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OUT TO DRY!**

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CIVILIZATION**

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LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 13 – NO. 37

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JULY 2, 2015



## THESE HOT DAYS OF SUMMER...

*A view up the hill from Seventh and K Streets in Turners Falls, around 1915. Photo used with permission of Peter S. Miller.*

## Hey, Another Special Issue!

Six months ago, in order to avoid working on New Year's Eve, we threw together a special historical issue. It flew off newsstands, and readers still ask if we have copies available. Before long we started to plot a summertime issue that would serve as its complement.

The *Montague Reporter* is the fourth weekly newspaper to be headquartered in Turners Falls, following the *Turners Falls Reporter*, *Herald*, and *Observer*. We've had four times the run of the *Herald* but have only managed one-quarter that of our namesake.

These old papers were preserved on microfiche at the Carnegie Library, and much more recently made available to the public at *montague.advantage-preservation.com*. Check it out. Anyone who spends any time in or around these towns will find something of interest.

We've taken some liberties with excerpting, reordering and paraphrasing, and any reader with a serious interest should refer to the source material.

Two pretty serious content warnings are necessary:

The sole objection we heard about our last special issue concerned the number of unfortunate or painful accidents we reprinted. We tried to keep it down this time, and when we cut the text down we pulled a number out, but the bottom line is that the industrial era was (and is) one of great violence to the human body, and quite a few people lost life and limb building the world we now enjoy.

The other warning concerns racial and ethnic prejudice. Cecil T. Bagnall, editor of the *Reporter* for 48 of its 50 years, was a wonderful writer, hilarious grouch, and temperance advocate, but sadly didn't seem to object much to the supremacist attitudes of his Anglo contemporaries, whether it be over the succession of European immigrants who built the town and made it thrive, or over African-Americans.

This mostly surfaced in the syndicated content the *Reporter* would reprint, but sometimes also in the copy written in town, most presumably by Mr. Bagnall.

And then there's the good news. We didn't set out for this to be a holiday issue, but preparations for the Fourth of July holiday and its aftermath show up, year after year, and it turns out the "night before the Fourth" was for many years given over to rowdiness and mischief. Who knew?

We hope you enjoy reading this as much as we did making it!

—Eds.

## Turners Falls Reporter.

Vol. I.

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

No 2.

July 10, 1872

Mr. Wise has some fresh blueberries.

That car which was tumbled off the track, at the station, several weeks ago, still remains in the same ungraceful position it was then placed in.

The Keith block of houses have made a rapid stride this week, and will soon be added to the list of inhabited houses of our town.

Measles were quite prevalent in the Falls last week, and a few cases still exist. There were several cases of cholera infantum in this town, though none are likely to prove fatal.

Davis' block, on Fourth Street, has changed hands, Mr. Green being the lucky purchaser.

The Turners Falls Company are laying down sewers in the lower part of the town; and havoc is being made among hog-pens, cesspools, privies, and other nuisances in the vicinity of Second and Third Streets.

Rome was not built in a day, and Turners Falls cannot be thoroughly cleansed in a night, though we have no doubt that the proper authorities will attend to this matter promptly and faithfully. Gentlemen, "cleanliness is next to godliness."

John O'Brien was recently fined one cent, and required to pay \$6.86 costs, by Justice Barton, for threatening assault.

Some person had the umanness, on Sunday evening, to spill a lot of molasses on the steps of the County House at Greenfield, for the purpose of destroying the clothes of those who are wont to go there, and sit, and chat, and had the fiendish satisfaction of seeing their objective accomplished, for ten or fifteen ladies, and as many gentlemen, incautiously sat down in the filthy mess.

The German Sick Men's Benevolent Society held its regular monthly meeting last night, with a good attendance of members.

Who own all the dogs seen in Turners Falls every day? Look in what direction you will, not less than half-a-dozen dogs, representing as many different breeds, will present themselves to your sight, and the other day they had a fine time to themselves in a rough and tumble fight on Second Street.

It is a pity that some man would

not set up a sausage shop in this place, and then we would see if we could not get along with fewer dogs.

We understand that the Turners Falls Company have generously given the German and Episcopal Churches building sites in this town.

Persons ought to be more cautious about going down to the Falls to bathe during the warm weather. The spray from the Falls makes a delightful and tempting shower baths, but we notice in the Boston papers several deaths recorded from bathing while the bathers were in a fever with the intense heat.

Raspberries are becoming quite plentiful, several boys having been out picking on the hills for the past three or four days.

The picnic at Lake Pleasant on the Fourth was a success beyond all expectation, with regard to numbers, but, unfortunately, Dame Nature thought she must put in her oar, and throw cold water on the joyous crowd of 10,000 amusement-seekers. It rained in torrents the whole time.



OVERTURE ILLUSTRATION

July 2, 1873

The generous showers of Saturday night were Godsend to the parched earth in this locality. But, then, rain was hourly expected from the moment Ed Goddard began to cut that field of hay near the ferry.

The Cutlery is closed for stock-taking. It will open up again in a fortnight.

The walls of R. M. Starbuck's brick block are being carried up rapidly, by Henry Holland.

The foundation of the new engine house is laid on Third Street.

Messrs. Holloran & Coughlin have just opened a very neat and tastily arranged picture and picture frame store in the building opposite

Kidder's store, on Fourth Street.

The Crocker Institution for Savings declared a semi-annual dividend of three per cent, payable on the 1st.

Mr. Samuel R. Robinson, well known in this vicinity, met his death at the Montague City depot on Saturday morning by a singular accident.

He was unloading a lumber car on the side track, and just before the engine of the down train from Turners Falls reached him he slipped and fell backward upon the main track; quick as a flash Mr. R. L. Goss jumped for him, but he only succeeded in getting him far enough off to clear his body of the engine, the wheel of which caught Mr. Robinson's foot and tore it off at the ankle. Dr. Coy was promptly on hand, but no human power could save his life.

The president, officers and stockholders of the Vermont & Massachusetts Rail Road with their ladies, the party numbering some fifty-seven persons, among them Supt. O. T. Ruggles and Asst. Supt. Chas. Combee, visited our town on Thursday last, and dined at the Farren House.

After dinner, short speeches were indulged in. President Richardson opened in a few pleasant introductory remarks, referring to the rapid strides the place had made and complimenting Col. Alvah Crocker for his energy, enterprise and liberality.

Col. Crocker followed in a short, happy speech, full of historical and statistical facts, giving his hearers a very correct estimate of what had been accomplished and what it was expected would be accomplished here. He referred to the time five years ago, when only two houses stood upon the wilderness which the Turners Falls Company has converted into a respectably sized town.

It was a merry party and they were pleased with their visit and all attendant circumstances.

Henry Cramer, a lad of 12 years, had his head crushed off by an elevator in the cutlery works at Shelburne Falls Saturday.

On Wednesday, the Board of Trade in connection with the Sabbath Schools, and citizens generally of Orange, enjoyed a basket picnic at Lake Pleasant.

July 1, 1874

It was 102 hot yesterday.

And now it is Dr. Waller and Col. D. A. Wood who have been extending strawberry courtesies. We acknowledge a couple of baskets of beauties from these gentlemen, and we appreciate them. It takes of some of the rough edges of editorial life to have our friends thus remember us.

The biting end of a Novelty Moulding Machine shook hands with Mr. Blake last week. Dr. Deane dressed three of the fingers.

Hon. Col. Crocker is at the Farren. We rejoice to see him looking more robust than he has for years.

The dedication of Colle Hall last Wednesday evening was a very fine affair, and was enjoyed by all who had the good fortune to be present. The building, which stands on corner of Avenue A and Third street, is the finest block in town, the Farren House excepted.

Leverett — Last Sunday was disgraced by a drunken row near the residence of Mr. Sumner Gunn, an old gentleman suffering from heart disease. The consequent excitement caused his death in a few hours. Who was to blame?

Names of those not absent nor tardy in the Intermediate School, Turners Falls, Mass., Ella M. Marsh, teacher: Fred Lutolf, Francis Cassidy, Charles Hood, Howard Dyer, Henry Haigis, Fred Emery, William Frey, Herbert Edson, Charles Schuler, Martin Bitzer, Kate Haggerty, Harriet Schuler, Henry Holton, Alvin Tupper, Linwood Emery, Wm. O'Neil, John Fitzgibbons.

The ladies of the Unitarian Society propose to festivalize next Friday evening at Town Hall. A large attendance of beauty, grace, wit and fashion is inevitable.

W. R. Dugan has returned from Meriden very sick with brain fever.

July 7, 1875

The rain of the past few days will help the rivermen wonderfully.

The new building for the Montague Paper Company is completed to the roof.

A great many dead fish have been seen floating down the river during the week. For two or three days last week the river was thick with mud, caused probably by the caving in of



# The Montague Reporter

"The Voice of the Villages"

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a bank up at Bellows Falls.

The Pulp mill is closed for a week to remove part of the old machinery and make various changes in old apartment.

A horse, attached to a dump cart, ran all the way from this place to Greenfield, last Wednesday, but having got completely out of wind, was stopped by a man when it reached there.

The County Commissioners, with Engineer Stratton, verified the surveys for the location of a new bridge, last week, the measurements varying but a foot or two from those made by Mr. Stoughton some time ago.

Millers Falls has a barber. D. A. Jackson, formerly of Turners Falls, opened a shop in Creagh's building a few weeks ago.

The strawberry and ice cream festival held Saturday evening by the G.A.R. Post in Coleraine netted about eighty-five dollars.

The first base ball match of the season was played on Pleasant Plain, Thursday, between the Farren House nine and the Keith nine. The Farren House club had not played any for a year, and did not make much of a show. They relied on a heavy support from George Bucklin, who boasted of his good playing, but he proved to be the poorest card in the pack. The score was 63-24.

The "fourth" was celebrated Saturday night in Bernardston, with fireworks.

The grand union temperance picnic at the Lake, Saturday, was a fizzle. Ten or fifteen thousand people were expected, but not many more than as many hundred came. Little interest was manifested in the speeches, and one would think from the number of drunken people that rum was pretty freely circulated.

## July 4, 1877

This is the glorious Fourth, and if you don't feel happy now, you may before night.

Everybody will turn out this morning to see the rag-shag parade. John J. Hawkes has a large stock of masks for the rag-shag show this morning.

Base ball - this afternoon - 2 o'clock - Independents - Eurekas of Orange. Eight base ball clubs are expected to join in the social dance at Colle hall, tonight.

The river is again blockaded with logs. Logs belonging to the second drive are arriving very fast.

Everybody has been trying to persuade some black bass to take a toothsome bait, without much success.

Many a good business has been killed by that severest of afflictions, the village loafer. The downward

career of the keeper of many a village shop dates from the time when his premises first became attacked by this awful scourge.

Michael Shine was arrested on Friday night for being drunk and taking lodgings with John Haigis's pigs. Before Justice Barton, Shine acknowledged guilt of drunkenness, and was sentenced to forty days in jail, in default of a \$5 fine and costs.

This habit of sleeping with pigs is getting altogether too common. This man Shine is a rough looking customer, and when arrested in the pigsty pretended to be extremely drunk, but when the officers put him in the tramp house he sobered up immediately and had almost effected an escape when his game was detected.

Edwin Russ, the young man who undertook to sleep in C.A. Davis's pigsty last week, was on Wednesday taken before Judge Barton. When Nightpolicemen Morrison and Gerald searched his pockets, they found therein among other things a pair of brass knuckles such as are usually carried by burglars.

The latest business enterprise at Mt. Toby is the shipping of ferns, otherwise known as "bull brakes," to New London for transplanting on lawns.

George H. Taylor of Buckland, while peeling bark, cut a deep gash in his head three inches long, making him unconscious for several hours. Dr. Trow removed several pieces of the skull, which was fractured, and Taylor is now in a critical condition.

Linnie Emery, ten year old son of S. D. Emery, cut a fearful gash in his foot by stepping on a rusty piece of old tin pan while running along Fifth Street.

The upper bridge over the Unadilla brook in Gill fell the other night by the south abutment giving away. A team had passed over it a



*Everybody has been trying to persuade some black bass to take a toothsome bait, without much success.*

OVERTURE ILLUSTRATION



Turners Falls in 1871. (Ed Gregory Archive)

few minutes before.

A number of men, principally Englishmen, met Saturday night for the purpose of taking preliminary action in forming a lodge of the Ancient Order of Forresters, a benefit society.

Leonard Barton, over the river, was school committee of Gill for thirty-two consecutive years. Last spring he was dropped because it was suspected that he favored the proposed Turners Falls bridge.

The selectmen forbid all fireworks on the streets to-day.

## July 3, 1878

The heat of the past few days has been unusually oppressive, following so closely a period of cold, damp weather. On Sunday, in some places, the thermometer registered 98° in the shade.

There is great promise of an abundant apple crop this fall. The trees have already begun to bend under their load.

The Montague Paper Co. have been experimenting with peat for fuel for several weeks, but the owners of peat bogs have so great an idea of the value of the stuff that it can never be buried with profit so long as coal-screenings remain so cheap.

A manufacturer of fifty years' standing said to us, yesterday, "Forty years ago, American women, neat, tidy, and the flower and pride of their race, occupied places in the mills of the land. Presently the Irish women came over, and took places at the loom and elsewhere, which caused the native women to retire, gradually, with elevated noses; and now the Canadian French are driving the Irish women from the factories on every hand."

Some very good specimens of fossil foot-prints have been found on F.I. Webster's lot on Avenue A, the past week.

A little water has been let into the canal, but there is yet much to do

before the work is finished.

Two or three houses are building on the Patch.

## July 2, 1879

George E. Marshall, Esq., of the Montague Paper Company, always on the alert to adopt, or invent, such improvements as may be used with decided advantage in manufacturing, has introduced the electric light into his mills, and at present has two hanging electric lamps in operation, one in the finishing room, and one in the engine room.

Some vicious scamps have been in the habit of late of breaking windows in William Schuler's block, even in the early part of the evening.

The Catholics of this village will give a grand ball and strawberry festival in Colle hall, on the evening of the 4th.

Several fine new breech-loading guns have been imported to town this summer, and the recreation of gunning seems to gain new votaries every day.

It would be a good idea if all the fireworks bought by individuals could be collected at some prominent point, say the band stand, on the evening of the 4th, and displayed at one time with some system. When an occasional rocket or Roman candle is set off without regard to time or place, nobody gets the benefit of the display, coming unexpectedly. Who has interest enough to take care of the matter?

## July 5, 1882

R. N. Oakman has raised a bed of mammoth strawberries, some of the largest of which measure nearly seven inches in circumference.

The hay crop this year in Coleraine is fair, although the white grub worm has done some damage.

In Millers Falls, Conductor Bangs and Mr. Wood have purchased some land of A. Grout and laid out a street thus making some

building lots for sale. Mr. Wood is putting a house on one of them.

