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The Montague Reporter

YEAR 14 – NO. 32

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

\$1

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

MAY 26, 2016

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Board Endorses Compromise Over Outdoor Music Dispute

By JEFF SINGLETON

At its May 23 meeting, the Montague selectboard attempted to resolve the controversy over outdoor band music in downtown Turners Falls by altering its current noise regulations that apply to entertainment license holders.

The board voted to reduce the basic decibel level allowed from 70, under the current regulations, to 65 during the day and evening hours. However, license holders will be allowed 16 events each year where music can register up to 70 dB, and an additional four to a limit of 75 dB.

Current regulations allow for noise levels of 70 dB for daytime and evening hours, which the selectboard may increase to 80 dB upon written application. The board's decision

last summer to allow Hubie's Tavern to play outdoor patio music at that higher level eight times a month has been sharply criticized by many neighborhood residents.

On Monday, the board also approved a four-step penalty system for violations of the regulations, beginning with a warning and culminating in a \$500 fine and the suspension of the "respective portion of the entertainment license" for a year.

Chris Boutwell recused himself from the discussion and voting because he "had a relationship" with Hubie's. Boutwell is employed by liquor wholesaler United Liquors. Michael Nelson also made a disclosure that he had received a donation for his Pumpkinfest event from the restaurant.

see MONTAGUE page A6

The Week in TFHS Softball: No Mercy – and No Excuses!

By MATT ROBINSON

The Turners Falls Lady Indians played five games this week, winning four. Their first three opponents, Greenfield, Hampshire and Wachusett, had two combined losses previously – both to the Indians. Turners then ended the week with two 12-0 mercy rule victories.

In their 2-0 loss to Turners Falls, Hampshire Regional offered no excuses. Neither did Green Wave in their loss. For both squads, their only losses this season came at the bats and gloves of Turners Falls, and both teams took the games in stride.

And when Power Town lost their first game of the season, they also offered no excuses. After all, the team they lost to, Wachusett, is a Division I team, ranked as the best D1 team in Central Mass by the MIAA last season. This year, MassLive calls them, "one of the top Division 1 teams in the state."



DAVID HOITT PHOTO

Senior Jess Loynd (11) is greeted at the plate after hammering a three-run homer on Senior Night, Monday evening. The Indians clinched the Franklin County League Title with the 12-0 victory over Mohawk.

When you lose to a team like that in a 1-0 pitcher's duel, you don't have to make excuses. You just take it in stride.

TFHS 7 – Greenfield 1

Hurler Mackenzie Phillips helped her own cause on May

19. After driving in a first inning run, she proceeded to shut down the Green Wave batters until the last inning, when they scored their first and only run of the contest.

In the fifth, Turners padded their lead by putting four

see SOFTBALL page A8

No Farmworkers, No Farms...

By PETE WACKERNAGEL

TURNERS FALLS – This past Monday, a group of farmworkers and advocates gathered at the Brick House for a "Know Your Rights" training. The event was organized by the Agrarian Action Network and the Pioneer Valley Workers Center. Tom McCormick, a Springfield-based lawyer, was present as a legal expert.

The goal of the meeting was to spread knowledge about exactly what the rights of farmworkers are – what state and federal regulations guarantee to workers, in terms of things like wages, time off, and insurance. McCormick was unable to definitively answer many questions asked, but took notes on the gaps in his knowledge.

The Agrarian Action Network (AAN) formed over two years ago as a reading and discussion group whose goal was to increase members' knowledge of agricultural topics. The group realized that issues relating to

farmworkers were being systematically left out of local food narratives, and began to focus on workers' issues.

AAN began promoting Food Justice Certified, a certification that, according to its creator, the Agricultural Justice Project, "ensure[s] fair treatment of workers, fair pricing for farmers, and fair business practices." It's basically a domestic Fair Trade Certified label – the one we are used to seeing on foods like bananas only applies to international trade. Three farms in western Mass. are currently applying for the certification.

Currently the AAN has two main projects. One project is hosting a series of lunch socials. These Almuerzos, as the events have been titled, bring workers together to build relationships and informally discuss the issues they face.

According to coordinating member Alyssa Bauer, these lunches create "a space to talk to farmworkers. There's a lot

see FARMWORKERS page A5

Summer Means Reading!



WICKS PHOTO

Sheffield third graders Briceidy Ovalle-Perez, Pamela Gomez, Sofia Moreno, and Victoria Makucha (left to right) dig into books Wednesday afternoon at Sheffield Elementary's Summer Reading Kickoff.

By LEE WICKS

TURNERS FALLS – With beach towels, sunglasses, sunscreen, and a favorite book, students at Sheffield Elementary and first graders from Hillcrest kicked off the summer reading season on Wednesday afternoon right in their own playground.

After listening to a summer-related story in the classrooms, they headed into shady spots beneath the trees and read for about half an hour, with no TV, phones or anything else to disturb them. The event underscored the pleasure of reading just for fun.

"This is the first year that we are trying this approach to summer reading," said principal Sharon Moberg. To plan the event,

she met with the school librarian, reading teachers, coaches, and teachers to think through the details. "It has really been an exciting and collaborative effort," she said.

Ms. Moberg also noted the invaluable help from Friends of Sheffield, the school's parent-teacher organization, who spread the word. A number of families joined the students on Wednesday.

"We really wanted to include families," Ms. Moberg said, "and thought it would be great for students to see their parents reading, too."

Sheffield's emphasis on summer reading is not new. In the past, the school has partnered with the local library, and the librarian

see READING page A7

Broadband: Towns Blast MBI; MBI Blasts Matrix Design

By JEFF SINGLETON

AMHERST – A public meeting designed to discuss "broadband extension proposals for Hardwick and Montague" held at UMass-Amherst on Tuesday quickly moved into attack mode, and never quite left it.

Representatives of the Montague and Hardwick broadband committees denounced a proposal by Comcast, the world's largest cable company, to extend coaxial broadband service to unserved residents in the towns as inadequate and technically inferior to a proposal by a company called Matrix Design to build fiber-optic cable extension.

They also denounced the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI), which is tasked

with disbursing state money for broadband extensions, for having a bias in favor of Comcast.

Representatives from MBI, for its part, spent virtually all their allotted time sharply criticizing Matrix as a fiscally unsound company that did poor quality work building a fiber network in the town of Leverett.

MBI had little to say about Comcast, except that it was financially stable, experienced, and met the qualifications of the bidding process.

The town committees and MBI did not seem to agree on anything, including the purpose of the legislation that funds broadband extension in rural communities, or the criteria by which proposals should be evaluated.

see BROADBAND page A4

Our Tax Dollars At Work: Deerfield Bridge Cut Up for Export

By JOE PARZYCH

DEERFIELD – J.R. Vinagro of Johnston, RI demolished a Route 91 bridge over the Still Water section of the Deerfield River in Deerfield, next to new bridge construction. The company had demolished an adjoining bridge, running parallel, a year and a half ago.

The demolition company has the million-dollar job of taking down the 8-inch thick concrete deck of the present bridge, removing the 720 foot long steel beams, demolishing the bridge piers and abutments, and disposing of the beams and concrete debris. J.R. Vinagro trucks the beams to their yard in Rhode Island for lead paint removal and cutting into shorter lengths to be processed at



PARZYCH PHOTO

Superintendent Jeremy Souza skillfully operates Vinagro's Cat 345D Excavator, equipped with a hydraulic shear. He pulls down beams before shearing them into smaller sections.

Sims shred mill.

Sims sells the shredded steel to Chinese firms for smelting into new steel, for manufacturing products chiefly for export to the US, according to Vinagro executive Joseph Pasquerella.

Concrete debris from the demolition of abutments and piers is allowed to fall into the river within the area of the pier footings, to be removed and trucked to Trew Corporation's quarry in Deerfield.

see BRIDGE page A7

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Demanding Less

On January 23, 2014 – the day we first announced that our towns were being surveyed for a major natural gas pipeline – gas futures were trading at \$5.64 per million British thermal units, based on trading at Louisiana’s Henry Hub. A couple weeks later, they spiked up to \$8.15.

This Monday, when Kinder Morgan officially withdrew its application for the project from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, they were down to about \$1.96.

While the Henry Hub benchmark doesn’t equal the price of gas delivered into a purportedly – and plausibly – constrained New England market, the two are related.

The collapse of gas prices didn’t necessarily cause the cancellation of the Northeast Energy Direct project. But it happens to be the context in which not only the NED but also nine other major major gas infrastructure projects have been either delayed, rejected by the FERC, or cancelled in the last six months.

These include three proposed LNG terminals, two for export and one for import; and pipelines in Oregon, Pennsylvania, Virginia, New York and Georgia.

Low oil prices, meanwhile, have coincided with the plug being pulled on oil terminals in Washington and California, and delays in two oil-by-rail projects. And low coal prices have been the backdrop for a canceled coal mine in Montana, the rejection by the Surface Transportation Board of a coal railroad in the same state, and the denial by the US Army Corps of Engineers of a coal terminal in Washington.

This wave of fossil-fuel failures is being tracked by the environmental news journalists at InsideClimate News. They note that many other projects are moving forward. But the feeling that all proposed infrastructure is routinely approved by a regulatory “rubber stamp machine” is beginning to shift.

What no one knows is the role low energy costs have played in the events of the past six months – or what will happen when they inevitably rise again.

It is true that grassroots movements against fossil fuels are growing, and linking up, in the US. But we should also recognize that at this moment, it’s easier than usual for politicians, and by extension regulators, to take a tough stance on the environmental and social impacts of fossil-fuel projects.

That window will close. While it is open, we should all be aware of the other benefits it affords.

It might be easier than usual at this moment to campaign for expansion of fuel assistance programs, for example, or to convince large institutions that it would be wise to invest some of what they’re saving on energy costs into reconfiguring their usage toward renewables.

When market forces shift, and they will, the more insulated people are from the impact of higher energy prices, the less likely they will be to look back at their sympathy with pipeline opponents at this moment with regret.

According to a recent industry survey (KPMG’s 2016 *Energy Business Outlook*), 92% of energy executives expect natural gas to stay below \$3 for the rest of the year. So there may actually be time to work on this.

In our own backyard, meanwhile, Berkshire Gas’ moratorium stands to directly affect everything from job growth to home values.

The company has no official plan to get out of its supply jam, having placed all its eggs in the NED basket. On Tuesday, it withdrew its application to the Department of Public Utilities for its precedent agreement for gas from the cancelled project’s supply path. This is the application that the town of Montague had been challenging.

It’s worth checking out the DPU docket (15-178), to read the testimony given by energy analyst John Rosenkranz on behalf of Montague.

Berkshire would have been buying over five times the volume of gas from KM as its customers actually use. The company plans for a peak winter “design day” of under four times our average daily usage; its decision to purchase the remainder was a matter of pricing, not piping. Small wonder its parent company UIL Holdings had invested \$80 million in the project.

Rosenkranz argues that Berkshire could solve the problem by targeting peak demand days with more LNG storage capacity, starting by adding a third tank at Whately (a facility originally designed for five tanks) and upgrading the feedline from Northampton to Greenfield.

It shouldn’t be too much to ask that our energy infrastructure be scaled appropriately to our needs. Let’s hope Berkshire agrees.



Letters to the Editors

Thanks to Montague’s Tree Warden!

I would like to thank newly re-elected tree warden Mark Stevens and the crew from the Montague highway department for their efforts in replanting shade trees on the tree belts in Turners Falls last week. All the new trees look great, and have caused a great deal of positive comment from neighbors around downtown.

The Montague Energy Committee recently approved the following resolution: *The Montague Energy Committee supports Town funding to expand street tree planting across Montague’s five villages, especially to replace more recently removed street trees.*

From an energy perspective, trees are known to save cooling costs for buildings directly shaded by them, to lower summer temperatures in urban environments, and to help reduce the impacts of global climate change by removing carbon from the atmosphere.

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, “air temperatures directly under trees can be as much as 25°F cooler than air temperatures above nearby blacktop.”

Thanks very much for keeping Montague Green and Growing!

David Detmold
Turners Falls

One of the downtown’s newly planted shade trees, an October Glory Maple on Fourth Street.

JEAN HEBDEN PHOTO

Noise Hurts Downtown Progress

Evolution is occurring in downtown Turners Falls! So many people have put time, effort, and financial resources into the downtown and now, at last, these efforts are having wonderful impacts.

Town, State and Federal monies have been invested in the downtown to complement walk ability and livability. Tourism is increasing. The activities of the Shea Theater, new small business openings, market rate residential tenants, substantial investments in mixed use buildings, the revamped bridge, all are changes to a downtown that has been struggling for too many years.

I remember the 1970s and 1980s with the less than enviable atmosphere. The downtown was very much a “honky-tonk” town, with numerous bars, strip bars, bands, and eventual real estate vacancies and bankruptcies. Depressing and sad memories indeed...

Do you want people to want to move here, to want to live here, to want to stay here? The citizens of Montague pay property taxes. Do you want to encourage disinvestment because of a desire for loud music? Please, I urge you, don’t allow outdoor live entertainment, except by special permit for special occasions.

Loud bars and outdoor bands are fun. Special events and a party once in a while are great fun. Daily or weekly loud outdoor music, especially at night: not fun for neighbors.

The Town Manager, the Board of Health Director, and the Building Inspector are unanimous in recommending that live outdoor entertainment be allowed by special permit on special occasions only. These recommendations are based on current law and an understanding of the conditions necessary to further encourage investment and positive growth.

I encourage you to uphold these recommendations. Why is anything else even a possibility?

Please support the Town’s professional staff, the many downtown businesses and tenants, and the tax-paying community at large to continue the positive forward momentum.

Please don’t allow live bands outside. Please don’t push the downtown back toward those down years.

Respectfully,

Janet Gezork
Montague

Published weekly on Thursdays.
Every other week in July and August.
No paper last week of November, or the Thursday closest to 12/25.

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LOCAL BRIEFS

Compiled by DON CLEGG

The **Montague Public Libraries** begin their summer schedule this weekend. The Carnegie Library will be closed on Saturdays until September.

Kidleidoscope returns to the Great Falls Discovery Center on Saturday, May 28, from 10:30 to 11:30. Kidleidoscope is a Department of Conservation and Recreation educational program held weekly throughout the summer months, with a different animal or insect featured each week.

Come learn about our neighbors who share our home in the Connecticut River watershed. This program includes a story, interactive games, and a craft to introduce you and your child to wildlife along the river.

This Saturday's topic, "Bird Beak Buffet," is about how different birds eat different food with different beaks. Meet in the Great Hall. For ages 3-6. Siblings and friends welcome, and of course, parents or guardian required.

The **Town of Gill** Memorial Day Celebration will begin at 10 a.m. on

Sunday, May 29, at the Gill Congregational Church, and continue at the Veterans Memorial across Main Road.

The **Town of Greenfield** has scheduled the Annual Memorial Day parade for Monday, May 30. The parade will form in the Middle School parking lot at 9:30 a.m. and start at 10 a.m.

The route is south on Federal Street, stopping for services at the Federal Street Cemetery, then continuing south on Federal, east on Church, south down Franklin and west on Main Street, stopping again for services at the Greenfield Public Library. Marchers will then proceed to the Town Common before continuing west on Main, ending at the Veterans Mall for final services.

Turners Falls' Annual Memorial Day Ceremonies begin at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 30, at the Veterans' Memorial on Avenue A. There will be no parade this year.

May is **Mental Health Awareness** month, and Scott Keldun from the United Arc will give a presentation on services that the Arc pro-

vides to support residents of Franklin and Hampshire counties at the Turners Falls Branch of Greenfield Savings Bank on Tuesday, May 31, from 2 to 3 p.m.

The Arc reaches out not only to individuals, but also provides residential programs as well as family and parenting networking, making a tremendous difference in the lives of participants. Keldun will have informational hand-outs and will be glad to answer any questions.

On Thursday, June 2, the New Salem Agricultural Commission will host Carlen Rigrod from the Farm School for an informative workshop and hands on session on **Pollinator Gardening**.

The event will be held at 6 p.m. at the New Salem Library.

Attendees will learn about choosing perennial plants and garden design techniques, and help design and plant a new pollinator garden at the New Salem Community Garden. If you'd like, wear light work attire, bring gloves and garden tools.

This workshop is free to the public, thanks to sponsorship from the New Salem Academy Trustees.

Save the Date! The very popular **Family Fish Day** returns on Saturday, June 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for its 11th year. Events are scheduled for the Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls Fish Ladder and Barton Cove.

A few details are still being fi-

nalized because of additional participants, and more activities than in prior Fish Days. The event still includes free fishing (no license required, all weekend), free raffles, face painting, story times, crafts, fish viewing, demonstration and much more.

