

**BUMP, SET,
AND SPIKE**

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**FINDING TIME TO
CRAFT JEWELS**

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**LOCALLY GROWN,
DESPITE THE HYPE**

Page B1



LAKE PLEASANT

MILLERS FALLS

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The Montague Reporter

YEAR 13 – NO. 46

also serving Irving, Gill, Everett and Wendell

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EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

OCTOBER 1, 2015

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Century-Old Stormwater Siphons Clog; Low Flows May Spur Sewer Rate Hike

By JEFF SINGLETON

MONTAGUE – At its September 28 meeting, the town selectboard was presented with a request from Bob Trombley of the water pollution control facility (WPCF) for a 10% hike in sewer rates. The rate increase would fund the current WPCF budget passed by town meeting last May.

Trombley's proposal, which was immediately questioned by select-

board member Chris Boutwell, will require a public hearing before it is voted on by the board.

Trombley was accompanied at the front table by engineer Grant Weaver, who has consulted with the facility on innovative measures to process sludge from outside sources. As Weaver and Trombley have often pointed out, these innovations generate significant revenue for the facility which, in the past, has

see **MONTAGUE** page A5

Erving's Health Board Hears Pipeline Concerns

By KATIE NOLAN

At the September 24 Erving board of health meeting, Dr. Curtis Nordgaard, a resident in Urban Health and Advocacy at Boston Children's Hospital, cautioned against building infrastructure such as the Kinder-Morgan Northeast Energy Direct (NED) pipeline and associated compressor stations "when we don't know the risk we're taking with health."

"Will this harm us?" Dr. Nordgaard asked. "We just don't know – there's no data."

Approximately 20 people attend-

ed the board of health meeting to provide comments on the proposed NED natural gas pipeline. Board chair Cyd Scott had all comments transcribed by a stenographer, for submitting to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, which is deciding whether to permit the pipeline.

"Citizens need to be heard by FERC," Scott said. He noted that Kinder-Morgan declined to send a representative to the meeting.

Nordgaard, who attended via Skype, said that, in general, data on emissions from compressor stations,

see **ERVING** page A8

A New Home for Gary's Coins

By JEN HOLMES

TURNERS FALLS – Gary Konvelski has moved his store, Gary's Coins and Antiques, down the Avenue, from its original location in the Starbuck building at 115 Avenue A and into the Crocker building at 56 Avenue A.

The move was not for reasons of space or convenience, but rather was a result of disagreements with the new owners of his building; a situation that he felt would eventually become untenable.

Konvelski opened his retail business in Turners Falls nearly 5 years ago. He initially occupied only one room in the building, but soon expanded to the additional spaces in the back, and eventually took over the adjoining storefront after the Round Here Café closed.

When Gary's Coins first opened, Konvelski was working at Turners Falls High School during the day, and spending afternoons in the shop. As the business grew and he became busier, he couldn't contin-



Gary Konvelski is moving his business into the Crocker Building.

ue doing both, and chose to leave the school and begin running his shop full-time.

Konvelski says his primary interest is coins, and considers that, as well as the buying of gold and silver, to be the base of his business.

"The antiques are secondary,"

he explains. "The antique business right now is not great – it's a buyer's market. My shop is mostly like a museum," he says with a laugh. "But every now and then you sell something."

When asked if he has any items

see **COINS** page A4

A Portage At the Falls

By MIKE JACKSON

MONTAGUE CITY – When I ran into Matthew McCoy of Poultney, Vermont, he was pulling a canoe along the bike path in Turners Falls, wearing a "Source to Sea 2015" t-shirt. His canoe was up on wheels, and full of buckets. He looked frustrated.

Since "Source to Sea" is the name of last weekend's four-state volunteer cleanup day, coordinated by the Connecticut River Watershed Council, I thought at first he was on a mission to scout out illicit garbage dumps. As it turned out, he wasn't mapping anything: he was on Day 17 of a once-in-a-lifetime adventure, run temporarily aground at Powertown.

"I'm paddling from Caanan, Vermont – on the Quebec border – to Essex, Connecticut, which is pretty much the mouth of the river," McCoy told me. "Or at least, you don't want

see **PORTAGE** page A5



JACKSON PHOTO

Matt McCoy hauls his vehicle down the Canalside Rail Trail.

Hawks Win In Overtime Heartbreaker

By MATT ROBINSON

TURNERS FALLS – On Saturday, September 26, Turners Falls lost in overtime to the Frontier Red Hawks, 20 – 14.

It was a heartbreaking loss for Turners Falls, with key plays shuffling the momentum throughout the game. The game tipped up and down as both teams squandered opportunities and cashed in on others. In the end, it all came down to two 4th-and-goals. Two plays to decide a game in which both teams had fought all afternoon to win. As the saying goes, football is a game of inches, and on Saturday, Frontier was able to gain those inches and take home the win.

But Coach Chris Lapointe didn't seem heartbroken after the loss. In fact he was hopeful. "They're a good team," he said after the game, "and we played a good game." As the Turners football players left the field, the True Blue Faithful greeted them with applause, words of encouragement, and slaps on the back. You see, playing a tough opponent

as hard as you can is nothing to hang your head about.

A Hard Fight

Both teams played hard through the entire game. Frontier began their opening drive with wonderful field position, their own 42, but a nice tackle by Quinn Doyle forced

a 4th-and-5 from the Blue 42 and the Hawks were forced to punt the ball. The Frontier defense then stopped Turners, and then the Turners, in turn, stopped Frontier.

Turners began their next drive on their own 18. Doyle pounded ahead to the 20 on first down, and then Jalen

see **FOOTBALL** page A7



DAVID HOITT PHOTO

The bigger they are... The Turners defense takes down Frontier's Brandon Bryant during the Turners Falls - Frontier Booster Day Game at Bourdeau Field on Saturday. Frontier won in overtime, 20-14.

GMRSD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Dispute Over Collective Bargaining Reps Deepens

By ELLEN BLANCHETTE

GILL-MONTAGUE – In stark contrast to the last meeting of the Gill-Montague school committee, the public seating area was overflowing on Tuesday night, September 29. As the members took their seats, a room packed full of teachers stared back at them.

Sandra Brown, chair of the school committee, called the meeting to order, and opened the floor for public participation. Karl Dziura, an English teacher at Turners Falls High School and president of the Gill-Montague Education Association (GMEA), sat down at the microphone, introduced himself, and read a prepared statement about upcoming collective bargaining over three-year contracts.

Dziura reminded the school committee that the format the district uses for negotiations, called interest-based bargaining, requires "more communication and cooperation" than standard procedure in other districts. He also criticized the towns' designated municipal representative in the process, former school committee member Jeff Singleton.

All of this was in response to

events at a meeting held on September 15, off the regular schedule, whose only stated purpose had been to meet with members of the Gill and Montague selectboards to discuss their choice for municipal representative in contract negotiations.

That meeting became contentious when Brown announced her choices for contract subcommittees, saying she would not appoint any former teachers to the team tasked with negotiating teacher contracts. This would have ruled out members Lesley Cogswell, Valeria Smith and Jane Oakes.

Several members objected to this criterion at the time, and also to Brown's unilateral move to fill the subcommittees.

At the same meeting, the committee met with the selectboard chairs of Gill and Montague, Greg Snedeker and Michael Nelson, to hear their choice for municipal representative. According to the agreement between the district and the towns, the two towns designate one member to represent both in contract negotiations. This municipal representative sits in on all contract negotiations, and votes alongside

see **GMRSD** page A6

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The River, and the Mountain

Hats off to all who participated in this year’s 19th annual Source to Sea cleanup, and especially to local organizer Beth Bazler, land manager at FirstLight Power, and to all the area businesses and organizations who donated food, time and waste management services to the effort.

Source to Sea is a great example of collective action, with the contributions of individuals, private companies and government departments all strengthening each other to achieve shared goals.

Trash dumps are mapped out in advance, and teams of volunteers deployed according to their abilities to first collect, then transport the material.

It is then disposed of in a number of different ways: some burned for energy, some melted down and reused, and the worst at least disposed of in a safer place than the streams, ponds and riverbanks of our watershed.

Those of us who were born after 1972, when the Clean Water Act passed, have a hard time imagining the state of rivers before that. Years of stringent regulation and monitoring of the water our towns, cities and industrial users discharge into rivers has done much to change the paradigm that they are society’s sewers, with the added benefit that most people are more hesitant to dump their trash in or near them.

There are, of course, exceptions, and we wonder when we hear about the “four televisions, one computer screen, and one mattress and box spring” counted by this year’s local cleanup crew.

There are more television sets than people, and the proper way to dispose of one is to drive it to the Greenfield transfer station and pay \$25.

Think of how many disconnected TVs and CRT computer monitors must be taking up space in garages, attics, closets and defunct basement rec-rooms in this county, with its median age of over 45. We are probably sitting on an electronic waste time bomb, though it’s good to hear they’re mostly staying out of the river, for now.

Mattresses and box springs are \$25, too. The hidden cost of objects is quietly shouldered by most American consumers, but it is staggering to think of the disposal debt of our lived environments. Spring cleaning can be an expensive endeavor, and rural areas, with rela-

tively cheap storage space, can be havens for pack-rats.

There are multiple ways we can deal with our relative object glut. One is to have more social events centered around bonfires – though there are safety and health risks involved.

Another is to build plants that burn stuff in an attempt to capture energy, like the facility in Agawam owned by Covanta, which accepted thirty yards of debris from the local Source to Sea crew this year.

It gets trickier with more toxic materials, and as we scale up. We do have entire buildings, some of them quite large, that have become obsolete. Erving and Montague are anxiously watching the estimated costs of both rehabilitating and demolishing several empty mills pile up.

When these cathedrals of production were built, no one was thinking about the day they would be knocked down and turned to rubble, and they certainly weren’t imagining we’d ever want to restore the sites to something resembling their pre-construction ecologies.

Future people will look back at our era as a vast build-out of fossil fuel infrastructure. Global fossil fuel combustion is still accelerating. Oil is still cheap – this week the spot price of West Texas Intermediate crude was down to \$44.40 a barrel, about the same price it was 30 years ago when inflation is taken into account.

But what will happen to our fracking rigs, our lined wastewater impoundments, our pipelines and storage tanks, our compressor stations and ocean tankers and coal-, gas- and oil-burning power plants in the long run? What is the lifecycle price tag of this kind of infrastructure?

The licenses for FirstLight’s Turners Falls Hydroelectric and Northfield Mountain Pumped Storage Projects – encompassing a 62-MW hydro plant, a 5.6-MW one, a canal, a gatehouse, a dam, a 20-mile stretch of river, a mountaintop reservoir, and a massive underground powerhouse that can briefly supplement the power grid with over a gigawatt of electricity – are due for renewal in 2018, and are currently in the middle of a complex relicensing process.

To state the obvious, more electricity is used pumping water uphill than is produced when it falls



NINA ROSSI ILLUSTRATION

CORRECTION

In Part 1 of Anne Harding’s article on the Farren, which ran last week, we mistakenly said Bernard N. Farren and his friend, *Turners Falls Reporter* editor Cecil T. Bagnall, lived in Montague Center.

The two men lived in Montague City, the hospital’s location, but this simple brain fart drifted past author, editors and proofreaders.

Local historian Ed Gregory set us straight, and Bagnall’s ghost also showed up in our offices to rattle his chains sternly, if fondly.

through the mountain’s turbines: the facility is a huge battery.

Though built to complement nuclear plants, it may or may not have a role to play in a post-fossil fuel era – it depends how our power grid is set up, and how well other kinds of batteries work. It could become as obsolete as a television.

But most people assume the projects’ licenses will be renewed. What is less predictable is an eventual change in ownership, or in management.

From paying 80% of Erving’s taxes, to complicating redevelopment between the canal and river in Turners Falls, to picking up trash and helping boaters (and shad) portage the dam, FirstLight is simply the biggest show in town, and what happens underneath that mountain affects us all.

It’s laughable to think that the nuclear plant just upriver at Vernon will be responsibly decommissioned the year Entergy has chosen, 2075. 89% of the Fortune 500 companies from 1955 stopped existing in the same time period.

The utilities that own our landscapes are bought and sold like anything else, and there is no guarantee that the (and here some of our readers are sure to disagree) relatively accountable stewardship demonstrated by a company such as FirstLight Power – or its parent company, GDF Suez Energy North America – or its parent company, Engie – will be shared by their successors.

For the river’s sake, let’s hope the mountain stays in good hands.

Do You Read Both English & Spanish?

The *Montague Reporter* is planning to start a monthly page of Spanish-language content this fall.

We are excited to have a volunteer on board to curate and edit the page, which we imagine will include mostly original, local content, as well as some translations of our English language articles.

We’ll be sharing more about this effort in the coming weeks, but for

now, we’re looking to find a couple of additional community members who would be able to volunteer to proofread (and if necessary correct) the page’s final copy before publication.

If you’re interested in that, or any part of the project, get in touch with us at editor@montaguereporter.org, or (413) 863-8666.

Letter to the Editors



The Semi-Conscious Regions

Perhaps it is a sign of aging that I am responding negatively to the current fashions in woman’s wear. Then again, perhaps this is what the social scientists are referring to when they insist that we are living in a society that is increasingly sexualized.

I grew up with three sisters. I am exposed to more of the undulations of a woman’s body out in public in an afternoon than I ever was growing up. A sensible modesty prevailed at home. Catholicism had something to do with it, no doubt.

It is an undeniable fact that the buttocks is an intensely sexualized part of the female body. It used to be that the shaking and the shimmying of the female buttocks was a kind of come-on for sexual activity in intimate settings. Now we must suffer every ripple, fold, undulation of countless buttocks on the street at all times. Non-stop sexual titillation is the outcome.

The human male is sexually aroused as a biological imperative by the undulating buttocks of a female. But titillation is always a form of communication. Both parties are complicit in the semi-conscious regions of this powerful human drive. The way women dress cannot be dismissed merely as a woman’s right to free expression.

Given the violence, the abuse and misery that erupts in the realm of human sexuality, one would think that society in general would see a need to alleviate the scourge by encouraging a certain modesty of dress in public. But the fashion industry feeds on sexual provocation and both men and women are mesmerized more and more into revealing their ‘wares.’

If you don’t reveal your wares you get no attention.

Where is this trend taking us? Has modern society become so empty of meaning, of purpose, that we must exercise this irrational devotion to the sex act?

If the outcomes were a boon to society, contributing to human happiness, I’d be all for it. But there are no advantages to a sexually overstimulated society. One must surely be blind not to see the suffering - sex slavery, rape, sexual abuse of children, perversions, outrages, breaking-up of families, clogged courtrooms.

Any human being of good will must conclude that simple modesty in public can be a powerful antidote to our hyper-sexualized society.

**Ralph J. Dolan
Haydenville**

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Compiled by DON CLEGG

This Friday, October 2, the public is invited to a **ribbon-cutting ceremony for the LeverettNet broadband network**, a unique project that finally brought high-speed internet throughout Leverett this year.

The celebration will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. at the town’s public safety complex at 95 Montague Road. Senate president Stan Rosenberg and state representative Steve Kulik plan to join local town officials and Massachusetts Broadband Institute executives at the event.

Park at the Leverett Elementary School. Light refreshments will be served after the event.

Want to take the mystery out of **fine wines**? Join local resident Diane Kimball-Hickey of the Traveling Vineyard on Saturday, October 3 from 10 a.m. to noon at Greenfield

Savings Bank, 282 Avenue A, Turners Falls.

There will be answers to such questions as: “Red or white? What type of glass? Before-dinner wine? After-dinner wine?”

(Sorry, there will be no actual wine “tasting” at this event.)

The **“Franklin County Out of the Darkness” walk**, to raise awareness of suicide and support its survivors, starts at the Greenfield Energy Park, Miles Street, Greenfield on Sunday, October 4, starting at 11 a.m.