An open trench for a sewer at Riverside has been so long uncovered that people begin to fear an accident some time. One pedestrian tumbled into it the other night but was not hurt.

The Crocker Institution for Savings is having a fine asphalt sidewalk laid around its new building.

The lawn party under the auspices of the Baptist society was very successful last Wednesday evening. The grounds surrounding the church were beautifully illuminated.

Alonzo Wait received a severe cut on his leg while unloading iron from a car, Friday.

A spruce log was brought down in the drive which measured over 2,700 feet. [Eds.: hmm...]

John Richardson, while at work in the pulp mill, Monday night, got his thumb caught in the machinery and the flesh and muscles were stripped from the bone as clean as a whistle. Surgeons Coy and Messer amputated the thumb close to the hand.

Unitarian Sociable to-morrow night at Mrs. Dr. Sornborger's, Riverside.

A blaze in No. 1, Russell block, Thursday night, called out the fire department, but the fire was soon put out with a few pails of water by the police. Before the police arrived the crowd rushed in and threw about every thing into the street.

If the spirit of Col. Crocker had the power to witness the caricature of the Turners Falls Company in yesterday's parade how it must have grieved him.

The celebration of Independence Day in this county was confined to extensive public demonstrations of patriotism at Turners Falls and Lake Pleasant, where people could be made to feel a thrill of loyalty running through their veins while in the selfish pursuit of fun, lager beer, ham sandwiches and indigestible peanuts.

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The familiar name of Henry Ward Beecher was a good card to draw a crowd to the Lake, and eight or ten thousand people came from the hill farms and the villages to see Beecher, listen to a few of his sentences, and wander back and forth on the streets and lanes with a restless appearance of wild animals in a cage.

**July 4, 1883**

Strawberries have been abundant, selling of late for 10 cents a quart. Edgar Bartlett is putting in a telephone at his meat market.

The booms are all in position to take care of the drive of logs that is "expected along every minute." The rear of the drive is below Wells river.

Monday, June 25, as Frank Severance was drawing logs at Harris' mill in Erving, he had the misfortune to have a log roll over him, injuring him badly.

There was a large attendance at the lawn party at Dr. Coy's Montague City residence, last Wednesday evening.

Miss Sarah Smith of Warwick, about 45 years old, subject to spells of nervousness and despondent at the death of her sister, took an overdose of chloral and morphine, recently, but was saved by a doctor.

Do not forget to send into this office every scrap of local news that will interest the public. It will be thankfully received and will help to make a better paper. A reporter cannot be everywhere at once.

**July 2, 1884**

Turners Falls must be growing constantly, as the number of houses is steadily increasing, and there is always a cry for more.

The driving of logs down the Connecticut has of late attracted the attention of quite a number of people in this vicinity, and frequent visits have been made to the mouth of the Millers river to watch the operations of the logmen.

Of course it became necessary in many instances for the boys to demonstrate their ability to walk upon a floating log, and consequently some of them had to be hung out to dry.

Moors on the Sunday question is one reason why the Unitarians have been given notice to quit.

Some vicious persons have been tampering with a number of the street hydrants, unscrewing the caps and putting in gravel. The engineers offer a reward of five dollars for the conviction of any one found tampering with the hydrants.

A barefooted boy climbed into an open window in A.S. Clark's office the other night, and in jumping to the floor thrust both his feet through the glass in the sash that rested against the wall, tearing the flesh so badly that the floor was covered with blood in pools before the young robber got away. Nothing was missed.

Miss Flora Thayer of Montague, who has spent the last two years in the Boston art schools, has just finished an excellent crayon portrait of the late M. C. Dudley.

The Turners Falls base ball club would like to play for the silver bat, if anybody knows of its whereabouts.

**July 1, 1885**

Treasurer Austin DeWolf has discovered that the new sewer takes the filth from Central street and empties it directly into the reservoir that supplies the village with drinking water, and he has ordered the supply shut off, rather than have the sin of poisoning his fellow-creatures fall upon his innocent head.

Tobacco farmers, discouraged by continual low prices, are abandoning the weed. The acreage in the Valley will be much smaller this year than it has been for a long time.

Somebody is digging a well in the middle of K street, opposite the Oakman school house. A correspondent wants to know how much the town will have to pay if school children tumble down the hole, some day, and get killed.

Willie A. Shattuck, eight-year-old step son of the Greenfield and Leyden stage driver, was found in a brook in Leyden, this morning, dead, with a severe wound in his head. Medical Examiner Coy was called, and viewed the body, but there was no suspicion of foul play.

morning from the effects of laudanum taken the evening before with suicidal intent. He was before the district court Saturday as a common drunkard. He served through the civil war in a New York regiment.

A new brass band of 35 pieces has been organized. It is to be known as the "Paper Makers Band." Mr. Day of Greenfield is to instruct them.

F.H. Brown & Co. have hired the wooden building of Geo. W. Carey on Second street, and have put in a stock of fire works.

It is thirteen years ago to-day since the Reporter was started to grow up with the place. We have the consolation that it always grew faster than the place, and was the champion of the town, even at the expense of our poorly paid labor and our own pocket-book.

**July 7, 1886**

The water from the river smells badly of late, and most of the drinking water is carried from the cutlery spring in pitchers.

It is believed that the water commissioners will be unable to obtain pipe for the new water works until next spring, as large sizes of pipe are not kept in stock in sufficient quantities to fill such a large order.

During the past week, R. M. Starbuck & Co. broke ground for a superior brick business block on Avenue A, in front of their present warehouses. The building will be quite high for a two-story structure. It will contain two commodious stores, and in the upper story will be several first class offices, with all modern conveniences.

The hands employed in Geo. F. Adams' brick yard, at Montague City, struck, July 1st, for weekly payment of wages. They were promptly paid off and discharged, after which they asked for their old places, with monthly payment, and all but the ringleaders were taken back.

George Furbush, 32, a freight conductor on the Fitchburg road, was killed near East Deerfield, yesterday afternoon. He was running on special freight 29 and made a misstep as he was jumping from a car to the engine-tender for the purpose of making a switch; he fell between the cars which cut his body nearly two.

Who says farming won't pay in New England? G.N. Delvy, last season, sowed one bushel of oats from which he harvested 72 1/2 bushels and had thirty hundred of straw.

J.A. Williams got a piece of lead in his leg Monday because he fooled with a cartridge.

Complaints have been made by parties having sheds for their carriages, that numerous boys frequent the places, sit in the carriages, play cards, and mark and deface the property. Mr. Wise had a grocery wagon fresh from the paint shop, and in a few days the young gamins had all the gilt lettering on the sides scratched and almost destroyed.

Joseph Perinet, a native of France, who was employed by Manly McClure in the woods, accidentally cut his foot off with an axe. From the loss of blood that occurred while getting the man from the woods, and the extreme heat that has just set in, it is possible the man may have a poor chance for recovery. He is in charge of the overseers of the poor.

The selectmen received the blessing of the entire community for the notable absence of the fire cracker nuisance, Saturday and Monday. It is to be hoped that the relic of barbarism will some day be forgotten.

Fire was discovered by Jacob Fritz in some loose hay near Mr. Gunn's barn, in rear of Dickenson Holton's block, Sunday afternoon, but it was soon extinguished by the aid of a few pails of water. It is supposed that perhaps the fire was lit by some malicious person who felt sore because Mr. Holton had petitioned against fireworks.



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*This ad ran in the July 6, 1887 edition of the Turners Falls Reporter. \$70 then is equivalent to about \$1,700 these days.*

**July 6, 1887**

Owing to the holidays of the Fourth and the circus, the Reporter is not so well filled with local news as usual. Printers must have their outings like other people.

Watermelons have appeared in market, and if eaten in moderation are very refreshing. They cost about 40 cents each.

The long spell of oppressive heat has caused much sickness and suffering in this village, and the hearse may be seen on the streets every day.

A hand-organ occupies each street since the Italians have got to work in the trenches of the village.

The logs began to come down Sunday, when the booms were placed in position, and the work of sorting begun. The late rains have helped the river drivers wonderfully, and will save them many thousands of dollars.

Greenfield had its great celebration yesterday for Barnum's big show was in town, and early in the morning it seemed as if the whole county had emptied itself into the county seat. The streets were packed to see the morning parade, and fully 10,000 were in the tents during the afternoon, but most of the grangers scattered early in the evening and the crowd at night was not so large.

A gentleman interested in Lake Pleasant has bought twenty building lots, and intends next year to put up twenty cottages.

Artie Wyman rides a "New Rapid" bicycle which is the admiration of wheelmen. It is the first ball bearing head machine ever brought to this county.

One of the disgraces of the village is the proneness of many women to drunkenness, and on the night of the Fourth a party of women attracted the attention of all their neighbors by their drunken brawls.



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*"Of course it became necessary in many instances for the boys to demonstrate their ability to walk upon a floating log..."*

The river men are unusually quiet and orderly this summer.

The closing grand attraction of the season at the Union Skating Rink, Fourth street, will be Prof. F. F. Billings, the world renowned burlesque bicycle rider and fancy skater, on Thursday evening, July 3rd. There will be music by the Millers Falls band, and before the exhibition there will be a display of fireworks.

The Unitarian society has been notified by the Baptist society that they do not care to rent their church after the first of October. It is presumed that the position of Rev. Mr.

Montague has reason to be abundantly proud of her schools, as was shown at the closing exercises last week, which attracted many friends and were highly creditable to both teachers and scholar. The graduating class in the High school numbered seven.

Gottlieb Pfefferle refused to take out a liquor license, on account of the high license fee and has closed his beer saloon.

Richard Smith, a one-legged soldier, who has been famous about Shelburne Falls for years as a popcorn peddler, died early yesterday

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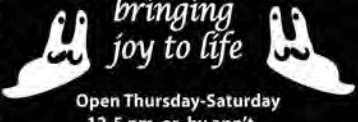


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Millers Falls "enjoyed" a scorching from the rowdy element the night before the Fourth. Property was destroyed right and left, and the boys had lots of "fun."

#### July 4, 1888

The fire-cracker nuisance has been terrible this year, extending over a period of two weeks before the Fourth. Almost every merchant in town put in a stock, and the little pirates of the village have made the most of their opportunities. Horses have been frightened purposely by huge torpedoes thrown under them, and nothing but a miracle saved the neck of several women passing through the village. On Monday night, however, one run-away of a serious nature compelled the selectmen to order every merchant to stop selling fireworks until the morning of the Fourth under penalty of prosecution.

The acreage of corn seems to be increasing, evidently to the detriment of tobacco, which is steadily losing ground except in a few towns in the Connecticut valley. The little tobacco reported is growing well, but cut-worms have been doing it some damage.

J. D. Reardon, the Fourth street butcher, has closed his shop and quietly slipped away, leaving some bills unpaid.

H.C. Porter, of the firm Graves & Porter, North Leverett, sold his interest to Frank Colton. The new firm Graves & Colton will continue the manufacture of pail and sap buckets as heretofore.

Moody's summer school and encampment for Bible study, which opened at Northfield, Saturday, has a large attendance, which is increasing with the arrival of every train. The 300 students represent nearly every college in the New England and Middle States and many distant institutions in this country and abroad.

The Turners Falls club met their second defeat at the hands of the Temperance club at Pittsfield, Wednesday, in a finely contested and very interesting game. The visitors were totally unable to gauge Cain's curves, 11 men striking out and only two hits being made off his delivery, one of these being a scratch.

On a bright Sunday in April a count was made of the number in the congregations of Montague. The total in the congregations was 769 and in the Sunday schools 600; of the 5,629 population it is estimated that 3,000 are Catholic. A little over one in four of the Protestant population was in the church that day, and a little over one-half of the children of school age were in the Sunday schools.

Robert, son of Wm R. Farnsworth, while playing ball, Monday, was struck on the side of the head with a ball club, and rendered insensible for several hours.

On Tuesday in Millers Falls, E.C. Higgins was arrested by Constable J.H. May, and brought before Justice Dana, charged with assault on Richard Hopkins, but as Higgins proved he was in bed at the time of the assault on Richard, he was discharged.

Mr. May had hardly got home and had his supper eaten, when he was called out again to arrest a couple of fellows who had smashed one of Al Goldthwaite's windows with a hoe, and had been raising Cain generally on the hill. He managed to overtake and capture John Skelhorn, one of them, but the other escaped. He took his prisoner before



"One remarkable feature of Lake Pleasant camp-grounds is the entire absence of everything except pails and squirt-guns with which to oppose the progress of a fire... The village would be devastated by fire in 1907. (Photo credited courtesy of the Montague Historical Society in Peter S. Miller and Kyle Scott's book Montague.)"

Justice Dana, who made him pay \$7.33 for his fun.

One remarkable feature of Lake Pleasant camp-grounds is the entire absence of everything except pails and squirt-guns with which to oppose the progress of a fire should one happen to get under headway. Attention has been called to this matter many times, and continued neglect in adopting some means or method better than those which are now provided cannot fail to incur just censure.

#### July 3, 1889

There is very little sickness in town this summer, and Dr. Deane of Greenfield is of the opinion that the new water works and sewers save in the better health of the people more than enough to pay the interest on their cost. The waste to a community produced by sickness making an army of nonproducers is greater than most people imagine.

Farmers complain that great droves of men and women from this village go roaming about in broad daylight robbing gardens and berry patches like so many hawks.

Druggist Colle is having quite a run on soda water, and his bulletin announces twenty-nine different syrups to choose from.

R. N. Oakman, who fell from a load of hay last week, has not been able to leave his room since. His friends hope to see him out again soon, however, as his strong constitution will help withstand the ill-effects of so severe a shock.

A big jam of logs at the Windsor bridge has caused the rivermen considerable uneasiness the past week. The drive will arrive here much earlier than usual, that is the rear. The logs are coming in now slowly.

If you hear of any news don't forget to tell the editor. We want every item that has interest for any considerable number of readers. Send along the news, or tell it to some one connected to the paper and we'll be satisfied.

#### July 2, 1890

It has been a glorious week for the haymakers.

A boy caught a five pound bass in the river the other day.

The mysterious whistles occasionally heard in the village, is from the pay car on the railroad. It has a double toot.

The Turners Falls cotton mills are preparing to enlarge their plant here by the addition of new machinery some time. They are putting in a new iron penstock over a hundred feet long and seven feet in diameter, a new horizontal water wheel of increased capacity, and the wheel pit will be considerably lowered. The work will necessitate the closing

of the factory for two and perhaps three weeks.

Mrs. N. E. Slack, for two years principal of the Center high school at Montague, declines a re-appointment. The committee have six vacancies to fill, The state inspector has ordered improved ventilation in three schoolhouses.

Representatives of the Standard Oil Company have been east and consider Greenfield a desirable point for the location of storage tanks to supply the neighboring country.

Charles W., son of August Lockman, a cutler formerly employed here, was gathering coals on the railroad track at his home in Norwich, Conn. when he was struck by the train and instantly killed. He was an only son, and aged 11 years, and was born in Turners Falls. His body was brought here for burial.

