



LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 14 – NO. 41

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

AUGUST 18, 2016

## Overcoming Fear, Finding Acceptance Through Boxing



Estelle Bonaceto (center) instructs a Monday night Thai boxing class at the Brick House Community Resource Center in Turners Falls.

By TIA FATTARUSO

TURNERS FALLS – Estelle Bonaceto says her clients ask her, more or less: “What magic thing are you going to say to me?”

“You’re going to take a breath,” she tells them, “and you’re going to be in your body.”

Bonaceto is a Thai boxing instructor, certified physical therapist and motivational coach. Boxing was amongst the things that helped her move away from what she describes as a fear vibration: “a feeling in the pit of my stomach that something was off about me.”

Bonaceto describes modern society as focusing on expectations, comparison and judgment, which feed feelings of anxiety.

“Culture has taken us away from who we are. So many people, at a very young age, lose the joy of being themselves,” she says. “You know what it feels like when you’re in that space [of being yourself]. It feels so damn good!”

When people are disconnected from a place of empowerment, and then have a moment of being in their body, through a strike or a kick, for example, they have a sense of something new that they like, Bonaceto explains.

“When you are no longer think-

ing thoughts based in fear, and no longer judging yourself, you can feel the power that’s within you, which is immediately recognizable as something true,” she says. “You come to know yourself differently, and whether or not you’re aware of what it is, you know it feels good.”

“When I was growing up, everyone was in their head, nobody was in their body,” Bonaceto says. She came to realize that this story wasn’t just hers, but was also her parents’ story, and her parents’ parents’ story.

“It’s a whole culture about expectations about doing, about having to be a certain way,” she continues. “It sets up a false belief system that creates thoughts about ‘supposed to be,’ and then we’re not fully in the moment.”

When boxing, Bonaceto sees people “get a deeper understanding of being more – so much more – that they can drop some of those heavier things that weigh them down.”

Often, trauma is a part of the picture. Bonaceto works with survivors of domestic and relationship violence, people who experience issues of body dysphoria, and people with questions about gender identity.

see BOXING page A5

## MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

### State Asks How Montague Processes Sewage

By JEFF SINGLETON

“I don’t think any of us like reading this document,” said Montague selectboard chair Rich Kuklewicz at the board’s August 8 meeting. “But it is what it is.”

Grant Weaver, the current interim director of the town’s Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF), put a more positive spin on a recent consent order from the Department of Environmental Protection, describing it as an “opportunity... to take a time out and document the process in Montague.”

The DEP’s consent order requires the town to pay a fine, and take certain actions, in response to two incidents at the facility. The first was a November 14, 2014 malfunction which released 18,480 gallons of “partially treated wastewater” into the Connecticut River.

The second involved the discharge, throughout the month of January 2016, of over 9.5 million gallons of runoff from the town’s “combined sewer overflow” (CSO) system into the river.

Both incidents have been the subject of discussions between

Montague officials and the DEP.

The consent order levies a fine of \$17,089, of which \$12,089 will be suspended if the town complies with the terms of the order.

However, the “meat of the order,” in the words of Montague town administrator Frank Abbondanzio, is the requirement that the WPCF hire a “Massachusetts Registered Professional Engineer to document the process currently being used to remove nutrients or ‘solids’ from sewage and whether that process is in compliance with the state permit.”

see MONTAGUE page A5

## Five Eyed Fox Digs In For Phase Two

By MIKE JACKSON

TURNERS FALLS – As it approaches its two-year anniversary this fall, the Five Eyed Fox is settling in, making itself comfortable – and getting ready for cocktails.

The Third Street bar and eatery, which opened its doors in October 2014, hopes to have an all-alcohol license by the middle of next month, after a lengthy bureaucratic delay.

We caught up with Ashley Arthur, head chef and co-owner of the Fox, on how things have been going at the restaurant. (The interview has been edited for clarity and brevity.)

MR: How’s it going so far?

AA: Good! We’ve experienced a lot of growth – a lot more people have found us, and realized that we serve food, so it’s been really positive.

MR: How much has it been leaning towards the restaurant side of things, and how much is it a coffeeshop?

AA: 100% towards a restaurant. Starting out, we wanted to be a bar with good food. When we were getting started, everyone came to us and said, ‘Are you putting in a coffee shop? We want a coffee shop here!’

So we said, ‘okay!’ It’s obviously a beautiful space for it... So we opened as a bar that sold good coffee as well.

But then people started to want more food, so we started to lean into that aspect. You have to create something that people want to travel to.

MR: How would you describe the menu?

AA: American comfort food. New American comfort food. Or Neu Nu American comfort food,



The Five Eyed Fox

spelled “n-e-u”.... [laughs] No, don’t write that! But really, I want to make food that feels good – comforting food.

see FIVE EYED page A3

## Hallmark: No More Violins and Red Carpets

By JEFF SINGLETON

TURNERS FALLS – It was, perhaps, not the best kept secret in Franklin County, but now it is official. The Hallmark Institute of Photography will close in October, after its remaining ten students graduate.

This was confirmed by Chris Goetcheus, a spokesperson for the state Office of Consumer Affairs. Goetcheus said that the school’s

owner, Premier Education Group LP, notified the Office of Private Occupational School Education of the closure on July 8 – two days after Hallmark’s former owner, George Rosa III, publicly accused the company of winding the school down without following proper legal procedures.

Goetcheus stated that the notification was not “required” but was “a courtesy.”

The East Haven, Connecticut-based Premier purchased Hallmark in 2009, after Rosa defaulted on loans and filed for bankruptcy. Rosa continued on as campus president until 2012. In 2014, he pled guilty to fraud and tax evasion charges.

Premier has been in a costly legal battle with former CEO Gary Camp, who had been a strong supporter of Hallmark, but left the company in

see HALLMARK page A8

## A SHOW OF FORCE



Chief Charles Dodge (far left) and members of the Montague Police Department, with MA State Police officer Chris Lapointe, convened at the Montague Center Town Common on Wednesday morning for the first of several blue ribbon hangings throughout the town in appreciation of police officers. Sue Martino and Kerri Lapointe of the Massachusetts State Police Wives’ Association are hanging twenty ribbons throughout the town, joining a statewide campaign. Selectboard members Mike Nelson and Chris Boutwell (far right) joined them.

## August 28: First Ever “5 Town Fest” Promises End-Of-Summer Fun... For A Cause You May Support!

By JOE KWIECINSKI

TURNERS FALLS – Back in the day, television host Ed Sullivan used to say his Sunday night show was going to be “a really big shoe.” According to organizer Jason Campbell, the upcoming 5 Town Festival planned for Sunday, August 28 as a benefit for the Montague Reporter is going to be “a real big blast, man!”

At the heart of the performance is the combination of five outstanding area bands that really “rock the joint” – plus two international acts calculated to put a smile on the lips of folks from the age of 8 to 80.

“It’s been a joy and a pleasure,” said Campbell, “to work on putting this family-friendly day together. We feel we’ve got the very best possible entertainment together, blending the local arts scene with a flavor of the worldwide stage.”

The site of the festival speaks for itself, too. It’s the spacious Miller’s Falls Rod and Gun Club at

210 Turners Falls Road. Gates open at 11:30 a.m., with magician Fran Ferry doing his roving magic act in the field from 12 noon until 2 p.m. with The Equalites, the first of the quintet of bands, taking the stage at noon. There’s lots of free parking on

see 5 TOWN FEST page A4



Street acrobats The Red Trousers Show will perform two sets.

# The Montague Reporter

"The Voice of the Villages"

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## Still No Place to Swim

There are many reasons given why the town of Montague – with an abundance of clean water in rivers, ponds, and lakes -- can find no safe place for its children to swim. Certainly, in budget times like these, the cost of supervising and maintaining a swimming area is one of them. But the cost of losing children to drowning is infinitely higher.

One thing is certain. When the weather is hot, kids will go swimming. We should not wait till the next tragedy to find a safe place for the children – and families – of Montague to swim.

– Editorial, July 10, 2003  
*The Montague Reporter*

This month's heat wave was a tough one, largely due to the intense humidity. Many sought refuge underwater.

The water whale at Unity Park is proving to be a great stopgap measure for families with young children in Turners Falls. But at a certain age, a gleeful run through a sprinkler starts to hold less appeal, and the gaze turns curiously to the calm, blue Connecticut River, dammed up in the near distance.

The river is cool and beautiful, but it can be a treacherous place for recreation, and its currents and eddies have lured too many to tragedy over the years. Even without the sudden surges of water released into its bypass stretch by the power company, it can be a fast-moving, rock-strewn danger.

The July death of Wilver Perez, a Guatemalan farmworker from Springfield, just downstream from the confluence of the Deerfield is only the latest reminder of just how risky a quick river dip can be.

The best safe swimming spots are eagerly sought, and carefully guarded, information.

Parents lucky enough to have free time, forethought and a working vehicle can ferry kids to further-flung destinations: shady swimming holes out west along the Green and Deerfield rivers, and to the east, lakes and ponds in Erving, Orange, Wendell and Shutesbury.

There, they may find themselves ensnared in the social and territorial politics of swimming.

For example, in Greenfield, non-residents must pay double to access the sanctioned Green River Swimming Area. This summer, conflict stemming from overcrowding boiled over at a beloved swimming hole a couple miles upstream. Locals went online to

complain about "the people that come up from Springfield," and the town is struggling to decide how to deal with trash and safety issues at the spot.

A similar dynamic has apparently been underway this summer at Wendell's Fiske Pond, where bathers displaced from the more crowded (and fee-based) Lake Wyola have been blamed for littering and other anti-social behavior.

Swimming is prohibited indefinitely in Lake Pleasant and Green Pond – the former is hydrologically connected to the Turners Falls Water District's newest well, and the latter so small that the District deems it a health risk due to bacteria levels.

But even if they were reopened for swimming, they would not be terribly accessible to most of the 900 or so kids of Turners Falls. And it's been a long time since electric streetcars ferried children between Montague's villages.

A certain renowned local historian and native delights in telling newer arrivals of his youthful afternoons spent cooling off in the Turners Falls Power Canal. No one should do this, though sometimes we're surprised everyone these days agrees not to.

It's a strange conundrum: The town is practically surrounded by water. Two of its villages were built on water power; a third was founded as a lakefront summer camp.

Back in 1998, after teenagers Chris Gallagher and Winter Orion Clark drowned at Rock Dam, the town and power company formed a committee to study the problem. They concluded there was no viable solution.

This year, a plaque bearing Winter and Chris' names was unveiled on a piece of recreational infrastructure they could only have dreamed of: a world-class, durable, streamlined concrete skatepark.

There's a breathtaking video airing this week on MCTV (and available to view online) – a high-def flight by drone over the majestic Great Falls, Riverside and Turners, Barton Cove and Unity Park.

Unity, with its colorful water element and busy skatepark, shines and sparkles like a crown jewel on the Connecticut, and the town of Montague should be proud.

There will be many priorities in the coming years, and not enough money to cover them. But while times are good, let's not lose sight of a good, safe swim spot. Over the long run, the cost of not providing one is simply, tragically, too high.



NINA ROSSI ILLUSTRATION

## Letters to the Editors

### Why We Prefer One

Members of the former Wendell Broadband Committee would like to explain their position concerning the town's broadband efforts going forward. The main interest in the committee is that people in Wendell have broadband service at their homes as soon as possible. There are design choices, operating questions, and subscription costs that need to be worked out so that the most people in town can afford and subscribe to the service.

The Selectboard cites advice received from Leverett to support their position to have a separate construction committee. Our situation is very different from Leverett. For one, Leverett had made all their decisions about their broadband efforts and had a complete design before they began any construction. For another, Leverett did their own construction.

Wendell still has significant decisions to make before our broadband effort can be designed and we are not going to be doing our own construction, we will have MBI doing our design and construction. MBI is doing all of the procurement involved and overseeing the work. MBI is also looking at clusters of towns for the design and construction work. At this point in time no one has a clear understanding of how we will work with them over

the course of the project.

The Selectboard says that there will be some people on both committees and that anyone can go to any of these meetings. This is all well and good but most of us have other town commitments so that considering being on two committees that could meet twice a month would mean four times a month. This introduces a scheduling problem.

Our reasons for maintaining a single, large committee are as follows:

- The committee has worked well and efficiently over the past year to get Wendell where we are today; the reorganization has caused disruption to that progress.
- A large committee benefits from a diversity of opinions which brings the town to the best consensus possible, elevates good ideas and filters out bad ones.
- A large single committee maximizes transparency, essential on a large project using \$1M+ local funds, \$700K+ in state funds, and with regional impact.
- The committee as it was structured was able to execute decisions rapidly.
- Operations and design are intertwined; unlike a traditional project, these cannot be broken out eas-

### Error!

Good people,

This week while opening the paper to page A6 the paper opened to A4. This is a minor malfunction and has only happened this one time but I thought you all should be aware of it.

Thanks,

Joe Kopera  
Chestnut Hill  
Montague

ily. This would be like designing a subway system without taking into account geography, stops, neighborhoods, etc.

It is not the intent of the former Broadband Committee members to hold this project up. We want to get going and would be working now had we been able to continue as one committee. Some of us have reservations about how effective two committees will be and if we have the time to be involved in two committees. The best result would be to have one committee now. The next best would be for the two committees to meet together as if one.

Nan Riebschlaeger  
Ray DiDonato  
Robert Heller  
Ben Schwartz  
Trevor Kearns  
Robbie Leppzer,  
Wendell

### A Clarification On Herbicide Use

In response to questions from residents after last week's article announcing the use of herbicides for poison ivy control, the Highway Department is providing this information:

The Department will be using a glyphosate herbicide only in locations where mechanical equipment cannot reach to control vegetation on posts for signs and guardrails along roadsides.

The herbicide will be applied directly to problem poison ivy patches.

There will be no broadcast spraying along roadsides.

The use of the herbicide is due to severe allergic reactions of some employees to poison ivy and the rampant growth of the poison ivy. The herbicide will be applied using a shoulder-carried sprayer and long-handled, calibrated spray nozzle. Spray will be applied to poison ivy plant surfaces for treatment of specific areas near town poles, posts and guard rails.

Spray drift will be minimized. This

herbicide does not migrate in soil, and does not persist. In cases where trimming or pulling is an option, the herbicide will not be utilized.

Residents who do not want the herbicide used along their road frontage can clear the poison ivy out themselves by a certain date each summer and certify the same to the Highway Department. To find out more information, please call the Highway Department at 548-9400.

Leverett Highway Dept.

Published weekly on Thursdays.  
Every other week in July and August.  
No paper last week of November,  
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# LOCAL BRIEFS

JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

Compiled by DON CLEGG

Montague Center First Congregational Church is sponsoring the **57th Montague Old Home Days**, beginning Friday, August 19, and continuing through Sunday, August 21. Old Home Days is a weekend of parades, food and craft booths, road races, raffles, vendors, and entertainment for all ages. This fun-filled weekend kicks off at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, with food and dance.

The fun continues at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday with activities all day until 5 p.m., and the event culminates on Sunday with a 10 a.m. church service featuring special music by Becky Walton and John Fuller. For more information about this event, please call (413) 367-2061.

And see page B1, a discussion of the history of Old Home Days!

Saturday, August 20 is also **Wendell Old Home Day**. The kids' parade starts at 10:30 a.m., and the theme is "year of the Monkey." See B5 for more information.