For more information on helping or participating, visit www.afsp.org/walks.

The first Sunday of each month the Erving Library hosts **Kids’ Craft day** with Katie. The program is free, and all materials are provided.

This Sunday, October 4, from

1:30 to 3:30 p.m. is a Sharpie Tie-Dye workshop. Just bring a white t-shirt, scarf or sneakers.

The **annual drawdown** for maintenance of the Turners Falls Canal begins this weekend.

Once a year the canal is drained so that it can be maintained for hydroelectric power generation, but it is also a great way to see what’s really going on in the canal. Shopping carts? Tires? Carp? Secrets? Jimmy Hoffa?

Join a Great Falls Discovery Center DCR Park Interpreter on Tuesday afternoon, October 6, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. as you walk the canalside rail trail, without getting in the way of maintenance, and see what you can see. Meet outside the front entrance to the Center.

Between now and Thanksgiving, the Erving Elementary School Library is hosting Wednesday night **picture book readings and community suppers**. Meals begin at 5:15 p.m. and readings at 6 p.m.

Every week, storyteller Mary Jo Maichak will present two well-known books for kids 6 and up and their caregivers. Contact librarian Jane Urban at (413) 423-3326 or urban@erving.com for more info.

Downtown Turners Falls has been **abuzz with construction activity** for the past month.

Power Town Apartments on Avenue A and Fourth Street, under new ownership since the spring, are going through an upgrade with window replacements, roof repairs and brick work. Many residents are also having new stoves, refrigerators, bathroom fixtures and kitchen cabinets installed.

The Avenue A Streetscape project is well underway, with a scheduled completion date of just before the 2015 Franklin County Pumpkinfest on October 24. The Montague DPW has repainted the lines in town parking lots and handicapped spots.

Many downtown businesses, home-owners, and renters seem to have caught the same fixer-upper bug, with freshly painted exteriors, window replacements and fall gardening projects.

And let’s not forget the long awaited groundbreaking of the Unity Skate Park, across the parking lot from the Unity Park fieldhouse. The crew from Seattle-based Grindline Skateparks is in town for that job, so if you see them be sure to say hello.

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.

Mass Incarceration, and Imagining Alternatives

GREENFIELD – This Saturday, October 3, Mel Motel will be leading a conversation at the First Congregational Church about mass incarceration and the connections between today’s prison system and U.S. slavery, racism, and labor exploitation. Together, those present will consider ideas for positive change.

An educator and prisoners’ rights activist, Motel directs the Just Schools Project, and teaches “Community and Restorative Justice” at the Community College of Vermont.

The event is part of Racial Justice Rising/Mass Slavery Apology’s

free monthly program series and will be held at the First Congregational Church, 43 Silver Street in Greenfield, from 10 a.m. to noon.

Doors open at 9:30. Admission is free; donations are welcome.

At the end of the program, attendees will have an opportunity to hear about opportunities to participate in local racial justice actions. To share information about your project, contact action-support@massslaveryapology.org.

For more information, or to reserve childcare, contact email@massslaveryapology.org or call (413) 625-2951.

FRTA Conversations

The Franklin Regional Transit Authority invites you to attend any of their upcoming community conversations where you can hear about proposed changes in bus routes and fares, and share your thoughts and feedback.

The meetings are scheduled for:

Thursday, October 8, from 12 to 1:30 p.m.:
JWO Transit Center, 12 Olive Street, Greenfield

Thursday, October 8, from 4 to 5:30 p.m.:
JWO Transit Center, 12 Olive Street, Greenfield

Wednesday, October 14, from 4 to 5:30 p.m.:
Montague Town Hall, 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Tuesday, October 20, from 5 to 6:30 p.m.:
JWO Transit Center, 12 Olive Street, Greenfield

For more information please go to www.frtc.org.

Montague Reporter Benefit a Success

By REPORTER BOARD

Thanks go to all involved in the successful fundraising event for the *Montague Reporter* at the Deja Brew Pub in Wendell on August 15.

Headliner Wildcat O’Halloran, with band members Devin Griffiths, Dave Kendarian and Aundra Brock, played all evening, creating a warm party atmosphere. Wildcat’s open, joyous attitude and generous nature led the band in mostly upbeat music, with a mix of blues and rock, lots of music with a beat, good for dancing. And dance we did.

Patti Scutari, owner of Deja Brew, was an ever-charming host. The pub and restaurant’s friendly, family environment added to the enjoyment of the evening. Scutari joined MR board member Margaret Sullivan in calling raffle winners, and worked the room, encouraging people to donate. The restaurant also donated 10% of what customers spent on food and drinks, a very generous contribution.

The weather did not cooperate with plans to have the band perform in Deja Brew’s backyard space. With threatening skies, and low rumbles of thunder brewing, the band and benefit organizers decided to move the band inside, setting up at the front of the bar.

This in no way limited the enjoyment. If anything, bringing the music inside made it cozy, and people in the large dining room in the back sat and ate, drank, talked and enjoyed spending time together while the rain, thunder and light-

ning were just background noise, covered easily with the sweet sounds of music.

Many thanks to the people who helped make this evening a success. First to Wildcat O’Halloran and his band members, who performed with the energy and commitment they always display, enjoying the show as much as the audience. Their contribution was invaluable to the success of the evening.

Thanks of course to Patti Scutari for contributing the space, and making the evening so much fun. Special thanks go to MR treasurer Margaret Sullivan for organizing and running the raffles, a big part of the fundraising success.

Many local businesses contributed gifts for the raffle: Baker Office Supply, who donated a Kringle Candle; Agway/Greenfield Farmers Exchange, Diemand Egg Farm, Floral Affairs, French King Restaurant, Home Depot, Loot, Raus Sunoco, Upinngil Farm and the Wagon Wheel, all donated gift certificates. Many thanks to them all for their support!

Members of the *Montague Reporter*’s board of directors were all in attendance, and seemed to enjoy the evening entirely. Their hard work was a big part of this success. Ellen Blanchette arranged for the musicians, and provided the designs for advertising and posters.

It was nice to see so many of our writers and contributors, especially *Reporter* managing editor Michael Jackson, enjoying themselves, spending time together, and sharing stories over food and drink. All in all, it was a fun evening,



ANNE STUART PHOTO

Performing at the Deja Brew Pub for the Montague Reporter benefit on August 15, the Wildcat O’Halloran Band, with (left to right): Devin Griffiths on guitar, Aundra Brock on drums, Dave Kendarian (not shown) on bass, and Wildcat O’Halloran on lead vocals and guitar.

giving those of us who work hard every week to produce a quality local newspaper a chance to get to know our readers and each other.

Thanks especially to everyone who came out to support the work of the *Montague Reporter*. Watch for more events in these pages!



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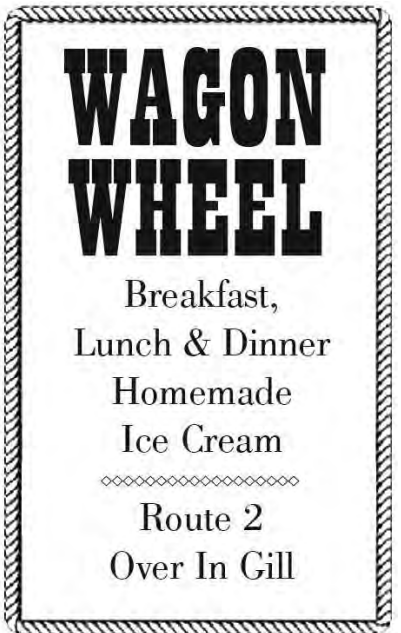
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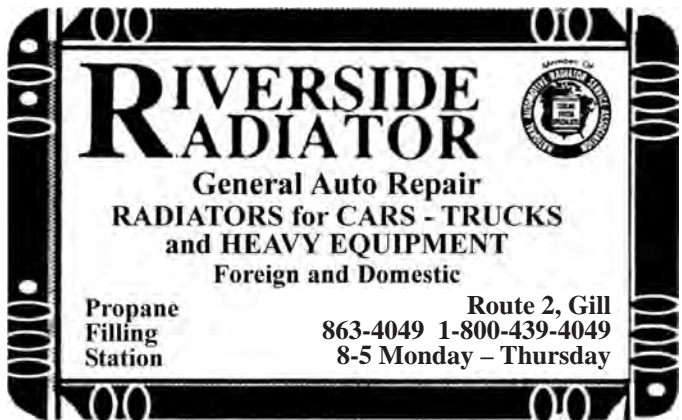
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COINS from page A1

that he can’t bear to part with, he explains that he doesn’t “get too attached to things,” but that some of his current favorite items include a charcoal drawing from the Civil War, an Edison record player in seemingly pristine condition, and a carousel horse, which he has yet to move into the shop.

“I Knew They Wanted Me Out”

This past spring, he also signed a year lease for the apartment above the shop. He knew the owner, Tom Cameron, was looking to sell the building, but Konvelski claims that he was told that any sale would include an agreement that the new owner would honor his lease.

He believed that a change in ownership would not affect either his business or housing, until he was reportedly told by one of the real estate agents involved in the May transaction that after the sale, he would “have no right to the lease upstairs”.

It was at this point Konvelski decided to speak with the new owners of the building, as he felt there were decisions being made that were not in his best interest.

“When Ya-Ping [Douglass] bought the building, it was like a secret,” he says. “No one was telling me what was going on.”

Reached for comment, Douglass said Konvelski’s lease with Cameron came as a surprise to her, and she purchased the building with the plan of moving into the two upstairs units with friends.

“When [Cameron’s] real estate agent showed us the building, she said that there were no leases for the upstairs, and that the shop just had month-to-month,” Douglass told the *Reporter*. “We put in an offer with the understanding that there were no leases for the upstairs apartments.”

“We hadn’t secured any living situation for the fall, with the expectation that there’d be two apartments,” Justin Helepololei, Douglass’ friend, added. “We were also surprised at the situation that we walked into.”

When Konvelski met with the group, they offered him a one-year lease for one side of the store, and a month-to-month one for the side that he had most recently acquired. He said that to him, it appeared that “they wanted that side of the store”.

“Both storefronts were initially on a month-to-month lease, but we felt comfortable doing a year-long lease for his main storefront,” said Helepololei. “That would have given him more security than he had had before.”

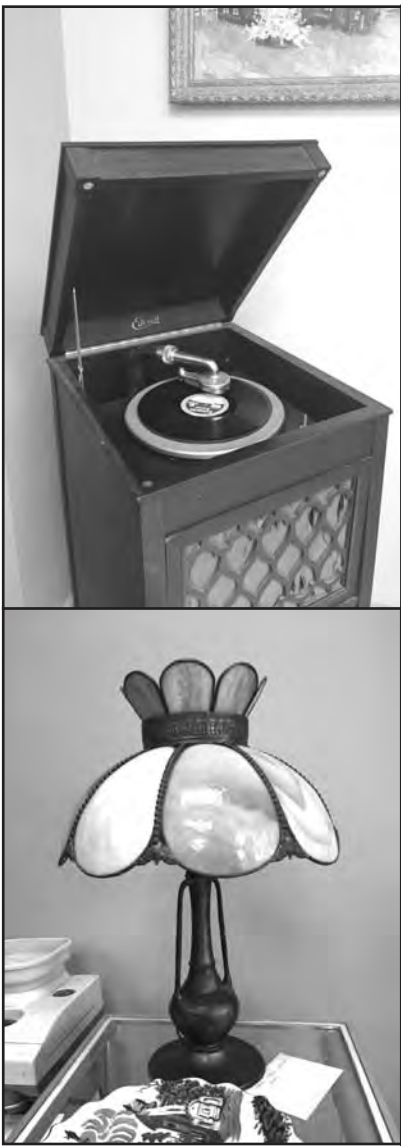
But Konvelski was worried about the future of his tenancy, and asked if the offered one-year lease could be extended, to which he says he was told “no”.

“Basically, right then I knew they wanted me out of the building,” he says, “and the only thing I had in my favor was the year lease upstairs [for the apartment].”

Konvelski planned for the proposed situation in which he would have a year lease on one side, month-to-month on the other, and would continue to live upstairs for the duration of his previously signed lease, a situation he says he would have been satisfied with, as it would have given him a year to plan for a new location.

But when it came time to sign the lease, Konvelski says that he was essentially told that he could not have both the apartment and the second storefront.

“They didn’t say it in those exact



Just some of the items for sale at Gary’s Coins and Antiques, including an Edison record player (top left).

words, but when they came downstairs to do the lease signing, they said, ‘you have to sign this [giving up the lease to his apartment], before we can do this [signing the lease to the shop].’ That kind of put me in a bind, but I said ‘Okay’.”

Disagreements continued over issues such as rent price, and Konvelski eventually agreed to end his month-to-month lease, and move his shop back to only one side of the building. He said he did this to appease the owners, in an effort to make his remaining time in the building less tense.

“I had to get rid of everything on that side and put everything into auction, because I had no place to move it. Putting antiques in storage doesn’t work well,” he explains.

While all of this was happening, the opportunity arose to rent space in the Crocker Building, a historic building owned by Crocker Cutlery LP and managed by the Franklin County Housing and Redevelopment Authority.

Initially, Konvelski says, the rent was unexpectedly high, but he was able to negotiate the price down to close to what he was paying at his original location. Konvelski then chose to move his shop down the street and to break his year lease with the new owners of his former location, which they agreed to without much issue.

Konvelski emphasizes that he does not hold any ill will against the Starbuck building’s new owners, but that he was disappointed by the way things happened: what he was promised and expected, he says, did not come to fruition, and he feels his side of the story was not often heard.

In The Right Direction

Despite these events, Konvelski continues to be optimistic and future-oriented, not only about his business, but about the development of downtown Turners Falls in general.

“I think the town is going in the right direction,” he says, “but we don’t want to lose storefronts”.

Konvelski cites his now-former building as a place of concern, particularly as there is no definite plan

for the space once he is fully moved out at the end of October.

“There needs to be storefronts. We need to have businesses selling goods, because that’s what brings people into town,” he says. Konvelski believes in businesses supporting each other, and says that when customers visit his store, they often will ask where to get a bite to eat or which other stores are worth visiting, and he is happy to offer suggestions.

Most recently, he helped support the owners of Loot, John McNamara and Erin MacLean, with their ‘Rescued Art’ auction, with proceeds going to benefit the Franklin County Sheriff’s Office Regional Dog Shelter, located in Turners.

Konvelski says that he has been friends with Loot’s owners for many years, and offered to help put together a live auction in addition to the silent auction they were already planning.

The HRA agreed to let him move into the space earlier than the initial lease date of October 1 in order to provide a space for the auction. Konvelski, who has experience working in auction houses, was the auctioneer for the event, which raised over \$3,400 for the shelter.

“It was fun. I’d love to do one again,” he says.

Overall, Konvelski feels that the town has “made a big turn around” in the last five years, adding that he has noticed a big improvement in the number of viable businesses downtown since he began running his shop in 2010.

Currently, there is no date set for a “grand re-opening,” but Konvelski hopes to plan something around the Pumpkin Festival, which takes place October 24, as he first opened the store during the event 5 years ago.

“We tend to not do much business during Pumpkin Fest – people don’t want to carry the stuff around – but I always really enjoy it,” he says.

As of right now, his shop is open for business, though not all items are moved in yet, and may not be completely set up for a few more weeks.

With freshly-painted walls, and some items already organized and displayed in a visually pleasing manner by shape or color, Konvelski has clearly devoted a good amount of time to his new space, but he says there is still much more work to be done.

Despite that admission, he does not seem too concerned or hurried, suggesting that he plans to stay in this new location for quite some time.