For more information and up-to-date event times, please visit www.greatfallsdiscoverycenter.org or join the Friends of GFDC on Facebook.

Celebrate Bee Week with the Friends of the Greenfield Public Library. As part of Greenfield's Bee Week celebration, the Friends will have an **Adult Spelling Bee** to benefit the GPL's Summer Reading Program.

The Spelling Bee will be held at The Second Congregational Church, 16 Court Square on Thursday, June 9, starting at 6:30 p.m. State representative Paul Mark will be Master of Ceremonies, along will Jack Golden as the Jovial Judge.

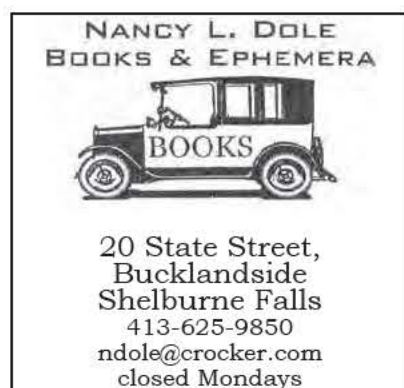
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Residents Ask School Committee To Again Rethink Mascot

By MIKE JACKSON

GILL-MONTAGUE – At Tuesday night's meeting of the Gill-Montague Regional School Committee, several local residents spoke during the time allotted for public comment to suggest that the district should once again consider changing the mascot of Turners Falls High School, which is currently the Indian.

"Frankly, we're going to have to change the name, sooner or later," said Jean Hebden, a resident of downtown Turners Falls and a Montague town meeting member from Precinct 5. "Either the MIAA... or the state, or the federal government, is going to pass a law saying that we can no longer use Native American nicknames for our schools, for whatever reason."

Hebden said that she was shopping online for shoes when she discovered that shoe giant Adidas is offering financial support to any needy district voluntarily changing their Native American mascot.

"They're willing to help with the design, they're willing to help with new uniforms," she said. "To me, now would be the time to look into it... I think it's socially responsible for us to do it before it's mandatory."

"It feels a little bit silly, in a way, that we even need to come here and state this," said Nathan Cohen, also of downtown Turners Falls.

"The Native American genocide was real, and something that happened. Appropriating these symbols is not really a sign of respect at all."

"A little bit of a dilemma, I know, is for people that went to the school and played on these teams, or supported these teams – it's part of an identity that they feel proud of," said Ann Jemas, of Montague's Precinct 4.

"I think a lot of people are interpreting the meaning of the name differently, and that's convenient, and understandable... But times change, and when you know better, you have the opportunity to do better."

Jemas said she thought the process of selecting a new mascot could be "an empowering experience" for the towns.

"We're not coming to this early, but we also don't want to come to it late," she said. "It makes

much more sense to be ahead of the curve."

Precinct 5's David Detmold spoke at length, focusing on the massacre of Native American people carried out within territory currently represented by the district in 1676 by an English militia led by Capt. William Turner. "You're naming the team Indians in a town, and a school, named after the man who killed every Indian he could find," Detmold argued.



ELLEN BLANCHETTE PHOTO

Turners Falls resident and former Montague Reporter editor David Detmold argued at the Tuesday meeting that the team mascot was particularly inappropriate at a school named after a man responsible for a massacre of Native Americans.

Detmold also cited a 2005 resolution by the American Psychological Association recommending the retirement of ethnic mascots. "They've done studies on this, which they cite, that the use of Native American mascots is harmful to Native American students," he said, pointing out that there are Native American students in the district.

Detmold suggested that the district "spend a year of outreach and education on this subject within the school community, and the towns of Gill and Montague, and bring it to the town meetings for an advisory opinion next May – to report back to the SC, to see what the will of the town is.

"We'd very much like to use this as an educational opportunity, and a chance for everyone to be heard," he said.

"I feel like this is something that is perhaps

viewed as a small thing," said Suzette Snow-Cobb, also of downtown Turners Falls. "But it could go a long way to recognizing that all of us live in this community, and we don't want to have degrading or derogatory images or actions for the people that live here."

School committee chair Michael Langknecht thanked the residents for their input, and noted that any committee member could place the topic on the agenda at a future meeting.

Marjorie Levenson, recently reelected member from Montague, said she felt the committee should add it as a future topic for discussion.

"Obviously whatever happens requires a great deal of thought, and education, for the community," Levenson said. "We want people to feel involved in the process as we pursue, or don't pursue, this, and how we do it....

"I think the onus should be on the school committee to pursue these avenues," she said. "The charge is our charge," not that of the members of the public who had brought the topic before the committee, "to do the work."

Thirty-nine high school teams in Massachusetts still have Native American-themed mascots, including several in western Massachusetts: the Athol Red Raiders, Mohawk Warriors, Springfield Red Raiders, and Ware Indians.

That count was 46 as recently as 2007. Some of those teams – including the Dedham Marauders, Lowell Red Raiders, and the Matignon, Nauset and Brookline Warriors – have kept their names, but discontinued their ethnic logos (the Marauders famously adopting a pirate).

The Natick Red Men have become the Red Hawks, and the Watertown Red Raiders dropped the "Red" from their name, though not their uniforms. Locally, the Frontier Redhawks were known until 2000 as the Redskins.

In 2009, the GMRSD school committee voted to discontinue the use of the "tomahawk chop" cheer at athletic events, though some say it is still heard. The school's longtime team logo, generic clip art of a Plains Indian in silhouette, has been officially retired by the district, but is still actively used in the community, including by the Turners Falls High School Alumni Association.

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GUEST EDITORIAL

By JOHN FURBISH

TURNERS FALLS – Turners Falls is blessed with a deciduous “tree belt” along Avenue A that starts right after the bridge, and continue southwards to the Veterans Memorial and United Arc. (Talk about recently-planted gorgeous trees there!)

The middle section of these downtown trees is both protected – from beavers, snow plows, lawnmowers, and wild humans – and enhanced by three dozen raised concrete planters, that allow for seasonal gardens which are simply spectacular, if not yet quite perfect.

The decorated, raised planter at Hubie's Tavern looks as great as ever, and Cosa Rara may come in with a nice surprise this growing season.

The absolute “hits” of the 2016 planters are likely to be, first, the two decorative planter gardens outside of the newly-painted exterior of the Shea, installed and tended by FCTS horticulture students, and second, the new food-producing planter gardens outside the Moltenbrey building, installed and tended by the Franklin County Women's GARDEN Project.

Two of the newer do-it-yourself planters on the Avenue have been made by Sandy Facto with her evolving plant and rock gardens at the Second Street corner, and by the Shady Glen Diner, which dug its own planter and installed plantings to put its best entrance-foot forward.

Turners Falls' “Avenue of Trees and Flowers” can go a long way to making people feel better in life during June, July, and August. Even now in May, the magic is starting.

To drive or walk though the greenery on both sides of the Avenue is like being outside in nature, and we feel refreshed. To sit at lo-

Planters Pro Sculptura



Should a second sculpture join the Spinner?

cations along the sidewalk and see nature, and breathe fresh air in the growing season, can actually be a tonic for us.

We regroup and recharge from the brittle winter months, and confidently move ahead through a life that becomes more vibrant. People who get to enter within and see the natural plants and trees in our otherwise urban streetscape may experience relief from stress and tension, and any variety of headache, depression or anxiety.

And the people who tend the planter gardens can enjoy similar effects, at greater levels!

Yet the planters' garden beauty is transitory. Planters come alive and stay alive only during our temperate growing season. And they can look forlorn and desolate for the nine

cool and cold months, when the core Avenue A raised planters look stark and sterile, like a formation of North Korean military tanks.

I keep asking myself: what could we have for beautiful “winter flowers” in the downtown that might serve to keep our planters alive?

Planters do need a bit of help to enable the Turners Falls streetscape to stay alive all year round. The select-board wondered if unspecified “public art” might fit with the flowers and fill the planters better, but one form of art – durable outdoor sculpture – could be the best way to go.

The May 19 *Valley Advocate* has a photographic display of “Valley Art Outside”. Turners Falls is given two photos, but one gives an outdated view of the bygone Youth Sculpture Park on Canal Street,

which is sadly giving way to 30 new parking spaces.

Only the few sculptures attached to the rock hillside there will remain, and there are no plans to build more youth sculptures downtown.

Thus, Turners Falls with its Avenue of Flowers has nothing else like the mosaics and Bridge of Flowers in Shelburne Falls. Why not create a series of community outdoor sculptures that could amplify the town into a major tourist attraction?

We may soon get one new sculpture, if RiverCulture's February call for submissions to build a new sculpture at the newly-constructed “pedestrian mini-park” at Third Street and Avenue A is successful.

It is hoped that this sculpture will give an identity and name to the new mini-park. But that alone would not draw tourists to Turners and there's no master plan yet for outdoor sculpture, or any other art or craft.

It might take more than one, and perhaps a total of four new sculptures, especially in or near planters in the north, south, east, west of this central area.

And let's dare to dream of 20 new youth sculptures. I see them in bright non-naturalistic colors, installed for a year or two before being relocated to the rock hillside of the upcoming parking lot to reincarnate the youth sculpture park.

The two spots I see with the most potential for youth sculpture are by the ginkgo tree at Fifth Street and Avenue A, and in one of the two newly-cleared sections of Spinner Park.

Existing features like the Discovery Center, the glacially-exposed rock surfaces, combined with a new cafe or two, more downtown or cross-canal artist studios, and multiple outdoor sculptures could turn Turners Falls into a destination where more local and non-local folks are enticed for commerce and recreation.

BROADBAND from page A1

The first local official to speak was Rob Steinberg, chair of Montague's broadband committee. He immediately went on the attack, citing a Harvard University study of MBI's work with local communities trying to form a broadband collaborative called WiredWest. That study called the process a “tragic political mess.”

Steinberg then listed MBI spending on salaries and fees over the past year, totaling over \$5 million, and said its expenditures on cable extension grants during the same period amounted to \$147,000.

Steinberg went on to hypothesize that the “intent of the law” providing for funds to underserved towns was to finance Comcast extensions, and that Matrix's proposal to build fiber was an “unwelcome surprise”. “Is the game rigged [by an] old-boy network?” he asked.

Steinberg went on to challenge the data on which Comcast's proposal to Montague, and the recent MBI report supporting it, was based. He stated that by his committee's estimate, only 92% of the homes in Montague are currently served, not 95% as Comcast and MBI claim.

There are 206 unserved homes, not 139, he argued, and asked why the MBI never attempted to work with the town to sort out the discrepancy.

Similarly, he said, MBI sharply criticized the Matrix business plan and the company's work in Leverett, but “no one contacted Matrix

for their side of the story.”

Kevin Hart, also of the Montague committee, continued in similar vein:

“Why didn't you look at our maps?” Hart asked. “You never changed the numbers in two years.” He pointed to national organizations that rated Comcast as having the “worst” customer satisfaction of any cable company.

Hart was followed by Bob Martin of Hardwick's broadband committee, who argued that the current download speeds being implemented by Comcast may not meet national standards for “broadband.” He also stated that a previous Comcast buildout in his town had been completed three months late, without the company communicating with local officials.

Next up was Dan Glanville, Comcast's vice president for governmental affairs. He stated that he was proud to work for Comcast, which serves 151,000 customers in 35 Western Massachusetts towns.

Glanville, who negotiates cable license agreements with towns like Montague and Hardwick, also stated that his company had 3,800 employees in Massachusetts, a \$306 million payroll, and pays \$17 million in payroll taxes. He also stressed that Comcast would “roll out” a new high speed system called DOCSIS 3.1 at some point in the future.

Chris Lynch of Matrix Design followed Glanville. He complained that in March an MBI official told him the institute was going to dis-

qualify his company for submitting a “bait and switch proposal,” claiming that Matrix planned to raise its prices after the service had been provided, a claim Lynch disputed.

Lynch pointed out that in seeking a third party to evaluate his company's proposal, MBI hired Tilson Technology Management, a competitor of Matrix. He said Tilson had never asked Matrix for its “side” of the Leverett story, and stressed that, in the end, that project proved to be a success which the MBI itself advertised.

At this point, Josh Broder of Tilson presented his company's review of the responses of Comcast and Matrix to the original request for proposals. Broder's presentation was almost entirely a critique of Matrix. The company, he said, is rated “high risk” by Dun & Bradstreet, has never operated a broadband network, and had presented an “unsustainable” proposal.

Broder shared numerous negative comments from unnamed Leverett officials about Matrix's work in that town, and stated the company was “materially deficient” in responses to MBI's requests for data. He also showed a video of Matrix's Chris Lynch telling a meeting, that to be viable, his company's project would need to obtain “subscriptions” from 1,000 houses, a target which is probably not realistic.

Matrix and the broadband committees argued the company would need only to “pass” 1,000 houses, with a subscription rate of 60%

along the route, to be viable. There was no effort to resolve this contradiction, or any of the others that emerged at Tuesday's meeting.

The session ended with public comments from audience members. This produced a parade of local speakers who denounced Comcast and pleaded for a fiber-optic build-out such as that proposed by Matrix.

Chestnut Hill Road resident Bob Mahler said that accepting Comcast's proposal would doom Montague and Hardwick to “second-class economic status for years.”

Another speaker noted that Lynch had appeared at numerous local meetings, but “this is the first night we've seen Comcast.” Several other speakers described negative experiences they had with Comcast over the years.

If the goal of Tuesday's meeting was to increase communication and bridge the gap between local residents and state officials, it may not have accomplished that goal. But state officials certainly got a taste of local sentiment on the process.

The meeting was organized and chaired by Karen Charles Peterson, the commissioner of the state Department of Telecommunications and Cable.

The Department will issue a recommendation on the extension of broadband service to Montague and Hardwick residents at some point in June, but no specific date was announced at the meeting.



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NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Board: Finish First Phase of Riverfront Park Before Applying For Second

By KATIE NOLAN

At its meeting on Monday, the Erving selectboard twice rejected the Usher Plant reuse committee's request for \$50,000 towards a Phase II Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant application.

At the previous week's meeting, Usher Plant reuse committee chair Jeanie Schermesser asked the board to support her committee's request for a \$50,000 budget for Phase II, to pay for consulting services, Franklin Regional Council of Governments services, an environmental resources study, and a study of the well at the former Plant.

Early during the May 23 meeting, board members told committee member Jeffrey Dubay that, before spending on Phase II of PARC funding, the town should break ground on and complete Phase I.

Dubay told the board that testing of water from the well at the former Usher Plant would provide information about whether the well could be used for short-term functions, such as a farmers market.

During former discussions about the well, the town's water operator Peter Sanders had told the selectboard that the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) would not allow the former Usher Plant well to be redeveloped for use as a public water supply. The public water supply regulation defines a public water supply as one used by an average of 25 people per day for at least 60 days per year. Dubay said that if a water source is used fewer than 60 days per year, it does not need to meet the state requirements for a public water supply.

The board told Dubay that the reuse committee should get a writ-

ten ruling from DEP about potential uses of the well before the board would consider authorizing money for testing its water.

Later, after Dubay had left, reuse committee chair Jeanie Schermesser joined the meeting. She told the board that some of the reports and consulting information were necessary – "You can't even apply unless some of these things are in place."

Newly elected selectboard member Scott Bastarache said the committee shouldn't expect Phase II funds when Phase I construction had not been started. He suggested the town finish Phase I, and then "let the project sell itself." He recommended requesting money in March or April of 2017, when the construction should be nearly complete.

By the end of the discussion, the board agreed to add \$1,500 in funding for Phase I groundbreaking and completion ceremonies to the June special town meeting warrant.

Administration

The board decided to hold a "meet and greet" pizza and salad lunch on June 13 for town department heads and new town administrative coordinator Bryan Smith. The lunch will be held after the regularly-scheduled department head meeting.

The board decided that, in the future, the department head meetings will not be held as posted selectboard meetings, with a quorum of selectboard members present. At most one selectboard member will attend the department head meetings, and they will not be open to the public.

The board confirmed with planning board member Jacquelyn Boyden that the planning board will begin to update the town's open space plan. The current plan expires Janu-

ary 2017.

The selectboard also informed the planning board that they are interested in a bylaw regarding political signs. Selectboard chair Jacob Smith said he had received resident complaints about the placement of signs during the recent town election.

The board reviewed the capital improvement plan, and decided that it needed to be updated to reflect recent expenditures and town meeting decisions. Board members also felt that the town should record the life expectancies for capital equipment, such as printers and computers, and plan for scheduled replacements.

The board recommended that departments should pool purchases of similar equipment in order to get potential large-volume discounts.

Other Business

The board approved removing a large pine behind Fire Station #1 and a partially dead maple near the station. Fire chief Philip Wonka said that several dead trees near the police station would also be removed at the same time.