A **huge tag sale**, sponsored by the Friends of the Wendell Free Library, will be held on the Wendell Common from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Items include antiques and collectibles, housewares, furniture, power tools, a dorm fridge, a kayak, jewelry, original art, and much more. Absolutely no early birds! No one will be admitted before 10 a.m.

Greenfield Gardens Youth Leaders present their annual **Talent Show** at the Shea Theater, Avenue A, Turners Falls on Saturday, August 20 from 2 to 5 p.m., with doors open at 1:30 p.m.

Admission is \$7, and children

are free. All proceeds benefit the Recovery Learning Community.

All day this Sunday, August 21, the **Millers Falls Village Improvement Association** will begin work on a mural project underneath the railroad bridge on Newton Street.

They will be pressure washing and prepping the wall with a base coat of paint. Stop by to lend a hand, or to find out more about the project!

On Thursday, August 25 at 9:30 a.m., the Massachusetts Department of Transportation will join officials from the towns of Gill and Montague, along with state officials, to celebrate a **ribbon cutting event for the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge** rehabilitation project.

The event will be held on the grounds of Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, Turners Falls. The public is invited to attend. Planning is still underway, and there are rumors of distinguished visitors.

The Mohawk Ramblers Motorcycle Club are sponsoring the **23rd Annual Memorial Scholarship Run**, to benefit the Franklin County Technical School Scholar-

ship Fund, on Saturday, August 27, rain or shine.

Sign up at the Whately Truck Stop at 9:30 a.m. The run leaves promptly at 10:30 a.m. The entry fee of \$15 per bike and \$10 per passenger includes burgers and dogs off the grill. There will be bike games and a raffle.

**Make your own unique seed bead bracelet** completely customized to your own design, compliments of Gail Krutka, at the Turners Falls branch of Greenfield Savings Bank on Saturday, August 27, from 10 to 11 a.m.

The **Pioneer Valley Symphony Chamber Choir** will perform a benefit concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday, August 28, at All Souls Church, 399 Main Street in Greenfield.

The concert, "Summer's Bounty," a choral celebration featuring six centuries of a *cappella* music, will benefit Stone Soup Café. Stone Soup provides a pay-what-you-can meal every Saturday at 12:15 p.m. at All Souls Church. The concert is free, but donations are welcome.

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.

## FIVE EYED from page A1

**MR:** What [menu items] do people come back for?

**AA:** The meatball sandwich is huge. We started doing fish and chips on the weekend and have sold out every time, so that's been cool, and people really love the Caesar salad.

We're about to start really mixing things up – we got a bunch of quail, and I broke down a whole pig yesterday....

**MR:** And so far you've only had a beer and wine license.

**AA:** Yes – it was what was available in the town when we opened. It's great, but with a dining experience, people like the choice of cocktails, or full alcohol. It creates more of a restaurant ambience.

**MR:** What are some of the things you'd be excited to serve?

**AA:** I'm personally excited to serve a solid Manhattan. Classic cocktails. We want our program to be seasonally influenced by what's surrounding us, changing with the farm seasons – whatever we can do to make something fun and delicious that's also supporting our local economy.

**MR:** All your beer is from New England. Are there enough distilleries now in New England to make a well-rounded list?

**AA:** We want to focus on, and highlight, the amazing distilleries near us, though we don't want to limit our menu to that. Only carrying spirits from New England would price people out – I want to pour a good well, too.

I'm excited to carry the Ethereal gin, from [Sheffield-based] Berkshire Mountain Distillery. It changes every year, and it's fabulous.

And there's a guy right over the border in New Hampshire who I've heard good things about... [Editors' note: New England Sweetwater Farm & Distillery, in Winchester.]

**MR:** Why has it taken so long to get a full liquor license?

**AA:** In Massachusetts, those licenses are town-by-town, and the state allots each town a certain number. We were able to ask the town to petition the state to allot it an ad-



JOE PARZYCH PHOTO

Joe Parzych sent in this picture he took at Factory Hollow, "where tractors go to socialize."

ditional license, which went before the [Montague] annual town meeting in 2015.

**MR:** People said nice things about your restaurant.

**AA:** It was amazing! That was really positive; we got a unanimous "yes" vote. From there, the town sent the state the petition.

**MR:** And here we are, just fifteen months later?

**AA:** I thought it would take four to six months....

I started working with our representative, Steve Kulik's, office, and also spoke with Senator Rosenberg at one point, to try to track down where the petition was in the process. They had to write special legislation.

One guy was really helpful, his name was Paul Dunphy –

**MR:** That's Kulik's aide?

**AA:** Yeah.... The process has taken a while, but I've always felt that when it's meant to happen it's going to happen.

**MR:** At this point, when do you expect to have it in hand?

**AA:** My goal is to be serving cocktails on the weekend of September 23 and 24. We're going to have to shut down for a week first; we'll

need to put in certain infrastructure in order to have an efficient – and superior – cocktail program.

We'll need a new ice well, and an adjustment to how the bar is situated, and a lot of training. We want to roll it out very strong, and for everyone who comes in to have cocktails to have a wonderful first experience.

**MR:** And I noticed you just made another adjustment to the space: an air conditioner. How come?

**AA:** [laughs] Well, as anyone who has been to our restaurant this past, very hot, summer – or last summer – can attest, our dining room holds heat very well. Which is great in the winter.

We were able to install an AC unit, and it has made a major difference. People come in for dinner now and can sit for a long period of time and enjoy themselves.

One of our beer reps just told us it was the talk of the town in Worcester – people are buzzing about it, that we have AC now! A lot more people have been coming in, and a lot more have been staying.

And you know, it feels so freaking nice, as somebody who's there all day, every day.

**MR:** And you're getting a park-

ing lot at the end of the street...

**AA:** I hadn't noticed!

**MR:** [awkward silence]

**AA:** Just kidding. I'm really glad that they are able to incorporate pieces of the sculpture park into the parking lot! That's really cool.

**MR:** When we last spoke on this topic, you said that you felt that there should be more parking. Have your customers expressed that parking has been a difficulty?

**AA:** No. I think the people who are most affected are tenants. And actually, in a lot of our online reviews – from people who aren't from this area – they comment on how much on-street parking there is here, and that it's free.

**MR:** How are you feeling about Turners so far?

**AA:** Turners is a very special place. The people who are here love this town, and love each other, and are here because they want to be here. They see how beautiful a place this is, and can feel how special it is.

**MR:** Which street would you say is better, Third or Fourth?

**AA:** Third. I think we should have a water balloon fight to duke it out.

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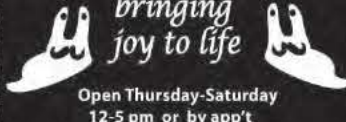
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## 5 TOWN FEST from page A1

the club's five acres of grounds.

Ferry, one of only two full-time magicians in western Massachusetts, has performed prestidigitation since he was 10 years old. A published author of children's books, music, and short stories, the multi-gifted Ferry has worked his act in a plethora of countries before putting down permanent roots in Belchertown.

"Fran believes magic is a universal language," said event organizer Campbell. "He's performed his act all around the world and loves to involve the audience." Ferry is always accompanied by his sometimes defiant rabbit named Rufus, the hare with "attitude."

Ferry's presentation features plenty of mystery and lots of rollicking humor and is perfect for all ages.

Hailing from Wendell, **The Equalites** are led and fronted by the strong, soulful work of Dave Boatwright. Boatwright also plays guitar, does vocals and handles songwriting duties with great aplomb. This group is rated as "a great reggae band," in the estimation of Campbell.

Noted for its stirring original sound and four-part harmonies, the contingent has a broad sense of openness with its music. The Equalites have recorded eight albums and several singles on their own indie label. Their best selling record is, curiously enough, the "Best of the Equalites: 1998 through 2008," and the troupe's latest album is entitled "Rethink Positive."

Joining Boatwright are "Ed Red" on guitar (Ed Redonnet, who also does vocals) and Boo Pearson on percussion. Adam Zucker plays bass and sings. Ade Bayol is the drummer.

The next band scheduled up on the stage is **The Staff**, whose gig starts at 1:30 p.m. The versatile Jason Campbell himself leads the group, along with being a multi-instrumentalist, singer, and tunesmith. Jason plays guitar, piano, mandolin, drums, and bouzouki, plus other musical tools.

Further cementing this fledgling combine is songwriter-guitarist Mike Ketchum along with guitarist Craig Wooley, who, said Campbell, performed with Arthur Davis and the Truth.

The highly accomplished Billy Klock is on the drums. He's a graduate of the Hartford Conservatory with a degree in jazz and record production. Klock also plays with the Happy Valley Guitar Orchestra and has the distinction of having toured nationally and recorded with many major artists.

These are exciting times for The Staff. Its first

single will be released later this month, with its initial album to follow sometime this year. Those attending the benefit show at the Millers Falls Rod and Gun Club will get to hear the band's maiden single "Young and Free" in addition to other songs from the album. Look and listen for it on local radio stations as well.

At 2:30, the **Red Trouser Show** sets up shop in the field for its first of two shows during the afternoon. The RTS is a high-end street theatre duo that features feats of strength, acrobatics, comedy, and juggling. One of their specialties is lifting each other up with just one finger.

It's physical art in motion, said Campbell. "I've been around the world and seen many acts, but they are really 'heavy hitters' in the truest sense of the word. I saw them in Mallory Square on the pier in Key West, Florida. They reminded me of the performers in Cirque du Soleil."

The Red Trouser Show's ports of call have included the American Folk Festival; many state fairs, such as the renowned Iowa State Fair; Iceland for the Street Performance World Championships; the Edmonton Canadian Street Performers Festival in Alberta, Canada; Australia, New Zealand, and the International Circus at Karachi, Pakistan. The twosome has also appeared with Circus Smirkus from 1999 to 2003.

The band **Trailer Park** moves onto the pavilion stage at 3 p.m. The Northampton-based contingent boasts of many feathers in a well-plumed cap, with four "killer albums" out: "Barbeque," "Yard Work," "Happy Again," and "Home Movies" plus many awards, including the Valley Advocate's Best Band Award. Playing original music, Trailer Park is incredibly versatile, doing barbeque rock and straight rock.

First formed in 1994, this group refers to itself as "a ten-legged rock-and-roll machine powered by rock-and-roll guitar, bass, drums, and twin tenor saxophones."

They excel at tight three-part harmonies and, as perennial favorites, never fail to delight their fans and first-time listeners. It's jazzy, funky, and sounds oh-so listenable.

The usual suspects are James Robinson, an exciting singer and performer on guitar; Rick Page and Greg Lauzon on sweet or gutsy tenor saxophones; Joe (Jopey) Fitzgerald smiling and banging the drums with style; and Tom Mahken plunking the guitar. Robinson and Mahken wrote most of Trailer Park's songs.

At 4:45, the outstanding rock-and-roll pop cover band, **Ruby's Complaint**, hits the plat-



Southern-fried rockers the Cooper Jones Band will close out the benefit festival.

form. "These folks play material everyone knows," said Campbell of the group, which won the *Advocate's* Grand Band Slam in the cover band category.

Ruby's Complaint is a quartet of sentimental favorites dating back to the 1980s when they were all students of Turners Falls High School in a band known as Street Justice.

Playing locally at school and church dances, talent shows, and battles of the bands, the young troupers built up a solid reputation before going their separate ways, primarily after graduation.

But the band reunited under the new banner of Ruby's Complaint and resumed their successful ways in Franklin County.

The starting lineup features the clear, strong and flexible vocals of lead singer Alana Martineau; guitarist/vocalist Dave Pielock, drummer/vocalist Jim Humphrey and bassist/vocalist Scott Wolfram. The quartet sports a titanic repertoire, spanning from the oldies to today's chart toppers.

At 6:15, **The Cooper Jones Band** closes out the musical portion of the event. Musically diverse and extraordinarily entertaining, these gifted guys' forte is southern sizzling rock, classic rock, blues and boogie.

The members are five gifted musician-performers: Mark Simone, guitarist par excellence and singer; Brian Johnson, one of the best slide guitar players in New England and vocalist; the incredibly talented Paul Racicot on keyboard and vox; Bob Melnik who keeps a steady bottom end on bass and also sings; plus Greg Trelease on drums and vocals. Trelease blends dynamic drumming with soulful singing.

Expect high-voltage, live-wire energy from this danceable group. "They're extraordinarily entertaining," said Campbell.

About 5:45, the Red Trouser Show will take to the field for their second show of the afternoon.

There will be "world class food" and the clubhouse's bar will be open, along with raffle tickets and non-alcoholic refreshments sold by the volunteers and board of directors of the *Montague Reporter*, a non-profit, community newspaper.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for students, with children 12 and under admitted free. Save 30% and buy your advance tickets on WRSI's Save 30 Store - one hundred tickets are available at a discount there.

For more information, or to check on additional acts and features as they are added to the line-up, visit [5townfestival.com](http://5townfestival.com) or find "5 Town Festival" on Facebook.



Northampton mainstays Trailer Park will play an afternoon set on the pavilion.

## Workshops: Improve your Balance and Prevent Falls

**GREENFIELD** - While falls are the leading cause of both fatal and nonfatal injury for people age 65 and older, falls are not an inevitable part of aging. You can learn ways to prevent fall-related injuries.

The 2015 United States of Aging Survey by the National Council on Aging polled older adults about how they are preparing for their later years and found that more than half of those questioned would be interested in the expansion of community-based health promotion programs, including falls prevention classes.

Healthy Living, a program of LifePath (formerly Franklin County Home Care), will be offering a falls-prevention workshop series called "A Matter of Balance" on Wednesdays, September 7 to October 26, from

2:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Greenfield Senior Center. The workshop series focuses on reducing participants' concerns about falling by teaching strategies that improve balance and increase flexibility and strength.

Participants are provided with refreshments as well as a workbook to help guide them through the curriculum. Caregivers and loved ones of workshop participants are also welcome to attend. To register, contact Marcus Chiaretto, Healthy Living Program Coordinator, at (413) 773-5555 x2304 or [mchiaretto@LifePathMA.org](mailto:mchiaretto@LifePathMA.org).

Learn more about the Healthy Living program and other services offered by LifePath by visiting [LifePathMA.org](http://LifePathMA.org).

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**BOXING** from page A1

The physical act of boxing can help foster self-acceptance. "There is inner resistance emotionally," Bonaceto explains. "Fear about allowing energy to be channeled through strikes."

But through the actual practice of striking the Thai boxing pads, she sees clients experience energetic shifts. "Women, especially, are taught to be nice, to smile, to not have any expression of aggression ... Where do we have a place to free ourselves of fear? We hold in everything, including what happens to our bodies."

Boxing therapy can help con-

quer obsessive thinking and faulty beliefs. "Like a river wearing stone away, we visit the same thoughts repeatedly. There is an opportunity to override them with new patterns. Not on a cerebral level. The body collects evidence that you're more powerful, more worthy."

Boxing training is being used with people who have Parkinson's disease; researchers are excited about its potential for creating new neural pathways and slowing the progression of the disease.

Boxing, Bonaceto explains, is a way to, "expel, without thought, inner energy – sometimes rage. The pad is a safe place to put it. You

can't pretend it away."