HOLMES PHOTOS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

Boat Falls Off Trailer

Monday, 9/21 12:54 p.m. Confirmed 911 misdial at River Street residence.	9:50 p.m. Assisted on scene of medical emergency on Lillians Way.	call from High Street residence. Found to be child playing with phone.
Tuesday, 9/22 11:25 a.m. Report of breaking & entering in progress at old mill on Papermill Road. Unable to locate subjects. 1:35 p.m. Welfare check on Northfield Road resident. All set.	Thursday, 9/24 9:10 a.m. Investigated report of motor vehicle crash at Route 2 and Old State Road. 10 a.m. Report of neighbor dispute on High Street. Mediated situation.	Friday, 9/25 9:45 a.m. Complaint of tractor trailer parked in front of convenience store on Route 2. Same moved.
Wednesday, 9/23 2:50 p.m. Welfare check on East Prospect Street resident. Found to be fine.	10:40 a.m. Welfare check on Old State Road resident. Same not at home. 6:04 p.m. 911 hangup	Saturday, 9/26 6:10 p.m. Report from vehicle towing boat on Route 2: boat fell off trailer. Assisted in restoring boat to trailer.

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MONTAGUE from page A1

kept town sewer rates stable. However, significant new investments will be required to keep the revenue increasing which, it was suggested, will be used to fund needed debt service.

Charles Blanker of the Southworth Paper Company, the largest single sewer user in Montague, said the 10% rate increase was not “clearly justified” by the spreadsheet he had received from Trombley. The WPCF budget has increased by just over 3%.

Blanker also questioned the WPCF’s “retained earnings,” which this year is over \$200,000. This represents the positive balance between revenue and expenditure of the previous fiscal year, much like the town’s free cash.

Articles going before the October 1 special town meeting seek to allocate half the retained earnings to “reduce sewer rates,” and the other half to increase the department’s stabilization fund.

Town accountant Carolyn Olsen said the 10% rate increase is needed to fund the pollution control budget approved at the May annual town meeting. Part of the reason for the

gap between the budget increase and the rate increase is a decline in the “flow” coming into the treatment plant, much like a decline in property values will produce an increase in the property tax rate.

Blankert said he thought a decline in flow coming into the plant should produce a decline in expenditures.

Selectboard member Chris Boutwell stated that he could not, at this time, support a 10% increase for sewer users in Turners Falls.

Board member Rich Kuklewicz noted that the board was having an initial discussion of the numbers, not making a final decision.

Kuklewicz also suggested that the WPCF should look into protecting the “intellectual property” associated with the process innovations it has made.

Trombley stated that the facility was still “trying to define the science” behind the innovations, which had “a few people scratching their heads.” He stressed the hard work and commitment of department staff: “How do you patent that?”

Old Drain Still Blocked Up

Trombley remained in the room

for a presentation by his colleague Tom Bergeron, superintendent of the Department of Public Works.

Bergeron began by reporting on progress in cleaning the large stormwater drain which begins at Avenue A, passes next to Food City, proceeds under the power canal and eventually sends runoff into the Connecticut River.

The portion of the drain that passes under the canal is divided into two “siphons,” which have become clogged with debris and sand. A portion of a large May town meeting appropriation (\$294,000) was to be used to investigate and unclog the siphons.

Bergeron said a contractor, Wind River Environmental, cleaned a large amount of sand from one of the siphons, but it immediately filled up with more water and sand. This appeared to come from the other siphon, suggesting either an inaccurate schematic map of the system, which dates from 1914, or a breakdown in the wall between the two siphons.

Work on the cleaning had to be stopped, because the project was using up too much of the town meeting appropriation. Bergeron

also suggested that continued work might risk a collapse and the draining of the power canal itself.

Bergeron then expressed concerns that another sewer line, on Ninth Street, appeared to have “no pipe” for approximately 180 feet, and Trombley chimed in that sewer problems at the industrial park last year were causing large amounts of “fine grit” to clog up the machinery in his plant.

At this point, Kuklewicz stated that the town needed to come up with a list of priorities based on levels of risk.

More Bad News

Kuklewicz then asked Bergeron for an update on the Millers Falls Road drainage and restoration project. The project, funded by a federal emergency management grant, is designed to mitigate erosion caused by water flowing from two directions and spilling over a hill to the north of the road.

Bergeron replied that the new drainage system, designed to withstand a one-hundred-year storm event, had washed away on September 9, been fixed, and then washed out again a day later. He speculated

that it may have “not been properly installed,” and said he had taken pictures of the project.

Now, a pipe from the road will be extended all the way to the bottom of the runoff hill. Kuklewicz asked what was to keep that pipe from “moving down the hill.” Bergeron said it could be buried under gravel.

Olsen attempted to make officials feel better about the town’s infrastructure woes by noting that “everything is fine in the accounting office.”

Other Business

John Rathbun was appointed to the WPCF as a full-time laborer, pending a physical exam.

Montague Center resident Roy Rosenblatt was appointed to the town’s Community Development Block Grant advisory committee.

The board approved the sale of a piece of Green Pond Road real estate by auction for \$11,000.

It also approved a sign to be placed on Masonic Avenue between October 4 and 17 to announce an open house of the Harmony Lodge.



PORTAGE from pg A1

to go further than that in a canoe.”

McCoy, who retired earlier this summer from his job as safety director at Green Mountain Power, described the trip as a “bucket list” endeavor, one he had planned to undertake with a friend. After that friend was injured in a skiing accident, he decided to go it alone.

“I left Brattleboro about 4:30 this morning,” he said. “Rule one of paddling: If you have a tailwind, don’t stop... I portaged Vernon at six.”

Wiping the sweat from his brow with the quiet efficiency of a man who had spent the last two and a half weeks doing little else, McCoy opened a Ziploc bag and pulled out his dog-eared guidebook, *The Connecticut River Boating Guide: Source to Sea, Third Edition*, and asked me just how he could get to Poplar Street.

Only then did I realize the gravity of McCoy’s predicament. He was near the end of his portage at Turners Falls, which he described as by far the most difficult he had encountered since the Canadian border.

“The power company is supposed to provide portage,” he said. “It’s a requirement of their license.” And indeed, when he pulled his canoe ashore at the Barton Cove boat ramp earlier that afternoon, he had found a sign with a phone number on it:

“Downstream portage service around the Turners Falls dam is provided by FirstLight Hydro Generating Company, free of charge. When you reach Barton Cove, you can request a portage.... Tell the operator your location. Within an hour, a truck should arrive to assist you.”

But McCoy had reached the Great Falls at just the wrong time. “I called that number,” he said, exasperated, “but it just – ‘if you know who you’re calling, dial their extension; if you know their last name...’”

I later spoke with Bill Gabriel, manager of the business center at Northfield Mountain, who was surprised to hear the number, (413) 659-3761, hadn’t worked.

“You call up, and the guys come and portage,” he said. “That’s the number that’s been posted, and the one we’ve used for years.”

I called the number and was immediately connected with an operator at the Northfield Mountain control room, who identified himself as Tim. Tim, too, insisted the line should work, even on a Sunday.

“We may have had issues with the phone on that day,” he said, when I told him about McCoy’s apparent bad luck.

Undeterred, McCoy had strapped on his carts, turning his boat into a two-axle vehicle, and enjoyed a lunch at the Wagon Wheel before walking south across the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge. “That bridge has got a wide shoulder on one side of it,” he remarked. “I was amazed!”

From there, McCoy had turned past the Discovery Center onto the bike path, and ventured southward until he ran into the local newspaper editor. I was unable to convince him of Poplar Street’s exact location using a little map on my telephone screen, so I decided to walk along with my bike.

The *Boating Guide* is published by the Watershed Council, who might just name everything Source to Sea, and McCoy testified that it was an excellent resource. (Used copies go for between \$100 and \$400 on Amazon.com.)

He said his inspiration for the trip came from a friend who had paddled Vermont’s Otter Creek, and from “reading American history – how they moved about in New England, pre-colonial times.”



Back to the river: McCoy prepares to send his craft down the steep embankment at Montague City.

McCoy proudly showed me pictures of some of the coolest things he had scene on his trek, including a virtually intact rock crib, part of the infrastructure used long ago to control the river’s massive log drives.

“It looks like it was made fifty years ago,” he said of the manmade island, constructed by building a box of logs on the winter ice and then filling it with heavy rocks. And it really did.

His worst trouble had been headwind. “A wind speed of 10 miles per hour,” he explained, “affects the boat, and the person, the same regardless of the width of the river. But when the river widens up, that wind speed starts to chop the surface – it’s like riding your bike on a bumpy road.”

With the next weekend’s cleanup, led locally by the same power company, FirstLight Power Resources, still on my mind, I asked McCoy how much trash he had seen on his journey.

“You know, it’s not that bad,” he replied. “Industrial stuff, you don’t see much of that – old tires, you may come across one once in a while. You get kid party spots.... Not like the old days, for sure.

“Most of it’s what I would call litter: beer cans, and food; someone went camping and left their shit behind. But not too bad.”

In Montague City, we waved to *Gardener’s Companion* columnist Leslie Brown, who was enjoying the muggy afternoon from a lawn chair, and watched a boy wipe out on his dirt bike and escape unscathed. And then we were at the portage point.

“This is actually not as bad as it looks,” he said, peering down the steep, root-ridden bank by the old railway bridge abutment.

We carried his buckets down – five-gallon pails with waterproof screw-on lids – and then he slid the canoe, which he told me was made of the same high-quality polypropylene as milk crates, right down the embankment.

Clambering down after it, he started once again loading his gear, then took a minute to gaze downriver.

McCoy said there would be at least two more portages: around the Holyoke dam, and at Enfield, Connecticut, where a dam had been removed but a waterfall remained. I asked him how long he expected it would take him to reach his destination, given all that headwind.

“I told my wife I’d be home on October first,” he admitted. It was September 20th. I couldn’t quite read the expression on his face.

“It’s gonna be some long days with the paddle.”



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October 10: Girls Try Hockey For Free Day

AMHERST – The Amherst Hockey Association is hosting a Girls Try Hockey for Free Day Saturday, October 10 from 2 to 4 p.m. at the University of Massachusetts Mullins Center Community Rink.

Girls ages 4 and up are encouraged to experience ice hockey for the first time, and learn the basic skills in a fun, safe environment. Come skate with members of the UMass Women’s Hockey Team.

No skating experience required. Free skate rentals available. Hockey helmets will be provided and fitted, or bring your own. Skaters should have hockey or winter gloves. There will be a used equipment sale from 3 to 5 p.m.

The Amherst Hockey Association is launching a girls’ division to recruit, retain, and fine-skill train girl players. The Association serves youth in Amherst, Belchertown, Hadley, Hatfield, Leverett, Pelham, Shutesbury, Sunderland and Ware.

Register at amhersthockey.org, and for more information, contact Karen Skolfield at skolfield@engin.umass.edu.

GMRSD from page A1

school committee members.

Snedeker deferred to Nelson, the designee representing the towns, and Nelson in turn announced he would appoint Singleton. Brown pressed Nelson to do the job himself, but he declined.

At Tuesday’s meeting, Brown clarified that the school committee has no control over who the towns designate as their representative.

She also wanted to let everyone know that the school committee had voted to follow the interest-based bargaining process, which was well received by those gathered in the room.

Brown said she understands the teachers want to get the best deal, but that the school committee members are “supposed to be negotiating for the whole district.”

Brown also told the *Reporter* after Tuesday’s meeting that she felt it was “extraordinary that the teachers tried to influence the composition of the district’s negotiating team.” She added, “They want to get teachers on the team to negotiate for teachers.”

With the end of statements from the public, Brown moved on to making appointments for negotiating subcommittees, beginning with Unit A, the teachers’ contract negotiating team. Brown assigned herself and members Michael Langknecht and Christina Postera, with Langknecht as chair.

Brown continued with her choices for Units C and D, but a motion

interrupted her. Jane Oakes, who had made it clear on September 15 that she was interested in serving on the Unit A subcommittee, requested that members vote to approve the chair’s choices for all negotiating subcommittees. Valeria “Timmie” Smith seconded this motion.

In the discussion that followed, Postera said that she wasn’t comfortable with the way the process had been done, and that she didn’t know there were others that wanted to serve and were excluded.

Oakes said in the past there was usually a deliberative process that gave members a chance to make their interests known: the chair would ask members to state their preferences, and if not enough members “volunteered” for a subcommittee, the chair would make assignments as necessary.

Phillips added that subcommittees select their own chairs.

The committee agreed to vote on Brown’s proposed appointments. They failed, 4 – 5, with Brown, Langknecht, Marjorie Levenson and April Reipold voting for approval, and Phillips, Oakes, Smith, Postera, Lesley Cogswell voting against.

Oakes then tried to make a motion to consider other members for Unit A subcommittee, but Brown ruled that this was not on the agenda and would have to be considered at the committee’s October 13 meeting.

Contract negotiations are due to begin on November 15.



NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Farmland Restrictions Scuttle Recreation Grant

By JOSH HEINEMANN

At the Wendell selectboard’s September 23 meeting, Jay Rasku from Mount Grace Land Trust was expected to bring information about which of the several ideas floated at the September 9 and September 16 meetings would be appropriate for the \$70,000 Landscape Partnership grant. That grant is open to Wendell in conjunction with conservation restrictions being placed on land in Wendell and in Montague.

Instead, Rasku sent the town an email a day before the meeting, reporting that none of the ideas would be accepted, because they all involved developing prime agricultural land.

With that news, open space committee member Ray Didonato called town coordinator Nancy Aldrich and mentioned possible town-owned brownfield sites near Wendell Depot, but the grant application was due September 30, and there was not enough time to narrow down a new and appropriate site, create a plan, and write the application.

Junk, Trash or Art?

Because of a complaint made to the board of health about a junk collection in a neighbor’s yard, board of health chair Nina Keller met the board at the meeting’s start, along with building inspector Phil Delorey and planning board chair Nan Riebschlaeger. Wendell has a bylaw for automobile salvage yards, and restricts residents to two unregistered vehicles in their yards, but Wendell does not have rules for collections of other junk.

Keller said that the board of health can act when the junk attracts vermin, when there are odors, noise, seepage, or when groundwater may be affected. The state has odor and noise guidelines. She had a copy of rules about cluttered yards from New Salem for selectboard members to read, but she said they were subjective and not very useful.

Delorey said he has gotten complaints about unregistered cars and excessive debris, but there is no prohibition on junk, or even a precise definition.

He mentioned excessive collections, and rusting, disassembled machinery, but he told the complainers that there is no bylaw. He said he has seen piles of rusting metal in an Erving driveway for years, with no apparent action by that town.

Riebschlaeger said any citizen can suggest a bylaw to the planning board, but the planning board must write it. First it is brought before a public hearing, and then can be approved at a town meeting. The planning board prefers to propose bylaws at annual town meetings, which in general are well-attended, rather than at special town meetings, which often have a low turnout.

Riebschlaeger added that she felt that starting to restrict what people can have in their yards is a slippery slope, which she would be cautious about starting down.

Delorey mentioned a parallel situation in New Salem, which went on for three contentious years, going to court and costing the town a lot of money. He said the court upheld his order to clean that site, because he was specific and objective,

and that there must be a way for the town to establish some standards, while also allow some leeway for residents, including some freedom for artists.

There is a difference between a person who collects things and stores them at his house, and maybe uses a piece here, sells something there, and a commercial junkyard. A commercial junkyard can have restrictions placed on it and must be licensed, and the license is renewed by the selectboard every year and any issues can be brought up then.

Nina Keller mentioned the old homestead of Rodney Beauchesne, which was called an “eyesore” as Montague grew, but where everyone would go to get an odd, needed door, hinge or whatever.

Selectboard chair Christine Heard asked whether people were interested in pursuing the issue.

Delorey said he would pull together information from other towns for the planning board, with the objective of getting a bylaw ready for the annual town meeting.

Pond Empty

Fire chief Joe Cuneo met the board with news that Bowens Pond, the fire department’s first choice in fill sites, was drained.

