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The Montague Reporter

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YEAR 12 – NO. 14

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JANUARY 23, 2014

WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Ricketts to Retire in February; New Fire Chief Sought

By JONATHAN von RANSON

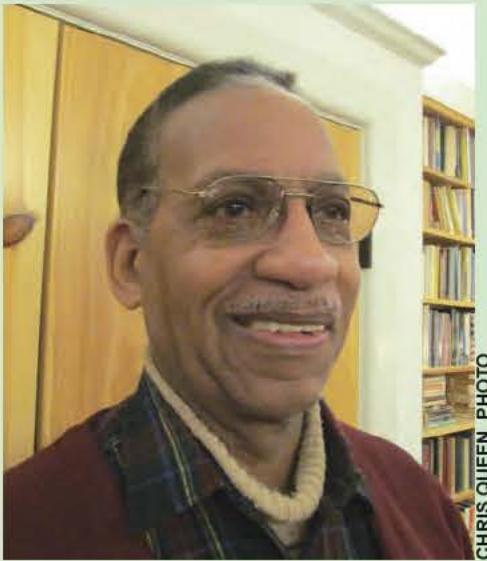
At its January 15 meeting the Wendell Selectboard formally received a letter announcing the retirement of Wendell Fire Chief Everett Ricketts. Certainly one of the town's longest-serving public servants ever, Ricketts joined the department in 1957 and became chief in 1976 – 38 years ago.

The retirement takes effect at the end of February. Although a surprise in its exact timing, it didn't catch Wendell entirely unawares.

A Succession Planning Committee has been meeting for over a year trying to prepare for the almost seismic eventual turnovers in public safety – the heads of police as well as fire.

The selectboard already knew from a survey by the committee that Wendell residents strongly preferred locally administered (over shared, inter-municipal) police and fire departments.

The 77-year-old Ricketts said, when contacted, that his retirement was partly a result of “friendly persuasion” by town officials who say they're concerned about the chief's safety in his advancing age.



CHRIS QUEEN PHOTO

Ricketts has served as the town's fire chief for 38 years.

Ricketts' tenure as chief has been characterized by a volunteer spirit and low departmental budgets.

During those years, it seems small-town firefighting even for tiny, rural departments morphed, like so much else, from a neighbor-helping-neighbor matter to a considerably more professional municipal service, meaning the public generally accepts significantly higher costs in return for increasingly stringent requirements for classes, procedures and paperwork from the state.

The department members took see WENDELL page A5

Planned Natural Gas Pipeline Would Cut Straight Through County

By MIKE JACKSON

MONTAGUE CENTER – Over the next four years, Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan, plans to build a new 250-mile main line from Wright, New York, through the Pittsfield area to Dracut – running straight through Franklin County, and quite possibly crossing the Connecticut River at Montague.

The company has begun contacting area landowners, including residents on Greenfield and Hatchery Roads, to secure surveying rights for the pipeline.

Driven by the shale gas boom, the midstream section of the industry, which includes pipelines and related infrastructure, is also expanding at a rapid pace, and Kinder Morgan, the largest midstream company, is one of three giants expanding into the New England market.

The company's “Northeast Upgrade Project,” which included new and existing pipelines across the state's Connecticut border, was finalized and came online this fall, and its attention has turned to the next phase, the “Northeast Expansion Project.”

Existing maps of the Northeast Expansion Project provided by Kinder Morgan show a major pipeline entering Franklin County around Ashfield, running east-northeast, turning briefly northward and then east again, and leaving the



BRIAN SOLOMON PHOTO

The Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company has been contacting landowners near the Montague side of this railroad bridge, which connects to the East Deerfield yard. It is possible the company is considering crossing the Connecticut River in its vicinity. Photo used with permission from briansolomon.com/trackingthelight.

county near Orange.

The high-pressure line would deliver a half a billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) of gas, initially, much of it processed from the Marcellus and Utica shale deposits. By design, that flow could eventually increase to 1.2 billion cubic feet per day.

The majority of Massachusetts' electricity is generated using natural gas, but the industry views delivery to the region as constrained, resulting in price spikes during periods of high energy demand.

On November 15, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issued a new rule permitting interstate gas pipeline operators and electric

transmission operators to share confidential information about their networks.

Three Tennessee Gas Pipeline representatives participated in a November 19 teleconference hosted by ISO-New England, the grid's regional coordinating body. Representatives from Northeast Utilities and National Grid were also in attendance.

In a January 8 letter to the town of Montague, the company wrote that it “anticipates that it will be able to locate a significant portion of the pipeline adjacent, or generally parallel, to existing pipeline and see PIPELINE page A6

Public Hearing on VY Closure Draws Citizens' Comments

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUÇANNO

MONTPELIER – Last Tuesday, the public had a chance to comment on a new agreement between the state of Vermont and the owners of Vermont Yankee nuclear power plant.

The public hearing, held in Montpelier, VT and overseen by the Vermont Public Service Board, drew nearly 100 “virtual” participants, who weighed in on the issue from interactive sites across the state.

Using the facilities of Vermont Interactive Technologies, citizens gathered in public buildings in Bennington, Brattleboro, Johnson, Lyndonville, Middlebury, Montpelier, Newport, Randolph Center, Rutland, Springfield, St. Albans, White River Junction and Williston to listen and watch the proceeding, as well as express their views.

The hearing was scheduled to enable the Public Service Board to decide whether or not to issue a Certificate of Public Good (CPG) to Entergy Vermont Yankee through December 31, 2014, now that a new Memo of Understanding was in place between the state and Entergy.

Accordingly, the hearing specifically solicited comments on that new Memorandum



In August, Entergy announced it would stop producing power at the Vernon plant in December 2014.

dum of Understanding.

The agreement was announced December 23, after weeks of closed-door talks. It allows Entergy to operate the plant for one more year, and in exchange puts Yankee on a faster track for decommissioning.

The deal calls for Entergy to contribute \$10 million to help the local economy adjust after the plant closes at the end of 2014.

In addition, Entergy would also invest \$25 million in a site restoration fund and commit to a faster decommissioning timetable than federal rules require.

The Public Service Board would grant Entergy permission to operate for a final year and to store additional spent fuel on site.

Before the new agreement was announced, the board had been considering Entergy's request for a one-year

permit.

The Public Service Board is still accepting comments in writing. They can be mailed to Clerk of the Board, Vermont Public Service Board, 112 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05620-2701, with “Docket 7862” indicated on both the letter and envelope.

Comments can also be emailed, again with the docket number, to psb.clerk@state.vt.us

Below we reprint excerpts from some of the participants who spoke at the January 14 hearing. These comments were originally compiled by Leslie Sullivan Sachs and posted on the Safe & Green website, www.safeandgreencampaign.org.

The briefest testimony came from David Bradshaw of Lyndonville. “To permit Vermont Yankee to operate is

see HEARING page A4

Montague Special Town Meeting Set for January 30

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUÇANNO

Montague will hold a special town meeting on Thursday, January 30 at 7 p.m. at the high school theater.

The purpose of the meeting is to approve six warrant articles, including bylaw changes to allow for a registered marijuana dispensary (RMD), and, once again, whether to allow for the possible demolition of the former Cumberland Farms building at 38 Avenue A.

Other items include appropriations for the police department, and for ADA compliant bathrooms at Unity Park.

Medical Marijuana

The need for the bylaw changes is necessary in order to allow for the possibility of a medical marijuana facility

setting up business in Montague. Last fall the planning board held three hearings to discuss the issue and to craft amendments to the bylaws.

The new bylaws which town meeting members are being asked to approve limit the siting of a medical marijuana facility to only four zones, and only by special permit from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

The four permitted zones would be: General Business; Industrial; Central Business and Historic Industrial. No facility could be built or operated in a residential neighborhood.

In addition to specifying zoning locations, the bylaws also impose other restrictions. The ZBA-issued special permit “may be limited to the current applicant and to lapse if the permit holder ceases operating the RMD or

upon expiration or termination of the applicant's registration.”

Additionally, the ZBA will take into consideration other issues such as the design of buildings, setbacks, visual impacts, lighting, security issues, hours of operation, traffic circulation, and consistency with current and abutting land uses.

The local guidelines correspond to the state guidelines. In addition, the Massachusetts Department of Health imposes a great many other restrictions.

According to the state, the facility must have extensive security and be accessible only by appointment. Signage is limited only to the name of the RMD. No images of marijuana plants are permitted.

At present, two applicants have filed intentions to operate a facility in Montague: MR Absolute Medical Resources Inc., and ANL, Inc.

MR Absolute Medical Resources Inc. is a non-profit formed by Michael and Susan Ruggeri of Greenfield. ANL (A New Leaf) lists on its board Josh Goldman, better known as president of Australis Aquaculture, the barramundi fish farm in Montague's industrial park.

see AGENDA page A5



SAWYER-LAUÇANNO PHOTO

Town meeting members will be again asked to allow demolition to be an option on the table for this building.

The Montague Reporter

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NSA Spying To Continue

We were pleased that President Obama finally weighed in last Friday on the NSA and its spying on civilians around the world. As usual, it was a good speech. Unfortunately, what he said wasn't completely reassuring. We applauded when he said that he is ordering a transition that will end Section 215 of the Patriot Act bulk metadata program "as it currently exists."

Unfortunately, his plan is not as comprehensive as it could have been. He did not say he was going to end data collection. Instead his focus was on the retention of that data. His reform was mainly aimed at getting the government out of holding the bulk collection of metadata by shifting the responsibility to private telecoms or some sort of "third party."

Who this third party might be was left vague. Apparently, the attorney general, the intelligence services, or Congress would be in charge of figuring out who this will be and how it will function.

We suppose if he had the ACLU or the Electronic Frontier Foundation in mind as the third party holder of the metadata, we wouldn't be so worried. But somehow we doubt this was what he had in mind.

Still, this reform isn't all bad. In order for the NSA to gain access to this data, it will have to file a request with the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance (FISA) Court. And ultimately, the data will be purged. These are major steps to reducing the "potential for abuse."