The rag-shag parade on the Fourth will be the most elaborate ever got up in this county. There will be no end to the local hits and "take-offs," and some of them will be quite pat and not a few pretty severe.

An alarm of fire brought out the department one day last week, and the firemen were once more disgusted to find a blaze in a hen-coop that any one could have put out without the slightest effort.

#### July 6, 1892

The damp weather has been hailed with delight by the tobacco growers of the Connecticut Valley, who were behind in setting out their plants.

During the thunder shower Thursday p.m., lightning performed curious freaks on the premises of E.P. Goodell, who lives just out of

the village of Montague. It entered under a wagon shed, making several holes in the ground and tearing up dirt, also tore off the corner board to his hen house, breaking studding into several pieces and killing chickens inside the building some eight feet from the corner.

William P. Crocker, for over twenty-five years one of the leading citizens of the town, died Thursday afternoon, after a short illness, and his remains were taken to Leominster for internment on Saturday. Mr. Crocker was in his 74th year, and was a brother of the late Col. Alvah Crocker, the only surviving brother being Samuel.

The deceased was a man of sterling honor and honesty, and was affectionately known by the whole community as "Uncle William." He was born, like all the Crockers, to the trade and art of paper-making, but in early life he showed less aptitude for it than the others, studied civil engineering, and in a short time became a leader in his profession.

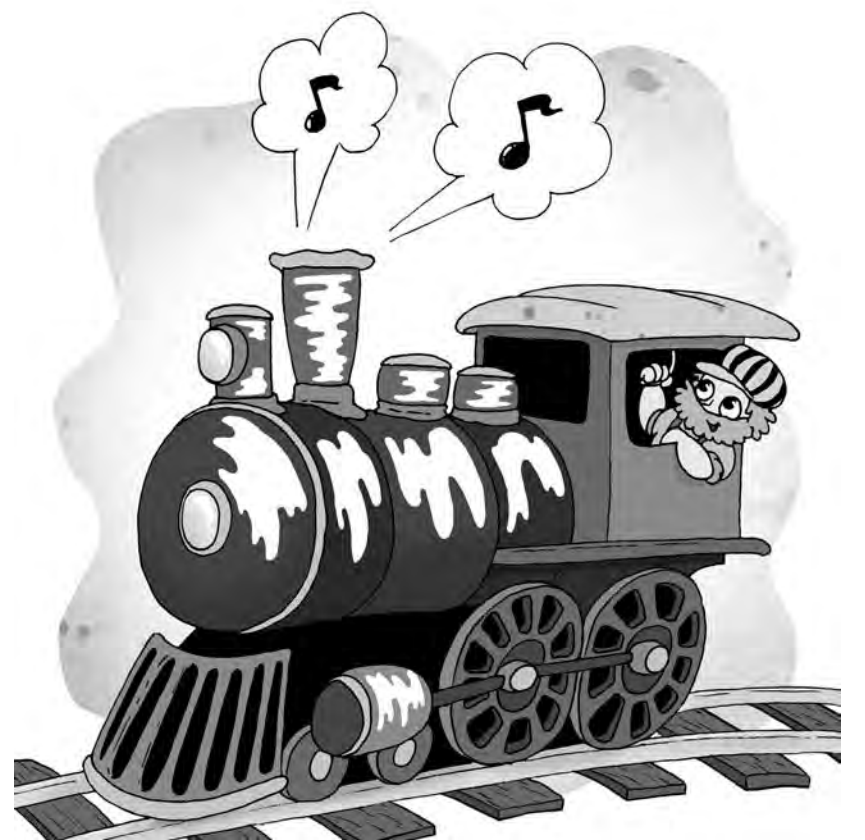
Mr. Crocker was brought to this place through the influence of his brother Alvah, who was then president of the Turners Falls Company, about twenty-five years ago, and all the streets of the village were laid out by him.

The boom which held the log drive of the Fall Mountain paper company at Bellows Falls broke last week, and about 3,000,000 feet of logs floated down the river. Midday the water had been rising and precautionary measures were taken to hold the boom. One man was on the boom when it broke and was thrown about 20 feet into the river. He was fished out unconscious but not seriously injured.

The booms were put out at the narrows here by the Turners Falls Company, who own the booming privilege, and the logs are all here awaiting the pleasure of their owners.

Frank Davis, a boy ten years old living in Griswold block, found Monday, what he thought was an empty cartridge. He put into it a small fire cracker, the better to hold it. Lighting the cracker the cartridge exploded, shattering two fingers and the thumb on the right hand so badly that Dr. Best was obliged to amputate them below the thumb.

The celebration in this village on the Fourth of July, planned by the Turners Falls driving association, was the best ever witnessed in the county.



OVERTURE ILLUSTRATION

"The mysterious whistles occasionally heard in the village, is from the pay car on the railroad. It has a double toot."

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The rag-shag parade in the morning was not so extensive as in former years, and was not considered by the public nearly so good in execution as the caricatures that have been seen on the local streets.

The prizes were awarded as follows: First to "The Dead Issue," \$7.00; second, "Fishing Smack," \$5.00; third, "South End Reporter," \$3.00.

**July 5, 1893**

There were over 1,600 people in attendance at the picnic of the Amusement Association at the Turners Falls Driving Park, yesterday, and the affair proved the most entertaining of any that has been got up here for a long time.

Two fat men struggled in the 100 yard foot race. A roly-poly good natured Cockney Englishman named Williams trotted around an athletic Frenchman named Brook, and came to the tape in 12 seconds.

A. H. Davy, the bicycle rider, won a prize of \$25 by beating Gus. F. Milkey's track mare in a half mile turn, making the circuit in 1.15.

The ball game between the Athol and Turners Falls nines was not of much account, owing to the lot of has-beens that came up from Athol to play ball.

Fitz Grant, an Italian, 18 years of age, employed as hod carrier on the new Keith mill, was drowned Sunday afternoon, while bathing in the Connecticut river at the mouth of Barton's cove. He jumped from a log into water over ten feet deep, and being unable to swim, was drowned before assistance could be obtained from any source.

One of the most prosperous villages in Franklin county is Farley's, which is situated in the towns of Erving and Wendell. The Frick piano case factory is now being built there, and will be completed and ready for business by September 1, and possibly before....

About twenty-five hands will be employed at the beginning, and lumber used for cases will be chestnut, pine and birch, but the cases will be veneered with more costly woods. About two-thirds of the help will be skilled and will come to the works from other places.

Last week brought another lot of gypsies to their favorite camping ground on the Greenfield road.

There is a law against allowing bonfires to be kindled on the public streets, and yet bonfires burned brightly within a few yards of the buildings, the night before the Fourth. Some vicious scamps blew out the large lights of glass in the Howard House windows with cannon crackers. So long as the authorities allow so much lawlessness, the town will have to foot all such bills.

There is more drunkenness in town this year, than ever before, and it is not uncommon to see youngsters, sixteen to twenty years of age, reeling along the streets. French boys seem to be the ones that can most easily find drink. A good deal of liquor is sold illegally all over the village.

The hoodlum element owned the town the night before the Fourth, and steps were removed from houses, signs taken down, trees broken, and hell generally reigned for several hours.

A good many complained, while not a few encouraged such lawlessness, thinking it a want of patriotism to curb boyish enthusiasm.



*The judges' stand at the Driving Park, or Trotting Park. The park, built in the early 1890s, later became the Park Villa Drive-In and is now a wooded area just north of Park Villa Drive. The park included a racetrack, grandstand and this structure, as illustrated by Norma Lane in the 1976 Pictorial History of the Town of Montague. Used with permission of the Montague Historical Society.*

**July 4, 1894**

Saturday's rain did much damage on the Avenue and other streets, by washing out and undermining the concrete.

The hay crop is reported to be an uneven one. In many localities the grass was winter killed. In old fields the lack of rain at the right time has made it light. On the other hand, on lands that are well fertilized, or where there is a strong sod, the grass is a heavy as in ordinary years.

Miss Hattie C. Giles is the victim of a bicycle accident, the cycle in some way getting the advantage of the rider, and resulting in a sprained ankle for Miss Hattie.

And speaking about bicycling, there are several young ladies in this village who have been practicing this art but a short time who have attained a wonderful proficiency, and we would say make a very graceful and pretty appearance on our streets.

The tug-of-war will take place on the Avenue tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock.

Four tramps were brought from Millers Falls last Thursday afternoon where they had been making trouble. They were brought before Trial Justice Dana who sentenced them all to three months.

At the bicycle tournament of the Montague Athletic association to be held at the park, to-morrow, there will be some hot races between Rist, Stowe, Johnson, Hall, Carey, Bernard, Chapman and several more of the best riders in the county.

The only son of Station Master

Austin Washburne on the N.L.R.R. while playing on the platform at that station on Thursday forenoon, made a misstep and fell a distance of only about five feet striking his head near the base of the brain.

The injury was not at first thought to be of a serious nature but later developments proved quite the contrary, the injury terminating fatally on Friday morning.

Major Francis H. Fleming, who at one time published a little paper at Shelburne Falls, "The Standard," and is remembered by the old soldiers of the country as a veteran of the Mexican war and the war of the Rebellion, died suddenly, Thursday, in the hospital at North Adams.

**July 3, 1895**

It has been known for a long time that liquor and beer have been sold in a score of places about the village, on the sly, but it soon became evident that a land office business was being carried in a lot of places within a radius of a hundred yards.

Sheriff C. A. Davis of this village, E. J. Pratt of Millers Falls, Chauncey Bryant and Wm. Smead of Greenfield, with the local officers, made raids on four places early Friday morning and succeeded in getting contraband stuff in three of them.

In the meat market on L street kept by Henry Robert, a keg of beer was found on draught. Amiel Willet attempted to run up stairs with another keg in his arms, but was pulled in as a decidedly interested party.



*This photo of "George Gibson and friends" in New Salem comes courtesy of the Swift River Valley Historical Society.*

In LaPoint's block – the beehive – up stairs, Arthur Bessette had some kegs of lager which he was prepared to divide up into five cent portions.

In the store on the corner kept by the Yankeeified Polander, Frank Smith, they expected to find something that would intoxicate as well as cheer, but only hop beer yielded to the most diligent search.

William Rouss seemed to have something in his house on L street that attracted a good many of the old soaks, and not a few youths who delighted in frequent incipient jags. The officers thought they would get there this morning ahead of the procession, and found a lot of lager in bottles and some wine intended no doubt for the more delicate patrons.

It is believed that the population of this town has not increased much during the past five years.

Another bicyclist was fined \$5 by Justice Dana, last week, for riding on the sidewalks.

The county commissioners have ordered the relocation of the highway between Greenfield and Turners Falls, beginning at a point near the Silver street cemetery and extending to the bank of the Connecticut river at the suspension bridge, in accordance with plans prepared by Engineer L. G. Barton.

Montague people are hoping that the electric road will be extended to that village soon. Starting from a point near Lake Pleasant, the distance would be but two miles. It will certainly be built some day.

It makes a horseman's blood boil to see the chumps driving frightened horses around electric cars. After the poor frightened beasts are out of all danger the brutal driver is almost sure to use his whip on the suffering dumb creature.

Jim Morrison, who works in P.F. Welch's brick yard, amused himself, Monday, by licking a Polander in journeyman style. He was brought before Justice Dana and fined \$10, which was a good price, but it was a good licking, and he evidently got his money's worth. The Polander will have to live on soup until his jaw gets in usable condition again.

It is to be hoped that this year, "the night before the Fourth," will not be characterized by the rowdiness which has been its distinguishing feature in the past.

**July 1, 1896**

The small boy may be found on every street already setting off a mild form of cracker.

A good sized and enthusiastic company of spectators gathered at the park on Saturday afternoon to witness the game of base ball between the Turners Falls and the Mansion house team of Greenfield. The home team was the winner, the score standing 9 to 6 in its favor.

The special town meeting voted that G.L. Rist and O.J. Nevins be a committee to take charge of construction of sidewalk on Central street, and voted that a sewer be built from the house of Uzece Bourbeau to connect with the L street sewer.

Timothy Healey, full of rum, assaulted Conductor Stinson on the electric car. Justice Dana made him pay \$20 for his previousness.

E. F. Thompson has moved into the tenement on Central street recently vacated by Minister Clark.

Mrs. Julia Darling, mother of Druggist Darling, is spending a month or two visiting friends about her old home in Delaware county,

New York. Charles Davy had his hand badly lacerated, last week, by getting it caught in a winder.

The Germania cornet band took a prize at Springfield, last week, for their superior playing.

Remember the Gustav Adolph lodge's picnic to be held in Taft's grove on Saturday.

C. W. Schuler and bride will establish their home in the tenement in Monroe VanValkenburg's house, Prospect street, just vacated by Norman P. Farwell.

Miss May I. Smith expects to open a kindergarten at her home on Prospect street, in September.

Fireworks will be sold only on the 3rd and 4th.

The small boy makes a nuisance of himself at the street fountain opposite Allen Brothers' store by throwing water on his companions and incidentally upon any innocent pedestrian that happens along. A baby had her dress soaked by an urchin, the other day.

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*This ad ran in the July 1, 1896 edition of the Turners Falls Reporter.*

**July 7, 1897**

Monday was a gala day in town, and a large crowd went to the driving park to witness the sports held there by the St. Jean Baptiste society.

The antiques and horribles, headed by the Germania cornet band, paraded many streets in the morning and the many novelties in the procession caused much laughter. "Rags and tags" of all sorts were very much in evidence, and some of the costumes worn by the participants were truly wonderful.

The first prize went to the float representing Queen Victoria and her court. This well deserved the prize for it was very effective, the young ladies in their gaily colored costumes making a very pretty picture.

The second prize was awarded to the float representing a laundry. The Deadwood stage coach, packed solid with cowboy passengers, was awarded a prize, and one was given to the worthy couple who claimed to have come from Hogan's alley.

After the parade, sports of all kinds were held at the park. The half mile bicycle race for members of the St. Jean Baptiste society, was won by Isaac Bibeau, the one mile bicycle race was won by Harry

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The horse race was won by Frank Robert's horse, and the Millers Falls junior team beat the Turners Falls juniors at base ball, the score being 18 to 6.

The tug of war between the Montague paper mill team and members of the St. Jean Baptiste society proved very exciting and was won by the former.

What might have been a serious affair occurred at the Baptist church Sunday night. Mr. Munro, the contractor, directed some of his men to stay in the church Saturday, Sunday and Monday, lest some pranks of Fourth of July should be made.

An attempt was made Saturday night to ring the bell, but was frustrated by the watchmen.

The attempt was renewed Sunday night and was again hindered. In the midst of it all a pistol containing a solid bullet was discharged by one of the crowd and the bullet passed through the sleeve of one of the workmen bruising the flesh and lodging in the joint.

