

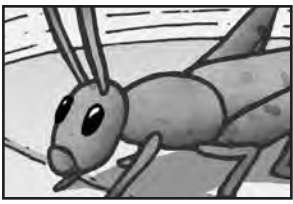
1890: OPPOSE  
THE TROLLEY!

Page A4



1901: CAUGHT  
IN WENDELL

Page A6



1942: HERALD  
EDITOR DRAFTED

Page B3



LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 13 – NO. 11

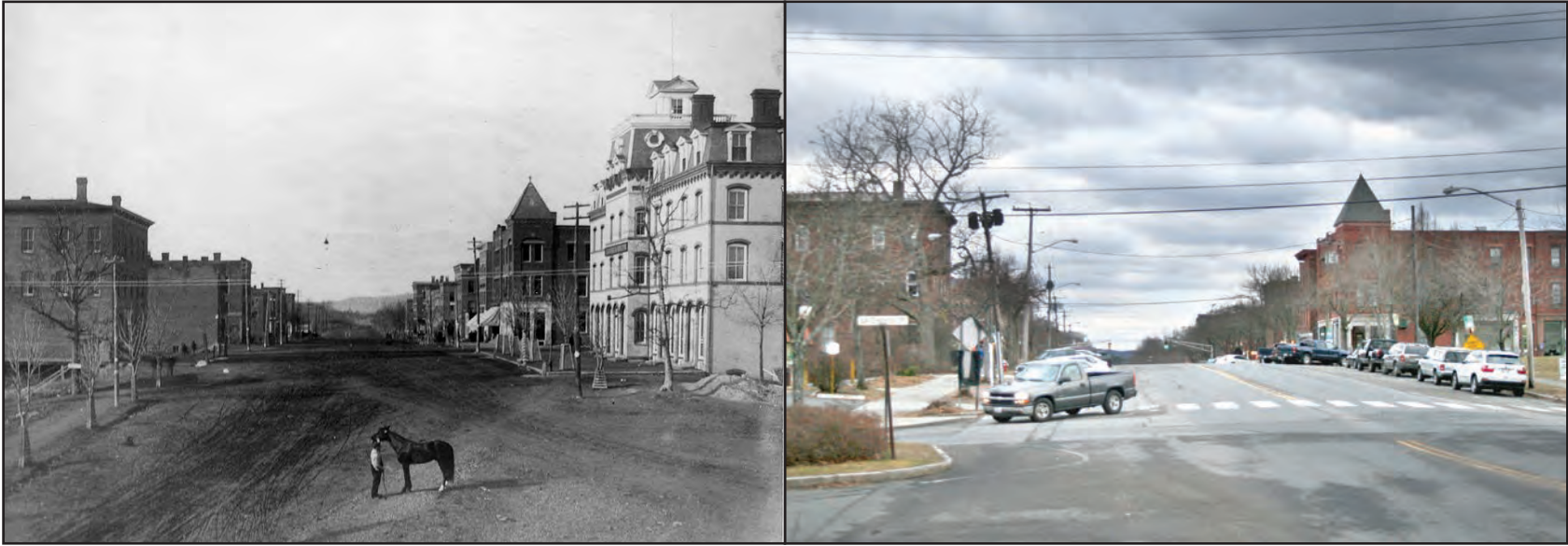
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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JANUARY 1, 2015



## ANOTHER NEW YEAR IN THE VILLAGE

*At left, the village of Turners Falls appears in a rare 1885 photograph, courtesy of the Carnegie Library collection.*

*Ellen Blanchette took the photo on the right this week.*

### A Very Special Issue

Around October, it occurred to the editors of the *Montague Reporter* that this edition was scheduled to go to press New Year's Eve, and be distributed New Year's Day. Not wanting to take a full two-week break for Christmas, or to overwork our volunteers on the holiday, we proposed to publish this special issue.

The *Montague Reporter* is, by our count, at least the fourth weekly newspaper to be headquartered in the village of Turners Falls, following the *Turners Falls Reporter*, *Herald*, and *Observer*.

Nearly the full fifty-year run of the old *Reporter*, and both years of the *Herald*, have been scanned by the Montague Public Libraries and made available to the public at [montague.advantage-preservation.com](http://montague.advantage-preservation.com). We find ourselves lost in there some nights, and in the mornings see our streets through the eyes of alien generations.

Today we invite you to join us. We've compiled news and editorial asides from the first newspaper of each year we could find. The years 1876, 1877, 1881, 1882, 1898, 1907, 1910, and 1920 were not accessible, and for a few other years the first paper we could find was later on in January.

We've taken some liberties with excerpting and reordering the news, and any reader with a serious interest should refer to the source material. In some instances we have even inserted location names without using brackets. By the time we catch up with the early years of our own paper, we have slouched into full paraphrase, in the style of our regular "Ten Years Ago" column.

Two more warnings are due: there are some grim accidents, and acts of violence, described in the following pages, and expressions of undisguised racial and ethnic prejudice. We do not endorse any of these, but include them in the hopes of fostering an understanding of both the past and the present.

Next week we will return to our regular publication of news and feature articles. We sincerely hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as we did putting it together.

So sit up on the sled, dear readers, and tuck in your feet. It's a long coast down through the years.

— Eds.

## Turners Falls Reporter.

Vol. I.

Turners Falls, Franklin County, Mass. Wednesday, January 1, 1873.

No 27

### January 1, 1873

So deep has been the anxiety of the mass of our local readers upon the issue of the negotiation going on for the purchase of the land and water power for these Mills that it is a source of real pleasure to us to be able to chronicle the favorable conclusion of the same, and announce that the Griswold & Sons Cotton mills are to become a reality in our midst.

Mr. Griswold, Sr., having yesterday closed the bargain with the Turners Falls Company for a tract of about ten acres of one of the finest mill sites in the country.

A brief description of the location and proposed buildings will be readily appreciated by our readers. As a matter of course, particulars must be scarce so soon after the completion of the purchase of the ground only; but enough has been done upon the plans by the Engineer of the Company, Wm. P. Crocker, Esq., to give quite an idea of what "Griswoldville" will be.

The lot commences on Sixth Street, about three or four hundred feet below Suspension Bridge, and is bounded on the N.E. by Sixth Street, on the S.E. by J Street, on the S.W. by Tenth Street, and on the N.W. by I Street. It will embrace within itself, beside the land reserved for the canal and the freight branch railroad, and the already laid out streets of the city, which are Canal, Seventh, and Eighth Streets, three new ones — one of which will be known as "Griswold" Street.

The buildings contemplated are

three factories of five hundred feet each, with their outbuildings, as well as one hundred and ten tenement houses....

The mills, when completed, are estimated to contain five hundred looms each; and the whole enterprise will cost little less than \$1,500,000....

A temporary railroad will probably be built from Avenue A to the territory named, across both the present railroads, said road to be worked by "gravity" alone in the descent... that is to say, the cars are loaded and started, their weight propelling them to their destination, and, when emptied, returned by horse-power.

It is now intended to commence a brick-yard on the Main canal, between Eighth and Tenth Streets, at which to manufacture the brick to build the contemplated structures, there being an abundance of clay and sand for that purpose on or near Avenue A.

Of the benefit all these places will be to our town we need not discourse now. Rather let us tell our readers that these are only some of the moves being made, and that the prospect of an improvement in business, an increase of building, and a large addition to the number of inhabitants are only questions of a little time.

### January 7, 1874

Capital crust for coasting. Wet feet, slippery walking, and an occasional "involuntary" were the characteristics of Monday.

The Cutlery will be run upon six day's time hereafter, instead of four.

The Montague Paper Company are running night and day. They have two years' orders ahead. How is that for hard times?

J.B. Marsh has removed his bakery and eating house from Second Street to Pfefferle's building on Fourth Street, where he will be glad to see his old customers.

At the meeting of the County Commissioners today, the petition of Mr. Stoughton and others for a bridge to Riverside was dismissed.

Work on Colle block has been resumed, and will be pressed with vigor. The happiest man in town yesterday was Geo. O. Peabody, the contractor, when he found the snow all out of his way and his large force able to resume operations. He delights in being able to finish a piece of work after he has once commenced it.

There are a couple of young men in this town who should have a little more respect for themselves, and endeavor not to mar the enjoyment of others. On Wednesday evening last, while the ball was in progress at Schuler Hall, a couple of drunken loafers tried to create a disturbance by standing in the doorway and using profane and insulting language to all who passed in or out.

### January 6, 1875

The spirit of the people of Montague Town in being prompt to second the exertions of our citizens in any matter which is for the benefit

of Turners Falls, is often spoken of with admiration, and to that spirit Turners Falls owes much of its success.

The good people of Montague are above selfishness to a degree not to be often found under like circumstances, and while it is unfortunately common with citizens of townships to vote against every measure which would not materially benefit their immediate locality, no matter how much a necessity to the minority, it is happily not so here in Montague.

When the wants of any section of the town become known, the matter is thoughtfully and intelligently taken up, and when the necessity of the improvement asked is demonstrated, the money is voted with a unanimity of feeling which is reassuring.

To this co-operation Turners Falls is indebted for unsurpassed school accommodation, better streets than is common for a village of its age, and many other improvements which are made by the taxes of the town.

### January 2, 1878

F. I. Webster has a large stock of skates. The river froze over yesterday, and the crossing is safe on foot above the ferry.

A timber fell on Joe Charon's hand and smashed it, in the Keith mill, Friday.

A slate blew from the roof of the cutlery building, Friday, and split open the head of a man who happened to be passing.



*A view of the Turners Falls Pulp Co. and John Russell Manufacturing Co. mills in 1872. Courtesy of the Ed Gregory Archive.*



# The Montague Reporter

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August, 2002

Mr. Griswold has finished his work on the mill for the winter, and has gone to Coleraine. He will return early in the spring. He has accomplished a great deal of work, in his own quiet way, this summer.

George L. Manchester has several men at work piping the Keith mill. Some twenty thousand feet of iron pipe of various sizes will be required. The sprinklers are to be of steam pipe instead of galvanized iron as before.

The fire company had a pleasant time at their ball, Friday evening, considering all things. The janitor failing to take care of the hall, there was some inconvenience.

The Christmas festival at the German church was greatly enjoyed. Nearly all the Germans of the village were there, and Christmas was celebrated in good German style. The large Christmas tree was laden with hundreds of presents for young and old.

E.S. Washburn's Last Sensation will give one of their pleasing entertainments at Colle hall, Friday evening. Manager Washburn has reorganized his company since he appeared here last Spring. Actors from the leading theatres of New York and Boston have been engaged, and will appear in an entire new program.

The tramps have a new dodge. The law passed last winter allows towns to work the travelling paupers for an hour or two for their keeping. If they refuse to work, the only punishment is to offer them a home in the county jail at the expense of the county, and this just suits the tramps.

A half dozen of these travelling pests were taken care of here the other night, and in the morning they refused to work, saying they

"did not travel for that business." They were threatened with the county jail, and they begged to be sent there for the winter. Selectman Bartlett took the matter into consideration and concluded to let the vagabonds pass on, rather than to feed them all winter at the county's expense.

Postmaster Chenery has a new horse.

**January 1, 1879**  
The editor is sick abed, and the doctor says his pulse is about 200 in the shade. His disease is a complication of cold, fever, and the blues, brought on by too much hard work and worry for a slight constitution.

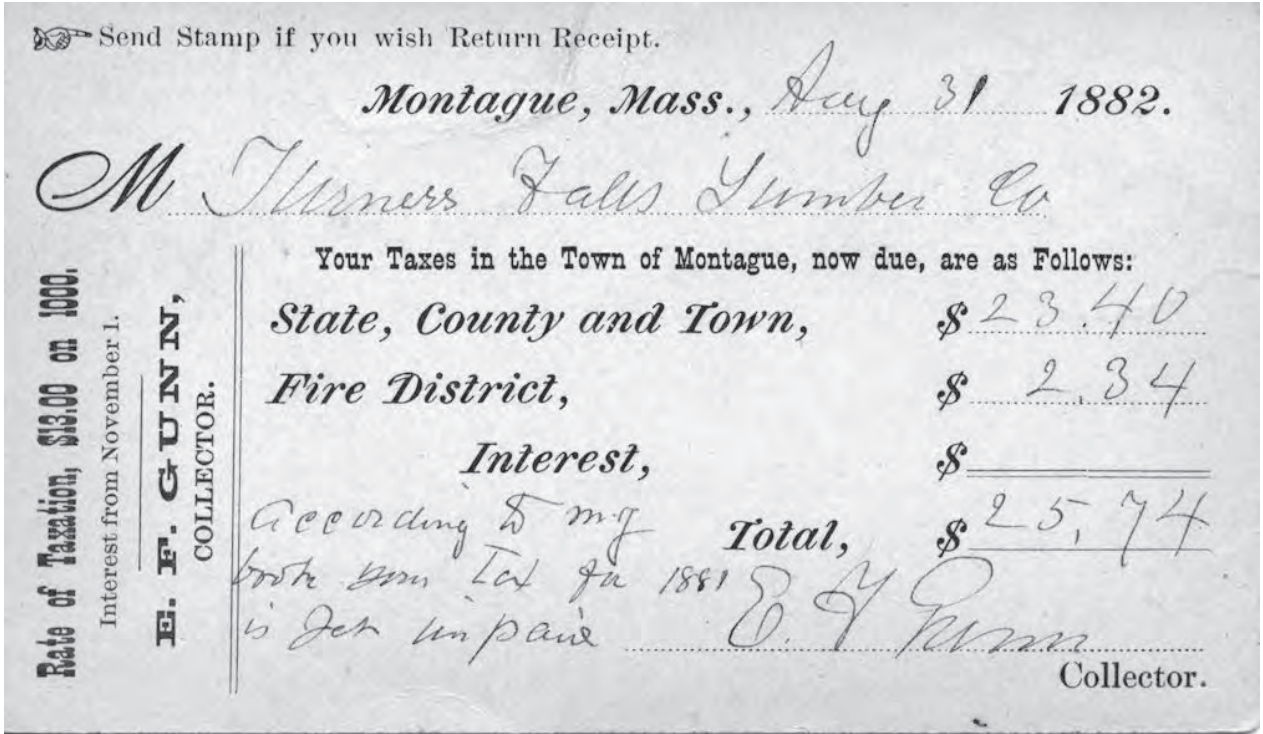
A supposed incendiary fire at Montague City Tuesday night, destroyed the livery barn owned by Nathan Freeland, which was occupied by Dr. E. C. Coy, who loses nothing. Loss on barn \$800. Insurance \$500. James B. Burnham loses \$75 worth of hay, which was stored in the barn.

The game laws will prevent the killing of woodcock, partridges, quail and upland plover after today. Wood duck, black duck and teal may be shot until April 1, but hares, rabbits and gray squirrels not later than March 1.

The game laws have done much to prevent the indiscriminate killing of birds at all seasons of the year and a corresponding increase in the quantity of game to be found when it may be legally killed is apparent.

A new-comer advertises himself as a "shoemaker and physician."

**January 7, 1880**  
Pneumonia is prevalent in the village. Nearly all of the lots on H Street have been sold in the past season. The paper mills are pushed



This 1882 receipt shows taxes owed the Town of Montague by the Turners Falls Lumber Co. (Ed Gregory Archive)

to their utmost capacity, and yet don't get out of orders.

Joseph Griswold wants a number of good weavers to go to work immediately in his cotton mill here... The cotton business is extraordinarily good all through New England, and there is every prospect of a prosperous year for the Griswoldville Manufacturing Company of this village and Coleraine.