But the more significant issue is collection. Mass snooping is not going to end, even if, at the President suggestion, tips will now result only in investigation of all those within two phone "hops" of their target, rather than three, the current practice. This, too, is an improvement.

In practical terms, this reform – which he said would take effect immediately – will cut the number of people who come under surveillance as the result of tracking a single suspicious person. But the number will still be staggering.

Although we would also have liked to see additional FISA Court reforms, the one he did promise is important: a public advocate on the court, for certain matters.

At present no one is allowed to make the opposing case in a FISA Court. Under this reform someone will, at the very least, be able to a case for turning down a request on the grounds that it endangers civil liberties.

Despite these positive steps, the mass snooping itself is still quite troubling.

What it comes down to is that the reforms the president outlined will do little, if anything, to protect the privacy rights of Americans. These "signal intelligence directives" simply call for reports and reviews, instead of creating concrete measures to guarantee our basic, constitutional, rights.

So far, there is little evidence that the extreme extent of government spying has thwarted attacks or kept Americans safer.

We are not arguing for an end to intelligence gathering. But the president does need to advocate stronger measures to end practices that one court has already deemed unconstitutional.

President Obama's speech also put Edward Snowden back into the spotlight. He mentioned Snowden by name: "Given the fact of an open investigation, I'm not going to dwell on Mr. Snowden's actions or his motivations," the president said. "I will say that our nation's defense depends in part on the fidelity of those entrusted with our nation's secrets."

We agree that those "entrusted with our nation's secrets" should generally not spill the beans. But the U.S. also recognizes, and has even enshrined into law, the notion that whistle blowers who divulge to the public practices that are below board should be protected.

We stand with *The New York Times* and the U.K.'s *Guardian* which have both urged clemency for Snowden. The *Times* said it quite well: "When someone reveals that government officials have routinely and deliberately broken the law, that person should not face life in prison at the hands of the same government."

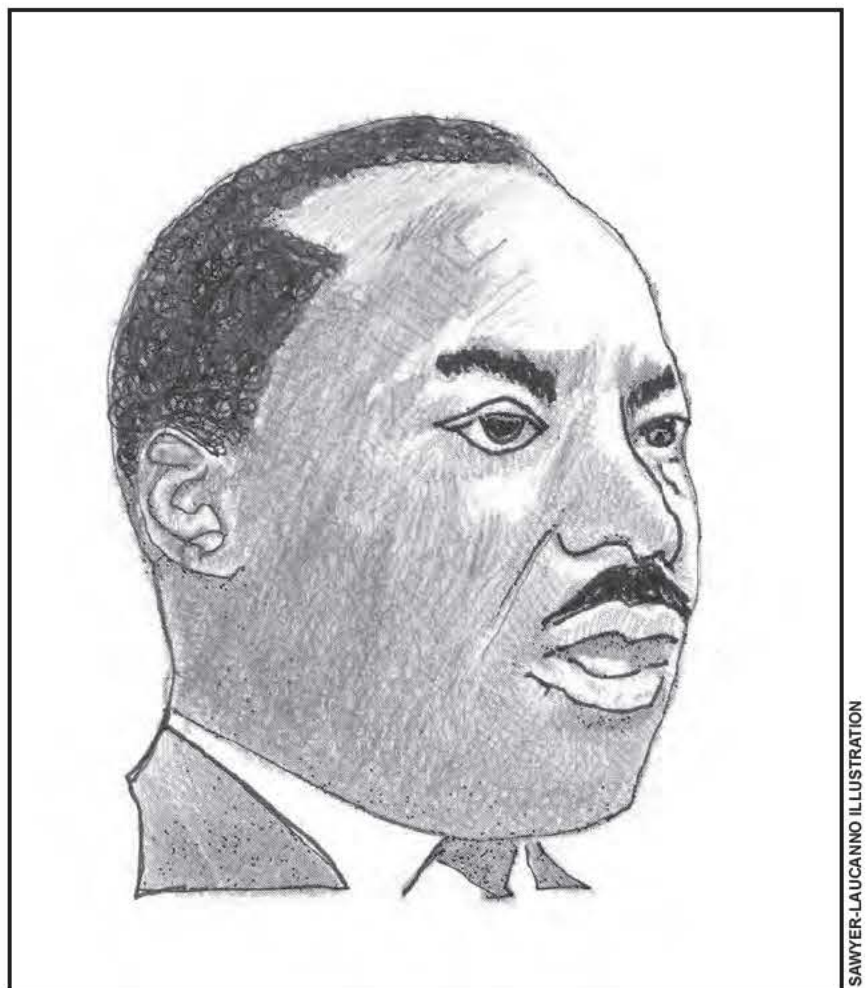
The press has reveled in the irony that President Obama delivered his speech on the 53rd anniversary of President Eisenhower's farewell address, in which he warned about the military-industrial complex.

But the quote that seems most appropriate regarding Snowden and the NSA was uttered not by President Eisenhower but by President Obama's hero, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose birthday we celebrated this week.

Paraphrasing Gandhi, King wrote in his autobiography: "I became convinced that noncooperation with evil is as much a moral obligation as is cooperation with good."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 15, 1929 –
April 4, 1968



SAWYER-LAUCANNO ILLUSTRATION

Letters to the Editors



VY Deal Is A Good Precedent

Last week, history was made in Vermont, as an agreement was reached between the state of Vermont and Entergy Nuclear Vermont Yankee.

This precedent-setting deal sets the stage for how the process of decommissioning will work for one of the country's first merchant (i.e., privately owned, non-utility) nuclear plants to shut down.

Whatever Vermont's past relationship has been with Entergy, it is critical that we move forward together with the best interests of the tri-state community in mind, as well as what can work for the company.

We appreciate and thank all involved for what must have been many, many hours of negotiations to come to this agreement.

We are hopeful that this agreement can set the stage for thorough and responsible decommissioning of the Vermont Yankee reactor.

Vermont Citizens Awareness Network has identified four key requirements for the decommissioning process:

- 1) The spent fuel must be moved out of the pool and into hardened, on-site storage as soon as possible;
- 2) The skilled workforce that is

specifically knowledgeable about and experienced with the Vermont Yankee plant must be retained for the decommissioning planning and implementation (up to 60% of the workforce may be needed);

3) The ultimate goal must be "greenfielding" the site—returning it to unrestricted use, both in terms of radioactivity and chemical contamination; and

4) A Community Advisory Board must be involved in the oversight of the decommissioning process.

Upon reading the Memorandum of Understanding and the Settlement Agreement, we are pleased that three of the four issues were addressed in some way in the negotiations.

We particularly appreciate that Entergy will complete its site plan early, by December 2014, and that plan will include a timeline for moving the spent fuel out of the fuel pool into dry storage.

Completing that site plan early will help with the retention of the skilled workforce.

We are also glad to see that funding will be set aside and a process for determining how the site will be restored has been included in the

settlement.

We are hopeful that separate from this agreement, Entergy, the state, and other stakeholders will create a Citizens Advisory Board so that the decommissioning process can be as transparent as possible, and a forum will be available for raising concerns, answering questions, and having a dialogue directly with company representatives.

VCAN and our partners at the Citizens Awareness Network look forward to working with all of the stakeholders as we move through the decommissioning process.

We believe this historical agreement is a good first step in the process, and we are hopeful that Vermont can lead the way to developing a process that will be looked to by other states as the "best practice" for decommissioning merchant nuclear plants.

Chris Williams
Hancock, VT

Williams is the Vermont Organizer for Citizens Awareness Network and the board chair for the Nuclear Information and Resource Service in Washington, DC.

Decommissioning Fund A Dangerous Gamble

Last Tuesday, Nina Keller from Wendell, Suzy Polucci from Erving and I attended the Public Service Board Hearing in Brattleboro on the future of Vermont Yankee.

It was really a good experience to go up there and hear all the great points that were made around the state of VT in opposition to giving VTY a certificate of public good or accepting the current Memo of Understanding between the State of VT and Entergy.

One of the important things I learned from the discussion is that Vermont Yankee should and could be encouraged to start the decommissioning process today, NOW, even before they cease

operating in Dec. 2014. There are a number of spent fuel rods from the 1970s that are cool enough to be moved now to dry cask storage.

As we know, the storage tank is already carrying 1/3 more spent fuel rods than it is designed for, is badly built, has already had a major leak, and if damaged could cause the contained fuel rods to melt down together which create 100 times the radiation emitted at Fukushima!

In fact, as someone pointed out, there is indeed \$600 million in the trust fund accounts, which is plenty to start removing some of the old fuel rods, or at least to eliminate the overcrowding in the tank.

Now is NOT the time to stop our

activism or to rest on our laurels. The even greater danger is the spent fuel rods and getting them moved ASAP to dry cask storage of the right sort.

I also didn't know that Entergy did not put one penny into the decommissioning trust fund, which now has 600 million or so of VT taxpayers' money in it that Entergy has invested in the stock market. The reason that they don't want to start decommissioning now is because they will have to pay for it themselves, not out of the trust funds, and that might eat into their profits.

see GAMBLE next page

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LOCAL BRIEFS

JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

Compiled by DON CLEGG

The **Annual Teen Art Exhibit** will be held in the gallery at Artspace Community Arts Center, 15 Mill St. Greenfield, through February 14.

Schools participating this year are: Academy at Charlemont, Deerfield Academy, The Eaglebrook School, Four Rivers Charter Public School, Mahar Regional High School, Mohawk Trail Regional High School, Northfield Mount Hermon, Pioneer Valley Regional High School, Stoneleigh-Burnham School, and Turners Falls High School.

This is an exciting exhibit with 2D and 3D creations by teens.

Gallery hours are M-F, 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturday, February 8, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. A reception for the teen artists will be held on Friday, January 24, from 5:50 to 7:30 p.m.

The reception is free and open to the public. Call (413) 772-6811 or email info@franklyarts.com for more information, or to schedule group visits to the exhibit.