A few inches more and some one would have been held on a serious charge. Blank cartridges are supposed to be used on the Fourth, not bullets.

At the prayer meeting at the Congregational church on Thursday evening last, O.C. Gilbert, an ex-slave and colored jubilee singer, gave an interesting address upon his people in the south and elsewhere. It was quite instructive to the younger portion present and vividly reminded the older ones of thirty years ago.

#### July 6, 1898

There was "a hot time in the old town" last Sunday. The heat was all but unbearable. We could sympathize with our troops in Cuba.

The news of the fighting at Santiago made many anxious hearts in town. Those having boys at the front feel anything but gay, but we



"The first prize went to the float representing Queen Victoria and her court. This well deserved the prize for it was very effective, the young ladies in their gaily colored costumes making a very pretty picture." We found this image in Kyle J. Scott's Montague: Labor and Leisure, illustrating "members of the community dressed for Victoria Day." Turns out it was for the Fourth!

are all glad for the splendid record made by the brave boys of the gallant 2nd.

The war revenue law requires that on or after July 1, 1898, no telegraph employee or its agent or employee, shall transmit any despatch or message without an adhesive one-cent stamp being affixed to a copy thereof or stamped thereupon. Considerable interest was manifested in the special town meeting held in Hibernian hall, Thursday afternoon.

The meeting voted to amend the town by-laws so that it shall read as follows:

"For the purposes of these by-laws the Village of Montague Centre shall be taken to include all the streets and public ways within a radius of one-half mile from the Town Hall; the Village of Turners Falls shall include the whole of Turners

Falls Fire District and the Village of Montague City; the Village of Millers Falls shall include all streets and public ways within a radius of one-half mile from 'Union Hall' in said Millers Falls."

The union picnic of the Gustav Adolph lodge and Columbia lodge, at Goddard's grove was quite largely attended, and was very enjoyable.

A fish club has been formed in Erving, and the members have built a house near Long pond.

There was quite a little excitement on the Avenue, early Saturday night. A party of rivermen had been paid off and discharged, and as usual a good many of them had a "blowout." Three in particular, named Peter Boulier, Daniel Dowd and Johnny Legassie appeared to have the greatest cargo of liquor on board, in spite of the war tax.

They became more than usually obstreperous and disturbed the peace very effectually. When Deputy Davis attempted to arrest him, Dowd threw a stone at Mr. Davis's head with David-like accuracy. Finally all three of the river fraternity were brought before Justice Dana yesterday morning.

If the government would impose a war tax of a few cents for every hundred miles ridden on a bicycle, much more would be effected toward checking excessive bicycle riding, especially among women, than by all the health lectures and statistics ever devised. Such a tax would also probably give us considerable relief from boasters.

#### July 5, 1899

To begin at the beginning, the celebration commenced at about midnight, Monday. It is safe to say, that seldom before has there been such a noisy "night before the Fourth," as this year, but there was no damage done.

Even the girls turned out and contributed to the all pervading noise, by natural as well as artificial means. The drum corps made

themselves heard, if they were not always seen and left the village in no doubt as to their presence.

A lot of big little boys had manufactured some cannon whose booming could be heard all night long, for be it known, there were about a half dozen of these cannon, and a great disturbance did they make.

As a result of all this noisy celebration, no one overslept; in fact, none slept at all, and folks got up in the morning alive to the fact that the weather man had arranged a very warm celebration on his own account.

For amusement, people went either to Greenfield or Lake Pleasant, or else attended one of the three picnics held in town.

Lake Pleasant seems to be getting back its old time popularity.

The balloon ascension, which Prof. Belmont was to have given in the morning, did not take place, for some reason not very well understood.

Harold Thomas, nephew of Contractor James Thomas, has gone to San Francisco, en route for the Philippines, going out with the Fifth calvary.

Another band of gypsies were encamped on the road to Greenfield the latter part of last week. The Greenfield selectmen ordered them "to play checkers," and they did, taking a move to North Adams.

Judge Lyman heard the civil case of Dr. J. C. Perry of Shelburne Falls against Moses Cook of Ashfield, an action of contract to recover pay for a set of teeth. Mr. Cook, who is 81 years old, said the teeth never fitted and that he could not wear them, and consequently did not care to pay for them. Dr. Perry contended that there was no guarantee with the teeth, and that they were to be paid for. Declaration reserved.

The Fourth was celebrated very quietly in Montague Centre. The principal event of the day was the opening of the new electric car line, which many townspeople

patronized. A good many went to the celebration at Lake Pleasant.

#### July 4, 1900

To judge by the noise the small boy has already been making with his tin horn, there will be no rest for the weary after midnight.

Farmers who set their tobacco early this year find it to be growing nicely since the late rains, while those who have but just completed that work find it still necessary to water nearly every day.

Corn is looking nicely. Potato bugs need close attention.

A couple of teams, driven by drunken men, tried to pass each other and an electric car without turning out, the other evening, with disastrous results to wagons. When the beery individuals picked themselves out of the earth, each began to assure the other that he was a very bad man with little skill in the art of guiding horseflesh, while the horses made off in opposite directions as best they could gallop.

Supt. Turner has ordered 1,600 feet of new slate blackboards, which will be put in the different school buildings for the fall term.

Harry F. Dunbar of the Keith mill will visit the Paris exposition the last of this month.

There was a very large attendance at the annual strawberry festival of St. Mary's parish, Friday night.

The Suicide club will hold its annual meeting this evening. All members are requested to be present.

During Saturday's high wind, a large limb was broken off a giant elm beside the road in front of the Wiley & Russell shops in Cheap-side. The limb fell across the electric car tracks, and blocked the track for a couple of hours before it could be removed, so that passengers on the electrics had to be transferred at that point.

A workman while sawing off the limb was treated to an unexpected free ride. His saw came into contact with the trolley wire, and he was sent flying into the bushes on the opposite side of the street in a twinkling. He was not otherwise injured however.



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This ad ran in the July 6, 1898 edition of the Turners Falls Reporter.

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Police officer Danforth F. Ripley has been laid up with malaria.

Hadley has at last escaped the disgrace of being one of only seven towns in the state without a free public library.



Turners Falls jeweller John Starbuck. (In Scott's Montague: Labor and Leisure, which says "Newspapers of the day indicate that he was noted for his generosity." They also indicate he was a vile racist. Let's not whitewash history.)

John H. Starbuck has his camera in the Bahamas. He took a very scared d\*\*\*\* child and made such a good picture that he sent a copy home forthwith. Mrs. Starbuck has manipulated the subject in connection with one of John's latest portraits of himself so that the little black rascal appears in the composite sitting on the dignified optician's knee just as though it was his inherited place.

As Mr. Starbuck likes a n\*\*\*\* about as much as a woman likes a snake, the impression is abroad that when he sees what liberties have been taken in the interest of composite photography he will say naughty words and forsake the camera for some pastime that has less of the boomerang principle in it.

A German picnic with pink lemonade! Shades of Gambrius! Who would have thought the new century would have brought this humiliation to thirsty souls.

**July 3, 1901**

The intense heat the past week has aroused the lower nature in all, and it is hard work to prevent tempers from boiling over. There is no such thing as keeping cool and the thermometer day after day has been registering anywhere from 92° to 102° in the shade. The soda fountains and the ice cart are the most popular things of the day.

Cases of heat prostration have been numerous but fortunately no fatalities have resulted. The men are going about in all sorts and conditions of negligee costumes, the shirt waist man has blossomed in force, and even the young ladies have been obliged to discard their high linen and stock collars for something more comfortable.

The main sewer on L street, between Third and Fifth, has become choked. At the last heavy storm many cellars on the street were flooded.

A trolley ride to the lake is the only way to pass a comfortable moment. One lady complained of the cold going over the plains the other day.

By the giving way of a staging yesterday morning, six men at work painting the new bridge of the Central Vermont railroad across "Saw-Mill" river in North Leverett, fell a distance of 30 to 35 feet on the rocks below. Of the six that fell five were more or less injured. Two were severely hurt. Three of the men were able to go to their boaring places.

Lawrence Dyer of Montague, a boy of eight or nine years, was in court Monday, charged with being a stubborn child. The case was continued till State Agent Morton can be present.

The Firemen's big muster and carnival of sports at the driving park, will open to-morrow morning, at 6:30 o'clock, with the great rag shag parade which will form at the Davis ice houses on Second street, and parade the principal streets. A prize of \$15 will be awarded the best looking turnout. The most comical looking gentleman and the most laughable costumed lady will also be rewarded with prizes.

Montague lodge of the brotherhood of paper-makers held a meeting Sunday afternoon to hear the report of the committee recently appointed to confer with Treasurer C. M. Burnett of the Keith paper company with reference to shorter hours in the mill. The Holyoke schedule of hours was adopted, with the exception of the finishing room.... The members of the union are highly pleased with the treatment accorded them.

The young people's society of the German Lutheran church drove up the Green River road, last Thurs-

day, and enjoyed a picnic.

The wheelmen and selectmen met again at the selectmen's room last Thursday evening, and the wheelmen are now rejoicing over the prospect of the much needed and desired bicycle paths being built this season. A suitable path will be built from Turners Falls to Millers Falls and also one to Montague City. Work on them has begun.

Horn blowing and other Fourth of July noises were begun Monday and have been increasing in violence ever since. The climax will be reached to-night, and between the heat and the noise the ravelled sleeve of care stands little chance of being knit up.

**July 2, 1902**

The work of macadamizing the Avenue is progressing rapidly.

Tree Warden Shirlcliff has about finished trimming the trees.

Equi Bros., the fruit dealers, have had their store fitted up with electric fans.

If the first picnic and field day of the paper makers, to be held at Forest park, Friday, is not the greatest success of anything of the kind ever held in Turners Falls, it certainly will not be the fault of the lodge or of the committee of arrangements, who are working early and late to insure the success of the affair.

The fun will commence at 8:30 in the morning, when the paper makers, headed by the Germania Military band, will parade the principal village streets.

A number of beautifully decorated floats, on which the ladies of the union have given vent to their artistic ideas, will be in the parade, and will be one of the features of it.

The Turners Falls lumber company's mill will be shut down this summer for want of logs. Riverside will feel the depression quite severely.

Several attempts have been made lately to set fire to different buildings down South End way, it is said, one attempt having been made on the shoe shop. The police should keep a sharp eye for incendiaries and land them behind the bars as quickly as may be.

Otis Hager, while excavating the cellar for the house he is to build at the foot of Sugar Loaf mountain in South Deerfield, unearthed what is probably a meteoric stone, about three feet below the surface of the ground. The stone is shaped like a rude cone, and largely composed of iron. It weighs 283 pounds.

Postmaster Briggs is selling a number of very high grade bicycles for very little people.

A meeting was called at the G.A.R. hall in Montague Wednesday evening, by T. F. Harrington for those interested in lighting by electricity. An electrician was present. The subject was thoroughly discussed. Mr. Harrington has canvassed the village and finds most of the citizens in favor of electricity.

The selectmen have given notice that no fireworks, crackers, torpedoes, or other noise producers will be allowed on any of the streets in the village except from 8 o'clock Thursday night until 10 o'clock Friday night, and that all celebrating with fireworks of any kind must be done within those hours.

**July 1, 1903**

A great many people are interested in trout fishing these days.

The selectmen have hired a steam drill to get out stone for use in macadamizing the Avenue. Stone will

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*These ads are running in the July 2, 2015 edition of the Montague Reporter.*

be taken from both sides of Third street, near Canal street. Work will begin at once on the Avenue, and finished to First street, and the east side of the avenue from Fifth to Seventh streets will be completed.

At a meeting of the Turners Falls company, last week, final instructions were given as to procedure in the matter of development as voted for previously. Many important matters had to be adjusted, especially the very important one of dispossessing the International Paper company of their occupancy of the company's lands, something that meant a cost of some \$40,000 to that company.

The way now being clear, in a measure, the Turners Falls company instructed President Charles T. Crocker and Treasurer Charles W. Hazleton to proceed at all possible speed to make contracts to enlarge the canal, at an estimate of \$150,000.

A timber deal was consummated in Wendell last week, which for magnitude has not been surpassed in that town for many a day.

The ladies' sewing guild of the Farren Memorial hospital closed Thursday for two months.

John Joletes, a vender of fruit, who was arrested in Turners Falls by Deputy Sheriff Davis, was in the district court last week, charged with peddling without a license, and paid a fine of \$25.

An accident occurred at the new paper mill last Wednesday night, at Millers Falls just after 6 o'clock. Two blasts were sent off that proved to have double power, and stones went flying in all directions.

Windows, frames and brick-wall were broken. Falling stones and debris demolished one of the hoisting engines beyond repair. It will cost about \$500 to repair damages. Fortunately no one was hurt.

The glorious Fourth coming on Saturday, this year, will give us Sunday to recover from the effects

of too much celebration.

All the barber shops in the village will be closed all day, Saturday, but will be open until midnight, Friday.

**July 5, 1905**

Over a thousand people attended the union picnic of the paper makers and fire men at Forest Park yesterday. The great event of the day was the running hose race against time. Each team ran 30 yards, laid 125 feet of hose, breaking and making coupling.

The Shamrocks, who held the world's championship before of 24 3/5 seconds, broke their own record, complying with all conditions, making the race in 22 4/5 s. Murphy did superb pipe work.

George Starbuck & Sons find the work shop in the rear of their business block on the Avenue quite too small for their increasing trade, and have just begun to extend it very materially, occupying the whole of the rear of their lot.

A number of Montague City children are ill with the chicken pox.

Raymond Dugan, son of J. W. Dugan of Montague, has just graduated from the university in Heidelberg, Germany, with the highest honors. Mr. Dugan is a most brilliant young man and his career thus far gives every promise of being a most notable one.

He was for some time stationed at the observatory in Syria, and while there made several important discoveries of hitherto unknown heavenly bodies. These discoveries created much interest among scientists and the young astronomer was highly honored.

Neil Anderson of Northfield came to town on Tuesday of last week. The liquid refreshments he absorbed turned his head slightly and endeavored to drive his faithful horse down the flight of cutlery steps. Previous to that he had a spill near the Griswold block.

Wednesday morning he was



*"To judge by the noise the small boy has already been making with his tin horn, there will be no rest for the weary after midnight."*

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Turners Falls Mass 01376



before the district court and was fined \$5 by Associate Justice Griswold. He paid.

Concrete sidewalks have been laid at South End, which will be an improvement much appreciated by the residents of that section.

The Fourth passed off very quietly in town. Dealers were allowed to sell fireworks only from 8 o'clock Monday evening until 10 o'clock last night. The use of revolvers, guns and cannon crackers was prohibited by the selectmen and the ringing of bells was barred. The regulations were well enforced and as a result, the night before the country's birthday was far from being such a pandemonium as has often been the case in years past.