The factory at Leverett turned out 30,000 boxes the past year. In Turners Falls, twin sons were born on January 3rd to the wife of J. Gilbault.

Alvah Martin, a respected resident of Gill, and a prominent member of the Methodist church, has just died, leaving a will bequeathing all of his property to the Methodist church of Turners Falls.

Andrew Costelo was run into by a double ripper, used by boys coasting down L Street, and badly injured.

**January 3, 1883**  
Post Master Mayo offers for sale the fixtures in the store he now occupies. The post office will be removed to the new bank block some time this week.

A couple of bronzed gates give a finished appearance to the entrance of the banking rooms of the Crocker National Gate.

Emily St. Cyr, eight-year old, of Third Street, while playing with her sled Monday, fell upon the ice and was seriously injured, suffering from concussion of the brain. The coasting nuisance having caused

so much complaint from owners of horses who have barely escaped accidents lately, the selectmen have forbidden all coasting on the village streets.

The 14-year-old son of Colonel A. Von Schleumbach, the gentleman who resides on the "Stone farm," asked permission of his father to go coasting with some boys on Canada Hill, Monday afternoon. The lad, with two comrades, seated themselves on a double-ripper on the summit of the hill, and started with lightning speed down the steep mountain road.

About halfway down, the sled became unmanageable and ran against the railing. Two of the boys dodged, passed under the rail, and were hurled over the embankment, but unfortunately Master Von Schleumbach was thrown against the rail or the stone post, and fatally injured, his back having been broken by the shock.

There has been fine skating on Lake Pleasant which has been enjoyed by our young people.

Zenas Clapp of Montague killed three fat hogs recently, whose combined weight was over 1300 pounds. The largest tipped the beam at nearly 500 lbs.

**January 2, 1884**  
The French people were the only ones that attempted to make a holiday of New Years'.

Myron Maynard is cutting a large lot of pine near Moore's Corner, to be sawed at his mill in South Montague.

Medric Lenaway has bought a lot of the town farm and also has fifty acres he purchased of Dan Field; there are several small lots of a few thousand cut by farmers; all this lumbering is done in a radius of three miles and sawed on Sawmill River, which is noted for its many mills.

Mrs. Phebe Wood of Leverett, 87 years old, has during the past autumn spun flax from which she wove 10 handsome linen towels each a yard long and half a yard wide. She enjoys excellent health and her senses have not abated in natural force. The weaving was done on a palm-leaf loom and without assistance from any one.

The eighth annual concert and ball of the Alvah Crocker Engine Co., at Colle hall, on Friday evening, was quite well attended, but not so numerously as in former years. However, a pleasant evening

was passed by the participants, and Landlord Foster served a very toothsome supper at the Farren House to a large party.

Druggist Fred Colle has been laid up with the malaria again.

George B. Ewers, the young man who confessed to breaking into Hawks & Reed's clothing store in Greenfield and stealing, was again brought before Justice Williams and charged with breaking into the "Corner clothing store" last April. Ewers says he is not guilty of this crime.

The evidence connecting him with the robbery seems to gain strength from the fact that an auger was found on him which fits the hole made at the time the robbery was committed.

Policeman Keefe has applications for shelter from an unprecedentedly large number of tramps these times. Some have found employment in this busy village.

There are indications of an ice famine next summer, as the ice in the river is very poor.

The selectmen have forbidden coasting on all the principal streets of the village.

**January 7, 1885**  
It looks as though good times were coming rapidly now, with the price of flour jumping up in steps of 25 cents a barrel every few days.

The comedy company that has been at the opera house a couple of weeks have finally left, with a few unpaid bills.

Jacobus Brothers have decorated their handsome wine rooms with a very large number and variety of stuffed birds, and an alligator of large size, put up by the excellent local taxidermist, John Little.

The great challenge game of baseball played at each performance of Hi Henry's Premium Minstrels is a genuine hit in every sense of the word. The contestants appear in regulation base ball suits and do the slang in genuine professional base ball manner.

There will be a social hop at the old skating rink, K Street, to-night, when the best gentleman jig dancer will receive a prize of a meer-schaum pipe.

The vacation at the wallet shop ended and Mr. Weissbrod has begun work again.

About seventeen of our young people attended the young people's meeting at Sunderland last Tuesday.



The great falls and village, as illustrated around 1841. (Ed Gregory Archive)

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The abutment for the new bridge crossing the railroad at the depot is complete on the north side, and the south one is being worked on.

Mr. Persons, who was accidentally shot a few Sundays ago, is having a hard time and his friends are feeling somewhat alarmed about him.

January 6, 1886

How many times have you written 1885 this year?

Christian Class, formerly president of the cooperative cutlery company in Greenfield, has met with quite a severe accident. While at work in the shop he severed an artery and several tendons in one of his wrists.

The Montague Thief Detecting Society held its annual meeting at Wildes' Hotel, Tuesday evening. The treasury department shows a surplus of upwards of \$300. The members of the society commended the discrimination of the thieves who stole the horse from the town instead of from any of their stables, and expressed their surprise and chagrin that anything should be taken in a town where such a flourishing detecting society exists.

On Saturday night as train No. 40 was passing through Millers Falls, a brakeman about 22 years of age by the name of Patterson fell from the train and was killed. Parts of the body were found along the road between Millers Falls and East Deerfield, at which place he was first missed. He was from England and been in this country only three months.

Fred E. Field of Montague has a few tons of hay for sale.

A popular sport these days is pickerel fishing through the ice.

Every other "set" has plans laid for a charter for an aqueduct company to supply the village with water.

The Clark Machine Co. are making one of their largest sized pumps for the Turners Falls Company to be used in supplying the village with water.

The open winter has been very favorable to Contractors Thomas Brothers in the prosecution of their sewer contract, and much more work will be accomplished this year than any one ever supposed possible under the circumstances.

The annual report of the state board of charity shows that there are about 60,000 persons whose existence requires the aid of the state. Of these, 45,000 are poor out of institutions, and 16,000 are inmates of insane, poor and reformatory establishments... There are 225 almshouses, owning 21,000 acres of land.

The pleasant evenings last week were prolific in meteors, some of them quite brilliant.

January 5, 1887

The spasm which seized our people in regard to starting shoe shops here seems to have subsided, and we go along in the old groove again, hoping a flood will wash prosperity to us in some unaccountable way.

For a village off the main line, Turners Falls is having its share of tramps, 248 having been cared for since the middle of October.

The constables have the warrants for the collection of taxes at once. All persons are requested to look at the vote of the town. There is no way of escaping taxes.

The local Hibernians are taking

steps to secure a charter that they may hold real estate and build a block in the spring. The society already has about \$4,000 in the treasury.

Russell Pease has a tenement to rent on K Street.

Peter Codire has gone into partnership with Daniel McCarthy and opened a meat market on Second Street.

The special train for carrying the Boston Globe over the Fitchburg road, due at Orange at 5:07 Sunday morning, dropped a bundle of papers which did not clear the track. It was hit by a freight train that followed, and one of the trucks was dislocated. On reaching a curve half a mile west of Wendell three cars jumped the rails and two of them blocked the east-bound track, which was cleared by an express that came along soon after. The other track was blockaded for six hours, and a wrecking train had to be called from Fitchburg.

Some 200 tons of hay are being drawn out of Leyden this winter; more than for five years past.

In Montague, two crops of the '86 Havana seed were sold last week to Hartman of New York. There are some odd lots on hand yet.

The house and barn of John Black of North Bernardston were burned Wednesday by the explosion of a lamp in a chamber.



Men cut ice on Green Pond for storage. The harvest and storage of ice was a major New England industry before the advent of electric refrigeration. Image appears uncredited in Kyle Scott, Montague: Labor and Leisure (Arcadia, 2005)

The Sons of Veterans have a social dance at temperance hall, Friday evening of this week.

One half of the new iron bridge over which the Connecticut River railroad will cross the Fitchburg railroad at Cheapside, near Greenfield, will be placed on the abutments this week.

The sidewalks on the Avenue have been in a wretched glassy state for several days, dangerous in the extreme for pedestrians. Why the merchants don't scatter a few ashes on the sidewalks in front of their business is a mystery we cannot fathom.

January 4, 1888

Twenty-four couples tripped the "light fantastic toe" to the music of Colburn's orchestra, at Society Hall in Millers Falls last Saturday evening.

On Monday forenoon the snow slid from the roof of the building in which Neil Keefe's meat market is located and frightened his two horses, which were at the door, into a run.

One of them left a part of the sleigh to which he was attached on the railroad crossing. Both horses were easily captured, however, before they went far and no damage was done.

The wheels of the Millers Falls

Company's shops did not run on Monday, as the annual account of stock was being taken, and several of the boys took advantage of the occasion to tempt the finny inhabitants of the lake to come up through a hole in the ice. Fred Ryther was the champion as far as heard from. He succeeded in capturing five, the largest weighing two pounds and two ounces.

Braided cloth jackets are the caprice of the season.

P.F. Welch has doubled the size of his grocery store on the Avenue.

Brickmaker Daniel Thomas is crowded with business since the snow came. Wood lots, here, there, and everywhere, are being cut off by his army of workmen, getting ties for the railroads, wood for his brickyard, and lumber for his extensive building operations.

N.S. Henry, for the Lake Pleasant association, advertises for proposals, which will be received until February 1, for certain exclusive privileges at the lake for the coming season, including control of the restaurant, bakery and row-boats.

The 57th annual meeting of the Bernardston mutual society for detecting thieves will be held at the New England house, January 9. An innovation in the custom of the society will be made this year, the members being requested to bring their wives.

a whole river.

Few people have any idea of the cost of publishing a newspaper, or realize what a little way the yearly subscription price goes toward paying expenses. The cost of rollers, rubber blankets, wear and tear of machinery, type and tools alone in the REPORTER office cost more than a third of the total that could be raised in subscriptions were the paper taken into every family in the village! That is without adding a single item of cost for labor, paper, fuel, ink, insurance, taxes, and incidentals without end, to say nothing of the editor's work or interest on capital invested...

It has cost us on an average \$1,000 a year out of pocket to keep a newspaper going in Turners Falls, with money earned by doing job printing for concerns in the cities, and we are going to continue its publication, no matter what it costs us until the thing is made to pay, which time will come after the people grow richer and a few funerals have taken place.

January 2, 1889

We are to have a new industry in the village, the manufacture of men's shoes, the capital having been readily subscribed by our citizens, a lot of land generously contributed by the Turners Falls Company, and the papers will be signed, sealed, and delivered in a few days.

A gentleman will come here from Brockton and be superintendent of the company. Cutler, Field & Lyons will always continue to manufacture women's shoes in Greenfield, and the shire town people need not lay awake nights in anticipation of any one going over there to steal their shoe factories.

Should a new industry be started here that would bring in a thousand people, the taxes of the town would be materially lightened, and a half dozen factories must cause the taxes to drop one half. Roads, streets, bridges, etc., would cost no more, and the number of takers of water would soon make the district taxes lighter.

We have a half dozen expensive churches to tax our earnings now, and this tax would gladly be shared by the new-comers. No one can yet estimate how much the many burdens of civilized life will be lightened when the population increases by a thousand or two.

The building of the Turners Falls Paper mill caused a boom that rushed up 120 houses, big and little, in one year. The building of a shoe factory will certainly accomplish at least half as much now.

A boy by the name of Foley got his hand in the gears in the cotton mill last week. Dr. Messer was called, and neatly amputated a crushed finger.

Ed Wyman recently shot two immense horned owls near his house in Gill. One of them has been set up and is now displayed in Druggist Darling's show window, attracting much attention.

The REPORTER office will send out hundreds of bills this week, and would like an early remittance. The printer must settle every bill he owes by Saturday night, if he would live.

The lack of snow is a serious inconvenience to Franklin farmers who have contracts to fill and timber jobs to complete. The remote wood lots on the sharp inclines in the hilly and mountainous districts of Western Massachusetts are

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**Third Street, Turners Falls.**

These ads ran in the January 1, 1890 edition of the Turners Falls Reporter.

not often easy to access with wheels, and “good sleddin” is ardently wished.

Coleraine farmers are loath to part with their apples, which were stored to await an advance in the market, but the fruit is growing no better in the cellars and is being slowly shipped.

A lodge of Knights of Pythis was organized Saturday evening at Orange, with 50 members. The officers will be installed by an officer from the grand lodge on the 11th.

Lyman Fairbanks of North Heath fell from a beam in his mill the other day and injured his back and hip so that he was partially paralyzed. It is not likely that he will recover the full use of his limbs.

The failure of the onion crop to bring remunerative prices to the growers has made money scarce among Sunderland’s farmers. The producers of cream are the only ones who are having any income from their last season’s crop.

The scholars of the Dry Hill school surprised their teacher, Millie Burnham, by hanging a gold watch chain on the tree at the chapel on Christmas eve for her.

In the discussion of the question “Whether dead languages should be taught in our High schools or not,” by the Literary Club, it was decided that they should be.

The young woman at Northfield seminary who was thought to have been fatally injured Monday evening will survive. Only one arm was broken as the result of her frightening fall.

The colored minstrel troupe at Colle’s opera house, Monday night, was not up to the standard of darkey talent.

Prof. Bickmore, in the Museum of Natural History, New York, presented on a screen illustrations of the footprints of one of the amphibians of the coal period. The illustration was a drawing from the great slab of bluestone which belongs to the museum, and was taken from the stone quarry at Turners Falls, Mass.

The animal itself, Mr. Bickmore

explained, was one of those which roamed in great numbers along the Connecticut Valley during the carboniferous period. From fossils of the animal, which may have been obtained in other portions of the valley, it appears to have had an elongated body, about fourteen feet long, on four legs.

Mrs. Fanny P. Stowe of Conway was committed to the insane asylum at Northampton, Tuesday.

#### January 1, 1890

We don’t want the electric railroad here, any of us, as there is absolutely no need of it. It would be a dangerous thing, and would frighten every horse that should chance to be passed by the cars on narrow highways. No woman would feel safe on the roads, and deaths would be looked for constantly.

The people of the towns surrounding would have right to object to the road on account of its danger. The Greenfield people have use for the road only for the fish that they hope it will bring to their net. No Greenfield man ever comes here but for the dollar that he can get out of us.


The law forbidding the sale of cigars, cigarettes, & c., to minors is utterly disregarded in this village, and the streets are filled with cigarette smoking urchins, so much so that the habit is spreading with alarming rapidity.

If some one does not take hold pretty soon and stop the wholesale making of paupers and criminals by such free license to the youth of this village, both in rum and tobacco, there will be a day of reckoning which will go hard with us. It is not a theory but a condition that confronts us, and any one with half an eye can see it. In a few years we shall be cursed with swarms of thieves, drunkards and bummers, and few workmen, if things continue.

Anchor ice has bothered the mills very much lately, although the weather has not been cold. What is called anchor ice, however, is really ice that has come down the stream

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tree, that the prospect of his recovery is doubtful.

Chas. J. Moulton is making arrangements to place Farley & Tolman’s knitting mill in the basement of their paper mill at Farley’s. It is now in Orange employing 30 hands.

Potatoes have gone up to \$1.10 a bushel and onions to \$1.40, and good ones are scarce at any price.

Miss Jennie Axtelle was agreeably surprised on Christmas eve, to receive an envelope containing nearly eight dollars, a present for services as organist at Montague City.