Firefighters discovered that fact when they attempted to refill the tank truck with water in the dark at the end of a drill. The permit for draining the pond to maintain the dam included a provision that the dates for the work be given to the fire department, but that little bit was lost.

The town has two other dry hydrant fill sites, and on the night of the drill, firefighters went to another dry hydrant, and were happy they made the discovery at a practice, and not during a working fire.

Cuneo said the air filtering system is installed in the fire station

GMEA President Dziura’s Remarks

I am here tonight to represent the concerns of these and other members of the Association.... For most of the past twenty years, the Gill-Montague Education Association and the Gill-Montague Regional School Committee have negotiated in a format called Interest Based Bargaining.

This kind of negotiation is not the norm around the state, and it requires more communication and cooperation than typical collective bargaining. Most of those who have participated in it have believed that not only does it make negotiations more collaborative, but that it fosters greater cohesion among the parties between negotiations.

Members were therefore disturbed to hear the suggestion from the chair that school committee members who have been teachers should not be part of bargaining. Negotiations have typically provided an opportunity for communication, and among those with an important skillset are the former teachers.

When we discuss the needs of students and the practical considerations for meeting those needs, people in the room with experience in education readily understand and constructively participate in such discussions.

Barring some of the school com-

mittee members from negotiations based on their employment choice – specifically, those who chose to serve our community by teaching our children and now do so by volunteering their time on school committee – deprives students of important expertise that is invaluable to supporting our district in its dedication to educating students.

Additionally, the members of the Gill-Montague Education Association are also very concerned about the appointment of Mr. Singleton to a position in negotiations.

Mr. Singleton has a history as a polarizing figure on the school committee and he was unable to secure reelection to that committee. He is not responsible to any constituency because he does not hold an elected office.

I know town officials may feel they do not have the time to participate, but appointing someone who does not hold elected office is undemocratic and the voters of this town should be very concerned.

The discussions that will take place during negotiations are essential to the continued success of our students. As the committee makes decisions tonight, and in the future, regarding negotiations, we ask that those decisions remain focused on supporting the conditions that will sustain student achievement.

and the highway garage, and it is working well.

Town buildings have smoke detectors, and in the library and office building they are connected to an alarm company that alerts the fire department when an alarm is activated and no one is in the building to hear it. The fire station highway garage, town barn, and town hall are often unoccupied, and their alarms are not connected to an alarm company.

The town barn contains expensive vehicles and equipment, and should be protected, but the options open are expensive. One that the highway commission chair is ready to pursue needs two dedicated telephone lines.

Dan Keller suggested talking with Berkshire Communicators, and Cuneo said that it may be possible for Shelburne Control to monitor the town barn using the two-way radio system. He said he would find out.

Heard praised the SAFE (Student Awareness Fire Education) program at Swift River School for its part in making children more aware of fire safety. Wendell firefighter Matt O’Donnell has taken the SAFE training, and has joined the New Salem firefighters who have been running the program.

The auction of surplus town materials was to be held September 26 at the town barn. Auctioneer would be Ted Lewis, with Dan Keller assisting. Selectboard member Jeffrey Pooser said he would put the list of items to be auctioned on the town listserv, and on September 24, he did.

Sharing Halted

Aldrich reported that state courts have stopped the effort by the Hampshire Council of Governments to aggregate domestic electricity bills, intended to save residents on their electric bill.

The problem was that the pro-

posal would have required homeowners who didn’t want to take the initiative to opt out, instead of the do-nothing option resulting in no change for the customer.

Effort Joined

Dan Keller said towns are joining a coalition to oppose the proposed natural gas pipeline that would run through Franklin County, though not Wendell.

The effort asks for a financial contribution, but joining the coalition requires only a vote by the selectboard. That vote was taken and approved unanimously.

The financial contribution can wait for the annual town meeting, because legal fees have not occurred yet. Keller suggested that \$5,000 might be appropriate.

Costs Up

National Grid was ready to send a representative to this meeting, but instead of a person they sent a letter. It read that short-term electric prices would go up from their summer low, but not as much as rates went up in the winter of 2014-15.

National Grid passes the generation cost through to customers, and has not changed their transmission cost for ten years. That will change in the spring.

Date Set for STM

Board members chose Tuesday, October 27 at 7 p.m. for a special town meeting, pending availability of the town clerk and the town moderator.

The warrant will include approval of a sick leave bank, zoning bylaws, and money for a consultant to work with the broadband committee.

Bravo!

The Wendell highway department has received an award for its outstanding work.

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FOOTBALL from pg A1

Sanders got the ball.

Jalen, who had been out with a rib injury since the Ware scrimmage, finally carried the ball, and he scored. He powered into the Red backfield, then put on the jets, sprinting all the way into the end zone.

Powertown was up 6-0, but Frontier wouldn't lie low. They blocked the PAT, stealing a crucial point from the Tribe, and then took the ball – and the momentum. Starting from their own 49, they crashed down all the way to the Blue 15.

But the Tribe tightened up, dug deep, and stopped the Hawks on 4th down. The first quarter ended with Turners facing 2nd and 10 on their own 13.

Then Quinn got the ball in the second, and banded all the way to the Blue 45, giving Turners a good field position at last. On 3rd and 4, Jalen caught a Tionne Brown pass and advanced the ball to the Red 40. Turners' drive stalled, however, after 2 short runs and 2 incompletions.

Frontier took possession on their own 36, with just over 7 minutes left, in the half. Again, the Blue D bent but didn't break. Red worked downfield all the way to the Turners 19, where Powertown again stopped them on 4th down, taking over with 1:37 left on the clock.

Turners was unable to get the first down and with 10 seconds left, was forced to punt. But the punt was blocked, and Frontier, in an amazing reversal of fortune, took over on the Blue 11. After dueling timeouts, Frontier scored with 3.2 seconds left in the half.

But the Hawks couldn't take the lead. Powertown's Special Team D prevented the PAT and the teams went into the locker room knotted at 6.

Second Half

Neither team could move the ball on their first possessions of the second half. Turners began their second drive on their own 20 after a block-in-the-back penalty on the punt moved them backwards. Then a bad snap and a sack moved Turners back to their own 8.

Frontier took over on the 19, banded to the 16, then the 14, and into the end zone, taking their first lead of the game. This time, they scored the two-pointer and took a 14-6 lead.

But Turners tied the score again. On

2nd and 10 from the Blue 26, Quinn Doyle ran all the way to Frontier's 6-yard line, setting up a first and goal. Then Jalen bounded into the Red end zone. Doyle added the 2-pointer and evened the score at 14, with 6:46 left in the game.

The Hawks again cracked downfield all the way to the Blue 18 but in another key play, Turners stopped them on 4th and 3.

With new life, the Tribe moved the ball out of their territory and into Frontier's. With 1:32 left in regulation, Turners had 1st and 10 on the Red 32, when a fumble into the hands of a Frontier defensive player stopped them in their tracks. He ran almost the entire field, but alert sprinting by the Tribe stopped him on the 14.

In another reversal of fortune, instead of pounding on Frontier's door, Turners now had their back to their own end zone very late in the game. Frontier grinded to the 8 and then on the next play, the ball came loose. It bounced into, and then out of, the end zone and Turners had dodged another bullet and the game went into the fifth quarter.

Overtime

In High School football, overtime is not decided by sudden death. Both teams have an opportunity to score. The ball is spotted on the 10-yard line, and each team gets four downs.

Turners got the ball first, but lost it on an incomplete pass on a fourth and. The Tribe stopped Frontier 3 times and forced a 4th-and-inches.

The entire game hinged on one play but this time, the Blue D was unable to stop the Hawks who gained enough inches to win the game.

Despite the loss, Turners showed an ability move the ball downfield consistently. Quarterback Tionne Brown had three completions for 66 yards. Jalen Sanders gained 135 yards on the ground, 62 yards in the air, and scored 2 touchdowns.

Quinn Doyle rushed for 95 yards and scored a two-point conversion. Jack Darling gained 17 yards on 3 carries. John Driscoll had 8 yards on the ground, and caught a pass.

Turners will host Ludlow at 7 p.m. this Friday, October 2.



The Dream: Remembering TFHS's Perfect, 4-4-1 Season

By DENIS BORDEAUX

I love Turners High football!! Having gone to the first two games of this season, I suddenly realized it has been exactly 50 years since that one incredible season of T.F. football – the one we players remember as “The Dream”.

Not dream season, or dream team, or even dream game, but simply: you wake up in the morning and say, boy, that was quite a dream! That kinda dream.

And that dream belonged to a quiet, new English teacher named Phil Capen.

To look at Mr. Capen, you knew he never had much to do with athletics. He was short and round, with red hair (all on the sides), glasses, and a shiny pate. He was a total ginger, so he was pink-white. As I said, he was new in town, and this being the ‘60s, half the town would turn out for Saturday football.

That kind of spirit grabbed hold of Mr. Capen like a vise. Not only did he become an extremely loud fan, but he turned into a *runner*, making sure he was lined up with the ball on every play so he could scream encouragement out of his pudgy, beet-red face.

Unfortunately, to begin with, our season was anything but scream-worthy. We lost our first two games unremarkably, and I only mention them because after that second game, we learned that six players – including four starters and a co-captain – had been thrown off the team for supposed beer drinking at a Saturday night party.

It was like a funeral at practice, and the rest of the season seemed murky at best. But the coaches put out an appeal for bodies to practice against. The response was good, and I believe we got eight guys to join.

To start, the practices were chaos, with fundamentals in short supply. To no one's surprise, we lost the next two, and any hope of salvaging our “Single A” season, let alone trying to beat Greenfield, went kaput.

Sitting in our stinky locker room, having just lost our fourth in a row, was our lowest of lows.

Then in walks Phil Capen, unannounced and unexpected. It was even a total surprise to the coaches. But we had all grown to love this guy, and they let him have the floor.

It started like this: “Last night I had the most vivid, three-D, Technicolor dream I’ve ever had. It was so real I still have goosebumps! In my dream you finished the season 4-4-1, and you beat Greenfield to achieve that record.”

He said that last part with a Knute Rockne enthusiasm that seemed to pull us together a little, and instilled an us-against-the-world attitude. So what if we had already fulfilled the easiest part of the dream, by filling in the loss column with a 4?

We tied Northampton the next game, got better each week, and managed to win our next three in a row.

Now here comes a very good, “Double A,” Greenfield team to Turners on Turkey Day. As if the futility of fifteen years of defeat weren't enough, one week before the game our starting QB came down with mono, and our backup, a senior in his first year of playing football, had to fill in at the last minute.

With miscommunication not a surprise, the first Turners snap was fumbled, but recovered. An audible groan was heard from the Turners side: OH NO, here we go again.

But on the second play, our fill-in quarterback handed off to our fill-in halfback, who raced 77 yards to the 3. Our fullback bulled it in, and that was the beginning of the end for Greenburg. We dominated, 28-14.

And it was the beginning of the end of Mr. Capen's unbelievable dream coming true. 4-4-1, WOW!!!

The town went nuts, drove us around in convertibles, clubs had banquets, and area restaurants gave us free stuff for months after.

Phil Capen moved on, and maybe made a career having dreams for high school football teams. No one knows.

But that dream, that year, came true under impossible circumstances. I know a dozen or so legendary stories, stories that area passed down about teams and players, and games.

Now that it's been 50 years, “The Dream” should be added into that special TF sports lore.

So, I raise my glass of green tea, and toast all my mates and coaches, here and not here, on our 50th anniversary:

Hail to the Blue, and wherever you are, Hail to you, Phil Capen!

NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Coordinator Search Committee Filling Up

By KATIE NOLAN

The selectboard appointed seven members to the administrative coordinator search committee: Beth Lux, Ben Fellows, Daniel Hammock, Arthur Johnson, Jacob Smith, Jacqueline Boyden and Philip Wonkka.

The committee will work with the Edward J. Collins Jr. Center for Public Management, Policy and Global Management, from UMass-Boston to recruit qualified applicants for the administrative coordinator position.

The committee still has two open seats. “I would love to have more residents involved,” selectboard member Smith said.

FY'17 Budget, Raises

A discussion about deadlines for departments to provide draft Fiscal Year 2017 budgets evolved into an exchange about the value of merit-based raises versus cost-of-living-allowances at the September 28 meeting.

Selectboard chair William Bembury suggested that draft department budgets should be prepared without

COLAs, and that COLAs or other increases would be added into the final FY'17 budget.

Johnson commented that raises might not be necessary every year, because “our town employees are treated very well.” Boyden replied that, without merit raises, town employees would have little incentive to meet or exceed their performance goals. She stressed the need for measurable long-term and short-term goals for employees.

Smith said that the board and finance committee discuss merit versus COLA raises every year, but the town doesn't have a fair, objective system for grading employee performance to establish who should receive a merit raise.

Tax collector Michele Turner remarked that some department heads may be more aggressive than others in pushing for raises for their employees, leading to an appearance of unfairness. She said that a merit raise system was good for both high performers, who would be rewarded for exceptional work, and for low performers, who would receive guid-

ance during the goal-setting process on how to perform better.

Wonkka commented that Erving firefighters, all part-time employees, have had only COLA raises and no merit raises over the years. He said that a consistent system – one that doesn't change with each new selectboard – was needed.

Smith said that the board should discuss COLA and merit raises with the finance committee and work out a grading system for use in FY'18. He suggested that raises could be balanced: when merit raises are higher, COLAs should be lower. “It is on us, and department heads to be very consistent and fair,” he said.

The board will schedule a joint meeting with the finance committee to discuss the issue. It is requesting department heads and committees to submit draft budgets by November 9.

Works in Progress

The May 2014 annual town meeting approved \$30,000 for purchasing and installing an emergency generator for Fire Hall #2. However, when installation was recently attempted, it was determined that the voltage specified for the generator was incorrect. The generator will need to be modified or returned, and either option could be costly.

Bembury reported that the deci-

sion on which generator to get was made by former highway/water/wastewater director Paul Prest.

Smith agreed to review the town's specifications for the generator, and the board will ask water department operator Pete Sanders to provide additional information at the next selectboard meeting.

According to Bembury, Elevator Associates, Inc., the contractor installing the elevator at the former Pleasant Street School building, started work before getting a permit. The regional building inspector informed the state building code agency about the lapse. The state agency will require Elevator Associates to prepare additional paperwork, and will review the design of the installation.

Bembury also reported that work on installing and testing the new boiler at Erving Elementary School started September 28, and will be completed in three to four days.

Other Business

Municipal clerk Betsy Sicard will provide a link to videos about Accela agenda and meeting minutes software to department heads and selectboard members. Department heads will be asked to provide their feedback to the selectboard by October 19.

Approval of the deputy fire chief job description was put off, pending review of the grade level.

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ERVING from page A1

such as the NED station proposed for Northfield, are limited. However, he said that the stations are known to emit carbon monoxide, ammonia, nitrous oxides, sulfur oxides, volatile organic compounds, and particulates.

Dr. Nordgaard cited Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection air-monitoring data collected near the Kinder-Morgan compressor station in Hopkinton, which showed increases in particulate matter emissions as the amount of gas transported increased.

He also mentioned data for a compressor station in Texas that showed increased levels of benzene at a distance from the facility, data from Pennsylvania showing elevated formaldehyde levels at 800 meters (about 1/2 mile) from such a station, and a New York study showing levels of particulates near a station at concentrations greater than the federal standard of 12 micrograms per cubic meter.

According to Nordgaard, long-

term exposure to fine particulates is associated with increased risk of diabetes, heart disease and asthma. He mentioned one study that found increased levels of headaches, sinus irritation, and nosebleeds within 500 meters (about 1/3 of a mile) of a compressor station.