The rear of the log drive will pass the pond to-night or to-morrow morning, and thus open the river to navigation again. This will be a welcome news to many a sore and aching heart, and hereafter the air will be redolent with the pleasing odor of naphtha instead of the fumes of sulphur!

#### July 3, 1907

Today C.P. Wise received the first native green peas, also the first Georgia peaches. Both are of fine quality.

Philip K. Greene and David A. Durward, both instructors at the Mount Hermon school, were drowned about 2:15 o'clock yesterday afternoon, in the Connecticut river, just below the school building, while canoeing.

The accident, costing the lives of two of the most popular young



Millers Falls, circa 1905. From Miller and Scott's Montague, credited courtesy of the Millers Falls Library.

teachers at Mount Hermon and throwing a gloom also over the Northfield conference, occurred in an inexplicable way. Both of the men were athletes, and both knew how to swim, yet within two minutes of the time their canoe upset both had disappeared beneath the water and were not again seen.

The Millers Falls ball team played Keene Saturday at Keene, making the trip in an automobile. On July 4 they play two games at Brookside park.

Albert Stotz, the five-year-old son of Mrs. Fred Stotz, met with quite a serious accident, Monday evening, at about 7 o'clock, by falling from a tree.... The little chap bore the ordeal of sewing the wound with great fortitude, for he never uttered a whimper. His bravery was greatly admired by the throng which quickly gathered.

Miss Julia Milkey of Park street, who is a student at the Lucas school in Greenfield, has a temporary position assisting in the Greenfield Savings bank.

The St. Joseph Bohemian society will picnic to-morrow, at the Vladish farm on the road to Montague. Sports, refreshments and dancing will be among the attractions.

A class of nine, three boys and six girls, were graduated from the Turners Falls High school last Thursday evening. The hall was prettily decorated with streamers of the class colors, purple and white, while the class motto: "Now is the time for action," was suspended over the stage.

#### July 1, 1908

The State Board of Health has made new rules and regulations for the purpose of preventing the pollu-

tion and securing the sanitary protection of the waters of Lake Pleasant and its tributaries. The new rules are very sweeping and comprehensive, and if strictly enforced, as the Turners Falls Water Commissioners intend they shall be, the purity and healthfulness of Lake Pleasant water, which is the source of the water supply for the Turners Falls Fire district, will be unquestioned.

No cesspools, privies, water closets, etc. not discharging into a sewer are allowed within 50 feet of high-water mark at Lake Pleasant. No human excrement can be discharged into any water course which flows into the lake.

Bathing, fishing, driving animals into the lake, ice cutting, boating, etc., are all strictly forbidden. This bars out all row boats, canoes, steamers, etc., from Lake Pleasant, and this will be a good thing. Every water taker or resident of the town should read these rules and regulations carefully, and remember and live up to them.

An asbestos booth is being installed at Colle's opera house for the use of moving picture shows.

George Lenois of L street is having a piazza added to the front of his house.

Raymond Dugan, formerly of Montague, has been elected assistant professor of astronomy at Princeton University.

Sheriff Isaac Chenery of Montague whose fame as a successful entertainer equals his reputation as a guardian of the law, again proved his title clear as a host by giving a party to 30 Greenfield, Turners Falls

## The Montague Reporter

is always seeking writers, suggestions, advertisers, volunteers, donations, and encouragement. Write to [editor@montaguereporter.org](mailto:editor@montaguereporter.org).

and Montague men at his cozy bungalow up the river, Thursday.

A. M. Stratton of Bernardston is an enterprising old gentleman, despite his age, 81. On a recent Saturday, when the mercury was unusually ambitious, besides hoeing a half acre of potatoes, Mr. Stratton picked more than a bushel of strawberries and without a team delivered them to customers.

The German Lutheran church edifice has been much improved in appearance by a new dress of paint.

Wendell's tax book is in the hands of the assessor, Ozro Baker, who is anxious to get to work. Rate of taxation \$18 per 1000, same as last year.

Quite a number from town are planning on going to Quebec to see the big celebration there, July 20.

Fred Colle has a honeysuckle vine growing about the piazza of his cottage at Lake Pleasant, which is a marvel of beauty and fragrance.

It is a mass of bloom, there being between 1200 and 1500 blossoms on the vine. The flowers are white and pale yellow and their appearance and fragrance are suggestive of orange blossoms.

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# MoRe

YEAR 13 – NO. 37

B1

FEATURES@MONTAGUEREPORER.ORG

OF THE MONTAGUE REPORTER

JULY 2, 2015



## ... MAY THEY NEVER END!

*A view up the hill from Seventh and K Streets in Turners Falls, June 30, 2015. Mike Jackson photo.*

### July 7, 1909

Lyman G. Barton of Greenfield has completed for the Turners Falls fire district a plan of the land at Lake Pleasant the district proposes to take for the protection of the water supply. A strip of varying width is taken a good share of the way round the lake. The plan will be sent to the state board of health for approval.

The policemen, the constables, and most of the deputy sheriffs of their county, raided the hotels of the village, Friday night, and found in some places quite a lot of contraband stuff.

The Grand Trunk hotel seemed to be the most innocent victim from all accounts, as nothing was found there in the line of hard stuff, and the beer seemed to belong to a lodger if he doesn't get bashful about claiming it.

The Montague City Rod Shop base ball team played the Pelham Rod shop team at Pelham Saturday.

Uzece Bourbeau of Seventh street had the misfortune to sprain his ankle, one day last week, while leading his cow.

Milton E. Holdsworth of Prospect street has a cherry tree which has yielded a bumper crop this year and has necessitated much strenuous work for Mr. Holdsworth and his son in gathering the luscious fruit. Mr. Holdsworth has generously favored all his neighbors with some of the fruit.

Charles Payne left his horses to step into L. L. Field's store. They were frightened at an electric car and ran, badly breaking a mowing machine that was hitched to wagon. We do not wonder horses are afraid of an electric car, it is so seldom they are seen here.

In Millers Falls, Forest Haskell had his face and possibly one eye injured by an exploding cracker Monday, but the injuries are not serious.

Mount Sugar Loaf has become a favorite rendezvous for picnic and pleasure parties since the state has

taken over the mountain. The view from the summit is a glorious one, and the sight of the grand Connecticut valley as viewed from the crest where the great Indian chief Philip sat and brooded over the encroachments of the whites on his domains, is one that will awake the veriest clod from his lethargy.

It was a wise movement of the state to take this mountain where every prospect pleases, and preserve it forever for the education and pleasure and inspiration of the people.

### July 5, 1911

Too hot weather for much news. Thermometer one hundred and eight. One man says hottest weather ever remembered. We notice the same remark every year.

The little child in the Mullins family who was bitten by the mad dog on May 14 and Elijah Young, who was later on bitten by a cat which had been bitten by the same dog, have been under the care of Dr. Messer, chairman of the board of health, and he had just finished the Pasteur treatment. They do not show any bad symptoms now.

Edgar Van Arnum, while working in the gravel pit in Wendell with some others, who were getting dirt to fill up the ruts on the Locks Village section, met with a serious accident the middle of last week, by having a stone roll down hitting his leg and breaking it below the knee.

He was sent to Boston for treatment. Mr. Van Arnum will be 65 his next birthday, and when one arrives at that age wounds don't heal as readily as when one were younger.

Joseph Hyde of Riverside, while oiling some machinery at the cutlery, got the oil can caught in such a way that the spout was driven through his hand. Dr. Messer dressed the wound, which is considered quite dangerous, on account of the fact that blood poisoning may develop. Just now he is doing well.

The Elm trees down the Mon-

tague City road have been sprayed with arsenate of lead.

The mills shut down from Saturday until to-day, so that the work people might escape the tortures of the terrible heat, and make the most of the Fourth by visiting among friends.

Don't fail to hear Mr. John Philip Snoozer with his famous ladies' band. "Come and hear the Kazoos – sure cure for the blues." Congregational church lawn party, next Tuesday evening.

**PLAYFUL CHILDREN**

Kickapoo Worm Killer makes playful children. They like these delicious candy tablets and tease for them. Healthy children are always playful. When a child does not want to play it is sick; give it Kickapoo Worm Killer and it will soon be happy.

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**A. E. MARTEL,**  
Turners Falls, Mass.

*This ad ran in the July 5, 1911 edition of the Turners Falls Reporter.*

### July 3, 1912

The pest house on the plains took fire early Sunday morning and was totally destroyed with all of its contents. The woods around it were discovered on fire about midnight by people coming from Lake Pleasant on the trolley car and several got out and fought it and supposed it was all out. It caught again afterward.

The pest house stood about 300 yards from where the forest fire was raging and the wind was blowing in the opposite direction from it, so it cannot be said definitely that it caught from the forest fire. It is surmised that it was probably occupied by tramps and the fire set by them.

The Ladies' Industrial Society cleared over \$35 on their recent lawn party in Montague City.

Frank Paul, Jacob Housman and

Peter Orcutt dragged the pond at the lower end of Second street. They got nearly 5,000 bullheads, all sizes, which they stocked the river with. These men take an interest in fish in this river that are getting scarce.

The members of the Turners Falls Schuetzenverein and athletic association are making extensive preparations for an outing at their club house up the river on the Fourth of July. There are to be various athletic events, including a prize shoot. It is probable that some well-known crack shot will be on hand and give an exhibition.

The Montague Young People's Dramatic club presented the three-act drama, "A Scrap of Paper," in the town hall, Friday evening, to a full house. They all acted their parts well.

The Millers Falls Associates have bought a gasoline engine to be used in working out their own lumber for their houses.

The work on the canal is being pushed forward rapidly and much progress is being made, but it has been decided to work two shifts for a time, one by day and the other by night. Work will soon be started on the dam and a track is now being laid out over the water to carry materials which are to be used in its construction.

### July 2, 1913

A strong attempt is being made to induce the Turners Falls water commissioners to permit fishing in Lake Pleasant, something that has been strictly forbidden for several years. It is claimed that fish are so abundant in the lake that the water at times has a strong odor and taste.

In Montague, the cake and ice cream sale, with money contributed, netted the street light association \$13.

In Millers Falls, the labor difficulty threatened at the Millers Falls company shops, following an experimental attempt to establish a certain bonus system in one room,

has been avoided by the discontinuance of the system.

Mrs. Anna Ratson Lindsay of Milwaukee, former librarian of our library, who has been in town visiting old friends, has presented the Turners Falls library with a handsome globe map of the latest design. It is a beautiful piece of the mapmakers' art and is mounted on a pedestal of oxidized copper standing about four feet high.

It gives the shortest routes of travel between the different continents and countries and is also an astronomical map, having the zodiac complete. Her gift is a useful and valuable one and is deeply appreciated.

George Koch who is employed on the T. M. Stoughton estate at Riverside, recently found a perfect Indian spearhead while plowing a piece of land that had not been touched by a ploughshare in nearly half a century.

It is six inches long and is a particularly fine specimen, being of white flint so clear that one can almost look through it. A great many arrowheads have been found in this neighborhood in years past.

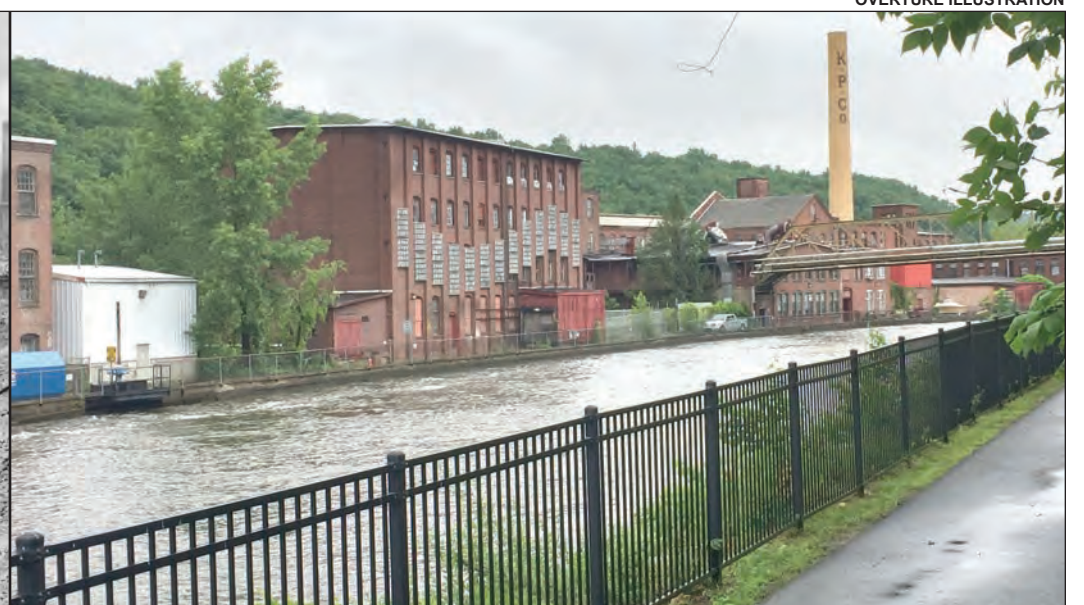
Miss Antonia J. Stemple starts for Europe to-morrow morning, with one of the Shelton European parties, to be gone until the first week in September.

Miss Stemple has long been a prolific writer of all sorts of literature but finds a ready market for stories of travel, especially when illustrated by pictures from her own camera, as people are sick and tired of the stock pictures of the professional, who is apt to be stereotyped bore. This trip with a pleasant party of cultivated people will give her a fund of material to draw upon for many years to come.

Eating wild strawberries picked under a tree near Nash's mills sprayed by arsenate of lead to destroy moths, was the cause a few days ago of the poisoning of 12 year old Emeline Wishart, of Greenfield.



OVERTURE ILLUSTRATION



*"The work on the canal is being pushed forward rapidly and much progress is being made..." The photo at left shows the work to enlarge the power canal, in order to extend it to Cabot Station. On September 10, 1915 the west bank collapsed due to a lining failure. Photo used by permission of Peter S. Miller. At right, the canal on July 1, 2015; Mike Jackson photo.*



**July 1, 1914**

The International Paper Co. is rapidly converting into pulp the mammoth mountain of pulp wood on the river road, which has been such a prominent feature of the landscape for some time.

At the session of the district court held on Friday, June 19, four Polish children, whose ages ranged from eight to ten years, were before the court charged with the theft of plank used in the construction of the new McLane Silk Co. mill near South End.

The contractors had missed great quantities of ends of plank, planks, and other things used on the work, and so many articles were constantly disappearing that complaint was made and these four children of tender age, living in the vicinity of the new mill, were found to be among the sinners.

The Turners Falls Company employees played their first baseball game of the season with the Greenfield Electric Light Co. team, on the High school oval, Saturday afternoon and defeated the shiretown visitors by a score of 12 to 0.

Collins, pitcher on this year's champion High school team, was in the box, and allowed only two hits, while the hitting of Stoughton for Turners Falls was also a feature.