The supper for the benefit of the Montague street lamps, Wednesday evening last, was well patronized.

Three wildcats crossed the highway on the mountain above the Bozrah district in Hawley. The cats seem to be unpleasantly numerous.

#### January 6, 1892

The county jail starts off the new year with 37 prisoners, which is an increase over the number confined a year ago.

Cutler, Lyons & Field of Greenfield, have bought some of the machinery of the Turners Falls shoe company for their new shop in Greenfield.

The grip is epidemic at Heath. The aged wife of Rev. B. B. Cutler died at Heath Center, Saturday. There seems to be no abatement of the disorder, about half of the inhabitants being ill, with new cases constantly appearing.

The directors of the Franklin electric light company have chosen C. W. Hazelton, treasurer, in place of Henry D. Bardwell, resigned.

The street lights of Montague City have ceased to shine for the belated traveller, on account of a dearth of small (or large) boys to assume the office of lamp-lighter. Some of the citizens are following Geo. Gemmell’s example of maintaining lamps in front of their residences.

Last evening, while a party of Montague City young ladies were skating on a pond near the home of T. C. Kells, Miss Loveland broke through the ice and had all her clothing soaked with water, which froze about her before she got home.

#### January 4, 1893

Turners Falls had so much wrangling over the appointment of a deputy that nobody would touch the office now with a ten foot pole, it would seem. When the time does come the name of the man who gets the appointment will be the one the business men ask for, and everything will be above board.

F.E. Field of Montague filled his ice house, last week, from his pond, with ice measuring nearly nine inches in thickness.

Jack Frost takes a hand in the plumbing business these cold nights, so look out for the water pipes.



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Max Baker, a local rag man, circa 1895. (Ed Gregory Archive)

The Millers Falls house in which S. T. Buckman lives came near burning one day last week, while none of the family were home. When discovered all the wood work back of the stove, was just getting ready to burn, and it was fortunate that it was discovered in time. Later in the day, the house was flooded by the water pipes bursting.

The Unity Club will meet this week at the residence of Mr. Free, on Friday evening. The essayists will be: Mrs. Alfred Free and Miss Katherine L. Hartley, and the event under discussion, "The Insurrection of Women," Oct 5th and 6th, 1789.

Landlord C. D. Whitaker of the Farren House, although sixty years old, is said to be one of the best skaters in New England, and daily he excites the admiration of on-lookers by fine fancy skating.

John Phillips, a resident of Shelburne Falls, committed suicide, Friday night, by taking an ounce or more of laudanum. He swallowed the drug Friday evening, and lived until Sunday morning. It is supposed that despondency caused his rash act.

Prof. Lil Kerslake is home again after a trip with his "pig circus" through the Middle States.

January 3, 1894

There are now 49 prisoners at the county jail, which is the highest number for a long time, as the average for the summer was but about 23. The number has been increased of late on account of the locking up of a lot of tramps and vagrants.

In Sunderland, some of the farmers feel the hard times severely, especially those who have not sold their '92 tobacco. Onions sold low this year, which makes money much scarcer.

The Turners Falls Cotton Mills now run but three days a week.

The cutlery works shut down in all departments, last week Thursday, until to-morrow, when work will probably be resumed.

The first meeting of the creditors of Peck & Hood, the insolvent druggists, was held in the Insolvency Court room at Greenfield Saturday afternoon. Seven small claims were proved and the meeting was

adjourned until the 10th.

The back towns, many of them, struggle under a very heavy burden, and a report calls attention to the fact. There is Hawley with a tax rate of \$23, Savoy \$25, Shutesbury \$24, Charlemont \$21.50, etc. Long stretches of costly highway to maintain with small farming interests to pay the bill, tell the story here.

The St. Mary's Temperance Society will hold a concert and dance in their hall on Fifth Street on Friday evening of this week. There will be good music.

Albert H. Rist, son of G. L. Rist, the shoe dealer, was married on Wednesday last, at the home of the bride's mother in North Adams, to M. Agnes, daughter of Mrs. Jeanette McDonald.

Sears, the grocer, distributed candy among the village children in Millers Falls.

Rodney Gunn's little girl who was so seriously injured some time ago, by running into a stone wall while coasting down hill is much improved, and will recover.

January 2, 1895

Although hard times are felt most keenly in manufacturing villages, Turners Falls has been blessed with a fair degree of prosperity the past year, largely on account of the new Keith Mill, which has been in contemplation and under construction for a couple of years, and now is drawing so near completion as to make its existence felt in a marked degree in the community.

It was decided to practically double the capacity of the mill. The main building is an extension of the old mill proper, 42 by 180 feet, five stories high, extending north along the river bank up to the John Russell Cutlery Company's line.

All of the buildings are on massive masonry resting on the solid rock, the greatest care having been taken from the inception to secure the utmost solidity by the best skill obtainable.

A well-appointed dynamo room has two machines, and over three hundred incandescent lights are in the mills.

The Montague Paper Company has spent some \$35,000 or \$40,000

in repairs, and in bringing their machinery up to date, so as to be able to hold their own safely in the fierce strife for business which the hard times have been the means of augmenting.

The Turners Falls Paper Co. put up an addition to their mill, 30 by 45 feet, and two stories high, of brick, to give themselves more room in their manufacturing operations, especially in screening their wood pulp.

Two of the finest residences that have been erected in Turners Falls for a long time are those of Philip and Jacob Jacobus on Prospect and Central streets. The plans were drawn by the Cooperative Building Plan Association of New York. The buildings stand on a lot 100 by 209 feet, and are of wood, two stories high, with ample attics. Circular towers rise from the street corners, and bay windows are on each side.

A two story cottage has been built on Park street for Frederick Roder, the cigar manufacturer, at an expense of about \$2,000. The work was done by John D. Kiely. Mr. Kiely has also built two-story cottages on Park street for Valentine Griesbach, Jr., and Mrs. Mary Milkey.

The selectmen of Gill have had Civil Engineer C.W. Clapp at work preparing plans and profile of the road from the suspension bridge through the village of Riverside, and thence by the "straits" road toward Gill Center. A petition is to be presented to have the road established as a State highway.

Why don't the town of Montague petition for a state road. Some one suggests a section across the plains towards Montague, to connect with the state road that will eventually be built towards Leverett. Another suggests the selection of the much traveled road between the Montague City bridge and Turners Falls.

The sleighing is now pretty good through the country, and the farmers are busy hauling wood and timber.

A large audience gathered at Rugg's hall, Montague City, on Christmas eve, to witness the distribution of presents from the Christmas tree.

Prepare for the Masonic ball on the 18th. It will be the event of the season.

The local grocers have this morning received telegrams announcing the great advance in price of Florida oranges since the destructive frosts. The prices have trebled, and no fruit will be in the market at any price in a month or two.

Nine-tenths of our people are earnest toilers for bread-and-butter but unfortunately we have quite a sprinkling who persist in trying to live by their wits - although nature gave them scant allowance. There was a time in this valley, when drones or objectionable people attempted to fasten themselves on the community, town meetings would be called to take proper steps to effectually rid the places of the ob-

nnoxious people. A little of the old Puritan sense in operation at the present time would tend to make more wholesome communities, and lessen the burden of the hard-working laboring man. Why not put the weeders at work?

The two recent deaths at the Wendell town farm have reduced the number of inmates to three, an unusually small number.

January 1, 1896

A substantial lot of citizens attended the public hearing before the selectmen of Montague Monday afternoon on the petition of the Montague street railway company for permission to build an electric railway from Montague Centre to connect with the present system at Lake Pleasant. There was not a voice raised against the idea, and the meeting was very harmonious.



This photograph from 1908 shows where the trolley, or electric railway, crossed the Sawmill River into Montague Center. (Credited courtesy of the Greenfield Historical Society in Kyle Scott's Montague: Labor and Leisure.)

There is considerable feeling at Millers Falls over the proposed change of postmasters. It may interest many to know that a change has been decided up on by the powers that be at Washington. Cool-headed outsiders do not look upon post-offices as rewards for anything but faithful service and political exertion, other things being equal.

Now that the former two factions at Lake Pleasant have been merged into one harmonious whole, Dr. E. A. Smith of Brandon, Vt., a shrewd and capable business man, has been selected to have full charge of the property and grounds at the lake, to make contracts with the railroad, and to look after other things. It looks as though the association had taken a new lease of life.

A tornado did a little damage at Montague City. A number of trees were blown down. A part of the sheet-iron roof and a shed belonging to the Rod shop was torn off and other damage done.

There was a freight wreck at the mill track, Saturday. The Fitchburg gang was making a fly and some cars on which brakeman McCloud was riding attained too much speed and struck some cars loaded with bricks. Two freight cars were badly

wrecked. The citizens of Millers Falls are thankful that the debris has been removed from the sidewalks, which has made them impassable since the fire.

The tuberculosis test was tried on nearly all of the herds of cows in Sunderland, last week, and sixteen deceased ones were found and sent off.

John Hastings was badly injured at the Turners Falls paper mill, last week. While sawing a piece of timber, it in some way slipped and striking him cut his face very badly and almost put his eye out. Mr. Hastings only began work at the mill the day before.

Effie Chapman entertained her friends with a "bubble party" at her home, Thursday evening. Pearl Haskins received the first prize and Hattie Howard the booby prize.

At Montague the tobacco barn of Warren Bardwell was demolished.

January 6, 1897

A saw-mill belonging to G.H. Mann near Zoar Station was burned Monday morning. The saw-mill machinery had been removed and quite extensive alterations made in the building preparatory to receiving the machinery for making bobbins. It was intended to employ 50 to 60 hands and the loss of the enterprise is a great disappointment to the people of the little village. Mr. Mann has been extremely unfortunate in fires, this being his fifth since he has lived in Zoar and the ninth that he has had.

The family of Clifford and Aurilia Bourbeau held a very pleasant family reunion Friday and Saturday on their farm in Bernardston. Mr. Bourbeau has been for many years a contractor and builder in Turners Falls, and retired from active business a few months ago.

There have been several cases of scarlet fever in different parts of Montague, but none fatal. Mrs. Sanford Marsh is quite sick with diphtheria.

In the insolvency court Friday, 30 claims were proved against the

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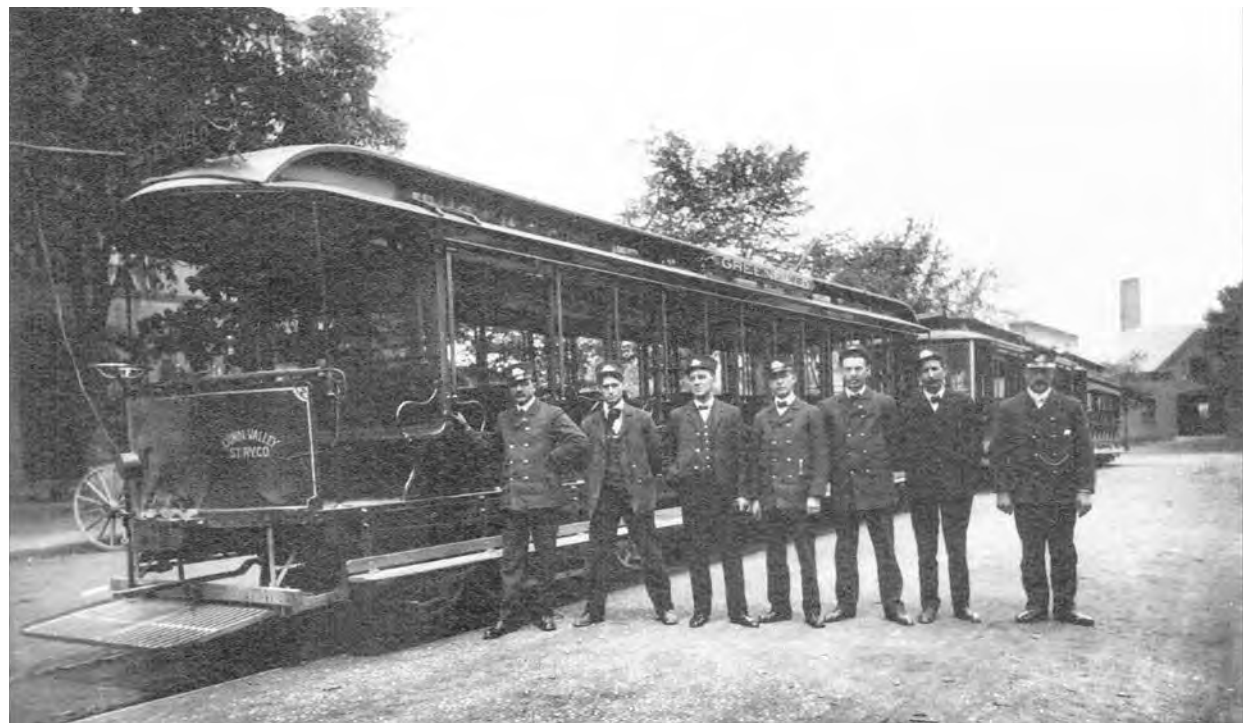
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This circa 1900 photograph of the Connecticut Valley Street Railway Company's car and crew at Turners Falls appeared in Kyle Scott's Montague: Labor and Leisure (Arcadia, 2005).

Charlemont co-operative creamery association; that of A.L. Avery for \$750, for the balance due on real estate, was the largest single claim.

Willie Clapp has gone to New York to learn the barber business.

The town of Montague is far ahead in the county lists in the valuation of buildings built, although its number of buildings was less. Millers Falls helped out wonderfully.

There was a lively runaway and a free distribution of meat on several of the streets, Saturday, when a horse attached to a meat wagon and belonging to a butcher from Greenfield took fright and finally wound up by coming in contact with a post near the depot.

The selectmen of Erving and Montague, yesterday, presented plans to the county commissioners for the new bridge to be built over Millers river at Millers Falls.

January 4, 1899

You must be *fin de siecle* these days, if you want to or not.

The grip is rampant in town, and in every household there is at least one sufferer from the disease.

Miss Mary Vladish returned to Athol business college, after spending the holidays with her parents on Seventh street.

The Bernardston brass band will give a band concert in the Gill town hall, this evening, followed by a social dance.

The Millers Falls company's shops have shut down, to take account of stock.

Herbert S. Dickinson of Greenfield committed suicide in the northern union station at Boston, Thursday afternoon in a very tragic and sensational manner.

An unforeseen trouble has come to the freak country newspapers that wanted to adopt the emasculated freak words that have been robbed of their legitimate ancestry and well understood traces of origin. Such as bought their editorial opinions in plate-form have been unable to find a freak plate concern, and so the village fence is painted in the words of the modern crank, while the world over the ocean is

regulated in the language of the dictionary as supplied in chunks a column in length.

The fire department has bought a new fire alarm bell to replace the old one which would never alarm anyone.

January 3, 1900

The French population observed New Year's day as a holiday, and appropriate services were held in St. Anne's church.

John M. Tarbox, 71, formerly a well-known manufacturer and later an inventor, died suddenly of heart disease, Wednesday, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. A. T. Beals. He had been rather feeble for some time, but he died suddenly, being found dead in bed. Many of his inventions were for the improvement of sewing machines.

In Millers Falls, S.H. Amidon has added a fire escape to his opera house block.

The contract for the lathing, plastering and stucco work of St. Mary's Church has been given to Mr. James J. Nolan, of Providence, R.I. Mr. Nolan is an expert workman. He has done some of the best Catholic churches in New England.

John W. Haigis of the Corner bookstore spent a few days in Marlow, N.H.

