home town.

UPCOMING AUTHOR EVENTS At The Book Shop

Saturday, March 23, 4 p.m.: Local authors read *Movable Feasts* is the first in a series of themed anthologies, and it is delicious. Writers scheduled to appear: **Dave Brigham, Beth Chariton, Elizabeth Christopher, and Jim Corrigan.**

Tuesday, March 26, 7 p.m.: Award winning Boston Globe journalists **Kevin Cullen & Shelley Murphy** discuss their new book **WHITEY BULGER: America's Most Wanted Gangster and the Manhunt That Brought Him to Justice.**

Thursday, April 11, 7 p.m.: **Dick Lehr** discusses his new book **Whitey: The Life of America's Most Notorious Mob Boss**

Saturday, April 13, 1 p.m.: **Erin Thorne** reads from her latest book **Behind The Wheel: And Other Stories**

Wednesday, April 24, 7 p.m.: International Bestselling Author **Michael Palmer** talks about his writings. **Michael Palmer** is the author of eighteen novels of medical and political suspense, all international bestsellers. His 18th medical and political thriller, **POLITICAL SUICIDE**, is now available.

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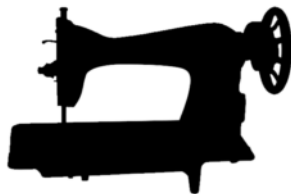
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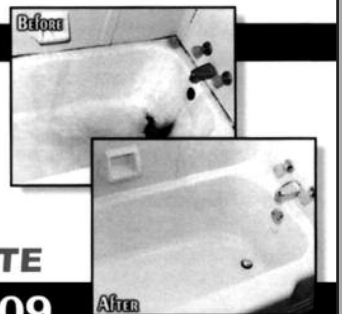
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Doyle and Casey: Bringing the green to Somerville

By Rose Scherlis

On March 6, Irish folk rock came to Somerville, courtesy of Somerville Theatre in Davis Square. John Doyle and Karan Casey performed for the packed theatre, with John Doyle on acoustic guitar and vocals, and Karan Casey singing. Other instruments were incorporated into the act.

After performing the final song of their set, a cover of Nightengale, John Doyle and Karan Casey went on to perform an encore of three more songs, ending with False Lady. The musicians received a standing ovation at the end of their concert.

A Berkeley professor who recently moved to Somerville called John Doyle and Karan Casey's performance "a beautiful mixture of traditional and origi-

nal tunes." "I love Davis Square," He said. "There are amazing concerts so close to home."

David McCloughlan, a writer, director, and producer, said of John Doyle and Karan Casey, "They transcend the genre, like Ella Fitzgerald or Joe Pass." McCloughlan is best known for writing the film Southie.

"They have a great sense of humor," David Leveille, a fan of Celtic music, said. "The performance was, in one word, amazing."

John Doyle was born in Ireland. He started playing guitar when he was 11 years old, and became a professional musician at 16 years of age. The first bands he performed in were Chanting House, and Killera, both of which performed in Ireland.

"Irish people have gone to

every corner of the globe, you can go to China and meet someone Irish there. It is amazing that the Irish nation has extended out so far for such a little country," John Doyle said. Doyle and Casey have toured Japan, as well as Canada, and many European and South American countries.

Doyle has performed in Boston previously, including many performances in Somerville. His first performance in the Greater Boston area was at Johnny D's in Somerville. "Each place is so different, I enjoy the states because I am used to the people here, there's a good report and a good liveliness, and people know how to enjoy it," Doyle said.

John Doyle will be performing again in Somerville on Wednesday, May 1, at The Burren in Davis Square. Tickets are still available.



John Doyle and Karan Casey bring their unique brand of Irish folk stylings to contemporary audiences.

MBTA gets set to lay tracks CONT. FROM PG 1

Station in Cambridge.

Widening the Medford Street bridge will take most of 2013 and into early next year. Most of the time, the work can move along by closing only one lane of Medford Street at a time. But Barletta Project Manager Seta Kalaijian said the contractor will need to block the street completely for two to four weekends in late summer or early fall. She said the road closures won't be on back-to-back weekends, and they'll work around planned street festivals.

Rebuilding the Harvard Street bridge will take longer and have more of an impact on the neighborhood. It involves constructing over 800 feet of retaining wall, erecting noise barriers, and raising both the bridge and the road underneath it by over a foot. Barletta will also widen and re-route a drainage pipe from private backyards to nearby Winchester Street, to alleviate chronic flooding problems under the bridge during all but the worst storms.

The work is planned to last until late-2014 and will require

rolling lane closures on both Harvard and Winchester Streets. On at least a half-dozen weekends starting this September and continuing next spring, Barletta will have to completely close down a stretch of Harvard Street, which is a common pass-through route for traffic going from Interstate 93 to Powderhouse Circle and Davis Square.

Kalaijian said Barletta is working closely with the cities of Somerville, Medford and Cambridge to manage traffic disruptions, is directly in touch with resident abutters, and has an active plan to contain rodent problems. It will be posting two-week "look-ahead" work and road closure schedules online at www.greenlineextension.org. And residents can call the Emergency Construction Hotline any time at 1-855-GLX-INFO.

Most residents who attended a March 14 public meeting in Somerville saw little of concern in the plans for Phase One. "The only thing that's going to happen is that there's going to be a lot of traffic and people

aren't going to be happy about that. But we have that now," said Ellin Reisner of the Somerville Transportation Equity Partnership (STEP), a local transit advocacy group.

"It's as real as it's been"

Meeting attendees were just as interested in what's ahead with Phase Two of the Green Line Extension project, which includes extending the Green Line from Lechmere Station as far as a new station at Washington Street on the main line, and to Union Square on a spur line. Phase Two construction is set to begin in mid-2014 and run through 2016, so the first passengers should ride into Union Square sometime in mid-2017.

Phase Three entails building a new maintenance facility in the Inner Belt area, to house all the extra cars that will be needed to

service the extended line, and the final four stations will go online in Phase Four. MBTA planners said there's a lot that can happen over the next six years with such a complicated project, but right now they project a 50 percent probability that the entire line will be operational by sometime in 2019.

That's still a long way out. But for supporters who have been waiting years for more public

transit in Somerville, the Phase One start is a sign that it's finally becoming a reality.

"We had the first public meeting in Somerville the night the Red Sox won the World Series against Saint Louis and broke the curse," said Reisner, who noted that STEP is now over a decade old. "Now they've got a contractor and they're starting construction. It's as real as it's been."

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COMMENTARY

TALES OF SOMERVILLE

Illustrated by Jim Clark



Are there just too many races going on?

The View From Prospect Hill



It's not as though we have anything against athletics in general or big city-sponsored events in particular. These are, at their core, fine things for a community to participate in and support.

Is it necessary, however, for us to be underwriting and putting up with so many of them with such frequency?

Many residents are getting the feeling that an inordinate number of these foot races are taking place, blocking public thoroughfares for hours on end, and

generally creating a lot of inconvenience for those who would rather not be bothered by them.

Perhaps it is time for serious discussion regarding setting some limits on the number of such events that should take place over a given period of time. That and taking into consideration limiting of the number of participants to be allowed in any one race. Fewer numbers of runners would shorten the duration of these events, thus alleviating

some of the problems faced by residents who feel inconvenienced by having their streets blocked off and filled with hoards of sweaty runners, as well as the onlookers who invariably gather and monopolize the sidewalks and open spaces of their neighborhoods.

It has also been suggested that alternate routes could be established that would avoid blocking off residential and commercial districts so severely. Perhaps a combination of using the

Community Path and some other well-chosen, less used back roads might be useful in helping to ease the pain of those who have had enough 5K fever for their liking.

These events can be fun and often contribute financially to worthy charitable causes. Nobody really wants them to go away, but couldn't they possibly go a little less often and with better consideration for the comfort and well being of all Somerville residents?

News Talk CONT. FROM PG 2

Sean O'Donovan. We hope that's not true. We were hoping it would be a campaign on issues, not name calling like some of the leftists here in the city have resorted to. We know that Sean has made it clear he's going to run a clean campaign here in the city and letting the voters of Ward 5 know he's done a great job, and to return him to the board of Alderman. By the way, is it us or does he list that his employment is the School Committee? We heard he's one of those "trust fund" babies. You know, that NYC lower Manhattan crowd. It's just speculation, but that rumor has been out there a while. In the old days we would call them "Limousine Liberals!"

Over in Ward 4, the incumbent Alderman Tony LaFuente is busy trying to get Winter Hill on the drawing board for the city, making it a destination and place to be in the near future. He's been working hard, meeting the residents and having local neighborhood meetings. So far, we hear of no one that wants to take him on, and since some of us Newstalkers live in Ward 4 we know

he's doing a good job.

Word has it that at a recent event here in the city at Holiday Inn, that some made remarks about Representative Carl Sciortino and his demeanor and announcements that he wants to run for a seat not even emptied yet by Congressman Markey. We hear that some politicians over in Medford, which Carl also represents as part of his district, are not happy with him. We heard from a source that maybe Carl had better watch out. We heard of a concerted effort going on to get a well-known politician to run for Carl's seat. It seems that Carl says he's not in other races but keeps speaking with forked tongue!

Speaking about political moves, those that watched the South Boston St. Patrick's Day Breakfast on television this past Sunday might have noticed our own Mayor Joe Curtatone was in the crowd. Word is that he just might be ready to announce his run for Governor any time now. We will keep you

up to speed as soon as we hear more.

Somerville Pop Warner needs your help. They just got a new batch of these really cool black "Villens" tee shirts in with white lettering. The tee shirts are only \$10 each. Every little bit helps. They need all the help we can give them. Proceeds sponsor uniforms, fields, refs, and traveling, or even if a family can't afford to pay in full. As long as Somerville Pop Warner has kids playing football, that's all that matters to them. With your support it goes a long way. Email Billy Tauro at Wmtauro@aol.com or in-box him on Facebook and he will get it to you, even if he has to deliver it personally. So please, all you Villens out there, please help support Somerville Pop Warner and purchase one! It's to a good cause. It's for the kids!

Coming up on Saturday, April 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Masonic Open House at 125 Highland Avenue (rear-go up the driveway to rear building). The Officers of the Lodge will be there to wel-

come you and give you a brief tour and answer any questions you might have. The entire public is invited.

Also coming up, a huge congratulations to the Officers and members of Fraternal Chapter number 136 Order of Eastern Star, who will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary this coming May. On May 3rd 1913 they were constituted here in Somerville and have been thriving ever since. The Order of Eastern Star is the world's oldest men's and women's fraternity. The chapter is the last one to remain here in the city. If you would like more information about membership contact Mike Podymaitis at mpodymai@aol.com. The members are planning a 100th anniversary dinner coming up shortly more news on that to come.

Alderman Bastardi has scheduled a second neighborhood meeting to hear your concerns and opinions regarding the new development at 90 Washington Street. When: *Continued on page 17*

COMMENTARY

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

Getting happier by the minute



By Joseph A. Curtatone

Last year, Somerville became the first city in the United States to measure residents' happiness as a way to more fully understand how municipal government can better serve our constituents, and create policies that reflect resident satisfaction with those policies.

Following in the footsteps of countries like Bhutan and France, we partnered with Har-

vard University Psychology Professor, Daniel Gilbert, to issue our first-ever Happiness Survey, designed to help us collect data to shape those policy discussions, aligning residents' needs and city services to our overarching goal of making Somerville a great place to live, work, play and raise a family.