Chair Smith said that installation of surveillance cameras at French King Bridge had become a current issue, with a recent search for a fugitive who may have jumped from the bridge.

He said that the state Department of Transportation had given an estimate in the past of about \$500,000 for installing the cameras, and that he and police chief Chris Blair would continue monitoring the discussions about cameras with the state and the town of Gill.

The board reviewed draft articles for the June 29 special town meeting. They expect to finalize the warrant on June 13.

FARMWORKERS from page A1

of discussion that needs to happen before any action." It was out of these get-togethers, with the realization that workers' knowledge of their rights was incomplete, that the need for trainings on workers' legal rights became apparent.

The AAN's other project is a rideshare program for immigrant workers and their families, mostly helping them get to medical or bureaucratic appointments. According to Abby Graseck, the group's liaison to the Brick House, the program started "because of a clear and unique need for transportation among these families."

Workplace Rights

Monday's training answered many questions about labor regulations, and especially those in which agriculture is treated differently than the rest of the labor force.

For example, while the state minimum wage is \$10/hour, for agriculture it is \$8. However, only field and greenhouse work is defined as agricultural – other farm jobs, such as washing, packing, and driving, should be paid at the state minimum. Overtime does not apply to agriculture, but it does apply to the aforementioned non-agricultural work.

Paid sick days were discussed, as the law mandating them just took effect last summer. All employers, including farms, that employ 11 or more workers, must be providing paid sick days under the Massachusetts Earned Sick Time law. A worker does not necessarily have to be ailing or diseased to use these paid sick hours, but can expend them in caring for a relative, in-home mental health care, or, even better, for preventive care.

These paid hours accrue at a rate of one sick hour per 30 hours worked.

Throughout the meeting, people spoke about times when their rights had been suppressed. Many of these related to injuries that occurred while at work. Farmworkers are entitled to workers' compensation, yet several attendees mentioned witnessing their employers ignore injuries that would qualify.

Farmworkers are also entitled to unemployment benefits.

And all these laws and insurance programs apply to non-U.S. citizens. According to lawyer Tom McCormick, anyone, regardless of immigration status, is covered. "The intent is for the courts to be safe," he explained.

Double Standards?

While many farms meet these legal requirements, labor problems can emerge in day-to-day management that raise questions of racial prejudice, such as the way that crews are formed and jobs divided.

From the perspective of the owner, systems on the farm are created that maximize efficiency and individual productivity. If the owner does not speak the language of some of his workers, he or she may end up assigning them the simplest tasks with the least responsibility.

At Monday's meeting, one Latino man expressed frustration at the double standard that he said exists on many area farms. He said he often witnessed white workers having more control over how and when they worked.

On a local organic farm this reporter worked at, there were two crews. One crew was made up entirely of white people in our 20s. We drove trucks and tractors, fixed and

built things, did the greenhouse work, and interacted with the public on occasion. Our 10 ½-hour days were generally filled with a variety of different tasks.

The other crew was entirely Latino, and they spent their days almost exclusively weeding and harvesting. When they were sent to work in a satellite field, someone from my crew drove them. They never did creative or individual work, and they definitely did not interact with the public.

Communication with their crew only flowed one way: from the owner, to the crew leader, to the crew. My crew could tell the owner what was happening in the field, if we thought a system should be different, or if anything about the job wasn't working out for us as individuals.

Putting Workers at the Center

There are many reasons for buying food produced locally, and many spheres of influence that this act touches.

The closest sphere is the consumer's self: one wants to consume healthy food for one's own sake. Another sphere relates to local land use – people buy local food because they derive enjoyment, and a sense of well being, from an agricultural landscape in their town.

A sphere further removed from this is the planet. Many consumers hope to support ecologically sound farming practices such as polyculture, or to know that WWII surplus chemicals are not being sprayed on the land.

For some reason, the sphere of influence that seems farthest removed from the consumer's concern is the farmworker. The experience of workers seldom figures in the pro-

motion of local foods. Dean's Beans makes a point to include images of their international coffee farmers on their bags, but it is hard to imagine American farmworkers, especially Latino, Jamaican and Somalian immigrants, pictured in local food media.

The AAN plans to continue creating community for farmworkers, and consciousness among food consumers of the issues they face. At Monday's meeting the group brainstormed some future plans, including publishing a pamphlet detailing farmworkers' rights.

Though the organization is already a few years old, Bauer says she sees the work that they are doing for culture change as just beginning. "I hope that there's this voice in the community that starts with farmworkers and moves to consumers and other parts of the community," she said.

The market encourages consumers to see the product, the allegorical (and in this case also real) carrot, dangling before them in isolation. Pulling back the curtain on farm work will allow people to have a better relationship with their food, and also with the members of our community who grow it.

Here in the Connecticut Valley, with its wide and flat post-glacial lake bottom, we are used to seeing these workers from a great distance, way off in the field as we drive by at 50 miles an hour.

The work of the Agrarian Action Network encourages us to stop being tourists in our own reality. By promoting a better understanding of all parts of our food system, they are helping to build a movement for food justice.



COMMUNITY Action!

of the Franklin, Hampshire, and North Quabbin Regions

Community Action Youth Programs is hiring – 7 Positions!
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Seeking energetic, organized, self-motivated individuals to help us launch a new program putting 75-100 youth from Ware, Turners Falls, and Orange to work this summer, giving them the tools and on-the-job training to successfully enter the workforce! Must be highly reliable, able to work well independently and as part of a team. Access to reliable car required. CORI and Safe driving record/ability to be insured under Community Action policy required. Bilingual (Spanish) applicants encouraged.

Summer Program Specialists: (6 temporary summer positions: 2 ea. in Ware, Turners Falls, and Orange; Staff may be invited to apply for related year round positions in Fall.) Work one-on-one with teens supporting successful completion of summer internships and development of post-internship goals. Provide job readiness training, and ongoing coaching to overcome barriers. Experience engaging and supporting at-risk youth required. \$15/hr.

Program Coordinator: (1 position, Greenfield; Summer availability considered, Year-Round preferred.) Seeking passionate, organized go-getter to coordinate large, multi-region project. Build community collaborations and partnerships with schools. Provide effective supervision to team of case managers. Monitor compliance with program requirements. Experience providing case management to at-risk youth required. Supervisory/program coordination experience required. \$18-19.40/hr depending on experience. Excellent benefits.

Application instructions:

- Please submit resume, cover letter, and 3 professional references to: CAad336@communityaction.us
- Include your Name and Position Title(s) in the subject line.
- If applying for Summer Program Specialist positions, indicate Ware, Turners Falls, and/or Orange.
- Applications received by Thursday, June 2nd will be given priority.
- Screening will begin immediately, and continue until position is filled.
- Interviews for all positions will be held in Greenfield on 6/13/16.
- Start date for all positions is 6/29/16.

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MONTAGUE from page A1

The vote followed a public hearing scheduled to last for 30 minutes, but which took up nearly an hour of the board’s agenda. Rich Kuklewicz, who had been elected new chair at the beginning of the meeting, moderated the discussion. He gave preference to those in the packed room who had not spoken on the subject at any previous meeting.

In general, the discussion followed the pattern of previous meetings, with supporters of Shawn and Lynne Hubert arguing that regular outdoor music was an asset to economic and cultural development of downtown Turners Falls. Critics of last summer’s policy, on the other hand, argued that weekly outdoor music impinged on the rights of downtown residents to “live in peace and quiet.”

Sita Lang began the discussion by reading a statement from Patricia Pruitt, who was on the selectboard when the current noise regulations were established, and Chris Sawyer-Lauçanno. They expressed concern about the divisive tone of the controversy, and argued that the central issue was not decibel levels, but how often outdoor music was tolerable in a heavily residential area: “We feel quite strongly that outdoor music should only be allowed by special permit, and only a few times a year.”

Alana Martineau of Grove Street in Turners Falls, wearing a “Meet me at Hubie’s” shirt, questioned whether the Huberts were getting a fair shake. The discussion, she said, seemed to be targeting Hubie’s when it was supposed to be about a general noise ordinance.

“I feel like Kevin Bacon in *Footloose*, where we’re fighting against the city council to have a dance,” Martineau said. She pointed out that downtown cultural events are being promoted by the town’s RiverCulture program, but “I also feel we are blocking [them].”

Resident Jen Audley read a statement from Taryn Amina, a teacher with Center for New Americans who teaches evening classes for English language learners at Montague Catholic Social Ministries. Amina said that when bands were playing at Hubie’s the previous year, “it was nearly impossible for my students to concentrate.”

Other audience members, however, said they had heard outdoor music near their home at venues such as the Millers Falls Rod and Gun Club and enjoyed it.

In general, the discussion remained relatively collegial, compared to previous hearings where emotions rose over decibel levels and responses to neighborhood concerns last summer.

Fran Pheeny, executive director of the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority, which owns residential buildings downtown including the Moltenbrey Apartments and Crock-er and Cutlery Blocks, said that “the flavor of this discussion has taken a negative turn.”

“We, as property owners and landlords, have a responsibility to our tenants – we owe them the right of quiet enjoyment,” Pheeny explained. “Many of our tenants have told us that they cannot even talk to each other in their units when the music is on and playing.”

The selectboard will revisit, and revote, the changes it approved at its next meeting to allow for a period of review. That meeting is currently scheduled for June 13, but may occur sooner.

Managing Infrastructure

Town clerk Deb Bourbeau came before the selectboard to request that two Proposition 2 ½ debt exclusion votes be placed on a town ballot to be voted on Monday, June 27. One measure would exclude debt for a combine sewer overflow (CSO) and storm drain project, to clear and repair siphons which run under the Turners Falls Power Canal. The other would borrow funds to finance hazardous waste removal at the Strathmore building complex.

The recent annual town meeting approved both projects. The CSO may require borrowing of \$900,000, and the Strathmore hazmat removal up to \$385,000. However, neither number will be on the ballot, according to Bourbeau. “The voters are going to have to do their homework,” she told the *Reporter*. The board approved the request, and also approved reduced voting hours: from noon to 7 p.m. on the 27th.

Town planner Walter Ramsey also came before the board to request that they amend an agreement with the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency. The amendment will provide an additional \$16,065 to reimburse the town for additional construction expenses incurred by the Millers Falls Road stabilization project last year. The funds will reimburse 75% of a cost overrun caused by the need to extend the project’s drainage system.

At the board meeting, Ramsey was asked if the funds could be used to cover repaving of Millers Falls Road at the site of the drainage stabilization work. Ramsey responded in the affirmative, and the board approved the amendment.

Water Pollution Control Facility superintendent Bob Trombley came before the board to request renewal of an industrial discharge permit for the Southworth Paper Company (Paperlogic), and a discharge permit for the Australis Aquaculture fish farm.

The board approved both requests.

Trombley also updated the board on the status of efforts by the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District to find truckers for the “sludge cake,” or solids produced by treatment plants in the region. He stated that the FCSWMD had not received any response to bids to do the work. Generally, the Montague plant receives some of that material, but their process is shut down for the month of June.

Trombley also noted that he is leaving as superintendent at the end

of June, and that one employee will be on sick leave, potentially leaving the plant understaffed.

During the town administrator’s report, Trombley’s impending retirement was officially announced.

Other Business

Between the Uprights bar owner Lew Collins requested, and received, permission to use public property for five outdoor events during June through October. Four of those will have live outdoor music.

The board also voted to approve \$3,000 for a racial sensitivity training program previously endorsed by the board. That money will come from the community development discretionary fund.

The board voted to approve the purchase of the building hous-

ing the Senior Center on 62 Fifth Street, even though, according to building inspector David Jensen, negotiations on the use of the parking lot have not been resolved.

Town administrator Frank Abbon-danzio advised the board to approve the sale and discuss the issues with the new parent company of Power-town Apartments, which uses some of the parking spaces.

Ariel Elan, the town’s Pipeline Li-aison, announced that the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company had officially withdrawn its application to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for its proposed Northeast Energy Direct (NED) Project. The NED project was slated to travel through the center of Montague.

Elan stressed, however, that the Berkshire Gas Company had not

withdrawn its application for a contract with the NED at the state Department of Public Utilities. Montague is currently challenging that contract, and the recent town meeting allocated \$20,000 for that purpose.

David Detmold of Turners Falls requested that the board appoint a committee to encourage the planting of trees next to town sidewalks, search for grants to fund such plantings, and investigate the possibility of establishing a “shade tree nursery,” perhaps with the assistance of the Franklin County Technical School.

Detmold stated that he already had volunteers for the committee, but was still looking for residents from Lake Pleasant and Montague City. The board will vote on the issue at its next posted meeting.



Local Landscapes the Theme of Friday’s Story Night

MONTAGUE CENTER – Michael Humphries will be one of the headliners at “Finding Your Place in the Landscape,” a free storytelling event at the First Congregational Church located at 4 North Street in Montague Center on Friday, May 27 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Humphries will be joined by Sam Lovejoy, Lisa McLoughlin, Jay Goldspinner, Paul Voiland, and other local raconteurs to share short personal stories relating to their experiences with and within the local landscape.

Humphries will serve as Master of Ceremonies for the evening, which is co-sponsored by Mount Grace Land Conservation Trust and Red Fire Farm.

The themes of the evening are land and neighbors, and the

stories reflect life in Montague and the surrounding towns. Past story nights have included poems, folktales, historical reenactments, fish stories, and true first person tales of farming, raising children, raising wild animals, hiking, gardening, building homes, and building communities.

The evening will be free-flowing, with storytellers sharing their own stories in their own words. “This is not just a children’s story hour,” says Humphries. “It’s a chance for people in the community to hear real stories. No powerpoints, no handouts, no agenda, just good old-fashioned yarns.”

Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP for this free event online at mountgrace.org to reserve a seat.

This Saturday Morning: Book Swap at the Bank!

TURNERS FALLS – Looking for some new adventures over the Memorial Day weekend? Can’t afford to go to the mountains or the ocean?

Find places to go and people to meet! Come to another showing of “Bring a Book, Get a Book” at Greenfield Savings Bank.

Feel free to browse for that perfect book which will pique your in-

terest. There will be a collection of gently used books perfect for children, teenagers and adults as well.

Like romance? Adventure? Suspense? History? Come and check out the variety. Be sure to bring books in order to get books!

Light refreshments will be provided courtesy of GSB in an air-conditioned, comfy space.

And on Wednesday, June 8: Affordable Cholesterol Screening!

GREENFIELD – Baystate Franklin Medical Center will hold a Cardiac Risk Cholesterol Screening on Wednesday, June 8, from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. in Conference Room A.

Participants must fast for 12 hours prior to being screened.

Test results will be forwarded to participants and their primary care providers.

The cost for the screening is \$10; pre-registration is required. To register, please call Baystate Health Link at (413) 773-2454 or 1 (800) 377-4325.

Reminders from the Wendell Town Clerk

By GRETCHEN SMITH

Election Follow-Up

Wendell residents have weathered the 2016 Town Election, but the newly elected officials have some work to do. Every person elected must be sworn in by the Town Clerk to qualify for their elected position.

Within two weeks of being sworn in, every elected official must sign the certificate of receipt of the Open Meeting Law materials. Within 30 days, they must complete the Online Ethics Training program, and return the certificate of completion to the Town Clerk’s office.

Town Meeting

Town Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 8 at 7 p.m. in the Wendell Town Hall. The warrant will be posted and available for review by June 1. In addition to voting on appropriations for each town function or department, Town Meeting provides an opportunity to voice your opinion, pass laws, and discuss town problems, or issues. Only registered voters may vote at Town Meeting, and you must be present to vote.

Census Wrap-Up

Thank-you to everyone who signed and returned their Annual Street Listing form.

Those who did not will receive a postcard size Confirmation Card in June that lets you know that your voting status has been changed to Inactive. If you remain Inactive for two election cycles, you will be removed from the voting list.

This is too important a voting year to let that happen. Please sign those cards, and get them back to the Town Clerk’s office as soon as possible!

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READING from page A1

has met with each class to promote a summer reading program. Students needing a library card were given the paperwork, and students were sent home with a Bingo board that listed various reading activities.

But the following September, only a handful of students returned with their Bingo boards filled in, and Ms. Moberg wanted to try something new this year.

She purchased a brand new book for every student, and students chose from a variety of award-winning children's titles. "We are challenging students to read at least 1,000 minutes this summer and to keep a simple log," she explained. "We will celebrate our successes together in the fall."

Sada Hedspeith, a third grader, said, "If we all read a thousand words or more and then you add it up, it will be really cool to find out how many words the whole school read."

Jack Trombi, also in third grade, said, "A thousand minutes will really get you ready for next year!"