The ladies of the Unitarian church will have another of their popular food sales, Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

The electric cars were delayed, Sunday night, because the power gave out at the station, owing to

Electric Railroad Time Table.

For Greenfield: Leave Turners Falls at a.m. 6:20, 7:00, 7:40, 8:20, 9:00, 9:33, 10:20, 11:00, 11:40; p.m., 12:20, 1:00, 1:40, 2:20, 3:00, 3:40, 4:30, 5:00, 5:20, 5:40, 6:18, 7:00, 7:00, 7:40, 8:20, 9:00, 9:40.

For Millers Falls: Leave Turners Falls at a.m., 7:00, 11:00; p.m., 4:20, 9:00.

For Montague: Leave Turners Falls at a.m., 7:00; p.m. 12:20, 2:20, 5:40, 9:00.

trouble with the water.

In Wendell, James Powers fell from his bicycle, last week, injuring his back so that it is feared he will be laid up for some time.

The snow fall was not sufficient to make the longed for sleighing possible.

The mumps still continue to gain victims.

January 2, 1901

The new century was welcomed in by the ringing of some of the church bells and the blowing of all the mill whistles at midnight, and this was kept up for about five minutes. Everywhere in the village numbers of people watched the dawning of the twentieth century, and a great many including numerous Protestants attended the solemn and impressive midnight mass at St. Mary's church.

The stone work for the coal pockets which the Elseck paper company is building is about completed and the work of grading about the walls will soon commence. The B. & M. road will do part of the work for the company, hauling the gravel from the sand pits with gravel trains.

The New England telephone company yesterday took possession of the Northfield exchange, which has been operated by Edward S. Bardwell for some time.

The Clark Machine Co. is rushed with orders, these days, for the popular Marshall paper engines, of which Frank J. Marshall is the inventor. Several of these engines have been ordered for mills in the west.

Garadiah Wade, while showing his corn sheller to a friend, had the misfortune to get his forefinger caught and crushed so badly that he had to have it amputated.

A freight train ran into the gravel train at West Deerfield Monday afternoon, causing a cessation of traffic for a short time.

Two pike, one weighting 13 lbs. and the other 12 lbs., were caught in Barton's cove, through the ice, yesterday, by a party of Greenfield fishermen.

The late Henry L. Pratt, president of the Millers Falls company, left an estate of an estimate value of \$350,000. He bequeathed \$1,000 to the church in Shutesbury, his native town, and \$500 to the church in Gill.

Frank B. Fay of Northfield has been committed to the insane asylum at Northampton.

There's a new club in town. It is the Owl club, and is composed of about a dozen young men, who have their quarters in the Hibernian block.

Uri Stone of Wendell caught a lively grasshopper in his dooryard the day before Christmas.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY OVERTURE

Culhane, Chace and Weston's Minstrels, the famous organization of thirty (all white) performers, will make their first appearance at Colle's opera house, Tuesday evening, Jan. 8, presenting one of the largest and most expensive minstrel companies on the road. As a special feature for this season the Famous Three St. Felix sisters have been re-engaged, and will be seen in one of the best black face singing and dancing acts now before the public.

The entire company appear in black face, including the grand orchestra of fourteen soloists. One of the finest street parades ever seen in this place will be given.

The new century has furnished us with delightful weather so far.

January 1, 1902

Louis Bitzer, doing business under the name of M.L. Bitzer, in Starbuck's block on Avenue A, shot and instantly killed his young woman clerk, Miss Ida Columbe, aged 18 years, at about 10 o'clock, yesterday morning, then sat down at his desk and wrote this statement on a piece of wrapping paper:

"While Ida and I were packing holiday goods, I accidentally discharged a pistol and hit the dear girl in the temple. This accident was more than I can bear, and rather than stand trial, I would prefer to die, and it is better that my family go with me. O God, don't blame me for doing this."

Before this was finished, a little girl, Marjorie Douglass, went into the store to get some article there for repairs. Bitzer informed her it was not done, but to come after it the next day, as his little boy had been shot.

Locking the front door, he went out the back door, closed it, broke a pane of glass in the door, and fastened the bolt, then he hurried through the alley bareheaded, passing some one in the way, whom he informed he had forgotten his hat, to his home. He rushed upstairs revolver in hand, and shot the sick boy, Louis, aged 5, as he lay in his bed, killing him instantly; then fired at his wife, the ball passing through her nose, then his oldest daughter, Anna, 16 ears old, was shot in the head, the wound not necessarily being a fatal one, and then the second daughter Carrie, aged 12, was shot through the hand and lobe of the ear.

Having killed outright his clerk and young sick son, and wounding apparently fatally, all the rest of his family, he started down stairs to his mother, when the Lutheran minister, Rev. A. Faust, held him and turned him back into his home.

Sheriff Davis, Selectman Gerald and Constable Allard, promptly were on the scene, and they found him embracing his wife, and both in a flood of tears. They took him to the lock-up. It was not until then that the fact of the clerk being the first victim was known.

The Reporter has no desire nor taste to produce an elaborate story of the affair. It is a black day for an unusually quiet and orderly manufacturing village.

A huge pig appeared on the Avenue yesterday afternoon, perhaps for a breath of fresh air, and caused much amusement and excitement by his erratic movements. He was captured after a lively chase, and was dragged down the Third street alley by a rope attached to a hind leg.



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This 1905 photograph (from Scott's Montague: Labor and Leisure) shows a crew of men building decking alongside the canal at the Keith mill.

He protested vigorously to being towed, and disappeared from the scene amid a chorus of yells from the small boys, and an assortment of squeals from himself.

January 7, 1903

Last week the sledding was excellent and teams were more numerous on the road than dogs on Wendell common in summer time. Louis Bitzer was taken to Charlestown last Saturday.

Who in the world ever started the controlling idea of some Turners Falls minds that we'll never be happy until we're as big as Holyoke? The writer has heard it for over thirty years, on the corners, in the stores, everywhere. Still we're not as big as Holyoke.

At present there are but seven telephones in Bernardston and the only ones in Gill are those at Riverside and in the general store and school house buildings at Mt. Hermon. About 30 residents of these two towns have told the company they would be glad to have the telephone service. The line is to be extended to North Bernardston in the spring.

The old box shop connected with the Millers Falls Co.'s plant is being torn down to give place to a new and larger building 100x40 feet and two stories high. The lower floor will probably be used for the automatic screw machines. The top floor will be occupied by machinists and tool-makers. These changes were made necessary by increasing business.

The Crocker Institution for Savings has decided to make separate rooms for the banks sometime during the year. A plate glass front will be put in on Second Street.

The two basket ball games played in Hibernian hall last Saturday night were very interesting. The first game was between the Father Mathew first team and the Shelburne Falls team. The latter won, 17 to 10. The Father Mathew second team played the Greenfield Hibernians and defeated them 10 to 8.

As O.T. Negus and Lee Weatherhead were out hunting one day last week, Mr. Negus accidentally shot Mr. Weatherhead in the leg. The shot numbered about 18, but Mr. Weatherhead refuses to have them cut out.

A jolly ping pong party was held

at the Unitarian church, Thursday night.

J.P. Morgan fell from a load of hay last week and broke an arm.

January 6, 1904

A rather small company of voters attended the special town meeting last night and finally disposed of the mooted Carnegie library site question, about which so much has been heard pro and con.

The library committee recommended the lot on the corner of Prospect and Seventh streets as the site for the library, but the preference of the voters seemed to be for a lot on the Avenue. The lot owned by the Turners Falls company, on the southeast corner of Avenue A and Seventh street, opposite the present library, was chosen.

The most disastrous fire in this vicinity for years occurred at Riverside last Thursday morning, when the mill of the Turners Falls Lumber Co. was burned to the ground in an incredibly short time. George W. Hamilton, the night watchman of the mill, is missing, and his disappearance adds the element of tragedy to the event.

Another neighborhood squabble around the Poles at Turners Falls' South End was aired in the district court, Monday morning. Stephen and John Woltan were arraigned for assault and battery on the wife of a fellow Pole, John Jonic. Another brother of John and Stephen was implicated in the affair but he had made himself scarce and could not be found.

The case possessed all the familiar characteristics of a Polish quarrel and it appears that Mrs. Jonic defended herself valiantly. Stephen Woltan was found guilty and fined \$10 which he paid. John was discharged.

Marguerite George, who was arraigned in the district court last month for the larceny of a valuable opal and diamond brooch, the property of Miss C. L. Batchelder of Somerville, who was a guest at the hotel in Montague at the time of the theft, pleaded guilty to the charge in the district court, Saturday morning, and also pleaded guilty to lewd and lascivious cohabitation.

Richard Hopkins of Millers Falls was arraigned Thursday charged with burning his house with intent to defraud the German-American

insurance company.

J.C. Collins of Hartford, who came here about four months ago and opened a first class restaurant and dining room in Colle's block, closed his business last week and left town. Mr. Collins conducted the place in an excellent manner, but the venture did not pay.

The plumbers have been driven nearly into nervous prostration the past few days by the rush of work occasioned by the intense cold.

The Greenfield and Turners Falls street railway has recently bought two handsome new vestibule cars in Pittsfield. The companies have also bought a 200 kilowatt rotary converter, and a 100 kilowatt generator, to be installed at the power plant.

The Millers Falls Paper company, being unable to secure enough women help for their mill, is talking of putting Polish girls to work. There are plenty of applications from men but the number of women applicants is altogether inadequate.

Will Carroll met with a painful accident in the foundry recently. He was dumping hot sand when some of it flew into his eye burning it badly.

Bert Jennison, while at work in the Millers Falls Co.'s shop, had the misfortune of injuring his arm by the bursting of the emery wheel on which he was working.

The Father Mathew basket ball team will go to Brattleboro, Vt. next Saturday night and play the Y.M.C.A. team of that place.

The Poles and other members of the Slavic race have formed an organization at Sunderland known as "The Sunderland Society of Sons of Poland and Lithuania." They aim to find employment for their own people, to assist when needed, and in general to promote their welfare.

The sleighing is good but precious few people possess the courage necessary to take a sleigh ride in this weather.

January 11, 1905

The fine new Hotel Vladish, just erected on the corner of Avenue A and Fifth street, has been finished throughout and will be open to the public tonight. The building is brick, three stories high, fronting on the Avenue, and extending on Fifth street some 70 feet, and makes a fine appearance.

The whole house is wired for electric lights and the fixtures put in place, although electricity will be unattainable for some months. The house is also wired to every room for telephones, and instruments will be put in the best rooms now.

The property is owned by the Vladish brothers, young men who have grown up in the village. The selectmen have granted them an innholder's license for the hotel, and a license for bowling alleys.

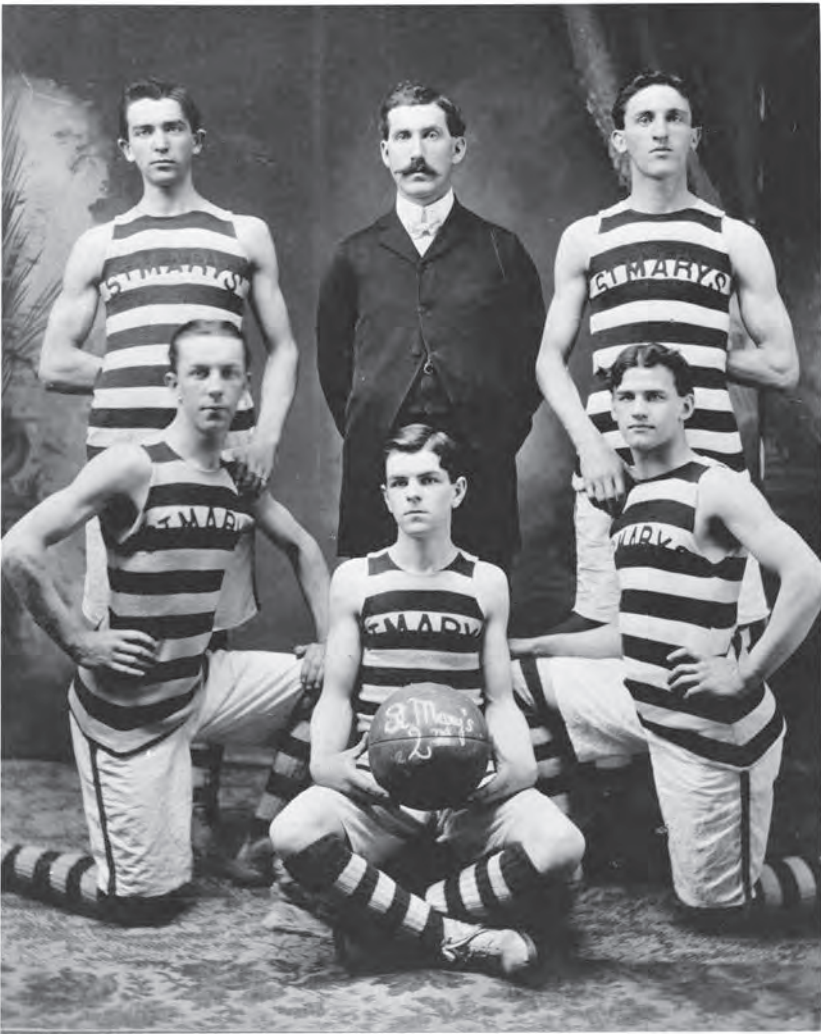
The electric cars were hindered by the storm, and few trips have

TOWN OF ERVING  
FY 2015 CDBG PUBLIC HEARING

The Town of Erving will hold a public hearing on **Monday, January 5, 2015 at 7 p.m.** in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Erving Town Hall, 12 East Main Street, Erving, to solicit public response to the submission of an FY 2015 Massachusetts **Community Development Block Grant** (CDBG) application to the Department of Housing and Community Development on behalf of Erving, New Salem, Northfield, Wendell and Warwick. The snow date is January 12, 2015 at 7 p.m.

This meeting's purpose is to discuss the application which may include: a Housing Rehabilitation Program, Planning Activity and a Social Service Program. Representatives from Franklin County Regional Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA) will be present at the hearing to discuss the application and programs. The Town of Erving will serve as the lead community for this grant application and will contract with HRA to administer the CDBG Program. The Town encourages residents to attend the meeting where any person or organization can be heard.

The Town of Erving is an equal opportunity provider.



Attorney James Dolan shared this picture of the 1903 St. Mary's basketball team. His grandfather, Francis E. Dolan, holds the ball. The St. Mary's and Father Mathew temperance societies both fielded championship basketball teams.

been made since Tuesday. Saturday they began running after the snow plow had been over the track.

The second union meeting of the three literary clubs of the village, the Friends in Council, the Monday Afternoon and the Fortnightly, will be held at the Baptist church next Monday evening, the 16th.

The students of the Turners Falls High school have just issued the first number of a school paper, the Echo, which it is proposed to publish regularly hereafter if it proves a success.

The paper will be sold for ten cents a copy and will certainly be of great interest to all who are or ever have been interested in the Turners Falls high school. It can be bought at Bardwell & Haigis's.

James McClune of Millers Falls was fined \$10 in court Friday for

drunkenness and disturbing the peace at Millers Falls station the night before.

January 31, 1906

A new time clock regulates the coming in and going out of the workmen in the No. 2 mill of the International Paper Co.

There were about 200 voters present at the special meeting of the Millers Falls Water Supply district in the Amidon hall, on Friday evening, and all were more or less busy with the business at hand.