I have always suspected that residents of Somerville are happier than the average citizen. Somervillians are proud of their city, they are engaged and connected, and it is reflected in the number of times people tell me how happy they are to live in a hip, vibrant community. Everything we do in Somerville is aligned around that one orienting value, and it's working. If you

were to develop a momentum index for communities in Massachusetts, taking into account all the improvements we've made, all of the improvements to come, the activity in our city squares, the gains made by our school system, our increasing green and recreational space, Somerville would be off the charts in first place. There's nothing like us right now.

In the last several years, we have been lauded by a variety of reputable new sources and national agencies as one of the best place to live and, based on the results of the original Happiness Survey, it has a lot to do with the fact that, on average, residents are extremely happy with their city and the direction

we're headed.

We know that our inclusive approach to government is working. What we want to understand is how our policies affect subjective happiness, whether programs like our increasing our tree canopy or Zero Sort Recycling have any bearing on why individuals and family choose to move to, and remain in our city. But how can you even measure something like happiness, a lot of people ask, and why does City Hall want to know? What does it matter that Somerville residents ranked themselves 7.7 out of 10 on our "Happiness Scale?"

It matters because governments can learn a lot about the relationship between policy

and wellbeing simply by asking. As Professor Gilbert put it, "Social policies are always meant to promote things that promote happiness, so how could it be a bad idea to measure directly the very thing you are trying to maximize?"

When we initiate a new program, or build a park, we hope that it will ultimately make people happier, creating a ripple effect in the community in terms of resident happiness, home values, and the overall structure of our community. I have argued that you cannot govern a city by only paying attention to its bond rating, or what is contained in the four corners of its budget document. Metrics like borrowing capacity *Continued on page 11*

Early Somerville Living Built Character

If the door closes, look for a window



By Paul Maisano

The sweltering hot summer nights were growing less frequent. That huge elm tree across the street with its small oval shaped green leaves will soon shed its umbrella. The late night cheering crowds shall grow silent as the softball season ends, and

the lights shall go dark at Glen Park. Autumn is upon the doorstep of our East Somerville neighborhood.

That famous junkyard bicycle will soon be put away for the winter. It was great to ride around the neighborhood this summer. I'll never forget the Irish man's laugh when I showed him what it finally looked like completed in late July.

The school year starts in a few days. I am entering my second year at the Saint Benedict school. My mother has surprised me with a new pair of pants, a new shirt, and a nice pair of

"hand me down" shoes that my cousin Michael hardly wore.

Our classes are taught by the sisters of St. Joseph. They are called nuns. When they stand together they remind me of a bunch of penguins. I often see them whispering to each other. I can never make out what they are saying, all dressed up in their long black robes. They have these pure white heavily starched bibs on the front of their uniforms. It looks like a piece of hard cardboard.

I often wondered if they have hair on their heads. You can't see any with that boxy cap they

wear. I think they shaved their heads. Those hats seemed to fit like a glove.

The boss priest of the St. Benedict's parish is Father Hogan. He is very tough. He walks around nodding his head, and clasping his hands together when he gives his approval. I have never seen him angry.

When he walks someplace, he walks fast, like he is late, or after someone. Rumor has it that his friend, Cardinal Cushing, was going to give him a promotion soon to Monsignor. I'm sure he could use the raise.

Every year Father Hogan

comes up with a new way of raising money to support the school bills. As if the twenty-five cents we give every Monday isn't enough. I added it up times 35 kids in my class. That's serious cash!

This year they are giving us boxes of religious Christmas cards to sell. It is to help pay for the school oil bill. Sometimes the boiler room door is open. You can hear that thing rumbling like a freight train. I once heard Mr. Crowley say, "That monster drinks oil like water."

There is a special contest this year for the *Continued on page 21*

Life in the by Jimmy Del Ponte

Somerville—where the stars come out



We all know by now that President Obama once lived in Somerville. But there are lots of other famous people that have been in and

out of Somerville as well. I am taking everyone's word that the following events are true.

I recently asked my friends who was the most famous person they had ever seen visiting Somerville. I got a flood of very interesting responses.

The people mentioned that I was most impressed by were actually members of the same family, The Kennedys. One guy who lives on my street saw John F. Kennedy and his Brother Robert in

Davis Square. Ted visited Somerville High School and Davis Square also. Another friend saw Jackie O on Temple Street in 1960.

Hillary Clinton visited the Edgerly school years ago.

One of my favorite experiences was when Dick Enberg and Merlin Olsen spent a couple of hours at The Embassy Lounge on Somerville Ave. in the late 70' or early 80's. They were in town to broadcast a Pat's game and just popped in. A friend bought former Detroit Piston Bill Laimbeer a beer at the Surrey Room. Celtics legend Bill Russell was at a Somerville corner store years ago. Cambridge Rindge and Latin alum Patrick Ewing was seen frequently in the Ville. A

friend told me she crashed her car into his once. Former Red Sox pitcher Luis Tiant was hanging out at a house on Belmont St., and Mo Vaughn was at Lincoln Park Community School. Hulk Hogan actually dropped into my daughter's birthday party at the Holiday Inn in Somerville back around 1994.

Actor Chris Evans was at the Mount Vernon for his grandmother's' birthday party. He is Somerville coach Tom Hellen's cousin.

A select number of people got the privilege of seeing U2 at The Somerville Theatre back in 2009, but rock stars have always hung around Somerville. The J Geils Band played at Somerville High decades ago and Aerosmith had a

rehearsal space on Lowell St. for years. They also used the Somerville Police prison cell to for an album photo shoot. Other famous rockers who performed in the Ville were Bo Diddley, Peter Tork of The Monkees, The Guess Who, and The Grass Roots.

"Da Schnoz" himself, Jimmy Durante visited Somerville High once, and former fitness guru and actress Jane Fonda was seen at Brighams on Winter Hill in 1980. Remember Nan's Sub shop across from the High School? Actors Patty Duke and John Astin were former customers. Kevin Spacey performed his Bobby Darin act at The Somerville Theatre and a guy I work with saw Tom Cruise at a house party in the early 1980's. *Continued on page 21*

Beacon Hill Roll Call



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THE HOUSE AND SENATE. This week, *Beacon Hill Roll Call* records local representatives' votes on three roll calls from prior legislative sessions. There were no roll calls in the House or Senate last week.

Our Legislators in the House and Senate for Somerville:



Rep. Denise Provost

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



Rep. Carl Sciortino

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. 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. Sal DiDomenico

DISTRICT REPRESENTED: MIDDLESEX, SUFFOLK AND ESSEX. - Cambridge, ward 3, precinct 2, wards 6 and 7, ward 8, precincts 1 and 2, ward 9, precinct 1, ward 10, precinct 2, Everett and Somerville, ward 1, precinct 1, ward 2, precinct 1, in the county of Middle-

sex; Boston, ward 2, ward 21, precincts 4, 6 and 7, ward 22, precincts 1, 2 and 5, Chelsea and Revere, ward 6, in the county of Suffolk; and Saugus, precincts 2, 6 and 10, in the county of Essex.



Sen. Patricia Jehlen

DISTRICT REPRESENTED: SECOND MIDDLESEX. - Medford, Somerville, ward 1, precincts 2 and 3, ward 2, precincts 2 and 3, and wards 3 to 7, inclusive, Woburn, ward 2, and Winchester.

SIX HOURS TO REVIEW BILL (H 2015)

House 29-125, rejected a new rule that would require copies of all bills scheduled for a vote by a committee to be available to the members of the committee electronically at least six hours prior to their consideration.

Supporters of the new rule said representatives are often given little time to read bills before being asked to vote on them.

Opponents said most committees give representatives adequate time to read the measures. (A "Yes" vote is for the six-hour requirement. A "No" vote is against it.)

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

ALLOW UNLIMITED DEBATE (H 2013)

House 29-126, rejected a new rule that would prevent members from making motions to limit debate on any piece of legislation or amendment.

Supporters of the new rule said limiting debate stifles free speech and the exchange of important information. They pointed to a recent incident when the House voted to limit debate to one hour while considering dozens of amendments.

Opponents said unlimited debate will lead to standstills similar to the ones in Washington. They said there are few if any examples of limited debate. (A "Yes" vote is for unlimited debate. A "No" vote is against it.)

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

ALLOW MORE BUDGET AMENDMENTS (H 2013)

House 29-126, rejected a new rule that would allow members to file amendments to the annual \$30 billion plus state budget at any time up until the budget is approved. Current rules require members to propose their amendments within 72 hours after release of the details of the budget.

Supporters of the new rule said limiting the time for proposing amendments is misguided and anti-democratic.

Opponents said allowing unlimited time to offer amend-

ments could result in weeks of budget debate or a standstill. (A "Yes" vote is for allowing more time to file amendments. A "No" vote is against allowing it.)

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

ALSO UP ON BEACON HILL

NO COMMITTEE ROLL CALLS ON WEBSITE

- The House and Senate have approved a set of compromise joint rules under which the Legislature will operate during the 2013-2014 session. A few weeks ago, each branch had passed a different version. Noticeably missing from the compromise package is a rule, originally approved by the Senate but rejected by the House, that would require joint committee votes cast by legislators on bills heard by their committees to be posted on the Legislature's website. Senate leaders finally deferred to the House and agreed to drop the provision. Current rules require these committee votes to be kept at the Statehouse in the offices of the committee, available for public inspection upon reasonable notice and during regular office hours.

Supporters of the new rule said it would have given people quick and easy access to the committee votes of their legislators. They noted that under current rules, a person has to drive to Boston during business hours in order to obtain this information. They said requiring a trip of perhaps hundreds of miles is ridiculous and archaic.

Some opponents said the idea is a good one but the website is not yet ready technologically to implement this system. Others argued the posting would be confusing. Some noted that the current process of allowing a person to come to the Statehouse to get these roll calls is sufficient and has worked well for years.

Ironically, the compromise package was approved in both branches by a voice vote, without a roll call.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA

- Attorney General Martha Coakley's Office ruled that cities and towns are not permitted to enact a total ban on marijuana treatment centers. The ruling was in response to a Town of Wakefield by-law imposing the ban. Coakley concluded that the Wakefield ban conflicted with the law, passed by the voters in 2012, that ensures reasonable access to marijuana treatment centers. She concluded that the law's purpose cannot be served if a community prohibits treatment centers within its borders because it would leave the door open for all communities to do so, eventually making it possible that there would be no access anywhere in the state.

In a separate ruling, Coakley ruled that communities are permitted to impose a temporary moratorium on establishing centers while it conducts planning studies and waits until May for the state Department of Public Health regulations concerning these centers.

WAMPANOAG CASINO

- Gov. Patrick announced that he has reached an agreement in principle with the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe, allowing it to build a casino in Taunton. More details have to be worked out and the deal has to be approved by the Legislature.

HEARINGS GETTING UNDERWAY

- Hearings

Beacon Hill Roll Call continued



on the thousands of bills filed for the 2013-2014 session are finally getting underway. On March 27, at 2 p.m. in Room A-1, the Election Laws Committee will hear testimony on several proposed amendments to the state's constitution including:

AT-LARGE SENATORS (S 10) - Provides that the state's 40 senators be elected at-large by all voters.

REDISTRICTING (S 11) - Establishes a non-legislative redistricting commission to draw Massachusetts legislative and congressional districts every ten years. Currently, the constitution simply gives the Legislature itself the power to draw the districts.

LT. GOV. VACANCY (H 61) - Allows the governor to appoint a Lt. governor if that position becomes vacant. The governor's choice would be subject to confirmation by the Legislature. Currently if the Lt. governor's office becomes vacant, there is no provision to appoint a replacement and the office simply remains vacant until the next regular election.

QUOTABLE QUOTES - Special "Fun with Gov. Deval Patrick Edition"

Gov. Deval Patrick made his regular monthly appearance on Jim Braude and Margery Eagan's radio show. The duo's show has moved from the now defunct WTKK to public radio 89.7 WGBH. These are some of the governor's lighter moments.