"Summertime brings with it the opportunity to self-select books," Ms. Moberg added. "This kind of independent, voluntary leisure reading can be so empowering and motivating for students."

"There are obviously many academic reasons why we want our students to keep reading during the summer – like preventing the potential summer slide – but most importantly, we want our students to experience the joy of it. We know the power of books, and the many adventures students can experience through them."

Members of the PTO brought water and extra blankets, umbrellas, lawn chairs and beach balls.

And at a little past 2 p.m., summertime music blasted through the speakers and, books in hand, the eager readers converged.



NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Town Hears Bad News on Broadband Financing, School Assessment

By JOSH HEINEMANN

May 18 was the Wendell selectboard's last regularly scheduled meeting before the warrant for the June 8 annual town meeting must be posted and, accordingly, a good part of that meeting was spent with finance committee chair, Doug Tanner.

To start, Tanner said the budget this year has some serious challenges. He had gone to a May 10 meeting with Governor Baker, Sen. Rosenberg, Rep. Kulik and other legislators, the Massachusetts Broadband Institute, and representatives of other towns including Leverett and Shutesbury, and his news from that meeting was not encouraging.

Without a bond rating, Wendell cannot take out a long-term bond, and it costs \$70,000 to get a bond rating. Wendell could take out short-term loans, but the high interest rate means that the town would not even start paying down the principal until the third year, when the town could take out another loan at the same rate and, with large unaffordable payments, get the loan paid for in thirteen years.

Other options are no more attractive. The Baker administration's town modernization initiative prohibits investment in internet as does the USDA's municipal facilities program.

Selectboard chair Christine Heard said that when she went to the community compact signing the previous day in Phillipston, she learned of a yet-to-be-perfected technology that would deliver internet service through electric wires. Her offering of that information was followed by a sigh from somewhere in the room, and Heard acknowledged that the copper electric wires in Wendell are already old. Unlike glass, copper corrodes.

The MBI estimate for connecting the "last mile" was the basis for the amount that the 2015 annual town meeting authorized the selectboard to borrow. That estimate is prob-

ably not accurate, being based not on traveling the town's roads and a precise count for the pole survey, but on an aerial survey and projections.

Selectboard member Dan Keller said that the town's facilities engineer said, "Don't rule out wireless," but long-term broadband advocate and broadband committee member Robert Heller said "no" to that approach.

Heard said she was willing to appoint a community liaison to MBI.

Other news, unwelcome because of its cost, is that the school assessments for Wendell increased by \$110,000 to \$112,000 largely because Wendell's population of school-aged children is increasing, unlike that of other neighboring towns.

Other expenses that will come up before the town meeting include \$7,500 for an IT manager for the town office building, to provide backup, security, and maintenance; raises for the town clerk, tax collector and treasurer; and for the librarian, a raise and an increase in the hours she is paid for.

The town has money left over in free cash, because the 2015 annual town meeting authorized spending the full \$65,000 for new self-contained breathing apparatuses (SC-BAs) in case a grant did not materialize, but it did come through, and the town spent only \$6,500.

A new dump truck is expected to cost \$200,000, but the fin com is considering taking \$50,000 from stabilization and borrowing the rest, so as to lower the direct impact on taxes.

The free bulky waste disposal day on May 14 was a grand success, with people bringing in truckloads of stuff, and it left both WRATS attendants exhausted by the end of the day. The event will cost the town \$30,000 to \$40,000 in disposal fees.

Tanner said that the tax rate is likely to increase by \$1.73 per

BRIDGE from page A1

Vinagro moved their company's portable crusher to process the concrete debris into "Hardpak" at Trew's quarry.

Magnets on the crusher remove steel rebar remnants. Temporary metal docks placed in the river supported a crane to remove concrete debris from the footings and load it into dump trucks.

"The last time piers were demolished on the previous bridge demo, rubble was allowed to fall within the area of the wide footings," MassDOT engineer Joseph Burek said. "The contractor removed it with a crane, leaving the footings amazingly clean."

A Caterpillar 385 with a five cubic yard bucket was on the job, sporting a NPK H36 Ho-ram in place of the bucket, breaking up the northern bridge abutment. A John Deere 470 excavator was loading the concrete rubble onto a trailer dump truck for transport to the nearby quarry.

J.R. Vinagro Corporation's superintendent, Jeremy Souza, skillfully operated the company's Caterpillar 385C, cutting up the discontinued bridge beams with a LaBonty 4,000 series shear into shorter segments to facilitate handling.

"The beams are in such good condition, I hate to see them cut up for scrap," Souza said.

A John Deere 470G excavator equipped with a hydraulic grapple sat on the discontinued section of highway above, reaching down to pick up sheared segments and loading them onto tractor trailer trucks for transport to Sims' shreddmill plant.

From there the mill will export the shredded beams from their seaport, primarily to Turkey or China.

Steel scrap is presently selling at a ten-year low,



PARZYCH PHOTO

MassDOT engineer Joe Burek stands beside a CAT 385C excavator bucket.

along with all scrap other than aluminum, according to the buyer at WTE. Shipping costs prevented the local shredding mill operated by WTE a few miles away in Greenfield from economically shredding and shipping the shredded bridge beam scrap.



LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was May 25, 2006: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

Combined Sewer Project Overflows with Red Ink

The budget for the combined sewer overflow project and related improvements to the Montague's wastewater treatment plant has ballooned in the last year from \$5.7 million to \$10.3 million.

Town officials met with project engineers from Camp Dresser & McKee on Monday and demanded an explanation for how a project sold confidently to the town at one price could have escalated, without warning, by such a large factor in so short a time.

According to town administrator Frank Abbondanzio, CDM has been "sent back to the drawing board to find other ways" of bringing the town into compliance with federal and state Clean Water Act requirements, within the scope of the original budget. CDM is due to report

back to the town with answers at the selectboard meeting on May 29.

Abbondanzio said the majority of the project's cost overruns were in upgrades to the treatment plant itself, rather than the sewers. Some plant upgrades, like a new rotary press and seepage tank – at \$2 million plus – will likely be deferred.

According to town officials, CDM engineers have been aware of the size of the cost overruns for many months. CDM project engineer Paul Gilbert did not return repeated phone calls seeking comment.

Tech School Builds Sustainable Home

This year, one lucky family will be able to buy an extremely energy efficient home, located at 33 Turnpike Road in Turners Falls. The home is being built by Franklin County Technical School students under the supervision of their instructors for Rural Development, Inc., a non-profit organization based

out of Turners Falls. RDI has built more than 80 homes for low- and moderate-income families in Franklin County over the past few years.

Ann Perkins, the director of RDI's Home Ownership Program, said the roof on the Turnpike Road house features a three-kilowatt solar electric photovoltaic panel, installed by the electrical students under the direction of William Gallant. A very efficient boiler, the Zeissmann Vitodans was donated at cost by Paul Ross Associates, and installed by the plumbing students.

The house has extensive blown-in dry cellulose insulation, made from recycled newspaper, giving the building a very high R-value. As the home is very tight, there is the need for ventilation, provided by ventilating fans. These were also installed by the students in the Tech School's electrician's program.

Perkins said, "As houses get Greener, students are not only learning the skills to build a house, but also how to build an environmentally friendly house."

\$1,000, and the fin com needs to work out ways to deal with that.

Civil Engineering

Tighe and Bond engineering sent Wendell an email that stated the issues with the dam that holds back MacAvoy's pond and is considered to include part of Lockes Village Road are more complex than had been thought. They are made worse by the 30-acre pond the dam holds back, and the number of houses downstream of the dam.

Pooser suggested, as he had at a prior meeting, that if the town takes the first necessary steps and removes the trees that are on the roadside, including the root balls, and backfills the holes with gravel, as will be required, that should not imply that the town owns the dam.

Keller said that he had gone to an interesting program at the library, and found facilities engineer Jim Slavass in front with a toolbox. Water had backed up and had spilled on

the floor of the Herrick Room where the program was held. Someone else mopped the floor.

Keller and Slavass went through 30 feet of backup to reach the block, and cleared it, and then Keller went to the remainder of the program, saying only that people can use the washroom again.

The grinder pump, which pushes wastewater from the library over the common to where it can drain to the town septic system, was blocked with "wipes," which are not biodegradable and do not get processed in a septic system or pulverized in the grinder pump.

Other News

Dennis Hudson, who took on the job of hanging flags in the town center after Ted Lewis gave it up, passed it on to Peter Zera.

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich said the town got a letter from Charles Hope LLC that offered services in rehabilitating town-owned

properties.

The agriculture commission asked for, and received, permission to leave a sign for the farmers market on the common for the summer.

The Ralph C. Mahar High School sent the selectboard an invitation to its June 3 graduation ceremony.

The Massachusetts Office on Disability informed the town that it needs to have a committee that advocates for the needs of disabled people. Heard recalled that Wendell created one, and it has two members.

Keller said that the option to buy land for the pipeline compressor station in Northfield was dropped, but that the effort by Montague to show that there is insufficient local demand for the gas that pipeline would supply is continuing, and town accountant Brian Morton is still waiting for an answer from the auditor about Wendell contributing money to that effort.

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SOFTBALL from page A1

more across the plate, and in the bottom of the seventh, Jenna Putala cracked a 2-run homer to put the icing on the cake.

Phillips allowed one run on three hits, K'd 11, and gave no bases on balls.

For the offense, both Putala and Hailey Whipple had two hits. Each had an extra-base hit, with Whipple placing a double and Putala clocking a home run.

Abby Loynd, Alyson Murphy, Phillips, and Gabby Arzuaga also had hits for the Blue Ladies, and Cassidhe Wozniak scored 3 runs.

TFHS 2 – Hampshire 0

After shutting down the Powerful Green Ladies, Turners Falls had to face another strong team the very next day. On Friday, May 20, with no rest whatsoever, the Indians had to face the D2 state champs, the Hampshire Red Raiders.

The revenge-minded Raiders, whose only previous loss was to Turners, came into the game with only one goal in mind: to beat the Indians and square the series.

But in the bottom of the first inning, Putala broke the fence. She smacked a home run over the right field fence and the fielder smashed into it, breaking the fence in pieces. No one seemed to know if it was a home run or a ground-rule double.

"I saw the ump signaling home run, so I waved Jenna home," third base coach Sully said after the score.

And just like that, Powertown took a one-run lead. Both teams were kept off the score board until the fourth inning when Putala was sent home on a bases-loaded walk.

Turners almost scored again in the fifth when Arzuaga placed a sac fly to right, but the base runner was ruled out for leaving too early. The Blue Indians shut out Red for the rest of the game, and Turners earned a well-

deserved 2-0 victory.

Phillips had another strong outing in the circle. Against the powerful Raiders, she allowed just one hit, fanned 12, and gave no walks.

Putala went 2 for 2 at the plate and was walked once. Arzuaga had the other hit for Turners. Wozniak, Phillips, Murphy, and Peyton Emery all drew walks. Murphy's walk earned her a RBI.

Wachusett 1 – TFHS 0

ESPN described Sunday night's matchup between Wachusett and Turners as a "much-anticipated showdown between two of the state's very best programs."

And the undefeated D1 Mountaineers didn't take the game lightly. They seemed to have just as many fans as Blue Nation at the game, and like the True Blue Faithful, they loudly reacted after every pitch, every out, and every inning. And after the game, the Green Mountaineers celebrated like they won the Super Bowl.

The only score of the game came in the bottom of the third inning. Pitcher Phillips was ahead 0-2. Now Mackenzie is very good in these situations. Against Greenfield, Mac was likewise ahead 2 strikes to none with a man on. Gabby Arzuaga signaled a pitchout, and promptly threw out the base runner.

But this 0-2 pitch was different. The ball didn't sail out of the strike zone. "I heard Gary [Mullins] moan right when it left Mackenzie's hand," one of the fans said, as the ball soared over the fence. The pitch didn't go where Phillips meant it to go, and suddenly, Turners was behind 0-1.

In the bottom of the third, Wozniak smacked the ball over the fence herself, but



Abby Loynd makes solid contact as Division 3 Turners Falls Indians host the Division 1 Wachusett Mountaineers last Sunday. The Mountaineers edged the Indians, 1-0, for their first loss of the season.

the center fielder lunged over the fence and robbed Blue of the tying run.

So the Turners Falls Softball Indians are not perfect: they lost a game. But losing one game isn't such a bad thing.

For those of you old enough to remember 2007, another New England team had a perfect regular season, but in the end, they lost in the championship game.

Against Wachusett, Phillips again pitched a wonderful game. She struck out 10, gave up one walk, scattered five hits and allowed just one run.

Putala had the lone hit for Turners Falls. Wozniak and Phillips both drew walks.

TFHS 12 – Mohawk 0

The next night, May 23, with their toughest regular season games in the rearview mirror, the Lady Indians got back to what they do best. They mercy-ruled the Mohawk Warriors 12-0 and in the process, clinched the Franklin League title.

Turners blasted out 16 hits in the victory, while Phillips only allowed only three. Putala, Arzuaga, Murphy, Jessica Loynd and Whipple all had two hits.

Jessica hit a home run, while Hailey, Gabby and Alyson hit doubles.

Wozniak, Phillips, Lexi Lacey, Melissa Hersey, Sienna Dillensneider and Jordyn Fiske also had hits, with Phillips and Hersey pounding doubles. Peyton Emery drew a walk and scored a run.

TFHS 12 – Mahar 0

Finally, after coming so close throughout the season, with only 1 game left in the regular season, on Tuesday, May 25, Mackenzie Phillips pitched a perfect game.

No hits, no runs, no walks, no men on base, and 11 strikeouts.

Turners' offense certainly helped out Ms. Phillips: 12 runs on 13 hits; two homeruns; and four doubles. Abby Loynd had 3 of the hits and batted in 3 runs. Phillips had 2 hits, 3 RBIs, a double and a home run. Wozniak also hit a homer and a two-bagger, and knocked in 4 runs.

Arzuaga had 2 hits including a double, walked once, and scored 3 runs. Murphy was walked twice, scored 2 runs and cracked a double. Putala, Hersey and Dillensneider also had hits for the Indians, and Fiske drew a walk.

Next week: The playoffs!

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THE FAMILIES THAT SHAPED MOORES CORNER

By JULIE CUNNINGHAM

LEVERETT – The real Moores Corner, historian Dan Bennett explained, is the old Moore mill down by the river.

“Asa Moore bought this mill from Richard Montague shortly after the Revolution, when the United States became a republic, in 1789,” said Bennett. According to Bennett, what followed was a series of hegemonic families, beginning with the Moores.

“Asa was a Universalist, a principal mover in the School Meeting House,” Bennett writes in a booklet describing early Leverett history. The booklet, titled *Early Leverett, Selections from and Reflections on Archives of Leverett Historical Society*, chronicles

the early ownership of several mills and some first hand experiences of Indian conflict.

Mills, he writes, were the “economic instruments of the settlers’ ascendancy over the natives, supplemented, as is now familiar, by disease, alcohol, and gun powder.”

Until 1774, Leverett was part of a larger incorporated town called Swampfield. Appropriately named for the abundance of swamps, Leverett broke off once the population was large enough.

“It was understood,” explained Bennett, “that once an area reached a certain population level and had a preacher, preferably from Harvard or the like, the town could break off.”

At one time Sunderland, Wendell, Montague, and

Leverett were all part of this Swampfield territory.

The Natives who lived in this territory lived mostly by the swamps, Bennett said, because they traded beaver fur with the Europeans for guns and tools.

“Having a gun, for an Indian, was a big jump,” said Bennett.

One of the early settlers, John Pynchon, profited from the destruction of the Native population.

“John Pynchon,” writes Bennett, “having secured ‘deeds’ from local Indians worn down by Anglo-Dutch diseases they were not immune to, then participated in the distribution of deeds he had acquired.”

Pynchon granted the land see **MOORES** page B5

JULIE CUNNINGHAM PHOTO



The school meeting house at Moores Corner.

Walking Through Millers Falls History



ED GREGORY PHOTO

Saturday's tour gathered in front of the former Saint John's Church on Church Street.

By DAVID DETMOLD

Mystery combined with history last Sunday as David Brule, Sara Campbell, and Ed Gregory took 18 interested residents on an informational walk through the past and present of the village of Millers Falls.

Mystery, as in: where does Millers Falls begin and end, geographically speaking? Have the railroads that helped jumpstart the village been a continued force of its economic growth – or have they more recently played a limiting role? And what has become of the industry that once tapped the Millers River to power a mighty hand tool manufactory, and put Montague's easternmost village solidly on the map of a burgeoning nation?

From 1870 to 1970, thousands of workers turned out the finest in hand tools and power tools from acres of brick buildings on the north bank of the river. Where are the famous Millers Falls tools now?

