



LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 14 – NO. 44

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

## Beating, Rolling, Pulping and Pressing: The Inner Workings of a Paper Mill



HARDING PHOTO

Finish treatment is added to the paper at the newly renamed Turners Falls Paper mill.

By ANNE HARDING

**TURNERS FALLS** – A large and curious crowd gathered around the front door of the Paperlogics factory for a scheduled tour last Saturday morning. One of the first things we were told was that the paper manufacturer would have a new name on Monday: Turners Falls Paper – not to be confused with the Turners Falls Paper Company of the late 1890s.

Ken Schilling said he was taking us on the \$1 tour, but we definitely got the \$100 tour as we toured the catacombs of the old basement sections of the building, with the old penstocks equipment no longer in use. (What a great site for a Bruce Willis movie, I thought.)

As an added bonus, the mill was operating due to the upcoming canal drawdown, so we could actually see the paper coming off the line.

The beginnings of this building date back to 1895, when the Marshall Paper Company built a new mill on the power canal. Ken Schilling said the Marshall Company was experimenting with using tobacco as a pulp source, rather than cotton rags or wood pulp.

It turned out this innovation was not a great success. Only three years later, the Marshall Company was entering into receivership, and much of the paper stock was being sold off like a fire sale.

Augustine W. Esleek, in partnership with Alfred T. Judd, purchased the mill at auction for \$50,000, and in 1901 the Esleek Paper Company started operations. Soon they added a five-story addition to the building. For many years the company specialized in onionskin typing paper.

Charlie Blanker, now a Paperlogics employee, noted

see PAPER MILL page A4

GILL-MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

## Board Opposes Charter Growth, Prepares to Discuss the “Indian”

By MIKE JACKSON

**GILL-MONTAGUE** – The Gill-Montague Regional School Committee’s first meeting of the new school year was a busy one, Tuesday night. The board reviewed the district’s priorities for facilities upgrades, en-

dorsed a statement opposing a November ballot question that would add more charter schools, and discussed a plan to lead the community through a reconsideration of the high school’s “Indian” mascot.

Facilities manager Jim Huber see GMRSD page A8



JACKSON PHOTO

The school committee met with facilities manager Jim Huber (center) Tuesday night.

MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

## Shea HVAC: Long Awaited, Though “Not Anticipated”

By JEFF SINGLETON

The HVAC replacement for the town-owned Shea Theater is finally getting off the ground, or perhaps one should say, onto the roof. At its Monday meeting, the Montague selectboard approved a contract for \$98,180 with B2Q Associates Inc. of Andover to do the work.

A year ago the town put out a lower bid funded by a state Green Communities Grant, but no one was

willing to respond for that amount. Montague town meeting then supplemented the state grant with a \$55,000 appropriation.

Town planner Walter Ramsey said the total cost will allow extra funds to be potentially used for needed duct work. The building’s roof, on which the HVAC sits, is also in need of repair.

The selectboard discussed and voted on the issue despite the fact

see MONTAGUE page A5

NEWS ANALYSIS

## Local Anti-Pipeline Activists Protest Non-Local Pipelines

By LISA McLOUGHLIN

**WENDELL** – After defeating our local Northeast Direct pipeline, area activists are turning their attention to other pipelines including Kinder Morgan’s proposed loop in Sandisfield, MA, Spectra’s West Roxbury Lateral – where several locals were arrested protesting earlier this spring – and to the Dakota Access pipeline proposed by Energy Transfer Partners.

Tree cutting at Sandisfield is on hold, pending water quality permits. But the destruction of sacred tradi-

tional cultural properties, and the disrespect shown to Native Americans by a security firm that used dogs and tear gas against Native Americans and ally protesters of the Dakota Access pipeline in North Dakota has pushed this farther-away pipeline into the forefront for many activists residing in the Pioneer Valley.

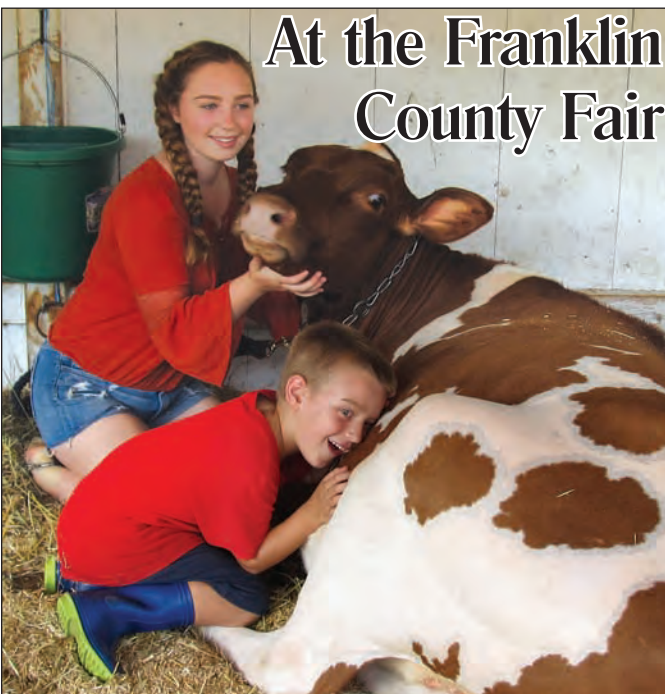
One rally and protest against Dakota Access was held on Labor Day at the First Churches lawn on Main Street in Northampton. In attendance were a few hundred people, including Cate Woolner from

see PIPELINES page A4



JONATHAN VON RANSON PHOTO

About forty people formed a circle at Fiske Pond in Wendell during last Saturday’s ceremony for the waters threatened by the Dakota Access pipeline.



## At the Franklin County Fair

Scenes from last weekend’s fair. Above: Ben Piela and Quinn Lucan snuggle with Shelby of Hastings farm in Gill. Top right: Blue-ribbon pumpkins grown by Sorel Hatch of Upingil Farm. Bottom right: The Turners Falls marching band in action.



MATT ROBINSON PHOTOS

## TFHS: The Week in Sports

By MATT ROBINSON

In the first full week of the fall season, the Turners Falls sports machine got into full swing, squeezing in 8 matches in 7 days. Vets played beside rookies as the teams tried to

regain their competitive footing.

In football, the Indians blanked 18th-ranked Lee, and got a little bit of revenge from last year’s 27-7 shellacking.

The volleyball team swept Easthampton, and then were swept them-

selves by Belchertown. The 2016 golf team is trimmed down to a foursome, and consequently forfeited 8 points in each of their first 3 matches.

The Franklin Tech Soccer Eagles benefitted from kicker Ryan Campbell, and after just three games, the field hockey team has half of the wins they had in the entire 2015 season, with veteran sticker Cassidhe Wozniak scoring goals in every game.

### Field Hockey

TFHS 3 – Pioneer Valley 3  
TFHS 1 – Franklin Tech 0

Last Friday, Turners overcame a 3-0 deficit to tie the Pioneer Panthers, 3-3.

Within the first few minutes of the game, the Panthers sliced in 3 goals. For most of the first half, the ball was on the Blue side of the field; Turners managed only 4 shots-on-goal while Pioneer shot 12.

But Powertown settled down, and the Blue D kept the ball out of the net for the rest of the half.

“I don’t know if we’re playing

see SPORTS page A6

DAVID HOITT PHOTO



Turners Falls’ Cassidhe Wozniak moves the ball up the field during Monday’s game, with Franklin Tech’s Erin O’Neil in hot pursuit.

# The Montague Reporter

"The Voice of the Villages"

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August, 2002

## The Eye in the Sky

"I found them standing inside the gated yard at the front door," Patti Scutari told us on Wednesday night. "I was just blown away that they would not have a warrant."

Patti is well known as the owner of Wendell's Deja Brew Pub and Country Store. She and her partner have both been prescribed marijuana by their doctors.

Patti, who was diagnosed with kidney cancer two years ago, has been dealing with side effects of surgery to remove a kidney and an ovary. She says using marijuana brings her enough comfort to allow sleep at night.

"We have a massive garden," she explained. "We grow our own food; everything's organic. So, we grow organic marijuana for ourselves."

That garden has an eight-foot wall around it, and she and Apollo thought they were on the level, growing ten plants for personal use inside a metal cage. But as anyone who's been outside this week knows, the helicopters are back.

"Within about five minutes of the helicopter circling," Patti said, "three unmarked cars pulled up.... Two guys had tags around their necks that said 'state trooper.'" Three wore no identification, she said. "They said, 'we're here to cut those illegal plants down.'"

Patti tried to argue – "I tried to appeal to them as human beings," she said, showing them her paperwork and explaining her condition.

"They said their reason was you could see the plants.... We have a little heart shape cut out of the gate, and they said 'anybody can peek through that thing.' I said that's a real stretch – somebody would have to be a peeping Tom!"

The men reached through the holes in the cage and ripped Patti and Apollo's plants out of the ground, bundled them up, threw them in a truck and drove off, leaving business cards and an assurance that the growers wouldn't be prosecuted.

Patti said the loss is especially frustrating because the plants were near harvest time. "We were just waiting for the full moon," she said. "They know everybody does... Wouldn't it have been the decent thing to call them up when they were littler, and say, 'you can't grow them outside'? We have to register; they have all of our contact info. But to wait until the minute they were ready?"

"We feel like we participated in a game," Patti lamented, "that we were the pawns in."

Patti and Apollo aren't the only ones in a similar situation this year. Medical marijuana patients in Massachusetts are in a strange legal limbo, often navigating laws they find unclear under contradicting regimes of enforcement.

Wendell officials have long objected to the disruptive, low-altitude aerial raids, and have tried with no avail to discover who – the DEA, state police, or National Guard – has command over the operation.

Most recently, in October 2014 – following an incident in which many said a helicopter hovered loudly over a memorial service for a New Salem firefighter – the town selectboard issued a public statement referring to the practice as a "seasonal outrage that not only violates the privacy rights of the residents of Wendell, but is also an egregious misallocation of substantial tax payer resources that could be much better spent."

Massachusetts voters decriminalized possession of an ounce or less of marijuana in a 2008 ballot vote, 63% to 34%. In 2012, they legalized medical marijuana, 63% to 37%. But the rollout has been shaky at best: four years later, only six dispensaries have made it through the vetting process; only one is west of the Quabbin.

On November 8, voters may decide to sweep those four years of bureaucracy off the table, by voting to legalize, regulate and tax the plant. A poll conducted this summer by the *Boston Globe* had the Question 4 losing 41-51, with 9% undecided, though one conducted last week by WBUR predicts a 50-45 split in its favor.

Like all too many political decisions, this one may come down to demographics and voter mobilization rates. But voters who supported medical legalization in 2012 might know someone like Patti Scutari, who are finding the new medical bureaucracy, with its winners and losers, is being built on the foundation of an old drug war.

"This is such a waste of taxpayer money," Patti, who now has ten stumps in her garden, told us. "It's the only time the state gets between a patient and a doctor...."

"Both of us are hoping that when people realize the insanity of this medical marijuana program that they'll vote for legalization, and stop all this stupidity and money grubbing."

We'll see if that happens. But the helicopter raids are expensive and archaic, and they need to end.

## Thanks, Patricia!

We hope our readers will check out our monthly Poetry Page, which can be found on page A7 of this week's edition. It features the work of local poet Patricia Pruitt.

Patricia has served since 2012 as the editor of our Poetry Page, and she has been a wonderful part of the *Montague Reporter* team. From

2013 to 2015 she also served as an assistant editor. She is now retiring from her post as Poetry Editor.

Area poets interested in submitting work for publication, or inviting us to events, can email [poetry@montaguereporter.org](mailto:poetry@montaguereporter.org) or send mail to: Poetry Editor, 177 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376.



## Letters to the Editors



## Nice Review!

I really like the TV review "My Thoughts on Fifty Years of Star Trek" by Melissa Wlostoski. It was interesting to read, and it's part of history.

Did you know Gene Roddenberry was a police officer, and served during World War II, before he was a TV writer? He wrote a lot of stories and TV shows before *Star Trek* and after.

I read a book about Roddenberry's life, and watched *Star Trek*. I also took film and editing classes at MCTV and GCTV before and while I was at my old high school. I learned a lot about it and enjoy it. I contribute photos to the MR, and also videography for MCTV and GCTV.

You have really cool TV reviews. Also, you write about all kinds of TV shows and movies.

Joe R. Parzych  
Greenfield and Gill

## Greening our Villages: The Montague Memorial Tree Fund

Dealing with the loss of a loved one is a painful process. One form of solace is in memorial services, events, gifts and plantings.

Many states and private organizations have developed memorial tree programs as a way to beautify living spaces and as a tangible way for grieving families to remember their loved ones.

The Montague memorial tree fund is supported by both of our local funeral homes, Kostanski and McCarthy services.

At the time of planning arrangements, a family can request that the provider make a donation to the town's memorial tree fund. These

flat rate per family donations go annually into the Tree Warden's budget and augment the monies available for tree planting.

Families wishing to request a particular site for the planting of a memorial tree may contact Janine Graves at the Department of Public Works.

At this time of loss there is a comfort to be had from requesting a donation to the tree fund and later in seeing an addition to the town's efforts of providing shade, healthy air and beauty in our neighborhoods.