(singing) "Memories, not a sound from the pavement." – *Patrick singing "Memories" from the musical "Cats" to Jim and Margery when they talked about the "old days" at WTKK.*

"I've been admonished to stop saying that we need an adult conversation about taxes because some members on Beacon Hill feel that I am referring to them as children which is not my intention. So, what I mean is we need a sober conversation." – *Patrick to caller who congratulated the governor on his calling for an adult conversation about taxes.*

"If we can't pick Earth, Wind and Fire, I don't really know what we're talking about." – *Patrick, a huge fan of the singing group Earth, Wind and Fire, when Braude tried to pin him down on whether "Roadrunner" by Modern Lovers or "Dream On" by Aerosmith should be the state's official rock song.*

"I noticed that Margery was only boogying here on the first song, not the second." – *Patrick pointing out that when both rock songs were played in the studio, Margery only danced to "Roadrunner."*

HOW LONG WAS LAST WEEK'S SESSION? *Beacon Hill Roll Call* tracks the length of time that the House and Senate were in session each week. Many legislators say that legislative sessions are only one aspect of the Legislature's job and that a lot of important work is

done outside of the House and Senate chambers. They note that their jobs also involve committee work, research, constituent work and other matters that are important to their districts. Critics say that the Legislature does not meet regularly or long enough to debate and vote in public view on the thousands of pieces of legislation that have been filed. They note that the infrequency and brief length of sessions are misguided and lead to irresponsible late night sessions and a mad rush to act on dozens of bills in the days immediately preceding the end of an annual session.

During the week of March 11-15, the House met for a total of 37 minutes while the Senate met for a total of two hours and 31 minutes.

Mon. March 11	House 11:06 a.m. to 11:16 a.m. Senate 11:03 a.m. to 11:29 a.m.
Tues. March 12	No House session No Senate session
Wed. March 13	No House session No Senate session
Thurs. March 14	House 11:03 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Senate 1:00 p.m. to 3:05 p.m.
Fri. March 15	No House session No Senate session

Bob Katzen welcomes feedback at bob@beaconhillrollcall.com

Getting happier by the minute CONT. FROM PG 9

and crime rates per capita are important, but they only tell part of the story. Happiness data help us fill in the picture by giving a more reliable estimate of how our policies and programs impact wellbeing.

Countries all over the world are recognizing the importance of measuring happiness, from Bhutan to the UK's happiness index. Surprisingly, though, many U.S. cities are slow to follow suit. When we made the front page of the Sunday New York Times

simply by sending out a citywide survey, I thought other mayors would insist on their own happiness indices. Really, what is the purpose of a government if not to enhance the wellbeing of the public? We are public servants, and we should be focused on making your life better. As evidenced by the original study, most respondents feel we are moving in the right direction.

But we're not done. As we continue to learn and grow along with our ever changing and ex-

panding resident base, we must also adapt our policies and programs to reflect their changing needs to maintain quality of life. Which is why, as many residents may already have noticed, we are again collecting data this year. The difference is that we now have a benchmark by which we can measure change. Based on resident input and feedback in our initial survey, new questions will focus on detailed information affecting happiness, such as "How safe do you feel in your

neighborhood?" for example. We want to truly understand how our policies affect daily life in our neighborhoods and squares. We want to understand where we might better allocate resources to achieve citywide goals and ideals. We want our residents to feel that they have a stake in their community, and how it operates.

Make no mistake, this is not just about putting a number on people's emotions. As one former ruler of Bhutan once said,

"Gross national happiness is more important than gross domestic product." We hope to prove that.

Ultimately, I hope other cities follow our lead. We won't really be able to say if our residents are happier than average until places like Cambridge and Boston perform their own surveys. Until that happens, I will just have to rely on my intuition.

We are the happiest city in the country. Who can tell us otherwise?

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speak to the Assignment Editor**

Somerville Seniors celebrate in green at WHYC

By William Tauro

The 2013 Annual Somerville Council on Aging's St. Patrick's Day Party was held this past Thursday afternoon at Somerville's Winter Hill Yacht Club.

The members of the yacht club hosted and sponsored the annual event that included everything from home-made Irish dishes of corned beef and cabbage with Irish bread and dessert to good old-fashioned Irish music.

Folk dancing and festive St. Paddy's decor filled the ballroom overlooking the Mystic River.

Over a hundred Somerville seniors were in attendance at the St. Patrick's Day event, most decked out in green, wearing clovers and leprechaun pins.

The Winter Hill Yacht Club has been a good neighbor in the community, hosting many of Somerville's Council on Aging events for the city's seniors for several years.





SOMERVILLE SPORTS

Highlander highlights in the spotlight

By Mike Stoller

Now that the Somerville High winter sports season has wrapped up, it's time to roll the Highlander highlights. Achievements included:

• The boys hockey team winning the Greater Boston League title for the first time in about a quarter of a decade. The Highlanders accomplished the feat by defeating archrival Medford, 4-1, which was tied with Somerville for first place entering the crucial contest.

"It was great for the kids, especially the seniors, who hadn't beat Medford," Somerville head coach Chuck Allen said. "They finally get to do it. I'm proud of the kids and happy for them to be able to celebrate like that."

• The boys basketball team advancing to the Division 1 North Sectional tourney as the No. 11

seed against No. 6 Lynn English. The Highlanders lost in the first round, but finished the campaign with a solid 12-9 record.

"Even in the games we lost, we were playing well," Somerville head coach Mark Antonellis said. "The execution [was] good."

• A tremendous season by the girls basketball team which tied for the Greater Boston League title with Medford and Cambridge Rindge and Latin. The Highlanders made the state tourney as the ninth seed in the Division 1 North Sectional circuit. Somerville lost to No. 8 Andover and finished the campaign with a strong 14-7 ledger.

"I'm looking forward to building on the success of this season," Highlanders' head mentor Paul O'Halloran said. "We had a great group of seniors. Most of them played with each another

since third grade. They knew what was expected of them, and they showed in many ways the experience of how things needed to be done."

"Even in the games we lost, we were playing well"

• Senior girls basketball standout Indira Evora connecting for her 1,000th career point in a 66-65 home victory over Winthrop on Jan. 21. Evora was a four-year varsity starter with the Highlanders. She will take her talents to St. Michaels College in the fall.

• Somerville High grad and UMass Lowell junior Antoinette Toussaint earning All-American

status by finishing in seventh place in the pentathlon at the Division 2 NCAA Track and Field Championships in Birmingham, Ala.

The feat achieved by Toussaint, who graduated SHS in 2008, is remarkably impressive considering it involves competing in five events in one day. Her score of 3604 put her just two points behind sixth place and enough to be recognized as All-American. Toussaint finished the 60-meter hurdles in a time of 9.07 seconds. She leaped 5 feet, 4 1/4 inches in the high jump and 17 ft. 11 inches in the long jump. She tossed the shot put 26 feet and 1 inch. And she ran the 800 meters in 2 minutes and 17 seconds. Toussaint's time in the 800 meters was the fastest of all the runners in Division 2.

"Antoinette has earned this recognition through hard work

and talent," Somerville High head track coach Charlie O'Rourke said. "Despite working a job while attending UMass Lowell, she has successfully competed at the highest level on the NCAA stage."

"The administration, coaches, and track family at Somerville High School could not be prouder of Antoinette and her accomplishments both on the track and off," the coach added. "She is a role model for every athlete at Somerville High School that shows hard work and dedication will pay off."

• Somerville High senior Andre Rolim winning the 600 meters at the MIAA All-State Championships for the third straight year. Rolim finished the race in fifth place, crossing a 1:21.10. Rolim set the state record last winter in the 600 meters with a time of 1:19.94.

Ms. Cam's

Olio

Olio - (noun) A miscellaneous mixture, hodgepodge

#361

1. What was the name of the fictional Valley in the TV series *Falcon Crest*?
2. What hockey player scored a record 10 hat trick in a NHL season?
3. Who was the longest serving president in 1950's?
4. What New England state is the only one without a seacoast?
5. What state is called the "Gem State"?
6. In 1991 whose autobiography was called *And The Beat Goes On*?
7. What sport was Dy-

- nasty's John Forsythe an announcer for before becoming an actor?
8. What tragedy blighted Omagh, Northern Ireland, in 1998?
9. What state is called the "Coyote State"?
10. What southern city does Federal Express channel all its packages through?
11. What U.S. war broke out the same year the federal government first printed paper money?
12. What musical does the song *Memory* come from?

Answers on page 21

Girls Varsity Basketball Team honored



Mayor Joseph Curtatone and the Somerville Board of Aldermen honored the coaches and the players of the Somerville girls Varsity basketball team for their fantastic season. All players received a citation for their victorious season and their G.B.L. Title.

— William Tauro

SHS Varsity Hockey Team gets citations



On Thursday March 14 The Somerville High Varsity Hockey team was awarded citations at City Hall for winning the GBL Championship. This was the first title for the Highlanders since 1989. Coach Allen spoke on behalf of the players, coaches and trainers. He cited the hard work and dedication put in by all. Mayor Joseph Curtatone invited the team and family members into his office for photographs after handing out citations to each of the players.

— Richard Foscariota

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SENIOR CENTER HAPPENINGS:

Welcome to our centers! Everyone 55+ are encouraged to join us for fitness, culture, films, lunch and Bingo. 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.

Holland Street Center - 167 Holland Street

Ralph & Jenny Center - 9 New Washington Street

Cross Street Center - 165 Broadway

Some Council on Aging highlights in the coming weeks:

Brain Healthy & Living a Life of Balance and Joy - Two week session with Cathy Zolner, AADP, a health and nutrition coach. Cathy will share her shortlist of delicious brain-healthy foods, along with easy ways to empower us to make necessary changes that can enhance our lives for both short and long-term. Second session on ways to live and eat to feel good and to learn how to create a balance to have joy in our loves. \$5 for both sessions. Pre-registration is a must.

Yoga & Mediation with Lawrence is coming back for the month of April. Starting April 3 through April 24 at 2:30 at Holland Street. \$20 for all 4 sessions. Don't miss out. Pre-registration required.

Creative Writing Class - Free. At Holland Street Center beginning March 19 at 10:30 a.m. with Natasha. Think out of the box and come up with a new idea and how to create a story around that. Pre-registration required. Pen and paper supplied along with snacks to get the creative mind going!

Intergenerational Fitness Fun with Tufts Educational Day Care Center - Join us as we have some fun while getting fit. Qigong on Wednesdays at 1:00 p.m. Navarasa - India Storytelling through hand and body movement on Thursdays from 10:45-11:30 a.m. Belly Dancing on Tuesdays right before the adult class at 12:00 p.m. (adult class begins at 12:30 p.m.) beginning March 12 and Fitness and Nutrition Exploration on Friday mornings at 10:00 a.m. All free.

Men's Club - Recently retired? Looking to connect with other men in the community? Join our Men's Group and connect with your old friends or come make some new friends. Wednesdays at Holland Street Center. 12:00-1:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. All 55+ are welcome. April 3.

Lunchtime exercise class for all in the community:

Belly Dancing is during the day from 12:30 - 1:30 pm. This is a fun class with great arm and core exercises. Take a chance and join us. Open to men and women.

LBT Community - NEW PROGRAM. Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Women Fit-4-Life Fitness and Nutrition Classes with certified instructors. Tuesday and Thursday evenings. \$10 a month with scholarships available. Call Lisa for more info at ext. 2316.

Looking to get and stay fit this year? We have the

program for you. Fit-4-Life General Group is a fitness/nutrition program on Wednesday and Friday mornings. This is a great fitness/nutrition program. Call Lisa if you are interested.