What about water, and the river itself? Does it swamp the village's potential as un-

derground streams erode the foundations of buildings on Main and Bridge streets and plague the wastewater treatment plant of Erving'side (or is that still Millers Falls on the far side of the river)? The village seems to have an ineradicable inflow and infiltration problem, despite the modern sewers.

Or will the river lead someday to a rebirth for the village as a whitewater mecca, now that it flows clean again, freed of poisonous dyes from the paper mills, which were forced to clean up their act in the 1970s when the federal government passed laws prohibiting the continued use of America's rivers as open sewers?

And the people – what happened to the Soki and the Pocumtuck, who for thousands of years viewed the Millers as the natural boundary between their adjacent and allied territories? Does their blood and wisdom still flow in the veins of village residents?

Where are the African American families, pictured proudly before their homes on Bangs

see **MILLERS** page B5

Sarah Adam: Inspiration in Many Mediums



SUBMITTED PHOTO

“Quabbin Swamp” painting by Sarah Adam, part of her exhibit at the Deja Brew in Wendell.

By EDITE CUNHA

ORANGE – With a home in Orange, a job in Brattleboro, a studio in Greenfield, and many treks to art venues far and near, Sarah Adam does a lot of driving. This, for her, is not a hardship. In fact, it is inspiration. She loves the landscape, the light, the geometry of trees.

And this is very clear in the acrylic works on canvas, masonite and wood currently on display at the Deja Brew in Wendell. These acrylic paintings, inspired by her drives along the North Quabbin region and the Mohawk Trail, are bright, bold and sometimes broody.

Part of what she calls her “Soft Landscapes Series,” these paintings feature pine hillsides, ridges and

marshes depicted in strong contrasting colors, and often with brush strokes that evoke the sense of a landscape sliding by at 40 miles per hour.

Currently, in her studio in the airy second floor of the Greenfield Gallery on Main Street in Greenfield, she is working on new, more abstract pieces she calls “The Nebulae Series.” Here we see a wall of paintings, many on found wood, portraying the same bold colors as the Soft Landscapes, but the images, which bring to mind stars, planets and silhouetted branches and tendrils, are close up and magnified.

Her work will be featured in June at the Greenfield Gallery along with that of Paul Hoffman. There will be a reception for this on Friday, June 10. Her part of the show will be called “Quabbin Hills and Skies.”

Strung from a length of twine hung across one corner of the studio float small colorful – orbs? planets? Sarah Adam smiles. They are ornaments, currently drying after a base coat of paint. But she will add her tendrils and branches to them. She will do the same with the small base-coated boxes spread over the floor.

These small items are going to be beautiful, useful, and affordable.

“Not everyone can invest in a painting,” she says. So she paints these small pieces people can easily afford to buy at the craft and art shows she regularly travels to. They are clearly Sarah Adam pieces, using the palette and line work she uses in her paintings.

There is also a dollhouse on her studio floor, freshly painted and awaiting her brushwork.

“I found it at a tag sale,” she says, “and will apply my style to it.”

Looking around the studio, and at her website mad-sahara.com and Facebook timeline [facebook.com/Mad-saharaArt](https://www.facebook.com/Mad-saharaArt), and what with all the driving and creating, one wonders if Sarah Adam sleeps. And, we have yet to mention illustration and graphic design.

Sarah has been freelancing as a graphic design artist for about ten years, doing work for local clients and area businesses such as The Brattleboro Food Coop and Quabbin Harvest Community Market.

see **ADAM** page B3



POLLY FRENCH ILLUSTRATION

WEST ALONG THE RIVER:

THE SHORES OF LAKE HITCHCOCK

By DAVID BRULE

FRANKLIN COUNTY – Imagine motoring southward down Routes 5 and 10, say 15,000 years ago.

You would have been one hundred and fifty feet underwater, at the bottom of a cold, muddy, lifeless glacial lake. If you were able to rise to the surface you would have seen a lake shore far off to the west at the ridgeline of the Berkshire foothills where the Mohawk Trail rises out of the valley. Off to the east you might have been able to distinguish the shoreline of Leverett and Shutesbury, if it weren't blocked by the Pocumtuck Ridge. Sugarloaf, Mt Toby, and a distant Mt Tom would have been faraway islands rising above the waters.

Luckily for us, living in 2016, that lake emptied out around fourteen thousand years ago, and now we can easily drive along the lake bottom and visit Old Deerfield, Richardson's Candy Kitchen, or the Butterfly Conservatory. You can even follow the old lake bed all the way down to Rocky Hill, Connecticut where the lake was initially dammed up, if you so desire.

We can do all that now without risking drowning or hypothermia!

For in fact, many of us who call this place our home are living on the bottom of that old lake.

Named for Edward Hitchcock

(1793-1864), the term Lake Hitchcock was apparently first used only in 1939, according to Richard Little, our local geology expert. Hitchcock himself was born in Deerfield, was our first state geologist, and was the first to recognize the primal lake deposits in our valley.

According to the experts, many of whom are local archaeologists, geologists and historians, human beings arrived and dwelt on this valley floor of ours about 12,500 years ago. These scholars and researchers are now ready to share their stories and findings.

The Western Massachusetts Chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeology Society, based in Deerfield, is holding a day-long symposium hosted by Eaglebrook School on Saturday, June 18. (Contact the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association at deerfield-ma.org for registration and information.)

On a recent pleasant May morning, I met with two of the conference organizers, Bud Driver and Lester Garvin, in Driver's sunny kitchen about a quarter of a mile from the foot of *We-quamps* (Mount Sugarloaf, to some of you).

Lester Garvin is a professional aerial photo interpreter, formerly a naval photo intelligence officer. Trained as a forester and wildlife biologist, he has combined his expertise see **WEST ALONG** page B8

Pet of the Week

Meet Chelsea, a shy but very sweet young lady who was found as a stray. This gorgeous girl is a mystery, but we can just see that there is a beautiful personality behind those eyes.

She likes other cats here and would benefit from having a nice

outgoing kitty in her new home.

Ask an adoption counselor for information on how to take her home!

Contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at (413) 548-9898 or at info@dpvhs.org.



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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.

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Monday 5/30 *CLOSED
Tuesday 5/31
9:30 a.m.1 Mat Yoga (fee)
10:30 a.m Chair Yoga
1 p.m. Knitting Circle
Wednesday 6/1
9 a.m. Veterans’ Outreach
12:45 p.m. Bingo
Thursday 6/2
9 a.m. NO Tai Chi
10:30 a.m. Brown Bag
1 p.m. Cards & Games
Friday 6/3
Noon Pizza Party
1 p.m. Writing Group

ERVING
Erving Senior Center, 1 Care Drive, Erving, is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for activities and congregatemeals.

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.

For information, call Paula Beters, Senior Center Director, at (413) 423-3649. Transportation can be provided for meals, shopping, or medical necessity.

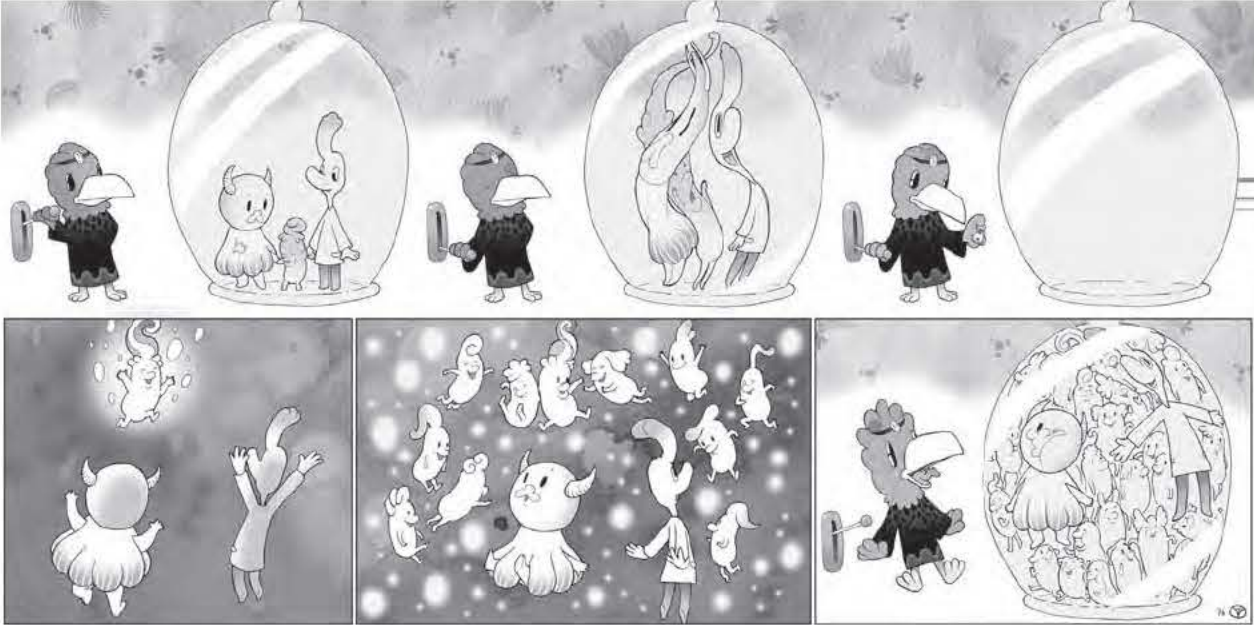
Call to confirm activities, schedule a ride, or find out about the next blood pressure clinic.

Monday 5/30 (Call to confirm)
Tuesday 5/31 (call to confirm)
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
10 a.m. Stretching & Balance
11:30 a.m. Home Cooked Lunch
12:30 p.m. Crafty Seniors
Wednesday 6/1
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
9:30 a.m. Blood Pressure Clinic
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
Noon Bingo, Snacks & Laughs
1-3 p.m. Veterans Here To Guide
Thursday 6/2
8:15 a.m. Foot Clinic
8:45 a.m. Aerobics (fast moving)
10 a.m. Healthy Bones
Noon Brown Bag
12:30 p.m. Creative Coloring
Friday 6/3
9 a.m. Quilting
9:30 Bowling Fun at French King; Creative Aging Walking Club
11:30 Pizza Salad & Dessert
12:30 p.m. Painting Workshop

LEVERETT
For information, contact the Leverett COA at (413) 548-1022, ext. 5, or coa@leverett.ma.us. 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.

WENDELL
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.

WEIRD HEALING by OVERTURE



Overture is based in Shelburne Falls. Check out opertura.org.

Interview: MR at the Great Falls Farmers Market

By NINA ROSSI

In between selling his flowers, herbs and vegetable starts at the Farmers Market last Wednesday, Joseph Chametka of Millers Falls sat down for a chat at the *Montague Reporter* table.

Joseph likes plants, and knows a lot about them: “I have a hobby greenhouse that I do, just for something to do, and I grow a lot of flowers for myself. I’ve always grown up around farms, and my brothers are farmers, so I wanted to do something with plants.”

Joseph’s 86-year-old mother once worked at the old Montague Rod and Reel factory, a history of which we featured on our front page recently. “She used to tie the eyes on the rods. That place was famous at one time.



She said she once made a fishing rod for President Eisenhower!”

When Joseph is not tending his hobby greenhouse and vending at the market, he’s the night manager and all around chef and go-to man at the Blue Bonnet Diner in Northampton. “We are very, very busy there,” sighed Joseph. He’s

worked there for 15 years, and says “they pay good.”

Joseph describes himself as being “an open book – no surprises, no secrets. I guess I’m pretty boring.” But, even if he did have a few surprises up his sleeve, he also doesn’t think people get easily shocked anymore, in part because we can know everything, everywhere, all the time on the internet.

Thanks Joseph! Check out the lovingly tended plants by this friendly farming chef at the next market on Wednesday afternoons, while they last.

The Montague Reporter staff and volunteers will be at the Great Falls Farmers Market every Wednesday afternoon in Turners Falls. Stop by and say hi!

THE HEALTHY GEEZER

Hiccups: They Happen



Q. Are hiccups dangerous?

Hiccups – sometimes called hiccoughs – are not dangerous themselves, and are rarely a sign of a health problem.

However, if hiccups persist for more than 48 hours, you should see a doctor. Hiccups can be a sign of kidney failure, pneumonia, lung tumors, digestion problems and heart attack.

If hiccups are so severe that they interfere with your life, see your doctor. If your hiccups last for more than three hours and you are experiencing severe abdominal pain, or you spit up blood, you should get emergency medical attention.

A hiccup is a sudden, involuntary spasm of the diaphragm, the muscle at the base of the lungs that helps you breathe. The spasm is followed by the vocal cords closing. This combined action produces a recognizable sound.

The term hiccup is an example of onomatopoeia, the formation of words that imitate sounds. The medical term for hiccup is “singultus.” The Latin word “singult” means “the act of catching one’s breath while sobbing.”

Almost all cases of hiccups last only a few minutes. If hiccups last

longer than two days, they are considered “persistent.” Hiccups lasting longer than one month are termed “intractable.”

Charles Osborne, an Iowa man, hiccupped continuously for 68 years (1922-1990). Osborne was entered in Guinness World Records as the man with the Longest Attack of Hiccups.

The exact cause of hiccups is an ancient mystery. Hippocrates, the Greek “Father of Medicine,” thought liver inflammation was responsible for hiccups.

Here are some possible causes that have been proposed:

- Stomach expansion from a big meal or swallowing air by gobbling food, drinking carbonated beverages or chewing gum. The expanded stomach presses on the diaphragm.
- Eating spicy food, which may irritate the nerves controlling diaphragm contractions.
- Drinking alcohol, which can relax your diaphragm and vocal cords.
- Stress or sudden excitement.
- Smoking, which may irritate the nerves that control the diaphragm.
- A sudden internal or external temperature change.
- Noxious fumes.

There are many remedies to transient hiccups. Some are believed to work because they build up carbon dioxide in your blood. These include breathing into a paper bag. If you stimulate the nerve between your brain and stomach, you can relieve hiccups. Drinking water stimulates the nerve.

Here are some popular techniques:

- Hold your breath.

- Breathe repeatedly into a paper bag.
- Drink a glass of water quickly.
- Use smelling salts.
- Pull hard on your tongue.
- Eat a teaspoon of sugar.
- Have someone frighten you.
- Sit down, lean forward and compress the diaphragm against the knees.

Massage of your carotid sinus may help eliminate hiccups. This sinus is located in your neck, just below your jaw. This hiccups treatment should be performed only by a healthcare professional. Never try carotid massage yourself; it can be dangerous.

For more severe, persistent hiccups, your doctor may try medications. Surgery to disable the nerve that controls the diaphragm is often the treatment of last resort.

Here are some interesting facts about hiccups:

- Hiccups appear to serve no purpose.
- Hiccups occur 4-60 times per minute.
- Hiccups are more common in the evening.
- There’s no difference between the genders when it comes to everyday hiccups. However, eight out of ten cases of persistent and intractable hiccups occur in men.
- Hiccups strike at any age and in utero.
- Hiccups occur less frequently as we get older. However, intractable hiccups are more common in adults.

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

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Sharon Cottrell
Property Manager



Sarah Adam, right, holding the 2016 Great Falls Farmers Market poster she designed, and Donna Francis, market manager, holding a check for fifty dollars to be awarded to Sarah for her poster.

ADAM from page B1

“I love working with type,” Sarah says, “helping clients solve problems and think about how to market their products, businesses, whatever they are trying to promote.”

A fresh example of this work and skill is the new Great Falls Farmers Market poster, her winning design in the recent poster contest.

In addition, Sarah does illustrative commission work that is whimsical and often funny. And she is branching out into book design, having recently designed the cover of a book of poetry, *The Kissing Ghost*, by Rachel Freitas.

Sarah has been making art since she was a kid, born in Lowell and growing up in Orange. She kept

drawing, painting, and making whimsical drawings that were child-like in nature. She kept studying art and eventually went on to attend the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth, studying illustration, painting, and typography.

Art, she says, “was all I wanted to do.”

Sarah Adam’s “Soft Landscape Series” is currently up at Deja Brew in Wendell. Look for “Quabbin Hills and Skies” at the Greenfield Gallery in June. She will bring her work to the START On The Street in Worcester, an art and music festival to be held on September 18. Check online for other upcoming venues: madsahara.com.

Creating Smiles

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

Sometimes children are born with birth defects that leave them with a cleft lip or cleft palate. There are organizations that help people in very poor places in the world with repairing these birth defects through safe surgeries. Which is especially good since “only 6.3% of an estimated 312.9 million surgical procedures performed each year go to the poorest third of the global population,” according to Operation Smile, a group that has taken on this issue worldwide.

The founder of Operation Smile, Kathy Magee, believes, “Every child who has a facial deformity is our responsibility. If we don’t take care of that child, there are no guarantees that anyone else will.”