Montague Tree  
Advisory Committee

## GUEST EDITORIAL

By DAVID DETMOLD

Like most of my neighbors, I woke up on the morning of August 30, at about 2:30 a.m., by blaring horns, flashing lights, and the activity of scores of firefighters, from more than a dozen fire departments, who were also recently roused from their beds and had descended on my block of Fourth Street to fight a raging structure fire.

The flames had broken out in the second floor apartment of a 27-year-old man named Eric Bell. Bell lived in a solid, three-story brick building, #87, and the fire there soon leapt the three-foot space to the adjoining wood frame structure, #89, causing extensive damage there as well.

One woman on the third floor of #87 had to crawl out a window to safety. By the time I got there half an hour later, she was seated, shaking in tears on a neighboring stoop, in panic for her life.

Ten people were left temporarily homeless that night; two firefighters were injured in the blaze. Bell was arrested and charged with impeding emergency responders by standing in the way of a fire truck heading to the scene and grabbing hoses as firefighters worked to put out the fire.

In the days that followed, I asked the Montague selectboard to invite police chief Chip Dodge to their next meeting to answer questions from

## Could The Fourth Street Fire Have Been Prevented?

neighbors and the press about how the police had handled calls about Bell's activities in the hours leading up to the fire. Dodge resisted my effort to arrange that hearing.

When I met him privately last week, Dodge asked me why I had wanted to discuss the matter in front of the selectboard anyway. "They are three part-time civilians who don't know anything about policing," Dodge said to me.

While that may be true, I replied, "They also happen to be your boss."

I believe a careful, public review of disasters like the Fourth Street fire is necessary for accountability, in order to learn from the event and be better prepared as a community to try to prevent a next disaster from occurring. That is why I hope Chief Dodge will reconsider his approach, and allow for a hearing before the selectboard on the police response in the hours leading up to the Fourth Street fire.

Over the years I have watched as numerous buildings on my block have been carefully renovated and improved by their owners, including the two severely damaged in the recent fire. Given how close together all the buildings in downtown Turners stand, I am thankful the destruction was not even more widespread that morning. Had the wind been stronger and blowing an-

other way that night, embers could have easily reached my house.

We may never know the actual cause of the fire, which remains under investigation. Bell, who has a long rap sheet including assault and trespassing, remains in custody on a probation violation, awaiting his next court hearing later this month. Some of my neighbors have moved back into their apartments; others will not return, including one woman who has lived on the first floor of #87 for the last 18 years.

This woman, who is recovering from back surgery and needs her sleep, had called the police twice that night to report that Bell was out in back of her apartment acting in a loud and threatening manner.

Patrons on the front porch of the Rendezvous were accosted and verbally threatened by Bell on Third Street that same evening. Later that night, another person called to report Bell was "howling" in the street, wearing a hockey mask in the manner of a horror movie character known as Jason.

A police officer was seen holding that mask, standing beside Bell in handcuffs, as he emptied his pockets in the front yard of his burning apartment building at 3:00 in the morning. But by then the damage had been done.

I got in touch with police chief  
see GUEST ED page A3

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# LOCAL BRIEFS

Compiled by DON CLEGG

Greenfield Savings Bank in Turners Falls will present a program by Dana Slaymaker, of Resource Mapping, this Saturday, September 17 from 10 to 11 a.m.

Slaymaker is a remote sensing specialist with a master's degree in renewable natural resources. He has spent the last few years working for the forest service and conservation organizations. His presentation will focus on the work Resource Mapping is doing to monitor ecosystems and wildlife. The topic covered will include moose and deer surveys in New England using thermal imagery, as well as a similar survey for wild asses in Mongolia.

An added attraction will be a combination of aerial surveys and helicopter attacks with paintball machine guns to control Australian Tree Ferns in Hawaii! How entertaining is that? Make sure you get a front row seat.

Light refreshments will be provided, courtesy of GSB.

Some of the liveliest Latin@ dance and music groups from the region will perform at a benefit for the New England Learning Center for Women in Transition (NELC-WIT) on Sunday, September 18, at the newly renovated Shea Theatre on Avenue A in Turners Falls. The performance is from 2 to 3.30 p.m., and is part of a celebration of Latin@ Heritage Month.

The event was organized by Iroko Nuevo, a 13-member ensemble that has been performing in the region for many years. Entitled

**“NocheNELCWIT: An Afro-Cuban Dance and Drum Experience,”** the afternoon of dance and music will benefit the 40-year-old domestic violence and sexual assault prevention agency.

On Monday morning, September 19, at 9:15 a.m., the public is invited to a celebration of **International Peace Day** at Leverett Elementary School. There will be music, poetry, art, and more.

The Bernardston Historical Society announces a program **“Discovering New England Stone Walls”** on Monday, September 19, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., featuring author Kevin Gardner of Hopkinton, NH.

Gardner will touch on the history, technique and stylistic development and aesthetics of stone walls. Author of *The Granite Kiss* (Countryman Press), Gardner will explain why New England came to acquire its thousands of miles of stone walls, the ways in which they and other dry stone structures were built, how their styles emerged and changed over time, and their significance to the famous New England landscape.

Other topics may include: differences in approach between historical and contemporary wall-builders, a discussion of restoration tips and techniques, and information about design, acquisition of materials, preservation, and analysis. Listeners are encouraged to bring up specific problems or projects on their own properties during the question-and-answer period. During the presentation Gardner will build a miniature wall on a table-

top, using tiny stones.

The program is sponsored by the Bernardston Historical Society, funded by the Historical Commission and held at the Senior Center, 20 Church Street. This program is open to the public.

The Friends of the New Salem Public Library invite **children to celebrate the Autumn Equinox** on Tuesday, September 20 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the New Salem Public Library as part of our ongoing “Library for all Seasons” program. Volunteers from the “Friends” will host special activities that include making enchanted forests or fairy houses out of natural materials.

Children are asked to please bring acorns, pine needles, moss, bark, small sticks and pine cones, which can be used as construction materials. Children under the age of five must be accompanied by an adult. Students coming from Swift River School will be able to take a bus directly to the library.

Ever see the Turners Falls Canal without water flowing through it? Well, here is your chance. Join Janel Nockleby, Kim Noyes and local historian Ed Gregory, in a **“Canal Drawdown and Powertown History Stroll”** to discover the rich industrial history along the Canalside Rail Trail on Thursday, September 22 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Wear walking shoes and meet at the entrance of the Discovery Center for the 2-mile walk. Register at (800) 859-2960. For more info, call (413) 863-3221.

Next weekend brings two popular annual events to our region: the yearly **Source to Sea Cleanup**, and **Garlic and Arts**.

This is the twentieth year of Source to Sea, which removes debris from the Connecticut River and its tributaries and is organized by the Connecticut River Watershed Council in Greenfield.

The Gill and Montague portion of the cleanup meets on Saturday, September 24 at 9 a.m. at the Great Falls Discovery Center. Register by calling: (413) 659- 3714 or emailing [beth.pelton@gdfsuezna.com](mailto:beth.pelton@gdfsuezna.com). Last year, volunteers removed over 50 tons of trash from the river.

Swap out your rubber boots afterwards and follow the signs heading east on Route 2 to the **North Quabbin Garlic and Arts Festival** in Orange. This celebration of the artistic, agricultural and cultural bounty of the region seeks to “unite North Quabbin people whose livelihoods are connected to the land and the arts, and to invite both local residents and those who do not live in the region to experience the richness of an area that is often overlooked.”

New this year, according to organizers of this 18th year of the festival, is a **“Portal to the Future.”** This is an area where ongoing demonstrations and presentations will cover such topics as sustainable farming, gardening, and food, including talks on pollinators, compost, dehydrating your garden bounty, and more.

You may find out about renewable energy topics, including low-cost loans to add solar panels to your roof, an electric drive for your bike, and quick solar lighting for your backyard. Electric vehicles from Mass Drive Clean will be parked near the Portal area – and you can test drive one at the shuttle stop on Holtshire Road. Tiny houses, natural cold remedies, mushroom tea, tribal cultural preservation, and much more will round out the program.

This all is in addition to the local food offering, arts and crafts, music, dance, Word Stage, and other events. The festival takes place on Saturday, September 24 and Sunday, September 25, at Forster’s Farm, 60 Chestnut Hill Road, Orange. Visit [garlicandarts.org](http://garlicandarts.org) to find out more.

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**GUEST ED** from previous page

Dodge last week to find out what more we could have done in the hours before the fire broke out in Bell's apartment.

I waited for ten minutes in the handsome lobby of the new Montague police station – next to the drop box for unused drugs, with a bold “out of order” sign taped across the top. Dodge, who had been on vacation the week of August 29, brought me into his office to go over the police file on Bell and the record of calls that night.

Bell has become well known to the Montague police since he moved to town last summer. They have arrested him half a dozen times, and on more than one occasion he has threatened them, telling them “he would like to kill police officers,” according to Dodge.

This does not surprise me. We've been living with this man in our neighborhood, and he has threatened neighbors of mine – and their pets – with bodily harm. The woman who lived in the apartment below him identified Bell by name when she called the police twice that night to report on his threatening behavior. As we stood across the street hours later watching the ruin of her home, she told me the police officer who responded to her first call, shortly after 11 p.m., had parked across the street in the municipal lot for a time, and then left without encountering Bell.

When I asked Dodge about this,

he said police officers are limited by law in how they can handle calls like these. If they do not directly observe someone disturbing the peace, they can't arrest them on that charge.

Dodge went over the remainder of the police log from that evening with me. It was a busy evening, and the two officers on duty had their hands full with a number of difficult calls. “Why do you think I keep asking for more money from town meeting to hire more officers?” Dodge asked me.

The log shows that less than an hour after her first call, the first floor tenant had called police again to say Bell was still out back of her apartment, still keeping her awake, carrying on in a loud voice and a threatening manner. This time, the police log states an officer responded, encountered Bell, and found him to be calm. The officer also reported asking an unidentified neighbor if all had been quiet in the neighborhood that evening, and receiving a positive reply. Though later that night, yet a third person said he had heard Bell through his upstairs window on Third Street. He, too, said Bell had been “howling in the street”.

When I asked Dodge if such behavior would be more aggressively policed in a quieter residential part of town, like the Hill, or Montague Center, he replied heatedly that his department treats all parts of town equally.

I asked how things will be dif-

ferent if Bell is released back to our community some day soon – an event I consider likely. Dodge demanded if I was asking his department to “profile” someone. I pointed out that Bell has an extensive rap sheet that includes threatening to kill police officers. This would hardly be a case of “profiling” someone.

Dodge said Bell had a right to free speech, including his specific threats to kill police officers. He asked me if I wanted the Montague police department to get involved in a civil rights case of violating someone's First Amendment rights. I do not believe anyone has a First Amendment right to threaten to harm the public or to kill police officers. I think those are actionable “fighting words,” and can be policed as such. And I certainly think the police should be extra vigilant when responding to neighborhood calls about this individual after he has gone on record making such threats.

Dodge then accused me of being on “a witch hunt” against his department. He said I was “slandering” the police, although I had made no statements about his department or the actions of his officers and had, to that point, merely asked a few questions. I said I had hoped to ask him those same questions in front of the selectboard, so the widespread speculation about the events of August 29 and 30 among the press and public could be satisfied. He then accused me of seeking publicity for myself.

“Former Reporter Accuses Police of Failing to Stop Fire,” Dodge said, reading an imaginary headline.

Dodge said his officers had handled the calls that night in an entirely professional and competent manner. “We did everything we could.”

Yet when I asked him if he had even spoken to the responding officer about my neighbors' calls for help that evening, he said that he had not.

I've always liked Chief Dodge, and have defended him in private conversations when I've heard him criticized. We both calmed down, and parted that day on friendly enough terms.

I was late for work, but as I drove away from the police station, I thought about our conversation. I'm used to the “good cop/bad cop” routine from police procedurals on TV. But on those shows, those roles are usually played by two different actors – not the same guy.

I don't want my neighborhood to experience more devastating structure fires. I want us to learn what lessons we can from the fire that occurred two weeks ago. Ask yourself – what would you do if you were woken from sleep to hear someone “howling in the street” wearing a “Jason mask” at midnight and you knew this person had made threats against people in your neighborhood and the officers who were sworn to protect and serve them?

What would you do?



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## PIPELINES from page A1

the Sugar Shack Alliance, Rich Holschuh, a member of the Vermont Commission on Native American Affairs, and Larry Buell from Earthlands.

"The South Dakota Access pipeline threatens sacred sites including burial and ceremonial grounds, as well as water aquifers for the Standing Rock Community and the waters of the people downstream," the activist group No Fracked Gas in Mass said in a written statement. "Our goal is to spread awareness about what is happening, as many mainstream news sources have not covered the action."

Since this press release, the sacred sites were pre-emptively bulldozed over the holiday weekend, in an apparent violation of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) section 110(k).

"This demolition is devastating," Standing Rock Sioux tribal chairman David Archambault said on September 3. "These grounds are the resting places of our ancestors. The ancient cairns and stone prayer rings there cannot be replaced. In one day, our sacred land has been turned into hollow ground."