NELCWIT's **37th Annual Bowlation** is Saturday, January 25, from noon to 3:30 p.m. at the French King Entertainment Center located on Route 2 in Erving. NELCWIT is the "New England Learning Center for Women in Transition".

NELCWIT serves Franklin County and the North Quabbin region of Western Mass.

This year the goal is to raise \$15,000. Every dollar goes to support vital services, including the crisis hotline, prevention education programs, and counseling and advocacy services for individuals and families who have experienced domestic and sexual violence.

The **Traveling Rhubarb DVD Release Party** is Saturday, January 25, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. held in the Montague Common Hall, Montague Center. All are invited.

The Greenfield Home Depot will be sponsoring an evening of entertainment as a **fundraiser in memory of Greg Ellis**, on Sunday, January 26, at Taylor's Tavern on Main Street in Greenfield. All funds collected will go to Greg's four year old son, Anthony.

Entertainment will be provided by TNT Productions DJ, Steve Therien. There will also be light refreshments and various raffles, including a 50/50 raffle. This fundraiser will take place from 5 to 7:30 p.m.

Bring your ears, love of poetry, and appetites for an enjoyable **evening of poetry to benefit the**

Montague Reporter and provide a warm respite for the body and soul on Monday, January 27, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Deja Brew Pub, 57A Lockes Village Road; in Wendell.

The Tuesday, January 28, **Senior Symposium at GCC's Downtown Center** in Greenfield features "God, Democracy, and the Arab Revolution".

"Revolution is like Saturn; it devours its own children," observed Georg Buchner in 1835. Is this what's happening in the Middle East?

Ted Thornton will address this question by discussing the current mix of religion, politics and revolution that was sparked by the self-immolation of a street vendor in Tunisia in December of 2010. Emphasis will be on Syria and Egypt, the two most critical countries in the region struggling with this mix.

Thornton earned a B.A. in history from UMass Amherst, a Master's degree from Harvard Divinity School and is a longtime faculty member at Northfield Mount Hermon School. The presentation starts at 4 p.m.

Conversations for Racial Justice is offering monthly events in Greenfield during 2014. Organized by Mass Slavery Apology, a Franklin County-based group, the series will include workshops, speakers, and other activities on the first Saturday of each month.

The organizers hope the series will encourage conversation, promote a greater appreciation for our diverse society, and build a

deeper understanding of racism, white privilege, and ways to work for racial justice.

In honor of **Black History Month**, the February event will be a screening of the film "Walk Right In: Yale Summer High School." "Walk Right In" captures the stories of a unique educational experiment in the 1960s through interviews with its participants – 40 years later.

Created as part of the war on poverty, the Yale Summer High School brought underprivileged students from across the nation to the Yale Divinity School during the 1960s. In 1968 – a time of great national upheaval – a small group of educators redefined the enterprise.

Drawing on the "Great books" of Western literature, they tackled sensitive issues of race, tolerance, and personal identity, as they searched for that which eluded the nation – a sense of community and the values which ground people and bind them together.

The workshop/film showing will be held at the First Congregational Church, 43 Silver Street, Greenfield, on Saturday, February 1 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free and childcare will be available. (Please let the organizers know if you will be bringing children.)

The space is wheelchair accessible. Attendees are asked not to wear fragrances. If the program is cancelled due to bad weather, it will be announced by 7 a.m. at www.massslaveryapology.org, on the group's Facebook page, and on WHAI.

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.



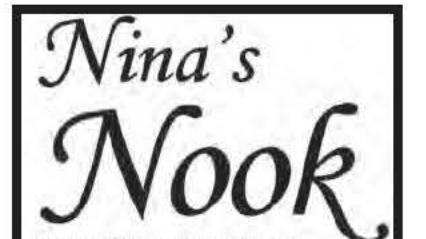
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GAMBLE from previous page

What happens if, as Thom Hartmann and other progressive economists fear, the stock market goes into another depression in two years? Those trust funds could go bust, or Entergy could go bankrupt, which would leave VT taxpayers saddled with starting all over again to raise funds for decommissioning, and the all of us in continued danger of a meltdown.

Some say they shouldn't tap those invested trust funds now because that would eat into the capital that could be raising more money in the long run for the decommissioning.

But the risk of another hurricane, or an earthquake, or a leak, is too great to not start removing some of the spent fuel rods now.

The only reason that Entergy, and the NRC, are not doing that is because that would mean that Entergy might have to reach into its own pockets for the second half of the process. Which is more important, our safety or their profits?

The VT Public Service Board is likely to be pragmatic and follow the State's lead in accepting the Memo of Understanding with Entergy.

It seems that they want the pittance promised by the company for site restoration and economic development, and have given up thinking they can put any conditions on starting the decommissioning process because the NRC "pre-empted" the question of safety away from the states, and Vermont lost the court cases challenging that.

So what are we to do? One thing I feel sure of, is that we should not remain silent!

Ann Ferguson
Leverett

Mutton and Mead Medieval Festival Auditioning Actors, Singers, Musicians and other Performers

Mutton and Mead is in search of actors, singers, musicians and dancers both novice and professional to help us bring the streets of our humble village alive!

Auditions will be scheduled Friday thru Sunday February 7, 8, and 9 at the Montague Common Hall, 36 Main Street in Montague Center.

Snow dates, or overflow dates, are February 10 and 11 (evening). For more information, to schedule your audition, or find out drop-in times see the website www.MuttonAndMead.com.

Mutton & Mead is a Robin Hood-themed festival held in Montague at the Millers Falls Rod

& Gun Club on June 21 and 22, 2014.

We will create a medieval shire (Nottingham) and Tavern (The Mutton & Mead Inne), populate it with characters (our Shire Cast), and then tell the tale of Robin Hood through stage and street performances over the course of a day filled with great shopping, great food and great fun!

The festival will include an Armored Joust, a variety of Stage & Street Shows, Historical & Artisan Demonstrations as well as games and activities for all ages.

We are also seeking "extras." These performers play a less involved role as the day unfolds.

Regardless of the size of your part, we provide training to give you the skills to rock the shire on festival day! We also need Support Crew (Set Designers, Artists & Painters, Carpenters & Skilled Builders, and Costuming Help), Vendors (Artisans, Crafters, Food Vendors), and General Administrative help.

You will be joining a lively community of imaginative and fun people, committed to creating a unique event.

For more information, to schedule your auditions, or to find out about other performing opportunities visit www.MuttonAndMead.com.

Jay K's: On The Move

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

TURNERS FALLS – Jay K's Liquors, currently located next to Subway at 59 Avenue A, is moving down the Avenue to 123 Avenue A, the former home of Tognarelli's Heating and Cooling.

Chris Sexton, co-owner of the store with his wife Melissa Winters, said that they are hoping to open by mid-March, maybe even sooner. At present, they are busily engaged in renovating the space – taking down walls, putting in new floors, installing new lighting.

Sexton said they are both very excited about the move. "We needed more space. We wanted to stay on the Avenue. This was it."

Sexton said that the new location will allow them to serve their

customers better.

"Since it gives us a lot more space, it also gives us a lot more opportunity to feature craft beers. We intend to install a 40-foot cooler and stock it with every single local craft beer as well as other beers from New England brewers."

He said they'd also continue to sell all the large, name brand beers they currently offer their customers. They will also be expanding their wine offerings.

Winters and Sexton bought the J.K. business from Pam Kostanski in 2011 but kept the name, as the shop was already well established. The new store will have a new name: Connecticut River Liquors.

The couple also own the Wine Rack in Greenfield, and last March opened Deerfield River Liquors on Route 5 and 10.



Co-owner Chris Sexton cleaned up the new storefront on Monday.

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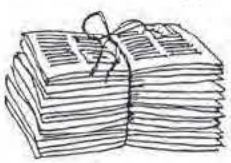
48 Sanderson Street | Greenfield, MA



(L to R) Connie Turner, FNP; Melissa Novak, PA-C; and Lora Grimes, MD


RECYCLE

PAPER
Week of January 27
in Montague



more info? call: 863-2054

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Great Falls Middle School Students of the Week
(week ending 1/17/14)

Grade 6
Emily Sisson

Grade 7
Kayleigh Curtiss
Danielle Lively

Grade 8
Peyton Emery

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HEARING from page A1
like allowing a drunk to drive after his license has expired."

Six spoke in favor. These included Guy Page, head of a pro-nuclear business group funded by Entergy; Cheryl Twarog, the wife of a VY employee; and the executive director of the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation, which will receive the first \$500,000 of economic development money.

Most of the testimony, however, was direct and critical.

Howard Fairman, who identified himself as "pro-nuclear," questioned Entergy's "competence" and enumerated a series of problems at Vermont Yankee in 2013, including failed flood seals, which he said were also a problem at Fukushima.

"You, the Public Service Board of Vermont, are just about all we have left to make sure that our interests are protected in the process of operating and decommissioning Vermont Yankee," said Ann Darling, a member of Safe & Green, the Connecticut River Watershed Council and the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee of Franklin County.

Betsy Williams, a resident of Westminster West and a member of Safe & Green, made a request that was echoed by many throughout

the evening: that the Public Service Board require Entergy to begin moving all cool spent fuel out of the pool the day after they shut down the reactor. "Do not let Entergy shift financial responsibility onto the backs of Vermont taxpayers," said Williams. "Do not allow Entergy to leave behind a sacrifice zone, permanently contaminated by corporate malfeasance."

David Deen, a Vermont state legislator, drew attention to a recent independent report on Vermont Yankee's thermal discharge. The report, by a group of fisheries and water experts from NH, VT and MA agencies, concluded that closed-cycle cooling should be used – even for the single year in the permit. "Entergy has fought tooth and nail to hide behind their flawed science and cherry-picked modeling results in order not to have to stop discharging thermal pollution to the river."

Chad Simmons, a member of Safe&Green, thanked the Shumlin administration for its efforts, and understands the predicament it is in. "That being said, it is shameful and a sad testament to our current political framework when a multi-billion dollar corporation can so easily dictate the terms of negotiations."

As a town official from Wendell, Nina Keller said, "Everything is

economics including the economics of evacuation. I see nothing about evacuation in the MOU (Memo of Understanding)."