Bonaceto has been boxing for over ten years and teaching since 2009. She offers Thai boxing at several locations:

The Brick House, 24 Third Street, Turners Falls on Mondays at 6 p.m.; at 158 Main Street, Suite 9 in Greenfield Saturdays at noon; at Recover Project RPX, Osgood Street on Fridays at 3 p.m.; and at CHD in Greenfield, Mondays at noon and Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m.

For more information or to contact Bonaceto, visit her website at [guidedtransitionsforempowered-healing.com](http://guidedtransitionsforempowered-healing.com).

**MONTAGUE** from page A1

The Montague facility has received much good publicity – and generated a good deal of new revenue – for an innovative process that removes solids from sewage. The process has been developed by the WPCF staff itself but precisely what it entails – and whether it conforms to state regulations – has been something of a mystery to the general public.

The consent order will "give the town an opportunity, and satisfy DEP's desire, to know how the Montague process works," Abbondanzio said. "We have an innovative and creative way of treating waste. However, there's a lot of unknowns... [State officials] want to replicate this process in other locations, but they want to make sure that whatever we are doing... is safe."

Kuklewicz expressed the concern that the DEP had based the consent order on overflow events which had "nothing to do with the [solids removal] process. I don't see how they tied the two together, other than [as an excuse] to generate a report that will benefit other folks."

"I have a phrase, and I've worn it out," responded Grant Weaver. "There is sort of an opportunity here. You are correct... still, in some people's heads at DEP, there is a connection between the process and how it impacts stormwater. So that's the opportunity to disconnect that by this study."

"I also think it is an excellent opportunity for the town to assemble long-term equipment needs... That's my 'glass half full' view of things."

Weaver went on to recommend three changes in the consent order: fixing a typographical error in the document, allowing the certified engineer conducting the study to be from outside the state, and increasing the amount of time allowed for submitting the report's findings.

Nelson moved to direct Weaver and Abbondanzio to send the DEP a letter saying Montague was "on board" with most of the order, but required "clarification and discussion on a few items." In other words, a meeting between local and state officials was needed before Montague would sign the order. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Ribbons For Policemen**

Kerri Lapointe requested that Montague participate in the State Police Blue Ribbon Campaign. She told the board that the wives of state police are currently "running a campaign" to request that each town across the Commonwealth place blue ribbons on the town common and "on the signs leading into the town of Montague whether it be Lake Pleasant, Millers Falls... so on so we're just asking for the town to give its blessing."

She said that she would take responsibility to make sure "that [the ribbons] look appropriate," and promised to "take them off if they are falling down."

LaPointe is the partner of state police officer Chris Lapointe, a former member of the Montague police force.

Mike Nelson stated that selectboard members might want to "be there as well," because "I presume you are as supportive of law enforcement as I am."

"Certainly, if there is a ceremony," added Kuklewicz, "it would be nice to have one in each village."

When asked about the goal of the campaign, LaPointe responded that it was "just to support local law enforcement. As you know, if you read in the papers, there is a lot of violence toward policemen, and I think it's a nice gesture to let [state and local police officers] know that you appreciate them... It's not to be against anybody, but a gesture to thank local law enforcement."

"Think of the yellow ribbons, a few years back, to support veterans and troops. Same concept," Nelson added.

The board voted to participate in the campaign.

**Unearthed Tanks**

Town planner Walter Ramsey came before the board to request approval of a \$600 change order for the Canal Street parking lot project currently underway. Ramsey stated that the change was the result of a request by DPW head Tom Bergeron to put a "Cape Cod berm" at the end of the lot for snow storage.

Kuklewicz explained that this is a "low asphalt berm, so the plows can get over it."

Ramsey warned that he would be coming forward with more change orders at the next meeting, because "they have been pounding away at ledge" to create the lot, and "they just found two storage tanks."

Ramsey also requested that the board approve an agreement with the Franklin Regional Council of Governments for technical assistance to update subdivision and zoning regulations. The board approved both requests.

**Permitted Medication**

The board approved a request by Mark Matusz of the St. Stanislaus Society to move the Sunday opening time of its bar to 10 a.m., to conform to recent changes in state law. Matusz stated that the society had not decided whether to change the time, but wanted the option.

It also approved a request for a one-day license to allow alcohol at an event in St. Stan's parking lot on August 27.

The board then approved a new on-premise liquor license for the Five Eyed Fox restaurant, located in downtown Turners Falls. The license, which is an addition to the quota for Montague, was approved by town meeting in May 2015.

There was some discussion of whether the license could be trans-

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ferred to another party if the business were sold. The general consensus was that the license was "site-and LLC-specific," but executive secretary Wendy Bogusz said she believed it could be transferred.

**Other Business**

The board, acting as the personnel board, voted to appoint Steven Chase as a full-time police dispatcher and Cynthia Hunter as a part-time dispatcher.

Kuklewicz made a number of disclosures regarding financial interests he may have in municipal contracts while serving on the selectboard, the board of the Franklin County Technical School, and the prudential committee of the Turners Falls Fire and Water District.

The disclosures are necessary under state law because Kuklewicz is also an electrical inspector for Montague. The board, with Kuklewicz abstaining, voted to accept them.

They then voted to accept the resignation of Jay Dipucchio from the committee to select the next town administrator, and then to appoint former selectboard member Mark Fairbrother in his place.

A company named Direct Energy was awarded a contract to supply the town with wholesale electricity.

The board approved a "Helmet Drive" fundraiser for the Greenfield Bulldogs Pop Warner youth football team. The fundraiser will take place at the intersection of Avenue A and Seventh Street on August 27.

Abbondanzio announced that the Turners Falls-Gill Bridge ribbon cutting, "the moment we have been waiting for," would take place on August 25 at 9:30 a.m.

Finally, the board voted to apply for intervention status in Department of Public Utilities Docket 16-103. This is a case involving the current "forecast and supply plan" of the Berkshire Gas Company, a plan that requires state approval.

The primary reason for the intervention, as described by Kuklewicz and the board's appointed pipeline liaison, Ariel Elan, is to challenge Berkshire's current moratorium on new natural gas customers. The moratorium was put into effect pending the construction of a new natural gas pipeline through Franklin County, but that project has been withdrawn.

**NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE TOWN CLERK****Voter Registration Deadline**

Friday, August 19 is the last day to register to vote or to change your party affiliation for the upcoming September 8 State Primary. Registration will be held at the Public Safety Complex, 180 Turnpike Road for all Montague residents

who will be 18 years old on or before September 8, 2016.

Registration hours will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registered voters who belong to any one of the four parties (Republican, Democrat, Green-Rainbow or United

Independent Party) must vote their party affiliation.

Unenrolled registered voters and political designations can choose any one of the four party ballots. One may also register to vote online at: [www.123voter.com](http://www.123voter.com)

**Absentee Ballots Available**

Absentee ballots are now available at the Town Clerk's Office for the September 8 State Primary. The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is noon on Wednesday, September 7.

To vote absentee, you must be out of town on the day of the election, have a religious belief that

prohibits you from being at the polls, or have a physical disability that prevents you from going to the polls. All absentee ballots must be returned to the Town Clerk's Office by the close of the polls on September 8<sup>th</sup>. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Town Clerk's Office is lo-

cated at the Town Hall, One Avenue A, Turners Falls. Town Hall is open Monday, Tuesday & Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and on Wednesday from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Town Hall is closed on Fridays. For more information call 863-3200, ext 203.

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## NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

## State Public Records Law Changes Provoke Anxiety

By MIKE JACKSON

Selectboard chair John Ward and member Randy Crochier met on August 8, in Greg Snedeker's absence.

Town clerk Lynda Hodsdon-Mayo came to discuss the state's new public records law, effective in January. The town will be required to designate a "records access officer" who must deliver any requested documents to citizens on a short timeline.

"There's going to be a conference about it this fall," she said. "I can bring you more information about how other towns are handling it."

"It kind of reeks of an unfunded mandate," said Crochier. "I understand the public's need to know, and the public's right – and I also understand that there are some towns, some very local, that have been really abused by the public records law, and this doesn't clean any of that up."

"This is, in my opinion, great for the newspapers of the word," he continued, "and lousy for the people that have to do it." He noted that Gill has only three regular employees at town hall, "already stretched too far."

Hodsdon-Mayo suggested that the role might be split among multiple department representatives, which led to a dialogue about the pros and cons of distributing the liability. Many boards are volunteer groups that meet monthly or biweekly.

"If there's a glitch in the process, this ultimately could end up in court, and the town could be assessed penalties and attorney's fees," town administrative assistant Ray Purington said.

"Look what Ashfield's gone through in the last five years," said Crochier.

"There's opportunity for abuse on either side," Ward mused. "To be on the other side and to run into a stone wall – we need a tool like this, too."

The board agreed that the responsibility could be considerable. "If we add that to a town clerk's position, we need to think about that, and the compensation with it," Crochier said.

No decision was required, but the selectboard also discussed scheduling an all-hands-on-deck training before the law takes effect.

### Fixin' The Trucks

Fire chief Gene Beaubien discussed ongoing maintenance on his department's trucks by manufacturer KME Fire Apparatus of Latham, New York, which checked Engines 1 and 2 and found issues with both. Engine 2 went to New York for repairs. "I have not got the bill for that one yet," he said.

The estimate for Engine 1 amounted to \$5,507, for a long list of repairs, including small items such as missing screws and compartment lights Beaubien said had not worked in quite some time.

"I don't want to sound evil," said Crochier, noting the long list of minor upgrades made to Engine 1, "but if [the compartment lights] never worked, why do we have to get 'em fixed?'"

Beaubien explained he didn't want to pass up the opportunity to have the actual manufacturer do the

work at reasonable cost.

"I know you guys all see it," he said, "that today's generation is not real mechanically inclined. So it's tough to get small stuff done like that."

"They're the ones that know the truck," Ward said. "Picky means it's going to be right." He said he felt staff would take better care of equipment in better shape.

"Five thousand's a lot less than five hundred thousand," he added, as the board approved sending Engine 1 to New York and told Beaubien to charge it to his department's budget.

### Fixin' The Pump

The fuel dispenser shared by the fire and highway departments is on its last legs. Highway boss Mickey LaClaire found a quote of over \$15,000 from a Chicopee vendor prohibitive, and connected with a company called Beardsley, Inc. from Springfield, Vermont, who offered a dispensing pump with separate hoses and meters for the highway and fire departments for \$7,115.

"We're going to need one very soon," LaClaire said, as the existing pump is on its last legs. "Is that an item that would come from our [department] budgets – or is that something that would come from the public safety money from Mount Hermon?"

"It's not a huge stretch," answered Purington. "The correlation to emergency services is a little further removed."

"Why not use the Mount Hermon funds to buy the fuel?" asked Ward.

After talking through this slippery slope, and being reminded of why the town can't just rely on private gas stations for fuel, the assembled officials wondered if they should tap instead into the Vermont Yankee emergency fund.

They instructed LaClaire to order the unit, and to return to have a conversation about whose budget would pay for it.

LaClaire noted that Mount Hermon Road is in bad need of repair.

"Before I can approve spending any money on that road," Crochier said, the town should see if Northfield Mount Hermon School, which owns all of the property on the road, would like to acquire it.

"Do you want, as a board, to schedule a meeting with them?" LaClaire asked.

"They probably would love to take it after we fix it," Beaubien joked.

"For all intents and purposes, that's a campus road," Crochier said.

The board noted that state Chapter 90 aid is calculated partly based on road mileage, and would go down slightly if the town stopped owning the road.

### Other Business

The board decided to wait for Snedeker's return to review the two departments' use of on-call and part-time staff.

*Special thanks to Janet Masucci of the town's cable committee for taping the meeting, which we had to review on MCTV's Vimeo page due to it's being summer.*

## NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

## With "Groundbreaking" Imminent, No Good Bids for Riverside Park

By KATIE NOLAN

The Erving selectboard opened four bids for the construction of Riverside Park at the former Usher Mill on Arch Street on August 15. All of the bids were higher than the \$637,000 budget provided by the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant and town matching funds.

They ranged from \$727,000 to \$1.22 million for basic construction of the park facilities, and from \$70,000 to \$91,000 for alternate extras, such as power for the bandstand, an extra play area, an architectural entrance arch and a second pavilion. Mountain View Landscape and Lawn of Chicopee was the low bidder.

Consultant Mark Arigoni of Milone & MacBroom landscape architects told the board that the town could revise the scope and look for new bids, discuss cost reductions with the low bidder, or find more money for the project. The board decided to meet with Mountain View on August 22.

Arigoni assured the board that there was time to re-bid the project and still meet the May 1, 2017 deadline for completion.

Questioned about whether the Riverside Park groundbreaking ceremony, set for August 20, should still be held, considering that there were no acceptable bids for construction of the park, selectboard chair Jacob Smith commented, "We're walking out of here with four bids that aren't within budget." However, Smith said, "We can find a path to get there."

Because publicity for the groundbreaking is already completed and speakers scheduled, the board agreed that the event should be held as planned.

### Public Water Service ID

Water supervisor Peter Sanders informed the board about the process for retiring the public water service identification number for the inactive well at the former Usher Mill, and abandoning the well.

In a July letter, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection had recommended retiring the PWS ID#, to avoid restric-

tions during construction of Riverside Park. If the town retains the identification, neither construction nor construction equipment would be allowed within a 100-foot buffer zone around the well.

Usher Plant reuse committee member Melissa Shiner presented a letter from the committee objecting to the scheduling of the discussion at the August 15 meeting, as the chair and other committee members could not be present. Shiner told the board that the well might be useful during development of the site, and that it should not be abandoned hastily.

Sanders told the board that retiring the PWS ID# was a relatively quick process. He said that the town could also apply to install a new well on the property once development plans had progressed.

The board decided to meet with the reuse committee on September 12 to discuss the inactive well.

The Usher Plant committee asked the board to allow them to sell laser-imprinted bricks as a fundraiser for additional features at Riverside Park. Resident Jacqueline Boyden felt the recommended cost of \$50 per brick was "way too high," considering the cost of the brick plus imprinting was \$18.

The board decided to write to the committee asking for more information about how the money would be collected and managed, and how the bricks would be used at the park.

### Employee Longevity Payments

As part of the early retirement package for recent retiree Dana Moore, Jr., the board agreed to give him the annual longevity payment. Longevity payments reward employees who have worked five years or more for the town, and have worked past their hiring anniversary. Payments have typically been made at the end of the calendar year.

Bastarache said he and other board members have received emails from town treasurer Margaret Sullivan and Dale Kowacki of the Franklin County retirement fund documenting other recent retirees who also might have been eligible for an early longevity payment.

The board decided to ask for a list

of retirees since 2000, when the longevity policy began, showing their anniversary and retirement dates. They will review the information and decide whether other retirees might be eligible for a final longevity payment.

### Capital Planning

As part of the state Community Compact program, money is available to pay for technical assistance from the Franklin Regional Council of Governments in establishing a town capital planning process.

Board member Scott Bastarache commented that the town does not have "a systematic town-wide approach" to capital planning.

The board decided to convene a meeting with the finance committee, department heads, library trustees, the recreation commission and the school committee to discuss setting up a committee or subcommittee to review the town's capital planning process.

### Other Business

The board approved the highway equipment operator search committee's recommendation to hire Michael Gordon for the highway department, with a start date on or before September 6.

Ralph Semb wrote a letter to the selectboard, as water commissioners, asking for a reduction in the \$2,500 connection fee for the sprinkler system at a newly-constructed indoor storage area, or for a delay in its due date until December 1.