As a result, on Friday, September 9, the Department of Justice, the Department of the Army and the Department of the Interior issued a joint statement calling for construction of the Dakota Access pipeline to halt, and further, called for a review of the process whereby federal tribes provide input into federal projects, a right they have under section 106 of the NHPA.

Activists celebrate this news, but the pipeline's construction has not yet been canceled, and local protests and prayer vigils continue

along with more pragmatic support.

On Saturday, September 10, about 35 people met at Fiske Pond in Wendell to peacefully sing, pray, and "as native inhabitants of our planet, stand in solidarity with the Native inhabitants of this continent," according to organizer Deb Tyler Flying Horse.

Deb is a member of the Wendell area affinity group which also opposes the Sandisfield pipeline, as well as an acupuncturist and healer who identifies as a Native American ally and has trained with a Lakota grandmother from Standing Rock, and other Native healers one of whom gave her the name Flying Horse.

Besides the vigil of healing and prayer she organized Saturday, Deb is traveling to Standing Rock to provide her healing services as well as herbal medicines donated from Blue Dragon Apothecary in

Greenfield and Acadia Herbals in Northampton.

She is not planning this trip lightly, and is directly in contact with friends on the ground at the protest camp, where, according to reports, there are over 2,000 Native Americans from over 100 tribes. You can contact Deb Tyler at: [circlemedicine@gmail.com](mailto:circlemedicine@gmail.com)

For direct information about the Sioux and their fight against the pipeline, or to donate directly to their efforts, visit the tribe's website at [standingrock.org](http://standingrock.org). A good resource to use as a starting point for other ways to help the protestors at Standing Rock is [thefreethought-project.com/10-protest-dakota-access-pipeline/](http://thefreethought-project.com/10-protest-dakota-access-pipeline/).

For more information about this and other local environmental events, see [nofrackedgas-inmass.org](http://nofrackedgas-inmass.org).

## PAPER MILL from page A1

that his family owned the Esleeck mill from 1980 until it was purchased by the Southworth Company in 2006. In 2012, Southworth closed its West Springfield facility, but kept the Turners Falls mill in production.

Our tour took us into research labs, wet labs, quality control labs, and introduced us to all manner of high-tech equipment that helps the company in its quest to stay competitive. Many mills have closed over the years, and Paperlogic/Turners Falls Paper strives to change with

the times. The company has produced its famed onionskin paper, watermarked paper for legal and other firms. For decades, you wouldn't think of producing a resume unless it was printed on Southworth cotton rag resume paper.

The company has produced engineering paper, technical paper, aerospace paper – and most recently, entered the décor paper market. Who knew that laminate flooring and counters all start with paper?

The mill is also experimenting with nanocellulose technology, with an eye toward producing non-petroleum based, plastic-like fabric in the future.

Schilling believes the company's ability to be nimble and constantly evolve is the only way it can stay competitive in today's market. They now take on smaller orders than in the past, but try to keep their minimum order to a 3,000-pound run. They prefer to do 10,000- to 20,000-pound orders to be more cost effective.

In some ways, Schilling says, the process of making paper hasn't changed in 100 years. You start with the raw fiber (cotton linter, cotton rag, soft wood or hardwood), blend it with water until suspended, condition it, distribute the slush evenly to form the rolls, remove the water, and treat the surface.

There have been some changes. They no longer process their own raw materials: rather, they purchase bales of pulp sheets from specialty manufacturers, and recycle some of their own materials from the "broke room," where transitional rolls of paper are stored along with papers that didn't quite meet the customer specification.

The "lot room" holds boxes of paper samples, documenting about eight years of paper runs – beginning, middle and end samples from each run are stored and documented, in case a customer wants to request a special order.

We watched water flowing through sand filters to clean out river sediment, and Schilling pointed out the pioneering joint industrial wastewater treatment plant that was built in the late 1960s when the EPA enacted the Clean Water Act.

Esleeck and Keith Paper worked together to build this facility when the regulations went into effect. The Keith Mill is no longer active, but this mill continues to use approximately one million gallons of water per day in the manufacturing process.

When there is enough water flowing in the canal, they can also generate approximately 40% of their own electricity with a small hydro turbine. Instead of the old coal-fired steam boilers of the past, there are three gas-fired boilers. Surplus steam can also be used to produce electric-



This high-heat drying system is one of the final steps in the process at the facility.

ity through a small generator, which is currently under repair.

Water enters the mill and runs through a series of sand filters to be cleaned of dirt and debris before being used for paper; the filters were completely refurbished in the recent past. During spring and other high water times, when the turbulence in the water carries lots of suspended solids, the mill could not make white paper.

There is also a fiber recovery system, which floats unused fibers to the top of a water flume and skims them off for reuse. Wherever possible, water is cleaned and reused.

We had a chance to see the old rag boilers used in the 1900s: huge, rusting spheres, with a knobby appearance due to the rivet welds. These were loaded up with rags, a caustic solution added, and then agitated under steam pressure. Once "cooked," the tanks were emptied to the platform below, then manually loaded into carts to be transported to the washers and beaters, where chemicals were removed and the rags mixture beaten into a slurry.

Nowadays, the pulp bales are added to the pulper, which acts as a colossal blender. It mixes the pulp sheets with water (95%) and constantly agitates the mixture until the suspension is ready to be pumped to the refining tanks. The old washer/beater tanks continue to be used for cotton-based papers, while hardwood pulp mixtures go through Double D disc refiners.

Eventually the pulp suspension reaches the paper room where it's spun through a centrifugal cleaner, then spread evenly over the table roller. At this point, the mixture is about 99% water!

Then the drying process begins. The first phase drops water out via gravity, the second phase by vacuum drains, and the third phase by pressing the material between rollers and absorbent felt.

This gets it down to about 66% water.

The final phases involve heat drying, scanning for imperfections, and adding various conditioning treatments, depending on the end use of the paper.

Rolled samples are taken to the quality control lab to see if the paper meets the customer specifications – pH, weight, tensile strength, sizing, smoothness, porosity, fold quality, and many other qualities can be tested.

When quality control is passed, the paper might be re-rolled and cut into narrower rolls. Other parts of the mill can cut the paper into sheets, but most customers buy the paper in rolls. The shipping department wraps and palletizes the rolls for distribution.

It's not possible to describe the constant movement of the plant, but it was certainly a fascinating few hours, and the pride of the workers was evident throughout the tour.

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**MONTAGUE** from page A1

that it did not appear on Monday's agenda. The board considered it a topic "not anticipated" under the state open meeting law. Ramsey explained that he had only received the contract that day and, due to the projected timeline, there was a possibility that it would not be completed before cold weather arrives. Ramsey estimated that the work would take four days, potentially during the theater's busy fall schedule.

The town also needs to complete the project before it can apply for another Green Communities Grant, and it would like one to help fund a boiler upgrade at the Sheffield Elementary School.

Selectboard member Chris Boutwell abstained from the vote because the topic was not on the agenda.

**Lots and Parks**

Ramsey requested another change order for the Canal Street parking lot project totaling \$21,862.32. The increased expenditure, he said is the result of "unexpected ledge and unmarked water line" encountered during construction. The project also encountered two buried fuel tanks, a bit of a mystery since the site had previously been the target of a brownfields grant-funded hazardous materials clean-up.

Ramsey stressed that despite these unexpected obstacles, the work could be financed within the "contingency" set aside in the budget for the project. The project is being funded by a state Massworks grant.

Bruce Hunter of the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority asked the board to disburse \$7,250.10 to GZA GeoEnvironmental Inc. The sum is for planning work involving Noma's Park in Lake Pleasant.

Hunter said there will be a "summary concept meeting" on September 22 at the police station in Turners Falls, an informational meeting for the public in October, and another meeting with the Selectboard on the plan in November.

The board approved both requests.

**Competence Talk Suspected**

The board voted to acknowledge a complaint from reporter Tom Relihan of the *Recorder*. The complaint alleges that the board discussed the "professional competence" of "the individual" at a non-public executive session on June 27. Based on the date, "the individual" in question was police chief Chip Dodge.

The executive session was held under the open meeting law provision allowing a non-public session to discuss "the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than the professional competence of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual."

According to the attorney gen-

eral's open meeting law guide, "professional competence" refers to employee evaluations, the consideration of job applications, or "the qualifications of an individual." These must be discussed in open session.

Relihan's complaint requests that the board release the minutes of the executive session as remedy for the violation. The board sent the complaint along to town counsel.

**Gas Supply**

Ariel Elan, Montague's pipeline liaison, requested that the board authorize town accountant Carolyn Olsen to set up a gift account to accept donations to fund the town's intervention in new hearings by the state Department of Public Utilities.

The hearings concern the 2016 forecast and supply plan of the Berkshire Gas Company. Montague, along with several other towns in the region as well as state legislators, have been granted official "intervenor" status by the DPU, but must hire legal counsel and fund expert testimony.

The board approved the request.

Elan also noted Governor Baker's plan to have local gas distribution companies like Berkshire "oversubscribe" long term contracts for natural gas contracts, then sell the surplus to electric generation companies. This would presumably provide financial incentives to build new pipelines, which Montague has opposed. Elan said the new policy makes Montague's intervention "even more important."

**Other Business**

The board approved a one-day beer and wine license for the Element Brewing Company in Millers Falls. Dan Kramer of Element said the license was to host an event called "Pedal 2 Pints," where participants cycle to various breweries in the region. Kramer said that those participating will taste beer after they are done with the event.

Element requested that they be allowed to put up a tent and serve beverages in their parking lot from 10:30 a.m. to 11 p.m., so it appears that non-cyclists will be drinking before the event is completed.

The board then approved a total of 11 special one-day beer and wine licenses for the Shea Theater for events in September and October. Josh Goldman, who presented the request for the Shea Theater Arts Center (STAC), said his organization hoped to obtain a regular beer and wine license by next year, "so we can stop harassing you."

Robert Coy of MOTOGIRO USA requested use of the alley behind 151 Third Street, Nova Motorcycles, for parking on September 24 between 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Coy is organizing a vintage motorcycle race that will total 350 miles over two days. The race will also involve what Coy called an "ability test" using cones. He said that Third Street will be a "light lunch stop." The

board approved his request.

The board accepted the resignation of Carolyn Olsen from the town administrator search committee. The board approved a training grant for 911-approved classes, a one-year agreement with the ambulance service MedCare, and three memoranda of understanding with the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District, including one for the October 1 hazardous waste collection.

The board ended the meeting by approving the warrant for the upcoming special town meeting. Warrant article topics range from funding new union contracts, to appropriating \$350,000 to reduce 2017 sewer rates, to spending \$28,100 on computer software for the building inspector and health department.

The special town meeting will take place on September 29 at 6:30 p.m.



**NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD**

**Cable Splitting Heads To Mediation**

By **JOSH HEINEMANN**

Daylight is getting shorter quickly through September, and although the Wendell selectboard's September 7 meeting was over in less than an hour, the outside was in deep twilight when board members left the building.

They had no visitors. They began the meeting by continuing arrangements for mediation with members of the FY'16 broadband committee who were unhappy with the board's decision to create two committees for the project of furthering Wendell's entry into the information age with a fiber-optic connection to every household in town.

The mediator is required to maintain confidentiality about the content of mediation, but board members were uncertain about whether participants are also required to remain silent. The mediation will have six participants: four from the former broadband committee – Nan Riebschlaeger, Robert Heller, Doug Tanner, and Ben Schwartz – and from the selectboard, member Dan Keller and chair Christine Heard.

With two selectboard members, a quorum, the mediation will be subject to the open meeting law unless the selectboard meets in executive session. There are only seven legal reasons for executive session, and those are strictly defined.

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich will contact the mediator, Sharon Tracy of New Salem, to arrange details.

**Public Records**

Selectboard member Jeffrey Pooser will not get off scot-free. As part of the town effort to get Andy Hamilton to clean up his property, he will inform Hamilton that farm plates are not allowed on passenger vehicles.

Hamilton has accrued several months' worth of \$25-a-day fines for vehicles he claims are registered with his farm plate. The town's view is that the several vehicles that are parked on the property are beyond the two unregistered vehicles that a bylaw allows a Wendell homeowner to keep on his property.

Hamilton invoked the public records law to have the town give him 20 months of selectboard minutes, going back to January 2015. In January 2017, a new public records law will go into effect that will require town officials to comply with such requests within ten days, but under the current one, the selectboard only has to respond in ten days.

Aldrich said she tried to put the minutes online but was kicked out. Pooser said the minutes should be posted online anyway, and said he would help her regain access to the site, which would make it possible for Hamilton to view the records online if he is willing.

A person who requires paper copies can be made responsible for the cost of creating them – five cents a page, plus the cost of assistant town clerk Joy Gorzocoski's time spent making those copies. Board members asked Aldrich to send a certified letter to Hamilton with an estimate of the cost he will be responsible for paying.

**Special Town Meeting**

Board members set Thursday, October 20 as the date of a special town meeting to accommodate the schedule of finance committee and conservation commission member Robin Heubel, who will have an important role at that meeting.