Wendell is two miles out of the evacuation zone so Yankee bears no burden to help her town. She likened Entergy to a "spoiled child" who throws a tantrum when it doesn't get its way.

Ann Ferguson, from Leverett, and a member of Safe & Green, said "I think this Memo of Understanding is too vague. We don't have anyone saying how much this is going to cost and when they are obligated to start decommissioning."

Sally Shaw of Gill was also concerned about the danger of high burn up fuel in the fuel pool and dry casks, and reminded the Board that "every additional minute VY runs, the fuel in its core creates more deadly Cesium 137, Strontium 90, Cobalt 60 and the other hundreds of radioactive products that future generations will have to contend with. We know this."

Leslie Sullivan Sachs, project manager for Safe & Green, asked the PSB to consider the big picture, with an eye to the decommissioning sure to come. Vermont, she said, is an activist state, with even the government against Entergy.

Free Mental Health Forum On January 30

The Community Health Care Initiative is sponsoring a Public Forum titled "Mental Health and Drug Abuse in Franklin County: A Community Crisis" at the Middle School, 195 Federal Street, Greenfield on Thursday, January 30.

Franklin County Sheriff, Christopher Donelan, Dr. Ruth Potee, Family Physician with Valley Medical Group, and John Merrigan, Register of Probate will be among the presenters for this event.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for access to service provider information tables and the panel discussion will begin at 7 p.m. with a question and answer period to follow.

Admission is Free. For further information call Patti Williams at 774-6406.

Book Group Forming at Wendell Library

A book group is forming to study Charles Eisenstein's latest book, "The More Beautiful World Our Heart Knows is Possible".

In this work, Eisenstein suggests that underlying all the crises we face today – ecological collapse, economic instability, climate change, peak oil, loss of democracy – is an outdated story or set of beliefs about our place in the world.

The good news, according to Eisenstein, is that by making this story conscious and creating a new one to replace it, we can address most of these challenges simultaneously.

The first session of the group will be on Thursday, January 30 at 7 p.m. in the Herrick Room at the Wendell Library.

Subsequent meeting dates are scheduled for the same time and location for Thursdays, February 6 and 27, and March 13 and 27.

The intention of the book group is to look at some of Eisenstein's ideas and see how we can put them into everyday practice.

Wendell carpenter and homesteader, Alistair MacMartin will convene the group. Alistair says that the format of the group will be to cover one or two chapters per evening over a number of weeks.

The library has ordered copies of the book for participants to borrow or purchase. If the library copies run out participants can also download the book for free at www.charleseisenstein.net (Charles' contribution to creating a new economic story) or buy it online.

To sign up for the book group and to see if there are still copies of the title available, please contact the Wendell Library at (978) 544-3559.

A Night of Poetry to Benefit the Montague Reporter


Monday, January 27, 2014, 7 pm
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WENDELL from page A1

the classes and Ricketts managed to stay up with the paperwork, but with his departure, the local "feel" of the department is certain to change, and town officials have been warning that the cost will, too.

Ricketts said he wonders if that's necessary, given the possibilities he sees for promotion from within his department.

At the meeting, members held a job posting that contained many specialized requirements as well as a list of certifications. A job description was on hand, put together by the succession committee.

At chair Christine Heard's suggestion, the selectboard agreed to take on finding Ricketts' replacement rather than leaving it to a subcommittee, and to advertise the part-time job in local newspapers, including this issue [Eds.: and page!] of the Reporter.

Fire services expert Ed Walker, consultant for the succession committee, will be asked to participate in the interviews.

Wireless Issues

As previously reported, heavy (and unauthorized) use of the town office's HughesNet wireless connection has exceeded quotas and triggered periods of reduced Internet service there.

The misuse has occurred "mostly between 8 and 12 on Friday and Saturday nights," Town Coordinator Nancy Aldrich reported, based on reports sent by HughesNet. She's already asked police chief Ed Chase

to keep an eye on the parking lot after hours in his trips past town hall.

The board considered the idea of unplugging the building's wireless service when workers leave, but discovered after the meeting that doing so would also disable the hard-wired service.

Member Jeffrey Pooser said he'd arrange for a new password.

The Town is awaiting long-promised fiber optic broadband service, so no one present seemed to want to sign up for HughesNet's more expensive protective offerings.

Solar News

Well, folks, Seaboard Solar hasn't paid up yet. Wendell entered into an agreement with this Connecticut-based corporate entity under which the town would receive money and electricity for new solar electric installations far from here based on virtual net metering and state-backed renewable energy credits.

Aldrich said a payment was six months overdue. Board member Dan Keller said he'd call the principal of the firm.

The town was approached recently by another solar company, Soltage, about placing solar collectors on the capped landfill area at the WRATS (recycling and transfer station). Soltage is likewise offering money and electricity.

Keller, passing up a seeming chance for irony, suggested that Aldrich "Let them know we can't buy any power, and if they're still interested, we'd like to talk to them."

Board Changes

Pam Richardson's wish has been granted to resign from the zoning board of appeals if a replacement could be found. Beth Erviti has offered to serve.

On another board vacancy, a board of health member, Jenny Brill is no longer living in Wendell, and a replacement is needed for her seat.

The board is in the midst of creating a variance process for conservation-oriented housing and, as one of the selectboard members commented, should be at full strength. Anyone interested in serving on that board should contact the selectboard office.

Only one response came in to the town's notice of need for a shared clerk for the open space and energy committees. At Heard's suggestion, the applicant, Wanita Sears, will be invited to discuss the job with the board.

Flag Designs

There's also only one person to date who's responded to the request for design suggestions for a Wendell flag - Dana Larson, who submitted five.

The board seemed to like them, or aspects of several of them, but decided to continue to solicit others, and said it would put the decision on Wendell's flag to a vote at annual town meeting so Wendell can join other towns with their flags hanging in the state house in Boston.

Senior Center Repair

A new access ramp will be built for the senior center in the spring. Funds for the work have already been authorized. The building's slate roof, however, needs replacement.

One estimate of around \$15,000 has already been received. Members agreed to solicit more bids for the somewhat unusual, century-old four-hip structure.

Other Business

Tari Thomas, new superintendent of the Mahar Regional School District, made a getting-acquainted visit. There were several compliments for the school's special programs and extracurriculars.

Doug Tanner, present on behalf of the finance committee, asked Thomas to keep in mind during budgeting that Wendell had a "static" tax base and was coming up against its levy limit.

He said that with Mahar budgets historically increasing "1.5-2% per year," it "raises the possibility that, even if the will of the town was to support a budget, we wouldn't be able to."

In response to other concerns Tanner expressed, Thomas reassured him that "it's literally impossible" for funds of Wendell's, say, to be somehow diverted to, in Tanner's words, "keep Orange from going bankrupt." She added that Orange's fiscal problems are now easing.

Wendell residents Jim and Claire Paddock came to ask the board for help in spurring action by the state

Department of Fish and Wildlife, and its attorney, Sam Lovejoy, to resolve a boundary dispute on land they own, and have been paying taxes on, off of Lockes Village Rd. Lovejoy has been extremely difficult for Paddock to reach.

The issue in question showed up in one of the land transactions several decades ago. These were between Mr. Wolfe, former owner of a large tract of land abutting the Paddocks' and being eyed for scores of new homes, and Greenbriar, then between Greenbriar and Fish and Wildlife.

While he wants to clear up title for his will, Mr. Paddock said he's reluctant to go to land court, which he said Lovejoy told him "would take four years."

Keller, who is old friends with Lovejoy, agreed to try to talk to the hard-to-reach attorney on the Paddocks' behalf.

The board agreed to ask Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) for support with housing planning, broadband and decommissioning the Vernon, VT nuclear reactor in response to a letter from FRCOG requesting proposals for how to direct its services.

Special Town meeting

The board set Thursday, February 27 for a special town meeting, to pay bills of prior years. Boards will be asked if they have any items to bring up before the voters.



NOTES FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

Report Unfounded and Removed Same

Tuesday, 1/14
9:55 a.m. Assisted on scene of medical emergency on Warner Street.

Wednesday, 1/15
3:50 a.m. Arrested [redacted], for operating under the influence of liquor, being a minor in possession of alcohol, and speeding.

8:15 p.m. Arrested [redacted] for default warrant.

10 p.m. Report of suspicious activity at Old State Road residence. Unfounded.

Thursday, 1/16
8:15 a.m. Alarm sounding at Renovators Supply. Handled by Erving Fire Department.

7 p.m. Criminal application issued to [redacted] for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and no inspection sticker.

Friday, 1/17
12 p.m. Report of large boulder in westbound travel lane of Route 2. Removed same.

2:30 p.m. Dispatched to the French King Bridge to assist Gill police with an upset woman. Transported same to Franklin Medical Center.

9:45 p.m. Assisted Northfield PD with attempted breaking and entering at a Main Street residence in Northfield.

Saturday, 1/18
2 p.m. Disabled motor vehicle at Route 2 rest area. Out of fuel.

10 p.m. Report from Hardwick Animal Control of dog taken from their town by an Erving resident. Advised resident to return animal.

Sunday, 1/19
11:13 a.m. Assisted on scene of medical emergency on Moore Street.

11:52 a.m. Report of loose dog on Highland Avenue, causing property damage. Owner to be advised of leash law, and of damage.

6:10 p.m. Montague PD requested assistance in Millers Falls for possible domestic situation in Roadhouse parking lot.

10:30 p.m. Parking complaint on Warner Street. Advised vehicle owner not to block driveways or roadway with motor vehicle.

Monday, 1/20
9:55 a.m. Assisted Gill PD with motor vehicle crash on Hoe Shop Road. Report taken.

1:30 p.m. Water main break reported on Central Street. Found to be sewer problem. Homeowner to handle.

3 p.m. Disabled motor vehicle at Route 2 and Old State Road. Not a hazard. Owner making arrangements.

3:15 p.m. Report taken concerning suspicious person at Flagg Hill Road.