The space was formerly a banquet area, where sprinklers had not been required. Under the state fire code, a sprinkler system is now required. Semb wrote that the fee was "unreasonably high" and "a financial hardship."

Selectboard chair Jacob Smith said that the fee schedule had been in place for years, and should not have been a surprise to Semb. The board voted not to connect the system until the fee was paid.

The board agreed to permit the Wives of Massachusetts State Police group to tie blue ribbons to town trees and poles as part of a campaign to show support for state police personnel.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

## More Arrests; Disobedient Campers Exiled

### Monday, 8/1

7:25 p.m. Report of suspicious male standing on the corner of Route 2 and Prospect Street. Same picked up by red pickup. Located. Same vehicle had broken down on Paper Mill Road. All set.

### Tuesday, 8/2

8:40 a.m. Assisted Wendell Fire with tree on wires, Farley Road.  
6:20 p.m. Report of needles at West High Street. Same disposed of.  
11:53 p.m. Assisted Orange police with combative subject. Same being

transported to house of corrections.

3:25 p.m. Medical emergency at Weatherheads store. Assisted on scene.

Arrested [redacted] for operating under suspension, subsequent offense, no license in possession and failure to inspect vehicle.

### Thursday, 8/4

12:42 p.m. Report of harassing phone calls to High Street residence. Complaint taken.

7 p.m. Criminal application issued to [redacted] for

unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

### Friday, 8/5

2:38 p.m. Arrested [redacted] for court warrant.

### Saturday, 8/6

1:30 p.m. Officer at Laurel Lake campground. Campers removed due to violating the rules.

3:45 p.m. Criminal application issued to [redacted]

for operating a motor vehicle after revocation of license and carry of a per se dangerous weapon in a motor vehicle.

9:18 p.m. Criminal application issued to [redacted]

for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

### Sunday, 8/7

7:23 a.m. Criminal application issued to [redacted] for operating a motor vehicle with suspended license.

12 p.m. Medical emergency at Erving Paper Mill. Assisted on scene.

6:50 p.m. Disabled vehicle on East Main Street. Assisted same.

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## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

# Emotional Dispute Continues Over Structure of Broadband Bureaucracy

By JOSH HEINEMANN

During the day on August 10 a new series of emails were sent over the town listserv, some with an angry tone, about the Wendell selectboard's decision to create a construction committee and an operations committee for the next phase in building a town-wide internet system.

Until the end of June, there was a single broadband committee, and a contingent of that committee felt strongly that the decision to make two committees was counterproductive.

The selectboard was scheduled to meet that evening. Chair Christine Heard wrote to the listserv that any selectboard member can be contacted directly by telephone or email, and that although broadband was not on the agenda for the meeting, any citizen may come to any selectboard meeting to bring up a topic of their choice.

And so Ray DiDonato and Nan Riebschlaeger, co-chair and member of the FY'16 broadband committee, came to speak with the selectboard about their continuing concerns about the decision to form two committees for the project.

DiDonato said that he came to dial things down, and that he saw two difficulties with the decision: one perceptual, and one practical. There had already been a month and a half of delay with no broadband committee. There had been a report that someone had suggested a paid project manager, and then had offered himself as a good candidate. DiDonato said that had caused tension, and seemed to have been a part of the board's two-committee decision.

DiDonato pointed out that it was a full and unified broadband committee that had won a face-to-face meeting between Doug Tanner, the town's finance committee chair and broadband committee member, and Governor Baker. That meeting, he said, helped move Wendell forward in the Massachusetts Broadband Institute's (MBI) list of towns to work with.

Riebschlaeger said that the broadband committee had done a lot of thinking and concluded a single committee would be the best way to continue forward, and that in spite of the hours of talk at the July 27 selectboard meeting there had been no dialogue over the pros and cons of either configuration.

She said that the dispute between the selectboard and members of the broadband committee had caused a delay in the process, and may have moved Wendell from the top of the state's list to the bottom.

Selectboard chair Christine Heard said she was upset by the caustic content of the day's email exchange. She said that the fin com is still working with bond counsel to arrange how Wendell will borrow the money needed for the network's construction, and there has been no delay in the first step, getting a pole survey, still expected to begin in the fall, and that MBI will oversee the engineering design and make-ready

part of the project.

Selectboard member Jeffrey Pooser said he does not keep up with the listserv, but was taken aback by the tone of belligerence he saw in the day's messages. He did not think that the difference between one committee and two was causing the hysteria and that the difference of opinion was spun disproportionately. He said five or six people were ready to get going.

"Why even have the concept of a construction committee, when we don't even know our relationship with MBI?" asked Riebschlaeger. When asked what could be done to satisfy her, she said, "mediation," a suggestion made by a citizen in the day's email exchange. She said that two committees, each meeting twice a week, would be too much, especially since many involved in the effort also serve on other town boards.

DiDonato said that the lack of a broadband committee since the start of the fiscal year had caused a month and a half of delay in conversations with other towns. As a citizen he suggested that the board, and the next broadband committee(s), keep their eyes open, and that the town does not need a paid project manager or consultant. "I feel that the committee was snubbed by two members," he said.

The selectboard is meeting off week, on August 17, to make appointments to the two broadband committees.

**Robert Heller, who has worked as long as anyone in Wendell on the issue, wrote that he had reversed his prior willingness to serve on one or both of the two broadband committees.**

On August 15, former broadband committee member Robert Heller, who has worked as long as anyone in Wendell on the issue, wrote on the town listserv that he had reversed his prior willingness to serve on one or both of the two broadband committees.

Heller wrote that the town's municipal light plant (MLP), not the town, will own and operate the network, and that the MLP will operate independently from town government and finance – in effect running as a business, and making enough money to sustain itself.

He proposed a compromise solution: a broadband committee consisting of two selectboard members, one fin com member and the rest former broadband members or other citizens, out of which a smaller executive committee could meet as needed. The executive committee could be made up of the selectboard and fin com member, plus two members of the larger committee.

Heller wrote that construction and operations are so intertwined that separating them could have disastrous consequences in missed communication: "At the very least overly high subscription fees and

at worst an inoperable network – \$1.92 million flushed down the toilet."

## Baby Wipes Flushed Down Toilet

In spite of signs that state it should not be done, baby wipes and disposable diapers have been flushed down the toilets in the library and town hall. That plugs the drainage, and can cause sewage to back up into the buildings.

Selectboard member Dan Keller missed the beginning of a library program he was interested in so that he could help facility engineer Jim Slavas clear wipes from the building's grinder pump, which pushes material up to where gravity can carry it into the town septic system. Signs were posted in the hope they would correct the problem, but apparently the signs failed in their mission.

At the August 10 meeting, Keller suggested that lidded and lined trash cans be put in the lavatories, with plastic bags to contain odors, and possibly a raccoon- and bear-proof receptacle in the back of the library, and that removal of the waste be made a part of closing the library.

Pooser also suggested a notice in the next town newsletter.

## Properties for Auction

Treasurer Carolyn Manley was scheduled to meet the selectboard at 7:15 p.m., and was able to meet with the board at 7:30 – unlike the previous meeting, when broadband discussion went on past 9 p.m. and Manley went home without having a chance to meet with the board.

Manley spoke with the two present board members on two topics. The first was "other post-employment benefits," or OPEB, essentially health insurance for retirees. She said that two years ago Wendell paid Marc Abrams, who studies actuarial reports, \$750 for a report about Wendell's healthcare obligations. He contacted Manley stating that he was paid, but did not send that report.

Reports for the two intervening years would cost \$1,500, and the report for year four would be another \$750. Those reports are useful, but not required for the town's audits.

Heard suggested that the town should get the first report, and not pay for subsequent reports.

Manley's second topic was two town-owned parcels that have been cleared for an auction in spring. One is a vacant house on a 12-acre plot, and the other is 24 acres with no house.

Heard suggested that the flat part of the lot might be useful for a town playing field. Manley said she might even have the empty house at 120 Wendell Depot Road ready for auction in the spring.

## Empty Cemetery Seat

Wendell resident Florrie Blackbird was in the selectboard room at the start of the meeting, and waited quietly through the exchange until Riebschlaeger and DiDonato left. She said the meeting was more interesting than TV.

Her interest was in a vacancy in

the cemetery commission, a position which follows from her interest in the town's history, and in her own family's two-century part of that history. She did not run in the May election, but is one of two people interested in the opening that has appeared in that three-member board.

The other is Richard Mackey, who was defeated by one or two votes in the election. Mackey was an incumbent in the election, having taken over as chair of the commission when the prior chair, Dan Bacigalupo passed away. Mackey organized records and documents that were largely in Bacigalupo's head.

Either one, if appointed, would hold office only until next May, and then would have to be elected to the remainder of the vacated post.

In this case, the cemetery commissioners had no recommendation.

Pooser suggested that one of the two be made an associate member, who could take part in everything but not be able to vote. Blackbird said she might take such a position. Pooser said he would contact commissioner Joel Sears to see how he felt about such an arrangement.

Blackbird also said that the vacant house that the town owns might make a good place to keep and display old artifacts from town. Heard said she had not thought of that, but that historic commissioner Pam Richardson might be interested. She suggested that when the building is secured it should be done gently so the work does not damage its historical features. Instead of auctioning the house, she said, the town could put out a request for proposals as a way of preserving its historic features.

## Other Business

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich reported that the DEP is requesting an update of the town's 1998 recycled materials purchasing policy.

She also said that Seaboard Solar has sold more of the solar projects that Wendell is hosting, and that four more documents need signatures. The documents are the same as ones that have already been signed, so consultation with town counsel is not necessary.

Pooser asked Aldrich to send him a digital copy of those documents so that he can read them at home, and suggested that no one sign anything until Wendell gets some of the money, or credit, the town has earned as host of the facilities, which have been online for several years.

Town counsel David Doneski returned for signature the agreement for ambulance service between the town and the Orange Ambulance service. Wendell will need to assign a representative to attend meetings of the towns that need the service.

Aldrich reported that in January, a change in the public records law will require towns to have a public records officer. Any public record requested must be provided, at a reasonable cost, within ten days of the request.

She said she imagined the ten-day requirement may be difficult for any town board that meets biweekly or monthly.

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## NOTES FROM THE WENDELL TOWN CLERK

# Voter Registration Deadline

The last day to register to vote for the State Primary on September 8 is Friday, August 19. A special voter registration session will be held on this day in the office of the Town Clerk from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. at 9 Morse Village Road in Wendell. The Town Clerk Office is also open from 9 a.m. to noon on Fridays.

You can also register by mail, or at the RMV. If you have recently moved to Wendell, or changed your address in Wendell, you must also register to vote. If you want to change your party affiliation, you must meet the August 19 deadline.

Any questions, please call the Town Clerk at (978) 544-3395 x2.

# Absentee Ballots Available

Absentee ballots are now available at the Town Clerk's Office for the September 8 State Primary. The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is Noon on Wednesday, September 7.

To vote absentee, you must be absent from town during polling hours, have a physical disability or a religious belief that prohibits you from being at the polls. All absentee ballots must be returned to the Clerk's office by the close of the polls on September 8. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Registered voters who belong to any one of the four parties, Democratic, Republican, Green Rainbow, or United Independent, must vote their party affiliation. Unenrolled voters can choose any one of the 4 ballots.

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**HALLMARK** from page A1  
the spring of 2015.

Tales of corporate corruption and litigation have created an ugly ending for a school that was once widely respected and contributed greatly to the emerging Turners Falls creative economy. In its heyday, Hallmark enrolled well over 200 students, most of whom lived in the region. They could be seen in front of old mill buildings, churches and village squares learning their craft.

The institute owned three buildings in the Montague Industrial Park, and rented gallery space in both the Crocker Building and Colle Opera House in downtown Turners Falls.

Montague town administrator Frank Abbondanzio noted that Hallmark played an important role in events sponsored by the town's "RiverCulture" program when it was first getting off the ground.

Hallmark's decline has been slow and painful. While the scandals have captured most of the attention, the recent recession hit the school hard, Abbondanzio believes.

Camp told the *Reporter* in April that while the organization's financial difficulties were partly the result of "recent changes in photography training and technology," he felt the school could have changed to keep up with the times, but that Premier's partners "ignored it over the years."

"Premier didn't support the mission," Camp said.

"When Gary was there, Premier was supporting the school to its fullest," Rosa elaborated last month. "They weren't prepared for Gary to leave, is really what happened."

After Rosa notified the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges, state Division of Professional Licensure, and state attorney general's office that Premier appeared to be conducting a teachout of its final students, Jessica Mastrogiovanni, the company's vice president and general counsel, reached out to the *Reporter* to remind us that we were "taking sources, and information, from a convicted felon."

The next day, Premier notified the state they were closing Hallmark.

The immediate impact of the impending closure on Montague's economy could be minimal. The galleries on Avenue A closed several years ago, and the spaces have been reoccupied. The buildings in the industrial park may have significant architectural value, and the town expects them to continue to generate tax revenue until they are sold.

The arts appear to be thriving in Turners Falls despite the gradual disappearance of Hallmark students, and rental demand in downtown Turners and Millers Falls has remained strong despite declining numbers of Hallmark-affiliated tenants.

But Abbondanzio, who is himself retiring this December, will fondly remember exhibit openings at the school's photography galleries on Avenue A, just when downtown Turners was turning a corner.

"It was like New York City," he told this newspaper: "red carpets, violins, and champagne."



Additional reporting was contributed by Mike Jackson.



# MONTAGUE REPORTER

# ON THE ROAD

*Terran and Julia peruse the Reporter in the ruins of Madame Sherri's Castle in West Chesterfield, NH. Antoinette Sherri, a Broadway costume designer, built the house in 1931 as a summer retreat; it was destroyed by fire thirty years later. An exterior spiral stone staircase and arches remain, at the entrance to the tract of conservation land now known as the Madame Sherri Forest.*

Going somewhere? Take us with you! Email photos to [editor@montaguereporter.org](mailto:editor@montaguereporter.org).

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# MoRe



THE GARDENER'S COMPANION

## Organic Gardening

By LESLIE BROWN

AMHERST – The 2016 summer conference of the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA) took place this past weekend at the UMass campus in Amherst. This conference draws thousands of farmers and gardeners from all over New England – except those stubbornly independent Vermonters who, in general, prefer to hold their own.

With topics ranging from hop production and bee keeping to horse-powered farming, no-till methods and low intervention organic fruit production, there is something of interest for large scale growers and small yard gardeners alike. All are linked by their commitment to gardening organically.

So what is organic gardening?

Well, it's gardening without synthetic fertilizers and pesticides.

It's also a philosophy of gardening which emphasizes cultivating an ecosystem which sustains plants, soil microbes and beneficial insects, not just simply growing plants.

Synthetic fertilizers can harm microorganisms, make it more difficult for the soil to hold water and nutrients, and often runs off into our water systems.

Synthetic pesticides remain in the plants we grow and can be disease-causing for the consumer, and destructive in the natural environment.

I have been drawn to organic gardening, particularly the avoid-

ance of chemicals, because of family history of disease. I prefer to know where my food comes from and how it was grown. That said, I was also brought up with the love for getting my hands in the soil and planting. There is an enormous joy in producing food from tiny seeds and enjoying the fresh picked taste.