Town facilities engineer and IT manager Jim Slavas said the parts needed for upgrading the office computer systems and security will cost \$7,350. He did not include a labor

cost. Aldrich said there is \$10,000 in the building maintenance account that might be used to pay the cost, or an article may be included in the special town meeting warrant. Pooser said he would speak with Slavas about a labor estimate.

Keller said there is some concern that the 2015 annual town meeting vote that authorized borrowing to establish a fiber-optic network in town may not apply now, because in 2015, the spirit of the vote was with WiredWest. Wendell is now pursuing a different path.

Aldrich will speak with town counsel to get some clarification. Pooser said that once the town gets solid numbers on the project's cost, a second vote may be more relevant. Those numbers would still not be available by the October 20 special town meeting, and Keller thought that a more well-attended meeting, like the annual town meeting, would be a better forum.

**Other Business**

Energy committee chair Nan Riebschlaeger expressed interest in the town-owned property at 97 Wendell Depot Road, because it has some flat land suitable for a community solar project. She will come to the next selectboard meeting to discuss the possibility.

Building inspector Phil Delorey thinks the planning board made a mistake when it authorized subdivision of the house that belonged to Don Ellis on a non-conforming lot. Planning board members feel they did nothing wrong, and want permission to speak with town counsel to clarify the matter.

Organizers asked for use of the town hall Saturday, December 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the annual holiday fair. The fair benefits Swift River School, and so the board was willing to waive the regular fee.

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## NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

## Town To Study IP Cleanup, Abandons Usher Well

By KATIE NOLAN

The former International Paper Mill on Papermill Road is the subject of two redevelopment studies. Engineering consultant Tighe & Bond will conduct a focused feasibility study and an Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) for the approximately 40-acre property.

According to the Tighe & Bond scope of work, the \$15,000 feasibility study will include permit evaluation, concept development, an estimate of costs, and a technical memorandum. Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) director of planning and development Peggy Sloan and economic development program manager Jessica Atwood told the board that the study will consider two options for the property: preservation of Buildings 2 and 8 – the historic 1902 brick building at the front of the property, and the pump house – or complete demolition of all structures.

According to Atwood, the \$4,000 ABCA study is a necessary part of the application for a brownfields grant from the EPA. The estimated cost for cleaning up hazardous materials at the property is \$250,000. The town could apply for up to \$200,000 under the brownfields grant.

As part of its application, the town would need to identify a preferred use for the property, and have a schedule for any demolition. Sloan said the application should identify the potential for job creation and private investment with the property's redevelopment.

### Usher Mill Well

The selectboard voted to file with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection to abandon the Public Water System ID number for the unused supply well at the former Usher Mill on Arch Street. They also voted to decommission and cap the well once its number is abandoned.

Jeanie Schermesser and Jeff Dubay of the Usher Mill reuse committee asked the board not to abandon the well. "We need to think very carefully before we abandon a water source. All questions need to be answered," Schermesser said.

Selectboard chair Jacob Smith noted that MassDEP had recommended abandoning the well, because the construction of Riverside Park at the former mill could potentially cause violations of the protective zone around the well. He also said that the town board of health had voted last week to recommend decommissioning and capping it.

Schermesser noted that she had spent the last two weeks researching the well, and working to learn from MassDEP of its potential legal uses.

However, she said that MassDEP's Catherine Skiba refused to answer the questions, saying, according to Schermesser: "You are not the well owner; you are not the well operator." Schermesser asked the board to submit her questions to MassDEP before making its decision about the well's future.

"Please do not abandon the well at least until it is tested. If the water is good, then there are ways we can use that well," Schermesser said. She told the board the water could be used for the Riverside Park's planned community garden, water feature, or farmers market.

"The well issue has been going on for more than three years," Smith responded. "If it's so important, you should have dealt with it sooner."

Water operator Peter Sanders said, "The current ID number is no good, and you have to have an ID number for a public well. Consumption, in any way, needs a PWS ID number. Testing that well would be throwing money out the window."

Smith agreed, saying, "The current PWS ID number is useless, and the well will never qualify for a new PWS ID. We should abandon the ID now."

After the vote for abandonment and decommissioning, selectboard member Scott Bastarache said, "We have every intention of looking for a viable source of water, a fully functioning well."

"There may be two places on the property that can meet standards," Sanders added.

"We're all after the same goal," Schermesser said. "We want a viable water source. I am on record against capping the well."

### Elementary School Track

The board discussed concerns about the proposed two-lane stone-dust walking and jogging track at Erving Elementary School.

The recreation commission had voted to fund the track with up to \$14,000 from its revolving fund. EES principal James Trill said he had visited all abutters. Their concerns included increased use of the school grounds in non-school hours, traffic, and lack of bathroom facilities.

Concerns were also raised about the need for approval of the project by the planning board. However, administrative coordinator Bryan Smith said that Franklin County building inspector James Hawkins determined that the track was simply an extension of the property's current use as a school.

Selectboard chair Smith said, "We are changing the use, we are bringing people into an area that is in [the abutters'] back yards."

Sanders, one of the abutters, said, "The track will bring more people

### SPORTS from page A1

this way because it's Friday, or because we're overconfident, but forget about the first half," coach Megan Gilbert began, as she spoke to her troops at halftime. I won't reveal what she said after that introduction, but she took a stick and demonstrated some jabs and pokes while her players raised their hands and asked questions.

In the second half, the Tribe clawed their way back into the game as they aggressively went after the ball and set up shots. They reversed the stats, putting constant pressure on the Panther goalie and keeping the ball in the visitors' end; Blue forced 13 shots-on-goal while holding Pioneer to just 3.

Snejana Lashtur, Samantha Kolodziej and Cassidhe Wozniak scored Powertown's three goals, while Hattie Harvey and Nicole Thibeault gave assists. Goaltender Maddie Currier made 12 saves. In their road opener on Monday, Powertown kept their unbeaten streak alive by outlasting the Tech Eagles, 1-0. Cassidhe Wozniak continued her scoring ways – five goals in three games – by shooting in the lone point of the game.

It came in the second half, after Turners moved the ball past the midfield line and deep into Tech territory. Turners' offense formed a ring around the goal while the Eagle defense stood in the way. But even though Turners had control of the ball inside the Tech circle, the defense kept denying the Blue attack. Finally, when the Eagles were unable to clear the ball, Julie Sprinkle took the ball off a carom and cross-passed it to Wozniak who shot it in.

Currier made 12 saves, and allowed no goals.

### Football: TFHS 20 – Lee 0

Last Friday the Turners Falls Football Indians shut-out the Lee Orange Wildcats in Powertown's home opener. Lee came into the game as the defending Western Massachusetts Champions, but it was Blue who took control of the game and scored on their very first possession.

Ricky Craver returned the opening kickoff to the Indians' 26. From there, Quinn Doyle carried the ball four straight times, pounding the ball to the 43. On the next play, Tionne Brown connected

there. On weekends, the playground is loaded." He asked for "some consideration for neighbors."

Trill answered, "The school is there as a member of the community. That's why I spent the time going to the neighbors. I assure you that we will listen, and respond accordingly."

Trill said he would have the grass mowed lower in the proposed track location, and invite abutters and other interested citizens to view its footprint. The selectboard and recreation committee members agreed to come to the school to view the

DAVID HOITT PHOTO



Turners' Quinn Doyle (left) sprints past the Lee defense, with blocking assistance from John Driscoll (right).

with wide receiver Owen Ortiz for a huge gain, giving Blue a first-and-goal from the Cats' 4.

But Lee weren't about to let Turners just walk into the end zone. They desperately held the Indians for three straight plays as Powertown inched ahead. Turners gained a total of 3 yards on 3 plays, setting up a fourth-and-goal from the 1.

Turners is a pretty good team themselves, and they dug in and got the extra yard, taking a 6-0 lead at 7:06 of the first quarter.

The teams had one more series each in the first quarter, with Lee giving up the ball on downs and Blue punting it away. They traded fumbles in the second quarter, but when Orange was forced to punt on their next possession, Turners flubbed the return and Orange took over on the Blue 32. Powertown's D tightened up, keeping the Wildcats in check. Players headed into the locker room with the score still at 6-0.

In the third quarter, the teams traded punts, but on third and 10 on their own 17, Lee turned over the ball on a fumble recovered by Kyle Bergman. Blue didn't waste much time. On the fourth play from scrimmage, Brown found Nick Croteau in the end zone, and at 2:15 of the third quarter, Blue led 12-0.

Turners scored once more, in the fourth. On first and 10, Doyle crashed ahead all the way from the Blue 32 to the Orange 35. On the very next play, Craver hooked around the outside and sprinted 35 yards into the end zone.

Doyle put the icing on the cake

by converting the 2-point PAT to put the Tribe up 20-0.

Doyle led Powertown in scoring, and was the workhorse ball carrier. He carried the ball 18 times for 119 yards, scoring a touchdown and a 2-pointer. Craver gained 35 yards on 2 carries and also put up 6 points.

John Driscoll (3) and Brown (2) also ran the ball for the Indians. Brown was 3-for-5 in the air for 68 yards, a touchdown and no picks. Croteau caught 2 passes for 12 yards and a touchdown, and Ortiz had one reception for 56 yards.

### Soccer

Bobby C. told me that his nephew, Ryan Campbell of Turners, scored the lone goal in Franklin Tech's loss to Mahar (9/6).

In the Ware game, played on September 12, Ryan had another goal and an assist.

### Volleyball

TFHS 3 – Easthampton 0  
Belchertown 3 – TFHS 0

The Turners Falls Lady Indians swept the Easthampton Maroon Eagles (25-11, 25-17, 25-22) in their home opener on Wednesday, September 7. In the win, Abby Loynd had 5 aces and a kill.

Sienna Dillenseider had 4 aces, 2 kills and 2 assists. Emma Miner also had 4 aces, a kill and 4 assists, and Tess Hunter had a block, a kill and 3 aces.

On Monday, Turners dropped their road opener to Belchertown 14-25, 8-25, 13-25, evening out their record at 1-1.



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the poetry page

It is difficult  
to get the news from poems  
yet men die miserably every day  
for lack  
of what is found there.

- William Carlos Williams

edited by Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno  
Readers are invited to send poems to the  
Montague Reporter at: 177 Avenue A  
Turners Falls, MA 01376  
or to: [poetry@montaguereporter.org](mailto:poetry@montaguereporter.org)

September's  
Featured Poet:  
Patricia Pruitt

Four *from* Variations from the Red Room

2

1

The I  
but not-I

A rubber man  
pliable  
with a lump,  
no mirror  
that smile  
lacks eyes

The hard scrub  
life around  
here

Counts on  
the trees  
to stand and  
withstand

in all  
directions  
at once  
to appease  
the wind

She intrudes,  
must ask  
for surgical tape  
Will a band-aid do –  
rubbery  
like bubblegum

Fair and idle  
hands fly up  
in a clutch  
at broken frames  
the angles of her wrists  
despair

She tests for care  
band-aid  
or bubblegum

No other  
help  
in this world  
does she  
know

4

Meaning—the music  
Meaning—the flower sprouting  
from the sand dune  
Meaning—the small window  
where the eye strains  
for a greater view  
Meaning—the narrow way of  
one  
Meaning—the poem's suffering,  
from richness and want

Mayakovsky's cry: ...  
'my "I" is too small for me.'

3

Once words of air  
were sweet to hear

Vowels bread  
to consonant wines

Now we who hear  
refuse while moments roll

There's a veil  
in the mind's way

What will you do with it?

Quiver

1

Though there only a second ago,  
Longitude and latitude won't help us now.  
We had it in our hands. It didn't disappear  
the way rust replaces green in the pine tree.  
It simply vanished. As if a rose in full bloom  
was snatched when we turned our backs.  
We?— You and I, of course.  
It?— Well, It is insignificant save when  
we can not find it.  
No one is to blame.  
What purpose would it serve blaming you  
or me for its disappearance?  
Maybe it is to blame.  
Didn't we both say, "It disappeared."?

3

On blank days what pounds the rhythm is the street below  
Clackety bang a metal dolly Car whizz and the Dorchester  
doorbell A kid wants to dawdle but mom says, "You gonna walk  
you gonna walk," til he cries and I feel the same

Strings

Dissolution state:  
Point of severance =  
Point of entrance

*En trance*  
*En train de*  
without meeting boundaries

Not the because of  
origin

Infinity broken  
into

Invisible light strings  
Rimbaud's *guirlande, chaine  
d'or*

Being both cause and  
dance

Struggle of a shadow  
with a wall

"The passive fantasy  
of spaces yet unfilled"

calling *jaune*  
in the woods now

without shape or  
matter

The spirit of something  
left over

and mistaken for an  
absent person

owning 3 shirts,  
an eggplant, an orange,  
a blueprint, a lack

of magnesium

The cut widened each day:  
to have a room or exile

Not the narrative of that  
but the space beyond

Where the gossamer thread  
might catch

at the edge of the chamber

Feeling  
breaks

in the cold gray dawn

At the frontiers  
to exist

like light

touching nothing  
illuminating air

between the streetlamp  
and the sidewalk

That passage

in the extenuating field

revives

the reverie  
of flight

Through the window in  
and out of the eye

where any shadow has  
the thickness of the sea

Inside is let in  
and the dream

runs in a flash  
on the fruited plain

exalting the old claim  
of home,

a translucent paper house

We are pleased to offer a sampling of Patricia Pruitt's poems this month. Patricia edited the MR Poetry Page from 2012 until last month, and dedicated herself to bringing a variety of voices into print. Her published work includes *Construction Work, (In)Congruities, and Windows*. Her new poetry chapbook will appear next year from Talisman House. She lives in Turners Falls.