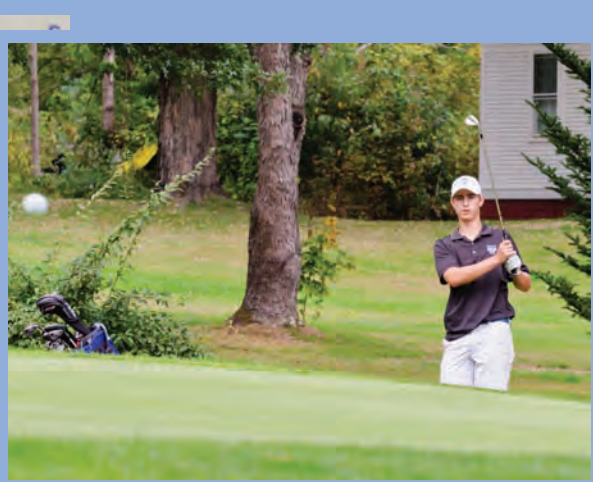
Nordgaard complained of “absence of data as to what is coming out of compressor stations.” He would like to see measurement of emissions, especially particulates, at compressor stations and studies of health effects near compressor stations.

One questioner asked whether state or federal agencies could require the pipeline operator to monitor air quality. Rosemary Wessel, founder of No Fracked Gas in Mass, replied, “they need to monitor” and added that monitoring could be included as a condition in the federal permit.

Scott said that Nordgaard is scheduled to speak in Northfield on October 25.



DAVID HOITT PHOTOS



LEFT: Turners Falls' Jordyn Fiske tips the ball over the net in a home game against Sabi's International. Turners beat Sabi's 3-2.

ABOVE: Turners Falls' Kyle Kucenski chips onto the green at the 5th hole in a match against Pioneer Regional held at the Northfield Golf Course.

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“Rough Magic”: Just One of Liz Smith’s Many Pursuits



By NINA ROSSI

MILLERS FALLS – Liz Smith’s energy could flow into numerous pathways at any given time, which makes even more remarkable the calmness and humor she possesses that tends to put others at ease.

Putting up hay with her parents in Millers Falls, Morris dancing, a busy day job, being a single parent to her son Granger – all these compete with the ever-present inspiration waiting on the workbench, where she creates her line of “Rough Magic Designs” jewelry.

“It’s great to have a studio in the house, but then you have to separate your time from the laundry and other chores. I start something, I have to stop after 2 hours then I won’t get back to it for another week and a half, and then something else see **SMITH** page B6

Top: A tray full of pendants used in Smith’s Rough Magic jewelry. Above: A luna moth necklace.



On the Merits of Local Food

By PETE WACKERNAGEL

FRANKLIN COUNTY – This year I started a farm. It’s not what most people conceptualize when they imagine a farm. It’s on three pieces of land, in three different towns. I own none of it, but have free tenancy.

The biggest piece of equipment I used was a walk-behind roto-tiller that I borrowed from a neighbor.

At two sites, I used only hand tools, building raised beds with the type of broad hoe that my dad, reminiscing hazily about his Peace Corps Golden Era, said was popular among subsistence farmers in the Philippines.

I’ve probably spent less than

\$500 on expenses and bought no industrial agricultural products.

Two inspirational anchors gave me the confidence to pursue a hare-brained scheme like this. One was my household, seven incredibly supportive individuals.

The other was a restaurant I work part-time at, which was instrumental in sharing some start-up costs, and handing me the keys to a beautiful matte-red ‘96 Tacoma that I love to pretend is mine.

Most important in wiping away my risk-aversion last winter, both my household and the restaurant lackadaisically claimed that they would buy whatever I grew.

There are a growing number of see **AGRARIAN** page B6

History of the Farren, Part 2

October 6: Farren Care Center Marks 25 Years of Service

MONTAGUE CITY – Farren Care Center opened its doors as a unique facility in 1990, providing services to residents who have been diagnosed with both physical and mental health conditions, and have been turned away by multiple facilities because of the complexity of care they require.

A special anniversary celebration is planned to mark Farren Care Center’s 25 years of operation.

On Tuesday, October 6, officials from the Sisters of Providence Health System, members of the Sisters of Providence congregation and Farren Care Center residents, employees and supporters will gather at 3:30 p.m. to hear from speakers who will talk about the history of “The Farren” and the importance of its role within the Commonwealth.

The program will also include tours of the facility.

The public is invited to attend the celebration. Farren Care Center is located at 340 Montague City Road. Contact: Mary Orr, Communications and Media Specialist, (413) 748-7217.



This postcard of the Farren Hospital was sent in 1908.

By ANNE HARDING

MONTAGUE CITY – First off, thanks to sharp-eyed reader Ed Gregory, who noticed that I mistakenly stated the homes of Bernard Farren and Cecil Bagnall were in Montague Center rather than Montague City.

I left off last week’s story with the Farren dedication ceremony of October 23, 1900. The following week, the local paper announced the first meeting of the trustees of Farren Memorial hospital. They included Bishop Beaven, Rev. Mother Mary of the Sisters of Providence, Mr. and Mrs. B N. Farren, Senator C.W. Hazelton, and Samuel D Conant.

It is not entirely clear when the hospital first started seeing patients, but the Turners Falls Reporter announced that the “first surgical operation was performed on Saturday, December 29, 1900 on Mrs. Frank Rice of the County Farms district, by Drs. Pierce and Severance,” and a month later it was proclaimed that “The Boston & Maine railroad company will hereafter send all their local accident cases to the Farren Memorial hospital, as being the really first-class hospital of this part of the state.”

Throughout the years there were frequent references to private citizens’ operations, accident victims, log rolls, and of course many births were celebrated and deaths mourned at the Farren. Many are

mentioned in the old newspapers, and one can explore the records in the Montague Town Clerk’s office to see the birth and death registers.

Bernard Farren died in January 1912, leaving an estate estimated at \$2.5 million, the equivalent of about \$60 million today. When his 1903 will went to probate in Philadelphia, it was noted that one of the codicils referred to Farren’s donation of the land and buildings of the Farren Hospital in 1901. The codicil stipulated that:

...in the event of this property being used for other than hospital purposes it is to revert to the county authorities in trust for a public hospital. In the event of county authorities not accepting this gift for this purpose, or if it was accepted and afterward used for other than hospital purposes, the land and buildings are to revert to such relatives or persons as might be entitled to the property as though Mr. Farren had died intestate.

The hospital was well used, and an addition to the building was constructed in 1928. By May of 1941 the trustees prepared for their first public appeal for funds to lighten the hospital’s construction debt load.

At that time, the papers noted that 2,038 patients had been seen in 1940, the largest number in the hospital’s history. It was also noted the hospital continued to be non-sectarian, with services available see **FARREN** page B5



WEST ALONG THE RIVER

What *Really* Happened in May 1676 at the Falls?

By DAVID BRULE

TURNERS FALLS – Over one hundred of us gathered in Turners Falls High School auditorium on September 19 to find out.

By the end of the four-hour session, we had inched closer to grasping the complex scope and detail of the infamous battle, also called a massacre, that took place at Peskeompskut, now known as Turners Falls.

We may never really know all of what took place on that day, but a group of scholars, researchers, archaeologists, tribal historians, and townspeople have been meeting over the past two years to piece this tragic event together.

The National Park Service is funding a Phase I study, and the Mashantucket Pequot Museum Research Team has been hired and charged with data collection and military terrain analysis. The September 19 meeting marked the

Team’s interim report, Public Information Session #2.

Team Report

Dr. Kevin McBride and Ashley Bissonnette presented their findings and progress as of this date.

They reported that they had completed most of the primary source document analysis, having visited numerous Historical Society museums and Historical Commission archives/collections in the towns of Montague, Gill, Deerfield, Greenfield, and Northfield.

They have found numerous artifacts of interest: musket balls, and random bits of materials that could have belonged to some of the militia who participated in the attack with William Turner.

Given that this Phase I involved research and data collection in museums, libraries, and state archives, there was very little fieldwork to report on, although “windshield” see **WEST ALONG** page B4

WENDELL FREE LIBRARY

The Fabric of an Artist’s Life: Clearwater Liberty



“Treesister,” by Clearwater Liberty.

By RICHARD BALDWIN

WENDELL – The Wendell Free Library is proud to host a memorial exhibition of Sara Clearwater Liberty’s fabric art from September 6 to October 31. Clearwater was well known and loved by many Wendellians, but this is the first time her art work has been shown publicly in our community.

A selection of twenty-three pieces from private collections fills the gallery space and makes for an intimate, tactile experience. In addition, there is a landscape tapestry on permanent display above the video section in the library, courtesy of the Wendell Cultural Council, and a large quilt hanging across from the circulation desk. In mid-October the Library display case will hold some of Clearwater’s floor coverings and small tapestries.

Clearwater wrote a statement about her work:

*I’m a self-taught artist and have been working with this art form for over 25 years. What looks like see **LIBERTY** page B8*

Pet of the Week



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touch them. Or not. They’re used to living with and are excellent companions for other cats. They will most likely get used to one or two people and hang out near you, or sleep on the bed with you at night. They’re great for patient, kind people who want to make a difference for a cat few have the imagination to help. They may not turn into normal acting cats. They like quiet homes without children. If you are interested in meeting our House Spirits, an Adoption Counselor will be happy to help!

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Senior Center Activities October 5 to 9

GILL and MONTAGUE	ERVING
<p>Gill / Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.</p> <p>Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Thursday at noon. Meal reservations must be made one day in advance by 11 a.m.</p> <p>All fitness classes are supported by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Voluntary donations are accepted. Council on Aging Director is Roberta Potter. Kitchen Manager is Jeff Suprenant. For more information, to make meal reservations, or to sign up for programs call 863-9357. Messages can be left on our machine when the Center is closed.</p> <p>Tues, Wed & Thurs Noon Lunch</p> <p>Monday 10/5 10:10 a.m. Aerobics 10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise 1 p.m. Knitting Circle</p> <p>Tuesday 10/6 9 a.m. Mat Yoga (Subscription) 10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga 1 p.m. Painting Class</p> <p>Wednesday 10/7 10:10 a.m. Aerobics 10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise 12:45 p.m. Bingo</p> <p>Thursday 10/8 9 a.m. Tai Chi, Veterans’ Outreach 10 a.m. Coffee & Conversation 10 to noon Flu clinic 1 p.m. Pitch & 5 Crowns, Mexican Train Dominos</p> <p>Friday 10/9 Reflexology appointments 10:10 a.m. Aerobics 10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise Noon Pizza Party 1 p.m. Writing Group</p>	<p>Lunch is at 11:30 a.m., with reservations required 24 hours in advance. Call the Mealsite Manager at 423-3308 for meal information and reservations.</p> <p>For information, call Paula Beters, Senior Center Director, at (413) 423-3649. Transportation can be provided for meals, shopping, or medical necessity. Call to confirm activities, schedule a ride, or find out about the next blood pressure clinic.</p> <p>Monday 10/5 9 a.m. Tai Chi 10 a.m. Osteo Exercise 12:30 Knitting & Crochet Class</p> <p>Tuesday 10/6 8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics 10 a.m. Stretching & Balance 12:30 Painting, Nana Prepares</p> <p>Wednesday 10/7 8:45 a.m. Line Dancing 9:30 a.m. Blood Pressure 10 a.m. Chair Yoga 12:15 p.m. Bingo & Snacks 1 p.m. Veteran’s</p> <p>Thursday 10/8 8:45 a.m. Aerobics 10 a.m. Healthy Bones, Muscles 12:30 p.m. Jewelry Class 6 p.m. Garden Meeting</p> <p>Friday 10/9 9 a.m. Quilting, 9:30 a.m. Bowling 11:30 a.m. Pizza Movie Snacks</p>
WENDELL	LEVERETT
<p>Wendell Senior Center is at 2 Lockes Village Road. Call Nancy Spittle, (978) 544-6760, for hours and upcoming programs. Call the Center for a ride.</p>	<p>For information, contact the Leverett COA at (413) 548-1022, ext. 5, or coa@leverett.ma.us.</p> <p>Flexibility and Balance Chair Yoga – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall. Drop-in \$6 (first class free). Senior Lunch – Fridays at noon. Call (413) 367-2694 by Wednesday for a reservation.</p>

MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

Week of September 28 to October 2

By PAM KINSMITH

Fall is upon us here in Montague, and we are enjoying the changing leaves from our offices downtown. This past week we have spent considerable time editing new footage for you to enjoy. Take a look at what is available for download and part of our tv schedule:

- September 13 Spiritualist Lecture with David James – A one-hour presentation at the Great Falls Discovery Center about the Lake Pleasant Spiritualist Camp, founded in 1870, which claims to be the oldest center of its kind in the United States.
- September 17 Gill pipeline informational meeting – Held at Gill Town Hall and sponsored by the Gill Energy Commission, with help from the North Quabbin Pipeline Action Group.
- September 16 Montague finance committee meeting – agenda items included recommendations concerning warrants and appropriations of funds for a variety of community needs.

• September 19 Battlefield Forum – shown in two parts, footage covers extensive discussions surrounding the National Park Service American Battlefield protection program and historical perspectives regarding the presentation of the battle events that took place in Turners Falls in 1676 as part of King Phillip's War.

• September 21 Montague selectboard meeting – meeting agenda items included the lease transition of the Shea Theater, a request from the Tennessee Gas Pipeline to survey land, announcement of a recreational trails grant award, changes to FRTA routes, noise ordinance management, and the town administrator's report.

- Get Up September with Carlos Anderson – A presentation of the spiritual teachings of Carlos Anderson, Founder and President of New Genesis Foundation Inc. and Life School Ministry.

Something going on you think others would like to see? Get in touch and learn how easy it is to use a camera and capture the moment! Call (413) 863-9200, email info-montaguetv@gmail.com, or stop by 34 2nd Street in Turners between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. We’d love to work with you!

THE HEALTHY GEEZER

Triglycerides?

Jessica Larkin Illustration

By FRED CICETTI

roids and birth control pills.

The common guidelines for triglyceride levels are the following: normal, less than 150 mg/dL; borderline-high, 150 to 199 mg/dL; high, 200 to 499 mg/dL, and very high, 500 mg/dL or more. “Mg/dL” stands for milligrams per deciliter.

The primary remedy for too many triglycerides is changing your habits. Here are some pointers on how to get your triglycerides down:

- Get off the recliner and exercise.
- Cut your caloric intake across the board. This means you have to reduce your consumption of not just fat, but carbohydrates and proteins. Substituting carbohydrates for fats can raise triglyceride levels. People with high triglycerides may have to limit their intake of carbohydrates to no more than 45 to 50 percent of total calories.
- Avoid saturated fat, trans fat and cholesterol. This is a complex subject. A good starting point is to stay away from foods that come from animals such as meat, dairy and eggs. But there are plant-based foods that are bad for you, too. These include oils from coconuts, cottonseeds and palm kernels.
- Eat oily fish such as mackerel, lake trout, herring, sardines, albacore tuna and salmon, which are high in omega-3 fatty acids. Research has shown that omega-3 fatty acids decrease triglyceride levels.

- A small amount of alcohol can generate a big increase in triglyceride levels. Cut down as much as you can.
- Quit smoking. If you’re a regular reader of this column, you must know by now that smoking doesn’t just cause respiratory diseases such as lung cancer and emphysema. It kills you in so many ways.

If changing your habits is insufficient to bring your level of triglycerides down, there are medications that can be prescribed. Fenofibrate, gemfibrozil and nicotinic acids often work to reduce triglycerides.

Hypertriglyceridemia can run in families. While high triglycerides don’t usually present noticeable symptoms, people with a family history of very high triglycerides may have visible fatty deposits under the skin.

Elevated triglycerides are often part of a group of conditions called metabolic syndrome. This syndrome is the combination of high blood pressure, elevated blood sugar, excess weight, low HDL cholesterol, and high triglycerides. This syndrome increases your risk for heart disease, diabetes and stroke.

In the next installment of *The Healthy Geezer*, we’ll focus upon cholesterol.

If you would like to ask a question, write to fred@healthygeezers.com.