Many of these people need more complex treatments than what is done in “a single medical mission.” They can go to care centers for help when year-round treatment is needed. Operation Smile is truly a global organization, working with doctors and nurses delivering needed care in “their own culture and their own languages.” The group also sometimes has to “import medical expertise” and medical equipment.

“Voluntarism comes in many different forms for the organization,” says Lisa Jardanhazy, a spokesperson at Operation Smile’s office of public relations. Jardanhazy mentions, among other things, that the organization is “primarily looking for medical volunteers,” as well as “volunteers who would like to contribute their time to various service projects... Non-medical volunteers can contribute just as much by preparing gowns, hosting parties for the organization and they can collect

items for children like toothbrushes, crayons and toys.”

A family named the Eberharts had their grandchild undergo a procedure to fix a cleft lip and cleft palate, so they know the positive effect these procedures can have on a child who has this done. They have become big donors to the organization. The couple, in fact, joined a mission that was going to Managua, Nicaragua and “helped during the check-in and medical screening process where 309 patients received health care assessments.” That is what I call being very involved with helping these children!

That leads me to wonder, once someone has learned about this organization: how much can they get involved? I asked some Greenfield residents what they thought.

A woman I spoke with named Natalie said, “I would first want to go and observe, to see if it is an area I would be beneficial to the children, to help them in any way.” It sounds like this person would at least look into Operation Smile a bit more.

Another woman named Jessica said, “In the absence of money to give, I would be willing to collect for children, toothbrushes, crayons and toys.”

Children deserve the best future possible. From what I have read on the official Operation Smile website, and heard people say in connection with it, it would seem that this place manages to help several children get a chance at that.

Which could be one reason why, as I learned through TV advertisements for Operation Smile, Roma Downey stayed involved with the work after her TV show *Touched by An Angel* did an episode featuring the organization as part of the plot.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Can You Name the Eleven Animal Species in This Week’s Police Log?

Monday, 5/16

10:10 a.m. Report of a fox that is foaming at the mouth in the roadway at Seventh and L Streets. Animal control officer checked area twice; no fox located.

11:33 a.m. Caller requesting assistance with a “critter” in the ceiling of her home. Animal control officer notified; same advised to have caller contact a pest control company (at her own expense).

5:07 p.m. Caller from Second Street requesting to put on record that over the past couple of weeks she has noticed some “kids/young adults” looking into or attempting to get into vehicles in the area. Caller advised to call right away if this is seen so an officer can respond.

10:38 p.m. Caller advising that they just struck a deer on Turners Falls Road. No injuries; some damage to vehicle. Operator of vehicle requested to keep deer; same was allowed and advised to contact Environmental Police tomorrow to advise them as well.

Tuesday, 5/17

2:15 a.m. Caller reports barking dog inside a pickup truck on Third Street. Dog has been barking for hours. Owner identified; attempted to contact. Dog transported to kennel. Owner contacted PD and was advised of his dog’s whereabouts.

5:44 a.m. Caller reporting irate male in hallway of building on Fourth Street; caller states this has been occurring for hours. Responding officers found furniture in roadway and on lawn. Involved party advised to leave the residence.

12:40 p.m. Suspicious party on Depot Street; same stated he was just turning around, had been looking at a rototiller that he thought was for sale but then realized it was not for sale.

1:52 p.m. Caller from Fourth Street reports that her dog, who was tied up in the yard, was “attacked” by another dog. Second caller reports she is walking her dog on Central Street and loose dog is in area. Animal control officer advised. Loose dog located and secured at kennel. Officer advises this is the same dog that had bitten him during a previous call. Owner of dog contacted and advised of situation and next steps.

2:17 p.m. Caller reports that across from Black Cow Burger Bar there is water “gushing” out of one of the planters. Water department notified.

8:56 p.m. Caller advising of fight in front of Pizza House; 3-4 parties involved. Somebody told

caller to call the cops and that there was a gun seen. Officers checking area; unable to locate. Witnesses identified one party and confirmed seeing gun.

10:23 p.m. Caller from L Street advising he had an accidental discharge of his firearm; he had cleaned same and was going to put the safety on when this occurred. No injuries. Caller advised to secure firearm and meet officers outside. Incident confirmed; investigated.

Wednesday, 5/18

1:36 p.m. Shelburne Control requesting K9 unit to French King Bridge for abandoned vehicle; possibly suicidal male had left home earlier and has not been heard from. TFFD requested to respond to river with boat for possible jumper search. Services rendered.

2:15 p.m. Caller advising of “5 guys” on the north side of the skate park “getting high.” Officer states there were a lot of kids around the park; did speak to a few teens to advise them not to do such things “if they had been.”

5:35 p.m. Caller reports that she was in traffic on/near Park Street when two male children threw rocks at her vehicle as well as other vehicles. Officer located juvenile and his father. Both were spoken to about the issue.

6:08 p.m. Caller from F.L. Roberts reports a black Pontiac next to the gas pumps is on fire. TFFD responding; situation brought under control. Report taken.

Thursday, 5/19

8:30 a.m. Officer flagged down by party advising there is a mother goose behind Town Hall with an injured wing and foot. EPO contacted but declined call; stated this is animal welfare which would be referred to Fish and Wildlife. Animal control officer checked on goose; yes, she is limping a little and her wing/feathers have been “messed up.” She may have been in a fight. She

is moving fine, and ACO believes that attempting to catch her, her babies, and the other goose she is with would be more upsetting to the goose. ACO expects more calls about this; however, is confident she will be OK.

12:04 p.m. Report of accident on Park Street; moving vehicle struck parked vehicle; operator complaining of wrist injury. Operator transported to hospital as a precaution.

8:23 p.m. Report of suspected drug transaction in Spinner Park. Area search negative.

9:56 p.m. Suspicious vehicle on Migratory Way. Party was fishing in area; will be moving along shortly.

Friday, 5/20

12:09 p.m. Caller from L Street reports that his apartment was broken into on Tuesday and his PS4 with one controller was taken. There was also a game with the unit, “Dying Light.” Report taken.

12:51 p.m. Party on Avenue A had questions for officer about car seats and immigration issues.

1:38 p.m. Caller who is new to town reports that last night several trains came into the area of his house in the middle of the night and were parked for several hours, resulting in noise and odor from engines. Caller advised that this would be on file and to call back while the issue is ongoing so that a call can be placed to Pan Am.

1:55 p.m. Request for marked unit at Franklin County Tech; it is senior prank day and there are rumors that students will attempt to secure the gate and keep traffic out. No issues.

Saturday, 5/21

1:28 p.m. [redacted] was arrested on a default warrant.

11:55 p.m. Caller reports 2-3 baby raccoons in travel lane on Greenfield Road. Message left for animal rescue in Wendell. Animal rescue volunteer en route to location; same reports that 1 baby rac-

coon was caught while 2 others are in a tree. Havahart trap set at bottom of tree; volunteer will return to check trap.

Sunday, 5/22

2:35 a.m. Suspicious vehicle that someone illegally dumped a copier on Central Street. Officer advised.

10:40 a.m. Report of hit and run accident at Lake Pleasant Road and Walcott Street. Investigated. Summons issued.

10:48 a.m. Caller from Third Street requests that an officer check on a squirrel that isn’t acting right and tried to go after her cats; expressed concern that it may be rabid. Responding officer confirmed reported behavior; unsure if squirrel is sick or protecting babies that may be nearby. Squirrel retrieved by animal control officer.

12:37 p.m. Report of mangy looking fox approximately 35 feet from caller’s property on Fairway Avenue. Unable to locate.

12:46 p.m. Phone reported stolen from Unity Park. Investigated.

1:45 p.m. Caller states that there is a deceased beaver on Canal Street and wants to know if they carry rabies before disposing of it. Caller provided with number for EPO Dispatch.

2:58 p.m. Caller advising of possible coyote in area of Montague City Road and Walnut Street. Officers advised.

8:05 p.m. Caller from Keith Street reports porcupine in yard; concerned that children in neighboring house could get into trouble. Advised of options. Copy of call left for animal control officer to check into as animal has been seen in the area for a couple of days.

9:25 p.m. Report of fight in progress behind Rendezvous. Area search negative.

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Turners Falls Goes to War: *Part III*



Photograph of the company, from then-Major Pierce's 1900 memoir "Reminiscences of the Experiences of Company L."

By REPORTER STAFF

This year, the Montague Reporter is periodically revisiting the Spanish-American War of 1898, particularly the story of Company L of the Second Regiment of the Massachusetts Infantry, Franklin County's unit in what was then the Volunteer Army of the United States.

We will update readers on the news of Co. L in real time. On May 25, 1898, our predecessor, the Turners Falls Reporter, ran the first letter from the company, from a Turners Falls man named J.J. Sullivan.

Editor Turners Falls Reporter:

No doubt there are lots of people in the Falls who are anxious as to the present location of CO. L. Second Regt. Mass Vol. We are at the time of writing passing through the State of Virginia, and at the present forced rate of speed expect to make the trip to Tampa in quick time.

For the benefit of the readers of the REPORTER I will try to make my experience as a soldier as interesting as possible.

Hearing that Capt. Pierce was vainly searching for recruits in Greenfield I thought I would offer myself as a volunteer and try and fill a man's shoes. Leaving the Falls last Sunday morning a couple of hours before any body was around, and in company with a half dozen raw recruits, I soon found myself cold and hungry at South Framingham that afternoon. Being lightly clad we suffered from the cold a good deal as blankets and army coats were not furnished to us for some time after we landed.

It was a fine sight to see the Falls boys lay down in a tent on a cold mattress without covering of any kind and still not utter a word of complaint. The Turners Falls portion of Co. L is all right. After breakfast we came up for the final physical examination, all the Falls boys passing, but only one-third of the Greenfield contingency.

We mustered in with the rest of the company and took the oath of service for two years a few hours later. Then the Captain read to us, after we dressed ranks, "Weaver's Army Rules and Regulations." It takes about three hours to read them through.

After reading for an hour Capt. Pierce turned the book over to Lieut. Field and went off to relieve his throat. We figured on the frail bodied lieutenant soon caving in, but he held on like a bull dog.

The boys got uneasy and started to kneel or sit down. Would the confounded reading ever stop? Thank God; he has caved in, but 2d Lieut. Mason took up the task and in a deep bass voice continued the reading.

By this time nearly the entire company was flat on the ground or fast asleep. All that was crashing through my bewildered brain was "punishable by death," or as the court martial deems sufficient; or as the board of inquiry may see fit; or to be shot and suffer instant death.

It seems after all the only things

we can do without being punished is to draw our breath or kill a Spaniard. That the reading was unnecessary is something I am well aware of, as not one of the boys knew a single regulation ten minutes after the reading was over.

Then for two days we had the manual of arms, guards, mounts, police and detail duty in its regular order. Football, baseball, or other popular games were indulged in. Every evening all hands gathered around the campfires and spent the evenings pleasantly. There was some splendid singers and excellent musicians in the camp and they always kept us in good humor.

The following night the news came in at 10:45 p.m. that the Second was ordered to the front. It is impossible for me to describe the wild scene that followed. The boys jumped around and acted as though they were crazy. A procession formed behind a curly headed Irish boy from the Falls. The second and all the friends of the leader in the Irish ninth follow in close order. No sleep for any one that night.

We had a dress parade and was inspected by Gov. Wolcott. I suppose you have read his eloquent tribute to the Second. We shouldered our knapsacks and blankets and started for the depot a mile and a half away, and received a brilliant reception all along the way. The sides of the railway fairly blazed with bonfires and fireworks of all descriptions.

When we arrived at Newport a drum corps was waiting to receive us. As the boat sailed for New York the juvenile population of the town begged us to bit off the ears of the Spaniards and other requests too numerous to mention.

We arrived at New York the following morning and transferred our baggage to the transport Saratoga and from there was transferred again to the transport Vallancia. Spent the night and the following day on board the transport. Saturday we were ordered to leave the transport at Jersey City and take the cars for Tampa at Jersey City. The war officials thought it too dangerous to send us and 71st New York by transport as we had only the Prairie to accompany us.

We passed Baltimore and Washington this morning. Everything was in full bloom. The boys were wearing bouquets in short order. How they got them judge for yourself.

The ladies were very kind to us. An elderly lady in Washington kissed me for my mother's sake and said it was a pity to kill me, I was so young and innocent. You ought to see her look at me when I offered to kiss her two pretty daughters for my sister's sake.

From Washington to Florence it was the same continual shouting and yelling, the colored people being fairly crazy to see us. Mashies were in order at every station, the Southern girls captivating the Mass. boys.

Dogs, cats, and even pigs were taken up along the route, and it was nothing unusual to see a dusky beauty picked up bodily by a half dozen stalwart fellows and shoved in through a car window. The major put

a stop to the fun when they tried to carry off a cow.

After passing Romeo we were informed that our destination was Lakeland, Florida, instead of Tampa. We arrived Monday night, and slept all night in the cars with the 71st New York Regt. The men of the 10th U.S. Regular Infantry disembarked, preferring to lay down in their blankets in a dusty street.

The ninth (colored) U.S. Cav. are here. One of the colored troops killed a druggist for refusing to sell him liquor. He was arrested.

This morning we were told that we could wash our hands in a lake nearby and went the whole hog, unmindful of alligators and moccasin snakes. Later on they marched us to a scrubby grove, outside the town where we are at present.

It is terribly hot, being over 100° in the shade. The boys stood the sudden change from cold to hot climate in good shape. We are encamped with the 71st N.Y. and 9th and 10th U.S. regulars. How long we will stay here no one knows; for my sake I am ready for anything. The pestilence of Cuba will not keep the Falls boys from doing their duty.

We did not receive an encouraging word from any one in camp at Framingham, when others had compliments showered upon them, but it does not require the flashing of silk handkerchiefs or bright eyes to make us act the part of a man. When the right moment comes Turners Falls will not be forced to blush for her portion of Co. L.

All the local boys are in good health and are anxiously awaiting letters from home. If the friends and relatives at home could only see the look of disappointment depleted on the faces of the unlucky soldier on being informed there was no letter for him I am sure they would not be so negligent in replying. If any one will take the trouble to write they can be sure their letter will be appreciated.

The lake in front of the camp abound in bass, trout and pickerel, so that we will not have to rely on hard tack and salt horse as usual. The climate here is not what it is cracked up to be. For the most part it is a scrubby pine country. Tropical verdure is nowhere in sight.

Our tents have just arrived and we are now about to put them up. Talk about thieves, the output of the bowery is not a circumstance to the Second Regt. They not only steal handkerchiefs, underwear, etc., but even our guns and accoutrements are not overlooked. My blouse being just stolen, I suppose I must put in the whole afternoon searching for it.

The colored trooper who killed the druggist, yesterday, was shot today just across the lake.

I must now close, the boys requesting me to ask you a favor to send us a copy of your valuable paper once in a while.

Yours respectfully,
J.J. Sullivan,
Co. L, Second Regt. Mass. Vol.,
Lakeland, Florida.

Reception for Local Artists on the Avenue

TURNERS FALLS – Artists Rodney Madison, Eric Grab and Luis Felipe Gonzalez will be hosting a studio exhibition of their recent works on Friday, May 27 from 5 to 8 p.m. at 104 Avenue A in Turners Falls.

Chicago native Rodney Madison grew up surrounded by art. Rodney Madison credits his father, Reginald Madison, as a huge influence. His father brought him to the Chicago Art Institute as a child, and was himself active in the Art & Soul movement in Chicago during the late 1960s. The younger Madison felt himself artistically in the shadow of his father for much of his life, but has been painting in earnest for several years now.

His large scale abstract work incorporates images from his childhood, African Art, and the world of music, especially jazz. "I often don't know what the painting is going to be about until the brush hits the paper, really," admits Madison. He uses nontraditional materials such as house paints and stains on reclaimed paper.

Through his paintings, Eric Grab is mainly concerned with the communication of content; the bold, direct transmission of meaningful content: usually spiritual, religious, ceremonial, or familial in nature.

Eric uses mostly acrylic and oil paint, although some of the pieces incorporate mixed media, including tobacco, dirt, cast of bits of studio detritus, flour, salt and found objects.

"As an artist, I create work by connecting to that place beneath



Downtown artist Rodney Madison

the surface of things, beyond appearances. In so doing, I hope to bring the awareness of that place closer to the surface of my everyday life, that I may come to know myself a little more." (From the artist's statement, ericgrab.com.)

Originally from Yucatan, Mexico, Luis Felipe Gonzalez finds artistic and spiritual inspiration in memories of beaches and ocean scenes as a remedy for the Massachusetts winter: "It keeps me warm, man." He remembers feelings of profound gratitude every day of life in his Mexican home, of mornings stretching his arms out to the sun rising over the waves, and the smell of the ocean, and seeks to capture this on canvas in oils and acrylics.