You could say that growing organically came naturally. The more I read and hear about organic gardening, the more committed I have become. The current information in the field is ever more exciting as it allows farmers and gardeners to be a part of an even larger picture of helping, however little, to improve our environment.

In his keynote speech, Andre Leu, president of the International Federation of Organic Agricultural Movements, wrote:

*Agriculture is directly and indirectly responsible for between 30 to 50 percent of greenhouse gas emissions. If we strip out the excess CO2 from the air and store it in the soil as organic matter, we can reduce temperatures to pre-industrial levels.*

This powerful statement is followed up with concrete ways we who grow in the soil can help to remediate the loss of carbon in the soil, sequester CO2, and mitigate climate change.

Leu explains that while farmers and gardeners will have to adapt to droughts and heavy rains, organic practices such as crop rotation, the use of green manures, compost and organic mulches will pay off. Organic

see GARDENERS page B8

## Crafting a Sense of Place with Old Home Days



"YANKEE DOODLE CAME TO TOWN"

By NINA ROSSI

FRANKLIN COUNTY – As Montague prepares for its 57th "Old Home Days" this weekend – complete with a Mug Race, auction, parade, dances and games – and Wendell gets ready for an Old Home Day of its own, this reporter decided to do some research in a cool, dark place to find out how these Old Home Days began, and when.

The idea of "Old Home Week" was introduced in 1899 by then-governor Frank W. Rollins as a New Hampshire ritual inviting those who journeyed away from their hometowns to come back for an elaborate, week-long reunion. Word was spread through newspapers and personal invitations to return to the birthplace and reconnect to town and people. And, if a successful émigré happened to be inspired by the pomp and circumstance of the whole affair, Old Home Week planners hoped that you might donate to some local civic project or charity, or maybe even buy one of the disused farmhouses to make into a summer home.

Victorian sentimentality crafted reunions of mythic promise. Wrote Rollins in a 1902 invitation: "Hospitality will abound, good fellowship will predominate, old friends will extend greetings, old hopes and ideals will come back, the weariness and cares of age will fall away

as a garment, and all taste again the sweets of youth's glad springtime. Is it not worth the time and trouble?"

Preserving the past became a noble effort, a balm for souls wearied by striving elsewhere.

Rollins was not only inspired by nostalgia. There was genuine fear that rural New Hampshire would become a ghost town of abandoned farms and caved-in cellarholes, and the belief that too many New Hampshire progeny impoverished their home state by applying their brains and brawn to establish cities and towns to the west, such as that turn-of-the-century powerhouse Chicago.

Rollins devised an ingenious sentimental hustle that was taken up by many towns in and out of New England in the ensuing years, even to the point of being called a "movement" by the year 1906. Many states passed a law making it possible for towns to vote money for such expenditures into their budget, and some towns appropriated as much as a thousand dollars for the festivities. There was a state commission in Massachusetts that would send out an instruction packet on how to achieve a successful Old Home Week upon request.

These early celebrations involved year-long planning efforts, yoking together the work of numerous committees and local associations. One of the first things would be to collect names and addresses for former residents and send out printed invitations.

Thomas Anderson describes a typical celebration in an August 1906 article in *New England Magazine* as see OLD HOME page B5



WEALTH AND FASHION TURNS OUT

These uncredited photographs (above left and above) accompanied an August 1906 article on the origins of Old Home Week.

## We Did It!



The Turners Falls Invaders celebrate after they defeated Frontier 8-7 in the Suburban League 14-and-under softball championship game, August 3 at TFHS.

## THEATER REVIEW

### Mystery Mania! from Country Players Youth

By ELLEN BLANCHETTE

DEERFIELD – While some kids have gone about these summer days enjoying free time outdoors, at camp or on vacation, the Country Players Youth Ensemble has been preparing for *Mystery Mania!* These fortunate and talented young players presented the results of their efforts this past weekend, with two one-act plays at Frontier High School in Deerfield.

The first of the two plays is *The Mystery of the Gumdrop Dragon*, a magical fairy tale written by Gerry Lynn Burtle and telling the story of the Princess of Candyland who is sad over the loss of her pet, Gumdrop Dragon.

A parade of colorful characters, each with special gifts, try to cheer her up but no one can. In the opening scene, the Princess surrounded by the ladies of her court, tells her tale and declares a reward for the return of her dragon. A wizard, three clowns, court writer, gatekeeper and

a page all help tell the story as each comes in to cheer up the Princess, and leaves disappointed after the effort has failed.

Would you be surprised to know that a Prince appears to save the day and that a thief confesses? The show was well done and very enjoyable. Director Sue Dresser did a fine job of working with her elementary age actors. Of the experience, Dresser said, "There's something wonderful about coming together as a group of

people to put on a performance. It is a lot of work but very rewarding as well. I am so proud of the hard work these children and teens did to perform two challenging plays."

Find out how to cheer up the Candyland Princess at an encore performance presented during Montague Old Home Days on August 20, 7 p.m. at the Montague Center Congregational Church.

see THEATER page B2



Country Players Youth Ensemble performing *The Mystery of Gumdrop Dragon*, in which the *Chocolate Wizard* fails to cheer up the Princess of Candyland. Left to right, Killian Stuart, Katie Adams, Sophia Wolbach, Patrice Moriarty, Teagan Hale.

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She enjoys dark greens, carrots and banana peels.

Charlotte has excellent litterbox habits, which not only makes clean-

ing a breeze for her caretakers but also makes it easy to give her some daily romping and exploring time outside her pen.

Charlotte has distinguished herself here with her outgoing personality and tidy habits. Meet her today and talk to a counselor about rabbits!

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“CHARLOTTE”

## Senior Center Activities AUGUST 22 to SEPTEMBER 2

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Gill / Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Thursday at noon. Meal reservations must be made one day in advance by 11 a.m.

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.

### Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays:

10:10 a.m. Aerobics

10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise

**Tues, Wed, Thurs:** Noon Lunch

**Mondays, 8/22 and 8/29:**

1 p.m. Knitting Circle

**Tuesdays, 8/23 and 8/30:**

9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga

1 p.m. Ice Cream Social

**Wednesdays, 8/24 and 8/31:**

9 a.m. Veterans' Outreach

12:45 p.m. Bingo

**Thursdays, 8/25 and 9/1:**

9 a.m. Tai Chi

1 p.m. Cards & Games

### 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 congregated meals.

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 Bet-

ters, 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.

### Mondays, 8/22 and 8/29:

9 a.m. Tai Chi

10 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance

**Tuesdays, 8/23 and 8/30:**

8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics

10 a.m. Stretching & balance

Homemade Lunch must RSVP

12:30 p.m. Crafty Seniors

**Wednesdays, 8/24 and 8/31:**

8:45 a.m. Line Dancing

10 a.m. Chair Yoga

Noon Bingo, Snacks & Laughs

**Thursdays, 8/25 and 9/1:**

8:45 a.m. Aerobics (*fast moving*)

10 a.m. Healthy Bones

12:30 p.m. Creative Coloring

**Fridays, 8/26 and 9/2:**

9 a.m. Quilting; Walking Club

9:30 a.m. Bowling

12:30 p.m. Painting Workshop

**Fri 8/26:** Noon Lunch Old Mill

### LEVERETT

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

### THEATER from page B1

The second play, *And Then There Was One*, was much more complicated and demanding of the group of teenage actors, who were able to meet the challenge under direction of David Peck. Peck is the Drama Club advisor at Frontier, and an experienced actor.

Written by Michael Druce, this is a comedy of errors, with a lot

of physical action, lots of running around the stage, in and out of doors, hiding under and behind furniture.

Meant to be humorous more than frightening, it does have a dark theme, being a murder mystery.

Ten people are invited to an island for a weekend by a stranger. They learn they are trapped on the island for the weekend, and one by one, people die – or so it seemed – one person

even appeared dead on the doorstep. The sometimes baffling behavior keeps the audience wondering what are these people up to?

A surprise ending makes it all work out, but in the meantime there is a lot of danger and fun. The cast in each of these plays were very good: kudos to them all!



### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

## Violent Cat; Injured Eagle, Fawn; Rampant Bovines

### Friday, 7/1

11:55 a.m. Resident on Center Road reported seeing a vehicle going thru mailboxes.

2:15 p.m. Assisted Bernardston police with a disturbance on South Street.

### Saturday, 7/2

8 a.m. Stolen property reported on Main Road at Munns Ferry Road, under investigation.

7:45 p.m. Loud noise complaint filed against business on Main Road; referred to board of selectmen.

### Tuesday, 7/5

9:45 a.m. Firearms issue on Boyle Road.

11 a.m. Traffic assistance requested at Route 2 and Main Road for funeral.

### Thursday, 7/7

3:55 p.m. Welfare check requested on K9, walking on French King Highway.

### Friday, 7/8

10:50 a.m. Assisted Montague police with fight in their community.

1:40 p.m. Stolen checks from mailbox on Main Road. Under investigation.

5:10 p.m. Assisted Bernardston police with breaking and entering in progress.

8 p.m. Car into tree on Ben Hale Road.

### Saturday, 7/9

9:30 a.m. Injured bald eagle reported on French King Highway.

12:45 p.m. Injured fawn reported on French King Highway.

2:50 p.m. Resident reported suspicious person at their residence on Main Road. Checked ok.

8:50 p.m. Section 12 of juvenile on Boyle Road. Subject transported.

### Monday, 7/11

7:15 a.m. Meadow Street resident reports violent cat. Assistance provided.

5:55 p.m. Welfare check of subject on French King Bridge. All ok.

### Friday, 7/15

12:10 p.m. Subject on Bridge checked. Played POKEMAN Game.

### Monday, 7/18

10:20 a.m. Assisted Springfield PD with arrest of resident on French King Highway.

2:50 p.m. Main Road closed at North Cross Road. Downed wires and trees.

3 p.m. Wires and branch, hazard on Walnut Street. Road closed.

3:45 p.m. Subjects trapped at Barton Cove due to trees down. Assisted same.

5 p.m. Contacted subject from VT regarding past sexual assault in town.

### Tuesday, 7/19

8:20 a.m. Complaint of coyotes at Stoughton Place, Main Road.

8:35 a.m. Cows in roadway, Main Road. Farmer located.

1 p.m. Vandalism of flags in Center Cemetery. Under investigation.

### Wednesday, 7/20

8 a.m. Assisted DFS at residence on West Gill Road.

1:35 p.m. Vandalism of vehicle on Main Road, windshield broken by rock.

5:30 p.m. Bear broke through a residence screen door on Center Road.

6 p.m. S. Cross Road resident reported phone scam.

### Thursday, 7/21

5 p.m. Motor vehicle accident in Factory Hollow. Assisted with traffic.

8:58 p.m. Cows reported loose on Main Road. Farmer located.

### Friday, 7/22

5:10 p.m. Reported distraught subject walking on French King Highway. Checked same; ok.

### Saturday, 7/23

7:25 p.m. Court paperwork served to resident on South Cross Road.

11:30 p.m. Section 12 of resident on Riverview Drive. Erving police.

### Tuesday, 7/26

5:35 p.m. Assisted residents on Green Hill Road re: upcoming gathering.

6 p.m. Contacted Florida regarding background check of resident.

### Wednesday, 7/27

6:20 a.m. Lost dog from Main Road residence. Located later on in day.

4:40 p.m. Suspicious activity reported at residence on Camp Road. Under investigation.

10:30 p.m. Assisted Bernardston PD with arrest in their community.

### Thursday, 7/28

6:15 p.m. Assisted Bernardston PD with Section 12 in their community.

### Friday, 7/29

10:20 a.m. Located subject on French King Bridge. Taken to Baystate for evaluation.

11:30 a.m. Contacted regarding resident on Franklin Road operating while intoxicated.

14:50 p.m. Suspicious activity reported on Pisgah Mountain Road. Additional patrols requested.

### THE HEALTHY GEEZER

## What If There Is Gynecomastia?



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

By FRED CICETTI

*Q. My breasts have become large and I'm embarrassed. What can I do?*

This question came from a man in his sixties. Breast enlargement in males is common. So is the embarrassment. About 30 percent of older men have this condition, which can be caused by hormonal changes or simple weight gain. It can occur in one or both breasts.

When the usual balance of the female hormone estrogen and the male hormone testosterone in a man shifts, he can get “gynecomastia,” which is derived from two Greek words that mean “woman” and “breast.”

Estrogen controls female traits including the growth of breasts. Testosterone dictates male traits such as muscle mass and body hair.

Males normally produce small quantities of estrogen to regulate bone density, sperm production and mood. Natural hormonal changes that lead to gynecomastia occur not only in old age but also during infancy and adolescence.

Gynecomastia can be caused by a health problem such as liver, kidney or thyroid diseases. And, this condition can also result from drinking alcohol or taking drugs such as steroids, marijuana, amphetamines and heroin.

There are medications that can cause gynecomastia, too. These include: anti-androgens such as finasteride that are used to treat prostate cancer; AIDS medications such as efavirenz or didanosine; anti-anxiety medications such as Valium; tricyclic antidepressants; antibiotics; ulcer medications such as cimetidine; chemotherapy drugs, and heart medications such as digitalis and calcium channel-blockers.

Some additional symptoms of gynecomastia include tenderness, swelling and nipple discharge.

If you have enlarged breasts, see your doctor for a check-up. Enlarged breasts can be a symptom of breast cancer or a testicular tumor.

There is a condition called “pseudogynecomastia.” This occurs

when a male just has a lot of chest fat that enlarges his breasts. You can tell the difference between false gynecomastia and the real thing by examining the breasts.

In the examination, a healthcare professional spreads a thumb and forefinger and places them – opposing each other – on the circumference of the breast. The fingers are then squeezed gently toward the nipple. Gynecomastia is diagnosed if there is enlarged glandular tissue that feels like a rubbery disk. Often, this tissue can be moved around.

Gynecomastia usually will go away without treatment. This condition is often treated with drugs. Sometimes, enlarged breasts are reduced surgically.

Medications used to treat breast cancer and other conditions may be helpful for some men with gynecomastia. These drugs include anti-estrogen medications such as raloxifene and tamoxifen.

Two types of surgery are used to treat gynecomastia: liposuction and mastectomy. Liposuction removes breast fat, but not the breast gland tissue. Mastectomy removes the breast gland tissue.

*If you would like to ask a question, write to [fred@healthygeez.com](mailto:fred@healthygeez.com).*

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MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

**This Week on MCTV: Drone Show!**



Check out Turners Falls, Riverside and Canada Hill like you've never seen them!

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

These humid summer days roll slowly by. Cool down and check out the latest programming on your community access station! Visit [montaguetv.org](http://montaguetv.org) and click on "TV Schedule" to find out when your favorite shows will air this week.

Our latest production, filmed using Drone Station, gives you the opportunity to explore Turners Falls from a bird's-eye perspective! Soar around the falls and watch Unity Skatepark action from above.

This can be seen on our website, alongside last week's local policy meetings – the Montague Selectboard, Gill Selectboard, and the Gill Montague Regional School Committee Meeting.

As per the summer schedule, the next Montague selectboard meeting will air live on Monday, August 22 at 7 p.m., and the August 22 Gill selectboard meeting will become available a few days later on our website.

Looking for ways to get involved in your community? Maybe the

Turners Falls Fashion Show is for you – you're invited to get involved as a model, designer, photographer, sewer, or planner. What skills will you bring? There's lots to do in preparation for the big show in just five weeks. More info at [turnersfallsriverculture.org](http://turnersfallsriverculture.org).