Trip Corner:

Foxwoods - March 11.

Washington D.C. - April 11-14. Amazing trip. Payment plan offered.

Wildwood, N.J. - May 13-17.

STAY ACTIVE:

QiGong - Wednesdays at Holland Street from 1:15-2:00 p.m. \$3.

Flexibility & Balance - Tuesday 9:15 a.m. at Holland and Thursdays 10:00 a.m. at Ralph & Jenny. \$3.

Belly Dancing - Tuesdays at 12:30-1:30 p.m. \$5.

Flexibility & Balance - (R&J) Tuesday 10:30 a.m. (H) Thursday 10:00 a.m.

Fit-4-Life LBT - Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Fit-4-Life General - Wednesday & Friday mornings.

March 20

1:00 Bowling at Flatbreads

Holland Street

Fit-4-Life Classes Groups A & B

Clutter Control|10:30 a.m..

Intergenerational QiGong - all welcome|1 p.m.

QiGong|1:30 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Cross Street Center

Closed

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Crochet & Knitting|10:45 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

March 21

Holland Street Center

Flexibility & Balance|10 a.m.

Current Events|10 a.m.

Blood Pressure|10 a.m.

Intergenerational Navarasa|10:45 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

LBT Fit-4-Life|6 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Strengthening Exercise|10 a.m.

Crochet & Knitting|10:45 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

March 22

Holland Street Center

Fit-4-Life Groups A & B

Intergenerational Fitness & Nutrition Exploration|10 a.m.

Indoor Exercise|11 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

March 25

Holland Street

Singing|10:30 a.m.

English Conversation|10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Indoor Exercise|10:30 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

March 26

Holland Street Center

Strengthening Exercise|9:15 a.m.

Creative Writing - FREE|10:30 a.m.

SHINE by appt|1 p.m.

Belly Dancing|12:30 p.m.

Intergenerational Belly Dancing|1:30 p.m.

Balance & Joy|2:15 p.m.

LBT Fit-4-Life|6 p.m.

Caregiver's Group|6:30 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Flexibility & Balance|10:30 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

Cross Street Center

Mosaic Project - All welcome|10:30 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

165 Broadway

March 27

Bowling at Flatbreads 1 p.m.

Holland Street Center

Fit-4-Life Classes Groups A & B

Clutter Control|10 a.m.

Intergenerational Qi gong|1p.m.

QiGong|1:30 p.m.

167 Holland Street|617-625-6600 x 2300

Cross Street Center

Closed

Ralph & Jenny Center

Cards & Cribbage|10 a.m.

Crochet & Knitting|10:45 a.m.

Bingo|12:45 p.m.

9 New Washington Street|617-666-5223

Another Jaunt with Janine

Jaunts with Janine continued with a trip to the Armenian Library and Museum of America based in Watertown. It holds the largest amount of Armenian artifacts outside of museums based in Armenia. The tour was led by the curator Gary Lind-Sinanian. After the tour, the group lunched at Stellina. Pictured here: Carol Alexander, Peg Durkin and Hazel Marbury. The next Jaunt is a "Foodie" tour coming up this April.



Arts at the Armory Café



The Arts at the Armory Café announces its **new fall hours**. The Café is open Monday through Saturday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., evenings and Sundays during events. Serving a menu that includes sandwiches on artisan breads, salads, quiche, fresh-baked desserts, craft beers and delicious wines. Introducing home-baked goodies from Michelle, our new pastry chef.



Your Host: Dan Kallis 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

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Monday March 25

Cheapshots Comedy Club open mike 7:30 p.m.
Marley Mondays with Duppy Conquerors 10 p.m.

Tuesday March 26

John DeCarlo & Company 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday March 27

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

Thursday March 28

Tom Hagerty Acoustic Band grassy Thursdays 7:30 p.m.

Friday March 29

Jeremy Lyons Trio 6 p.m.

box squared: Box, New Million Box 9 p.m.

Saturday March 30

Les Sampou Band 6 p.m.

The Weisstronauts, The Derangers, Tsunami of Sound
\$5 cover 9 p.m.

Sunday March 31

Frank Drake Sunday Showcase 5 p.m.

Jim Coyle & the Barroom Gentlemen 8 p.m.



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Legal Notices can also be viewed on our Web site at www.thesomervillenews.com



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

PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Zoning Board of Appeals will meet on **Wednesday, April 3, 2013**, in the Aldermanic Chambers, 2nd Floor, Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, at 6:00 p.m. to hear pending applications and to hold public hearings:

106 Orchard St (Case #ZBA 2012-23): Applicant and Owner Sapna Mehtani, seeks a Special Permit to alter a nonconforming structure under SZO §4.4.1 to construct a two story addition in the rear of an existing single-family residence. RB zone. Ward 6.

45 Beacon St (Case #ZBA 2013-10): Applicant, Whole Foods Market Group, Inc. and Owner, TGIO Beacon Street, LLC seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4 and SZO §4.5.3 to alter a nonconforming structure by relocating emergency egress, altering the entrance, and increasing operating hours. RC zone. Ward 2.

20-22 Greenville St (Case #ZBA 2013-11): Applicant, Arthur Choo Jr., AIA, Choo & Company, Inc., and Owner, Chun Wah Ng & Tsang Kong Hon, seek a Special Permit to legalize a 3-family dwelling under SZO §7.11.2.b and alter a nonconforming structure under SZO §4.4.1 to alter the roof and add dormers. RA zone. Ward 3.

20 Elston St (Case #ZBA 2013-13): Applicant, James Gogos, and Owner, Louise Taylor, seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to enclose a rear porch and reconstruct a rear deck, to include additional square footage, at an existing single-family dwelling. RA zone. Ward 6.

9 Monmouth St (Case #ZBA 2013-14): Applicant and Owner, Monmouth Street LLC, seeks a Special Permit under SZO §7.11.1.b to add one dwelling unit and living space, which includes two dormers and a rear addition, and a Special Permit under SZO §9.4.d.2 for one space of parking relief. RB zone. Ward 3.

9-11 Irvington St (Case #ZBA 2013-15): Applicant, Lourenco Carminati and Owners, Pei Chi Li and Andrew Kennedy seek a Special Permit under SZO §4.4.1 to construct new dormer to a non-conforming 2 family dwelling and SZO §9.13 parking relief because of the addition of 1 bedroom. RA zone. Ward 7.

Copies of these petitions 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 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 may 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
Published in Somerville News on 3/20/13 & 3/27/13.

3/20/13 The Somerville News



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
IFB # 13-19

The City of Somerville, through the Purchasing Department invites sealed bids for:
**ADVERTISING SALES AND PLACEMENT SERVICES
FOR THE HUBWAY BIKE SHARE SYSTEM**

The Invitation for Bid (IFB) may be obtained via the City's website at <http://www.somervillema.gov/departments/finance/purchasing/bids> or through the Purchasing Department, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143 on or after: **Friday, 3/15/13**. Sealed bid responses will be received at the above office until: **Monday, 4/1/13 @ 11:00 A.M** at which time sealed bids will be opened. The Purchasing Director reserves the right to reject any or all proposals if, in her sole judgment, the best interest of the City of Somerville would be served by so doing.

The contract term shall be for one (1) year from 4/1/13 to 3/31/14 with two (2), one (1) year options to renew.

Please contact Michael Gauthier via email: mgauthier@somervillema.gov for any questions or any additional information.

Angela M. Allen
Purchasing Director
617-625-6600 ext. 3400

3/20/13 The Somerville News

Legal Notices can be downloaded from our Web site:
www.TheSomervilleNews.com



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
MEPA Office

100 Cambridge St., Suite 900
Boston, MA 02114
Telephone 617-626-1020

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

PROJECT: Union Square Urban Revitalization Plan

LOCATION: Somerville, MA

PROPOSER: Somerville Redevelopment Authority

The undersigned is submitting an Environmental Notification Form ("ENF") to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs on or before

March 15, 2013

This will initiate review of the above project pursuant to the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act ("MEPA", M.G.L. c. 30, s.s. 61-62I). Copies of the ENF may be obtained from:

Steven Azar

Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development

City Hall

93 Highland Avenue

Somerville, MA 02143

617-625-6600 x2561

sazar@somervillema.gov

Copies of the ENF are also being sent to the Conservation Commission and Planning Board of Somerville where they may be inspected.

The Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs will publish notice of the ENF in the Environmental Monitor, will receive public comments on the project for 20 days, and will then decide, within ten days, if an environmental Impact Report is needed. A site visit and consultation session on the project may also be scheduled. All persons wishing to comment on the project, or to be notified of a site visit or consultation session, should write to the Secretary of Energy & Environmental Affairs, 100 Cambridge St., Suite 900, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, Attention: MEPA Office, referencing the above project.

By Somerville Redevelopment Authority

3/20/13 The Somerville News



CITY OF SOMERVILLE
MAYOR'S OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC HEARING

The Mayor's Office of Strategic Planning & Community Development (OSPCD) will hold a public hearing on the City's 2013-2017 HUD Consolidated Five Year Plan and 2013-2014 One-Year Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program, and the HOME program. The public hearing will be held at the Ralph & Jenny Center (9 New Washington Street, Somerville, MA) at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 4, 2013. The purpose of the public hearing is to present the proposed 2013-2017 HUD Consolidated Five Year Plan and One Year HUD Action Plan (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014) and to receive input and comments on this proposed plan.

Accommodations for persons with disabilities are available. Requests for accommodations should be made by the close of business on Friday, March 29, 2013 by contacting Rob King at 617-625-6600 x5410. Accommodations for non-English speaking or hearing impaired persons are available by contacting (OSPCD) at 617-625-6600 x2500; requests for accommodations should be made by the close of business on Friday, March 29, 2013. General questions about the hearing should be directed to the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD) at 617-625-6600 x2500. Written comments will be accepted up to Monday, May 6, 2013 @ 4:30 p.m., and should be sent to the attention of Alan Inacio at the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD), 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA 02143 or email to ainacio@somervillema.gov.

Joseph A. Curtatone
Mayor

3/20/13 The Somerville News

TO PLACE LEGAL
ADVERTISEMENTS IN
THE SOMERVILLE NEWS,
CONTACT
CAM TONER
BY 12 PM MONDAY
PH: 617.666.4010
FAX: 617.628.0422



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

PLANNING DIVISION

LEGAL NOTICE
OF PUBLIC HEARING

A joint public hearing for all interested parties will be held by the Planning Board and the Board of Aldermen Land Use Committee on **Thursday, April 18, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Aldermanic Chambers on the Second Floor of Somerville City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue, Somerville, MA. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive public comments concerning:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE SOMERVILLE ZONING ORDINANCE SECTION 7.11.9.2 TO SEPARATE SUPERMARKET FROM GENERAL MERCHANDISE AND DEPARTMENT STORE IN THE USE TABLE AND SECTION 2.2 TO ADD DEFINITIONS OF THESE USES.

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

Attest: Kevin Prior, Chairman

To be published in the Somerville News 3/20/13 & 3/27/13.