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Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse

Saturday, October 3: Medicine Mammals

The Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse commences its 41st season with a special show featuring Wendell's own Medicine Mammals as both the performer and the beneficiary.

Medicine Mammals, a non-profit wildlife facility funded by donations and grants to raise and release injured and orphaned wildlife, offers educational programs from a native voice and perspective, about wildlife and the important role animals play in sharing the Earth with humans.

The group works with local veterinarians and raises orphaned, injured, sick and/or starving wildlife, with the help of about a half dozen volunteers who care for the animals until their release back to the wild. Among the animals served are bats, beavers, raccoons,

foxes, squirrels and chipmunks.

All proceeds from sales of crafts, cultural sharing or wildlife programs go to specialized milk formulas, food, temporary housing, vaccines and medical care for these animals.

The Full Moon Coffeehouse is located in Old Town Hall in the center of Wendell, offering a lively night out for music, fun and dance; always in support of a good cause. Come experience the Valley's only Dessert-O-Rama in an affordable family-friendly venue.

Open Mic begins at 7:30 p.m. For Open Mic sign-up, directions and further information please visit www.wendellfullmoon.org.

For more information about Medicine Mammals, go to www.medicinemammals.org.

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What People See In *Blind Spot*

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

On September 21 at 10 p.m. the show *Blind Spot* premiered on NBC. As the show starts out, FBI agents, investigating a possible bomb threat, find instead a naked young woman covered in tattoos and suffering total amnesia.

The tattoos turn out to be clues the FBI can use to crimes, puzzles that they need to solve in order to follow where they lead. The tattoos are fairly fresh and prove sensitive to the touch when the woman is being fingerprinted.

This Jane Doe does have some interesting recall still within her. She is apparently one heck of a fighter, and can speak a couple of languages, including Chinese, which she learns when she sees a photo of a tattoo behind her ear.

The opening scene is definitely what one would call tense. We learn of her ability to fight when she reacts quickly and becomes defensive – she doesn't even really realize what she is doing; she is just like, "what the heck." When I was watching this, I thought, this show is definitely going to hold my interest for at least one season.

A real bomb explodes during the episode, and a team of FBI agents and Jane Doe try to pre-

vent an even worse event from happening.

I won't say if they manage to stop it, but I will say that this woman sure is good with a gun. 'Mysterious' would be a good word to describe the things that happen in the episode.

The season preview shown at the end indicates it will certainly be an interesting series.

We are teased with a lot of twists and turns, including the suggestion of some actual memory recall, and an FBI agent who gets drawn in because his name is one of her tattoos.

If this show has even half of the action and suspense of the first episode, then NBC has a hit on its hands, and perhaps even a show that will run for multiple seasons.

Here are some interesting questions that I was left asking about this show: What if this woman wasn't tattooed against her will? What if she knew the whole amnesia thing was going to happen, and she underwent it more or less willingly? What possible reason could she have had to have this done to her? Who is this woman?

I believe we will find that out as the season continues.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Caller Threatens "Citizen's Arrest" of Art Fiend; Chicken #29 Goes Missing; 7 Car Break-Ins

Monday, 9/21

7:39 a.m. Report of a tractor trailer unit that isn't moving on the Turners Falls side of the General Pierce Bridge. Caller reports that traffic is backed up for a considerable distance. Area checked; no tractor trailer located.

9:11 a.m. Report of multiple instances of threatening and harassment on Central Street. Advised of options.

9:54 a.m. Report of hit and run accident at Cumberland Farms. Vehicle that left scene later located in Shutesbury.

10:06 a.m. Caller following up on activity from last week (subject spraying white substance on Avenue A). Caller spoke to a man who told her he thought the substance was Elmer's Glue. Advised caller of the disposition of last night's call. Officer observed condition of area earlier today while on downtown foot patrol and found no hazardous material. Caller called back asking that officers close the road and require the party to clean up the white markings; briefly mentioned taking matters into her own hands and performing a citizen's arrest. Advised caller against this. Officer contacted caller and advised her regarding the situation.

3:23 p.m. Report of a party that has set up a tent in Unity Park near the sledding hill. Determined to be a family playing in the park that had a small sun shade set up; not camping.

4:09 p.m. Caller from Federal Street reports that her white and brindle pit bull mix took off from home. Patrol units advised.

5:14 p.m. Caller complaining of neighbor on Millers Falls Road that walks dog off leash in area; dog will come into neighboring yards and rile other dogs up. Copy of call left for animal control officer.

5:23 p.m. Caller from Turnpike Road reports he found a squirrel in his yard that appears to have been shot to death. He is concerned as this area is densely populated.

5:41 p.m. Caller from Central Street requesting that MPD "be on notice" that she has noticed a black moped outside the shed in the back of the building that belongs to her neighbor. She stated that she does not believe the party has a valid license nor is the moped properly registered. Advised caller that

this would be documented.

6:02 p.m. Report from Central Street of a party and child being threatened with bodily harm by a neighbor. One party taken into protective custody.

Tuesday, 9/22

8:15 a.m. Caller from Millers Falls Road reports that a male walks his dog without a leash; caller has had to stop her vehicle several times for the dog as it zig-zags across the road. Animal control officer advises no one is home at dog owner's address; will try to reach owner by phone.

8:57 a.m. Caller from Bulkley Street believes that her locked car was broken into last night. Report taken.

10:22 a.m. Report of broken window and missing 19" flat screen TV in community room at Keith Apartments.

11:32 a.m. Multiple reports of a fight at 15 Fifth Street. Involved party declined pressing charges. Summons issued.

12:01 p.m. Report of threatening/harassment on East Main Street. Referred to an officer.

12:14 p.m. Caller from Elm Street advises that there are 2 skunks fighting at this location. Animal control officer advises situation handled, all quiet now.

4 p.m. Caller requests that officer check J Street location; she has reports that people are squatting inside, that there have been thefts of pews and damage to the inside of the building. Advised of options.

4:21 p.m. Caller from Central Street advises that the black moped belonging to her neighbor is gone from the shed. She believes the neighbor, who she claims does not have a proper license, is operating the moped, which she states is not registered. Caller called back a couple of minutes later to report that the neighbor just returned on the moped. Referred to an officer.

8:37 p.m. Caller from Wendell Road reports that a few days ago she and her husband allowed a male party to borrow a yellow Ford Ranger, and he has not returned the vehicle. Callers have not seen party since last Thursday, and he was reportedly not at his job today. Report taken; vehicle entered as stolen.

10:30 p.m. Caller from Central Street requests that

officer be made aware that her upstairs neighbor left the house on a black moped approximately 30 minutes ago; she believes that the moped is not registered and the party does not have a license. Patrol units advised.

Wednesday, 9/23

8:29 p.m. Caller from Vladish Avenue reports that one of his 29 pet chickens has disappeared. No description as caller only does a nightly head count and is not sure which one is missing. Officers advised of call.

Thursday, 9/24

5:56 a.m. Report of vehicle vs. deer collision on Federal Street at Kettle Hole Lane. Deer left area. Vehicle driveable; operator OK.

8:37 a.m. Vehicle vs. deer collision on Federal Street. Caller thinks that the deer is still alive. Caller had left scene, en route to MPD to speak with an officer.

3:07 p.m. Caller from Hillcrest Elementary requests that officer respond to the pickup location; yesterday there was a parking incident that had escalated. Both involved parties were spoken to today.

3:45 p.m. Caller requests police escort to pick up his pool table from his ex-wife. Services rendered.

5:09 p.m. Caller inquiring about laws regarding bicyclists in the roadway. Earlier, a biker did not stop at the red light downtown and flipped off the caller for "stopping in front of him." Caller concerned that somebody will get hit if they don't follow the rules. Advised caller that this would be on record.

9:28 p.m. Anonymous caller complaining of the noise level from Hubie's; requesting that an officer check it. Officer took readings at front patio and rear dumpster. Readings were logged; music was going to be turned down; ending at 10 p.m.

Friday, 9/25

3:50 a.m. Caller from Millers Falls reports her Jeep was broken into overnight and her wallet is missing. Caller later located wallet, but her vehicle was obviously gone through.

11:33 a.m. Tenant from Central Street reports the ceiling in his bathroom collapsed last night, but he is unable to contact the landlord because of an order that is in place against him. Officer responded in an attempt to verify claim, but

no one came to door. Messages left for caller. Officer advised landlord of situation; he will have a plumber check the problem. Original caller called back and advised that he has contacted housing court as well as the VA, and will have an inspector check the apartment.

9:32 p.m. Request for officer to remove unwanted party from Central Street property. Male party moved along and advised not to return.

Saturday, 9/26

7:45 a.m. Party from Dunton Street into station to report that his vehicle was entered last night and two pairs of binoculars were taken. Referred to an officer.

8:16 a.m. Caller from Montague Street reports that both his and his wife's vehicles were broken into last night. Items from previous call located in front yard of this location and returned to owner.

9:07 a.m. Caller from Randall Road reports a vehicle was broken into overnight; someone discovered the garage door opener, got into the garage, and took a laptop, a monitor, and a half gallon of vodka.

9:31 a.m. Party on Montague Street reports his vehicle was entered overnight; nothing missing.

12:17 p.m. Caller from Sunset Drive reports that his and his daughter's vehicles were entered overnight; nothing missing.

1:15 p.m. Caller reports that a beeping noise is coming from a dumpster in the Cutlery Block parking lot. Determined to be a smoke detector that someone had thrown away.

10:46 p.m. Officer checking on vehicle in Railroad Salvage parking lot. Boyfriend and girlfriend having some alone time. Parties moved along.

11:49 p.m. Caller from High Street reports that a female is trying to break into her house. Party taken into protective custody.

Sunday, 9/27

8:30 p.m. Caller from Our Lady of Czestochowa reports that on Friday, he was contacted by a man who requested to come to the church and have several items blessed. When the party left, the caller noticed that his bible that was cased in leather was missing. It was quite old and contained paperwork important to the church. Referred to an officer.

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WEST ALONG from page B1

familiarization surveys and a walk-over were conducted with the Grant Advisory Board members.

Landowner Input Sought

The grant’s advisory board and the four participating tribes – Aquinnah Wampanoag, Nipmuc of Massachusetts – Stockbridge-Munsee Mohicans, and the Narragansett Indian Tribe – under the sponsorship of the town of Montague, will seek funding from the NPS for Phase II this January, 2016.

The Phase II study will involve team fieldwork:

- a. Preliminary walk-over of properties/sites where important events occurred.
- b. Metal detector survey.
- c. Recovery and identification of objects and artifacts.

Applying for this Phase II involves an all-important list of landowners willing to give permission to archaeologists to explore their properties.

Explicit landowner contracts and protections will be in place including waivers of liability, prior notification of research dates for the property, clarity on the destination and ownership of military artifacts found on the property, etc.

This type of fieldwork will likely be centered in Riverside in Gill, as well as the approach and retreat routes of the militia through Greenfield and Deerfield, and tribal encampment sites in Montague and Northfield.

Landowner permission has been sought in some cases already, and during September and October, local historical commissioners will approach landowners in their towns.

Peter Thomas

As part of the research team’s report-back, independent researcher Peter Thomas was invited to present his exhaustive documentation on the events and historical context lead-

ing up to the day of the massacre, including details on the individuals among the eighty-five settlers and thirty-eight garrison soldiers who participated in the massacre under the command of William Turner.

Thomas established the Connecticut River Valley context of what became known as King Philip’s War, which embroiled most of New England in 1675-1676.

Between 1635 and 1673, the towns of Springfield, Westfield, Hatfield, Deerfield, and Northfield had been established and consisted of a combined population of 1,720 people, or approximately 310 families, spread out along sixty-six miles of middle Connecticut River Valley. Many of these towns were attacked, torched and partially abandoned by the time the winter of 1675 came around.

Thomas notes that the coastal English colonies’ population had exploded between 1620 and 1675, to reach 40,000 land-hungry “settlers.”

The native peoples who had lived in our valley for more than 10,000 years, decimated by European epidemics and English encroachment, fought back.

The Massachusetts, Narragansett, Wampanoag, Nipmuc, Pocumtuck, Sokoki, Nashaway, Pennacook, Norwottock, Agawam, and many others found themselves in a war for their very survival.

Over the winter of 1675-1676, Metacom (King Philip) and his community of Wampanoags, plus 300 to 400 Valley Indians, were living on the edge of starvation in Northfield. After the December 19 massacre of 400 Narragansetts and Wampanoags in the Great Swamp of Rhode Island, the Narragansett sachem Canochet led the survivors north to seek sanctuary with Philip in the Connecticut River Valley.

By then, some three thousand displaced refugees held on in this part of the valley, waiting for the spring



Left to right: Peter Thomas, Falls Fight historian; Kevin McBride, Mashantucket-Pequot Museum archaeologist; Wampanoag/Aquinnah tribal representative Elizabeth Perry; Nipmuc tribal representative David “Tall Pine” White; and Nolembeka Project director Joe Graveline.

planting and the May fish runs.

With the arrival of spring, several hundred refugees had moved downriver to a 10,000-year-old site above the falls and below the Narrows, to what is now known as Barton Cove, which was at that time a meadows campsite with Heal-All Brook running through it. Other sites were nearby in Riverside, Gill, and Montague.

Into this context rode Capt. William Turner, recently released from five years in a Boston jail for being a heretic Baptist in the Puritan colony. Sixty-three years old, sickly after his time in prison, he had attempted to resign, but was refused.

The May 19 battle lasted hardly a few hours, according to Thomas. The settlers approached from Hatfield, up the west side of Canada Hill/Wissatinnewaug, crossed Fall River at Factory Hollow, and stormed down on the refugee camp at dawn, killing every living person: the elderly, women and children. This has been documented as typical English strategy for hundreds of years: the Irish, Scots, and now tribal people were victims of the take-no-prisoners policy of English warfare. By killing women and children, the English sought to break the will, and the very repro-

ductive capacity, of the people they wished to annihilate.

That day, fairly quickly, the unseasoned settler militia panicked and fled back the way they came, when they heard that Philip’s warriors were arriving. Many lost their way, and many were killed in White Ash Swamp and never heard of again. Turner himself was killed in the vicinity of Nash’s Mill.

By the end of the day on May 19, Turner and thirteen soldiers were dead, as were fifteen settlers. Three hundred elderly, women and children of the Narragansett, Wampanoag and Sokoki were dead, either by musket fire, sword, or drowning in the falls. Rev. Hope Atherton and Lt. Samuel Holyoke were also dead within the year, from suicide or alcohol.

Panel Discussion

Elizabeth Perry of the Aquinnah Wampanoag, David Tall Pine White of the Massachusetts Nipmuc, and Joe Graveline of the Nolumbeka Project brought forth the tribal side and aftermath of the tragedy.

The tribal narratives will be published by December, with the final report. They brought balance to the discussion, in that so much of the massacre history was writ-

ten by the victors and rarely are tribal voices heard.

David White, in particular, evoked the suffering of tribal peoples, especially some hundreds of Nipmuc that had converted to Christianity. They thought they would be safe from the hatred and distrust of the colonizers. Yet they were rounded up and taken out to Boston Harbor to Deer Island, where they were left to die over the winter with no food or shelter.

According to tribal historians, some of the survivors of the attack fled the valley to seek shelter with the Mohicans. Philip was captured and beheaded, his family sold into slavery in the West Indies. Nipmuc leaders Shoshanim (Sagamore Sam) and Monoco were hanged on Boston Common. Pocumtuck and Sokoki fled to Québec to the French missions, where they prepared to take their lands back, returning with a vengeance in the famous 1704 raid on Deerfield.

This past September 19, we inched a little closer to a better understanding of the event. The forthcoming tribal narratives will be a historic breakthrough in providing us more perspective on what *really* happened that day in 1676, at the falls.



The Sardinian town of Orgosolo is covered in murals of resistance.