Finally, we'd like to put in a note of appreciation to all of our viewers, no matter what medium you're using to access our programming. We operate for you, and our doors are open to your involvement week to week. That's why we love to remind you:

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. (413) 863-9200, [infomontaguetv@gmail.com](mailto: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!

Facebook users, you can follow us at [facebook.com/MontagueTV/](https://www.facebook.com/MontagueTV/). This way, you'll stay in the loop for our weekly updates.

TV REVIEW

**In an Instant 20/20: Toward a Third Season?**

By MELISSA WLOSTOSKI

20/20: *In an Instant* premiered on ABC on March 6, 2015. It's a show about real-life experiences where people come sometimes very close to losing their lives, or had their lives in a great deal of danger. These people recount the stories of what happened to them.

People watching at home are treated to recreations of the stories, playing out as the people are narrating them. Its has lasted two seasons so far.

One story consists of a mother and two daughters getting their car crushed, being trapped in the car, and then are hanging over a ravine. A truck hits them while they are hanging there and explodes. Yet they are still alive today after all of that.

I am wondering whether or not there will be a third season. I think there is a good chance of that. They have told some incredible true stories. To me, if they can continue to tell stories such as these, they will have a third season under their belt.

I believe the way certain things turn out are karma rewarding people. At the very least, it seems that way. I saw a Hallmark movie about a woman who rescued a bunch of children from the Nazis. This woman survived the experience and lived to be over 90. To me, it would seem karma has rewarded her with a long life.

One of the stories from *In an Instant* reminded me of that. A woman went running with her dog, and injured herself so badly that she could not make it out of a canyon. Her dog ended up getting her the help she needed. After the story is done being told, we learn that the dog is still alive and is in good health. That is a good example of karma rewarding somebody for their actions.

Maybe I should be calling one story that they did in Season 1 where people are extremely close to death. That one being when a Minneapolis interstate bridge that collapsed in 2007, with a bunch of people on it. I can picture that whole scene and I cannot see anyone getting off the bridge alive. But obviously people did, or why else are there people around to tell their stories to this day?

Perhaps people throw the word "miraculous" around too much when it comes to certain things. But I am pretty sure if someone saw a picture of the sight of the collapsed bridge, they would not believe that anyone could have gotten off there alive.

I believe I have made my case very well about this show telling some amazing stories, and that's what probably led to it doing so well when it comes still being on the air. But I leave it up to you to decide whether or not you think there is a strong case, in your opinion, for it to continue to air.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

**Brine Attack; Bears, Bats and Maggots; Scary Blogger; Digging for Pokemon?**

Monday, 8/1

9:57 a.m. Report of decapitated dog in the wooded area between Griswold Street and Scotty's. Caller advises that the body of the dog is there but the head is not. Responding officer and animal control officer advise not as reported; animal was a cat and appeared to have been attacked by a fisher cat. No foul play suspected.

Tuesday, 8/2

8:24 a.m. Officer will be issuing citation to operator who failed to stop for detail officer and flipped him off as she was driving through the construction site on Montague City Road.

8:36 p.m. 911 caller from Fourth Street advising of a raccoon hanging around the house across the street from him; stated it has gone up/down to roof all day. Caller advised to use the business line if there is no emergency. Copy of call left for animal control officer.

Wednesday, 8/3

1:35 a.m. Report of suspicious vehicle in lower parking lot of Southworth Paper. Officer advises that 4 young males were playing Pokemon Go. Gathering dispersed.

9:23 a.m. While on a detail, sergeant was notified by a motorist that there is a mama bear with cubs going into and out of the woods on Turnpike Road. Referred to an officer.

10:06 a.m. Report of a bear off Cabot Street who was reportedly coming toward people before going into a tree and, once in the tree, began growling. Checked area; gone on arrival.

11:18 a.m. Party into station requesting to speak to animal control officer about a fox attacking his chickens this morning.

12:22 p.m. Caller reporting an altercation that just occurred at Rite Aid. Male party came into the store and was in the bathroom for approximately 25 minutes. Subject came out and knelt down by a shelf and appeared to be nodding off, so caller checked on him. Subject grew agitated and threw a water bottle at a window, then left. Officers spoke with subject and verbally trespassed him from Rite Aid.

3:02 p.m. Party into lobby requesting that an officer take his old ammo. Services rendered.

4:42 p.m. Report of vehicle break-in overnight on Central Street. Report taken.

6:54 p.m. Second report of vehicle break-in overnight on Central Street. Report taken.

Thursday, 8/4

2:25 a.m. Officer checking on vehicle observed circling in area of First Street/Avenue A. Party found to be playing Pokemon.

3:28 a.m. Officer out with

disorderly male on Avenue A. Involved male party called dispatch to advise that he is upset he is being followed by MPD officers; party began screaming and yelling and used the word "n---r."

█ was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct and disturbing the peace.

6:42 a.m. DPW employees working at Unity Park discovered two parties sleeping under the playground equipment. Parties moved along.

10:35 a.m. Officers took down a rope swing from the Dorsey Road foot-bridge.

Friday, 8/5

11:00 a.m. Caller from Davis Street reporting that tires appear to have been slashed overnight. Second female reported damage to vehicle as well. Report taken.

8:36 p.m. Report of possible structure fire on Second Street. Officer advises this was a flower box that someone had put a cigarette out in. Fire extinguished; smoke in building.

10:16 p.m. Caller complaining of multiple individuals with shopping carts "racing" up and down Fourth Street and disturbing her peace. Officer checked area but was unable to locate any racing shopping carts.

Saturday, 8/6

12:10 a.m. Caller reporting that approximately 6 juveniles were just in Ce Ce's Chinese Restaurant purchasing food; when they left, they threw some type of yellow liquid through the screened window. Liquid is all over store now. Area searched on foot but no one matching description found. Liquid believed to have been pickle juice or similar; caller was hit with substance as well.

12:38 p.m. Caller in area of Ramblers on Lake Pleasant Road reports observing a green ATV with an adult and a child on board pulling a couch that the caller believes they dumped across the street. Officer spoke with member of Ramblers who advised that he and several other

members were cleaning up junk in the area in preparation for their move across the road.

8:12 p.m. Officers investigating yelling coming from apartment building on Avenue A. Male alone in apartment just letting off steam; no issues found.

Sunday, 8/7

3:50 p.m. █ was arrested on a probation warrant.

7:12 p.m. Report of shirtless white male with messy hair and tattoos who appeared to be "on drugs" walking on Third Street and raising his hand as if to hit people. Officer in area found no one matching description.

Monday, 8/8

5:13 a.m. Request for assistance removing a bat from a home on Avenue B. Services rendered.

5:49 p.m. Report of subjects skateboarding in the road on Fairway Avenue and creating a hazard. Subjects were making a promotional video for the Shea Theater. Officer stopped traffic briefly while they finished their shoot. Group picked up and moved along.

9:39 p.m. Second request for assistance with a bat in a residence on Avenue B.

10:12 p.m. Previous caller reports that after officer removed the bat from her home, she discovered another bat. Officer advises that a bat had gotten stuck in a vase and could not get out. Same was taken out of house. Message left for animal control officer.

Tuesday, 8/9

10:15 a.m. Party into station advising she is not from area and needs directions to the Hadley Mall. Dispatch offered to print directions, but party advised she "did not have time to wait" and "I guess I'll just get f\*cking lost then" and abruptly left the station.

10:28 a.m. Report of male subject who just shoplifted a bag of dog treats from Food City. Officer located suspect, who admitted to stealing ramen noodles. Stolen item paid for; subject verbally trespassed from Food City.

2:26 p.m. Caller from

Montague City Road reports having a dead bat in his driveway; requests assistance disposing of same as he is not sure if it is rabid or not. Animal control officer advised and en route.

5:41 p.m. Caller reports van missing from her garage on Highland Street. Paperwork filled out and signed; vehicle entered into system as stolen and area departments advised to be on lookout. Caller later called back advising that they just remembered they left the van in Greenfield. Stolen vehicle report cancelled.

6:21 p.m. 911 caller reports suspicious party hanging on/walking near mailboxes on Turnpike Road. Party described as white male, long hair, beard, wearing a red clown nose and gray t-shirt, and carrying a white bag. Caller states male was taking pictures with cell phone and talking into phone; very suspicious. TFFD reported seeing same at stop sign behind complex making statements such as "watch out world." Officer off with party, who was taking pictures for his blog and denied hanging on mailboxes. Party moved along.

7:39 p.m. Caller reporting male party in wooded area along bike path; caller felt uncomfortable approaching party and was playing on phone. When she looked up, she saw male lying down touching himself while watching her. Caller quickly left area. Party described as white with short reddish hair, wearing a white t-shirt. Caller did not see party wearing anything on bottom. Area checked; unable to locate.

Wednesday, 8/10

4:12 p.m. Caller requesting removal of her child's father; also requesting that officers retrieve several lottery tickets that he took without permission. Officers report verbal altercation only, primarily between male party and caller's mother. Family will work issue of lottery tickets out among themselves.

see MPD page B4

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## MPD from page B3

7:55 p.m. Officer issued verbal warning to motorist for red light violation; Pokemon Go was the culprit.

Thursday, 8/11

9:03 a.m. While on a detail, officer advised by motorist that there is a cow loose on Turners Falls Road just south of Hatchery Road. Area search negative.

1:35 p.m. Three bikes reported stolen from garage on North Taylor Hill Road. Report taken.

6:57 p.m. Caller reports that a female showed up at his residence at noon today and started digging holes in his yard. Female is still there and refusing to leave; appears to have bruises around eyes but unknown where they came from. Party transported to hospital; vehicle towed. Party had been digging up rocks and digging holes in the yard for 6-7 hours.

Friday, 8/12

2:10 a.m. Officer conducting motor vehicle

stop on Old Sunderland Road. Clear; operator out chasing Pokemon.

6:30 a.m. Report of cows loose on Turners Falls Road; two cows on caller's lawn at this time. Officer spoke with owner of cows. They will be rounded up.

1:14 p.m. [REDACTED] was arrested on a default warrant.

2:30 p.m. Report of previous assault on basketball courts at Unity Park; victim suffered concussion and other injuries. Report taken.

Saturday, 8/13


11:32 a.m. Caller from Center Street advises that someone entered his shed overnight and stole his bicycle. Report taken.

4:39 p.m. Caller reports male party on bike with children riding a "Power-wheels" in the road. Caller concerned for safety of children; caller and male could be heard arguing over line. Caller stated

she is continuing home as she has cold items in her car. Caller advised this would be on record.

8:06 p.m. Caller reports that neighbor knocked on her door and requested a cigarette; when her ex-husband told him she did not have any, neighbor stated, "You better lock up your bikes so they don't get stolen." Caller advised this would be on record and to call back if any further problems arose.

9:38 p.m. TFFD advising took call direct for lightning strike to house on Morris Avenue; 2 elderly residents. Officer advising of charring at service entrance; no signs of fire.

11:34 p.m. Caller reports a white male, unknown clothing, out in front of Riff's Restaurant yelling and screaming. Officer spoke to a cleaning crew on scene who admitted they were making the noise due to a maggot issue they discovered on the dumpster. 

## LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was August 24, 2006: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

### Ervingside Bridge Replacement a Piecemeal Job

S&R Corporation of Lowell has the tricky job of completely replacing two bridges on Route 2 in Ervingside while maintaining traffic going over the bridges and traffic underneath – road traffic under one of them, and trains passing on railroad tracks under the other.

Route 2 is one of two highways that run the length of Massachusetts. Traffic is heavy, especially during tourist season.

One-lane traffic through part of the job delays equipment moving from place to place on the job. Trucks delivering material to the job are also delayed by traffic. Traffic is a hazard to workers.

"Some of these long tractor trailer trucks carrying gigantic concrete T-beams scare me when they barrel through," Tom Mulhall said.

Mulhall is the superintendent of this \$5 million job. "We are on a tight schedule," he confided, "because we need to complete half of each bridge so we can pave the road before November 15, when blacktop plants close down due to the cold. We also need to pour concrete so curing time isn't too long and meets specs."

### Ten Years of Tireless River Cleanup

"We don't know where the energy comes from, but folks keep coming back year after year," said Connecticut River Steward Andrea Donlon, "it's just amazing the amount of work that gets done on Source to Sea Cleanup Day each fall."

This September marks the 10th anniversary of the watershed-wide cleanup, which has taken place annually along the banks and tributaries of the Connecticut River's 410-mile reach since 1997.

In that time over 350 tons of trash, appliances, couches, trans-

missions and tires have been removed to proper disposal sites from the riversides of four New England states.

### Skate Park Benefit a Real Headbanger

"We channel the spirit of Rock 'n' Roll!" said Jeremy Latch, guitar player for the band Moscow Mule, and organizer for the benefit cover to reopen the skate park in Turners Falls. The event consisted of three bands – Moscow Mule, Fat Worm of Error, and Fashion People – who performed in the rough and tumble garage setting of the Brick House Community Teen Center, Tuesday night.

The show went from seven p.m. until nine-fifteen, with a suggested donation of \$2 to \$5. One hundred dollars was raised to supplement the renovation of the long-closed skate park, which has been delayed yet again this summer over fence issues, but that's another story.

## Scene Report: All Sorts of Good Vibes at the Homelands Festival

By ALICE THOMAS

TURNERS FALLS – By 10 a.m. the festival crowd was a paisley – a paisley that moved! They spun by the minute like the wild business of a carousel and stayed busy all day! It was judged that this year's attendance of the Pocumtuck Homelands festival was greater than any other, with interest peaking at the biggest performance stage and at the tipi alike.



A visiting vendor from Templeton, with a canoe he made by hand.

Howard Clark, a local anthropologist/lead researcher for the Nolumbeka Project, was the first to greet me when I arrived at Unity Park. He displayed several historical documents, one being the signed Document of Reconciliation between the Town of Montague and the Narragansett tribe, signed by Lloyd Running Wolf Wilcox on May 19, 2004.

Many thanks go to Diane Dix, a founding member of the Nolumbeka Project, for organizing and being present for the day. It was

easy to see that all the Native American participants were focused on showing us their way of life that centered on two words: HONOR and HUMILITY.

We heard it in the flute, the singing voices, the stories, music, food, dress, and especially in their smiles as they welcomed the community to spend the day with them.

I learned so much from the three visiting Grandmothers who smudged the tent before they began. They imparted the names of all related directions-herbs-colors-birds-animals, and their relationship to man.

By the way, the colors: red, white, black and yellow are all related to the colors of all humans. I sat in their tent and just couldn't hear enough, fast enough!

This circle of relationships has no beginning or end. The Grandmothers are considered the wisdom-keepers of the tribe, visiting us from Montana, Canada and Connecticut. They were Grandmother Red Spider Woman, Grandmother Nancy Andry and Grandmother Jeorgina Larocque Plant Spirit Woman.

The weather didn't seem to bother anyone: not rain, not glare, not even the blazing sun. It was a packed day, and I rushed to visit each venue as best I could!

David Tall Pine White, who came to Turners Falls from Brimfield, was the master of ceremonies in the 'big tent'. All the singing groups were fantastic and everyone quickly became fans of them and their songs – the ones they sing to their children before they go out into the world – the ones they write themselves.