3:40 p.m. Criminal application issued to [redacted] for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Part-Time Fire Chief
TOWN OF WENDELL

The Town of Wendell is seeking candidates for the position of part-time Fire Chief.

To be eligible, a candidate must have at least 5 years of active firefighting experience with 2 years in a supervisory role. Qualified candidates must have a thorough knowledge of modern fire suppression and prevention principles, procedures, techniques and equipment, and a working knowledge of the relevant laws, regulations, and codes involved in fire department operations and inspections. Candidates must have strong administrative and computer skills, with experience in budgeting, capital planning and grant writing required.

Seeking an individual with strong communication and interpersonal skills with the ability to lead and work effectively with a diverse and inclusive town and department culture that values teamwork, learning, and service to community.

This part-time, on-call position requires a candidate to have a high school diploma and a valid MA driver's license (CDL preferred).

Applicants please send resume and cover letter to: Wendell Selectboard, PO Box 41, Wendell, MA 01379, or deliver to Wendell Town Offices, 9 Morse Village Road, Wendell, by 3 PM, February 4, 2014. Contact Town Coordinator Nancy Aldrich with any questions or to request a job description, at 978-544-3395.

The Town of Wendell is an equal opportunity employer.

AGENDA from page A1

Also listed as directors of the corporation are Marina Goldman, Robert Cohn of Greenfield, Dr. Susan Lowry of Montague and Dr. Stephen Fox of Greenfield.

Other Articles

Article 2 asks town meeting members to change the wording of a previously passed appropriation to allow for the possible "demolition" of the former Cumberland Farms building located just beyond the Discovery Center.

The word "demolition" was removed from the original article of an appropriation first approved at town meeting in May of 2012.

At that time, town meeting was presented with a motion to spend approximately \$30,000 "for the purpose of restoring 38 Avenue A

through remediation and roof repair or demolition of the building."

The meeting passed the motion but removed the demolition option, a move generally considered to reflect support for a renovation by local cable access provider MCCI. The final motion passed by a 58 to 24 vote.

A year later, another special town meeting voted 45-37 to reject a motion to add demolition as an option for use of the previously appropriated funds.

But, since negotiations between MCCI and Montague Economic Development Incorporated (MEDIC) have stalled, MEDIC, the petitioner, is apparently hoping that the third time is the charm.

Article 3 asks for \$5,000 to fund legal expenses associated with the negotiation of the town's cable con-

tract with Comcast.

Article 4 requests from the Town \$15,000 for refurbishing and making handicap accessible the Unity Park Field House rest rooms.

Article 5 is looking for an approval of \$20,000 for the purpose of supplementing the Fiscal Year 2014 Police Department budget.

Article 6, the final article, asks town meeting members to approve a wording change to one previously passed at the September 12, 2013 Special Town Meeting:

That article, which approved appropriation for the implementation fo a collective bargaining agreement with UE Local 274, would be amended to add the clause "including the implementation of the Pay and Classification Study by Stone Consulting, as accepted and amended by the Personnel Board."



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PIPELINE from page A1

electric utility corridors.”

The letter also said that the company would “begin to contact landowners along the proposed project route in the coming weeks.”

Tom Sharp, administrative coordinator for the town of Erving, confirmed that the same advance materials were sent to his town this month, and Northfield’s town secretary Sandra Wood confirmed the same for hers.

Gill administrative assistant Ray Purington and Wendell town coordinator Nancy Aldrich both told the Reporter that, to the best of their knowledge, their towns had not received them.

This week, a Tennessee Gas Pipeline LLC representative came knocking on the doors of homes on Hatchery Road and Greenfield Road, leaving his number and telling residents the company is seeking to secure easements there.

“One of my teenaged sons was home, and spoke to him. He left a placard with a tearoff on it, with a number – it’s a Central New York number – and his name, just ‘Joe’,” said Laura Chapdelaine, whose house is the northern dead end of Greenfield Road.

“I’m hesitant to even call them back. My parents live in fracking central, in upstate New York... I know what they’re going through out there. I’m very, very cautious when it comes to anything involving energy.”

She added, “I definitely would not grant permission for any kind of survey work. I would make them go through the proper channels.”

Last October 24, Tennessee Gas Pipeline LLC filed a Petition for an Order Authorizing Surveys with the state’s Department of Public Utilities, to gain access to the property of Nicholas Hryckvich of Sandisfield, MA, as part of its Connecticut Expansion Project.

The petition includes a map indicating the company intends to run part of the 36” pipeline across the corner of Hryckvich’s parcel. It noted that, between July and October, it had obtained permission from ten of twelve affected landowners in Sandisfield.

“No one’s spoken to me about anything,” said Hryckvich. “I haven’t heard anything from anybody in a few months now.” When asked about the petition to the state, Hryckvich replied, simply, “I guess they can do that.” The petition appears to still be open on the Department’s docket.

At some point, the Northeast Expansion pipeline would have to cross the Connecticut River. Unlike transmission lines, it cannot simply hang over the river. If it crosses at Montague, it might make use of the General Pierce Bridge between Cheapside and Montague City.

In fact, Berkshire Gas currently pipes a small amount of natural gas over that bridge, and underground up Montague City Road to Turners Falls, and Turnpike Road to the airport industrial park. It is difficult to imagine, though, major pipeline construction continuing through any of those residential neighborhoods.

The next bridge south along the river, the Canalside Rail Trail bridge, is abandoned by rail but serves as a walking and bike path. Were the pipeline to cross this bridge, it would still have to travel parallel to Greenfield Road along the river for quite a distance before reaching Hatchery Road.

The state Department of Transportation (MassDOT) is currently planning a \$6 million upgrade to Greenfield Road, a project that has encountered environmental and legal challenges for over a decade and is finally set to go forward.

Town administrator Frank Abbondanzio said he could “not see either the state or the town permitting a pipeline to run along or across Greenfield Road, given all the work that has gone into the present plan.”

Continuing to the south we reach the Springfield Terminal Rail Bridge. Pan Am Railways runs trains over this bridge from its yard in East Deerfield and into Montague, between the severed ends of Greenfield Road, once a major east/west traffic artery, and continuing southeast. They then turn northeast through Lake Pleasant and into Millers Falls.

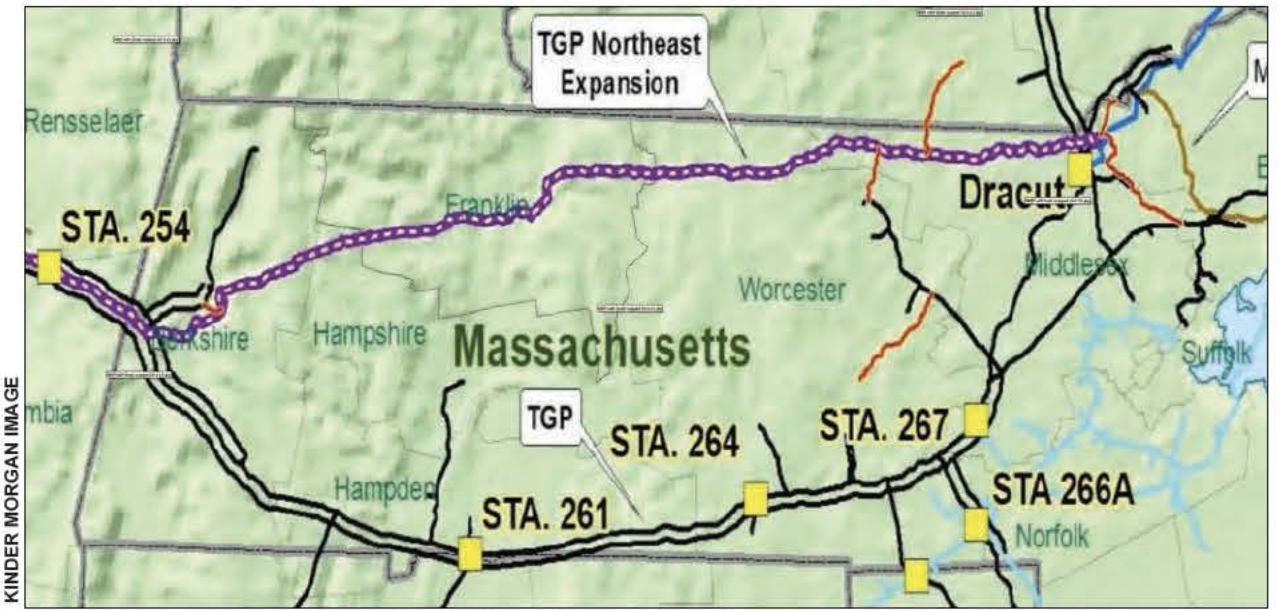
Some combination of existing rail and utility corridors – which also in-

clude Northeast Utilities’ electrical transmission lines, which run north and south through what is now the Montague Plains Wildlife Management Area – may be what the pipeline company had in mind when it

stalled on... bridges carting railroad tracks,” but then allows that “the Chief Engineering Officer may approve such an installation when it is demonstrated that no practicable alternative is available,” and provides

challenges.

Calls to Kinder Morgan resulted in the company sending the Reporter a copy of the same two-page document it sent to the Town of Montague. The timeline on this



This map, showing Kinder Morgan’s proposed Northeast Expansion Project in purple, was included in materials the company presented to the New York Independent System Operators’ Electric Gas Coordination Working Group on October 23, 2013, and is available online.

included that northward jog in its provisional map.

Cynthia Scarano, executive vice president at Pan Am, said that she was not aware of any contracts being signed with the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, in her words, “yet.”

And according to WMECO spokesperson Priscilla Ress, “Northeast Utilities owns two gas companies: Yankee Gas in Connecticut, and NSTAR Gas in Massachusetts. Other than speaking to Tennessee Gas about how this pipeline could benefit the supply of natural gas in Massachusetts, we are not aware of any conversation regarding the use of our transmission rights-of-way.”