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CHRISTOPHER CARMODY PHOTO

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**GMRSD from page A1**

gave a presentation on recent upgrades to school buildings and grounds, and his department's priorities for the coming year. The district is returning to the town of Montague at the September 29 special town meeting with a new proposal to remodel the stage at Sheffield Elementary to add classrooms, at an estimated cost of \$50,000 to \$60,000.

Upon looking over plans for the project, several committee members expressed worry that the required railing on a new accessibility ramp might visually block part of the stage.

"We've approved the project to go to the towns," chair Michael Langknecht reminded the committee. "Can we make it clear that, after the town approves it and before it goes to bid, we want to have a conversation about some of the issues we've brought up?"

Business manager Joanne Blier said a review should be possible.

Christine Postera said she had heard indoor temperatures at the Hillcrest School have recently reached 95 degrees, and the board discussed the building's challenges and wondered whether the state set standards for conditions students and municipal employees may face.

Superintendent Michael Sullivan said the school's electrical system does not allow for air conditioning. "We'd have to have each individual room rewired," he said.

Gill member Timmie Smith asked that school committee members be notified whenever district officials plan to meet with town selectboards or finance committees about school facilities. "If we aren't aware of what's going on," she argued, it will be more difficult to support district priorities.

Huber discussed damage to the high school athletic fields. Vendors have seeded and fertilized the fields, but results have been mixed. "One of the issues we're having is that we're faced with the worst drought we've seen in thirty years," Huber said.

**Board: No On Question 2**

The board discussed a resolution opposing raising the cap on charter schools, and charter enrollment, statewide. Seventy-eight students from the district are currently enrolled in charter schools, and superintendent Sullivan said this represented a loss to the district, after tuition reimbursements, of over \$800,000.

Sandy Brown said that 101 school committees had passed the resolution, or similar resolutions, this year. The question of increasing charter schools is on Massachusetts ballots this November.

Langknecht proposed an amendment to the resolution, stating that the district "has received no discernible benefit from the improved educational practice that charter schools were expected to provide as innovators for the public schools."

"Supposedly, charter schools were created to provide innovation," said Marjorie Levenson.

"They were originally supposed to go away," Brown added.

"We don't want the charter cap to be lifted because we feel this is an outstanding issue," said Langknecht.

Levenson said that since there was not yet a mechanism for sharing successful innovation with traditional schools, she was not comfortable with the amendment as it seemed to blame the charters. "Right now, we're set up to be at war," she said.

The amendment passed by an 8-1 vote, with Levenson voting against it, and the board voted 8-0 to endorse the resolution, with Levenson abstaining.

**Mascot Process Discussed**

Two and a half hours into the meeting, the committee turned its attention to an issue that has periodically been a controversy in the district: the status of the high school mascot, the "Indian." A group of citizens had approached the committee in May asking for it to consider a



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new mascot, and in June, it decided to start a district-wide conversation on the topic in the fall.

Sullivan presented a working document that proposed a three-stage approach to the problem, which he called a "draft proposal of a process of how to think about the mascot issue."

During the first stage, the committee would seek input, both from "people who are knowledgeable about the challenges posed by the Indian mascot" and in two public forums. It would thereby "come to understand all perspectives without prejudice or judgment" before moving onto the second stage, the development of a process for deciding what the mascot should be, which would include holding another forum on the process itself.

The third stage would entail gathering proposals, holding a public response period, considering the

proposals and voting.

"[R]ather than limit this consideration to the merits and/or detriments of the current mascot, we believe it will be more beneficial to use this occasion as an opportunity to engage in an inclusive, deliberative, and comprehensive process," the proposal reads, "that will lead to the selection of a high school mascot that best suits the aspirations and values of our school community today."

"Whomever worked on this, I think they have involved themselves in a very thoughtful process," Timmie Smith said. "And for that, I wish to say thank you."

"Absolutely agreed," said Leslie Cogswell.

Smith suggested that the document outlining the proposed plan itself be posted for public review and feedback.

"It's nine o'clock at night," said Levenson, encouraging "people at

home" to give the committee feedback, and hoping the topic will be addressed earlier on future agendas.

Brown read into the minutes parts of an email from Gill-Montague Community School Partnership coordinator Jen Audley.

"I hope you can avoid inviting people to take sides, or putting them in the position of trying to convince you," Audley wrote. "A community conversation that results in people feeling like winners and losers will likely do more harm than good."

"This is very preliminary, and very draft," Smith stressed. "I want to involve the community... We haven't even settled on this as the process, yet."

The committee will continue the conversation at its next meeting, at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 27 at the Turners Falls High School.



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# MoRe

YEAR 14 – NO. 44

B1

FEATURES@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

OF THE MONTAGUE REPORTER

SEPTEMBER 15, 2016



## Hiking Safety ... in Hunting Season

By MIKE JACKSON

**FRANKLIN COUNTY** – After our recent story about new trails opening on Montague’s Dry and Country Hills (September 1, “Hill Trails Open to Public”), on the verge of hunting season, we got a call from Len Kahle, of Hunting Western Mass, who encouraged us to share some safety and etiquette information with the hikers in our readership.

“The forest is a wonderful place,” says Kahle, who lives in Erving and mostly hunts in Gill, the Montague Plains and Wildlife Management Area, and on Mount Toby. “We don’t consider it ours, in any way, shape, or form. It’s meant to be shared – we just want everyone to be safe!”

The eight board members of Hunting Western Mass run a Facebook page that aims to provide trail camera photos, rut reports, legal updates, population estimates and a general informational forum for hunters in the Connecticut Valley region.

Montague town planner Walter Ramsey, who has been involved in the Dry Hill and Hannegan Brook trail project, also let us know that hunting season schedules are posted at the new trailhead kiosks, along

with notice that hikers should wear bright colors during season.

Kahle’s list includes some good advice for hikers, in or out of hunting season.

1. **Know the seasons.** We’re already in the first of three bear hunting seasons: September 6 to 24; November 7 to 26; and November 28 to December 10

There is a one-day deer hunt on October 1, followed by three days designated for paraplegic hunters (October 3 through 5). Three regular deer seasons (for archery, shotgun, and primitive firearms) run pretty much back-to-back from October 17 through the end of the calendar year.

2. **Take heed around amateur hour.** “The hunters around here are all pretty safe,” Kahle says. “The time to be most aware is the first weekend of shotgun season.” This year, that means the weekend of December 3.

“That’s when everybody and their brother come out – they come from Boston, and they come from Worcester and Springfield. We run into them and they’ve got all brand new gear, and guns and knives. We call them ‘dudes.’ They’re something else,

see **HUNTING** page B3



## WEST ALONG THE RIVER

### From Massasoit to Metacomet

By DAVID BRULE

Undoubtedly you know the story of Massasoit and the Pilgrims. The mythology surrounding the founding of Plymouth in 1620 and the survival of the Pilgrims has been developed and celebrated as a principal part of the creation story of America. This National Origin Myth includes Plymouth Rock, The Mayflower Compact, the First Thanksgiving, characters like Miles Standish, John Alden, Priscilla Mullins, and weaves in Massasoit, Squanto, Hobomock, among others.

Not so many of you are familiar

with Wamsutta and Metacomet, the sons of Massasoit, who played an equally important role in the first decades of English settlement here in Massachusetts. These sons, also known as Alexander and Philip, were part of a far more tragic, rarely-told story as victims of colonial deceit and manipulation. They became leaders of a movement and rebellion against the very implantations of English that their father was credited with welcoming to these shores.

Indeed, within one generation – that is, fifty years after Massasoit helped the Pilgrims survive those first harsh seasons – his son Metacomet or King Philip did his best to drive the English back into the sea. He almost succeeded.

The elder son Alexander assumed leadership of the Pokanoket/Wampanoag when Massasoit retired to Nipmuck country in the shadow of Mount Wachusett, his mother’s homeland.

For one reason or another conjured up by the English, the Plymouth Colony then led by Governor Thomas Prence, ordered Alexander to appear at a meeting with colonial magistrates in Duxbury. Alexander spent the night before the meeting at Major Josiah Winslow’s home in Marshfield, where suddenly he became violently ill and succumbed within a few days. His tribal brethren were convinced he was poisoned.

His younger brother, Philip,

see **WEST ALONG** page B2



This engraving of Metacomet appeared in George Bancroft’s “History of the United States” (1858).

## SOMETIMES, THE FAIR COMES TO YOU



Every year, the staff at the Furren Care Center in Montague City put together a special “Furren Fair” for residents, who are unable to travel to the Franklin County Fair. Above, one resident tries her hand at the ball toss at Wednesday’s event.

## Turners Falls Goes to War: Part X



Photograph of the company, from then-Major Pierce’s 1900 memoir “Reminiscences of the Experiences of Company L.”

By REPORTER STAFF

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

We published six letters from a young Turners Falls enlistee named J.J. Sullivan, printed by our predecessor, the Turners Falls Reporter. In July we ran excerpts from the memoir of the company’s captain, Frederick E. Pierce, recounting the company’s experience in battle.

We return to the pages of the Reporter for the tragic tale of the company’s homecoming.

**July 27, 1898**

Crowds of people have been going to Lake Pleasant daily to see the exhibition of water walking given afternoon and evening at Green Pond. Elaborate fireworks, illustrating the battle of Manila are also an attraction every night.

**August 3, 1898**

During the exhibition of fireworks at Green Pond Wednesday evening, Prof. Oldrieve, who was walking on the water, throwing torpedoes, was struck by some of the flying parts of the ship, during the last explosion, and badly injured. He was taken to the hotel at Lake Pleasant and a doctor summoned who found a bad bruise on the right side and three ribs dislocated.

**August 10, 1898**

Dolph Morrison has had letters from his son John, who is a marine in Cuba. He writes of the tough time they had when they landed at Guantanamo. He has seen hard campaigning, without food and sleeping in wet trenches, but he was in good health and spirits at last accounts.

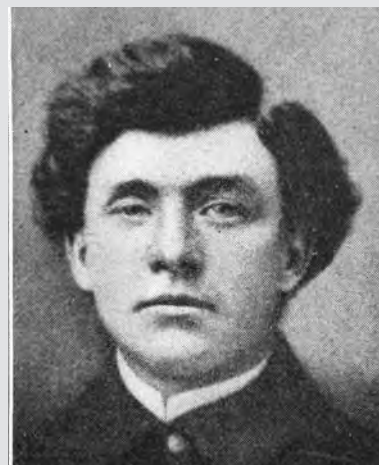
**August 17, 1898**

Sergeant Archer Clark Hale of Co. L died in Santiago, Aug. 15, of yellow fever. He was born in Montague, Sept. 5, 1872, and at

the time of his enlistment he was a pocket book manufacturer of South Deerfield.

**August 24, 1898**

The sad intelligence reached town, Saturday last, of the death of Jeremiah Sullivan, member of Co. L Second regiment, at Santiago, Aug. 11th, of fever.



J. J. Sullivan

A letter to his brother received on the 13th inst. and dated July 25th, stated that he had reported for duty every day to date of writing, which filled his friends with hope that he would pull through the ordeal, and made them doubt the first report of his death, but a letter received from Capt. Pierce, Saturday evening, by the family, confirmed the report in the papers, also stating that he was very much attached to Jerry and that his death was a sad blow to the company, he being a particular favorite.

Jeremiah J. Sullivan was born in Millstream, County Cork, Ireland, and came to this village when he was very young, terminating his education in the Oakman High school. Although a very unassuming young man he was a great favorite, and to know him was to like him. His letters to the REPORTER were a true index to his character, and showed plainly that it was a spirit of noble patriotism, not revenge, that prompted him to leave a comfortable home.

A young man of splendid constitution, abstemious in habits, having never tasted intoxicants nor used tobacco in any form, his friends had every reason to hope

for his return and made it the more difficult to realize that they could never again see him.

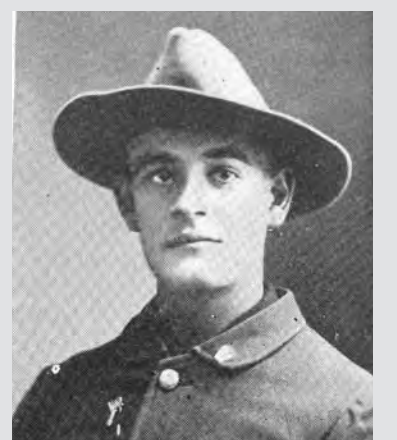
He was for years an active, faithful member of the St. Mary’s temperance society and at a requiem mass offered for his soul last Monday in St. Mary’s church, the society attended in a body, a large number of friends besides attending.

Besides his parents, he leaves two brothers, all residing on Third street, to mourn his loss.

Young Sullivan joined the St. Mary’s temperance society when fourteen years old and was a consistent and hardworking member always. He belonged to the St. Mary’s cadets, and so got a taste for military life. He was always a studious boy and loved his books and good literature, had no bad habits, and had an admirable religious nature, always dutiful to the teachings of the church of which he was fond.