The second article in the warrant to consider the proposition of the Turners Falls fire district, to furnish water to the Erving side of the district, at 7 1/2 cents per 1000 gallons, and an additional \$150 per year, was disposed of as follows, the vote standing 34 against the

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The Keith mill, circa 1908. (Ed Gregory Archive)

proposition to 19 in its favor.

Article three sought to get the use of Green Pond, by aid of the legislature, and after some discussion the meeting passed it.

By the explosion of a can of varnish, the paint shop belonging to James T. Cummings in Northfield, with its contents, was entirely consumed by fire about 11 o'clock yesterday.

Reports came from Leyden that a black fox weighing 11 pounds was recently shot by Charles Erving.

It is proposed to establish a creamery in Wendell.

Basket ball in the Hibernian hall this evening between the Father Mathews and Newport A.C. The Newport A.C. is one of the fastest teams that has played here this season, so don't miss this game as it certainly will be the best yet.

Philip Jacobus has built a barn on the rear of his Prospect street lot, for the accommodation of his driving horse.

Treasurer W. P. Dustin, of the John Russell Cutlery Co., with his son Albert and his two daughters, will sail on Saturday from New York to Bermuda to spend a pleasant holiday on that beautiful island of coral.

The dust on the streets yesterday was quite intolerable.

January 1, 1908

The Crocker National bank has foreclosed its mortgage on the Turners Falls Machine Paper's property, and the building of the company, and contents with all tools and appliances, will be sold at auction on the 25th of this month to satisfy this claim.

They had a good iron and brass foundry, and facilities to handle almost any kind of business. But the experience very common to mankind's best schemes and plans was repeated and the concern found they could not turn labor, pig iron and steel into dollars so readily as the trick can be figured out on paper, and a good dose of hard times was dealt out with unerring certainty.

At a special town meeting, the town treasurer was authorized to borrow \$2000 on a note payable April 1 for the completion of sewers on Montague, L. and Stevens streets, after a vote passed at a special meeting last September had been rescinded.

The Connecticut Valley street railway is putting in a semaphore signal at its Cheapside Junction station, to facilitate business and give additional protection.

The streets of the village have worn a decided Sunday air all the past week, on account of the mills and factories being closed, and

hundreds of employees in their best clothes have been out enjoying the vacation.

An aftermath of a rousing Polish celebration of Christmas was heard in the district court, Friday, when Joseph Semsick, John Cemalit and Ignace Solock were arraigned for assault and battery on Tony Bush.

The affair took place at South End on Christmas and Tony came out of the fracas with a lovely black eye. The trio were found guilty and John and Joseph were fined \$5 each,

but Ignace, having been arraigned on a similar offense heretofore, was fined \$10.

Mrs. Henry Purple is a victim of grip.

The American House bowling club defeated the Greenfield Brunswick club at the Brunswick alleys last evening.

Mrs. Herbert Leland, who went to the sanitarium in Baldwinsville a few weeks ago, is rapidly improving, and expects to return home shortly.

The boys and girls are having a glorious time skating on the pond, the skating being excellent.

January 6, 1909

A number of Chinese government officials will visit the Keith paper mill to-day, to confer with Messrs. Fong and Lee, who are familiarizing themselves with paper-making under the direction of the Chinese government for the purposes of establishing a government paper mill in the flowery kingdom.

James Potter, aged about 70 years, died in the home of his son, Warren Potter, in Riverside, this morning. He was an original char-

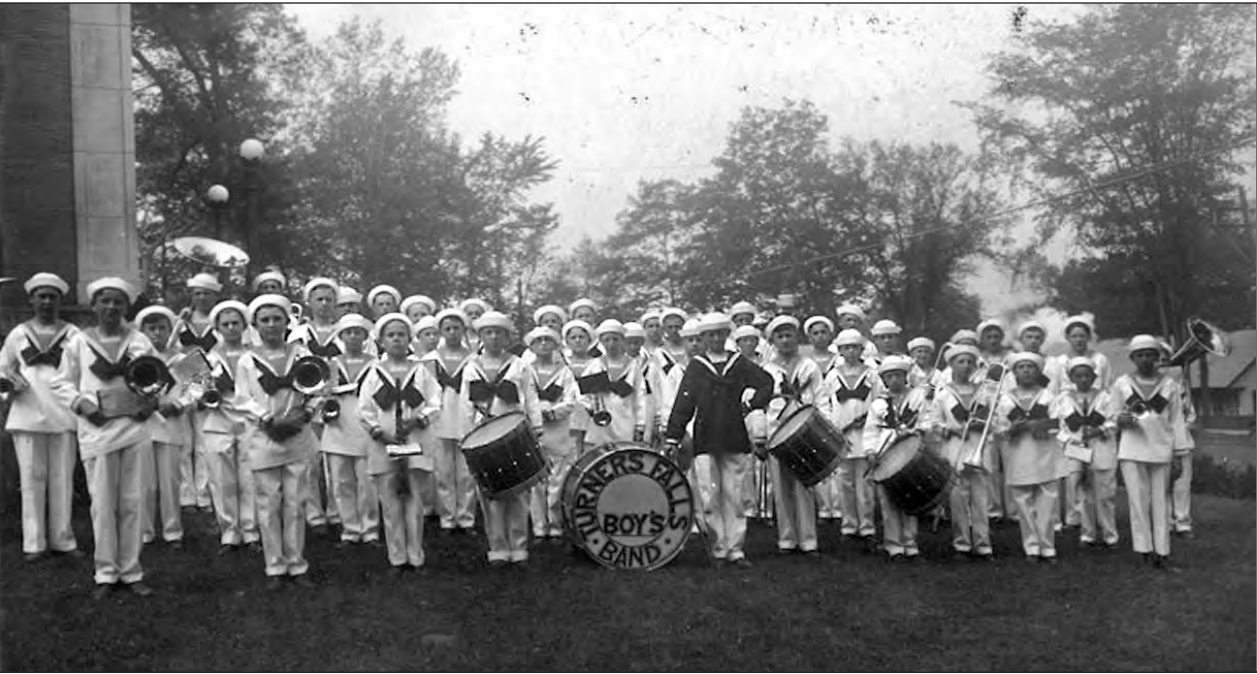
acter and for many years had been a teamster in the employ of the Turners Falls Lumber Co. Everybody liked "Jim" and he was universally respected. He served in the Civil war.

The Millers Falls minstrels, assisted by Turners Falls talent, who will give a first rate minstrel show at Colle's opera house on Friday evening, Jan. 8, for the benefit of Farren Memorial hospital, ought to draw a full house.

About 11 o'clock Tuesday of last week the house occupied by Francis Eddy and known as the Charles Amidon house, about a mile from the village of Millers Falls, was burned down.

The puzzle picture fad has struck some of our families with such violence that midnight oil is not infrequently burned in the effort to put the maddening little bits of wood or pasteboard together properly.

Miss Olive Johnson, teacher at the South school in Wendell, while coasting down the town farm hill with a party of friends, was thrown from the sled and was severely injured on the head. She was taken to her home in Wendell.



The Turners Falls Boy's Band, circa 1910. (Ed Gregory Archive)

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YEAR 13 – NO. 11

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OF THE MONTAGUE REPORTER

JANUARY 1, 2015



*This photograph, looking south on Avenue A in Turners Falls, was taken for an article on the village in the September 1912 edition of Western New England Magazine.*

## January 4, 1911

It is good crossing on ice on the river.

A fireman named Straw, in the employ of the Central Vermont railroad, was seriously injured last week at Millers Falls while making up a train. He was leaning out of a cab window and was struck by a passing train. He was taken to the Farren hospital.

Exceptions saved by counsel for the defense in the recent trial of Silas D. Phelps of Monroe, who was found guilty of the murder of Deputy Sheriff Emmet F. Haskins, have been filed at the office of the clerk of the superior court by W. A. Davenport, senior counsel for the defense. The exceptions will be argued before Justice Schofield some time during this month.

A horse belonging to W. E. Clapp of Gill ran away on Avenue A Monday. Joseph H. Bourbeau saw the animal's mad flight and checked it by courageously climbing over the back of the wagon and seizing the reins.

Joseph Desautell, whose disappearance some weeks ago mystified his relatives and family, is reported to have been seen recently in Northfield, where he is chopping wood with a lumber gang.

The New Year opened auspiciously Sunday night, by the walking being so slippery that it was harder to navigate than it was to keep New Year's resolutions. The dreadful walking on the slippery sidewalks caused many falls.

Among those whose falls resulted seriously were Mrs. William Gartrell of L street, who injured her wrist, George C. Adams of Lamp-

black road who had the misfortune to break his collarbone, and the ten-year-old son of George Campbell of L street who had both wrists cut by a fall.

## January 3, 1912

James F. Bush, manager and treasurer for three years of the Keith paper mill, who recently resigned to go to New York, was quite taken aback Friday morning, when he was presented with a silver loving cup and gold mounted cane from the mill employees as an appreciation of his kindness to them.

The presentation was made by Maurice O'Keefe, foreman of the rag room, at 10:30 o'clock, when the employees had their morning recess.

The body of a man, somewhat decomposed, was found in the canal near the racks at the power station Saturday afternoon by the workmen employed keeping the racks clear of anchor ice.

The body was fully dressed, including an overcoat, and was taken to McCarthy's undertaking parlors, where it was viewed by Medical Examiner Twitchell of Greenfield, who pronounced it a case of accidental drowning.

It was at first thought that it was the body of Charles Chappell, the ferryman who was drowned at Munn's ferry in Northfield a few weeks ago, but such was not the case.

The body was identified Monday afternoon as that of Charles E. Donovan of Brattleboro. Mr. Donovan was a painter, 38 years of age, and several weeks ago was thrown temporarily out of work.

It is probable that he came to town looking for work. How he came to be in the canal in Turners Falls is a mystery that will probably never be solved.

The selectmen of Montague will give a hearing on Friday evening on the petition of the Franklin Electric Light Co. for permission to erect poles and wires on Canal Street from First to Seventh streets.

Representative John W. Haigis attended the opening of the Great and General Court at Boston today, this being his fourth consecutive term.

Mr. Palmer of Gill has sold his farm, known as the Roswell Purple farm, to a party from Montague.

Francis Kelly, who was last year a bartender for M.J. O'Keefe, at the Grand Trunk hotel, was recently taken to the Northampton asylum, after showing symptoms of being a little queer, and he suddenly became paralyzed and yesterday his death was announced.

The Boston and Maine railroad station at Montague City has been discontinued and the agent, Frank Rugg, who has been in the company's employ for 41 years, is no longer connected with the railroad. The train will stop to take and leave passengers, but there will be no tickets sold.

The sleighing isn't a bit bad, the autos having smoothed out all the ruts, and a slight glare of ice makes the runners slip along without touching a bit of grit.

## January 1, 1913

The Italian colony at South End, where many of the Italian laborers employed by the Bates-Rogers

Construction Co. are quartered, was the scene of a shooting af- fray, Christmas day, as the result of which Joseph Balzotte is at the Farren hospital with a bullet in his left lung from a 22 calibre rifle fired by Frank Trusiani, known as No. 198 in the books of the company.

A number of the Italians seemed possessed to celebrate the holiday by discharging revolvers and rifles, in spite of strict orders not to do so. Joseph Balzotte attempted to stop Frank Trusiani and Nicola Paoloni, No. 160, from firing a rifle in front of one of the shacks, and in the altercation following Balzotte was shot through the left lung.

Chief Ripley got on the trail of the men at once and captured Paoloni in Greenfield as he was going through on a coal car from East Deerfield, where he had boarded same. He was taken to the Turners Falls lockup.

Trusiani got away but was arrested in an alley in Boston, Sunday. He had a steamship ticket for Italy on his person.

Balzotte is in a critical condition, but there is some chance of his recovery, though complications are possible.

Joseph Kazaba of Fourth street was in court Monday, charged with drunkenness and disturbing the peace. The defendant got too gay, Sunday night and made things too lively at his home for Sabbath decorum.

The High school has been furnished with a new upright piano.

The new Unitarian parsonage is a notable addition to Montague residences. It is one of the nicest and best finished houses in town.

Basket ball games are the thing at Spring farm "gym" in Montague. The boys' team is coached by L. H. Martin, a graduate of the Providence, R.I. technical high school, and an experienced athlete. Mr. Martin is employed by the Ley construction company on the electric light towers in town.

The basketball game between the Turners Falls high school and Chicopee high which was to have been played, Saturday evening, in Hibernian hall, was postponed, because of the illness of three of the Turners Falls players. Capt. Collins is suffering from boils and Rau and Donovan have been having the grip.

The Progressives of Montague met at Grand Army hall, Friday evening, to effect a local organization. Owing to the bad weather the attendance was small.

Christmas day was certainly ideal for the weather, and even the chronic grumbler could find no fault with such a delightful, crisp, white sunshiny world as we looked upon that joyous day.

## January 7, 1914

The New Year announces the death in New England of many village weekly papers, some of which had been in existence for a half century or a little less. Not a few were once a power in the community, and a wonderful help to all business interests. But the villages of New England are rapidly changing in character, and the conservative, well edited, and truthful village newspaper is apt to command as much respect now as the intellectual and forceful old orthodox minister....

The struggling sheets, living precariously by Mister and Missusing everything in pants and petticoats, are dying off like a lot of sick sheep.

The history of many of the passing newspapers, together with a study of the character of changing villages, would be a good answer to such ignorant writers and politicians as are now proclaiming the way out of bondage to be on the road back to the farm, or by the re-establishment of industries in the villages from which they were driven by lack of the spirit which once established them there.

This little county of Franklin had little groups of fairly successful manufacturers in about every town, many little streams furnishing power for as many as half a dozen shops, and the people were all happy and contented.

These villages present today a sorry sight in comparison with the old time. There is a reason, but nobody wants to hear it.

S. Klaiber, who has been managing the opera house for a few weeks, has retired from a losing game, and the house is once more closed.

The Metropolitan life insurance company has installed the visiting nurse system in Turners Falls and Miss Blanche Richards of Second street will be the local nurse.

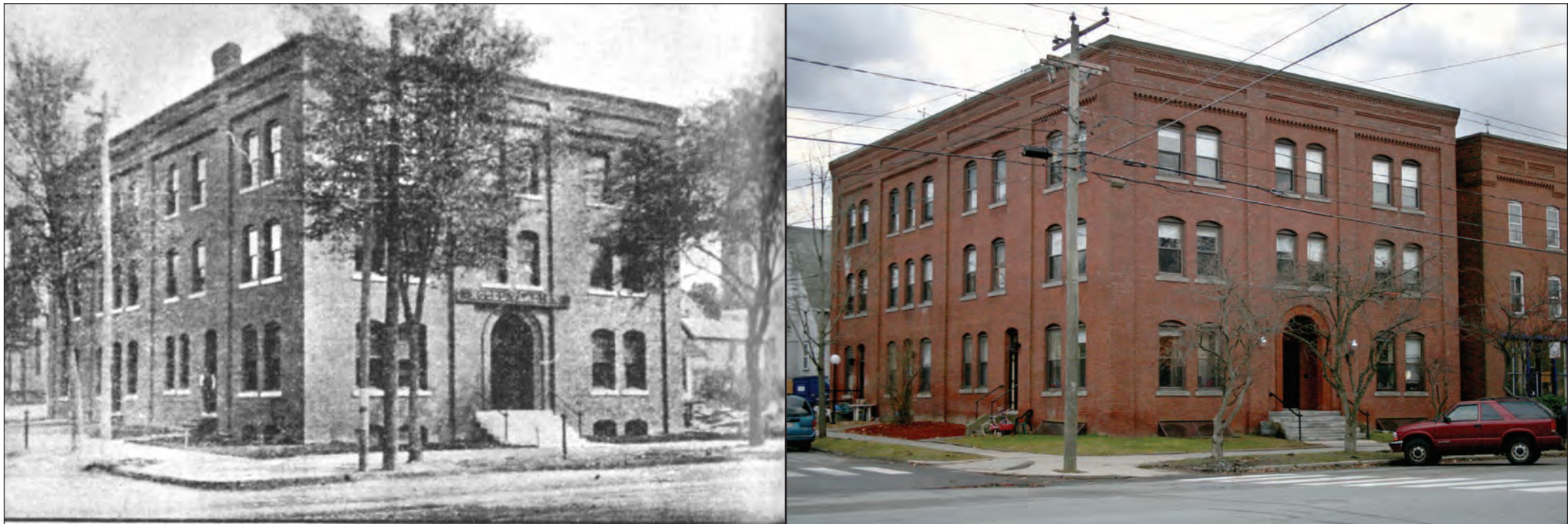
To-morrow evening, the first meeting of members of the Woman's club who wish to enjoy bowling this winter, will be held at the American house bowling alley.