Adolph Vlach of Third street lost the sight of one eye Monday, when a piece of steel thrown by one of his fellow-workmen in the John Russell Cutlery Co. works, struck him in the eye, destroying the ball of the organ.

**BABY'S BOWELS**

Here's the cause of all the trouble. Children's sickness begins with the bowels. Healthy bowels mean a healthy child. Irregular bowels, constipation, the wrong color and you have a sickly child. Kickapoo Worm Killer is the best liver regulator, bowel cleanser and regulator, and the finest tonic for children. Try it and you will know that this is so. Price, 25c. sold by druggists everywhere and by

**A. E. MARTEL,**  
Turners Falls, Mass.

*This ad ran in the July 3, 1912 edition of the Turners Falls Reporter. (Kickapoo Worm Killer contained sugar, flour, licorice, oil of anise, powdered wormwood and mercury subchloride... poisons to kill a tapeworm and expectorants to encourage an infant to cough it up: "They like these delicious candy tablets and tease for them!")*

Miss Eva L. Tower, principal of the Center school, will take a vacation trip to Jamaica, the Panama canal and South America in company with a party of school teachers from New York.

The Christian Endeavor society held a lawn party on the grounds of the Congregational church last Wednesday evening.

Not a tenth part of the accidents caused by autos and motorcycles ever get a notice in print, as it is apparently not good form to exploit their escapades now.

L. N. Cushman of Springfield has leased the Colle opera house and reopened it for moving pictures.

**July 7, 1915**

A hail storm of some old time vigor in it, broke over the town Saturday morning. The stones came down thick and fast mostly as large as walnuts, hen's eggs, grape fruit, or any size that would fit the vision of the witnesses, mostly unused to such sudden coldness in June.

Some window panes were broken, and the owners of horses who were caught in it had to look out pretty sharp to guide against accident.

Miss Eleanor Murphy of Park street will leave July 9, for a two months trip to the Panama Pacific exposition.

Clifford Millar of Athol was drowned early Monday morning when an auto in which he was riding plunged into the canal. His wife was rescued by several persons who came to the rescue, but she died soon after in the Farren hospital. The son, C.W. Millar, who is principal of the Maynard High school, and his fiance, Miss Edna S. Locke, of Winchester, went into the canal in the auto but floated out.

The party had been on a trip over the Mohawk Trail and were returning by way of Springfield. Miss Locke was driving the car, and she turned to the right after crossing the lower suspension bridge, instead of going over the canal bridge also. The car went to the bottom of the canal.

The machine was raised Monday morning and was only slightly damaged. Mr. Millar said at Greenfield inquiry was made as to the correct way through Turners Falls, as none of the party was familiar with the road. They were told to take the first right hand road after crossing the suspension bridge.

Mr. Millar says they ran very slowly from Greenfield. Across the suspension bridge the machine could not have gone over seven or eight miles an hour.

Coming to the railway tracks Miss Locke at the wheel; turned to the right, supposing it was time to do so. They found themselves instantly falling. The machine slid directly into the water and did not overturn.

NOTICE - Whoever wants to do business with the Reporter office by telephone must not ask for any particular person. Half a dozen persons in the office are perfectly competent to take care of anything needed by telephone. Don't ask for the proprietor or anybody else. Just tell what you want, and your wishes will be complied with.

**July 5, 1916**

The state road to Montague City is to be treated to a coat of oil, or to attention of some kind, to judge by the piles of sand which were deposited along the road some time ago.

In spite of the amazing amount of rain which has fallen for the past couple of months, the dust blows in clouds upon the unholed streets and roads upon the least provocation.

Max Baker of Turners Falls was arraigned in the district court Fri-



*A log jam at the Narrows, circa 1910. Ed Gregory Archive.*

day, charged with collecting junk without a license. His case was continued for further hearing.

News has been received that Rudolph Lapalme, son of Mrs. Joseph Lapalme of Seventh Street, was killed in battle June 1, while fighting "somewhere in France." The young man left home several months ago, and joined one of the Canadian regiments who went to the front.

A younger brother, Henry, aged 19, who is also in the French army, was seriously injured some time ago, and is still confined in a hospital in France, near the firing line.

Mrs. J.P. Egan will entertain the King's Daughters on her lawn Wednesday afternoon, July 12<sup>th</sup>.

Contracts have been let and work is beginning at East Deerfield on extensive changes and additions in connection with the yards of the Boston and Maine railroad at East Deerfield. The contemplated work when completed will cost practically \$1,000,000. The McClallen farm recently sold by James McClallen to Charles C. Dyer is taken for the yard addition.

Repairs are being made on the tar and gravel roofs of the Bank block, the Gunn block and Dr. Messer's office building.

The Fourth of July celebration in this village was extremely quiet, especially "the night before." Not for year has the day we celebrate passed so serenely, while the night before, usually consecrated to noise and disturbance incarnate was about as quiet as a Sunday school picnic. It was an eminently sane Fourth, locally.

**July 4, 1917**

Beginning Monday morning the summer schedule on the street railway went into effect. There is now half hourly service between Greenfield and Turners Falls.

Contractor James H. Thomas

is doing the trenching and cement work preliminary to the installation of the new street lights on Avenue A and Third street. The portable cement mixer is attracting a lot of attention and certainly is a time saver in work of this kind.

George Holdsworth, son of Milton I. Holdsworth, who is in Troop 9 of the 21st regiment, United States calvary, stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas, is enjoying life in the army, and writes home very entertainingly of his doings.

John B. Willard and wife left last week in their new eight cylinder Oldsmobile to spend a few weeks at their summer home in New Hampshire.

The powers that be were slow to act, but at length the Welcome to Greenfield sign at the head of the mountain road to the shiretown is a distinct pleasure to look at, for the spelling of the word Massachusetts, which for so long defied all the conventions, has been corrected, and now is spelled in the orthodox, irrevocable, accepted manner. That extra "s" which was a hissing and a reproach and stuck up from the sign like a sore thumb, has been eliminated, and now the sign is unqualifiedly attractive.

One of the men connected with the circus that was in town last week, narrowly escaped serious injury, Thursday morning, and was severely burned in his bed at one of the hotels. The man denies he was smoking in bed.

Mrs. Josephine Foster of Seventh street has given several books in the French language to the library.

Bicycle riding on the sidewalks has at length become such an intolerable nuisance that the police are getting after the offenders and intend to stop the practice.

Every summer for years the Reporter has called attention to the constant law breaking by bicyclists

who persist in leaving the splendid streets, good enough for anybody to ride on, and take to the sidewalks, scaring innocent and unsuspecting pedestrians to death, and making it necessary to dodge constantly or else be run down. Riders who use the sidewalks should be summarily punished and have their wheels confiscated.

The flag recently purchased by the Montague village committee will be raised on the common tomorrow morning at nine o'clock. The Goddess of Liberty will unfurl the flag and there will be other patriotic exercises.

**July 2, 1919**

D.J. Shea, the energetic manager of the Opera house theatre, has bought a lot, 70 x 110 feet, on Avenue A, below the Hotel Vladish, where the school gardens now are, and inside of a month, work will be commenced on the erection there of a new moving picture theater building.

The erection of a new theatre will be appreciated by the moving picture patrons. The new theatre will have a splendid location and the disappearance of a vacant lot on our main street will be pleasant.

A lot of excitement and considerable grinning was in evidence shortly after noon, Saturday, when an automobile which had been left standing, unoccupied, in front of the American house, while the driver was in the hotel, started on a little joy ride of its own. Evidently the brakes had not been properly set by the driver when he left the car.

It ran across the street all by its lonesome, and at the corner of the Avenue, near the Martel pharmacy, it ran into the shade tree, bending it away over, while the engine of the car chugged away like mad till somebody came along and shut it off.

Mrs. Jane Annear of Riverside,

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better known by her host of friends as "Grannie," was given a surprise party at the home of her son, Richard Annear, last Thursday evening, in recognition of her 75th birthday. "Grannie," was indeed surprised, but was equal to the occasion and was the life of the party assembled to do her honor.

Guy Paris of Seventh street has had the entire piazza of his house screened in, thus making virtually an out-of-doors room which is much appreciated by the family, especially by Mrs. Paris who is recuperating from an appendicitis operation.

Postmaster A J. Crean has had ten new pillar mail boxes placed at various convenient points about town. This makes a total of 15 mail boxes now in use.

The soldier and sailor members of St. Mary's Temperance society, who have recently returned, after serving their country, were given a rousing welcome home by the society at the Montague inn, last Wednesday night. About 100 members attended this memorable reception and banquet, going to Montague Centre by special electric cars.

The service men were in uniform and the reception which preceded the banquet was given as if on board the good ship St. Mary.

**July 7, 1920**

Lake Pleasant promises to have a prosperous season. Every cottage in the place, with perhaps two exceptions, is rented and occupied.

The Grand Trunk hotel real estate on Avenue A has been sold by Landlord M. J. O'Keefe to William A. Davenport of Greenfield. Mr. O'Keefe drops out of the hotel business in which he has been successful, seeing little to encourage in the future, with four large hotels in the village, no bars, and a growing indisposition of the public to pay the cost of cooked victuals, decently served.

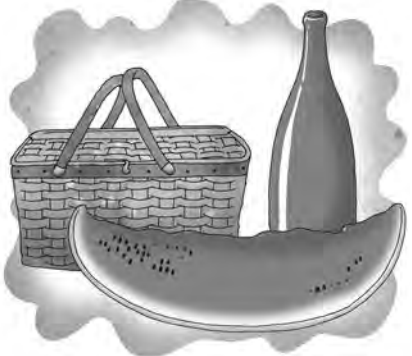
Ralph Lillie has been appointed deputy fire warden for the town of

Erving.

At the band concert last week, Herbert Barnes rendered a tuba solo, "The Mighty Deep," which was much appreciated.

The selectmen have posted warning notices about the villages as an invitation to bicycle riders to keep off the sidewalks.

The Polish society held a well attended picnic in the grove on the state road to Millers Falls, Monday.



Council No. 9 of the St. Jean Baptiste society will hold a large class initiation at Hibernian hall next Sunday afternoon at three o'clock.

Ferdinand Martineau, the well known carpenter and contractor, hurt his hand painfully, while at work on a coal bin in the Keith mill, Friday.

The Fourth of July celebration was eminently safe and sane this year and very little mischief or rowdiness was indulged in.

Three false fire alarms were rung in Sunday night, or Monday morning and brought out the fire truck in a jiffy, thus adding another note to the joyous din, and sending the firemen on wild goose chases.

The various hydrants in town have been tested by the fire department the past week. The small boys sprang from the earth for the occasion.

**July 6, 1921**

The burned up lawns and parched gardens responded wonderfully to the belated showers of blessing of the past week.

The Turners Falls Schuetzen

verein has received and released another consignment of pheasants from the State fish and game commission.

It took only about ten minutes for the half hundred voters present at last Thursday's special town meeting to dispose of the business.

The International Paper Co. mill here opened yesterday morning after having been closed since May 1. The mill opened in order to give the help who wished, a chance to return to work at an approximate cut of 21 per cent in wages, according to the officers of the locals of the International Brotherhood of Paper Makers and the Pulp and Sulphite Workers.

Fred Plimpton's mill, which has just run through the last log where it has been locked on a lot owned by Mr. Baker, is being moved down south of here, to another job near Pelham and Shutesbury. Plenty of help these times, any old job is better than starving.

Michael Conway and Joseph Pubala, two boys employed by the Corner Bookstore, received severe injuries while delivering the Sunday newspapers, Sunday morning, when their horse became frightened by a fire cracker and ran away, throwing both boys out of the cart. Michael had his wrist broken and Jacob broke a leg, and both were badly bruised and shaken up.

The graduating class of the High School presented their class advisor, Miss Florence Nelson of the faculty, with a silk umbrella in appreciation of her services.

Reverend T.H. Vincent will have for his sermon subject next Sunday morning "The Littleness of the Universe Compared with the Greatness of Man." It will be a sermon on astronomy.

The Fourth and the night before were very quiet in town, although "the kids" exploded about the usual amount of fire works. The intense heat seemed to have taken some of the ginger out of the celebration.

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**VULCANIZING DEPARTMENT**  
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**SHEA BROTHERS' GARAGE,**  
**Fourth Street, Turners Falls.**

*This ad ran in the July 7, 1920 edition of the Turners Falls Reporter.*

**OVERTURE ILLUSTRATION**

**Death Takes Veteran New England Publisher**

Cecil T. Bagnall, 72 years old, for nearly fifty years editor and publisher of the Turners Falls, Mass., Reporter, died at his home Sunday.

Mr. Bagnall was the editor of Turners Falls' first newspaper. He was born at Charlottestown, Prince Edward Island on April 15, 1850, and received his early newspaper experience and training in St. John, N.B.

Mr. Bagnall descended from a long line of printers, publishers and writers. In 1873 he and David Wood, a young lawyer, started the Providence, RI Sunday Dispatch, the first Sunday newspaper to be established in New England outside of Boston.

- The Fourth Estate, July 8, 1922

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**Turners Falls Herald**

VOLUME 1 - NUMBER 31 THE TURNERS FALLS HERALD, WEDNESDAY, JULY 2, 1941 COPY FIVE CENTS

**July 2, 1941**

Most of us in the Town of Montague have perhaps felt this town was "being neglected" in the matter of defense work. It is therefore encouraging to note that at least one local concern is at present actively engaged in producing materials vital to the program.

The Montague Machine company now is making parts for the machine tools to make the guns, tanks, and other equipment for the army and navy. Thus the part played by the local concern far exceeds the company's size.

Curiously enough, much of the defense output of the Avenue a shop is on order by bearing makers, yet lack of anti-friction bearings is today one of the "bottle-necks" of production not alone in the Montague Machine company, but in others.

The essential difference between production in World War and at present is speed.

The Montague district draft board registered 123 yesterday in the class of those who reached their 21st birthday since October 16.

The town of Montague committee of the United Service Organizations will have its preliminary organization meeting tonight at 7:30 in

the Legion rooms, Chairman Stuart Winch of Montague street announced today. Major William Nicol of the Salvation Army in Greenfield will be present to explain the work of the U.S.O.

The C.C.C. camps now seek additional enrollments from boys in the 17 to 23 1/2 age group, regardless of the economic status of their parents, James Morrison of L street, foreman of the Warwick CCC camp announced today. Previously, only youths for families on relief, or in low-income groups were admitted, he said.

There were 120 students in the high school with perfect attendance during the past year, Prin. George

F. Wrightson announced today. The freshmen class had the largest number, 44, while the sophomores had 33, juniors 24, and seniors, 19.

Turners Falls experienced a mild "spy scare" last week when a local motorist coming down the Mountain road from Greenfield noticed a "foreign-looking" man taking pictures of the No. 1 power station from the roadside. The suspicious character had a car with New York registration plates.

The local man hurried into town to report to police and to power company officials, but when they arrived at the scene, the stranger was gone.