It is also not clear whether it is permitted to install a natural gas pipeline on a working railroad bridge. The specifications for pipeline rights-of-way posted by several rail companies prohibit such a risk. A MassDOT packet put together for a recent project on a Somerville rail bridge shared by the MBTA and Pan Am trains included both companies’ standard specifications.

The MBTA’s say “Pipelines carrying flammable or non-flammable substances... shall not be in-

cluded that northward jog in its provisional map.

Pan Am’s specifications, included in the same packet, do not mention pipelines.

If the pipeline crosses the river into Montague, there are three other ways it might do so. The first is across a new structure. Kinder Morgan’s promotional materials note that 3,000 jobs will be created during the expansion project. Perhaps some of those will be in bridge-building.

The next two methods would have the pipeline going under the river. In October, Berkshire Gas used directional drilling to bore a new tunnel under the river between Hatfield and Hadley, for a 12” natural gas pipe. The river there is about 1000 feet wide.

If this method is employed, a much wider pipe would need a larger tunnel. Near the railroad bridge, the river is narrow – perhaps 400 feet across – but deep.

A final possibility for crossing a river with a pipeline is the “open cut, wet ditch” method, in which a trench is cut in the river’s bed, and the pipe laid in it and sealed with concrete. Any of these methods of crossing could face significant logistical, environmental, and regulatory

document lists outreach meetings as “ongoing,” route selection and permit preparation as “ongoing,” proposed construction starting in April 2017, and proposed operation in November 2018.

In a statement released last week reporting strong fourth-quarter earnings, to the tune of \$665 million in the company’s natural gas pipeline business segment alone, CEO Richard D. Kinder said that it “benefited from continued strong demand for its services, driven by ongoing growth in the Marcellus and Utica Shale plays and a number of expansion projects... including the Northeast Upgrade Project.”

From 1990 to 1996, Kinder served as president and chief operating officer at Enron. He left to form a new company, which purchased Enron’s liquid pipeline assets.

He is now the 112th-wealthiest person in the world, the 39th-wealthiest American, and the richest resident of Houston, according to Forbes, which valued him at \$10.2 billion as of last September.

Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno contributed additional reporting to this story.



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JANUARY 23, 2014

Swimming Upstream:

Groups Open Two New Public Spaces for Art, Activism in Brattleboro

By MIKE JACKSON

BRATTLEBORO, VT – In a town known regionally as a haven for artists and musicians, finding a space to put on a concert or public event had become a surprising challenge, according to Willie Gussin. Bars are 21+ and not in everyone's comfort zone, and renting the Stone Church was too costly for smaller events.

Shows at private residences were being shut down regularly; the houses, including two of Gussin's, were ticketed for noise violations.

Since the final closing of the Tinderbox, an on-again, off-again shared upstairs gallery space and venue on Elliot Street, the question of "where" has been a frustration for cash-poor artists and connoisseurs.

It's a common problem these days in America's smaller towns and cities – and sometimes in its bigger ones – but rather than give up or build a more elitist scene in the shadows, Brattleboro's avant garde confronted the problem head-on.

A series of meetings in early 2012 focused on creating an arts space eventually led to a small steering

committee calling itself The Future Collective, tasked with the mandate "to provide fun, accessible, inclusive, anti-oppressive community minded spaces and events that foster creative, political and personal expression."

The Future has now found a headquarters, in the Tinderbox's old building at 17 Elliot, and is gearing up for "FUTURE WINTER," a packed calendar of events it had already scheduled around town for February, including a "righteous youth rebellion movie series," outings and excursions, a cabaret, a dance party, a mix tape swap, and a discussion of peer-based mental health.

Gussin, a California transplant who works at an area nonprofit by day and plays in what he calls an "experimental two-piece noise rock stoner metal party punk band," eventually joined The Future's steering committee.

Currently, the rest of that steering committee is comprised of artist and coffee roaster employee Hannah Cummins, and childcare workers and artists Jonas Fricke (who has a one-man-band of his own) and Tess Lindsay.

Gussin stresses the importance of

the rooms' function as a "space," a blank slate: not primarily a gallery, store, meeting room, gathering space or music venue, and especially not "a money-making institution."

He hopes the broader community will make good use of the resource, but acknowledges that the second-floor space falls short of their goal of physical accessibility, and warns that "if everyone brings boring stuff to the space, then only boring stuff will happen."

The Future's event schedule and contact information are available at thefuturecollective.tumblr.com.

While a shared political culture shapes The Future's approach, another collectively run space also opened in the fall, just up the street and around the corner at 28 Williams Street, explicitly "to bring together communities working for social justice."

"A lot of activists and members of the community were noticing a lack of spaces. There were meeting spaces, but not any that were both

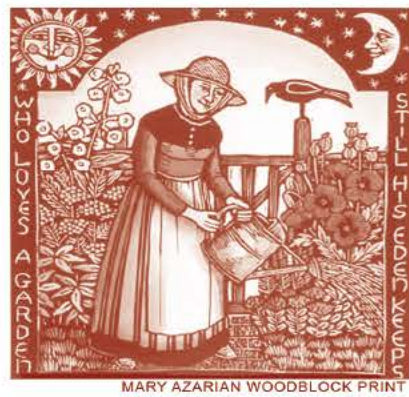
see SPACES page B6



The core of The Future, l-r: Cummins, Lindsay, Fricke and Gussin.



The movers of The Root, l-r: Fischer, Berkfield, Linton and Motel.



MARY AZARIAN WOODBLOCK PRINT

By LESLIE BROWN

While the long dark nights and the cold continue, the days are perceptibly longer.

We receive the blessing of nine or so inches of light, powdery snow. The next day begins with bitter cold (-12 degrees is reported by some), but by late afternoon it has moderated and we hastily don our snowshoes for the first time this season.

The quiet in the field is stunning as the sun begins to drop. We are favored by a glimpse of the thin crescent of a new moon as we head homeward to the fire.

We visit more than once the slickly frozen track through the cornfields in Deerfield to admire the arrival of a snowy owl. It is majestic in white painted with bold dark strokes of darker gray, viewing us through its lens of 360 degrees, but mostly calmly focusing on the task at hand. We are bemused by the sight of an arctic bird, and wonder what this says.

Later we learn from local birders that this year there was likely a large crop of arctic lemmings, a food source for owls, and thus many owlets were born. Our visitor, whose cousins have also shown off in many other places in Massachusetts, shoreline New England and even New York City, are this year's first born who have flown southerly to discover new food supplies.

THE GARDENER'S COMPANION

Joy in January

We learn, also, that snowy owls are an irruptive species, one which moves when the food supply is reduced by severe snow and ice cover in their normal environment or, as in this case, when the high lemming populations improve breeding success with large numbers of young.

Unlike many species, the snowy owl is diurnal, meaning active during dawn to dusk so we can observe him in full hunting mode. In any case, for us the sight is a small miracle.

Then, mid-month, the glory of the full wolf moon, making the cat hyperactive and waking us to a brilliant light like a midnight sun.

We sleep restlessly. Now, as we prepare to head south of the border for a few weeks, we are expecting more bitter cold air and some snow.

I am anxious to fill the cellar cart with stove wood one more time and do so Monday morning, relishing the mild, temperate day. We have not had the kind of January many of us recall when the frigid air held us in its grip for a stretch of two weeks or more at a time.

However, the Midwest has certainly had more than its share of arctic weather for days on end.

The ground is as hard as a rock, and it is near impossible to imagine digging and planting time.

see GARDENS page B3

THE HEALTHY GEEZER

Some Causes And Effects



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

By FRED CICETTI

Q. What bacteria cause athlete's foot?

Athlete's foot is not caused by bacteria. It is caused by tinea, a fungus that also can give you jock itch and ringworm. You can catch it from another person, from animals or wet surfaces such as the floors of public showers.

Athlete's foot symptoms include dry skin, itching, burning, scaling, inflammation, and blisters. If blisters break, tissue becomes exposed and this can be painful.

Athlete's foot usually shows up between the toes, especially the last two toes. Tinea thrives on feet because they are usually in shoes, which are perfect for fungus—they are warm, dark and humid.

The fungus can spread on the feet. It can also travel to other parts of the body if you scratch your feet and then

touch elsewhere.

For a mild case of athlete's foot, your doctor may recommend an over-the-counter or prescription preparation. There are antifungal sprays, powders, creams and lotions.

If you have a severe case of athlete's foot, your doctor may prescribe an oral medication.

Q. In what parts of the country are you most likely to get Lyme disease?

The federal government's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has identified the Northeast, the upper Midwest and the West Coast as the places you're most likely to get Lyme disease.

Lyme disease is caused by bacteria spread by bites primarily from deer ticks, which are brown and often no bigger than a pin head. The disease was named for a Connecticut town where it was first recognized in 1975.

Lyme disease can cause fever, headaches, fatigue, joint pain, sore muscles, stiff neck and a skin rash that usually begins where the tick dug in. The rash may start out as a small red spot that

can get bigger. A ring within the spot can fade and create a "bull's eye." Some people with Lyme disease get many red spots.

If you don't treat Lyme disease, it can spread to the heart, joints and the nervous system. Patients with late Lyme disease can suffer permanent damage. If Lyme disease spreads to the heart, the person may feel an irregular or slow heartbeat. The disease is rarely fatal.

Lyme disease is treated with antibiotics. In most cases of early Lyme disease, two to four weeks of oral antibiotics kill the bacteria. If the disease has progressed, your doctor may recommend an intravenous antibiotic for two to four weeks. This IV treatment is usually effective, although it may take some time to recover.

Q. What causes bipolar disorder?

It's not known what causes bipolar disorder, but a variety of biochemical, genetic and environmental factors seem to be involved in causing and triggering bipolar episodes.

Bipolar disorder – also called manic-depressive

see HEALTHY page B6

MONTAGUE ENERGY CORNER

Your Energy Star Decal

By SALLY PICK

MONTAGUE – Tax season has arrived and finally Montague residents will be rewarded by the tax collector's office, which is distributing free Montague Energy Star decals.