Anton Thaler of Riverside was before the district court Thursday, charged with killing a deer unlawfully, and otherwise violating the game laws.

## January 6, 1915

A young man from Turners Falls, while under the influence of liquor, ran away with a trolley car very early Sunday morning. The trolley fortunately came off near the rock cut underpass, and broke, so the car was abandoned by the impromptu motorman.

The Board of Health issues a warning to people using water from private or hitherto unused sources,



*Then and now: At left, a photograph of the Vladish Hotel, circa 1908, from a postcard. At right, Ellen Blanchette took this photograph this week. The building, now part of Power Town Apartments, stands on the corner of Fifth Street and Avenue A, adjacent to the Montague Reporter office.*



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These ads ran in the January 2, 1918 edition of the Turners Falls Reporter.

of the danger of typhoid fever and other diarrhoeal diseases to which they may be exposed.

The report of the Children's Society of Franklin County shows that during the past month the society has been concerned with 62 families involving 192 children. Twelve of these families had not been previously known to the society.

Roy Stockwell, the society's special agent, stated that as yet there has been no appreciable increase in the work of the society which may be attributed to the cold weather or lack of employment.

"The conditions with which we are called upon to deal, such as drunkenness, desertion, non-support, feeble-mindedness, immorality, neglect, etc., are not so much affected by the weather.

"I think we are beginning to see that the problem of the feeble-minded is back of a very large share of the cases which call for the attention of this society."

Miss Ella M. Hazelton of Montague City will entertain the people of Montague City at a card party at her home this evening.

Those old rivals, the Greenfield High school and the Turners Falls High school, played a rousing game of basket ball at Hibernian hall, last Thursday evening, Turners Falls coming out with banners flying, defeating Greenfield by the score of 31 to 18.

At the Lyric, the 13th installment of "Lucille Love" will be the moving picture feature for to-day and to-morrow. Next Monday and Tuesday afternoon and evening, the 14th episode of "The Trey O'Hearts" will be shown. The most dangerous scenes ever attempted

in motion pictures are crowded one after another in the closing chapters of "The Trey O'Hearts" and numerous mishaps occurred to the actors during the production of the 14th episode.

Joseph Lamaroux, Turners Falls coon hunter, secured 26 coons the past season, with the help of his coon dog. Mr. Lamaroux finds a ready market for the pelts at a fair price.

Charles V. Milkey of Central street is ill with a severe attack of the shingles.

**January 5, 1916**

This year finds the building operations of Turners Falls of the past two years surpassed in new buildings both for residential and business purposes. The growth of the past three years has been a healthy one and should continue for years to come.

The biggest single block erected during the past year was the four-story brick block erected by Fowles & Nevins on the corner of Avenue A and Fifth streets. The lower floors are for stores, one of which is now occupied by the Great Atlantic & Pacific tea company, and the upper floors are made into offices and flats and are well rented.

The new power-house and garage at Montague City built by the Turners Falls power and electric company were erected at a cost of \$400,000, including equipment. The new power-house will soon be in operation, sending its power to all parts of Western Massachusetts, and is another step fulfilled in the development of Turners Falls' vast power facilities which have led so much to the town's growth and prosperity.

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Edward Fugere of Fourth street met with a painful accident at his work at the Keith mill Friday. He was throwing some bales upon each other near a window when he slipped and his hand went through a light of glass, severing an artery. He will be incapacitated for a week or two.

The Women's Catholic Benevolent association will hold their third leap year dance in Hibernian hall to-morrow evening.

The fourth annual banquet of the Turners Falls Board of Trade will be held at the Hotel Vladish on Thursday evening. Ex-Mayor John F. Fitzgerald of Boston will be the speaker of the evening, and his subject will be "New England and its Possibilities."

The presentation of the great photo-play, "Carmen," at the Opera house last Thursday evening was easily the greatest event in the moving picture world locally. The photoplay is undeniably a masterpiece and on account of the prominence of the famous prima donna everyone was anxious to see it.

Miss Elizabeth Barwell of High street entertained several of her young women friends by a "baby" party at her house Friday evening. The guests and hostess were gowned as little girls and they played the games they played in the happy days before they let down their skirts and put their hair

up. Refreshments were served and everyone had the jolliest kind of time.

**January 3, 1917**

The annual meeting of the Hinckley Mfg. Co., Turners Falls' newest industrial enterprise, was held this morning. Work on the building and installing the machinery is coming along on schedule time.

Joseph Hastaba, who has conducted a wet-wash laundry in the Clapp block on the Avenue, for two or three years, has sold out the business to Philias Brunell who has taken possession.

Mrs. Milton Sunbury of Prospect avenue in Greenfield is at the Franklin county hospital as a result of drinking a quantity of sulphonaphthol in mistake for cough medicine.

Antonio Pickard of Holyoke and Aino Nault of Millers Falls were before the district court at Greenfield yesterday, on charges of promoting a lottery. Pickard pleaded guilty to placing a "nickel in the slot" gambling machine in Nault's barber shop at Millers Falls and paid a fine of \$150.

Nault pleaded guilty to having a gambling machine on his premises and paid a fine of \$100. Two patrons of the barber shop who played the machine with disastrous results became suspicious of the game and reported the matter to the police.

Jacob Rau of Prospect street is recovering from an attack of the grip.

Hard colds and grip are very prevalent and it is safe to ask nearly everybody how he is feeling.

The annual Gentleman's night will be observed by the Friends in Council, Wednesday evening, Jan 17th, and Mrs. J. F. Hood will open her spacious house for the occasion. The speaker will be Dr. Charles Eastman of Amherst, who is a full bred Sioux Indian.

Mrs. Wm. McLearn, the oldest person in Wendell, met with a serious accident the middle of last week. In some unaccountable way, she fell as she was passing through the shed and broke her hip.

Kasimir Wongal, who imagined that some one was pursuing him, was committed to the insane hospital at Northampton.

**January 2, 1918**

The thermometer was the most interesting thing in sight, and what it registers furnishes a fertile topic of conversation. From 23 to 35 below zero were the tales which reliable instruments told, and the consensus of opinion is that they were real conservative, at that.

The plumbers had to hustle for all they were worth during the cold snap. The situation Sunday morning was particularly grievous and the knights of the torch and wrench were kept so busy that they

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had little time to feel the cold.

Wallace B. Marston of the fuel board for this town, received word to-day from the Massachusetts Fuel administrator, fixing the following prices on coal as the maximum to be changed in this town: For Turners Falls and Millers Falls, stove coal to cost not over \$10.30 per net ton. For Montague village, the price is to be not more than \$10 per net ton. Upstairs delivery, 25 cents a ton extra.

Joseph F. Bartlett, one of the pioneer business men of Turners Falls, and a prominent resident, died at his home on High street Saturday after a long illness, aged 74 years.

Mr. Bartlett was a director in the Crocker National bank, past president of the Crocker Institution for Savings, and was past president of the Peskeompskut club, and of the Franklin Electric Light Co. He was a member of the Turners Falls Board of Trade, an officer in the Turners Falls Cemetery association, and was prominent in Masonry, being a charter member of the Mechanics lodge of Masons, of Titus Strong council, Royal and Select Masons, of Franklin chapter, Royal Arch Masons, of Connecticut valley commandery, Knights Templar, and a Shriner.

A.E. Martel, proprietor of the Martel drug store, and for many years a well known resident of Turners Falls, died at his home on Fourth street early yesterday morning. Mr Martel was a native of Canada.

He was a member of the School Board of Montague for nine years and for several years a trustee of the Public Library. He was a charter member of Greenfield Council, Knights of Columbus, and later transferred to the Turners Falls council. He was a prominent member of Greenfield lodge of Elks, the Foresters, Catholic Foresters, St. Jean Baptiste society, Red Men and Eagles, and of the Peskeompskut Club.

A. Bourget of Second street has just received a letter from his son, Harry Bourget, who is in the service in France:

“Dear Father -- It is against the rules and regulations for me to tell you when I receive anything from the States. I am smoking Camels, and when I smoke them I think of you. All the boys from the Falls are well. I am learning a lot of French, and I am the company interpreter.”

#### January 1, 1919

If the surrounding villages are to retain a fair measure of transportation facilities by trolley, the old order of the public demanding more than they will pay for must cease, as well as loose street-curb talk of rotten service, poor cars, and all that poppycock that has neither rhyme nor reason.

The NY, NH & Hartford railroad came up into this country at a tremendous cost in money. This week its operation is abandoned, and all stations boarded up. The road is practically junk as far as the original investment is concerned. The reason is as plain as the nose on George Arlies’ \$50,000 mug – what the public clamored for, they were utterly unable, and in some degree unwilling, to support.

After a hearing Thursday evening in the selectmen’s rooms, the petition of the New England telephone and telegraph company and the Franklin electric light company, for a joint location of poles on



*This photograph of the Farren Hospital was taken around 1908.*

School street at Montague Center, was granted.

While Mrs. Sarah Callahan Ducharme, clerk at the Selectmen’s office, was walking to her home on the Montague City road, Monday evening, she was struck by a Ford truck, and badly shaken up and bruised.

The driver of the truck did not stop to see how much his victim had been injured, but simply put on speed and escaped.

The community was shocked and saddened, Monday, to learn of the sudden death, at Camp Merritt, NJ, of Lieut. Alfred Austin Farwell. The news came as a stunning blow to his parents and friends as all were rejoicing at his return from France.

Walter Zimmerman, son of Martin Zimmerman of Riverside, who was wounded in France some time ago, is home on furlough over the holidays, after which he must report to the hospital at Camp Merritt. He was a member of the 82d division and was wounded at Mets by a machine-gun bullet.

Another Turners Falls man has made the supreme sacrifice. Private William L. Daly, of the 305th infantry, was killed in action in France on Sept. 27, according to a telegram received from the war department last week.

Henry C. Meyers, who was reported last week as wounded, is the son of Mrs. Caroline Meyers of K street, and was wounded slightly in the head by a shell fragment on October 20. Word received from him since said that he had recovered from the wound and had also been gassed and had recovered.

The Girls’ Electric social club entertained a lot of children with a Christmas tree party, the afternoon before Christmas at the Turners Falls Power & Electric Co. building. The youngsters were made happy with gifts and sweets and pop corn.

#### January 5, 1921

Turners Falls council, Knights of Columbus held a most enjoyable New Year’s party Saturday evening at Harugari hall. An orchestra furnished music. Judge William J. Day of Boston was the principal speaker, his subject being “Americanism” which he handled in a most able and inspiring manner. Rev. Andrew Lekarczyk, pastor of the Polish church, also made an interesting address.

A number of the younger business men of the town who lead sedentary lives, have decided that they need more exercise, and have started a movement to form a club for the practice of calisthenics and gymnasium work to improve their

physical condition. A meeting for the formulation of the club and the perfecting of plans will be held this evening.

Army Field Clerk Raymond F. Sifdol, a representative from the war department, gave a talk at the American Legion rooms, Thursday evening and gave out Victory medals to ex-service men.

Harlan S. Jillson and Mrs. Elizabeth H. Johnson were married Sunday afternoon at 1:30 o’clock, in the presence of a few friends at the groom’s bungalow on the State road to Millers Falls, by the Rev. T. H Vincent. Mr. Jillson is an automobile repairer, and he and his bride are making their home at his bungalow.

C. Keith Pervere and family, who were burned out of their home in Mrs. Allen’s house on Prospect street, recently are occupying the Luey house in Greenfield, for the winter while Mr. and Mrs. Luey are in Florida.

Business was at a standstill everywhere, Saturday, New Year’s day, all the manufacturing plants and places of business being shut

down. The weather was wonderful, and anything less like January could scarcely be imagined.

Allan Kennedy, the nine-year-old son of Assistant Postmaster J. Kennedy, received a severe gash over one eye while coasting down Hill street.

#### January 4, 1922

Obed Murley of Riverside, while going to his work in the Esleeck mill yesterday afternoon, suddenly collapsed on Canal street, near the Keith block, and died within a few minutes. His sudden death was a great shock to his family and friends.

St. Mary’s church has been presented with a set of tubular chimes by Mr. and Mrs. Herbert G. Edson of Seventh street, a holy water fount by Miss Mary Courtney of Fourth street, and two gold vases and a holy water sprinkler by three other parishioners.

Noe Regali, solo clarinetist of the Turners Falls Military band, has recently installed a wireless telephone outfit which is really practical.

Shop at Local Stores

Turners Falls Herald

Patrons Herald Advertisers

VOLUME 1 — NUMBER 5THE TURNERS FALLS HERALD, FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1941COPY FIVE CENTS

#### January 3, 1941

The Japanese invasion of far-off China has kept at least one local industry baffled on shipments of vital raw materials. The Montague Rod and Reel company of Montague City this week received a shipment of Tonkin cane from China, orders for which had been placed about a year ago.

Montague’s New Year eve celebration was one of the gayest in the town’s history, according to a Herald survey of liquor establishments and restaurants here.

At least three places, the Montague Inn in Montague center, and Equi’s Spanish Gardens and the Rhythm Inn in Millers Falls, were filled to capacity, and had to turn “dozens” away. The Modern Age cuisine Turners Falls restaurant, was crowded with diners until day-break.

Betty McLaughlin, 16, of 171 Avenue A was saved from drowning by two companions yesterday afternoon about 4 when she fell through the ice while skating at the cove on the river.

Betty according to eye witnesses was playing hockey with Henry Velandier of Third street, Ted Pluta of Second street, and Richard Rudolph of Newport, R.I. About a half dozen skaters witnessed the near tragedy.

Fred C. Haigis of 22 High street

next week will begin work out of the Springfield office on cigaret and gasoline taxes. Gov. Saltonstall appointed him a deputy collector recently.

The papermakers’ union, local 171, will meet in K street hall tonight at 8, to hear committee reports. John Bailey, second vice-president of the grand lodge, and Francis Leary of Fitchburg, organizer, will be present.

A meeting of much interest was held at the Montague public library room last evening under the auspices of the Parent-Teachers association. The meeting was for the Polish population and included an exhibit of the handicraft of Polish women. There is a large Polish element in this vicinity and a large per cent of the primary children in school are Polish.