3/20/13 The Somerville News

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA. 02141
(617) 768- 5800

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

Docket No. MI 13P1157EA

Estate of:

Robert	E	Landry
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name

Also Known As: _____

Date of Death: October 12, 2012

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of

Petitioner **Robert C Landry of Somerville MA**
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

[x] a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

[x] **Robert C Landry of Somerville MA**
First Name M.I. Last Name (City/Town) (State)

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve [] with [x] without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representative appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

3/20/13 The Somerville News

PATS TOWING

*****NOTICE TO OWNERS ONLY*****

The following abandoned and / or junk motor vehicles will be disposed of or sold, any questions regarding this matter please contact Pat's Towing.
Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00pm
Tel: 617-354-4000, Fax 617-623-4287

2000	Ford	Expedition	Vin# 1FMRU15L7YLC15501
2004	Dodge	Durang	Vin# 1D4HB48N54F226271
2002	Honda	Civic	Vin# 2HGES16532H504180
2010	PAG	SPYD	Vin# 5LYSR3248AR048303

Date of Sale: April 12, 2013
Time: 12:00 P.M.
Location: 160 McGrath Hwy. Somerville, MA. 02143

3/13/13, 3/20/13, 3/27/13 The Somerville News

City announces Athletic Fields Assessment Survey

Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone and the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development have announced the Somerville Athletic Fields Needs Assessment Survey, asking community members to give feedback on the city's athletic fields to help inform future use.

neighborhood activity, like going to soccer games or just relaxing with friends," said Arn Franzen, Director of Parks and Open Spaces. "This is a chance for you, the people who use the field, to give us valuable feedback in terms of how we may utilize these places better."

Tuesday, March 26 at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MR7R3QD> It takes approximately 5 minutes to complete, with the 17 available questions concerning field use and quality. If you have any questions, please call OSPCD at 617-625-6600 ext. 2500.

Be sure to visit us online at

www.TheSomervilleNews.com

and on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/thesomervillenews

Somerville YMCA receives grant



Board of Directors from the Anthony Louis Ciampi Memorial Fund, Eric Johanson and Vinny Ciampi, presented YMCA Executive Director, Bill Murphy, with a generous donation. On hand to celebrate the donation were children of the School Age Child Care Program. The donated funds will be used to staff the Y's Youth Leadership Program. This important program provides summer jobs at camp for some of our most promising youth leaders.

News Talk CONT. FROM PG 8

Tuesday, April 2. Time: 6:30-7:30 p.m. Where: Ralph & Jenny Senior Center, 9 New Washington Street. This is the second neighborhood meeting regarding a proposed mixed use (commercial and residential) development. The developers, their attorney and representatives from the city will be there. If additional information is needed contact Alderman Bastardi at 617-764-5373 or AldermanBastardi@comcast.net.

Another meeting that Alderman Bastardi has scheduled the first neighborhood meeting to hear your concerns and opinions regarding the new development at 205 Broadway (intersection of Broadway & McGrath) When: Monday, April 1. Where: Cross Street Community Center, 165 Broadway. 6:30-7:30 p.m. This is a proposed two story commercial use building. The developers, their attorney and representatives from the city will be there. If additional information is needed contact Alderman Bastardi at 617-764-5373 or AldermanBastardi@comcast.net.

Big time Happy Birthday to our old friend Dan Spinosa, who most might not know has Irish roots. He was born on St. Patrick's Day, and he turned the young age of 91 this week. Happy Birthday to our good friend Amanda Marie Eddy, who has been celebrating her birthday for a whole week now here in the Ville! Also coming up this week is one of those famous Hart family members, Rachel Hart-Adams, who is celebrating this week as well. Also, Happy Birthday to the following celebrating also this week: Michelle Saulnier Goss, Michele Lloyd, Kristin Cabral, our own favorite here, Cathleen Twardzik Powers, who has been writing for The News for several years. Also, Happy Birthday to a great guy and lifelong resident, Michael Sullivan, of Spring Hill fame.

To the sub shop owner whose shop is on

the main drag that went through a few recent name changes, the new guy on the street between the two well established sub shops. A message from a now, new former customer, "Check the sell by date on your meats." All meats, but in particular the shaved steak bomb wraps. Two orders reportedly bought there that we know of got individuals very sick, including one of our Newstalkers, who got real sick after eating food delivered from your shop this past week. We heard that the owner of the establishment didn't seem to care and didn't want to hear about it, not even offering an "I'm sorry," but reportedly did tell them "tough sh*t" when they complained two days later and expressed concerns, and then told them to "go &@"? yourself." Please clean up your act and for God's sake. Rotate your stock before someone gets worse than sick, and you get a visit from the Board of Health. Hell, maybe the Board of Health should pay you a visit! Even better, maybe someone already called the board of health.

Walnut Street Center Inc., a local non-profit organization providing services to adults with developmental disabilities, is pleased to announce the acceptance of employees, Herbert Ngera, ACCESS, Day Program Manager and Felipe Quiñones Residential Program House Manager, into the 2013 Northeast Leadership Institute. This educational series takes place over the next seven months and is comprised of two full classroom days per month and a field experience. According to the outline description by the program, "The Northeast Leadership Institute is designed to bring together people who are committed to become more effective leaders and to provide them with state of the art information and strategies on leadership that will address their many shared issues. Participants gain skill and knowledge that will assist them to become active leaders in systems change, policy making, and the development of better supports for individuals with disabilities." Herbert and Felipe will have an opportunity to develop their management and leadership skills. They will learn from professionals in the field of leadership and developmental disabilities, along with family members and individuals with disabilities, who will be presenters and facilitators throughout the series. Walnut Street Center, Inc., employees were chosen after completing a detailed application process and competing with other human service professional and organizations. Walnut Street Center is thankful to the Charles E. Harwood Trust and the 2013 Northeast Leadership Institute for this invaluable educational training opportunity.

Under the Roof, a benefit for the Somerville Homeless Coalition, takes place on Saturday, April 27, at 6:00 p.m. Join them as they honor Redbones and its owners Robert Gregory and Caryn Whitney for their community leadership and long-standing support of the Somerville Homeless Coalition. Enjoy Redbones BBQ, dancing to Loomers live music, and a silent auction at the Arts at the Armory 191 Highland Avenue, Somerville.

Also, please remember that next Wednesday night is the date that you saved earlier this month for the fundraiser comedy club event for the Mason's building on Highland Ave. to help preserve a big piece of Somerville History in our city. Masons worldwide donate over \$4,000,000 per day to help local charities and children around the world. Now the Highland Masonic Temple Association (HMTA) in Somerville needs your help to assist the King Solomon's Masonic Lodge to help preserve the landmark historic church located at 125 Highland Avenue in Somerville. The association for the members of the lodge is hosting a HMTA 1st Annual "Night Out Comedy Night" at Giggles Comedy Club at Prince Pizzeria located on Rt. 1 in Saugus on Wednesday, March 27 at 7 p.m. For \$25 per person you get a

standup comic show performed by world-class professional comedians, all the pizza that you can eat, a silent auction, drawings, and a fun time for all. More importantly, you will be helping to preserve the historic lodge building for generations to come. So, come on all you Somervillens out there, please be a part of history and enjoy a fun night out at the same time. For more info and tickets, Facebook message Billy Tauro or call him at (617) 293-2016 or email him at Wmtauro@aol.com and help preserve a piece of Somerville history.

We heard from some local East Somerville residents that are concerned over the proposed 120 residential on the large vacant Cross Street East site. The concern by some, we hear, is that more residential units is not the answer to everything, especially if the rents are going to be \$2k plus a month like at Assembly. More residential units and influx of new residents in an already tight part of the city might not be good for anyone. The developers are all over Ward One now, since they re-zoned Broadway from Sullivan Square to School Street. We even hear that a local favorite shop, Patsy's Pastry, has sold out to a developer who wants to build 19 units on that site, 120 on East Cross and who knows how many more. We heard that Winter Hill would be a huge mixed used property proposal on Temple and Broadway, the old Blumsack property. But the worst eyesore of all, the old Winter Hill Star Market, is still standing without anything going in there soon.

Congratulations to Aliana Oppedisano a junior at Somerville High School, who recently won the SPEAK UP-YOUR VOICE MATTERS Poster Project Contest sponsored by the Middlesex District Attorney's Office and the Middlesex Partnerships for Youth, Inc. Aliana will be honored by Middlesex District Attorney, Gerry Leone, at a ceremony at his office this Thursday, March 21.

• • • • ‘VILLENS ON THE TOWN’ • • • •

FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
Wednesday| March 20

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

West Branch Library
Preschool: Babygarten
11 a.m.- 11:45 a.m.
40 College Avenue

Central Library
Homework Help for Teens: Math & Science
Ron Castile
617-623-5000 x2969
3 p.m.-5 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Veteran’s Memorial Rink
Free public skating
12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave

Thursday|March 21
Central Library
Preschool: Storytime for 3 to 5 year olds
10:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Central Library
Homeschool Games Program
Lauren Bell|617-718-0501
11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Central Library
Reading Group for 6-8 Year Olds
Tammy McKanan|617-591-0216
3 p.m.-4p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Friday| March 22
Central Library
Library Card Sign Up Campaign Celebration
9 a.m.-10 a.m.|79 Highland Ave

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

Central Library
Teen Movie Day
Cynthia Mitchem|617-623-5000-2936
3 p.m.-5:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Veteran’s Memorial Rink
Free public skating
12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave

Sunday|March 24
Central Library
Teens have something important to say
Marita/2942
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Central Library
Top Secret Science
Cathy/2950
2 p.m.-4 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Monday|March 25
Central Library
Sing-along with Liza!
Cathy/2950
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Tuesday|March 26
Central Library
Homeschool Reading Group for Ages 9-11
Tammy McKanan
10 a.m.-12 p.m..|79 Highland Avenue

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

Central Library
Homework Help for Teens: English & History
Ron Castile|617-623-5000 x2969
4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Wednesday|March 27
Central Library
BUSY
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

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

West Branch Library
Preschool: Babygarten
11 a.m.- 11:45 a.m.
40 College Avenue

Central Library
Homework Help for Teens: Math & Science
Ron Castile
617-623-5000 x2969
3 p.m.-5 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Central Library
Teen Movie day
Cynthia Mitchem
617-623-5000-2936
3 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.|79 Highland Ave

Veteran’s Memorial Rink
Free public skating
12 p.m.-1:50 p.m.|570 Somerville Ave

MUSIC
Wednesday|March 20
Johnny D's
Charlie Keating Band
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

The Burren
Pub Quiz|8 p.m.
Comedy|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

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

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

Precinct Bar
3penny Open Mic (No Cover)
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe’s Pub
The Nephrok All Stars
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen
TJ The DJ Presents The People's Karaoke
10 p.m.|150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

Rosebud Bar
Free Pool|Game Night
381 Summer St

Radio Bar
379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory
The Key to Happiness
7 p.m.|Cafe

Thursday|March 21
Johnny D’s
Poor Everybody|Black Fortress of Opium|Brendan Burns
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s
Frank Drake’s Short Life Of Trouble |7:30 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Scattershot 80’s
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA’S Lounge
Ichabod|Hidden Towers|A Terrible Beauty|Space Mushroom Fuzz
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

Precinct Bar
Lifestyle|SPF-5000|Future Carnivores|DJ Infinite Jeff
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe’s
Dub Down Featuring The Scotch Bonnet Band
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

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

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

Rosebud Bar
Abstract Scenerio
381 Summer St.