The town and its energy committee want to recognize the personal commitment of residents to energy efficiency and renewable energy; all Montague residents, including people living in any of the five villages (Turners, Millers, Lake Pleasant, Montague City and Montague Center), are eligible for this 4-1/2 inch, green, static cling decal.

The town encourages people to join it in lowering the community's energy use. As a Green Community, Montague has committed to significant energy reductions and has already seen lower energy bills with a more efficient boiler installed in town hall and a variety of other energy efficiency measures such as programmable thermostats and efficient lighting, in town buildings.

Some efficiency updates have been funded by Green Community grants.

Unlike for taxes, there are no complicated forms to fill out – residents just have to take the very quick questionnaire, which they can pick up during regular hours at the town tax collector's office at the front of

Montague Town Hall, or download from the energy committee's web page from www.montague.net and bring to the tax collector's office.

Some qualifying actions and home features include walking, bicycling, carpooling and/or taking public transportation to work at least four times a month.

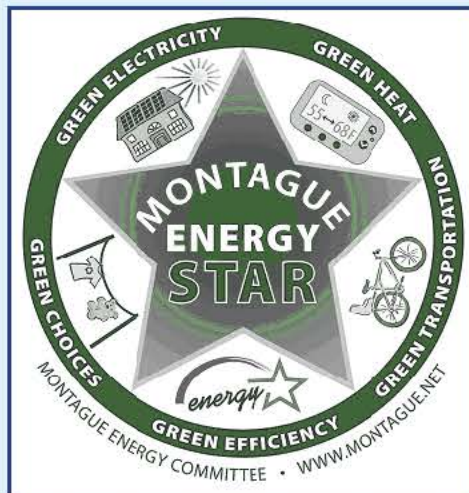
Others are turning down a thermostat

at least five degrees at night and when out of the house for long periods of time, using compact fluorescent or LED light bulbs, having a Mass Save energy assessment and following through by having the program seal air leaks and insulate, using an efficient heating system, and having renewable energy such as solar hot water and/or photovoltaics.

For people who qualify, the tax office will recognize their green efforts with a decal that they can place in their car or home window, joining around 40 others so far who are leading the way to a greener town, by inspiring their neighbors, friends and family to follow their lead.

A hint about helping the decal stick: clean the window first and also try breathing on the window just before putting up the decal.

For more information, e-mail the MontagueEnergyCommittee@gmail.com.



Qualifying Montague residents of can receive this energy star decal, designed by Lynne Rudie, in recognition of their lifestyle choices.

Pet of the Week

Meow! I am known around here as Spicy! Why would you choose bland and boring when you can have Spicy? I was brought here to Dakin by another animal rescue and I am so eager to find my new home! Could it be yours? Come on in and find out! You will be enchanted!



"SPICY"

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

WENDELL LIBRARY NEWS February 1: The Island of Doctor Moreau

Island Of Dr Moreau will be screened at the Wendell Free Library, Saturday February 1 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free.

A ship-wrecked man floats ashore on an island in the Pacific Ocean. The island is inhabited by a scientist, Dr. Moreau, who in an experiment has turned beasts into human beings.

Burt Lancaster does a good job at keeping his role simple and mysterious. Michael York works out way better as the main hero than you at first would expect.

There will be a 1/2 hour film before the movie: Episode 2 of *The Phantom Empire: The Thunder Riders*.

The film is part of a monthly series of Science Fiction/Fantasy and Horror/Monster movies at the Library. Upcoming movies include: March 1: *Starcrash*, starring Caroline Monro, David Hasselhoff, Marjoe Gortner, Christopher Plummer and Joe Spinell.

April 26: *The Giant Gila Monster*, starring Don Sullivan, Lisa Simone, and Shug Fisher.

LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was on January 22, 2004: News from The Montague Reporter's archive.

Northfield Mount Hermon to Consolidate

Having taken "a financial hit" to its endowment, and in the face of rising costs, NMH is consolidating its Mt. Hermon campus in Gill.

The sale, or lease, of the Northfield campus buildings will preferably include an educationally related mission, and NMH officials have weighed the economic impact of consolidation.

Montague: Carnegie Library Restoration

Last week, the Carnegie Library was approved for a grant of \$1.8 million for improvements to the 100-year-old building, increasing the size from 7,520 to 19,890 square feet, if the Town can come up with the remaining \$2.8 million.

There is no disputing that the library is in need of renovation, but with the police living in a cramped basement and the DPW's budget being cut, clearly the Town has some important decisions to make.

MLK Award Goes to Montague Couple

LaWanza and Dwayne Lett-Brewington were given the first annual "Living the Dream" award by Greenfield Community College President for their work with Franklin County Discrimination Prevention Project (D.P.P.), of which they are the founders.

The couple said D.P.P. came out of a meeting, nine years ago, to share stories about racism and discrimination in the County, and that "while racism is still a fact of life... the community has grown since D.P.P. has challenged people to think differently."

Avenue A Music Project Continues

The Avenue A Music Project begins its second 18-week session at the Hot Spot Teen Center, offering local teenagers a chance to learn how to record, mix, master and produce art works for CD booklets.

The previous session yielded an album crammed full of arty goodness called the "Avenue A Coloring Book," which included an actual coloring book, and the option to receive a crayon with the CD for an additional 25 cents.

NOTES FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

Water Logged

<p>Monday, 1/6 8:20 a.m. Probation warrant issued and served on West Gill Road resident. 9:30 p.m. Alarm sounding at police station. Water damage from police department roof leak.</p>	<p>Wednesday, 1/8 11:10 a.m. Medical emergency on West Gill Road. Thursday, 1/9 3:30 a.m. Possible overdose of resident on South Cross Road. Under investigation. 9 p.m. Investigation of hit-and-run of Boyle Road resident.</p>	<p>dispute with Northfield PD. 6:55 p.m. Assisted disabled motor vehicle on French King Bridge. 7:35 p.m. Checked suspicious motor vehicle on West Gill Road. 8:20 p.m. Assisted Bernardston PD with domestic dispute.</p>
<p>Tuesday, 1/7 7:50 a.m. Officer requested for hazard (tree down) on South Cross Road. 8:20 a.m. Officer requested for hazard (tree down) on Mountain Road.</p>	<p>Friday, 1/10 4:30 p.m. Assisted Erving PD with arrest on French King Highway for driving while intoxicated. 6:05 p.m. Requested to Erving for domestic</p>	<p>Sunday, 1/13 9 a.m. Officer requested at South Cross Road residence for follow-up to unattended death. 1:50 p.m. Road hazard reported on Mountain Road.</p>

WEIRD HEALING by OVERTURE

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

Senior Center Activities January 27 through 31

GILL and MONTAGUE
Gill / Montague Senior Center, 62 Fifth Street, Turners Falls, is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Congregate meals are served Tuesday through Thursday at Noon. Meal reservations must be made one day in advance by 11 a.m. All fitness classes are supported by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Voluntary donations are accepted.
Council on Aging Director is Roberta Potter. Kitchen Manager is Jeff Suprenant. For more information, to make meal reservations, or to sign up for programs call 863-9357. Messages can be left on our machine when the center is not open.

Monday 1/27
10:10 a.m. Aerobics
10:55 a.m. Chair Exercise
1 p.m. Knitting Circle
3 p.m. Balance Class

Tuesday: 1/28
9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga
12 p.m. Lunch

Wednesday: 1/29
10:10 a.m. Aerobics
10:30 a.m. Monthly Health Screening
12 p.m. Lunch
12:45 p.m. Bingo

Thursday: 1/30
9 a.m. Tai Chi
12 p.m. Lunch
1 p.m. Pitch

Friday: 1/31
10:10 a.m. Aerobics
10:55 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.

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.

Monday 1/27
9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Osteo-Exercise

Tuesday 1/28
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
10 a.m. Greenfield Savings Bank Craft Project

Wednesday 1/29
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
12 p.m. Bingo

Thursday 1/30
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10 a.m. Healthy Bones & Muscles

Friday 1/31
9 a.m. Bowling

LEVERETT
For information, contact the Leverett COA at (413) 548-1022, ext. 5, or 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.

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- Gary and Nancy Malen

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the poetry page

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

- William Carlos Williams

edited by Patricia Pruitt
Readers are invited to send
poems to the Montague Reporter
at: 177 Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

The editors would like to thank the following for
their generous financial underwriting of this page:
Klondike Sound, Green Fields Market,
and Montague Dental Arts

Poems from Poets Reading At The Deja Brew Fundraiser for The Montague Reporter

Winter Eventualities

Decipherment is difficult
but descriptors still emerge
as connected or ajar as pigeons in a square.
And we can say that before we knew we once
saw this or that, knelt here,
stumbled there, gripped the ladder rungs,
stood still in the snow.
We can say we saw things
outside ourselves, that some things became
ours, and that winter has its own meaning.

- Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno
Turners Falls

Untitled

Where can I watch and not be seen?
Where can I count the things for which I care,
and not emerge in someone else's sense of who I am?

I used to think I'd meet a man who'd understand.
I thought we'd travel through the night,
along the shore, and know that Rome
would find us in the morning
looking at the monuments
and know our destiny was now.

Romance!

I was so very foolish.
I was so very dumb.

- Edward Foster
Northfield

The Reason

I Sing So Hard is
I Don't Want To Be Lost...
Left behind, far from the line
If one arrives there's hope
If one stands on the blue
There's at least creation
If one stands
There's a promise of two
And a form
If one or two
Then a system of sound, a contrast,
A harmony, an event in the ear
In the mind
If one arrives, then two,
Then three, then something
From the nothing of me
And a joy and a finding
And a founding found for
A length of time.

- Patricia Pruitt
Turners Falls

THE MAJESTY

It was the end of the summer
and all the yellow pollen smell
of an afternoon. Withheld wings
of longing clutched in my torso.
The middle of the day is furious.
The bees soldier on in the sunburnt grass.
Their gossamer simmer - like ladies
in saffron, all hoary and damp beneath
their breasts - teems in this waste of heat.
I painted tomatoes, found them of Prussian
red cast, untrained on sodden fusty hay.
I wrote string beans, tangled up in their
green finery, strangled like the twine they
were tied upon. A thin thread of fiery
flourish; tiny stamens tongued my ankles.