The REPORTER mourns the loss of the young man keenly, as it took a just pride in the superior quality of his work as a correspondent, and hoped to be the means of developing a talent of a high order, having every reason to believe there was something latent in the noble young fellow that would in years to come have given him a name far beyond the confines of his home village.

But with all the sadness of war, the saddest fact seems to show that the angel of death calls first those whom earth is most loth to lose.



John Thyne, Jr.

The long list of those who died to bring freedom to Cuba was swelled,

see **WAR** page B4

# Pet of the Week

Operation has been staying at Dakin for some weeks now.

Why has he not yet found a gentle, affectionate home where he is free to be himself? Does he have friends among the dogs, cats and people there? Is he lonesome? Do you have room in your life for a tiny friend? Can you spare a little food and maybe some insects on

special occasions?

The only information given about him is that he turned 1 year old this summer, and that he is a hamster – and hamsters are solitary creatures much of the time, so he may not be lonesome at all.

Contact the Dakin Pioneer Valley Humane Society at (413) 548-9898 or at [info@dpyhs.org](mailto:info@dpyhs.org).



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### Senior Center Activities SEPTEMBER 12 to 16

#### GILL and MONTAGUE

**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.

#### Tues & Weds Noon Lunch

**M, W, F** 10:10 a.m. Aerobics; 10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise

#### Monday 9/19

Foot Clinic Appointments  
Noon Pot Luck & Bingo

#### Tuesday 9/20

9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga  
1 p.m. Knitting Circle

#### Wednesday 9/21

9 a.m. Veterans' Outreach  
12:45 p.m. Bingo

#### Thursday 9/22

9 a.m. Tai Chi  
1 p.m. Cards & Games

#### Friday 9/23

1 p.m. Writing Group

#### ERVING

Erving Senior Center, 1 Care Drive, Erving, is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for activities and congregating meals.

Lunch is at 11:30 a.m., with reservations required 2 days in advance. Call (413)-423-3649 for meal information and reservations.

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

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

#### Monday 9/19

9 a.m. Tai Chi  
10 a.m. Healthy Bones & Balance  
Bus Trip to Essex CT

#### Tuesday 9/20

8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics  
10 a.m. Stretching & balance  
12:30 p.m. Friends Business Mtg

#### Wednesday 9/21

8:45 a.m. Line Dancing  
10 a.m. Chair Yoga  
Noon Bingo, Snacks & Laughs

#### Thursday 9/22

8:45 a.m. Aerobics (*fast moving*)  
10 a.m. Healthy Bones  
12:30 p.m. Crafty Seniors

#### Friday 9/23

9 a.m. Quilting, Walking Club  
9:30 a.m. Bowling

11 a.m. Market Shopping

11:30 a.m. Pizza & Bowling

12:30 p.m. Painting Workshop

#### 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.

#### WEST ALONG from page B1

became sachem of the Pokanoket/Wampanoag. In spite of Philip's diplomacy and efforts to avoid war, a number of English manipulations and incidents over a ten-year period led to what is known as King Philip's War of 1675-1676.

By the end of this war, considered the most costly in American history, 40% of the native population had been killed (estimated at 5,000 people, with 1,000 sent into slavery), and 5% of the English population (approximately 2,500 people) were also killed. A third of the English settlements from Maine to Rhode Island had been burned or abandoned, including Northfield, Deerfield, Springfield, Brookfield, Providence, and Lancaster.

Regular readers of this column know that a number of us in the Connecticut River Valley are collaborating on a grant to produce the most definitive archiving and full recounting of that 1675-76 war, in all of its multiple perspectives. The most directly involved have been the Historical Commissioners from Deerfield, Montague, Greenfield, Gill, and Northfield, as well as tribal historians from the Wampanoag, Nipmuck, Narragansett, and Mohican, and a number of local experts and historians.

It has been brought to our attention by our Wampanoag partners that the city of Plymouth has begun organizing celebrations around the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Pilgrims' arrival in 1620. That means that for the business community of Plymouth and associated cities, the year 2020 will be the focus of major marketing and enhanced tourism.

However, that focus seems to be centered on Plymouth, celebrating its role in the creation myth of America, and of course, for the benefit of the Plymouth business community. Our efforts here in the central Connecticut River Valley, on the other hand, have been



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

By FRED CICETTI

*Q. I think I have a small hernia in my groin that's probably going to need surgery. How soon should I get this thing taken care of?*

First, if you suspect you have a hernia, get it checked by a doctor immediately. Don't treat it lightly. Eventually, almost all hernias require surgery. Having surgery before complications occur makes sense.

You get a hernia when a section of an internal organ bulges through weak abdominal muscle tissue. The protruding organ is usually the intestines. About 80 percent of hernias are located in the groin. The overwhelming majority of groin-hernia victims are men.

Hernias in the groin – called inguinal hernias – get bigger if they

educational, historical and spiritual: that is, we have been studying the aftermath of 1620, and more specifically, the aftermath of the war waged by Massasoit's son to drive out the English, to take tribal homelands back.

So as a spin-off of the Battlefield Grant-funded study of the massacre of Indian refugees at the falls by Captain Turner's militia, and of the counterattack on the colonials by the tribal soldiers camped nearby, a sub-committee has begun exploring options for providing counter-balance to the Plymouth hype about Pilgrims, the Mayflower, and the Rock.

We are hoping to bring balance to the story of 1620 by bringing statewide attention to the events that played out here in western Massachusetts, that were directly linked to 1620.

Beyond bringing balance to the 1620 story, however, we are also seeking ways to weave in a theme that would have resonance and meaning for the future. Our tribal partners refer to this as providing for the next seven generations.

Our Wampanoag partners have suggested a "water walk" to follow the course of the Connecticut to identify plants and trees, species that are present or that have disappeared from our Valley. What would follow would be a series of presen-

tations in river towns by tribal members and local experts. Other themes have been suggested concerning the movement of fish, the flow of our river, and more. This is all, clearly, a work in progress.

Here in Hatfield, Hadley, Deerfield, Montague, Greenfield, Gill, and Northfield, important and overlooked history was made, that in many ways established the social, political, and even military patterns that we are familiar with today. These events still impassion the descendants of the white settlers who live in our towns, and still impassion the descendants of the tribal people who died in their own homelands during that time.

There are those among us today, both tribal and non-tribal, who are determined to tell the story of the consequences and aftermath of 1620. We are all working to restore balance to our region, and to encourage healing of the multi-generational trauma that still haunts inhabitants of the Valley, and across the state.

*On the first Wednesday of every month at 11 a.m. at the Montague Town Hall, the Battlefield grant Advisory Board meets to discuss the archaeology, history and healing taking place in our Valley. The public is welcome.*



#### THE HEALTHY GEEZER

## Do You Think I Should Just Ignore This Hernia?

aren't repaired. They can cause swelling and pain. They can be dangerous, too.

Most hernias can be pushed back into the abdominal cavity. However, an intestine can be trapped or incarcerated by a hernia. Incarceration can block defecation. Then there is a condition called strangulation, which cuts blood flow to the trapped section of the intestine and can kill it. A strangulated hernia is a surgical emergency.

About 5 million Americans develop hernias annually, but only 700,000 get them fixed surgically. The common theory for this phenomenon among doctors is that most people fear having an operation. But hernia surgery today is not the ordeal it once was with a large incision and long recovery.

Today, patients requiring hernia surgery are in and out of the hospital the same day.

The surgery takes about an hour. The operation can be done with a small incision or by minimally invasive laparoscopic surgery that employs a slender, tubular, optical instrument with a surgical tool.

Most patients resume their normal lives within a few days after the surgery; they can handle stren-

uous activity and exercise within four to six weeks.

Besides inguinal hernias, there are femoral hernias in the upper thigh (more common in women), incisional hernias poking through a surgical scar, and umbilical hernias around the navel.

Some symptoms of hernia are: protrusion; pain while lifting, bending over and coughing; a dull ache; a vague feeling of fullness; a heavy or dragging sensation in the groin, and swelling in the scrotum that holds the testicles. Some inguinal hernias have no symptoms.

People of all ages and both genders get hernias. They occur because of an inherited weakness in the abdominal wall, a strain from lifting, gaining a lot of weight, persistent coughing, or difficulty with bowel movements or urination

Other causes of hernias are pregnancy that can strain abdominal muscles, occupations that require standing for long periods, premature birth, and a personal history of hernias. If you've had an inguinal hernia, you're at greater risk that you'll get another elsewhere.

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

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MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

# This Week on MCTV

By ABIGAIL TATARIAN

Here at MCTV, we hope everybody's September is going swimmingly.

Now on [montaguetv.org](http://montaguetv.org), you can view "A History of Cabot Station," a presentation by historian Ed Gregory reviewing the construction of Cabot Station at Montague City, complete with vintage photographs. This is a recording of the event from August 20, which was planned in conjunction with the 100th anniversary of hydroelectricity at Cabot Station.

This Saturday from 1 to 2 p.m.,

catch "It's your River, So What are You Going to Do about It?", a presentation about the Connecticut River by Andrew Fisk at the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, Turners Falls.

Something going on you think others would like to see? Get in touch to learn how easy it is to use a camera and capture the moment. Contact us at (413) 863-9200, [infomontaguetv@gmail.com](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!

**HUNTING** from page B1

those guys."

3. **Stick to well-marked trails.** It's against the law to discharge a firearm within 150 feet of any public road – which could, in theory, include the never-discontinued Dry Hill Road – or 500 feet of a house. If you stay on hiking trails, your presence can at least be expected. "Most hunters are going to be deeper into the woods, or off the trails," Kahle says.

4. **Wear safety orange.** "It's definitely a good idea to put an orange collar on the dog, or have your kids wear some kind of fluorescent clothing," he says. "You definitely don't want to put a white t-shirt on a small kid, because that looks like the white tail of a deer."

5. **Bring a flashlight:** "Most accidents happen in low light situations. If you are going to be in the woods all day, and you're coming out and it's low light, it's a good idea to have a flashlight, or some kind of lantern."

6. **Don't light fires.** It's forbidden in the wildlife management areas, anyway. "I've seen families at the Ledges lighting fires during hunting season," says Kahle, of the Pigen Ledges on the Robert Frost Trail. "To me, it's not a big deal. But the game wardens take them very seriously, and they will fine you."

7. **Don't depend on GPS:** "If you're out there hiking, even on the well-marked trails, you can lose a signal."

8. **Remember you may not be alone.** "If you do venture off the trail and think there's hunters there, it's not necessary to make noise," he tells us. "More than likely, a hunter is going to see you long before you see them."

If you do run across a hunter in a tree stand, they will probably be facing into the wind, and the polite thing to do is to back up and make a wide loop around the rear of the stand.

9. **Don't play around with equipment if you find it.** "You could get hurt, or even killed, if you fall out of a [tree] stand that's 25 feet in the air," Kahle explains. "There have been some accidents locally in the last couple years; mostly older guys that fall. Generally, we use a safety harness... Don't let your kids climb up in them!"

Hikers may also encounter trail cameras, used to scout the strength of a herd and its movements. They are asked not to tamper with them.

10. **Leave dying animals alone.** "Often a hunter will wait and give the animal time to go somewhere, lay down and expire before he begins to track it," he says. "If you find the animal, you should just leave it be."

Hunters will often dress a deer in the field and leave its entrails for scavengers to finish, and go fetch a sled to drag their kill out along a trail. "If you take your kids hiking on your trails during hunting season you should prepare them for the possibility of coming across someone removing a dressed deer. Cleaning a deer can be a pretty messy thing!"

11. **Oh, and watch out for bears.** Their population is booming – 8% growth every year, according to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. "If you see a bear," Kahle warns, "make a lot of noise, and make sure they know you're there."

"Always be cautious of other bears and cubs. I would not suggest trying to get close for a picture; you should be completely focused on the bear and its actions, not your phone. Bears move very fast and silently when they want to." He suggests hikers carry bear whistles, or even bear mace.

12. **Work together toward sharing the woods.** "I'm sure hikers and hunters both could share isolated incidents where both parties felt wronged or agitated," Kahle says. "That's why I feel it's important to try to create a relationship of both safety and equality when it comes to recreational use of the forest."

If you do have a grievance, settle it out of the woods with the proper authorities, and remember that hunter harassment is a criminal offense (MGL Ch. 131 S. 5C).

"I have had some people cause some scenes," Kahle tells the Reporter. "Usually I just blow it off, but some anti-hunters can be really challenging."

Kahle also urges hikers to remember that for many locals, hunting is as much about sustenance as it is sport.

"Most of our hunters aren't big rack hunters – we hunt for the meat, to fill up our freezers for us and our families," he says. "You get a couple of deer, you could end up with anywhere from 60 up to 100 pounds of meat. I don't know if you've priced hamburger lately, but it goes a long way! I still have venison in my freezer from last year. It's super healthy meat – full protein, no chemicals, very good for you; lots of ways to cook it."

So there you have it. Thanks to Mr. Kahle for reaching out, and for taking the time to chat with us from a hunter's perspective!