Silent Screams of Sardinia: Book, Exhibit Showing by Richard Andersen

By WILLIAM (AL) MILLER

SPRINGFIELD – Richard Andersen’s book, *Silent Screams of Sardinia*, presents us with an opportunity to look at a people’s artistic response to centuries of military and cultural colonialism.

More than half of the five hundred homes in the capital city of Orgosolo are painted with murals depicting those themes and the authenticity of daily lives.

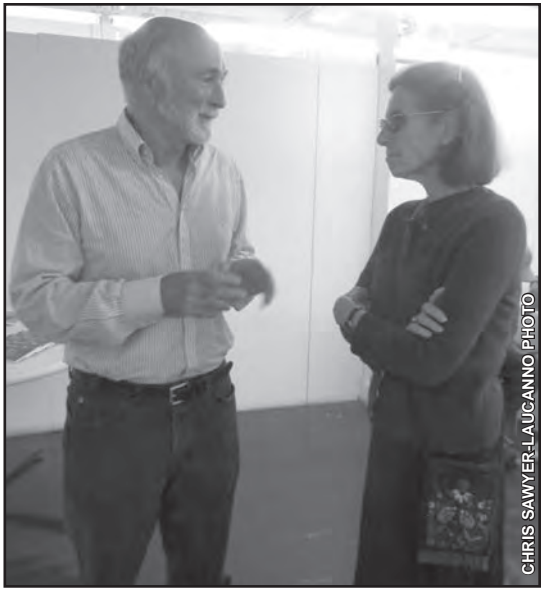
The inscription in the mural on the back cover loosely translates as, “Households of the capital going broke, workers a dying species” under the bold figures of a mother and child.

In another, a man’s hands are bound with chains as his eyes ask us, “Why This?”

Elegiac and arresting imagery that references both art history and powerful cultural resistance make this one of the finest representations of art and social justice ever compiled.

An exhibit of Andersen’s photos of these murals depicting the political history and struggle of the Sardinian people will be on display at the William Blizzard Gallery at Springfield College through November 6.

Reviewer Al Miller is the winner of the 2015 Pat Schneider Poetry Contest.



Andersen chats with Patricia Pruitt during the opening reception for his exhibit, “Silent Screams of Sardinia,” at the William Blizzard Gallery in Springfield.

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FARREN from page B1

to all, regardless of race, color or creed – and that more than half the patients seen were non-Catholics.

There was some controversy when four doctors lost their hospital privileges at the Farren in November 1948 for publicly approving of the “Birth Control” referendum on the Massachusetts ballot. This brought the total of lost privileges to 20 in the western part of the state.

In an April 1949 letter to the editor of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, Dr. Lawrence R. Dame wrote of his efforts to have this decision reversed, but I was unable to discern whether he was successful.

Transitions

The hospital continued operations, adding another patient wing in 1965. It is this wing that houses the current residents of the Farren Care Center.

As the healthcare industry shifted toward “managed care,” doctors were no longer able to recommend extended hospital stays for patients – instead, insurance administrators determined the length of stays. These changes led to a “loss of patients” *per se*, and along with many

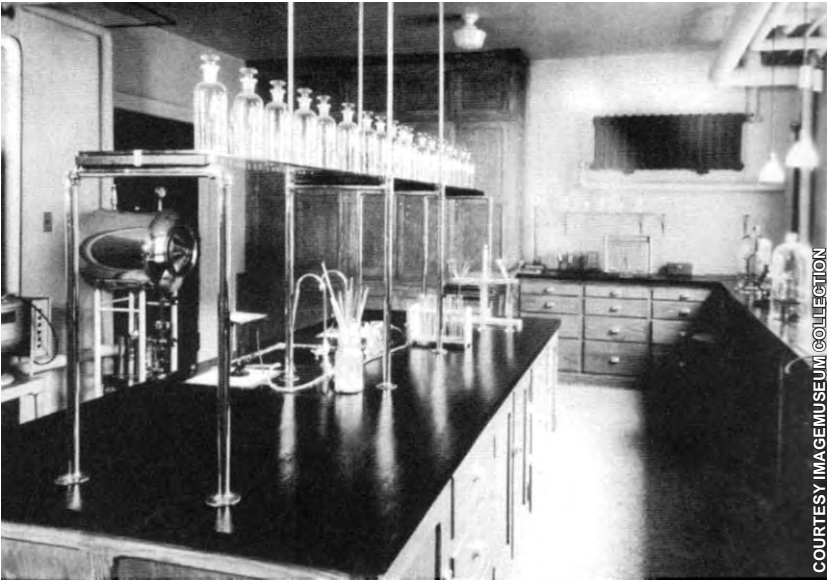
smaller hospitals, it was announced in 1988 that the Farren Memorial Hospital would close (in its present incarnation).

Maintenance engineer Charlie Trombley remembers the difficult transition. As the future became clear, doctors started leaving the hospital and taking their patients with them. When the State announced the closure there were mass layoffs, but Trombley says he was one of the lucky ones. He started working at the Farren in 1980, in security, moving to the storeroom and then finally joining the purchasing department.

As part of the purchasing department, he helped close the hospital by selling off medical and surgical equipment and shipping it all over the country and overseas.

The Sisters of Providence were not willing to give up their chosen calling and sought a new treatment niche. Trombley recalls an application to become a methadone clinic, which was turned down, and later an application to become an AIDS treatment facility, which was somewhat controversial at the time.

This was also turned down by the state as it was deemed there were enough facilities of this type;



The hospital’s lab, circa 1901.

although Judi Fonsh, the Director of Social Services and Admissions, says there is still a perception by some that the Farren Care Center treats AIDS patients.

The state finally accepted a proposal for the building to become a specialty long-term care facility, and Trombley was again lucky, because there were plenty of procurement challenges throughout the renovation process. A few years later, when the purchasing department was centralized in Spring-

field, his luck held and he started working with Dave Galbraith in the maintenance department. He’s been there ever since.

A Unique Facility

The Farren Care Center (FCC) opened in 1990. Trombley feels blessed to be a part of this family of care providers, and says, “We all work for the patients and anything you can do to put a smile on their faces, you just do it!” He says he’s grateful for a job where he feels so

appreciated, and doesn’t forget that the patients are at FCC 24/7, while the staff gets to go home at the end of the day.

Chris McLaughlin started with the Sisters of Providence 14 years ago, and has been Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the Mercy Continuing Care Network for 11 years. He spoke about the unique niche FCC fills as a MIMI (medically involved, mentally ill) center.

Their patients have been denied services by multiple facilities – one was denied by 70 – and tend to come with a host of psychiatric and medical acuities.

FCC works to provide a life-enriching “milieu” and serve the patients, in spite of their many challenges. He believes they are unlike any other facility in the United States, and possibly the world, in providing a family-like environment as much as possible.

In next week’s article, we will discuss the philosophy, services and community events that set today’s Farren Care Center apart. Stay tuned!



Scene Report: Autoharps, Banjos, and “Atonal Unforgiving Intensity”

By MIKE JACKSON

FRANKLIN COUNTY – Okay, so, fine: the internet pretty much did to the music industry what dirty water does to a paper bag, and everything fell right through the bottom.

An ever-shrinking core of hyper-rich stars, the 1%, are doing better than ever, while every other person is about as likely to make a living-wage career playing instruments, writing songs or producing tracks as they are picking tomatoes, welding handles onto trucks, or writing novels: Don’t quit any of your multiple, no-benefits day jobs, kids.

But the flip side of it is that there’s more great music coming out both in every recognizable genre, and outside of them, than ever before – if you know where to look. Lovers of any obscure sort of sound can find kindred souls, collaborate, record and sell small numbers of releases in an arbitrary format of their choosing, go out on tour once or twice before they die, and maybe break even.

A do-it-yourself tour of do-it-yourself venues: What better way to see the world outside? If you’re not some kind of creep, someone will probably let you or your band crash on their living room floor, and tell you where the best local diners and swim spots are.

Long a perfectly fine backwater with a friendly local music scene and a biannual train wreck of a jamband festival, Franklin County, MA is getting to be on “the map,” at least for certain kinds of music it hadn’t been before.

Two venues in particular, the Brick House (the performance space in a Turners Falls building mostly known as a teen drop-in center) and John Doe Jr. (a used-record store on Greenfield’s Main Street) have been host to a real slew of musical events over the last year.

Full disclosure: as a member of the Brick House’s board of directors and a proud bearer of a building key, I have helped host most of its recent shows. This mostly consists, at the beginning of an evening, of showing musicians which end of the room we usually use as a stage, and at the end, of making “nervous” faces and pointing at my watch. A quarter of what attendees put in the hat helps fund the teen center. It’s a win/win.

Last Week

Last week we had three shows at the Brick House. **The Hartley C. White Project** played on Monday – a group of older musicians from New York City, backing Hartley, a poet and

composer with a style and sound all his own, on his first ever tour.

These included the multi-talented Angie Rodriguez-Finn, and also Larry McDonald, who Drum Magazine once called “the most revered conguero Jamaica has ever produced.” McDonald had backed Peter Tosh, Taj Mahal, Gil Scott-Heron and Bad Brains, but as a sideman to Hartley he mostly hung out quietly, enjoyed some beers at the Five Eyed Fox and enjoyed the scene.

The night was pulled together by **CE Schneider Topical**, who really seem to love the Brick House – their bassist Zach Phillips, who also runs Hartley’s label OSR Tapes, lived in Turners several years ago and has been a great support to our region’s budding thing.

They, in turn, recruited locals **Death Savings Flag** and **Curse Purse** to open, and **Bromp Treb** to make sounds in between sets. But Monday’s surprise opener turned out to be **Joey Pizza Slice**, who was invited to play two songs because he drove all the OSR merchandise down from Burlington, Vermont where it had accidentally been abandoned the night before. Tour!

Friday night was a disaster. Two out-of-town bands had asked to play the Brick House the same night, and agreed to play together – but the local acts each had initially recruited to draw audiences both fell through somewhere along the way, replaced by newer names. It didn’t work. While there was copious talent in the room, performers outnumbered paying audience members by a ratio of 12:5.

It was a shame, and maybe the next time **Eric + Erica** bring their beautiful autoharp-driven dream-pop up from North Carolina, they’ll connect with more lucky listeners. Hopefully they made it to Portland in one piece.

Wanda and Wonder turned out to be a guy who sang and danced emotively over lush pre-programmed tracks, which I enjoyed enough to buy a record – a split 7” with tour-mates **Golden West Messenger** – mainly to help out with gas money.

New Turners supergroup **New Parents** tied the whole thing up with a loose, jamming set, and **Greg McKillop** of Amherst played captivating songs in a traditional folkly format.

The slate was wiped clean the next night with a legit, bone-crunching hardcore show, headlined by Philadelphia’s **Chondria** and Boston’s **Disipline**. Striving for catharsis, Disipline’s set was particularly memorable, their lyrics body-positive and “sex-themed” though not “sex-positive,” as the singer clari-

fied at the outset.

Local support Saturday was strong, with Oil-themed and possibly Oil-positive **Rogue Trooper** starting things off and snarling space-punks **Chemiplastica** finishing, a technique the night’s booker called a “local band sandwich”. The place was packed, and it looks like more shows like this are likely for the venue’s future.

Not to be outdone, on Sunday, JDJR hosted an all-day, forty-act noise fest. Mmm hmm. A forty-act noise fest.



Milwaukee-based composer and percussionist Jon Mueller will perform his piece A Magnetic Center next Thursday, October 8 at the Brick House.

Next Week

John Doe will open again for an early evening event during Greenfield’s First Friday, October 2, with a meeker lineup: Brattleboro bedroom-pop auteur **Chris Weisman**, playing a solo jazz guitar set; and the **Banjo Assault Sextet**.

For those who haven’t had to deal with Banjo Assault in any of its iterations, the project is in fact banjo-centered and generally proceeds by deconstructive group improvisation on an initial melodic theme, sometimes one borrowed from pop radio. (Made possible by the Greenfield Cultural Council.)

On Saturday the 3rd, **Nicoffeine**, a rock group from Mönchengladbach, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany, will freak out at JDJR, alongside punks **Gay Mayor** from (naturally) Holyoke, Greenfield noisenik **Old Pam**, and **Two Tents**, electronic dance music producers from Chicopee.

Reviews of **Nicoffeine** promise “atonal, unforgiving intensity,” with “surprisingly tuneful melodic sections” atop “layers of

slithering noise and feedback.” Though Mönchengladbach may seem remote, it will be drummer Jorg Schneider’s second Franklin County gig, having played at the Brick House almost exactly one year before with his other band, Jealousy Mountain Duo.

Both venues then return to their day jobs until Thursday the 8th, when they bump heads, rather tragically, for the first time.

At the Brick House, the production company Northern Routes has invited percussionist **Jon Mueller**, who will be performing his intense minimalist piece *A Magnetic Center*.

Mueller has collaborated widely, bridging the art/indie divide: he’s been in post-rock bands (Pele; Collections of Colonies of Bees) and was a core member, alongside the guy from Bon Iver, of Volcano Choir; he’s also released dozens of highbrow recordings under various guises and composes pieces for contemporary dance.

“The aim of Mueller’s solo performance,” we have been warned, “is to engage an audience in listening practice by creating a variety of input both recognizable and not, understood and not, which causes a unique experience in each individual.” The Brick House is becoming known for having pretty good sound, so come hear it put to the test.

Sharing the bill with Mueller is **Bill Nace**, who plays noise on prepared guitar and is currently best recognized as Kim Gordon’s band-mate in Body/Head, and solo percussionist **Matt Weston**.

Shows at the Brick House tend to end early, and John Doe ones go late, so it’s possible to double-dip on Thursday: listeners can head from the Mueller show to Greenfield, where Columbus, Ohio-based **Mosses**, New York psych-rockers **Pigeons**, and Connecticut River Valley upstarts (**Crystalline Roses Band**) and veterans (**Sunburned Hand of the Man**) will all pursue a less academic version of transcendent, heady bliss.

Different as they are, having two great shows in central Franklin County in one night is a groaner, but also a sign of how far we’ve come in a very short length of time.

The county is legitimately punk, though long a net exporter of punks, and legitimately weird: after all, in recent years these towns have spawned bands like OFC and Flaming Dragons of Middle Earth. We’ll see in time if this crazy 2014-15 season is just the five-college scene pushed north by rising rents, or the start of something new happening – something that will save us all on gas money.

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LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was September 22 and 29, 2005: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

Noise Regs Turned Down

Local residents waiting for new noise regulations to take effect were handed a setback on Monday night's selectboard meeting when it was announced that the regulations would not be put into effect after all.

According to town administrator Frank Abbondanzio, town counsel had determined the selectboard does not have the statutory authority to enforce the proposed noise regulations because they are too broad.

The noise regulations were approved at a meeting of the selectboard two weeks ago in response to complaints about excessive noise at certain local bars. Residents have been voicing their displeasure for months and were not satisfied by what they felt was a lack of police response to their complaints.

The regulations were developed by Gina McNeely, the town's health agent, based on a noise ordinance currently in effect in the city of Northampton.

Turners Fish Farm to Expand

Josh Goldman hopes to have bigger fish to fry by this time next year, if a planned \$2 million, 19,000 square foot expansion to the indoor fish farm in Montague's industrial park pans out. The fish farming facility formerly known as AquaFuture, acquired last year by the Western Australian company Australis, has been growing table fish for the US market in Turners Falls since 1988.

The company's 58,000 square foot facility on Industrial Boulevard in Turners is already the biggest indoor fish farm in North

America, measured by the sheer volume of water in their ten 150,000-gallon tanks.

The company is now featuring a specialty Australian product called barramundi, and US demand for the fish is growing. The Perth-based company ships live barramundi fingerlings from Australian hatcheries to its Turners facility at the rate of 200,000 every six weeks.

Chefs from Boston to New York and beyond appear to agree that this species is reputed to be one of Australia's finest eating fish.