John Sojka of K street has ob-

tained a position as inspector at the Greenfield Tap & Die plant.

The school committee voted unanimously to close the Old Eighth Street school building, and transfer students to the New Eighth building, last Friday.

There was much discussion on the proposed change. Supt. Arthur E. Burke explained that the rooms in the New Eighth had 10 windows, four more each than in the Old Eighth, and in addition offered better sanitary facilities.

The Turners Falls American Legion Junior baseball team already has won its first two games, and shows strong promise of copping the district championship.

Coach Francis Dolan has been whipping the boys into shape, so that the Legion Juniors are producing some fine ball players.

The bass-fishing season opened inauspiciously yesterday, poor weather conditions keeping many anglers from the river.

The best catch of the day was reported by Phil Casey of Third street, veteran angler who caught four good-sized bass in the channel at Deep hold. Frank "Sugar" Dlugosz of Fourth street who accompanied him caught one.

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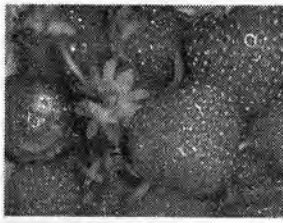
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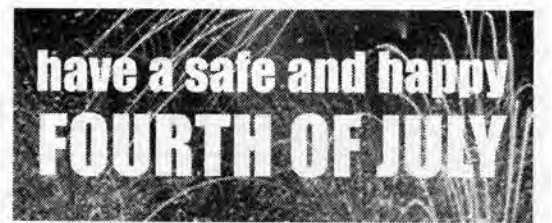




**ERVING WELCOMES**  
New Coordinator / Page 6



**STRAWBERRY FIELDS**  
Upingill / Page 3



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# The Montague Reporter

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THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JULY 3, 2003

## July 3, 2003

The schools dominated the warrant on Saturday, when Montague's annual town meeting reconvened at the Sheffield elementary school.

Meeting members were focused on keeping costs down. But one low-cost item that had been cut from the budget was added back in after an amendment proposed by Arthur Gilmore of Precinct 2 was unanimously approved: \$500 to help fund the Montague Community Band.

After investigating 110 Montague Street, police had a man transported to Franklin Medical Center for evaluation for heat exhaustion.

Four youths were caught trespassing on the Turners Falls High School grounds, Sunday night. Officers sent them on their way.



At Erving's special town meeting Monday, the town agreed to pay newly appointed administrative coordinator Thomas Sharp an annual salary of \$42,000.

During negotiations with Sharp, the selectboard determined his his credentials warranted a higher salary than the \$38,000 earmarked for the position at the annual town meeting.

The Montague selectboard awarded low bidder Bourgeois Construction of Westminster a \$41,460 contract for abatement and demolition of the two existing wooden residential structures at 66 Second Street, front and rear, as part of the alleyway improvements behind the Shea Theater.

Town administrator Frank Abbondanzio assured the board that once the tenants were evicted and the surrounding derelict wooden buildings demolished and removed, the remaining brick building would be an attractive commodity.

"We hope to give it away for a dollar," to whoever proposes the most viable plan to re-invest in the property and create jobs for the downtown, Abbondanzio said.

When the Turners Falls skate park closed this spring due to unsafe conditions, the youth of the community and their supporters including organizers Greg Ellis, Jeremy Latch, and Todd Seaman acted quickly to organize the first annual Montague Skate Park Benefit Concert on June 27 at the Shea Theater.

Opening the show was a premier of "Monumental," a video by local skateboarding hero Nate Jackson. It displayed exquisite skateboarding, and much humor. However, there were some homophobic lyrics in the background music, which skate park committee member Jeremy Latch addressed.

"Trying to fix the skate park is only one piece of this," he said. "We're also trying to create a positive place for us to live in."

The National Spiritual Alliance will sponsor a Psychic Fair from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at Thompson Temple, across from the Lake Pleasant post office. Spiritual consul-

tants use various oracular methods to obtain information for those who consult them.

It was a perfect evening on the lawn of the Masonic Lodge this past Monday, when the Montague Community Band took their show on the road to perform in Montague City. The concert was the perfect kick-off for a week of Fourth of July events around the county.

As the sun set slowly behind the Farren Hospital, the crowd sat on lawn chairs in whatever shade they could find and enjoyed the classic patriotic hits, as well as titles like "Dixieland Jamboree," songs from "The Music Man," and even a medley of tunes from "The Lion King."

## July 8, 2004

The results of the Civil Service police chief exam are in, and the news for Montague is good. All four of the department's officers who took the exam this year – acting chief Gary Billings, Detective Ray Zukowski, Chip Dodge, and Sergeant Chris Williams, passed. The selectboard has established a search committee to help them choose the new chief from among the potential candidates.

"It is really good news," Dodge said. "It shows the town we've got the ability within the department."

Billings cautioned people to take the good news with a grain of salt: "What the exam truthfully shows is how well you retain what you have read."

In 2003, seven Montague officers took the exam, but none passed.

The long-simmering dispute over the assignment of Montague's cable access television station roiled the surface of the selectboard meeting on July 6. The directors of Montague Community Cable, Inc., which operated the local access station for 11 years prior to Greenfield Community Television assuming control in 2001, asked the board to revisit the assignment and establish a fair and open process for choosing a provider.

Selectboard chair Pat Allen turned to John Reynolds, chair of the cable advisory committee, to ask if he thought his committee could handle an evaluation process.

"We could certainly do the initial spadework," Reynolds replied. "But we are looking for new members."

The recent opening of the Night Kitchen above the Montague Book Mill is cause for celebration. The restaurant opened its doors on June 16 in the space formerly occupied by the Blue Heron.



SANTOS PHOTO

The proprietors of the Night Kitchen, Peter Hitchcock and Max Brody, met while studying at the Culinary Institute of America. Brody explained they provide locally grown and locally produced foods whenever possible.

A loud party was reported along the railroad tracks near Federal Street in Montague, Thursday night. Several people were summonsed for trespassing.

Five Gill residents who live near a proposed for-profit paintball enterprise on Barney Hale Road appealed that town's planning board decision before the Franklin Superior Court on June 21.

According to Tupper Brown, one of the five, "This paintball operation is entirely out of character with the surrounding neighborhood... There is no commercial activity whatsoever in this neighborhood. A lot of effort has been made by the surrounding neighbors to keep it that way, with agricultural and conservation restrictions on their property."

An opening reception will be held this Friday at Pure Light Gallery, 37 Third Street for *Re: Work*. Industrial scrap materials and by-products donated by seven Montague manufacturers have been recycled into works of art by ten Valley artists. Call curator Nina Bander for more info.

Montague DPW foreman Tom Bergeron has been appointed to the post of acting superintendent, following the unexpected departure of Gary Kellaher.

The Brick House Community Resource Center is starting a "Brick House Brigade" to pick up litter in downtown Turners Falls, on Thursday afternoons for the foreseeable future.

## June 30, 2005

After years of neglect, the planters on Avenue A are beginning to bloom again. Numerous businesses and individuals have donated time and money toward the planters' upkeep.



JAMES DAMON PHOTO

It is great to travel down Avenue A and see more flowers and less weeds in most of the beds. The project is part of a streetscape improvement group that has been meeting bi-weekly at the town hall.

Six-tenths of a mile of Barney Hale Road will be paved with oil and stone, but the town of Gill will take time to consider the consequences before paving any more dirt roads. That compromise came from a lengthy, and sometimes heated, discussion at a special town meeting on June 27.

Gill-Montague superintendent of schools Sue Gee informed the school committee of the district schools' obligations to reveal student directory information to military recruiters, under terms of the No Child Left Behind Act.

The Montague selectboard met Monday at the Millers Falls Library, in its annual pilgrimage to the villages of Montague. To no one's surprise, the ongoing disputes over the Dry Hill Cemetery and the Powers Block buildings dominated the evening.

During the intense storm that blew through Western Mass on Wednesday afternoon, a 60-year-old white pine tree belonging to Gary Turn of Montague Center.

"It could have been worse," said Turn. "The tree landed where we usually park the car."

The Montague parks and recreation de-

partment's Summer Playground programs are underway. Lasting for eight weeks, children ages 3 to 14 can participate in athletics, arts and crafts, and other events at five different locations in town.

On June 26, enthusiastic Leverett residents gathered in the parking lot of the Village Co-Op to feast on homegrown strawberry shortcake, dance to the varied music of local bands, purchase locally-produced crafts and celebrate their community food co-op. With a "birds and bees" theme, this year's Spring Fling featured children showing off their handmade masks and puppets in a colorful and animated parade.

## June 29, 2006

Citizens at the Erving special town meeting voted Monday evening to spend \$800,000 in free cash and buy approximately 185 acres in two parcels on Old State Road from the estate of John Giniusz, and also buy back the conservation restriction on 6.78 acres, which will remain owned by the family.

A meeting in support of the community regarding recent violence in the Patch neighborhood of Turners Falls will be held on Thursday evening at the Parent Development Center on G Street.

Youth 15 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

On Tuesday, Gill police received a report of two youths hanging onto the buoy line in Barton Cove. The fire department was contacted and rescued them.

Deval Patrick, a Democratic candidate for governor, spoke at the Second Congregational Church in Greenfield to a packed crowd on Monday.



DETMOLD PHOTO

While the canalside section of the Montague bike path has been held up since last summer, construction has begun on the section of the bike path between Montague City Road and McClellan Farm Road in Deerfield.

This so-called "southern section" of the bike path, which will cross the Connecticut River on a former railroad trestle, is being built by Northern Construction Co. of Weymouth, who won the bid at \$1,616,692.

The Montague selectboard approved a five-year pretreatment discharge permit for Southworth Paper. Wastewater supervisor Bob Trombley said neither the town nor mill had requested changes in the permit formerly held by Esleek Manufacturing Company.

Trombley said, "So far, production is up," at the plant, "often at six days a week. They are looking at the pros of going to seven days a week in September."

Board member Allen Ross jokingly asked if the new owners had shown "any interest in buying [the] Strathmore."

The first annual Gill Farm and Garden tour on Sunday, sponsored by the Friends of Gill, allowed gardening aficionados to see some of the town's wonderful farms and gardens.

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**July 12, 2007**

Pinnie Sears of Dry Hill Road, who celebrated Independence Day at the Montague Center bonfire, is also celebrating her independence from hospital rehab after her unexpected fall while horseback riding a few months ago.

Sears credits her recovery from serious injury to the swift response of Montague volunteer firefighters, who were there within minutes of her call.

Former selectman Clarkson Edwards, up from North Carolina, exchanged how-dou-dos with members of the Congregational Church recently returned from sightseeing in Labrador, while Suzanne Kretzenger and other members of the Firemen's Relief Association toasted hot dogs on the grill.

On Saturday, June 23, the Turners Falls fire department and Montague police department held a benefit concert at the Schuetzen Verein grounds in Gill, to raise funds for the new Montague veterans memorial.

The music was provided by the Lonesome Brothers; Dad, Come Home; Nexus; and topped off by the Commander Cody Band.



LINDA HICKMAN PHOTO

Al Shane, curator of the Museum of Our Industrial Heritage, led a fascinating walk on Saturday, searching for artifacts at the site of the former John Russell Cutlery. Shane began his program inside the Great Falls Discovery Center.

He showed what types of artifacts can be found by the old foundation along the Connecticut River. Apparently, the workers threw defective items out the windows. He pointed to broken grindstones, and encouraged everyone to look for metal artifacts.

**July 10, 2008**



DETMOLD PHOTO

Jonathan Tanzer, 44, formerly of Chestnut Lane, was convicted for setting the fire that burned Building #10 at the Strathmore mill last year, was sentenced in Greenfield Superior Court on July 1 to twelve to fifteen years in state prison.

Debra Reynolds of Highland Avenue returned for a third time to speak with the Erving selectboard on June 30 about the problem of nuisance cats from the neighborhood disturbing her peaceful enjoyment of her home, and defacing her property.

The board, after consulting with town counsel, has decided to seek volunteers to serve on a nuisance animal committee, to see whether the town's newly adopted dog bylaw can be adopted to cover other nuisance pets.

Next Tuesday, the Erving Library welcomes two-time World Freestyle Frisbee Champion Todd Brodeur. Brodeur will demonstrate some tricks and games that everyone can try.

Wendell selectboard member Dan Keller

asked town coordinator Nancy Aldrich to draft a thank you letter to the person from Whitney Trucking who, on his own time and refusing to get paid, came with a metal detector and located the shutoff valves for the water to all of the town buildings.

This weekend the Country Players will bring Rogers & Hammerstein's classic musical *Oklahoma!* to the Shea Theater.

**July 9, 2009**

Construction and commissioning of the Montague police department's future quarters, including a state-of-the-art geothermal heating and cooling system, continues to be ahead of schedule and under budget, according to those involved with the project.

The new building, adjoining the Turners Falls fire station on Turnpike Road, was designed with energy efficiency as a top priority. Fire chief Raymond Godin attributed the decision to install geothermal systems in both stations to a number of factors. Environmental friendliness and minimized long-term costs were of particular concern.

The Greenfield Savings Bank formally broke ground on Tuesday on a \$2 million construction project for the bank's new branch office in Turners Falls.

The nearly two-acre lot, purchased by the bank from the Mackin family, was the former location of the so-called Romper Factory, where baby clothes were manufactured once upon a time.



DETMOLD PHOTO

Doors opened at La Bodega, a Latino convenience store, at 104 L Street on Sunday.

Proprietor Mark Canon, a truck driver for 15 years, says he has to open a bodega for a long time.

Gill police were notified Tuesday afternoon of a subject attempting to swim across the Connecticut River near the old bridge abutments in Riverside. The subject was later arrested by Montague police, once on shore.

Following a traffic stop, Montague police arrested a Brattleboro woman who allegedly drove her Subaru station wagon through one wall of Apollo Pools, on Unity Street, and out the other side, rupturing a gas line and causing extensive damage to the building.

She was charged with operating while under the influence of liquor, driving to endanger, leaving the scene of property damage, marked lanes violation, possession of a Class E drug, and motor vehicle lights violation.

**July 8, 2010**

This year was not a very good year for the Connecticut River Atlantic salmon program. Only 41 returning salmon were counted at the Holyoke dam.

Calling the Strathmore Mill the "linchpin of the downtown, and townwide, revitalization effort," Montague's new town planner, Walter Ramsey, sought and won selectboard backing for the town to apply for \$1.9 million in grant funding to remove obstacles to development at the mill complex.

Workmen are swarming over, under, and near the Turners Falls-Gill bridge. The switch to one-lane traffic on the bridge is imminent. Get used to it.

Erving fire chief Bud Meattay said his department had to climb to 1,600 feet fighting the Bear Loop forest fire in May. On Thursday, a special town meeting unanimously approved spending \$22,000 to purchase an all-terrain vehicle, trailer, and associated equipment to be used for search and rescue missions and forest fire fighting in mountainous terrain.