Turners Falls young men stationed at the Panama Canal zone with the army air corps spent Christmas “with palm trees and 90 degree temperature,” according to a letter received recently from Richard Berard.

Hitler and other dictators believe that a lie can be made convincing if repeated emphatically often enough. The Herald believes the truth can be far more convincing than any lie. In boosting Turners Falls and local business establishments, the Herald

Benjamin F. Miner, one of Montague Centre’s best known residents, and formerly a well known manufacturer of toilet preparations, died Monday, aged 81. He came to Montague in 1892, and immediately made his presence felt, giving the little village considerable publicity.

Children coasting have the right of way on L street as far as Third street. This is the best coasting place in town. The selectmen closed the street to traffic last week, so that coasting might be enjoyed by the young people as safely as possible.

Sand and ashes have been thickly strewn on intersecting streets to prevent coasters blazing new trails except where permissible, and prominent warning signs on wooden standards have been placed at the same cross points so that drivers of vehicles may take the proper precautions.

The children should appreciate what has been done to make it possible for them to indulge in the favorite winter sport, with comparatively little danger, and it is hoped they will be good sports and play fair. If automobilists and others watch out at the intersecting streets, there should be no accidents.

Karl Miller, A.J. Crean and William Murphy, the special committee on coasting appointed by the Community Service Council, co-operated with the selectmen in bringing about the closing of L street for coasting.



will avoid any Hitler-like repetition tactics, but it will not hesitate to repeat any truths.

#### January 14, 1942

The plain truth, plainly told, is that we must end the existence of the *Turners Falls Herald* with this issue, after a year and a month of publication. It is an announcement we dislike to make, for much sweat and toil has gone into our effort, and we have watched the Herald grow from a weak-voiced babe into a lusty-lunged youth.

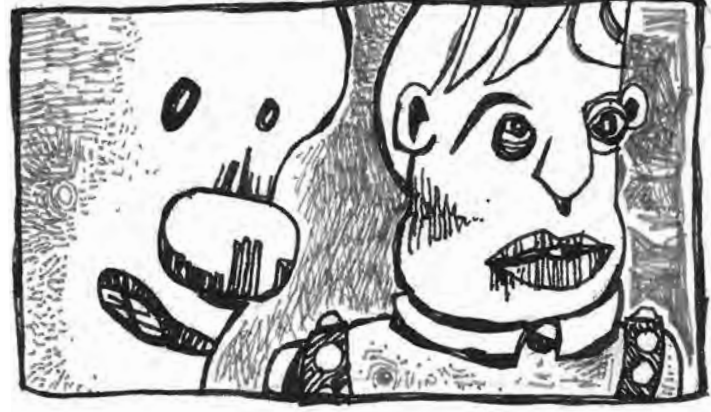
Last week we received the selective service board notice that we have been placed in class 1-A in the draft.... The setup under which the Herald operates has been unusual, in that its publisher has had to gather news, write it, edit the material, write headlines, makeup the paper, and write editorials. Also, he has had to sell the advertising, make the ad layouts, and collect the bills....

It is altogether too much work for one man to handle, and certainly is not a profitable enough undertaking to furnish even a meagre living for two men....

We hope that another newspaper can be started here soon, for without one, this community is as a man without a voice. To our successor, if ever there be one, we wish good luck and good fortune.

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January 19, 1962

The Turners Falls Airport Commission, long rocked by dissention, erupted into a pitched battle Thursday night when Commission Chairman Alfred Lucas began an inquiry into the actions of the commissioners in denying Montague Airways a lease on Block No. One at the Turners Falls Airport.

In a sensation packed, but short lived meeting held at the Veteran's Service Center, three members of the board abruptly ended the meeting when it was ascertained by them that the questions being put to them by the chair were not FAA regulatory questions, but questions composed by the Chairman and were to be used for "publicity and a report to the FAA."

John W. Haigis, Jr., of radio station WHAI spoke on "Industrial Development and the Connecticut Valley" at the weekly meeting of the Turners Falls Rotary club at the

Old Stone lodge Tuesday, Jan. 9.

"The people of the Connecticut Valley are being given a second chance to take advantage of an expansion in transportation," he stated. "The first opportunity to cash in on a boom in the transportation field was not fully exploited, when the Hoosic Tunnel was completed. Now, with the advent of Federal Route 91 through the valley, we are getting a new opportunity...."

"Turners Falls-Greenfield can become the leaders of the area, attracting people from the highway, the airport and the railroad...."

He went on "This area should also promote and take advantage of the growth of the State university at Amherst... This area should try to attract these fellows with the brains. In a few years, there will be over 100,000 graduates of that school. Are we doing all we can to attract them?"

Haigis referred to the "four-col-

lege complex," and maintained, "This is the answer to Khrushchev and the State System...."

"We try to attract industry, but we should be developing our resources and developing research. Then, when we do this better, we will attract the industries."

The Cogsdill Twist Drill Company candlepin bowling team will compete in a rolloff against the Threadwell Tap and Die team on Wednesday, January 24, at the Shea Bowladrome on Third Street.

Leo Saulnier proudly announced to the Observer that the Rendezvous Cafe Bowling team will hold its mid-season banquet at the Old Stone Lodge on Saturday night.

The Montague Gleaners held their meeting at the home of Mrs. Hazel Field January 15 with a covered dish supper. The Christmas basket committee reported that 12 fruit baskets were distributed to shut-ins at Christmas.



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This ad ran in the January 19, 1962 edition of the Turners Falls Observer.



### AN EYE ON MONTAGUE'S FINANCES

Capital Projects on the Horizon/ Page 3



### THE VIEW FROM LAKE PLEASANT

The Lake Speaks/ Page 3

LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS GILL ERVING

Year 1  
No. 12

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# The Montague Reporter

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JANUARY 9, 2003

January 9, 2003

Citing escalating tensions within the town's government Erving's administrative coordinator, Debra Roussel, officially resigned her position effective January 31.

The town of Gill has finally settled on a replacement for Bev Demars, the town's administrative secretary. She is staying on an extra month until Debra Roussel is ready to come on board.

The Montague selectboard voted to reject the list of potential candidates for Montague's police chief supplied by Civil Service, as there was only one name on the list, officer Chris Dodge.

The New England Learning Center for Women in Transition will be holding their 27th Bowlathon on Saturday, January 25 at the French King Bowling Alley. The goal for this year's event is to raise \$10,000 for services for abused women and their children.

January 8, 2004

In Montague, property values have been rising on average 25 to 30% in the past two years. "Montague is becoming a desirable place to live," said former director of assessing Christine Saulnier.

A proposal by AT&T wireless to

install new cell phone equipment on a disused communications tower on Locke Hill Road is under review of Wendell's zoning board of appeals.

About two dozen people attended a recent hearing, and a group of concerned residents has put up posters saying "No Cell Tower on Locke Hill."

On the warrant for Erving's January 26 special town meeting are major changes to the town's zoning bylaws, along with a proposal to permanently close the library in Erving Center in the town hall basement.

The Franklin County Emergency Shelter run by ServiceNet in Montague City has experienced an increased demand in the last two and a half years, with the majority of homeless coming from Franklin County, predominantly from Greenfield and Montague.

Twenty-three Erving households have failed to pay their water bills. Notices will go out shortly stating that if payments aren't received by January 22 water will be shut off to the homes.

The Wendell Full Moon Coffee House is honored and excited to host Matt Haimovitz, acclaimed classical cellist.

January 6, 2005

Ray Zukowski, Montague's new chief of police, said if he had his wish he would like to see the three vacant positions on his force refilled.

Zukowski said the department has no Spanish-speaking officer, a serious drawback in maintaining relations or conducting investigations with the growing Hispanic community in town.

On Tuesday morning Richard O. "Dickie" Guy passed away at home. Guy was the last original member of Montague's representative town meeting still serving, having served continuously since the first town meeting election in 1964.

Wendell animal control officer Maggie Houghton apologized for mistakenly euthanizing Joe, a cat owned by Jesse Merrick and Michelle Sullivan, who had entered a neighbor's house and acted aggressively.

On January 19, Bill Cosby will bring his message of parental responsibility to town, for a talk aimed at families of children in the Gill-Montague schools.

A resident of nearby Shelburne, Cosby scheduled the talk in Turners following a fight between neighborhood teens in August which left 16-

year-old Eric Zieba dead of head injuries.

January 5, 2006

The town of Gill is calling on residents to participate in updating the zoning bylaws to preserve open space and agricultural land, and help plan for "smart growth" development.

The new owners of the Shady Glen, brothers Thomas and Elias Matheos, say they plan to continue all the menu classics, with a teaser of "many beautiful things to come in time."

A 65-year-old man was punched twice by an unknown assailant near the Montague Book Mill. The assailant entered the victim's car demanding money.

Six abutters came to the Wendell selectboard to express concerns over Robin Pierce's request to renew his Class II auto salvage license on Stone Road. The board agreed to continue the license with restrictions that he keep vehicles behind a hedge or out of view, allow inspections, and limit the number of cars on his property to 50.

Erving police advised a subject on High Street found burning furniture illegally to put it out.

January 4, 2007

L&L Fence of Whately arrived Tuesday to install the fencing at the Turners Falls skate park, which has been padlocked since May 2003 due to deteriorating ramp conditions and could be reopened by the end of January.

In November, a statue of Nichiren Dai Shonin, who renewed Japanese Buddhism, arrived at the New England Peace Pagoda at Leverett. "The statue is the patron saint of the new temple," said Reverend Kato Shonin of the Nipponzan Myohoji order.

Pioneer Valley Habitat for Humanity will hold an information session to find families interested in becoming partner families. Two houses are being built by the organization's volunteers on the corner of 2nd and L in Turners Falls. The Discovery Center in Turners Falls will offer a free ice fishing class on January 17 with expert angler Jim Lagacy.

January 3, 2008

John Antcil of the Swift River Group, a film production company that has expressed interest in buying the Strathmore Mill, has signed a purchase and sale agreement with the Roman Catholic Diocese of

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Springfield to buy St. Anne’s Church in Turners Falls, which closed in 2006.

Anctil said he planned to establish a concert venue, “mostly catering to folk music, blues and jazz,” at the former church. “Nothing that would send a lot of beer drinkers out into the street afterward,” he added.

A cheesemaking workshop will be offered at Upinngil Farm in Gill, January 12. Soft cheeses will be featured that can be made with minimal equipment and ordinary kitchen implements.

“There’s no good news anywhere,” said Gill selectboard member Ann Banash, after a fiscal collaboration meeting about the next year’s Gill-Montague school budget. Gill is at least \$93,000 shy of funding departments for FY’07; an override seems the town’s only hope.

Erving police received a report of gunshots in the Old State Road area on Saturday evening. Animal control officer advised it is coyote season.

January 8, 2009

John Anctil failed on Tuesday to meet with the selectboard to discuss the Swift River Strathmore Redevelopment Group’s overdue tax commitment.

As founder and principal of the group, he committed last August to pay the majority of the back taxes by January 1 of this year. Tax collector Patti Dion said the principal and interest on the taxes due has reached \$227,000, and that “nothing has been paid to date.”

Erving’s new fire chief, Bud Mettrey, brought a list of 26 volunteer firefighters willing to take the state-mandated Hazmat training to the selectboard meeting. However, the cost for the training will amount to \$11,000, said town administrative assistant Tom Sharp. An appropriation will appear on the next special town meeting warrant.

The Gill-Montague Regional School District administration has declared a moratorium on the Turners Falls High School band’s use of the Tomahawk Chop and the accompanying “fight song.” A public hearing will be held next Monday at the high school auditorium.

January 7, 2010

The town of Montague has decided to pull the curtain on John Anctil’s dream of developing the former Strathmore paper mill into a state-of-the art television and production facility.

In a unanimous vote at a special afternoon meeting on Tuesday, the selectboard authorized tax collector Patti Dion to expedite tax taking proceedings in Boston land court on the mill complex built in 1871.

The town of Gill will seek to set up a meeting with representatives of regional Native American tribes interested in future use of the town-owned Mariamante parcel.

At a January 4 selectboard meeting, Montague Business Association president Chris Janke spoke on behalf of downtown Turners Falls businesses about the feared impact of interrupted traffic to and from Route 2 during bridge restoration.

Janke called for “a bi-directional solution” during the four-year construction project.

January 6, 2011

Against the backdrop of the state’s looming budget deficit, support for Senior FarmShares assistance to income-eligible seniors from Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA) is un-

certain.

In 2010, the program provided 350 seniors with locally grown produce at a minimal cost of \$10 for the entire 10 weeks of peak harvest season. There is a pick-up site at Power Town Apartments in Turners Falls.

Private first class Jeny Christian Brill of Wendell got back safe and sound December 26 from one-year deployment in Iraq and Kuwait with the Massachusetts National Guard.

The town of Montague has purchased the components for a new hot water system for the town’s water pollution control facility, and the energy committee is also looking at installing solar photovoltaics on the new police station roof.

January 5, 2012

With the stroke of a pen, more than a fifth of Leverett’s total land area was permanently conserved from development on December 23.

In the largest conservation deal in the state since the 1920s, the Department of Fish and Game purchased a conservation restriction on 5.4 square miles of land owned by

the W.D. Cows company of North Amherst, covering most of Brushy Mountain, and adjoining parcels in Shutesbury.

A rabid fox attacked and bit a man walking on Walnut Street on December 15. David Svoboda of Turners Falls has undergone a series of rabies shots.

The Erving selectboard decided that Ralph Semb, doing business as Weatherhead’s, does not need to obtain a special permit for building a convenience and package store in the town’s groundwater protection district.

Moldy documents that were removed from the Wendell town vault and cleaned are back in town, stored in boxes in the selectboard and clerk offices until work on the vault is complete.

Lake Pleasant residents can continue to enjoy Norma’s Park, as the Rocky River Realty Company, representing Northeast Utilities, and the town of Montague have renewed a lease agreement there for another three years.

January 17, 2013

After 27 years of business, Arnie’s Thrift Store, prominently

located at the intersection of Avenue A and 3rd Street, is closing its doors. Owner Arnie Houle said he had been ready to retire the business next year, but recently decided to close up sooner.

“The economy,” Houle said, “is dead. You can’t pay bills on dreams.” He added that his second job at Yankee Candle is keeping him afloat.

The Leverett selectboard met with a new fire department study committee, and charged it with looking at the needs of the department, in view of the anticipated retirement in the coming years of most, if not all, the senior officers, including chief John Moruzzi.

Vermont is seeking to reverse a lower federal court ruling that tossed out a 2005 act of its state legislature that gave it the right to decide on an extension of the Vermont Yankee nuclear reactor’s operating license.

A federal district judge ruled last year against the law, enacted following the discovery of an underground leak of radioactive tritium into the groundwater, because he felt it was based on health and safety concerns.

2012 ended with then-editor Peter Kobel’s resignation for unexpected personal reasons. A new team has been formed, and we are grateful to rest on a foundation of community support and involvement. We thank you for your patience during this hiatus in publication

January 9, 2014

Alberto Martinez, 25, a resident of Turners Falls, lost his life in the early morning on New Year’s Day when he fell down a flight of cellar stairs and struck his head on a cast-iron waste pipe.

Martinez, originally from Chiapas, Mexico, moved to the United States about four years ago, and leaves a wife and two small children. The family of the deceased is attempting to raise funds to send his body back to Chiapas for burial.

Facing a decline in effective demand, Christian Couture, third-generation owner of Couture Bros., has closed the company’s retail outlet at 187 Avenue A in order to focus on painting contracting.