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

Radio Bar
379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory
Humor from my Pen: Gerardo Hernandez (Gallery Hours)
7 p.m.|Gallery
TurnON Discussion Group
7:30 p.m.|Café
Third Thursdays Jazz at the Armory
7:30 p.m.|Mezzanine|191 Highland Ave

Friday|March 22
Johnny D’s
Capital Zen|Rack em Let's Go|Boombsnap
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s
Radioactive Rustlers |6 p.m.
Birds of Play and friends |9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Cover Up
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

Precinct Bar
"Love Is A Prison" w/Doom Lover|Do Not Forsake Me, Oh My Darling|Harris Hawk
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

PA’S Lounge
The Cooling Towers|Beliefs|28 degrees taurus|Soft Focus
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
DJ starting at 10 p.m.
65 Holland St|617-591-2100

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

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

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

Rosebud Bar
Unregular
381 Summer St

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

Radio Bar
Down: Dress Down Day|Radio Astronomer|Devil All The Time|The Self
UP: Team Shred
Presents|Sunshine Riot|Naughty Water|UnbilicalCord Irukandji
379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory
Matt Wolfe
8:30 p.m.|191 Highland Ave

Saturday|March 23
Johnny D’s
Beatlejuice
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s
Patsy Hamel Band |6 p.m.
One Thin Dime |9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Scattershot
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

Precinct Bar
Hear Now Live Presents:Swift Technique|Jetty|Myrtle Peatree|Bedford Davis|Dennis Keenan
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Orleans Restaurant and Bar
Karaoke
65 Holland St

PA’S Lounge
Sunram|Midday Veil|We Are Oceans|Caustic Rainbow|DJ sets by everydayisamixtape
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

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

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

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

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

Rosebud Bar
Fennerario
381 Summer St

Casey’s
Entertainment every Saturday
173 Broadway|617- 625-5195

Radio Bar
Down: Ism|Riki Rocksteady|Herpes
UP: Team Shred
Presents:Midnight Snack|Great Caesar|Cow Gill|Run Gazelle Run
379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory
Cabot and Hines Jazz
7 p.m.|191 Highland Ave

Sunday|March 24
Johnny D’s
Open Blues Jam featuring The Matthew Smart Band
For the Sake of the Song A Tribute to Gram Parsons featuring Mount Peru|Bryan Pero & The Tired Horses|Patrick Coman & The Lo -Fi Angels
17 Holland St.|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s Bar
Frank Drake Sunday Showcase |5 p.m.
Stormin' Norman & Friends!|8 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Burren Acoustic Music Series
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

PA’S Lounge
Nice Guys|The The The Thunder|Have Ears|Goodbye Space
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

Precinct Bar
The Anchorite|Remate|Eros & The Eschaton|The Wrong Shapes
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

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

Rosebud Bar
Karaoke
381 Summer St

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

Radio Bar
Up: Roy Sludge Trio
379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory
Cafe Raqs
7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Monday|March 25
Johnny D’s
Team Trivia
8:30 p.m.|17 Holland St | 617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s Bar
Cheapshots Comedy Club open mike |7:30 p.m.
Marley Mondays with The Duppy Conquerors|10 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

The Burren
Bur Run|6:45 p.m.
Set Dancing|8 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

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

Precinct Bar
70 Union Sq|617-623-921

Bull McCabe’s Pub
Stump! Team Trivia
8 p.m.|366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Rosebud Bar
Movie Night
Massmouth
381 Summer St

Radio Bar
379 Summer St

Arts at The Armory
Salsa Basics with Mambo Soul!
7 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

Tuesday|March 26
JohnnyD’s
Be Wedding Presents|Wedding Band Showcase
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

Sally O’Brien’s Bar
John DeCarlo & Company |9 p.m.
335 Somerville Ave|617-666-3589

• • • • 'VILLENS ON THE TOWN' • • • •

The Burren
Open Mic W/Hugh McGowan|6:30 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

PA'S Lounge
Open Mic - Rock, Folk, R&B, Alt, Jazz & Originals etc. Hosted by Tony Amaral
345 Somerville Ave|617-776-1557

Precinct Bar
UnRegular Radio Presents:Nicole D'Amico & Friends|The Backporch Smokers|
Arms and Ears
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

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

Highland Kitchen
First Tuesday of the Month|Spelling Bee Night hosted by Victor and Nicole of Egoart.
The fun starts at 10:00p.m.
150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

Rosebud Bar
Karaoke
381 Summer St

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

Radio Bar
UP: Wholly Karaoke with DJ Magic Gus
379 Summer St

Wednesday|March 27

Johnny D's
Lord Geoffrey Presents One Sock on featuring Geoff Bartley & Howie Tarnower
17 Holland St|617-776-2004

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

The Burren
Pub Quiz|8 p.m.
Comedy|10 p.m.
247 Elm Street|617-776-6896

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

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

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

Precinct Bar
3penny Open Mic (No Cover)
70 Union Sq|617-623-9211

Bull McCabe's Pub
The Nephrok All Stars
366A Somerville Ave|617-440-6045

Highland Kitchen
TJ The DJ Presents The People's Karaoke
10 p.m.|150 Highland Ave|617-625-1131

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

Rosebud Bar
Free Pool|Game Night
381 Summer St

Radio Bar
UP: Infinity Records and Freak
Freak Flag Presents: Peach Kelli
Pop show|Great

Valley|Fagettes|Scamps
379 Summer St

Arts at the Armory
Somerville Climate Action and Rep. Denise Provost Film Series
7 p.m.|Café
SAC Salon Series: The Intersection of Bikes and Art
7:30 p.m.|Cafe|191 Highland Ave

CLASSES AND GROUPS
Wednesday|March 20

Central Library
Chamber Music Reading Session
Alison LaRosa Montez
908-489-0753
6:30 p.m. - 8:50 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

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

Thursday| March 21

Central Library
Drop-In Meditation
Maria Carpenter
617-623-5000 x2910
1 p.m.-2 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

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

Central Library
4-Part Memoir Writing Workshop with Judah Leblang
Judah Leblang|617-466-9637
6:30 p.m.- 8:45 p.m.|79 Highland Avenue

First Church Somerville
Debtors Anonymous- a 12 Step program for people with problems with money and debt.
7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.|89 College Ave

(Upstairs Parlor).
For more info call: 781-762-6629

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

Saturday| March 23

Central Library
Alderman Sullivan's Office Hours
Dennis Sullivan/781-799-4406
10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.|79 Highland Avenue

Arts at the Armory
Winter Farmers' Market
9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.|Performance Hall|191 Highland Ave

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

Sunday| March 24

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

Third Life Studio

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

Monday|March 25

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

Tuesday| March 26

Central Library
Learn English at the Library
6 p.m.-7:30 p.m.|Session 1
79 Highland Ave

Third Life Studio
Vinyasa Flow Yoga & Meditation
8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
The Art of Group Singing For Women with Susan Robbins, www.libana.com
7 p.m.- 9:15 p.m.|33 Union Sq

Wednesday| March 27

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

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PLACES TO GO, THINGS TO DO!

SCATV celebrates 30 years of service to Somerville

Somerville Community Access Television was incorporated in March 1983 by Mayor Gene Brune. The Mayor recognized the benefits of having a non-profit organization rather than the cable company provide media services to Somerville citizens. He and his Communications Di-

rector Howard Horton worked out the details of this new entity, Somerville Community Access Television, which was the first in Massachusetts and served as a model for access centers around the country. The Mayor's vision was to provide a free-speech platform to Somerville residents, in the

hope that it would promote healthy community conversations. Since then, thousands of Somerville residents have come to SCATV to learn video production skills to produce programs for their neighbors.

On March 28 from 6:00 to 9:00pm, SCATV will celebrate its historic beginnings with a

party at the station at 90 Union Square. Everyone that participated in projects at SCATV over the last 30 years is invited to come and share their memories, which will be videotaped for posterity. There will be refreshments, music, and reunions with former colleagues. We will also look forward, giving updates on

exciting changes in the works for the SCATV studio and website. Former Mayor Gene Brune will be there, along with other people who were instrumental in forming and guiding this well-loved institution.

For more information about the SCATV Anniversary Celebration, call 617-628-8826.

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If the door closes, look for a window CONT. FROM PG 9

students to win a prize. One student, from each class, who sells the most boxes of cards wins. For every case you sell you receive a bigger prize. I think it's a day off from class, or a free ticket to the Saturday matinee at the nearby Broadway Theater.

I can only imagine how difficult it is going to be, selling these boxes of cards with over 500 catholic students canvassing the neighborhood. Plus, we have many Protestant, Baptist, and some Jewish people in the area who don't celebrate our holiday.

Father Hogan should have thought of that one from a marketing standpoint. If anyone succeeds in selling a Protestant a box of catholic Christmas cards, they definitely deserve a prize in my book.

Today the boxes of cards were handed out. Each student got at least two boxes. The idea was to show the product, take the order, get the cash, and deliver them later.

When I got home this day the only thing I wanted to do was continue building my small fort in the back yard. I scored a couple of old doors from Mr. Fougères' rubbish next door. I couldn't wait to put them in place.

So, I decided to do the card thing over the weekend. Little did I know that my fellow students were already out in force, combing the streets of East Somerville, writing orders from every potential customer. Like a hill of ants they went from

house, to house, nearly bumping into one another.

On Saturday morning, I get up and hit the streets. Street, after street, after street, the response was the same, "I just bought some during the week." After three hours of knocking on doors I was not only exhausted, I was depressed. Not a single sale, no interest at all. The market was saturated. I decided to go home. I gave up.

"...if you want to compete in this world you must put work before pleasure"

I climbed Glen Hill to get home as if I was carrying the world. I failed, was all I could think. My grandfathers' words rang in my mind, "the early bird gets the worm".

My mother greeted me with a dish of soup and crackers for lunch. She asked me how many did I sell? I looked down to the floor saying, "None. Not a single box!" I exclaimed. She smiled at me and said, "Well, there is always tomorrow." I appreciated her optimism, but I didn't share it. My mom knew I was down.

When I finished lunch she turned to me saying, "Can you handle an order for four boxes?" I looked at her very puzzled. "From whom?" I asked. "Me, of course!" she responded.

As I was making the slip out she whispered, "Why don't you call your Godmother Sue, aunt Sadie, auntie Mary, your grandfather, uncle Tony, and uncle Sammy. I'm sure they all will take a box, or two. They don't live here in this section of Somerville."

In less than thirty minutes, I sold over 24 boxes of cards and never left the kitchen. I was thrilled. Later that afternoon my mother sat next to me in the kitchen and asked, "Now did you learn anything today?" I said, "Yes, I learnt it's not what you do, it's who you know!"

She was not smiling at my response. She replied, "Well, it may appear that way, but not true. You need to understand, if you want to compete in this world you must put work before pleasure. When you recognized you made a mistake by playing instead of selling, you pouted. You should have been thinking, what can I do next? The other kids didn't beat you, you beat you, by giving up. Paul, life is not easy. You need to understand that now, rather than later. God has given you many magnificent gifts. Good health, intelligence, and a cute smile. Use those gifts."

On Sunday morning I went to the 9:00 a.m. mass. Father Higgins does that mass. I like it because the sermon is quick. Thank God!

When I got home my mother said, "Soooo, what are you doing this morning?" My reply was that I wanted to watch



Community Opticians Talent Show. Her response was firm but clear, "Go down to visit Mr. Pearlman. He's home today. Bring him a sample box and let him buy a few." I thought my mother was nuts. I said, "Mr. Pearlman is Jewish. What's he going to do with Christmas cards?" She said, "Listen, you learnt nothing yesterday."

She continued, "Mr. Pearlman is the manager of a small clothing factory in Boston. They have many people working for them. Most are not Jewish, but catholic. They always do something nice for their employees during the holidays. Convince him it would be a nice gift for the workers."

Well, Mr. Pearlman bought four cases of cards, 48 boxes in all, at a dollar each. He paid for them in advance by giving me fifty dollars. He told me to keep the rest as a tip, as he patted me on the back. I put the money in my pocket and walked all the way home with my hand on the cash so it wouldn't fall out.

A few months later I got another great idea. I contacted the greeting card company to see what else I could sell. They told me the company had another collection called "All Occasion Cards." You know, birthday, get well, sympathy, graduation, all generic types, no religious stuff.

The rest is history. I sold boxes, and boxes, and boxes all spring. They practically sold themselves. I owned the whole neighborhood, no competition. And talk about money. I was paying 60 cents a box, selling them for a dollar each. My mother said I made nearly two hundred dollars profit that spring. She gave an allowance of two dollars a week for a while. I told her to keep half for herself. Her eyes started to tear up and said, "I'm proud of you Paul. You learnt more than I thought."