The golden feathers were hidden behind
an old rock. Goldfinch? Grosbeak?
Small, flaxen, pithy; the most beautiful
thing we had surprised upon in our
thousand year reign. You said most
likely chicken feathers blown carelessly
across the field. Well, I threw in the word
"carelessly" and thought Warbler? How
verbose and inaccurate we both were . . .

The cartilage of birds and bees signals
summer's end. They were alive just a few
short moments ago. Under my massive feet,
I crunch their skulls and wings everywhere.
Peering through the open door of my bird
house, my helmet, my bee bonnet burst.
The swarm split open. Witness the royal
jelly strewn on my path. . . wildly, wildly.

- Lea Banks
Wendell
(Previously published in *Sweet:*
A Literary Confection, v3, Spring 2011)

topical for Andy Hughes

mock orange bleeds
to seek flower sockets
lack mere remarkable
lockstep trope stoop flares
reflectors lichen flecked fuchsia
deter fusion seizes branches
open oak assemblage
drill hole spill out
our hours never truer
tree frogs, crickets, sole loon din
eases frenetic civil twilight

- Jess Mynes
Wendell

the then-known universe

assuming we've entered
how could there be a further
assuming if a then b -
and a, so
let's reach towards
your squeezable giraffe
assuming, that is,
this alley, and
people, you know - people -
us - and
a hiding
from herself, and
who could imagine
at any point
to have a world
present
this present
world

- Christopher Janke
Greenfield

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ARTS & 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.

EVERY TUESDAY

The Millers Falls Library Club: Free after school program. 3:30 to 4:45 p.m.

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Carnegie Library: Children and their families are invited to come enjoy stories, crafts, music and snacks. 10:15 to 11:30 a.m.

EVERY THURSDAY

Arts Block, Greenfield: Thursday Night Jazz, Ted Wirt and John Harrison, 5 to 7 p.m.

Montague Center Library: Music and Movement with Tom Carroll & Laurie Davidson. Children and their caregivers invited. 10 o 11 a.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

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

ART SHOWS:

Augusta Savage Gallery, UMass, Amherst: Jose Tonito Rodriguez: Inkterventions on display through February 14th.

AUDITIONS:

Mutton and Mead Medieval Festival seeks Actors, Singers, Musicians and other performers for Shire Cast. Montague Common Hall, Montague Center: Feb 7th, 4 to 8 p.m. Feb 8th & 9th, 10 to 6 p.m.; snow dates Feb. 10th & 11th, 4 to 8 p.m. www.muttonandmead.com.

CALL FOR ART:

Third Annual Erotic Art Show at Nina's Nook, Turners Falls still considering additional pieces from artists. Email Nina at naban@verizon.net with your entries ASAP to be in this February exhibit. Entries for Triple S 2014 Accepted until Jan 26th.

EVENTS:

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23

Arts Block, Greenfield: Thursday Night Jazz Ted Wirt and John Harrison play every Thursday night from 5-7 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: Blue Pearl, blues, jazz, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: Suitcase Junket, Matt Lorenz, Audrey Ryan & Jenee Halstead, singer/songwriter, 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: Wishbone Zoe & Lisa Marie Ellingsen, 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25

Montague Common Hall, Mon-

tague Center: *Traveling Rhubarb Circus DVD Release Party*, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. www.TravelingRhubarb.com for more info.

French King Entertainment Center, Erving: *NELCWIT's 37th Annual Bowlathon!* Noon to 3:30 p.m. Fund raiser for New England Learning Center for Women in Transition.

Trivia Night to benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of Franklin County. Guest caller State Rep. Paul Mark. Teams consist of 8 to 10 people. Prize awarded to winning team, \$, doors open at 6:30 p.m., trivia starts at 7 p.m. St. Kazimierz Society, Turners Falls. Reservations encouraged, (413)



Russell Kaback, Greenfield singer/songwriter, plays original soul and folk music at Deja Brew in Wendell on Sunday, January 26 from 8 to 10 p.m.

772-0915.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: Andres Wilson & Asia Mei, 8 p.m.

The Arts Block, Greenfield: TCR, a musical group dedicated to the proposition that everybody needs to have some fun, dance, sing along, let loose, get away from work and generally enjoy. The group is composed of Tony Hanna on bass & vocals, Curtis Rich on guitar & vocals, and Rowen Caplan on drums, \$, 8 p.m.

Between The Uprights, Turners Falls: *Deadmans Dossier, Crow-rider and Problem with Dragons* take the stage in The Extra Point Nightclub, \$, 9 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *All Fired Up*, classic rock, \$, 9:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Wildcat O'Halloran Band*, 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Maybe Marlene & Friends!* 9:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

Temple Israel, Greenfield: *Amandla with Fire Pond & Song Squad*. Amandla: songs of justice and celebration, Fire Pond: Eveline MacDougall & Doug Reid, multi-instrumentalists and vocalists, \$, 3 p.m.

Flywheel, Easthampton: *Naked Witch*, rare performance of this wmass/boston/albany band with members of SQRM and *Mind Eraser*, \$, 7 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Russell Kaback*, rootsy souful grooves, 8 p.m.

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

Deja Brew, Wendell: *A Night of Poetry*, benefit Montague Reporter. 7 to 10 p.m. Bring your ears, love of poetry. and appetites for an enjoyable evening of poetry to benefit the Montague Reporter and provide a warm respite for the body and soul. 5 minute Open Mic slots.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Joti's Wide Open Mic*, 8 p.m. with 7:30 p.m. sign-ups.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

Arts Block, Greenfield: *ABCD Jam* (Arts Block Contact Dance Jam) w/ featured musician Tony Silva, \$, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, JANUARY

30 Deja Brew, Wendell: *Blue Pearl*, blues/jazz, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

Greenfield's Annual Winter Carnival, Main Street, Greenfield. Live ice carvings downtown, artists sculpting ice throughout the day. Cribbage Tournament, all ages. Registration begins at 5:15 p.m., \$, Youth Center. Multiple events continue throughout the weekend at Beacon Field and the Youth Center.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Academy of Music, Northampton *Food for Change* movie showing, \$, 2 p.m. Proceeds benefit Amherst Community Co-op.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Third Annual Erotic Art Show* opens. Reception 5-7 p.m. Sensual>Sexual>Smut, exhibit of local artists ranging from mild to wild in the tiny gallery, and then mingle with the artists at the reception at Madison's on The Ave. Show on display through

March 15.

Montague Community Hall, Montague Center: *Square Dance to live old-time music*. \$, 7 p.m.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: Movie night showing *Island Of Dr Moreau*, 7:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Dedicated to Delilah*, 80's pop rock and ballads, 9 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *Ketch-Fyre*, classic & modern rock, \$, 9:30 p.m.

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SPACES from page B1

physically and financially accessible," said Mel Motel, whose group, the Just Schools Project, helps school districts create restorative justice programs.

By day, The Root Social Justice Center serves as a shared office space for Motel, trainer Shela Linton, an organizer for the Vermont Workers Center, Alex Fischer, the owner of Open Bookkeeping, and Angela Berkfield, director of a collaborative called ACT for Social Justice, with which all her office-mates also consult.

Evenings and weekends, they also make their office open to the public, free of charge, for "workshops, meetings, film screenings, discussion groups, and more."

In fact, one of the FUTURE WINTER events is scheduled there - according to Gussin, because "it made more sense to have [it] at a quiet and cozy space."

Motel characterizes it as "cozy," too, and "uncluttered," in a "beautiful building." There is a large, open main room, a more private conference room, and wireless internet.

The Root's evening calendar includes a queer-and-allied game night, a movie series, and various weekly and biweekly meetings hosted by its member organizations. It can be viewed at therootsjc.org, which also has contact information to reserve the space.

While loud music events have not been ruled out at The Root, they hope to focus on "events connected to social justice. So, probably not a punk show."

"Well, I mean, okay, maybe a punk show," hedges Motel. But those would probably work better down Elliot Street.

"We love The Future," says Motel. "The more collectives, the better."

Seems pretty simple.



The main meeting space at The Root Social Justice Center.

Our reporter adds:

The back-to-back openings of The Root and The Future might be a coincidence. They also might presage a new wave of public-minded art and activism in the area to our immediate north.

Or, at least in terms of catalyzing social involvement, they might also be a bit of a misplaced solution. In rural areas, it may not be the case that a lack of access to gathering space is a factor limiting social movement. Is this an assumption borrowed from urban contexts?

Here in Franklin County, we see a pattern of groups going to great lengths to provide free or low-cost social spaces to the public (including the Montague Common Hall, the Brick House Community

Resource Center, the now-defunct Traprock Center in Greenfield and Thrive Project in Turners Falls, the Guiding Star Grange, and meeting rooms at the Leverett Village Coop and Green Fields Market) only to see them, after time, underused.

Whether these places come to be seen as too exclusive, or whether there is simply no widely felt desire or need to meet in public, is an open question. But locals interested in such spacemaking should keep an eye on developments in Brattleboro.

Even if The Root and The Future simply end up providing shared office space to their members and a small all-ages venue for local and touring bands, they will have made a positive impact on their town, and for our region.

HEALTHY from page B1

illness - causes extreme mood swings. When people with bipolar disorder are happy and energetic, they are in the mania phase of the illness. When they are sad and listless, they are in the depression phase.

The shifts from mania to depression and back again can occur quickly. The deep mood swings of bipolar disorder may last for weeks or months. Often, there are periods of normal mood in between.

Sometimes, severe episodes

of mania or depression include symptoms of psychosis such as hallucinations. Some people with bipolar disorder become suicidal.

Some studies indicate that people with bipolar disorder have physical changes in their brains. And researchers are trying to find genes that may be involved in the condition.

Questions? Send them to fred@healthygeezer.org.



MONTAGUE REPORTER



Adele Smith-Penniman of Wendell kicks back and catches up on the news during her recent trip to Leogane, Haiti. Headed out of town? Bring us with you!

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