Northfield Mountain Valuation Declines

The recently completed triennial valuation of the Northfield Mountain pumped storage facility in Erving, conducted for the town by Mainstream Associates of Northampton, NH, has determined that the value of the massive hydroelectric facility has declined by more than \$54 million since 2002. Assessors board chairman Jim Carpenter said, "It will affect people's tax bills; they definitely will go up. If current trends continue, in three years, the value of the facility will be less than it is now. It's not a happy thought, but it's probably going to continue."

"I don't believe the project has gone down in value," said selectboard member Andy Tessier. The board instructed administrative coordinator Tom Sharp to contact the state Department of Revenue to see what the board's options are for challenging the new assessment.

Carpenter explained that "With the rising price of oil, it costs more for the utility to pump the water up the mountain than they make when it runs down through the turbines."

The Northfield Mountain facility pays more than 90% of Erving's property taxes.

AGRARIAN from page B1

farmstead restaurants – dining establishments that operate their own farms – in the States. One is Salt, in Montpelier, VT. The chef, a former food critic, lives in a yurt on her farm. Perhaps the most famous is Blue Hill, located at the Stone Barns Center, a beautiful ex-Rockefeller tax-evasion farm in Westchester County, NY.

Stone Barns probably has the only castle in the northeast that was designed for milking cows. On their website, Blue Hill discourages children, because "the length of the menu makes it difficult for young children to enjoy the dining experience." Shorts are banned, and they have a generous policy that allows one to bring their own bottle of wine for a corking fee of \$90.

While it's unlikely that I will ever dine at Blue Hill – at least without having to spend a night in the dish pit – their on-site farm is a model that I aspire to. It provides a significant percentage of the vegetables, herbs, eggs and meat used in the restaurant.

Chef Dan Barber and farmer Jack Algiere have a creative, collaborative relationship that brings their vocations together. It makes sense to destroy these professional hindrances as their goals are the same: to produce the best-tasting and, by association, most health-providing food for people.

While this year I can't boast to be growing as much for my restaurant as Algiere is for Blue Hill, I've done the most important thing: I've developed a dynamic, support-

ive relationship with the chef. Next year, my goal is to grow one-half of the vegetables needed for the restaurant during the growing season.

There's an idea out there that farmers and chefs are natural enemies, like babies and snakes, but this is not true. In the best situations it's more like they're a pair of mated-for-life golden eagles, or like Hillary and Norgay, who never revealed who summited Everest first.

**Distrust of trends
is certainly a wise
attitude, as many
are hollow or have
misplaced meaning.
But some movements
change lives.**

The best chefs are farmers, and the best farmers are chefs – when they have the time. Those that truly love food know that an understanding of how plants grow, and what makes them healthy, is essential to their taste. Cooking begins when you put the seed in the ground.

It's expected that certain high-class foods, like wine and artisanal cheese, contain deep wellsprings of flavor, worthy of contrived conversation. What recent food movements are teaching people is that *all* products of agriculture, when grown for the health of the food and the soil, have this complexity.



SMITH from page B1

comes up and I lose that time!" she confessed.

She's also susceptible to the lure of the blogosphere, and possible forays into medieval languages with like-minded language geeks – she has a degree in comparative literature with a focus on medieval studies from UMass.

"And I fix knitting. I am a knitting consultant! After years of picking it up and not getting it to work. I started knitting again in 2007, and it just clicked," she explained. "My friend showed me how to do a few stitches, and suddenly I was making a lace scarf. I had to start in where I shouldn't have been, with something really complicated."

Liz partially blames her fascination with personal adornment to having to wait a long time, until she was 18, to pierce her ears. "Jewelry making was really fun and inexpensive to start up... The personal adornment thing drew me."

Starting with wire wrapping of natural stones, beads and pearls in the early '90s, Liz discovered a shrink plastic method that has been her bread and butter for 15 years or more. This substance is also called "Shrinky Dink" when it is marketed as a kids' craft. Lightweight and inexpensive, this allows her to explore her love of drawing, painting and design in miniature form.

She uses colored pencil, chalk pastel, and acrylic paints and inks on the plastic material, which is then baked. The heat bonds the surface decoration to the plastic while shrinking the whole item 40%. The effect is to intensify color and design properties, creating vividly detailed earrings, pendants, and hair barrettes. Adding beads and artful twists of wire completes her

unique Rough Magic Designs jewelry.

Smith is careful to use non-toxic materials during her process. Since many glues are quite toxic, she opted for cold connection techniques, including rivets and wire attachments, and she found a non-toxic finish, which is more labor-intensive than the effective but dangerous chemical sprays, doesn't require any special ventilation, and cleans up with water. Additionally, she is careful to re-use scrap material as much as possible, generating less than one bag of trash in her studio per year.

For many years, jewelry making was a joint venture with her friend Morgan (Heather) Clark under the Wyrd Sisters name, with each working on their separate projects, but sharing studio space and creative inspiration. The synergy of their creative efforts propelled them into the craft fair, flea market, and farmer's market circuit together, a time that Liz remembers as being both exciting and exhausting.

The big push to market their wares also landed them in the first jury at the Shelburne Arts Coop in August 1998. Membership at the Coop meant the discovery of a consistent market for their wares that didn't exist in the craft fair circuit. Gaining constant feedback from other members helped evolve and improve their products greatly and the coop gained the benefit of Liz and Morgan's years of retail experience at stores and restaurants.

In the years following her son's birth, Liz found time to become more involved in other aspects of the coop's operations while toting a complacent Granger about on her back. And, when it became logical to do so, Wyrd Sisters split into

Local food is "trending," and our feelings about it, either positive or negative, are responding to the ways it is being marketed, and whether or not we trust consumer crazes.

Distrust of trends is certainly a wise attitude, as many are hollow or have misplaced meaning. But some movements change lives and habits, and being involved in growing vegetables for the community I live in has changed mine.

I know from my own experience that when someone eats a sun-heated Hungarian Heart tomato, and they are suddenly ambushed by a mind-blowing laser-light show of flavor, their life may be changed.

People often wonder why I do not more efficiently monetize my time. They question the relevance of doing something where you're paying yourself less than minimum wage.

For me, these questions are answered by the fact that this work fills me up. I derive enormous purpose from breaking new ground on old farmland that has not grown food in many decades. At the restaurant, I'm charged up with meaning every time I bring people a salad and explain that I grew it for them.

In order to have the freedom to do this work I've made a lot of intentional choices about my lifestyle. Maybe it's a bit ascetic, but I can doubtlessly say that it's been the best decision of my life.



Liz Smith, at her Garlic Fest booth.



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EVERY SUNDAY

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Celtic Sessions*, musicians of all levels welcome to play traditional Irish music, 10:30 a.m.

EVERY MONDAY

Montague Center Library: *Evening Story Time*. Young children and their families are invited to wind down at the end of the day with stories. 6:30 to 7 p.m.

EVERY TUESDAY

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope*. Hands-on environmental experience for young children, 3 to 6 years. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Great Falls Farmers Market, Turners Falls: Fresh produce, plants, crafts, etc. 2 to 6 p.m. Through 10/30.

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Story Time*: Thematic stories, projects, and snacks for young children with Ruth, 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

Leverett Library, Leverett: *Tales and Tunes Story Hour*. For ages 0 to 5 and their caregivers. 10:30 a.m. to noon.

EVERY THURSDAY

Montague Center Library: *Music and Movement with Tom Carroll & Laurie Davidson*. Children and their caregivers invited. 10 a.m.

The People's Pint, Greenfield: *Derek Bridges*. Live acoustic guitar. 7 p.m.

The Pioneer Tavern, Millers

Falls: *TNT Karaoke*, 8:30 p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

Slate Memorial Library, Gill: *Story Hour*. Stories and arts and crafts. October theme is: exploring the fall season, harvests, trees, animal behaviors, acorn and leaf crafts that explore color and texture. 10 a.m. to noon.



De Lomas y Sones is a new Cuban dance band led by singer/percussionist William Armando Rodriguez. They play Afro-Cuban son, the dance style that is the root of salsa, chacha, and mambo. They perform at the Arts Block in Greenfield on 10/3 at 9 p.m. \$

EXHIBITS:

Artspace Gallery, Greenfield: *Ray Gengenbach*. Amherst artist's show of oil paintings and woodcuts, primarily of animals. Show runs through 10/16.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *The Nature of Life*. Group art exhibit by the Artists of Franklin County. Curated by Ellen Blanchette. 10/11 through 11/30. Reception on 10/17, 12 to 2 p.m. Great Hall is opened 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. every day through 10/12; then open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Fridays & Saturdays after 10/12.

Leverett Crafts & Arts, Barnes Gallery, Leverett: *Trees and Travels*. Exhibit by Lori Lynn Hoffer. Artist reception on 10/18, 4 to 6 p.m. Runs through 10/31.

Little Big House Gallery: Shelburne: *Lines Lines Lines Lines Lines & More Lines*. New pencil and ink drawings as well as Da'Muse wire figures and layered sculptures of Glenn Ridler. Through 10/18.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Ordinary Storms*. Artist Barbara Milot's superimposed drawings on photographs exploring weather images. 10/8 to 11/12.

The Rendezvous, Turners Falls:

Tom Poppalardo "Sorry-Go-Round" Art Opening. 7 p.m.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Pioneer Valley Photographic Artists Group Exhibit*. 9/4 through 11/1.

Sawmill River Arts, Montague: "Cornucopia," a Fall Members' Show. Pottery, fiber art and clothing, jewelry, ceramic tiles, paper art constructions. Oil, acrylic and water color paintings. Photography. Original arts for children. Check website for seasonal hours: www.sawmillriverarts.com Show through October.

Shelburne Arts Co-op, Shelburne Falls: *Cornucopia: A Retrospective Duo*. Sally Chaffee and Marie Sakellarian. Bead-

the festival which runs through 10/4. 7 p.m.

Mocha Maya, Shelburne Falls: *The Collected Poets Series* featuring Teresa Carson and Dawn Potter. Poetry reading. 7 p.m.

The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Falltown String Band*. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2

14th annual Brattleboro Literary Festival, Brattleboro VT: Brattleboro Festival Celebrates Stories: *From Fairy Tales to Real Life*. Presentations by more than 50 acclaimed authors. Runs through 10/4. Variety of venues in Brattleboro. See website brattleboroliteraryfestival.org for details.

The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Drew Paton's 1940s Hit Parade*. 6 p.m. *Shanta Paloma*, Lexi Weege, and *Street Change*. 9:30 p.m.

Mocha Maya, Shelburne Falls: *Ray Mason*. Indie rock. 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Equalites*. Reggae. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

Redfire Farm, Granby: *Cider Press and Harvest Party*. See website <http://www.redfirefarm.com/news/ciderpressing.html> for details. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mocha Maya, Shelburne Falls: *Cricket Blue*. Contemporary folk. 8 p.m.

The Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *AfterGlo*. Rock 'n Roll cover band. 9 p.m.

the Arts Block, Greenfield: *Salsa Cubana with De Lomas y Sones*. Cuban band music. 9 p.m. \$

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Mocha Maya, Shelburne Falls: *Ian Fitzgerald*. Folk. 2:30 p.m.

The Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *TNT Karaoke*, 9 p.m.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

West Whately Chapel, Whately: *Watermelon Wednesday*. This week it's on Monday!. Season finale: *Archie Fisher and Garnet Rogers*. Canadian and Scottish folk. See website for driving directions. 7:30 p.m. \$

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *QUIZNITE with Quizmaster Michael*. Call the Rendezvous for the time of venue.

People's Pint, Greenfield: *TNT Karaoke*. 9 p.m.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope*. This week it's bears! See *Every Tuesday* for details. 10:30 a.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

Deja Brew, Wendell: *"The Doug Plavin All-Stars" with Special Guest Abe Loomis and Bright Lines*. 8 p.m.

The Brick House, Turners Falls:

Northern Routes presents *Jon Mueller: A Magnetic Center*, *Bill Nace*, and *Matt Weston*. All ages / substance free. 8 p.m. \$

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

Great Hall at the Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Coffeeshouse presents *Taking Back Eden*. Contemporary rock. 7 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Tom Poppalardo, "Sorry-Go-Round" Art Opening. 7 p.m.


Deja Brew, Wendell: *Barrett Anderson*. Hypno Boogie Blues! 9 p.m.



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9:30 Shanta Paloma -
Lexi Weege - Street Change

SAT. 10/3
no show

SUN 10/4 9pm FREE
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LIBERTY from page B1

weaving is actually a series of half-hitches over a jute warp, using no tools, only my hands. No loom is used, and no one else does just what I do as far as I know, although there have been types of this "off loom weaving" happening in other cultures for centuries.

This work is very meditative, and I never tire of it. I'm still fascinated by what I can do with simple cord hanging from a wooden dowel.

Clearwater would thread the dowel with jute, then pass colored wools across this warp, pressing each layer tightly against its neighbor. She grouped the warp threads together to create colored areas in a style called weft-faced weaving where the warp threads are completely covered.

The very large quilt in the library has been all hand-sewn. Only hand stitches join all the patches and strips together into the whole. Working this way helped establish a meditative state which was central to her work both in terms of imagery and process. In her work, as in her life, she tried to stay as close to and in tune with nature as simply as she could.

The tapestries in the gallery present original designs derived from a wide variety of sources involving nature and frequently portraying women in nature. Most are symbols that were important to particular cultures and focus on human interaction with nature.

Clearwater used images from Native American pottery, Peruvian rugs, cave painting, Eskimo art, oriental rugs – whatever caught her attention and felt linked to nature.

A tapestry named "Aivik Reborn", a sea creature giving birth, is an ancient Eskimo way of portraying interior and exterior space.

Clearwater repeatedly used turtle images inspired by southeast Native American pottery design. Two tapestries represent Isis, an ancient Egyptian goddess who ac-

cording to Wikipedia, "was worshiped as the ideal mother and wife as well as the patroness of nature and magic." The fish image tapestry is based on a design from a Chinese carpet and, according to Clearwater, is a "carp, a popular Chinese motif, and symbolizes wealth or success." Another is the "corn goddess Kachina based on a Navaho sand painting."

The shapes in these tapestries are all two-dimensional: the colors are bold and clear, and for the most part colors are not intermixed. A notable exception is in the water section in "Treesister" where three shades of blue are used to indicate waves.

In many pieces the composition is symmetrical. The two Stonehenge pieces are a combination of centrally placed images and symmetrical shapes. This results in lots of action being presented at once. In one, a circle of white figures dancing is placed in front of the stones which form a black arch in front of the circular white moon. In the other piece only the stone arch shape is presented against a yellow moon and turquoise sky; the negative shapes between the arches "dance" in front of the moon.

Clearwater Liberty lived all her life in Massachusetts and for twenty-eight years in Wendell. She was very active in the community. She initiated bi-monthly lesbian potluck gatherings and was the key person driving Wendell's "free box." From 1997 until her death she was Assistant Librarian.

Her obituary, published in the *Recorder* on October 9, 2014, states:

Clearwater will always be remembered for her tender heart, her kindness, her peaceful way of being and her thoughtful, untiring desire to help others. She was an artist in every aspect of life, perpetually creating beauty. Her weavings and other artwork grace the homes of many people far and wide. She was passionate about gardening, reading and music, all of which

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Angela Mrozinski & Alicea Charamut, Connecticut River Watershed Council

Photos by Beth Pelton

she shared generously with those around her. Clearwater touched the lives of those close to her by the very way she lived and shared gently and deeply from her heart. She cherished both her solitude and her deep connections with many people

from all walks of life.

Clearwater wrote, "My work is a way for me to express my love of color, the transformative power of spirit moving through all things." We welcome you to come join us in celebrating her work during a

memorial reception at the library on Saturday, October 17, from 4 to 6 p.m.

Library hours are Tuesdays from 12 to 6 p.m., Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



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