Readers interested in continuing the dialogue can write to [editor@montaguerreporter.org](mailto:editor@montaguerreporter.org), or call us at (413) 863-8666. They can also visit Hunting Western Mass on Facebook to get in touch with the group directly.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

## Pit Bulls On Millers Falls Road, Contained; Roosters On Montague City Road, Unrestrained; Calico Cat On Turners Falls Road A Civil Matter

**Monday, 9/5**

10:21 a.m. Caller from Oakman Street concerned because her neighbor's dog is loose and has been chasing people. Neighbors are not home. Officer made contact with party watching house, who brought the dog back inside. Homeowners advised of complaint.

4:56 p.m. Caller from F.L. Roberts states that she has video footage of a past shoplifting incident that she would like officers to view. Subject involved in call is outside this address by the propane tank. Summons issued.

6:12 p.m. Caller from Connecticut River Liquor and Wine reports that a bird flew into the window of his business and he can no longer find it. Advised of options. No police service necessary at this point.

10:24 p.m. Caller from G Street reports that he went for a walk and returned to his home to find that his debit card and car had been stolen. Caller states that his wife's brother called and stated that he took the vehicle and crashed it; Florence Towing now has car. Involved party writing up statement; officer will follow up in morning.

**Tuesday, 9/6**  
8:31 a.m. Caller from Food City states that a white female put some unpaid for items in her purse. Officer detained female on Avenue A and took her back to Food City for further investigation. All items returned to store. Manager may still press charges. Female transported to her residence.

11:14 a.m. Caller from Crescent Street states that she found a previously exploded firework in her mailbox. Officer spoke to all involved parties about this incident.

4:36 p.m. Verbal warning issued to vehicle operator for speed greater than reasonable and for unsafe load; operator had a snowmobile in the back of his pickup truck that was moving back and forth and bouncing around.

7:40 p.m. Caller reports that two pit bulls on Millers Falls Road charged at him, his wife, and their small dog that they were walking this evening. Animal control officer had earlier determined there is an invisible fence on dog owner's property. Officer followed up with owner and confirmed that there is an invisible fence and that dogs were wearing the collars so the fence would be effective.

**Wednesday, 9/7**  
9:11 a.m. Caller from Turners Falls High School

states that a student left the school grounds without permission; last seen heading west on Turnpike Road wearing a cranberry colored sweatshirt. Student located and spoken to; officer spoke to mother via cell phone, and she was okay with him staying home. School administration stated that student refused to do a bag check and left the school.

9:45 a.m. Caller from Montague City Road states that her neighbor has 7 roosters and they are disturbing her. Caller wants to know if she can get a restraining order against the roosters. Caller requests a callback before 10 a.m. or after 1 p.m. Officer left message advising of options.

1:27 p.m. Officer located personal belongings inside a tent across from Railroad Salvage. Items put in evidence bag, logged, and placed in evidence locker.

3:52 p.m. Report of a fight that just occurred in the parking lot of F.L. Roberts. Parties dispersed as call came in. Aggressors left on foot. Victim gathered his belongings and was last seen walking on Third Street. Officer spoke to involved parties. Victim believed to have been the instigator; he slapped one of the boys and called another a racial slur. Victim advised of options.

5:50 p.m. Caller states there are approximately 7 adults and 9 teens in a big argument on First Street. Officer advises small verbal argument between two groups.

**Thursday, 9/8**  
6:43 a.m. Out with suspicious vehicle occupied x1 in front of Railroad Salvage. Medical services requested; female unresponsive but breathing. TFFD on scene. All units clear; female was awoken by EMS. Same stated she fell asleep in the car in the lot last night. Female verbally trespassed from property and sent on her way.

9:33 a.m. Report of loose dog that was just in caller's yard. Dog does not

appear to be aggressive, but caller does not want it coming in contact with her dog. Officers spoke with owner, who advised his dog has been digging holes; he thought he had rectified the issue, but advised he would try to find another solution.

9:48 a.m. Caller requests assistance with a harassment issue; states a male party known to him texted him over 100 times this morning. Contact made with involved male, who advised that he and the caller were both sending text messages. Male advised to cease contact with caller.

9:59 a.m. DPW reports that someone has been sleeping and leaving their belongings under the bandshell at Peske Park. Extra patrols requested. Upon arrival, only property located was a lunch box.

**Friday, 9/9**  
8:47 a.m. Caller reports that she went to the fair with her children last night and when she arrived home, she was locked out of her house and heard her TV on. This prompted her to leave and sleep at her parents' house. When she arrived home this morning, she found a nip bottle, cigarettes that weren't hers, and that her mail had been opened and had vulgar things written all over it. Report taken.

1:39 p.m. Caller from Spirit Shoppe in Gill advises that a male party who was clearly intoxicated just tried to buy liquor. Subject then left and crossed bridge into Turners Falls. Info given to MSP and Greenfield PD. Unable to locate.

3:16 p.m. Caller reporting a white vehicle near the Rock Dam with a male inside who looks "out of it." Unable to locate.

4:18 p.m. Caller advising that kids leaving the high school in the afternoons are speeding down Turnpike Road and onto Emond Avenue; would like traffic patrol in area if possible.

6:37 p.m. Caller believes that somebody entered

her home and stole her pet bird. Officer advises no signs of forced entry and no other items missing. A small bird with a yellow head is missing. Home was left unsecured on Monday when bird went missing.

10:45 p.m. Report of possibly intoxicated male on a bicycle coming down the hill from Greenfield. Unable to locate.

**Saturday, 9/10**  
11:12 a.m. Caller from West Mineral Road requests extra patrols; every day, people are speeding up and down the road. Caller has already had animals killed and is worried for the daycare on the road.

4:03 p.m. Report of drunk and disorderly male on Third Street. Party located; courtesy transport provided.

6:01 p.m. Report of three parties trying to get into Farren Care Center building; have been told to leave, but will not. Officer advises that two males remain; they are homeless and have not eaten in some time. Shelter in Greenfield advises they can feed them but have no room for them to stay. Transport to Greenfield provided.

**Sunday, 9/11**  
5:08 a.m. Officer checking on parked vehicle on First Street. Owner/operator advised he is having issues at home that he needed to get away from for a short time. Male was moved along.

7:36 a.m. Report of male and female sleeping in a vehicle at Park and Seventh streets. Both parties OK; were hanging out talking and fell asleep.

5:44 p.m. Caller states that he let his girlfriend see their pet calico cat; they had an agreement that she would bring the cat back, but caller's friend is stating that female is now walking down Turners Falls Road towards Greenfield with the cat in her backpack. Officer advised caller that this is a civil matter.

# MONTAGUE CRYPTOJAM !!!

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**WAR** from page B1

Aug. 6, by the death of Private John Thyne, Jr. of Turners Falls, a member of Co. L who died at Santiago de Cuba from disease.

Young Thyne, at the time of his enlistment, was a stableman employed by Stephen McCarthy on Third street. He was 22 years old, and leaves a father, a sister and a brother. His father and friends feel his death keenly, for all of his letters were written in a cheerful vein, and he did not complain about his health.

Thyne was a very quiet, unobtrusive young man, not given much to talking, but faithful and honest and a good friend. Much sympathy is expressed for his father, who is quite overwhelmed by the sad news.

William O'Connell of this place, better known as "Nick" O'Connell, was one of those suspected of having yellow fever, and left at Santiago. Nick's omnipresent smile should have been enough to keep "Yellow Jack" at bay and we hope Nick is still alive - and smiling.

Last accounts say that Clayton D. Goland of Co. L who has been seriously ill is better. Edward Goland, his father, Clarence Goland and D.W. Murphy went down to Camp Wikoff, last night. They were loaded down with good things and messages from anxious parents to their sick boys. Mr. Goland and Mr. Murphy will endeavor to bring their sons home with them, and any others that are able to travel.

Word was received from Capt. Pierce that Chas Chapin was ill and in the hospital, but that he could be taken home on a furlough if some one went after him. Postmaster Briggs will go to-night and bring him home if possible. Joseph Campbell and Percy Hall have also gone to bring home their brothers.

**August 31, 1898**

Early Saturday morning the Second regiment left Camp Wikoff at Montauk Point, L.I. and all those who were able, and as it afterward proved, a good many who were not, started on the homeward journey....

Thousands were in waiting at the station in Springfield on the arrival of the train bearing the soldiers, at three o'clock. The police did excellent work and in spite of the great crowds there was little confusion.

The home coming to the dear old commonwealth was very sad, for the boys were almost all sick and without exception weak and wasted and their appearance touched the hearts of all who beheld them.

The Springfield people treated the boys with lavish hospitality. Doctors and nurses gave all needed attention and every delicacy was on hand to tempt uncertain appetites. After being fed, each company boarded a special car for home.

"N---r" waiters and nurses were on each car and everything to eat and drink was provided so that the boys felt as though they had really reached the land where milk and honey flowed. And glad indeed they were to

bid adieu to hardtack and bacon.

Selectmen Ralph Atherton and W. Riley Farnsworth, Edward P. March, Dr. C. C. Messer and a good many others from this town went to Springfield to meet and welcome the boys. Thirty-one men reached Greenfield and the whole town, apparently, was gathered at the station where carriages were in waiting and all the men were driven home and put to bed. Most of them are staying there yet.

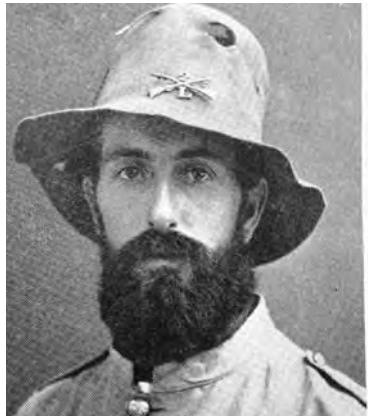
Captain Pierce, Sergeant Chas Class, Corporal Glass and some others came home before the rest. Captain Pierce is very ill indeed and it will be many weeks before he can be around. Corporal Glass is in the Greenfield hospital.

Corporal Donald M. Lobdell was brought home by his mother and Dr. W. H. Pierce of Greenfield, from the Fort Hamilton hospital, Sunday night. His parents had a long search for him before he could be found. Lobdell has been reported dead several times, but though he is dangerously ill, it is hoped he will pull through.

Several men had to be left behind in the hospital in Montauk Point, including Lieut. Mason, but all are said to be getting better.

It is the same sad story all the way through. The men are all "sick, sicker or sickest," and grim death has already made heavy inroads in Co. L. A small number were killed by Spanish bullets, but illness did the rest.

Co. L's mascot, a fourteen-year-old coal black d---ey, arrived in Greenfield, and is now at John Brooks'. The little fellow is as bright as a new dollar, and bears the appropriate name of Snowball. He was picked up at Washington and went all through the war with the company without being sick. He was very good friends with the boys, and is reputed to be fully competent to uphold our colored brethren's reputation for not knowing the distinction between mine and thine.



Otto Zeigler

The death roll of gallant Co. L, Second Massachusetts regiment, was lengthened, Monday, by the death of Otto Zeigler, who died in the Springfield hospital early Monday morning.

Mr. Zeigler was sick while in Santiago, and the voyage on the Mobile still further reduced him, so that when the company arrived at Camp Wikoff he was greatly emaciated and in a pitiable state of weakness. Still, he left camp with the regiment, Saturday morning....

The deceased was born in Germany and came to America with his

family when he was six years old. Previous to his enlistment he was employed in the John Russell cutlery shops. He was a member of Court Turner of Foresters, being the first member of this lodge to die. He also belonged to the Germania cornet band and used to play foot ball with the Turners Falls team.

He was married two or three years ago to Miss Sophia Schroeder of Greenfield, who, with an infant son survives him. He also leaves an invalid mother and two brothers and three sisters. Mr. Zeigler was a good-natured, jolly young man and his early demise under such sad circumstances is regretted.

On account of his death the band stand is draped in mourning, also the Foresters' rooms in the Bank block. The cutlery shops were closed this afternoon, when the funeral took place from the German Methodist church, the Foresters having charge and attending the funeral in a body....

There was a great "hurrying to and fro" Saturday afternoon, when it was known that our boys would arrive here on a 5 o'clock electric car. For fully an hour before, the Avenue was crowded with people afoot, awheel, or in carriages and tongues were wagging at a 2.40 gait. The small boy was in his element and was dodging about everywhere....

The pity of it was that only four boys came back, and they bore but a sorry resemblance to the strong stalwart youths who left so hopefully not four months before. Harry Wise, Fred Fleury, Thomas Riley and August H. Ungrich arrived and were greeted by murmurs of applause and excitement from the bystanders....

"Handsome Harry" Wise, who was such a fine looking soldier, is sadly wasted and can boast of scarcely 90 pounds, but his courage is good, and he will mend rapidly, as he is only weak....

W. H. Murphy of Fourth street, the musician of the company, was taken sick a day or two before the regiment left Montauk Point and was taken to the hospital.... Frank Breslin of Millers Falls is also at the hospital. He is very weak and reduced in flesh....

Clayton D. Goland and Timothy J. Murphy were brought home by their respective fathers, Wednesday afternoon, in a lamentably weak condition, and so altered in appearance that they were scarcely recognizable. Both boys were unable to walk and both are now lying at their homes extremely ill....