Franklin Regional Transit Authority administrator Tina Cote has told the Leverett selectboard that,

see **HISTORY** page B8

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# Pets of the Week

David and his brother, Jack, are ready and waiting to move into a new home, preferably one with lots of toys.

Gerbils know how to find the inner toy in any object – a simple piece of cardboard becomes a game in their paws.

Watch them team up and turn a paper towel tube into a pile of shreds in a matter of minutes.

Jack and David are hand tame, curious and friendly. They enjoy being held and will sometimes fall asleep in your hands when they’re really relaxed.

As a bonded pair, Jack and Dave will need to be adopted together as these social pocket pets are happiest when housed with other gerbil companions.

Gerbils are diurnal which means they’re awake for a good part of the day and boy, are they busy! They’ll keep you entertained for hours with their perky antics; when it’s time to nap, they’ll cuddle up together in a gerbil pile--so cute!

Gerbils are the cleanest of critters and very easy to care for. Adopt today and let the fun begin!



DAVID & JACK

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

## Senior Center Activities JANUARY 2 TO 9

**ERVING**

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

Lunch is at 11:30 a.m., with reservations required 24 hours in advance. Call Mealsite Manager Rebecca Meuse at (413) 423-3308, for meal information and reservations.

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

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

**Friday 1/2**  
9 a.m. Bowling  
12:30 p.m. Beginner Quilting

**Monday 1/5**  
9 a.m. Tai Chi  
10 a.m. Osteo Exercise  
12:30 Movie

**Tuesday 1/6**  
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics  
10 a.m. Zumba Toning  
12:30 p.m. Painting

**Wednesday 1/7**  
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing  
10 a.m. Chair Yoga  
Noon Bingo

**Thursday 1/8**  
8:15 a.m. Foot Clinic  
8:45 a.m. Aerobics  
10 a.m. Healthy Bones & Muscles  
Noon Cards

**Friday 1/9**  
9 a.m. Bowling  
11:30 Out to Lunch

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.

**Friday: 1/2**  
10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise  
1 p.m. Writing Group

**Monday 1/5**  
10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise  
1 p.m. Knitting Circle

**Tuesday: 1/6**  
9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga  
Noon Lunch  
12:45 p.m. COA Meeting

**Wednesday 1/7**  
10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise  
Noon Lunch  
12:45 p.m. Bingo

**Thursday: 1/8**  
9 a.m. Tai Chi  
Noon Lunch  
1 p.m. Pitch

**Friday: 1/9**  
8 a.m. Reflexology appointments  
10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise  
1 p.m. Writing Group

**WENDELL**

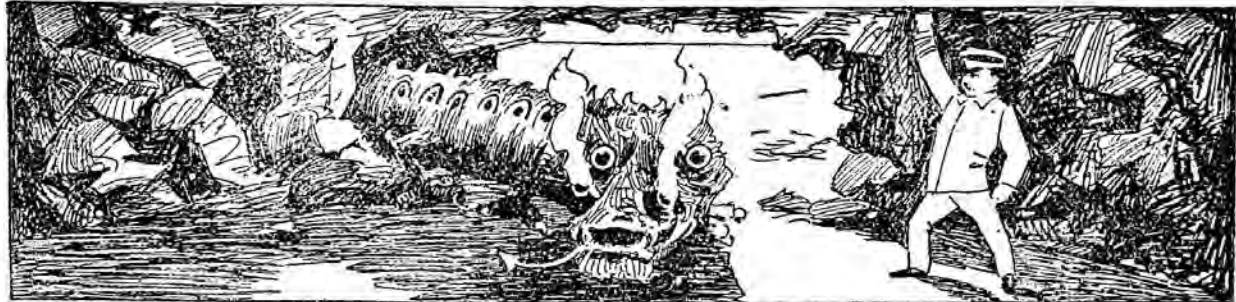
Wendell Senior Center is at 2 Lockes Village Road. Call Nancy Spittle, (978) 544-6760, for hours and upcoming programs.

Call the Center for a ride.

**LEVERETT**

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

Take-It-Easy Chair Yoga – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall. Drop-in \$5 (first class free). Senior Lunch – Fridays at noon. Call (413) 367-2694 by Wednesday for a reservation.



## LILIPUTIANS IN FAIRYLAND.

Never before has an entertainment been offered to the public possessing such a peculiar fascination for both old and young as THE LILIPUTIANS IN FAIRYLAND. It is a juvenile fairy spectacle in three acts, being national and historical, giving two hours of enjoyment. The cast is composed of from 75 to 200 of our own young people, the boys representing Liliputians, impersonating our greatest National Heroes, also Sailors, with Wizard and Zulus from South African shores; the girls all glittering with spangles and robed in filmy gowns of lace, represent the dainty denizens of fairyland, also College Girls, Royal Guards, etc.

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By FRED CICETTI

*Q. I'm worried about falling. What should I do about this?*

Well, first of all, you can't go around worrying about falling or you won't be relaxed; that can lead to a fall. So, you should concentrate on employing techniques to avoid falls and then don't let the fear take over you mind.

But a respect for the dangers of falling is justified by the statistics. Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury deaths and the most common cause of nonfatal injuries and hospital admissions for trauma. Of all fall-related fractures, hip breaks cause the greatest number of deaths and lead to the most severe health problems and reduced quality of life.

As we age, the power of our senses, reflexes and coordination diminishes. Maladies and the medicines we take for them can contribute to balance problems. Then there's osteoporosis – a disease that makes bones more likely to snap.

## THE HEALTHY GEEZER

# Fear of Falling

There are many steps you can take to prevent a fall and the possibility of breaking a bone. I'm dedicating the remainder of this column to the best tips I collected from a variety of experts:

- Get your bones tested. Your doctor can prescribe medications that will make your bones harder to break.
- Regular exercise makes you stronger and keeps your joints, tendons, and ligaments flexible. Weight-bearing exercise such as walking may slow bone loss from osteoporosis.
- Alcohol impacts your reflexes and balance. Elaboration is unnecessary.
- Get up slowly from lying and sitting to avoid feeling light-headed.
- Avoid temperature extremes in your home; they can make you dizzy.
- Wear rubber-soled, low-heeled shoes.
- Always hold the handrails on stairways.
- Don't stand on a chair to get to something. Buy a "reach stick," a grabbing tool you can find at many hardware stores.
- Clear floors where you walk.
- Never carry any package that will obstruct your view of the next step.
- Mount grab bars near toilets, tubs and showers.
- Place non-skid mats, strips, or carpet on all surfaces that may get wet, especially bathtubs and shower stalls.

- Let the soap suds go down the drain before you move around in the shower. If you are prone to falling, use a shower chair and a handheld shower attachment.
- Put night lights and light switches close to your bed.
- Use bright bulbs in your home.
- Keep your telephone near your bed. During the day, keep a portable phone with you so you won't have to walk to answer it.
- Tack down all carpets and area rugs.
- Close cabinet doors and drawers so you won't run into them.
- When it rains or snows, consider using a cane.
- Use a shoulder bag, fannypack, or backpack to leave hands free.
- Check curb heights before stepping down.
- When entering rooms, look for differences in floor levels.
- Ensure that every room in your home has a light switch near the entrance.
- Practice balancing. Hold onto something such as a countertop and stand on one leg at a time for a minute. Gradually increase the time. Try balancing with your eyes closed. Stand on your toes, then rock back to balance on your heels. Hold each position for a count of 10.
- Be especially careful around pets.

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

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## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT



JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION

## ONGOING:

## EVERY SUNDAY

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *TNT Karaoke*, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

## EVERY MONDAY

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

## EVERY TUESDAY

Slate Memorial Library, Gill: *Story Hour*, stories, popcorn, and a hands-on craft project. We welcome new families, 10 a.m.

Leverett Library *Spanish Conversation Group*. Brush up on or improve your Spanish in a casual and friendly environment, 4 to 5 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: Free *Texas Hold 'em Poker* tournament, with cash prizes.

## EVERY WEDNESDAY

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

## EVERY THURSDAY

Millers Falls Library: *Music and Movement with Tom Carroll &*

Laurie Davidson. Children and their caregivers invited. 10 a.m.

## EVERY FRIDAY

Between the Uprights, Turners Falls: *Karaoke with Dirty Johnny*. 9 p.m. to midnight. Free.

Herrick Room through January 3, 2015.

Great Falls Discovery Center: *Massachusetts Junior Duck Stamp Art*. On display in the Great Hall through Jan 31. The Discovery Center is open Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## EVENTS:

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

Orange: *19th Annual Starry Starry Night* celebration. Free event at various locations in Orange. Performers, hay rides, ice sculptures, puppet parade, fireworks. Performers include Jackson Gill-

mill River 10K run. Sponsored by Montague Parks & Recreation Department, 8:30 a.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Roosters*, classic rock by Bruce Scofield & Mark Feller, 8 p.m.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

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

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

The Nacul Center, 592 Main St., Amherst: *Song & Story Swap with guest Ray Mason*, 7 p.m.

Arts Block Cafe, Greenfield: *Juke Joint Jazz & the Lexi Weege Band*. \$, 8:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Jukin*, rock/reggae/funk, 9 p.m.

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Celtic Sessions*, musicians of all levels welcome to play traditional Irish music. So whether you are a professional musician or a beginner or somewhere in between feel free to join us! Local musician Ted Cahill kindly oversees the sessions. 10:30 a.m.

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 9

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Barrett Anderson*, hypno boogie blues! 9 p.m.

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 10

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Pirate Party!* Aaaaaaargh, mateys! Are ye ready to play like pirates? Play games, make some booty(crafts), and eat some grub! 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Green Fields Market, Greenfield: *Art display reception* for work by youth participants in the Deer Paths program. Art, song and stories about bats. Artwork on display through January. Refreshments, 3 p.m.

Montague Common Hall, Montague Center: *Square Dance*, \$, 6 p.m.

The Arts Block and Cafe, Greenfield: *The Happier Valley Show with THE HA-HA'S*, \$, 8 p.m.

Full Moon Coffeehouse, Wendell: *Pangeans* benefit for Shutesbury Public Library. Refreshments, \$, 7:30 p.m. open mic, the feature act at 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Zydeco Connection*, 9 p.m.

## LOOKING AHEAD

## JANUARY 23 to 25

*People's Music Network Winter Gathering* held in Greenfield. The PMN Winter Gathering



*The Pangeans, a group of seven musicians performing Latin Jazz, Samba, Calypso, Soca, Reggae, Funk and Afro-Beat. The group performs original compositions based on traditional rhythms as well as compositions by Abdullah Ibrahim (Dollar Brand), Herbie Hancock, Fela Kuti and others.*

*See them at the Wendell Full Moon Coffeehouse on Saturday, January 10, 8 p.m.*

## CALL FOR ART:

Call for art submissions for the Fourth Annual *Triple S: Sensual, Sexual, Smut* show. Looking for a wide spectrum of erotic art from regional artists, previous participants encouraged. Exhibit opens February 2015 at Nina's Nook, Turners Falls. Send to [naban@verizon.net](mailto:naban@verizon.net) before Jan 23. [www.ninasnook.com](http://www.ninasnook.com)

## ART SHOWS &amp; MUSEUMS:

Local libraries have passes for area museums. *Wendell Free Library* has: Brattleboro Museum & Art Center, Historic Deerfield, Mass MoCa, and more. *Leverett Library* has: Clark Art Institute, Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, Historic Deerfield, Springfield Museums and more. Check with each library for availability & restrictions.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: New work by professional photographer *Stephen Petegorsky*, of Northampton. The ten works on display are based on stained animal skeletons from the Biology Department at UMass. Photography Exhibit in the Marion

man, Inside/Out Dance Company, The Gaslight Tinkers, Ashley Jordan, Roger Tincknell and more! See complete listing at <http://starrystarrynight.org>

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Beatles For Sale*, a five-member New England based Beatles tribute band. Free, 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Sandy Bailey and Her Funky Friends*, 9 p.m. \$5 includes New Year's Eve champagne toast at midnight.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Rhythm, Inc and New Year's Eve Party!* Bonfire, snacks, hats, beads, noisemakers, free champagne at midnight, 10 p.m.


## THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *First Day Hike*. Leisurely two-mile stroll down the Canal Side Rail Trail. Family friendly, sign in at Discovery Center at 1 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *M.R. Pouloupoulos*, 2 p.m.

Montague Center: *Annual Saw-*

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Building 11 of the Strathmore complex, originally part of the Keith mill. The complex has been owned by the town of Montague since its last tax taking. In 2012, artist Terry Marashlian of Northfield won a grant from RiverScaping, a project of the Five College Consortium funded by the European Union, to install his public art piece, “A River Runs Through It,” in mirrors mounted on the empty building’s facade. This photo was taken by Ellen Blanchette in 2012.

**HISTORY** from page B6

because that town pays the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority for a demand-response van service to points in Hampshire County, it cannot join the FRTA.

The Wendell board of health is working on an application procedure for granting a variance that would allow alternative living arrangements and still protect public health. Board member Amy Simmons presented the selectboard with a draft of the program’s application form.

The Montague selectboard discussed the fact that the traditional public sledding area on the hill at Unity Park would be closed this winter due to temporary barriers erected to protect the park’s renovation project.

**January 1, 2015**

In the wake of nationwide protests against police brutality and the murders of two New York Police Department officers, Montague police chief Charles “Chip” Dodge issued a high-profile public statement.

“Now more than ever,” Dodge said, he fears for his safety and that of fellow officers. He assured the public that his department would not make decisions based on residents’ “race, religion, age, etc.”

A dam was removed from Gill’s Fall River on December 18.

An empty house on 9th Street in Turners Falls caught fire in the early morning of Christmas Eve. No one was believed to be injured, but neighbors said they had seen squatters entering the building recently.

Last Monday the Montague selectboard transferred the liquor license from Jake’s Tavern on Avenue A to Shawn M. Hubert of Gill, who plans to do business as Hubie’s Tavern and Restaurant.

Greenfield Cooperative Bank, which last year opened a branch on Avenue A in Turners Falls, has found a tenant for the southern half of their branch building. The space

will serve as an office for the New England Farmers Union, which had been headquartered in Shelburne Falls.

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, January 10, Mass Slavery Apology will present an interactive workshop, *Race and Class: Past and Present Connections*, at the First Congregational Church in Greenfield.

Participants will examine how and why race and class are connected and will learn about historical and current resistance. Admission is free; donations are welcomed.

The Turners Falls High School basketball team won two of its first four games, beating league rivals Athol and Mohawk but falling to Narragansett and Lee in non-league games.

Liam Ellis suffered a bloody nose and had to leave the Narragansett game for three minutes, but scored 27 points, and scored a triple-double the next night against Mohawk.

Two finalists have been chosen to replace Bob Mahler as superintendent of the Union #28 elementary school district.

Tara Brandt of Chicopee and Jennifer Haggerty of Fitchburg will visit each district school on January 12 and 13, and on January 26 will be interviewed by the supervisory committee in a meeting open to public questions.

On Saturday, January 3, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., the Turners Falls branch of the Greenfield Savings Bank will host a free, family-friendly bingo event. Ann Allen will be the guest caller. Call 863-4316 for mandatory reservations.

The request for proposals for a marketing feasibility study for the former International Paper mill property, now owned by the town of Erving, will be publicly posted January 7.

It has been an unseasonably warm holiday season, and many among us yearn to go sledding.



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