Random works by various local artists will add to the eclectic mixture in the gallery. Musical excursions and other aural adventures may occur. Come for a surprising evening.

Friday and Saturday: Benefits for Jaime I

By MIKE JACKSON

Two events are planned this weekend to help raise funds for a summer experimental art gallery in search of a home.

When Greenfield's Matt Robidoux, who has developed a reputation for copious, gonzo music booking at venues including John Doe, Jr. Records, the Wheelhouse, Replay Gear, the Brick House, Rendezvous and Victoria Bar, passed the hat last month to raise funds for Jaime I, "multi-curatorial pop-up microspace for the furthering of visual, sound, performing arts and film on the fringes of experimentation," the public obliged.

"It'll begin with a few curators, multiple performances per week, and weekly gallery hours that host a variety of visual and sound art exhibitions," Robidoux explained in his campaign video on Indiegogo.com.

Robidoux quickly passed his crowdfunding goal – only to find the terrain of negotiation with the project's original prospective landlord on Greenfield's Main Street pulled out from under his feet. With a modest wad of local art freak cash burning a hole in his pocket, he is in the process of securing a new location, and promises an announcement soon.

In the meantime, a planned benefit concert and screening are still on.

This Friday, May 27, guitarists

Willie Lane and Joshua Burkett will play at the Brick House on Third Street in Turners Falls, along with Slippery Dixon (who until recently performed as Alto Jeffro) and house band Flaming Dragons of Middle Earth.

The Brick House is an all-ages, substance free space, doors open at 7:30 p.m., and Matt's asking for \$8.

Saturday, May 28 will be a night of "experimental films by artists living in Western Mass" at 170 Main Street in Greenfield.

Artists showing films are Josh Guilford, Adam Levine, Lauren Cook, Daniel Cashman, Magdalena Bermudez, Jason and Aya Brown (who draw and animate as Overture, and are responsible for the *Montague Reporter* strip *Weird Healing*), Neil Young Cloaca, Colby Makin, and Zachary Hart.

The event is programmed by the Good Night Sleep collective. "We see these events as both exhibitions and testing sites," they write. "On Saturday we will see finished work, but we will also see films which are still changing and shifting, these screenings being part of that process."

Formats include "16 mm, VHS, handmade animation, including abstract works, documentary, experimental narrative."

This one starts at 8 p.m., and patrons will again be asked for \$8 upon entry.

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MOORES from page B1
for the first mill along the Sawmill River in 1716.

“Towns granted monopolies and expected service to the people of the town,” wrote Bennett.

Pynchon refused to trade to King George’s soldiers in Connecticut for below market value price, and Bennett speculated that is why Massachusetts and Connecticut are separated. Bennett described Pynchon as a capitalist, explaining that he priced his grain at market value and refused to budge.

“If he hadn’t done that, Massachusetts would simply be a part of Connecticut.”

Many blame the destruction of the Native population on Jeffery Amherst, who is said to have distributed smallpox infested blankets among them, but Bennett has a different perspective.

“The Europeans were used to living around pigs. That made them partially immune. Many of them were carriers, however, and the Indians got exposed. That wiped out about 90% of the Indian population.”

Without the Native population, Leverett, which consisted of mostly Native hunting grounds, moved swiftly into the mill and mechanic economy.

Richard Montague moved from Sunderland, where he was born, to the Sawmill River where he founded a Baptist church and ran a tavern. “About 1765, he moved to the part of town which is now North Leverett, and for several years was licensed as an inn holder,” said Bennett.

Montague was one of thirteen founding members of the Baptist church, and the church often met at the Montague home.



Local resident and historian Dan Bennett stands at the site of the first mill, originally owned by Joseph Sllarrow. The original mill has since been destroyed, but for Bennett this is the real Moores Corner. Asa Moore later bought the mill from Richard Montague, and ran it successfully for many years.

“Their first pastor was ordained in his barn, where they would sometimes hold services,” said Bennett.

Montague owned the North Leverett Mill from 1779 to 1789. He bought the mill from its original owner, Joseph Sllarrow, whose timeline of official ownership of the mill is unknown. At some point, probably during the 1750s, Sllarrow built and began to operate the mill.

According to Bennett, the hegemonic reign of the Moore family came to an end in the late 19th century with the rise of the Watson family.

“Village life is morphing from one family hegemony to another,” said Bennett.

The Watson family had a store in Moores corner until 1909, when it burned down.

John Wesley Watson took the Moore house, the stone foundation of which can be seen around the picnic area of the Leverett Village Coop. Later, Watson became a developer, purchasing land all the way from Locke’s Pond through Brushy Mountain.

The Glazier Family, some of whom still live in Leverett, were among the original military land grantees, along with Richard Montague. Jonathan settled on Brushy Mountain.

“Asa made the mill hum,” Bennett writes, “and Glazier made it sing.”



MILLERS from page B1
Street and Grand Avenue, in glass-plate negatives from the Howes Brothers in the 1880s – where have they gone?

And the merchants and workers who once rebuilt the entire town in three years flat following the disastrous fire of 1895 – what has become of them?

The Ward Block on the corner of Main and Bridge, a former haberdashery once hailed as the finest example of wood framed Victorian mansard architecture in the village, seems empty now. The Element Brewing Company has moved down Bridge Street, vacating the main storefronts. The leaded glass logo sports missing panes above the door that long served as the portal to the village post office, closed in 2003.

Across the way, construction barricades the doors and windows of the Powers Block, purchased last year with three neighboring wooden structures for a dollar apiece through Montague’s commercial home-steading project, now under active reconstruction by developer Bob Obear.

There’s hope for the future in these buildings – a new laundry will open soon – but also sad reminder of former glory days, when Teddy Roosevelt took time to make a whistlestop at Millers Falls. In November 1902, he told a waiting crowd, “Evils in the body politic are conquered by courageous resolution, not hysterics,” a sentiment that bears repeating in today’s election season.

How to explain the loss of the local industry? Was it due to disastrous trade policies undermining American manufacturing – a disease best cured by erecting a wall of protectionist tariffs around our shores, and forcing China to pay for it?

Or was it due to pure capitalism: leveraged buy-outs and the financiers of Wall Street, who Shanghai’d Millers Falls Tool, bought by Ingersoll Rand in 1962, moved to Greenfield in 1970, to South Deerfield in 1976, sold to Rule Cutting Tools, then Kennametal, then Diss-ton, which moved most of the few remaining toolmaking jobs to China in 2013?

(And why is Bernie Sanders howling in the wilderness for superdelegates? And when will Hillary Clinton release the transcripts of her speeches to Goldman Sachs?)

These, and many other questions, were on the minds of the 18 participants in the

guided tour, as we strolled up Bridge Street toward the former St. John’s Catholic Church. This is where Richard Widmer, who walked with us, is forging a new and more hopeful link to China in the form of the Arts Bridge project, which has begun bringing artists from that land for residencies in Millers Falls.

The tour brought us down by the former auto salvage yard, now remarkably transformed. We could see the train tracks that form a V junction behind the old Millers Falls Inn, built in 1897 by Tom O’Keefe, now sadly shorn of its wisteria and graceful balconies. One set of tracks leads on to Boston, the other to Vermont.

The railroad was one of the main factors contributing to the village’s rise in the 1800s. But the railroad’s ownership of land formed a daunting barrier to its later growth, and gives Main Street an odd, truncated feel. Diesel engines idle at inconvenient crossings and at all hours, giving rise to complaints that go unheeded in the halls of railroad bureaucracy down to this day.

We paused by the Millers Pub, on the ground floor of the landmark Equi’s Spanish Garden. The second floor was legendary for its spring dance floor and Alhambra-themed murals. Now divided into apartments, like the old hotel across the street, the dance hall is just a memory.

The bar has such a classy retro feel that Hollywood producers chose it for a scene in *The Judge*, with Robert Downey Jr. and Vera Farmiga smoking up the screen in 2014.

On Sunday, a few patrons strolled out into the daylight for a smoke. They looked at us as if we were extras from some long-deleted scene. When was the last time anyone has seen 20 people on the sidewalks of Millers Falls?

On the front step of Carroll’s Supermarket, where Martin Luippold once kept the best butcher case in Franklin County, a lone customer sat beneath the lottery sign, hoping for better fortune. Beyond, brick buildings that once housed the village library and the VFW sank into disrepair.

We walked down Bridge Street. Brule’s Irish band plays music at the new location of the Element Brewery in the former Mackin Garage on third Fridays in the evenings, and food carts are brought in every weekend to supplement the local beer.

Taverns like the Red Lantern – situated across the bridge and closer to the hundreds of thirsty millhands clocking out of work – have always loomed large in village folklore. Millers was originally called Grout’s Corner after its first settler, Martin Grout, who opened a tavern here when the town was founded in the 1820s.

Brule, whose family has lived and worked here for generations, had stories to tell about high times and hijinks at the Red Lantern – but we can’t repeat them here.

Was that brewhall named for the lone lantern that lit the long covered bridge built in 1872 above the Millers? That lantern apparently caught the bridge’s roof on fire, before it was retired for a graceful double arched steel span.

We passed the home of the disbanded fire station, stepped around a bag of onions in front of Judsy Gould’s old ice cream parlor, where the Millers Drum and Bugle Corps was formed, and stood on the middle of the newest bridge to span that stretch of rapids. We looked at a sepia-toned photo of Bridge Street from the 1870s and could see the same stone wall – the same stones – in that old photo still forming the retaining wall of the nearest house. If those stones could talk, what a tale they would tell of strength and endurance in this village over time.

Campbell spoke of a Hallowe’en parade 25 years ago that ended at the far side of the bridge when a woman dressed in a nun’s habit came dashing out of the Red Lantern – hugely pregnant and very drunk – startling the children.

History is made of mysteries, open to speculation but seldom solved.

What started the fire that burned the entire village to the ground on the night before Hallowe’en in 1895? Some say sparks from a passing train grinding through the junction. We’ll never know.

The tour ended on the bridge that still binds the two halves of Millers Falls together, whatever the post office might call the Ervingside.

Watching travelers come and go on the busy roads that cross the county here, and listening to the song of the birds and the murmur of the rapids, one thing is certain. The future of this village will be vibrant, with many more tales to tell.



MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

This Week on MCTV: Dance and Renewable Energy

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

A warm hello from Montague Community Television! Looking for more excuses to get outside? The Great Falls Farmer’s Market is in season from May through October – you can stop by at the corner of Avenue A and Second Street on Wednesdays from 2 to 6 p.m.

Now in our TV schedule, you can check out the GCC Spring dance recital, as well as the May installment of *Renewables are Ready* and the May 17 Gill-Montague school committee meeting.

Finally, tune in to MCTV on Monday at 7 p.m. to see the Montague selectboard meeting, live.

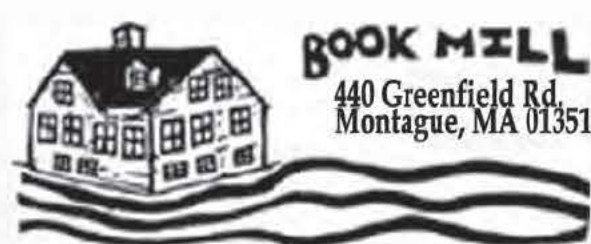
Something going on

you think others would like to see? Get in touch to learn how easy it is to use a camera and capture the moment.

Contact us at (413) 863-9200, infomontaguetv@gmail.com, or stop by 34 Second Street in Turners, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. We’d love to work with you!

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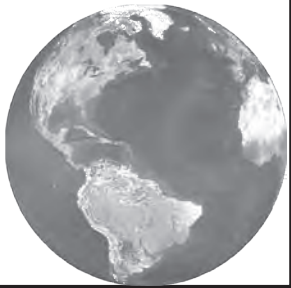
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Aquí se habla español



Esta es la página en español del periódico The Montague Reporter. Aquí podrán encontrar cuestiones acerca de la comunidad hispana, eventos de interés, curiosidades, y noticias en español. Si quiere colaborar o compartir alguna sugerencia, envíenos un correo electrónico a: spanish@montaguereporter.org. Esperamos su participación.

Relatos del lector: Para celebrar el 400 aniversario de la muerte de Cervantes, queremos invitar a nuestros lectores de todas las edades y nacionalidades a enviarnos sus propias historias, recuerdos de la infancia o leyendas autóctonas que publicaremos en nuestra página. Anímese a participar y envíenos sus relatos al correo electrónico indicado arriba o directamente en la sede del periódico en Avenue A.

Sección del lector.

Este poema ha sido escrito y traducido por Janet MacFadyen. ¡Muchas gracias!

Olvido

Me preguntas, ¿qué estas mirando?
Nada. Solo la hierba.
Me siento afuera y me pierdo.

Una abeja en un botón de oro. Una abeja
en una taza amarilla, bebiendo.
Ambas estamos emborrachadas de flores.

Tengo un pie torpe, la mente torpe.
Estoy feliz pero no demasiado. El sol
taladra un agujero azul al mundo ciego.

No hay un alma que sepa cómo se siente
este cuerpo. Eres tu cuerpo.
Soy mi cuerpo. Qué suerte tenemos.

¿Es eso la verdad? ¿Qué es este viento
en mis orejas y mi pelo? Duermo en mis brazos
y me olvido de todo, el porqué de todo.

I Forget

You ask, What am I watching?
Nothing. Just the grass.
I sit outside and lose myself.

A bee in a buttercup. A bee
in a yellow teacup, drinking.
Both of us are drunk on flowers.

I have a bum foot and a stiff mind.
I am happy, but not too much. The sun
drills a blue hole to the blind world.

There's not another soul who knows
how this body feels. You are your body.
I am my body. How lucky we are.

Is that the truth? What is this wind
in my ears and hair? I sleep in my arms
and forget everything, or why.)

La verdadera historia del Cinco de Mayo.

Por VICTORIA MAILLO

Cinco de Mayo es toda una celebración en Estados Unidos, especialmente en bares y restaurantes donde esta fecha va unida a margaritas, guacamole, grandes sombreros, piñatas en forma de burro y hasta *taco bowls*. ¿Apropiación cultural? Si entras en uno de estos locales y preguntas a la clientela la razón de la celebración, estoy segura de que no muchos sabrían responder.

Algunos quizás confundan esta fecha con la Independencia de México, o grito de Dolores, que en realidad es el 16 de septiembre. Voy a tratar de explicar someramente qué se celebra ese día para celebrarlo con conocimiento de causa el próximo año.

El periodo de la historia de México entre 1857 y 1861 se denomina como Guerra de Reforma o Guerra de los Tres Años que termina con la entrada de Benito Juárez a la ciudad de México. Durante esa etapa se dio un caso curioso ya que existieron al mismo tiempo dos gobiernos paralelos, el de los conservadores con sede en la ciudad de México y, el de los liberales liderados por Benito Juárez en Veracruz.

La guerra dejó al país casi en la miseria y con una gran deuda a países europeos. Juárez promulgó leyes que dictaban la separación del poder religioso y del estado. Estas leyes no gustaron nada ni al sector más conservador, ni por supuesto a la misma Iglesia Católica que perdió con ellas muchos de sus privilegios.

Los conservadores, muchos de ellos grandes latifundistas, pidieron ayuda a algunos países europeos que mostraron su interés en invadir México con la excusa de saldar las deudas y así poder hacer frente al poder cada vez más grande de los Estados Unidos, que en ese momento se encontraba inmerso en su Guerra de Secesión.

En octubre de 1861, España, Inglaterra y Francia llegaron a México. Juárez fue capaz de convencer a ingleses y españoles para abandonar su empresa, pero los franceses siguieron adelante con sus planes de invasión liderados por Napoleón III. Los liberales por su parte eran apoyados por tropas estadounidenses.

Una de las batallas, celebrada en las cercanías de la ciudad de Puebla y por ello llamada la batalla de Puebla tuvo lugar el Cinco de Mayo de 1862. Fue una gran victoria para los mexicanos, inferiores en tropas y medios, pero a pesar de ello no consiguieron evitar la invasión que ocurriría un año más tarde. En esta batalla perdieron la vida alrededor de 500 soldados, además de 400 heridos y una veintena de desaparecidos.

Actualmente el Cinco de Mayo se celebra más entre la población mexicoamericana que en el mismo México para conmemorar el Día del orgullo mexicano. En México se recrea la batalla de Puebla, y se realizan desfiles militares y ofrendas a los caídos. En Los Ángeles, Nueva York y Houston, lugares de Estados Unidos donde existe una mayor tradición de esta fiesta, con grandes celebraciones organizadas por el movimiento chicano.