All the boys have the same peculiar coppery-yellow complexions and their appearance tells more eloquently than words of what they have suffered. Some of them say that if they told of all they had undergone they would be regarded either as lunatics or liars....

Even at home, well meaning but misguided friends and neighbors invade the houses so that the poor fellows are never alone a minute. In their present weak condition nothing could be worse than such treatment.

William O'Connell of this place, and the other Co. L boys who were

## LOOKING LESS FAR BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was September 21, 2006: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

do return the same issues will still be on the table.

### Returning in Peace

Ceremony and celebration set the stage for the Peoples Harvest held September 16 and 17 near the banks of the glimmering Connecticut River. The air smelled pungent with sage, burned as an offering of thanks by Native Americans and others who gathered near the site of an historic fishing village, now submerged beneath the water of Barton Cove.

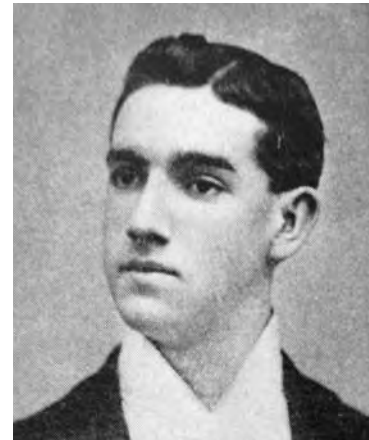
Participants gathered under a rustic pavilion to hear Native singers and the beat of drums and the calliope call of wooden flutes. The second annual gathering was held at the Schuetzen Verein Club, a 110-year-old German-American association that owns the site at Barton Cove.

### Round and Round on Dry Hill Road

The Montague selectboard ventured into the village of Millers Falls on Monday to discuss perennial issues, like the lack of progress in renovating the Powers Block in the center of town, or finding a way to get the public to the town cemetery on Dry Hill Road, where the right of way has long been blocked by a private landowner, James Senn.

Given the level of contentiousness at the meeting, held at the Millers Falls library, it may well be another year before the board returns, and given the apparently intractable nature of some of the land and property disputes in the village, it seems likely when they

left behind at Santiago as yellow fever suspects, arrived on the hospital ship, Bay State. They undoubtedly fared better there than did their brethren who came on the Mobile. O'Connell is expected home to-day.

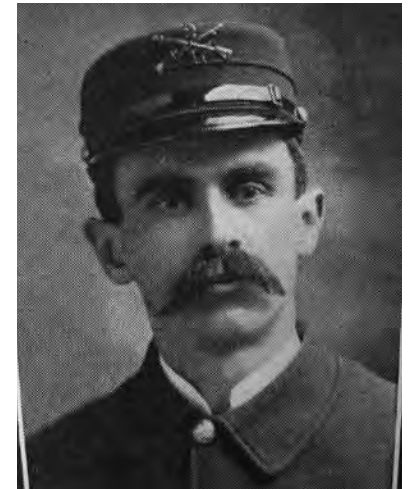


Peter Campbell

Among the many sorrowful incidents resultant from the war, [illegible] reached town, last Sunday, of the death of that popular young man, Peter J. Campbell.... a dispatch was received from his brother that he died in his presence at 4 o'clock Sunday morning in the hospital at Camp Wikoff.... Private Campbell was 20 years old. He was a tall, handsome young man and considered quite an athlete for one of his years, and a great favorite among the young people and was a member of a family highly respected in the community.

Besides his parents he leaves one sister and ten brothers to mourn his loss. He was a member of the St. Mary's Temperance society, the fire department and the Shamrock running team....

Another brave young life went out, yesterday morning, when Sergeant Charles E. Chapin of Co. L died at the hospital at Montauk Point, L.I., after a long and plucky fight with disease.... when the war broke out he did not hesitate a moment about going to the front, a spirit of noble



Chapin

Edward J. Lague of Co. L died at Montauk Point, Wednesday. He was the son of Mrs. Joseph Miner, who lives in the Greenfield meadows. Besides his mother he leaves a brother and two sisters. Lague was employed by an uncle, a butcher in the meadows. Pocumtuck lodge of Red Men, of which the deceased was a member, sent for the body, and the burial took place in Turners Falls on Sunday. There was a large attendance, several societies attending in a body.

All the stores, saloons and other places of business were closed this afternoon out of respect for the dead soldier, Private Otto Ziegler. The cutlery shut down at noon and will not start until Friday morning.



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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



The Tommy Filiault Trio (Doug Plavin, Klondike Koehler, and Tommy Filiault) will perform original guitar music at the Deja Brew on Thursday, September 15 at 8 p.m.

## 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 to 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 to 11:30 a.m.

### FIRST SATURDAY MONTHLY

Montague Common Hall: *Montague Center. Montague Square Dance*. Family fun, October through May. 7 p.m. \$

### EXHIBITS:

Artspace, Greenfield: *Retrospective: Local New England Views. Paintings by Charles Unaitis*. Through September 16.

Bernardston Unitarian Church, Bernardston: *River Rooms Art Exhibit by Alice Thomas*. Opening reception September 18, 1 p.m. Artist Talk & RoundTable, October 23, 1 p.m.

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Great Hall Art Display: Quiet Waters*, photography of Lake Wyola by Kathy Lawlor. Through September 26.

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. Also at Memorial Hall, *Farmers' Castles by Robert Strong Woodward*, which include barns that Woodward painted in Charlemont, Colrain, and Buckland

in the earlier years of the 20th century. Through October 30. \$ Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Ravishing Rags*. Vintage clothing reasonably priced. Through October 2.

The River Garden Art Gallery 157 Main St., Brattleboro, VT: *The Connecticut River Watershed Council presents: The Power of Water / The Power of Words*. Public-participation community Art Project "tells a thousand stories to make the Connecticut River cleaner and hydropower greener." Closing reception on Thursday, September 29, 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Salmon Falls Gallery, Shelburne Falls: *Paintings by Q Holmes: Birds and Circles*. Artist reception Saturday, September 24, 4 to 6 p.m. Through October. Also paintings by *Kerry Stone: Flower Power*. Reception Sunday, October 2, 4 to 6 p.m. Through October.

Sawmill River Arts Gallery at The Montague Mill, Montague: *"Art Meets Verse: An Exhibit Honoring Emily Dickinson"*. Through October 16.

Shelburne Arts Co-operative, Shelburne Falls: *"Anything Goes!" A group show by artists at the Cooperative*. Through September 26.

### EVENTS:

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Emily Dickinson Museum, Amherst: *Amherst Poetry Festival*, September 15 to 17. See Facebook page for details.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Half-Shaved Jazz*. 7:20 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Tommy Filiault Trio*. Original guitar music with Doug Plavin and Klondike Koehler. 8 p.m.

Arts Block (Wheelhouse), Greenfield: *Sean McMahon, Seth Newton, Casey Opal*. 9:30 p.m. \$

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Lexi Weege*, jazz/blues, *Amber Bell*, singer/songwriter. 8 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *Dixie Swim Club*. Theater is back in Shelburne with a play about 5 Southern women/swimmers who meet up annually over 50 years. 7:30 p.m. \$

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Josh Levangie and the Pistoleros*. Outlaw Country! 9 p.m.

Root Cellar, Greenfield: *Home Body, DJ Cashman*. 9 p.m., \$

Arts Block, Greenfield: *FTW Fridays: Humble Digs, and Ballads and Softcore Porn*. Psych-folk & Funky Jams. 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Greater Falls Reggae Dance Party w/DJ Fyah Lyontist*. 9:30 p.m.

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope*. This week it's Bears! Science fun for kids who need to be accompanied by adult. 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *It's Your River, So What Are You Going To Do About It?* Discussion led by Andrew Fisk, Director of the Connecticut River Watershed Council, re: the past, present, and future of our river. 1 to 2 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *Dixie Swim Club*. See Friday 9/16. 7:30 p.m. \$

Mt. Toby Meetinghouse, Leverett: Concerts for Peace and Social Justice presents: *Emma's Revolution*. 7:30 p.m. \$

Montague Bookmill, Montague: *Lisa Bastoni, Lied To's, and Austen & Elliot*. "Killer Song Sessions." 8 p.m. \$

Shea Theater Arts Center, Turners Falls: *Judge John Hodgman: Live Justice*. 8 p.m. \$

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Mike Herz, Folk/Americana, and Emily Barnes*, singer/songwriter. 8 p.m.

Arts Block, Greenfield: *Saturday Social Secret 17th Show with NLiten, ERatt, Riqqy, Gadi, and Dro*. Hip Hop. 9 p.m. \$

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Lunar Carnival*. Folk/Jazz/Americana. 9 p.m.

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Shea Theater Arts Center, Turners Falls: *Noche NELCWI* hosted by *Iroko Nuevo*. Benefit afternoon of music and dance. 2 p.m. \$

Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *Dixie Swim Club*. See Friday, 9/16. 2 p.m. \$

Deja Brew, Wendell: *T-Bone & His Uke*. 8 p.m.

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

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21

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

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Canal Drawdown and Power-town History Stroll*. Two mile walk along the Rail Trail during the annual canal drawdown. Meet at Center entrance. 5 to 7 p.m.

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: Northern Routes presents *Richard Davies, The Renderers (NZ), Pigeons, Night School and Bunwinkies*. Atmospheric, experimental folk-rock. 7 p.m., \$

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Jays*. 8 p.m.

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Arts Block Greenfield: *Thee Arcadians, Carinae, Bucket, Mid-riffs, The Bonds, Sunshine Bros*

*Inc., Kid Mountain*. 7 p.m., \$

Memorial Hall, Shelburne Falls: *Dixie Swim Club*. See Friday, 9/16. 7:30 p.m. \$

Brick House, Turners Falls: *Paul Flaherty - Jake Meginsky - Andy Crespo Trio, Owen Manure, and Tarp*. All ages / substance free space. 8 p.m. \$

All Soul's Church, Greenfield: *Rani Arbo and Daisy Mayhem. Benefit for Stone Soup Cafe*. 8 p.m. \$

Deja Brew, Wendell: *2-W Drive*. Classic rock and country. 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Deep Seize*. Groove oriented world/hip hop fusion. 9 p.m.

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**Friday, 9/16 - 9 p.m.**  
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**Saturday, 9/17 - 9 p.m.**  
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# Fresh Laundry in Downtown Millers

By NINA ROSSI

**MILLERS FALLS** – The Millers Falls Laundry Company officially opened its doors this week. Located right downtown across from Carroll's Market, the business will be open every day from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., with ten brand new, coin-operated washers and dryers.

Town officials and other interested parties gathered for a short ceremony Wednesday afternoon. Town planner Walter Ramsey expressed hope that Millers Falls has "finally become a place to invest in and have a business," after years of work to

resolve issues that stood in the way of redevelopment there.

Bob Obear, whose company Obear Construction has been rehabilitating the cluster of buildings around the Powers Block through the town's Commercial Homesteading program, outlined the progress they have made over the past year and a half, and provided details about the laundry renovation. Obear's Pioneer Valley Redevelopment Company has pledged to invest over \$900,000 in the buildings.

"The key to it all is the ability to look beyond the moment, and see what a building can become," he

said. "To have a vision: that's what development is."

For more information, call (413) 367-3053 or [millersfallslaundry-company@gmail.com](mailto:millersfallslaundry-company@gmail.com).



ROSSI PHOTOS



Top right: The Millers Falls Laundry Company is open for business.

Bottom right: Bob Obear leads a tour of the buildings he is redeveloping in downtown Millers Falls. Seen here is the back of the Powers Block, which Bob estimates is about 65% done at this point. When complete, there will be seven residential units, many of them one bedroom, with a commercial space downstairs that the state has promised a liquor license for.

Bottom left: Obear, town planner Walter Ramsey, town administrator Frank Abbondanzio, and selectman Chris Boutwell stand in front of the new laundromat's dryers.



## The Art of Straw Weaving

By HEATHER WILLEY

**WENDELL** – Kathy Morris's Straw Weaving exhibit is now on display at the Herrick Art Gallery in the Wendell Free Library. Morris, of Royalston, has been weaving straw for over 15 years and is a board member of the National Association of Wheat Weavers.

The stems and grains of seven varieties of wheat are used among the works on display. They are chosen for their texture, flexibility, and color, with a particular respect for the origin and propagation of each variety. Kathy brings to each design a knowledge of traditional symbolism and a cultural geography that moves from New England to Wales to France to North Africa as well as to England, Scandinavia, and Spain.

The exhibit begins with two separate collections of straw hat weaving patterns that were typical of the

popular New England industry from the early 1800s to the 1920s. Each case holds three different example of plaits, or weaving patterns. The braiding was done by women and children in their homes and was an important cottage industry, as they were then used as currency at the local dry goods store which had sold them the original raw material.

There are nine other straw weavings that follow the plait collections, each one a form inspired by a different cultural tradition. Each one invites a close up look which reveals the intricate skill built into the larger dynamic design.

On September 16 at 7 p.m., Morris will give a presentation at the Library on the evolution of the industry from the late 1700s through the early 1900s. There will be examples of straw tools, wheat varieties, and techniques used. Her work remains on display through October.

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