It was another good day growing up in Somerville, Massachusetts. This story is true as authored by Paul Maisano.

Somerville – where the stars come out CONT. FROM PG 9

I also heard that Robert Urich drove his famous green Mustang through some Somerville streets while filming an episode of *Spenser for Hire*. And I love this next sighting. Mr. T was signing autographs at the opening of the Brooks Pharmacy on Somerville Ave. Someone said they saw The French Chef Julia Child shopping at McKinnon's in Davis Square (she lived in Cambridge). Farrah Fawcett Majors was supposedly at Memory Lane. Rex Trailer rode a horse in Somerville's

Memorial Day parade one year. Queen Latifah was in Casey's.

Cam Neely and Lyndon Byers were seen in the Ville a lot back in the day (I used to see L.B. in Redbones). Cowboy and music legend Roy Rogers appeared at Somerville High years ago. Former Celtics star Hank Finkel was in Mama Gina's around 1975. The ill-fated 1985 Super Bowl bound New England Patriots were allegedly bar hopping in Somerville before the big game.

I met Arlo Guthrie and James Tay-

lor after a concert at Tufts. I got Arlo's autograph on a dollar bill, then framed it.

Somerville is lucky to have produced talented entertainers such as Bobby "Boris" Pickett and my good friend actor and comedian Tony V. Ben Affleck, Jimmy Tingle and Lenny Clarke are also talents that frequent the Ville.

So you see, Somerville is a popular place for famous people to hang around. It all started long ago with Paul Revere and George Washington, and it just

keeps getting better.

Please send me your ideas for articles and stories. You can go to my Facebook page, email me at jimmydl@rcn.com or leave a message at 617-623-0554.

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Answers from page 14

Answers

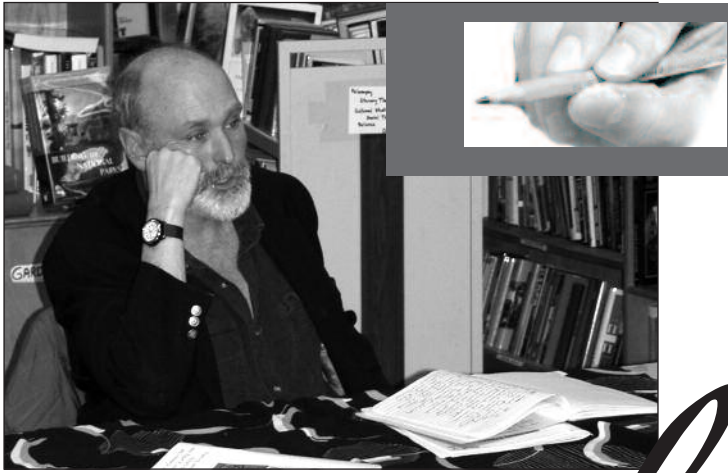
1. Tuscany Valley	5. Idaho	9. South Dakota
2. Wayne Gretzky	6. Sonny Bono	10. Memphis, TN
3. Dwight D. Eisenhower	7. Baseball	11. The Civil War
4. Vermont	8. Terrorist bomb	12. Cats

Somerville Community Access TV Ch.3 Programming Guide

Celebrating 30 years of making grassroots community media for Somerville

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Wednesday, March 20							
12:00am	Free Speech TV	3:00pm	Talking about Somerville	11:00am	Dead Air Live	9:30am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show
6:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show (Free Speech TV)	Noon	Reeling Movie Show	10:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading
7:00am	Healthy Hypnosis	5:00pm	Jeff Jam Sing Show	12:30pm	Active Aging	11:00am	Chef's Table
7:30am	Life Matters	5:30pm	Culture Club (weekly timeslot)	1:00pm	Bongoman (LIVE)	12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)	2:00pm	Henry Parker Presents	1:00pm	Ablevision
9:00am	Science Issues & Innovations	6:30pm	Art @ SCATV	2:30pm	Copy Cat Festival	1:30pm	Art at SCATV
10:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	7:00pm	Climate Change in Somerville	3:00pm	Tele Magazine	2:00pm	Nossa Gentes e Costumes
11:00am	Abugida TV	8:00pm	Fouye Zo Nan Kalalou (LIVE)	5:00pm	Tele Kreyol	3:00pm	Exercise with Robyn and Max
12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	9:30pm	Somerville's Most Interesting Places	6:00pm	Basic Buddha	3:30pm	Esoteric Science
1:00pm	Somerville Housing Authority	10:00pm	Energy Theater	6:30pm	Couch's Corner	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
1:30pm	Henry Parker Presents	Friday, March 22		7:30pm	Somerville Back in the Day	5:00pm	Culture Club
2:00pm	Culture Club	12:00am	Free Speech TV	8:00pm	David Parkman (Free Speech TV)	5:30pm	Somerville Back in the Day
2:30pm	Somerville Back in the Day	6:00am	Road to Recovery	9:00pm	Nossa Gente e Costumes	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV
3:00pm	Medical Tutor	7:00am	The Origins of SCATV	10:00pm	Contemporary Science Issues & Innovations	6:30pm	Tonight's Special
3:30pm	Inside Talk	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	Gay TV (Free Speech TV)	7:00pm	Critical Focus
4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show	9:00am	Energy Theater	Sunday, March 24		8:00pm	SCATV Special
5:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking.	10:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	12:00am	Free Speech TV	9:00pm	Dedilhando A Saudade
5:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez	11:00am	Growing Healthy in Somerville	6:00am	Program Celebrai	10:00pm	Bate Papo con Shirley
6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)	11:30am	The Struggle	7:00am	Flipside	11:00pm	Copy Cat Festival
6:30pm	Art @ SCATV	Noon	Revolutionary War in Somerville	7:30am	Talking with Deval Patrick	Tuesday, March 26	
7:00pm	Tonight's Special	12:30pm	Shrink Rap	8:00am	Effort Pour Christ	12:00am	Free Speech TV
7:30pm	Basic Buddha	1:00pm	Somerville Open Cinema Selections	9:00am	Heritage Baptist Church	6:00am	Road to Recovery
8:00pm	Somerville Pundits (LIVE)	1:30pm	Somerville Housing Authority	10:00am	International Church of God	7:00am	The Struggle
8:30pm	The Entertainer's Show	2:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking	10:30am	Basic Buddha	7:30am	Drawing with Mark
9:00pm	Somerville Rocks!	2:30pm	Cooking With Georgia	11:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
9:30pm	Somerville Open Cinema Selections	3:00pm	Brunch with Sen. Bernie Sanders	Noon	Play by Play	9:00am	Somerville News Reading
10:00pm	Play by Play	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show	12:30pm	The Garage	10:00am	Tele Kreyol
11:00pm	The Literary Scene	5:30pm	Art @ SCATV	1:00pm	Chef's Table Special: St. Patrick's Day	11:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Show
11:30pm	The Steve Katso's Show	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)	2:00pm	Somerville Open Cinema Selections	12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)
Thursday, March 21		6:30pm	Reeling Movie Reel	3:00pm	Rompendo en Fe	1:00pm	Neighborhood Cooking w/ Candy
12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:00pm	Eating Locally in Somerville	4:00pm	Dedilhando A Saudade	1:30pm	Cooking with Georgia & Dez
6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	8:00pm	Culture Club	5:00pm	Ethiopian Satellite TV	2:00pm	Somerville Housing Authority
6:30am	Gerry Leone Show	9:30pm	The Garage	6:00pm	Abugida TV	2:30pm	2013 SCATV Annual Meeting
7:00am	Physician Focus	10:00pm	Play by Play	7:00pm	African Television Network	3:30pm	Henry Parker Presents
7:30am	Ablevision	10:30pm	Copy Cat Festival	8:00pm	Telemagazine	4:00pm	The Thom Hartmann Show
8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	11:00pm	Tonight's Special	9:00pm	Effort Pour Christ	5:00pm	Poet to Poet
9:00am	Somerville Newspaper Reading	11:30pm	The Steve Katso's Show	10:00pm	OpenAir Circus	6:00pm	Al Jazeera TV (Free Speech TV)
10:00am	Active Aging	Saturday, March 23		11:30pm	Somerville Rocks!	6:30pm	Real Estate Answer Show
10:30am	Neighborhood Cooking with Candy	12:00am	Free Speech TV	Monday, March 25		7:00pm	Art at SCATV
11:00am	Chef's Table	6:00am	Arabic Hour	12:00am	Free Speech TV	7:30pm	Greater Somerville (LIVE)
12:00pm	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)	7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	6:00am	Atheist Viewpoint	8:00pm	Dead Air Live
1:00pm	African Television Network	8:00am	Jeff Jam Sing Song Show	6:30am	Physician Focus	9:00pm	Open Air Circus
2:00pm	Drawing with Mark	8:30am	Drawing with Mark	7:00am	Creating Cooperative Kids	11:00pm	Contemporary Science Issues & Innovations
2:30pm	Somerville Back in the Day	9:00am	Festival Kreyol	8:00am	Democracy Now! (Free Speech TV)		
		10:00am	Tele Galaxie	9:00am	Neighborhood Cooking with Candy		