The four men that comprised the Black Hawk Singers shared a large drum and sang as a traditional chorus. Mixashawn, a man who came to us from New York, was an extraordinary musician, who played over 4 instruments! He had everyone singing and swaying on the benches!

The flute player, George Spotted Horse Leduc, was a highlight for me. He lives and



Seated: Grandmother Red Spider Woman, Grandmother Nancy Andry, and Grandmother Jeorgina Larocque Plant Spirit Woman. Standing: Strong Oak, organizer of the Grandmothers' visit, and George Spotted Horse Leduc, flute player.

works in Canada with veterans, providing a sweat-lodge experience. His flute and the stories telling the history of his flute were like the blooming rose-of-sharon; each a treasure. His breath thru the flute was true – clear: a simple-complex that only the player can know. We heard the movements of the curious and satisfied; of the timeless life that is the Native Americans'.

I could have listened all day. He, too, acted with honor and humility.

The children's tent was run by Janel Nockleby of the Discovery Center and visiting Beth Bazler of FirstLight on Northfield Mountain. A 9-year-old boy, there with his father from South Deerfield, boasted that he made 2 block-stamps. He proudly held them

up, saying, "This is a fish and this is my soaring eagle." There were also stories in the big tipi near the entrance.

Vendors came with the most unique carvings of boats, bound baskets of bark, jewelry, instruments, information, as well as food and drink. All this was found at Unity Park!

We learned from David Brule and Joe Graveline, both local Nolumbeka Project principals, that the Native Americans of 4 regional tribes meet monthly on first Wednesdays to support one another and to move forward as a community. It was stressed that Native Americans are now relearning the landscape after having to leave. And certainly, I have to say that the new tribal horizon has put out its velvet carpet!

It was truly a FESTIVE Fest!

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Come celebrate with Aya and Jason of Opertura (who readers of the Montague Reporter will recognize as the creators of 'Weird Healing') as they complete their 12-year cycle! They will be sharing new and old artwork, a lot of animation, and offering a wide variety of snacks on Monday, August 29 at 6 p.m. at Jaume I, a pop-up gallery located at 14 Miles Street in Greenfield. See [opertura.org](http://opertura.org) for more information.

**OLD HOME** from page B1

including activities planned for every day of the week, usually beginning on a Saturday.

A welcoming committee met visitors at the rail station with some pomp and circumstance, and took them to an official registration point and then to their lodging, either with family or friends or by some volunteer arrangement. A bonfire was held that night, with singing, and perhaps a band playing music.

"Every town, if it is any kind of town at all, possesses its band: and the band plays a most important part in Old Home Week occasions," wrote Anderson.

Church services prepared especially for the Old Home Week were especially treasured, according to Anderson. Secular activities would include a general meeting featuring notable speakers, a banquet, musical or literary exercises, and sports.

Picnics were a popular pastime, as were hose reel contests, pie-eating contests, dramatic performances, yacht races, canoe carnivals, hayrack rides, clambakes, lawn parties, teas, camera club exhibitions – and on and on.

Roasting old chums in speeches given during the picnic was popular. Town histories were written, historic markers created and installed in the form of tablets and boulders, special stamps and stickers manufactured and distributed – Old Home Week infected almost every medium of expression and popular pastime of the era.

"A very beautiful feature of the festival is the presentation of a banquet or specially prepared cake... to the oldest resident.... Special entertainment for the children, to go the

other extreme, are often held..." Anderson wrote.

No doubt this nostalgic craze also inspired donations of local artifacts to town library museum collections.

An ulterior motive, according to Anderson's article, is to inspire the well-to-do class to "signify their appreciation of the friendly Old Home Week invitation by sending here and there a substantial check for a new drinking fountain, a statue or memorial window in honor of some deceased worthy, a public park, a tablet for some historic landmark, or the liquidation of a burdensome church debt."

A byproduct of the Old Home celebrations was that the towns did spruce themselves up quite a bit each year, stepping back and seeing themselves with fresh perspective and newfound civic pride. Gradually, these week-long celebrations whittled down to one long weekend or a day or two, generally in late August.

Author Howard Mansfield, writing about Old Home Days in his book *The Same Ax, Twice*, characterizes the aims of the movement thusly:

"New England has been shaped into the idealized American home: the home for Thanksgiving, for Christmas, and the picturesque scene for summer and fall. The good roads deliver millions to these scenes of home. From Frank Rollins and his generation we have inherited a useful sentimentality. We have the Old Home in Hustleville."

Mansfield also notes that in his research of early celebrations, none of the issues of the day that occupied turn-of-the-century reformers

were touched upon in Old Home Day orations: "strikes, trusts, temperance, wealth and poverty, child labor, immigration, race... Though the subject is home, few women ever get to speak..." Attendees were in search of the "one small, unchanging place to sit awhile and regain their balance."

And while some, like Governor Rollins, believed the evils of the city could be remedied by a rural Utopia, there were others who were outspoken on the grotesque aspects of village life during this same period.

(Rollin Lynde Hartt, a minister who led a congregation in Leverett in the late 1890s, wrote a thorough denunciation of the tiny town – thinly disguised as "Sweet Auburn" – in two 1899 *New England Magazine* articles. We may take the opportunity to examine these criticisms here at a later date.)

In a recent Almanac of Franklin County Towns published by the *Greenfield Recorder*, only four towns still listed an Old Home Day celebration in the "Things to Do" column: Wendell, Warwick, Montague and Rowe. (New Salem and Deerfield hold them, too.)

Other recurring events may be serving as return points for those far away, such as the county fair, annual races on roads and rivers, parades, Thanksgiving time, music and craft festivals like July's Green River Festival, block parties and the like.

Do former residents still come home to Montague and Wendell during Old Home Day celebrations? If someone would like to share an Old Home Days story with our readers, we'd love to hear it!

## Montague Old Home Days

**Montague Center, Massachusetts**

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2016**

5:30pm Games Open  
6:00 Food Booths Open  
6:30 - 8:00 Karen's Dance Studio

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2016**

7:30am Mug Race Registration  
8:00 White Elephant Tag Sale  
8:30 Mug Race Start  
8:35 Mini Mug Race / Walk Start  
9:00 - 4:00 Quilt Display, Booths & Games Open  
9:00 "Cruise-In"  
10:30 Soloist Dusti Dufresne  
11:00 Celtic Heels Dancers  
12:00pm Soloist Dusti Dufresne  
1:30 Old Home Days Parade  
2:00 North County Line Dancers  
3:00 - 5:00 Music by Tyler Conroy  
5:00 Drawing Results

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2016**

10:00am Old Home Days Worship Service  
Special Music by Becky Walton & John Fuller  
Join us for refreshments and fellowship after service

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## Year of the Monkey: Music, Magic, Arts and Fun in Wendell



*The Bear Mountain Boys play last year's Old Home Day.*

By **KAREN COPELAND**

**WENDELL** – Once again, creativity, music, magic, friendships old and new, and fun are the stars at Wendell Old Home Day this Saturday, August 20, the Year of the Monkey, at the town common in "downtown" Wendell.

To kick off the fun, kids of all ages are encouraged to join in the Kids Parade, beginning between 10:30 and 11 a.m. Meet at the town hall, and bring your best monkey antics and costumes of any kind, and musical instruments!

As always, local creativity and talent are abundant in this magical little town. There are always tag sales galore, including the HUGE Wendell Library tag sale, plus kids' games and activities.

Local farmers keep everyone happy at the Farmers Market. There are tons of crafts, including the famous Donna Horn's tee-shirts; massage and healing demonstrations; foods from local farm heroes Diemand Farm; Wendell Fire Department bar-b-q, and others.

This year, a special photography

exhibit of Old Home Day scenes by Tamara Maticic will be held in the Town Hall.

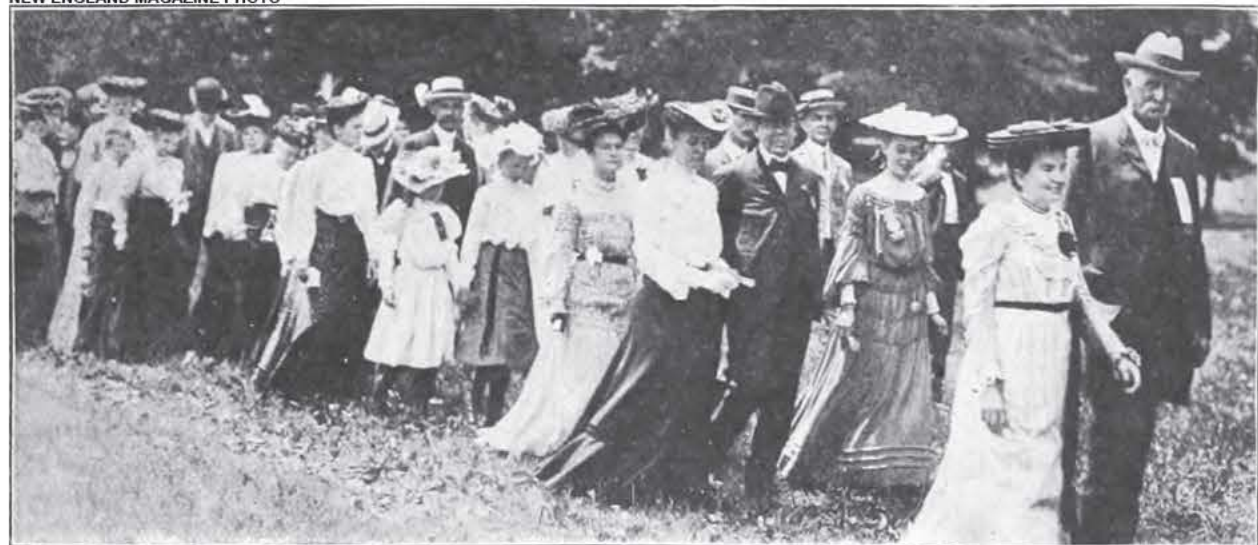
Wendell is known throughout the valley as a musical haven, and this year's musical lineup will prove it true. Music begins at noon, with Air Mover Machine including Deb and Rik Rolski. The music continues all afternoon with Mother Turtle, and Crow's Rebellion with Steve Crow, Pete Kim, and Joe Fitzpatrick.

A couple of new musically exciting additions this year include "Magic Mojo" with Jeffrey Bauman, Jeffrey Hoffman, Bruce Kahn, and Fred Sweitzer. Local hero Garrett Sawyer will be on the bass in The Red Band, joined by Ajika and Carrie Ferguson. Rounding out the celebration, The Bear Mountain Boys featuring Perry Howarth will bring the blues into Wendell in full color.

Always expect musical surprises in this town full of musicians – listen for the music and follow your ears, you'll get here!

*For more information, call Karen at (978) 544-7352 or [kckeepthebeat@yahoo.com](mailto:kckeepthebeat@yahoo.com).*

NEW ENGLAND MAGAZINE PHOTO



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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](mailto:spanish@montaguereporter.org). Esperamos su participación.



## Mónica Puig: Oro para Puerto Rico.



Mónica Puig con su medalla de oro.

Por VICTORIA MAILLO

Puerto Rico empezó a participar en los Juegos Olímpicos de verano de 1948 en Londres, y en total ha participado en 17 ocasiones, y en seis ocasiones en los de invierno. Mónica Puig ha sido la ganadora de la primera medalla de oro en la disciplina de tenis al derrotar a la alemana Angelique Kerber. La boricua es también la flamante primera mujer que gana una medalla para Puerto Rico.

Puig, que tiene 22 años, nació en San Juan, pero creció en Miami al trasladarse su familia a vivir allí. Mónica visita regularmente la isla para visitar a sus abuelos y comer todo lo que le está prohibido durante sus duros entrenamientos.

Empezó a jugar al tenis cuando tenía seis años y rápidamente se dio cuenta de que ese era su destino. Le encanta el deporte, viajar y llevar los colores de la bandera de Puerto Rico por el mundo.

En el año 2010 ganó su primer torneo importante en una gira por Sudamérica. Su triunfo no ha sido fácil ya que para conseguir la medalla tuvo que vencer a Kerber, la segunda en el ranking mundial y a la española Garbiñe Muguruza. Ha sido su primera participación en unos Juegos Olímpicos y ocupa el número 34 en el ranking mundial.

En las Olimpiadas de 1992 en Barcelona, Gigi Fernández boricua de nacimiento ganó una medalla de oro en tenis, pero participó con el equipo de los Estados Unidos.

La medalla de Puig llega después de meses en los que Puerto Rico solamente aparecía en las noticias con relación a su grave crisis económica. Mónica ha devuelto la alegría a los boricuas y la esperanza de lo que se puede lograr si se lucha por ello. La isla ha hecho suyo el lema de Mónica: hay que picar mucha piedra para ganar.

## OPINIÓN Festival de Pocumtuck Homelands



El sábado 6 de agosto se celebró en Unity Park el festival de *Pocumtuck Homelands*. Este es el tercer año consecutivo que se celebra este festival que quiere homenajear la cultura nativo americana y hacernos pensar sobre las consecuencias de una historia no tan lejana. Paseando a la orilla del río podías encontrar música en vivo, historias de tradición oral, artesanía, actividades para niños, bailes y lecciones de historia.

El lugar elegido para el festival, a lo largo de la orilla del río Connecticut, no es casual. Era un espacio al que los nativos llamaban Peskeompskut y su punto de encuentro.

También en ese lugar tuvo lugar una cruenta batalla conocida como la Batalla de Turners Falls o Masacre de Peskeompskut. La batalla tuvo lugar en mayo de 1676 durante la guerra de King Philip y en la que el capitán William Turners, miembro de las tropas inglesas, atacó el asentamiento de nativo americanos que en ese momento no disponía de grandes métodos de defensa.

La gran mayoría de los habitantes, incluidos mujeres y niños, murieron en ese lugar. Algunos pocos consiguieron escapar y se reagruparon para defenderse consiguiendo plantar cara los colonos ingleses.

En esa segunda emboscada el capitán Turners perdió la vida a manos de los nativos americanos y se dio su nombre a las cataratas que existían en ese lugar y pasaron a llamarse Turners Falls.

El festival quiere educar a la población acerca de la historia de los nativos americanos, muchas veces olvidada en los libros de historia, y al mismo tiempo concienciar acerca del respeto por la naturaleza que nos rodea.

Siempre me ha llamado la atención lo poco que los libros de historia, los periódicos hablan de la historia nativo americana. Por ejemplo, para hacer el examen para obtener la nacionalidad estadounidense, se deben estudiar ciertos pasajes de la historia de EEUU. Se hace mención a la Guerra Civil, a la Guerra de la Independencia, a la lucha por los Derechos Civiles, pero ni una sola palabra sobre este tema. Es un tema tabú del que no se podía hablar abiertamente.

Poco a poco esta actitud está cambiando y festivales como Pocumtuck Homelands hace que esta parte de la historia y de la cultura que forma este país sea reconocida y tenga su merecido valor.

## Dos convenciones, un posible vicepresidente, y una mala traducción.

Por VICTORIA MAILLO

Desde la última página en español, allá por el mes de junio, han tenido lugar las convenciones de los dos grandes partidos que concurren a las próximas elecciones.

Y como hemos apuntado en otras ocasiones los latinos van a tener un gran poder de decisión en las próximas elecciones presidenciales.