Así pues el Cinco de Mayo conmemora la Batalla de Puebla, la pequeña gran victoria de los mexicanos contra la invasión francesa y más ampliamente contra cualquier forma de dominio extranjero.



¿Apropiación cultural? Donald Trump haciendo propaganda de su restaurante el Cinco de Mayo.

Moda en la lavandería. ¿Te gusta diseñar o coser? Te esperamos.



De izquierda a derecha, Rachel Teumim, Anne Harding, Mary Buckley, Chris Janke y montón de ropa abandonada lista para reciclar.

Por VICTORIA MAILLO

El evento de moda *Lost and Found Fashion Show* lleva celebrándose más de diez años en la lavandería Suzee's en Turners Falls. Chris Janke, el propietario de la lavandería, tomó la idea de alguien que le habló de una lavandería en algún lugar en el estado de Nueva York en que reciclaban la ropa olvidada en un evento de moda. Así pues, Chris empezó a desarrollar la idea de transformar su lavandería en una pasarela de moda.

Y dicho y hecho. Durante más de diez años, Suzee's una vez por año, una noche de diciembre, se transformaba en un lugar lleno de modelos con brillantina que desfilaban encima de las propias mesas resbaladizas del local y en el que los habituales de la lavandería se encontraban con un mundo diferente.

La única regla era que los diseñadores debían usar en sus creaciones un 90% de la ropa perdida o abandonada en el local y mucha creatividad.

Este año Chris quiere rediseñar el proyecto, junto con Giselle y Justin de Cosa Rara y en colaboración por primera vez Suzanne LoManto, directora de Turners Falls RiverCulture, apuestan por nuevas ideas sin desdeñar las que han funcionado en el pasado. Se trata de que el evento deje de ser exclusivo y se convierta en algo inclusivo, que los clientes de la lavandería pasen a ser diseñadores por un día, e involucrar a la comunidad en este proyecto.

El pasado domingo se celebró una reunión en Cosa Rara para conseguir ideas que inspirasen el evento. Janke explicó a un auditorio de unas quince personas que el próximo evento se celebrará en septiembre en el Shea, montando allí la pa-

sarela de moda. A lo largo del verano se celebrarán diferentes talleres para que las personas que quieran participar reciban algunas lecciones de costura o de cómo poner en práctica las ideas de sus diseños. La idea es que a través de la transformación se haga de lo ordinario algo extraordinario.


Mary Buckley, que ha participado en el evento en el pasado como diseñadora, dijo que el primer año no sabía coser y simplemente unió las telas con adhesivo. Otra participante en años anteriores, Anne Harding, añadió que al principio cuando recibes tu bolsa con las prendas, las miras y no se te ocurre nada, después las ideas van brotando fácilmente. Anne es una las diseñadoras que sabe coser y que está dispuesta a dar un taller sobre ello.

Para Rachel Teumim, otra veterana del evento, lo más importante es el proceso de jugar con las prendas y hacer algo nuevo. Nos mostró en la reunión algunos diseños que había elaborado que eran francamente creativos.

Lo importante es que todo el mundo puede participar en el evento, ya sea como diseñador, modelo, sastre, o sombrerero, solamente se necesita ilusión y creatividad. Los talleres se celebrarán los domingos durante el verano y se impartirán en español e inglés. Habrá también comida y servicio de cuidado de niños para los que lo necesiten. Se ha pensado también distribuir en la lavandería bolsas de ropa con las reglas del evento en español e inglés y que los interesados participen en pequeños proyectos.


Si quiere obtener más información sobre el evento o participar, pasen por Cosa Rara en el 111 de Avenue A en Turners Falls o escriban a turnersfallsfashionshow@gmail.com.

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EVERY SUNDAY

McCusker's Co-op Market, Shelburne Falls: *Celtic Sessions*. Musicians of all levels welcome to play traditional Irish music. 10:30 a.m.

ONE MONDAY EACH MONTH

Wagon Wheel, Gill: *Wagon Wheel Word*. First week of each month. Monthly poetry reading, often with special guest poets. 6 p.m.

Carnegie Library: *Outside the Lines!* Last Monday of each month. Adult Coloring Group. Supplies provided. 6:30 p.m.

EVERY TUESDAY

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: Crafts and activities for children of all ages. 3:30 to 4:45 p.m.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Story Time*: Thematic stories, projects, and snacks for young children. 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

Carnegie 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.

Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *Watchdog Open Mic*. All musicians, comedians, and magicians are welcome! 8 p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

Slate Memorial Library, Gill: *Story Hour*. Stories and hands-on arts & crafts. 10 a.m. to noon.

The Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *TNT Karaoke*, 8 p.m.



Creacion Latin Big Band is a 20 piece ensemble who play son, salsa, cha cha, boogaloo, merengue, cumbia, and bolero styles, and feature Venezuelan singer Tony Messina. They will be playing at the Arts Block in Greenfield on Wednesday, June 1, at 8 p.m., the first of this free event which will take place the first and third Wednesday of every month. It will be followed by an Open Mic at 9 p.m.

EXHIBITS:

Artspace, Greenfield: *Photography of Angelina Delaney*. Through June 6.

Art on the Avenue, Turners Falls: *Open Studio. Recent Works by Rodney Madison, Eric Grab, Luis Felipe Gonzalez*. One day in-house exhibition. 5-8 p.m.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Vintage Powerhouse - Cabot Station: A One Hundred Year Retrospective*. This exhibit features historical photographs dating from the early 1900s that tell the story of the construction of the new concrete dam at Turners Falls, new power station and power canal expansion. At the time of its construction, Cabot Station was the largest hydroelectric facility east of Niagara Falls. Through May 28.

Leverett Arts & Crafts, Leverett: Barnes Gallery presents: *Susan Valentine: Annual Open Studio & Gallery Show*. Through May 29.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Thrones*. "A ubiquitous household item becomes object d'art at the Nook" as artists transform the common toilet seat into new art forms. Through June 25.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Along the River: pastels by Rebecca Clark*. Through

June 27.

Sawmill River Arts Gallery, Montague Center: *From Darkness Into Light/ A Spring Exhibit*. Recent works by gallery members of this collaborative. Through May 31.

Shelburne Arts Co-operative, Shelburne Falls: *Something Else*. Photography, oils, and watercolors by Candace Silver. Exhibit through May 30.

CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS:

Silverthorne Theater, Greenfield: Sponsoring a competition to select a new play by a local playwright of color for possible production during the 2017 sea-

7:30 p.m. \$

Arts Block, Greenfield: *2 Cool 4 School with Spirit Ghost, Calico Blue, The Bonds, Petting Zoo, and Where's Waldo?*. 8 p.m. \$

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Show of Cards*. Folk Rock. 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Friends of Bernie*. Alternative rock. 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Adynkra*. Instrumental duo. 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 28

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope—Bird Beak Buffet*. Will include story, games, and craft project. For children 3-6 whose siblings and friends are welcome. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Degrader, Lowpoints, Distinctions, Comatose, and Tides*. Metal. All ages. Doors at 6 p.m. \$10.

Ashfield Town Hall, Ashfield: Ashfield Community Theater presents: *The Quick Change Room*. See Friday's listings for details. 7 p.m. \$

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Sean Ashby*. Roots Rock. 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Grave Diggers Union*. Hard driving bluegrass and Old Time country. 9 p.m.

Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *Back Track*. Cover band. 9 p.m. \$

SUNDAY, MAY 29

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Genna and Jesse*. Acoustic soul. 2 p.m.

Ashfield Town Hall, Ashfield: Ashfield Community Theater presents: *The Quick Change Room*. See Friday's listing for details. 2 p.m. \$

Wesley Methodist Church, Hadley: *Greenfield Harmony Spring Concert* led by Mary Cay Brass; seventy-five singers will perform music from the Balkans, South Africa, and the Republic of Georgia. Benefit concert. Also featuring Emily Miller and Jesse Milnes leading songs from the old-time and country gospel music of the South. 5 p.m. \$

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

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1

Arts Block (4th Floor), Greenfield: *Creacion Latin Big Band & Late Night Open Mic JAM!*. See photo and blurb this page for details. 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

Energy Park, Greenfield: Coop Concerts presents *Boys of the Landfill w/ Mike Pattavina, Roland Lapierre, and Pat and Tex LaMountain Band*. 6 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Collected Poets Series featuring David Gianni and Richard Michelson*. Poetry reading. 7 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Eric Love. '60s & '70s Gold*. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

Ashfield Town Hall, Ashfield: Ashfield Community Theater presents: *The Quick Change Room*. See last Friday's listing for details. 7 p.m. \$

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Emily Barnes*. Singer/songwriter. 8 p.m.


Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Equalites*. Reggae Fantastico.



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Friday, 5/27 — 9 p.m.
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WEST ALONG from page B1

in aerial photo interpretation with a deep interest in Native American archaeology to develop ground-breaking maps of high-register digital elevation models of our valley's topography.

By analyzing his aerial maps of prehistoric river deltas, ancient valleys and meanders, and alluvial slopes he has been able to begin identifying likely sites where paleo and archaic peoples might have chosen to live.

Bud Driver is a member of the Deerfield Historical Commission, and an archaeologist who has spent a lifetime researching, locating, interpreting, and protecting Native American sites in the Connecticut River Valley.

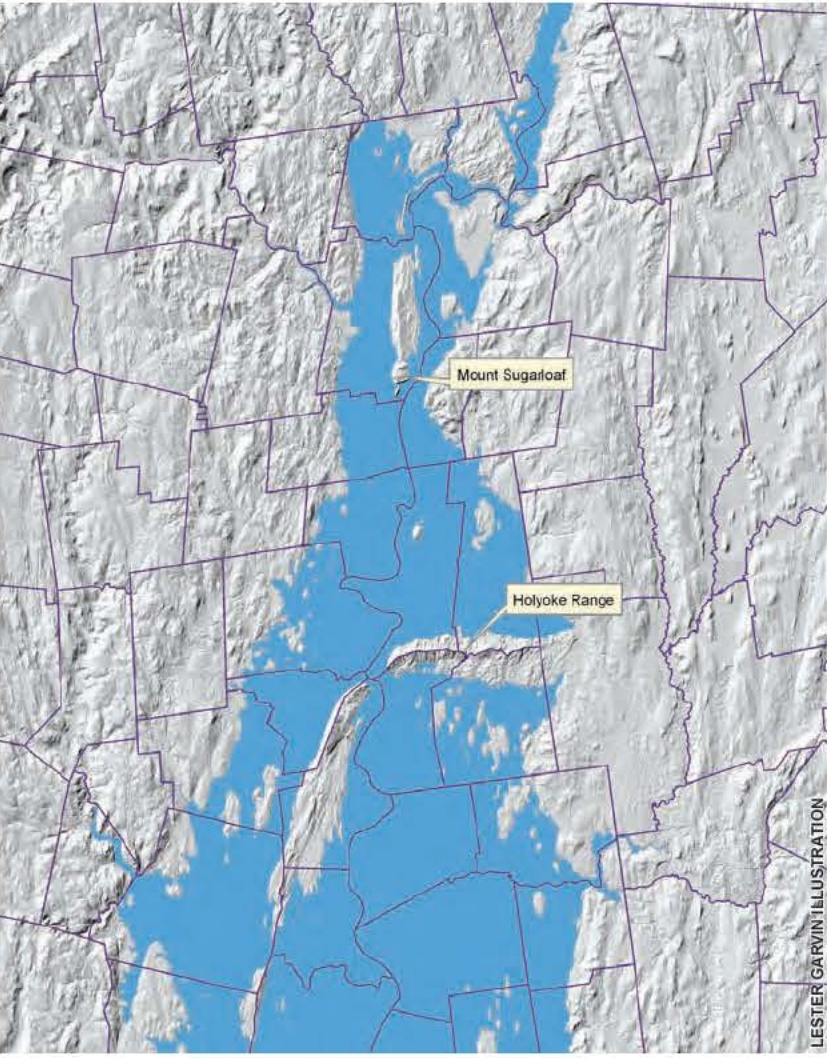
Bud is something of an archaeological iconoclast, a rough-and-tumble spokesperson for local historians who feel that we, the Connecticut River Valley public, should be educated about the history under our feet, to better preserve and protect our cultural resources.

These two men, along with Richard Michael Gramley, have been developing and interpreting their findings concerning the first human beings who arrived here to camp and hunt in our valley between 13,000 and 12,400 years ago.

In fact, Gramley, of the American Society for Amateur Archaeology, has published numerous works on the Paleo-Indian sites at the base of Mount Sugarloaf. He contends that locally we have one of the richest archaeological sites in North America.

His findings indicate that families and extended clans of hunters regularly chose the Sugarloaf site to hunt and kill the 15,000-strong caribou herds that typically migrated down the various river valleys to get to the shores of this ancient lake bed.

As we are learning through the efforts of our local historians and amateur archaeologists, this valley with all its richness in food resources (fish, caribou and other large mammals, fertile soils) has been a magnet for paleo, archaic, and woodlands



Glacial Lake Hitchcock in Massachusetts, about 15,000 years ago.

cultures for at least 12,000 years.

Driver maintains that there is evidence that peoples of the Adena culture from the Mississippi Valley, others from the Lake Champlain cultures, and elsewhere far beyond came regularly to our valley. These early peoples left behind tools and materials that help identify them, and validate their presence here.

Information of this sort will be shared at the June 18 symposium entitled "Glacial Lake Hitchcock and its Primal Inhabitants".

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Richard Little, professor emeritus of Greenfield Community College, who will speak about the geology of the Connecticut River Valley.

In addition, another local hero, Dr. Peter Thomas of Deerfield will present his finding on "The Riverside Archaeological District, and Changes in

the Valley's Geomorphology Following the Drainage of Lake Hitchcock". Other speakers will include Dr. Barbara Calogero, Richard Gramley, Stuart Fiedel and others.

Janet Radway Stone and Lester Garvin will present their findings on their research and mapping of Lake Hitchcock at the conclusion of the conference.

Registration will be from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at Eaglebrook. The initial presentation by Dr. Little will begin at 9:15. A free lunch for participants will be offered by the host, Eaglebrook School.

There is a \$25 registration fee. There is an attendee limit of 175 on a first-come, first-serve basis. Conference registration forms and info are available at deerfield-ma.org and at lgarvin@star.net.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

Murderer Search; Golf Carts On Roadway; Chicken Complaint

Wednesday, 5/4
12:25 p.m. Reported erratic operation of a school bus. Located same, spoke with driver.
1:10 p.m. Breaking and entering reported at residence on French King Highway.
Thursday, 5/5
9:10 p.m. Motor vehicle on fire reported on French King Highway.
Friday, 5/6
11:20 a.m. Resident on Main Road reported IRS phone scam.
12:30 p.m. Resident on West Gill Road reported IRS phone scam.
7:40 p.m. Located suspicious activity on Pisgah Mt Road. Four cars setting up a party area.
9:10 p.m. Be on lookout issued for party in connection with a murder in Plymouth, MA.
9:15 p.m. Located above motor vehicle at the French King Bridge, proper notification made. Search initiated.
Saturday, 5/7
7 a.m. Search con-

tinues by multiple agencies for above suspect.
7:30 p.m. Assisted Montague police with reported gunshots or fireworks.
Sunday, 5/8
7:40 a.m. Assisted Erving police with irate subject at Dunkin Donuts.
10:15 a.m. Suspicious motor vehicle at boat ramp: was State Police dive team members.
Monday, 5/9
8:50 a.m. Suspicious activity at elementary school under investigation.
10 a.m. MA Fish and Wildlife responded to animal complaint of bird.
10:30 Firearms issue on Main Road.
Wednesday, 5/11
1:10 p.m. Animal complaint on Main Road, dealt with same of loose dogs.
2:35 p.m. Responded to Bernardston for a missing 5-year-old child. Same located.
3:10 p.m. Assault and battery on a pregnant victim reported on Mountain Road.

7:10 p.m. Complaint of golf carts being driven on the roadway in Riverside area.
Thursday, 5/12
5:10 a.m. Suspicious activity on Dole Road. Checked OK.
10:45 a.m. Animal complaint on Main Road: loose chickens doing damage.
4 p.m. Restraining orders issued to party on Mountain Road.
Friday, 5/13
7:20 a.m. Removed metal pipe hazard from roadway on Main Road.
10 a.m. Traffic hazard on French King Highway: power lines in roadway.
5:30 p.m. Reported runaway juvenile from Greenfield at residence in Gill. Check revealed no one at location.
Saturday, 5/14
7:05 p.m. Medical assist on Center Road.
8:10 p.m. Complaint of fireworks in the Main Road area: Northfield Mount Hermon prom night. FD on scene.

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