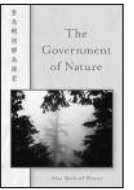
City Cable TV Schedule for the Week							
CITY TV 13/22							
Wednesday, March 20							
9:00am:	Congressional Update	1:00pm:	Clean 'Ville of Health	7:30pm:	Clean 'Ville of Health	3:30pm	Our Schools, Our City: STEM, pt 2
12:00pm:	Green Line Transportation Finance Forum	1:15pm:	Somerville Gives Back: The Somerville Home	7:45pm:	Voices of Somerville	6:00pm	SHS Career & Technical Fair
1:20pm:	Voices of Somerville	1:30pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting – REPLAY	8:15pm:	Green Line Transportation Finance Forum	7:00pm	Highlander Forum: CTE
1:50pm:	Highlander Forum	7:00pm:	The Gerry Leone Show	12:00am:	Senior Circuit	7:30pm	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
7:00pm:	Somerville By Design – 2/11/13	7:30pm:	Highlander Forum	12:30am:	Clean 'Ville of Health	9:30pm	Our Schools, Our City: STEM, pt 2
8:10pm:	Somerville Gives Back: The Somerville Home	8:00pm:	Clean 'Ville of Health	12:45am:	Voices of Somerville	Sunday, March 24	
8:25pm:	Voices of Somerville	8:15pm:	Somerville Gives Back: The Somerville Home	1:15am:	Green Line Transportation Finance Forum	12:00am	SHS Career & Technical Fair
8:55pm:	Prospect Hill to Salisbury Prison	8:30pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting – REPLAY	EDUCATIONAL CHANNEL 15		1:00am	Highlander Forum: CTE
Thursday, March 21		Sunday, March 24		Wednesday, March 20		1:30am	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
12:00am:	Somerville By Design – 2/11/13	12:00am:	The Gerry Leone Show	9:00am	Highlander Forum	3:30am	Our Schools, Our City: STEM, pt 2
1:10am:	Somerville Gives Back: The Somerville Home	12:30am:	Highlander Forum	12:00pm	Superintendent's Awards - 2nd Qtr	12:00pm	SHS Multicultural Fair
1:25am:	Voices of Somerville	1:00am:	Clean 'Ville of Health	2:30pm	Kid Stuff: Teen Empowerment	1:00pm	Superintendent's Awards, 2nd Qtr
1:55am:	Prospect Hill to Salisbury Prison	1:15am:	Somerville Gives Back: The Somerville Home	3:00pm	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals	3:30pm	Kid Stuff
9:00am:	Green Line Transportation Finance Forum	1:30am:	Board of Aldermen Meeting – REPLAY	6:00pm	Our Schools, Our City: STEM pt 2	4:00pm	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	9:00am:	Voices of Somerville	6:30pm	Superintendent's Awards - 2nd Qtr	6:00pm	SHS Multicultural Fair
12:30pm:	Highlander Forum	12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	9:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Latin Academy	7:00pm	Superintendent's Awards, 2nd Qtr
1:00pm:	Congressional Update	12:30pm:	Green Line Transportation Finance Forum	Thursday, March 21		9:30pm	Kid Stuff
1:30pm:	The Aldermen's Hour	1:50pm:	Voices of Somerville	12:00am	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals	10:00pm	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
7:00pm:	Congressional Update	2:20pm:	Congressional Update	1:00am	SHS Hockey vs Latin Academy	Monday, March 25	
7:30pm:	Voices of Somerville	7:00pm:	Senior Circuit	9:00am	Highlander Forum	12:00am	SHS Multicultural Fair
8:00pm:	Somerville By Design – 3/18/13	7:30pm:	Green Line Transportation Fiance Forum	12:00pm	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals	1:00am	Superintendent's Awards, 2nd Qtr
9:00pm:	Somerville By Design – 2/11/13	8:50pm:	Voices of Somerville	2:00pm	Kid Stuff: Teen Empowerment	3:30am	Kid Stuff
Friday, March 22		9:20pm:	Congressional Update	2:30pm	SHS Girls Basketball vs Winthrop	4:00am	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
2:00am:	Congressional Update	Monday, March 24		6:00pm	East Somerville Community School Tour	9:00am	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
12:30am:	Voices of Somerville	12:00am:	Senior Circuit	7:00pm	El Sistema February Concert	12:00pm	Kid Stuff: Teen Empowerment
1:00am:	Somerville By Design – 3/18/13	12:30am:	Green Line Transportation Finance Forum	8:00pm	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals	12:30pm	Highlander Forum: CTE
2:00am:	Somerville By Design – 2/11/13	1:50am:	Voices of Somerville	10:00pm	SHS Boys Basketball vs Peabody	1:00pm	SHS CTE Fair
9:00am:	Voices of Somerville	2:20am:	Congressional Update	Friday, March 22		2:00pm	SHS Multicultural Fair
12:00pm:	The Gerry Leone Show	9:00am:	Green Line Transportation Finance Forum	12:00am	East Somerville Community School Tour	6:00pm	SHS CTE Fair
12:30pm:	Highlander Forum	12:00pm:	Somerville By Design – 3/18/13	1:00am	El Sistema February Concert	7:00pm	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
1:00pm:	Clean 'Ville of Health	1:00pm:	Hard Target	2:00am	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals	9:00pm	SHS Multicultural Fair
1:15pm:	Somerville Gives Back: The Somerville Home	1:15pm:	Congressional Update	4:00am	SHS Boys Basketball vs Peabody	10:00pm	SHS Hockey vs Cambridge
1:30pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting – REPLAY	1:45pm:	Three Paths to Italy	9:00am	El Sistema February Concert	Tuesday, March 26	
7:00pm:	The Gerry Leone Show	7:00pm:	Somerville Gives Back–The Somerville Home	12:00pm	SHS Career & Technical Fair	12:00am	SHS CTE Fair
7:30pm:	Highlander Forum	7:15pm:	Mayor's Business Town Meeting	1:00pm	Highlander Forum: CTE	1:00am	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals
8:00pm:	Clean 'Ville of Health	8:30pm:	Congressional Update	1:30pm	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals	3:00am	SHS Multicultural Fair
8:15pm:	Somerville Gives Back: The Somerville Home	9:00pm:	Highlander Forum	3:30pm	Our Schools, Our City: STEM, pt 2	9:00am	SHS CTE Fair
8:30pm:	Board of Aldermen Meeting – REPLAY	9:30pm:	Hard Target	6:00pm	SHS Career & Technical Fair	12:00pm	Our Schools, Our City
Saturday, March 23		Tuesday, March 25		7:00pm	Highlander Forum: CTE	12:30pm	Kid Stuff: Teen Empowerment
12:00am:	The Gerry Leone Show	12:00am:	Somerville Gives Back–The Somerville Home	7:30pm	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals	1:00pm	Superintendent's Awards
12:30am:	Highlander Forum	12:15am:	Mayor's Business Town Meeting	9:30pm	Our Schools, Our City: STEM, pt 2	6:00pm	SHS Multicultural Fair
1:00am:	Clean 'Ville of Health	1:30am:	Congressional Update	Saturday, March 23		7:00pm	Our Schools, Our City
1:15am:	Somerville Gives Back: The Somerville Home	2:00am:	Highlander Forum	12:00am	SHS Career & Technical Fair	7:30pm	Highlander Forum
1:30am:	Board of Aldermen Meeting – REPLAY	2:30am:	Hard Target	1:00am	Highlander Forum: CTE	8:00pm	Superintendent's Awards
9:00am:	Senior Housing Symposium	9:00am:	The Gerry Leone Show	1:30am	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals	12:00am	SHS Multicultural Fair
12:00pm:	The Gerry Leone Show	12:00pm:	Senior Circuit	3:30am	Our Schools, Our City: STEM, pt 2	1:00am	Our Schools, Our City
12:30pm:	Highlander Forum	12:30pm:	Mayor's Business Town Meeting	12:00pm	SHS Career & Technical Fair	1:30am	Highlander Forum
		1:45pm:	Somerville By Design – 3/18/13	1:00pm	Highlander Forum: CTE	2:00am	Superintendent's Awards
		7:00pm:	Senior Circuit	1:30pm	Middle School Intramural Soccer Finals		



OFF THE SHELF

by Doug Holder

'The Government of Nature' by Afaa Michael Weaver



Somerville poet Afaa Michael Weaver has a new collection of poetry out *The Government of Nature*. I asked poet Dennis Daly author of *The Custom House* (Ibbetson Street Press) to review this book.

The Government of Nature
By Afaa Michael Weaver
University of Pittsburgh Press
www.upress.pitt.edu
ISBN: 13: 978-0-8229-6231-1
68 Pages
\$15.95

One Spring I find myself with a woman,
craving love's raw way, getting high on sex,
thrill of skin and breasts, losing myself,
my medication for my heart failing to slow
my addiction until this door opens, above
what I call love. I see myself, a child,
feel the hands of the man carving
the cross I carry, its totem marks.

A little over halfway through the book the fiercely protective poem *Remember* crouches like a lion. Weaver dedicates this poem to his granddaughter. It begins as a charming childhood litany. Listen,

If I forget to plug the sun,
let me know
If I forget to tame the sharks' teeth,
let me know
If I forget to stop the tsunamis
let me know
If I forget to tie up the bears,
Let me know...

The poem continues with the same rhythm but ends quite differently and quite grimly. Here's the last three sections:

If I forget to outlaw nightmares,
let me know
If I forget to put perverts away,
let me know
If I forget that the divine thing
moved inside me to write this,
the thing that can do all things,
let me know
let me down easy
into the earth.

In his title poem, *The Government of Nature*, the poet addresses his body directly. He again goes to a place of memories in order to find himself and negate those same memories and confront the monster, who propagated them. He says,

I come with you to places I cannot go alone, as alone
I would be only the decision to be, not the things
I cannot explain to anyone, except in the privacy
Of a piety I have had to own, a profound saintliness
That came to me in places too foul to remain buried...

My favorite poem in this book and one that gives this collection a gentle and positive gravity Weaver entitles *Scrapple*. It portrays good people trying to do the right thing and make the best of life's mix of good and bad. Here, for instance, is Weaver's loving description of his father,

...in the good times, between
the strikes and layoffs at the mills when work
was too slack, and Pop sat around pretending
not to worry, not to let the stream of sweat
he wiped from his head be anything except
the natural way of things, keeping his habits,
the paper in his chair by the window, the radio
with the Orioles, with Earl Weaver the screamer
and Frank Robinson the gentle black man,
keeping his habits...

Weaver's book transforms the unnatural nightmares of a damaged childhood into something transcendent, warm and wondrous. This is beyond poetry. This is alchemy.

— Review by Dennis Daly

These poems of Afaa Michael Weaver take you by the hand, like a trusted grown-up takes a child, down a landscaped and stylized pathway of disturbing memories, family ghosts, and familiar, even endearing, internal landmarks. The cadences are well wrought, formal (in the sense of elevated language), and beautifully rhythmic. In some poems the rhythm delivers a near chant. In others it becomes a strangled but pulsed whisper.

Weaver covers some dangerous territory here. The power of this poetic collection derives from his meditations on his own experiences as a survivor of childhood sexual abuse by an uncle. So much could have gone wrong in the writing. But it doesn't. Without hatred or self-pity Weaver strikes just the right tone with intelligent contemplation and a pretty remarkable understanding of evil's context.

The poems themselves seem to bridge a psychic divide between the horror of past predation and the solace of a future life. In the poem *The Path* Weaver describes his trek into an alternative peace this way,

With my umbrella I stumble, too lonesome
for the way water soaks into the skin in the thunder,
listening for the sound of the eagles circling
above the lost children of wild pigs or what can be
caught and carried in the talon. My hands are
not free, too busy with trying to keep cover
on my head. The stones have another meditation,
a kind of counting to music. Touch me, they say,
and a thousand stone paths will make their way to me.
Once in the night when it is dry, when the pretty
rain of mountain springtime was suspended,
I walked this path to the dream of where we live.

Again using rain and water as unifying factors Weaver in his piece entitled *The Ten Thousand* constructs a gauzy memory palace in which reality must be faced and imagination deciphered. The poet says,

If I write without color it is to obey the gray way rain brings
the past to us. The ten thousand are one giant palace with a room
for remembering, where you must stand alone, touch and believe
while it seems you are touching nothing and have gone mad
in this life, this gift. We are sitting on a rock in the thick falling
of water, purple lilies are growing in the sun's ocean shadow,
sheep with golden wool are flying in the trees, a patient monkey
is bandaging a wounded blade of grass, the garden is a mesa,
seeds are mountain caves, the moon has gone infinite, made
two of its own selves for each of our palms. Now we have faces.

This poem flows wonderfully. Between surreal images Eastern thought connects with Christian mythology. Doubting Thomas is even here touching the wounds of his Redeemer.

Some of these poems are quite explicit and troubling. The poet, however, has a point to make about the damage that can be done to a child and the burden that that child carries throughout his life. This image from Weaver's poem *Looking Up from the Naked Bed* I found particularly affecting,

Poet Jake Montgomery writes the *LYRICAL* about his poem *Fools Gold*...

"My standard is not the gold standard; but what is the new gold standard? Today gold is more valuable than ever, and who is it that made that decision? Where is the golden lining? Who is defining our market?"

Fools Gold: A Golden Opportunity

There lies,
Gold,
A golden opportunity,
For anyone who can see,
The fallacy in reality.

Its value is vast,
For a mere metal,
Found in the ground,
Then peddled by people,
Who look only at golden,
Flower petals.

The stock is rising,
Value mind you,
Is in the mind,
The ticker is real,
However reality,
Is poorly defined.

Attention all Lemmings
GOLD RUSH!
Rush to buy gold,
Before it has all been sold.

WAIT!
You are in luck,
Everyone can make a buck
Off a bucket of gold,
Do not fold your hand,
Play it and pay the toll,
In gold.

There's still space for more gold fools,
Fools gold sold by old ghouls,
On the market we hold dear,
The reserve is in the riverbed,
Making love in black and red.

— Jake Montgomery

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

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