Entre las dos convenciones hay un nexo de unión que es el uso de la lengua española. Según datos del Instituto Cervantes, Estados Unidos es el segundo país en número de hablantes de español como primera lengua.

Hay 41 millones de hablantes de español y 11 millones que son bilingües.

Vayamos primero con la convención republicana celebrada en Cleveland a la que asistieron 2.472 delegados, de los cuales 133 se identificaron como latinos. Algunos de los delegados portaban carteles en los que se podía leer "*Latinos para Trump*".

Las reacciones no se hicieron esperar en las redes sociales. Primero aparecieron comentarios acerca del aspecto físico de los portadores, que distaba mucho de parecer latino. En segundo lugar, arrojaron las críticas acerca del texto escrito en español en los carteles.

La traducción del inglés "*Latinos for Trump*" que aparecía en las pancartas no era correcta. La confusión entre las preposiciones por y para es común entre los estudiantes



Pancartas en la convención republicana.

de español.

Para expresa finalidad, destino, o destinatario. Por significa en favor de, a través de, y causa o motivo. Hay verbos que exigen la preposición por, por ejemplo: luchar por algo o por alguien, y votar por un partido o por una persona. Por lo tanto, por hubiera sido la elección correcta a la hora de traducir el texto del inglés. Si alguien me hubiera preguntado, yo hubiera elegido la preposición *con* que indica colaboración y apoyo.

En la convención demócrata, Tim Kaine, ex-gobernador de Virginia, fue elegido por Hillary Clinton como posible vicepresidente si la senadora llegase a la Casa Blanca. Kaine pasó algunos meses de su vida con los jesuitas en Honduras ejerciendo como maestro y habla español.

De hecho, se presentó con un discurso en

dicha lengua en un afán del partido demócrata de atraer a los votantes latinos.

Ante ello, una colaboradora política de la cadena CNN, Scottie Nell Hughes, partidaria del candidato republicano Donald Trump, criticó el discurso bilingüe en inglés y en español de Tim Kaine haciendo comentarios en que dejaba entrever que hablar español implica ser menos estadounidense.

Añadió otro comentario en el que decía que no había necesitado un traductor para entender el discurso del candidato republicano o que quizás debería ver más episodios de *Dora la Exploradora* para poder entender el discurso del segundo de a bordo en el partido demócrata.

Hughes pidió perdón más tarde en su cuenta de Twitter, aunque sus disculpas tampoco fueron muy bien acogidas por el electorado hispano.

Antes de que Kaine fuese elegido, sonaron otros nombres relacionados con los latinos en EEUU. Uno de ellos fue Julián Castro que había conseguido grandes logros en vivienda pública, pero fue descartado por no hablar suficientemente bien español y esto le podría hacer parecer menos latino.

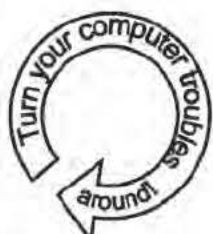
La elección de Tim Kaine ha traído consigo alabanzas a su dominio del dominio del español. ¿Significa esto que es mejor el español, aunque no sea perfecto, que habla un no nativo que el español no perfecto de un hablante de herencia? El debate está servido.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



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## ONGOING EVENTS

### 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

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.

### 1ST AND 3RD WEDNESDAY

Arts Block (4th floor), Greenfield: *Creacion Latin Big Band & Late Night Open Mic JAM*. 20 piece ensemble play son, salsa, chacha and much more. 8 p.m. Open Mic starts at 9 p.m. Free.

### 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.

2nd St. and Ave A, Turners Falls: *Farmers Market*. 2-6 p.m.

### 1ST AND 3RD THURSDAY

Hubie's Tavern: *Open Mic*. 6 p.m.

### 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 THIRD FRIDAY

Element Brewing Company, Millers Falls: *Brule's Irish Band*. Food carts supplement the local beer. 6 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.

### EVERY SATURDAY

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope*. Science fun for kids. 10:30-11:30 a.m.

### EXHIBITS:

Artspace, Greenfield: *Retrospective: Local New England Views*. Paintings by Charles Unaitis. Artist reception Friday 9/9, 5-7 p.m. Exhibit 8/22 through 9/16.

Forbes Library, Northampton: Local artist Nina Rossi joins two others for "Progressions" exhibit. Through August 31.

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Great Hall Art Display: *Local Color*. Jenny Tibbets presents paintings of local rural and urban landscapes. Through August 30

Memorial Hall, Deerfield: *Relics and Curiosities in Memorial Hall*. Interesting objects such as wreaths made of human hair and weapons made from shark's teeth. Through October 30. \$

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Clouds*. The "sky of mind" of three artists, Marjorie Morgan, Nina Rossi and Barbara Milot fill the Nook with sculpture, pen and inks, and small canvases. Through August 27.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Joining Heaven and Earth*, drawings by Peter London. Artist reception Saturday, August 6, from 4 to 6 p.m. Also Janice Sorensen's mixed media paintings *Palimpsests*. Through August 30.

Sawmill River Arts Gallery at The Montague Mill, Montague: *Summer Celebration*. Featured artists: Louise Minks, Roy Mansur, Christine Mero, Christine Pellerin, Patricia Czepiel Hayes. Exhibit runs through August 29.

Shelburne Arts Co-operative, Shelburne Falls: *On Pens and*

*Needles*. Calligraphy and Fiber Art by Sandy Tobin. Artist's reception, Sunday, August 7 from 2 to 4 p.m. Through August 29.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: *Take Me to Your Leader: New paintings by Charlie Shaw*. Through August 31.

### EVENTS:

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 18

Energy Park, Greenfield: 2016 Coop Concerts present: *Sue Krantz & Ben Tousley; Strawberry Afternoon; Small Change*. 6 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Half-Shaved Jazz*. 7:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Surly Temple*. Jim Henry, Guy DeVito & Doug Plavin. 8 p.m.

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 19

Montague Book Mill, Montague: *Hannah Langly*, funk and folk; *The Sleepwells*, R&R from CT; and *Fissure Cat*, blues to reggae. 8 p.m. \$

Mocha Mayas, Shelburne Falls: *The Headband*. Roots, reggae, soul driven funk. 8 p.m.

Brick House, Turners Falls: *Andrea Schiavelli and the Eyes of Love*, *David Kenneth Nance*, *Grape Room*, *Bastian Void*, and *Ryan Kayhart*. Popular song performance with some challenging aspects plus one electronic noise act. All ages / substance free space. 8 p.m. \$

Shutesbury Athletic Club, Shutesbury: *Mark Nomad Band*. 8:30 p.m.

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 20

Montague Green, Montague: Montague Old Home Days. Somethings for everyone. All day.

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope*. This week it's snakes! For children 3-6, siblings and friends welcome. 10:30-11:30.

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *The History of the Construction of Cabot Station* with historian Ed Gregory. 1 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: Greenfield Gardens Youth Leaders Talent Show. 2 p.m. \$

Mocha Mayas, Shelburne Falls: *Shawn Byrne*. Country pop. 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Shadow Twisters*, Classic '60s & '70s Rock. 8:30 p.m.

Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *Trailer Park*. 9 p.m. \$

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Trees on the Trail*. A walk to identify characteristics of our native trees that help keep our watershed healthy. Children with adults welcome. 10:30-11:30 a.m.

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

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24

Arts Block, Greenfield: *PechaKucha*. Present 20 images for 20 seconds each; any media. To sign up, contact paul@humanerrorpublishing. 7 p.m. \$

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Open Old-Time Music Session*. 8 p.m.

Jaume I, Greenfield: *Grape Room, Banny Grove, Joey Pizza Slice*. 8 p.m., \$

#### THURSDAY, AUGUST 25

Energy Park, Greenfield: 2016 Coop Concerts present *Roland LaPierre, Jim Eagan, and Russ Thomas*. 6 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Josh Hill & Friends*. Original rock w/Jen Spingla. 8 p.m.

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 26

Greenfield: *RPM Fest 2016*. Three-day outdoor rock, punk, and metal festival featuring 37 bands, free camping and more. See RPM Fest facebook for details. \$

Mocha Mayas, Shelburne Falls: *Legs Mature and the Floozies*. Indie. 8 p.m.

Pioneer Taven, Millers Falls: *End of the Summer Dance Party*. DJ dance mix. 8 p.m.

Shutesbury Athletic Club, Shutesbury: *Empty Bottle Ramblers*. Old-style Cajun music from SW Louisiana. 8:30 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Blue Groove Organ Quartet*. 9:30 p.m.

#### SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope*. This week it's skunks! For children 3-6, siblings and friends welcome. 10:30-11:30.

Red Fire Farm, Montague: *16th Annual Tomato Festival*. Tomato tastings, hay rides, cooking demonstrations, live music, crafters and a smorgasbord of local fare. Noon - 6 p.m. \$

Greenfield: *RPM Fest*. See RPM Fest facebook for details. \$

Mocha Mayas, Shelburne Falls: *Lisa Marie Ellingsen*, Americana blues, and guest *Carolyn Walker*, singer/songwriter. 8 p.m.

Ashfield Lakehouse, Ashfield: *Zydeco Connection*. 8:30 p.m. \$

#### SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club, Turners Falls, *5 Town Festival*. Fun for the whole family. Music by *Trailer Park, Ruby's Complaint, Cooper Jones Band, The Staff*, and more - magicians, street performers, food, and free parking. Event to benefit the Montague Reporter. Noon-8 p.m. \$.

Greenfield: *RPM Fest*. See RPM Fest facebook for details. \$

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

#### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31

Whately Chapel, West Whately: *The Revelers*. Louisiana Cajun, Zydeco, Swamp Pop, and Americana. 7:30 p.m. \$

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

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

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**GARDENERS** from page B1

systems, he argues, average 13% higher water content: organically treated soil is more porous and thus holds more water, and humus glues soil particles together creating greater resistance to erosion by wind or water.

Keeping a compost pile and spreading it on or into your garden makes dirt into soil. Using natural fertilizer like manure, and mulching your crops, are two other simple ways to replace lost carbon and hold in CO2.

Thus, the same things which help you grow and eat healthier foods, are better for the planet! A simple but powerful thing!

Given the weather of the last month or so, it's hard to deny that we have severely impacted our environment and are indeed experiencing significant global warming. But we can have an impact, however small, on these changes and become healthier at the same time simply by driving less, walking or biking more, and growing and eating food in a way which feeds the soil and us organically.

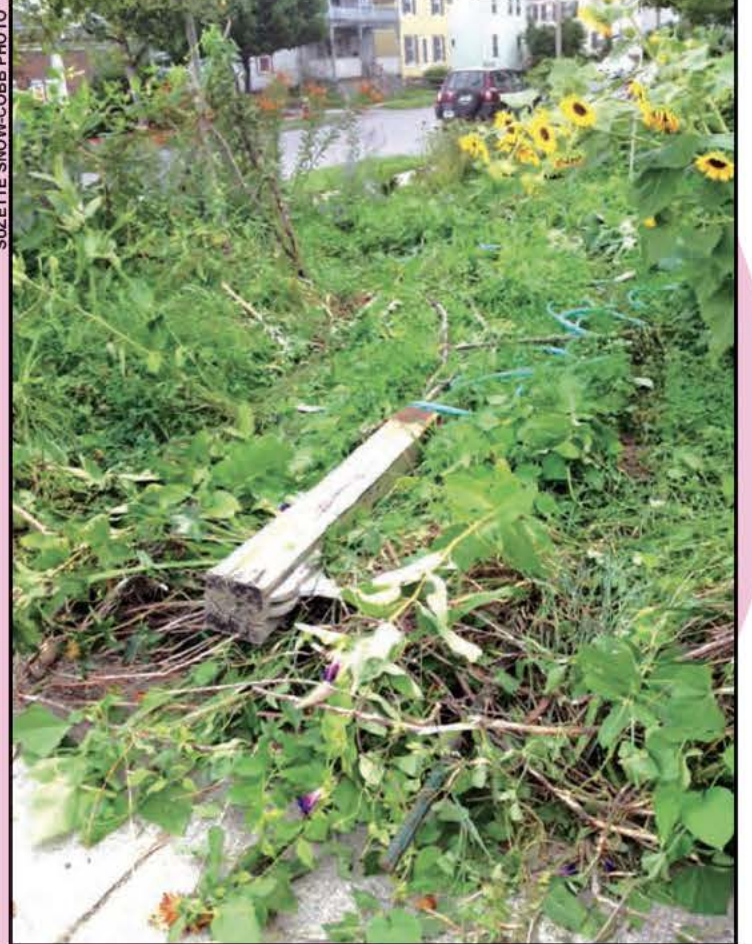
Happy, healthy gardening!



TIM DECHRISTOPHER PHOTO

*ABOVE: Pam Allen of Turners Falls (center) has initiated three Rotation Book groups involving over a dozen local artists, writers, and book lovers in recent years. Pam gave a presentation on the Rotation Book groups at the Greenfield Public Library last Monday evening. Fellow participants Marion Grisvold, Vicki Citron, Anne Harding, Susan Farber, Gail Connor and Edite Cunba came to share their books and talk about their experiences in the group as well.*

# FACES & PLACES



*RIGHT: On Wednesday morning it was discovered that during the night, some dingus had driven a motor vehicle through the Third Street community garden in Turners Falls. They took out the water spigot and wrecked a bunch of food and beautiful flowers people have been working super hard on. We hope nobody was hurt.*



MARY AZARIAN WOODBLOCK PRINT

**A SPECIAL BONUS GARDENER'S COMPANION**

## Oceanside Dreams

two occupants practically do-si-do in order to move around the kitchenette or the bathroom. That matters little, as each day began and ended walking by the ever changing tides and skies.

One morning early we arrived on the sand just in time to see a gentleman putting the finishing touches on an enormous map of the United States, to scale and complete with each state's capital. Below the drawing he wrote "Celebrate America" and the date.

Ken spoke with him and learned that this artist has drawn this map at least ten thousand times, and during the school year travels to teach elementary children this geography.

This creation soon became memorialized on cell phones. Small children stopped by to stand on their own state with pride, a pleasant antidote to the morning paper's news of terror abroad and at home.

We ate fresh seafood often and local corn and blueberries, walked and walked and read. There was no wifi in the apartment, so we went without. We ventured out on Route One only once. Now and again we put on a sweater.

It was simple, restful and re-

freshly cooler.

Returning home we found string beans galore and the start of the best tomato season in years.

Our first crop is the cherries: Sun-gold, for its tangy-sweet taste and prolific production. Next to ripen is Jet Star, of which we shall have many, large and juicy tomatoes, perfect for slicing in sandwiches or for salad. Next to come on is the compact Early Girl, medium sized and mild compared to Jet Star's bold flavor.

Still to come are the huge Celebrity and Rose tomatoes which will round out the season. We've had to water quite often, but the tomatoes seem to love the heat and humidity.

Because we have harvested by scissors, leaving the roots and

bottom leaves, we are still enjoying Swiss chard, which has flourished despite the heat.

Back in the weather steamer again, we limit our garden work to early morning and late afternoon. Luckily, things ripen on their own, including a couple of cucumbers and emerging baby pumpkins. After one night's thunderstorm, we see a beautiful moon, three-quarters full.

It's mid-August and the season is already shifting. It's dark now by eight or so, and the morning sun is no longer up at five, with the cat.

Heat and all, we will revel in this end of summer, with all the harvest it can bring.

Happy garden harvest to all!



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