Governor Deval Patrick stopped last week at Unity Park and the Discovery Center to tout the gains of his job creation efforts and infrastructure improvements.

After his speech, the governor spent a few minutes talking with local residents, includ-

ing Montague Business Association president Chris Janke, who thanked the governor for his commitment to making the bridge project happen.



DETMOLD PHOTO

There are six weeks left to register racers for the Montague Soapbox Races. The track will be more difficult for all racers, as organizers have decided to add obstacles to the track. Please make sure your cart is sturdy, and has a low center of gravity.

Gill highway superintendent Mickey LaClaire said his crew had completed oil and stone work on town roads for the year, taking advantage of what he called good weather.

"Christmas in July" returns to Barton Cove at dusk on July 31. Many area boaters decorate their vessels with Christmas lights and parade the river near the old Red Bridge abutments, for the delight of viewers on the banks in Unity Park and Riverside.

**July 14, 2011**

Montague is one of just three towns in Franklin County to be awarded funds in a highly competitive round of Community Development Block Grant applications.

According to parks and recreation Jon Dobosz, the plan is to retire the ancient playground equipment in favor of "new swings, new play equipment, and a water spray element," perfect for weather like we are experiencing now.

There will be a "plant-pulling day" in and around Barton Cove in Gill on July 30. Participants will canoe to locations where invasive plants such as water chestnut have been found in previous seasons, and look for new infestations.

After pulling, there will be a gathering at the Great Falls Discovery Center where participants can relax and enjoy desserts.

Montague is examining the possibility of pumping wastewater from Millers Falls up to meet the existing lines that flow to its treatment plant, rather than continuing to send it under the Millers River to Erving.

The Wendell selectboard chose the name, "Wired Wendell," for the town's new "lighting plant." The authorization of a lighting plant is a means by which towns will join in the WiredWest consortium, in hope to achieve high-speed internet access for all residents who would like to have it.

Leverett is moving ahead with plans to dredge silt from the temporarily drained fire pond above the North Leverett dam, while the dam is under repair by owner Lance Curley.

The town hopes to get the Cave Hill Road bridge over the Sawmill River sandblasted and painted within the same 30-day window allowed for emergency repairs to the dam.



DETMOLD PHOTO

Kurt Richardson of Snow & Sons Landscaping, who has been working on the irrigation system that feeds the planters up and down Avenue A since the late 1980s, turned on water to new newly built taps on Wednesday.

"Each planter is individual in all kinds of ways, which I think reflects how Turners itself is eclectic," said Avenue A Gardeners coordinator Anne Jemas.

Melica van Steenburgh, who has owned and operated the Turners Falls Pizza House for the last 41 years, said she has never seen the Avenue looking so good.

**July 12, 2012**

On Saturday, Janel Nockleby, interpreter at the Great Falls Discovery Center, took about a dozen interested people on a tour of the Patch, the manmade island at the south end of Turners Falls.

She enlisted the aid of several former residents and locals familiar with the area in pointing out landmarks such as the Wells Foundry, the former grocery, candy and general stores, an axe forge, sawmill, and junk yard.

Ed Gregory, who grew up in the Patch, pointed out a candy store that once sported illegal slot machine and card games in the basement, providing the major source of the owner's prosperity.

The Connecticut River Bacteria Monitoring Program's new season is underway, with volunteers checking the river and tributaries for *E. coli*.

Next Tuesday, the Carnegie Library will throw a Prince and Princess Party.



JANEL NOCKLEBY PHOTO

As promised at the July 2 selectboard meeting, all three Montague selectboard members and town building inspector David Jensen participated in an experiment on July 6 to see just how accessible Turners Falls' buildings are for those using motorized wheelchairs.

This is the second time in the past decade resident Sandy Facto has organized a tour for the board to experience firsthand the difficulties wheelchair-bound residents face.

Lawrence Krejmas, owner of a Gill property that has been the subject of a protracted struggle with the board of health over the presence of junk materials and possible toxic spills, was back before the selectboard last week.

He began by apologizing for his behavior at a hearing six months earlier, where he saluted the board with a stiff-armed Nazi-style salute, and later threw a pill bottle in the general direction of the board.

"I was kind of harsh to you," Krejmas admitted.

**July 11, 2013**

The Montague selectboard was sorely tried having to face the sad news of further disintegration of underground transite piping at the intersection of Industrial Boulevard and Millers Falls Road.



PARZYCH PHOTO

For reasons still not clear, the original excavation to lay new PVC pipe by passing the transite pipe in the road did not measure at the expected depth of grade once completed. Sinkholes are forming in the vicinity of collapsed piping.

Brian Piela found a bumper crop of beer-drinking teenagers accidentally detoured and up to their axles in mud in his cornfield off Gill's Main Road in the wee hours of Sunday morning, June 30. He kept all 38 of them there until the state police arrived.

Piela said he suffered an unspecified amount of damage to his corn, but was philosophical about his loss. "This is their last summer together before going off to college," he said.

All summer long the Brick House will offer free workshops facilitated by community friends and neighbors. A fun focus this

see **HISTORY** page B8

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# Pet of the Week

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

Greetings, I'm Mister Peabody, an elegant older gentleman.

I am used to living with adults, and once we have socialized properly I will love you as dearly as I would love my own brother. I also get along well with other furry persons, of the feline variety.

Dogs are not my cup of tea. When I am not busy hard at working hunting down bugs or toys, a gentleman must have a hobby you know, I can often be found cuddling with someone special.

If I sound like a suit-



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## Senior Center Activities July 6 to 10

### GILL and MONTAGUE

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

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

All fitness classes are supported by a grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Voluntary donations are accepted. Council on Aging Director is Roberta Potter. Kitchen Manager is Jeff Suprenant. For more information, to make meal reservations, or to sign up for programs call 863-9357. Messages can be left on our machine when the Center is closed.

#### Monday 7/6

10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise  
1 p.m. Knitting Circle

#### Tuesday 7/7

9:30 a.m. Mat Yoga (subscription)

10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga

#### Wednesday 7/8

10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise  
Noon Birthday Lunch  
12:45 p.m. Bingo

#### Thursday 7/9

9 a.m. Tai Chi,  
Veteran's Outreach  
10 a.m. Coffee & Conversation  
Noon Lunch  
1 p.m. Pitch & Five Crowns

#### Friday 7/10

10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise

### LEVERETT

For information, contact the Leverett COA at (413) 548-1022, ext. 5, or [coa@leverett.ma.us](mailto:coa@leverett.ma.us).  
Flexibility and Balance Chair Yoga – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall. Drop-in \$6 (first class free).  
Senior Lunch – Fridays at noon.

Call (413) 367-2694 by Wednesday for a reservation.

### 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 congregating meals.

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

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

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

#### Monday 7/6

9 a.m. Tai Chi  
10 a.m. Osteo Exercise

11:30 a.m. Congregate Lunch

6:30 p.m. Circus Arts

#### Tuesday 7/7

8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics

10 a.m. Stretching & Balance

11:30 a.m. Sandwich Tuesday

12:30 p.m. Painting Class

#### Wednesday 7/8

8:45 a.m. Line Dancing

10 a.m. Chair Yoga

11:30 a.m. Congregate Lunch

12:15 p.m. Bingo & Snacks

#### Thursday 7/9

8:45 a.m. Aerobics

10 a.m. Healthy Bones

11:30 a.m. Congregate Lunch

#### Friday 7/10

9 a.m. Bowling

11:30 a.m. Pizza, Movie & Snacks

### 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.

## MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

# Spotlight Series: Valerie Magoon

*This piece is the first in a series highlighting the people who create and drive the programming you see on MCTV.*

A few years ago Montague native Valerie Magoon was having problems with her own video camera and wandered into the MCTV studios to see if someone could help her figure out what the problem was.

That first chance meeting led to a great ongoing working relationship between the actress and the station.

Originally from the area, Val left for a number of years to pursue her dreams in Los Angeles. She worked in casting as well as acting, landing a part in Boston Legal (her stage name is Val Vaile if you want to look her up).

She missed home though and the industry was changing making a move possible. In 2012 she happily returned to the Valley. "Believe it or not, there is a lot of work out here. I'm able to stay



connected to the industry in Boston and have a steady stream of print and commercial work," Val says.

Val decided to create her own program, *Val's Valley Views*, because she wanted to showcase all the great, fun things folks are up to in the area.

She loves the outdoors with her most recent episode focusing on paddle boarding in Barton Cove. "What's great about what we've

shot is that not only is it fun to watch, but you can learn how to do it from watching the episode."

Val worked with cinematographer Owen Weaver who set up his tripod in waist-high water to capture all the action. Currently in editing, the program will be available shortly.

Val has lots of ideas for future episodes including shooting on the *Quinnetukut II*, Northfield Mountain's 44-seat riverboat on which she is a tour interpreter. "We are looking at doing pirate-themed excursions. How fun would that be to film?!"

The first episode of Val's Valley Views showcased the 10th Annual Family Fish Day hosted by the Great Falls Discovery Center in Turners Falls held on June 6.

Keep an eye out for new programming monthly from Val. You can also follow what she is up to on Twitter or [Instagram@vaile-daisy](https://www.instagram.com/vaile-daisy).

## THE HEALTHY GEEZER

# The Scoop on Bruising

JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION



By FRED CICETTI

*Q. I've been getting bruises lately and I can't remember hurting myself. Should I see a doctor?*

A tendency to bruise easily is common when you age. It's especially common among women.

A bruise – also known as a contusion – occurs when the tiny blood vessels under your skin break after being struck. When you bruise, the blood leaks under the skin and leaves a black-and-blue mark.

The harder the impact, the bigger the bruise. As the blood is reabsorbed by your body, the bruise goes away.

You can enhance healing by elevating the injury and applying a cold pack for a half-hour at a time for a day or so after you are injured. After there is no swelling, a warm compress can accelerate reabsorption.

Blood-thinning medications can contribute to bruising. So you might bruise more easily if you take Plavix or Coumadin.

Aspirin will have a similar effect. The thinners allow more blood to pool under your skin. So, if you're taking one of these drugs, what seems like a harmless bump

against a coffee table could lead to a nasty bruise.

Some dietary supplements can thin your blood, too. Be careful if you are consuming more than normal amounts of fish oil, ginkgo, ginger and garlic.

It's easier to bruise if your skin is thin. With age, your skin becomes thinner and loses some of the fat that protects your blood vessels. Corticosteroids are known to make your skin thinner, so these drugs can make you more bruise-prone.

Aging capillaries contribute to bruising, too. Over time, the tissues supporting these vessels weaken, and capillary walls become more fragile and prone to rupture.

There is a special type of bruising known as "Bateman's purpura," which usually is seen on the back of the hands and forearms. Unlike everyday bruises, the bruises you get with Bateman's purpura are not tender and last longer. They start out red and become purple. They darken and then, in time, fade. They can last for weeks.

This condition, also known as "actinic purpura," is usually seen in seniors. It is caused by blood-vessel walls that have been weakened by years of exposure to the sun. In addition, the skin is sun-damaged and thin.

Daily application of alpha hydroxyacid lotions to the skin have been shown to increase skin thickness up to 15 percent in patients with sun-damaged thin skin. This

occurs through the stimulation of collagen production, the skin's natural support protein. For women, the hormone progesterone in lotion may also help.

Most bruises are not a cause for concern, but you should have bruising checked by a doctor if you are experiencing the following: unusually large or painful bruises, bruises that seem to have no cause, abnormal bleeding elsewhere, sudden bruising after beginning a medication.

These symptoms may mean that you don't have enough platelets in your blood. Platelets help your blood to clot.

You can take steps to prevent bruising from falls and collisions. Here are some:

- Always hold the handrails on stairways.
- Don't stand on a chair to get to something.
- Clear floors where you walk.
- Mount grab bars near toilets, tubs and showers.
- Place non-skid mats, strips, or carpet on all surfaces that may get wet.
- Put night lights and light switches close to your bed.
- Tack down all carpets and area rugs.
- Close cabinet doors and drawers so you won't run into them.
- 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 & 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**

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope*. Hands-on environmental experience for young children, 3-6 years. 10:30 - 11:30 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.

**EVERY WEDNESDAY**

Great Falls Farmers Market, Turners Falls: Fresh produce, plants, crafts, etc. 2-6 p.m.

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**

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

The People's Pint, Greenfield: *Derek Bridges*, live acoustic

guitar, 7 p.m.

The Pioneer Tavern, Millers Falls: *TNT Karaoke*, 8:30 p.m.

**EVERY FRIDAY**

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

**EXHIBITS:**

The Art Garden, Shelburne Falls: *On My Mind, Teen Art Exhibit*. Organized by teens for teens. Through 7/9.

Avenue A Storefront Galleries, Turners Falls: *Aliena Animali*. Strange Beasts, Sci-Fi Figments, Monsters and Bio-Hybrids. Artists Rob Kimmel, Bruce Kahn, Sophie Artgetsinger, Gary Smith, Darrin Martin, & Torsten Zenas Burns. Runs through 7/20.

Deerfield Arts Bank: S. Deerfield: *JUST VISITING: Chirico Was Here*. Still-lives by Ron Chirico. Opening reception is 7/2 at 6 p.m. Chirico, who is also a published writer will do a reading on 7/9 on drinking and swearing at 7 p.m. Art show runs through 7/30.

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Great Hall Art Display, Invasive Water Chestnut in Ceramics: Explorations of a Nemesis* by Karen Jean Smith. Exhibit runs through July 31.

Little Big House Gallery: Shelburne: *Lines Lines Lines Lines Lines & More Lines*. New pencil and ink drawings as well as Da'Muse wire figures and layered sculptures of Glenn Ridler. Through 10/18.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Cool Cats*. Highlighting the work of Montague painter Christine Mero, the show also includes paintings by Donna Estabrook and N. S. Koenings, with sculpture, toys, and other items by Nina Rossi, Peggy Hart, Edite Cunha, Belinda Lyons Zucker and others. All cats, all the time. Through 7/18.

Sawmill River Arts, Montague: *Hot Stuff*. Members summer show. Through 8/31.

Shelburne Arts Co-op, Shelburne Falls: *Here, There, and Everywhere*. Oil, Watercolor, and Egg Tempera paintings by Edith Bingham. Reception 7/11, 7 p.m. Through 7/27.

**CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:**

Sawmill River Arts, Montague Center: Seeking artists for cooperative gallery featuring fine arts and crafts. For more information see [www.sawmillriverarts.com](http://www.sawmillriverarts.com).

Wendell Free Library invites artists to submit applications for two-dimensional work to exhibit in the Herrick Meeting Room gallery. Applications accepted at any time. See [www.wendellmass.us](http://www.wendellmass.us)

Poetry Reading featuring Jeff Friedman and Dzvinia Orlosky. 7 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Roosters*. Classic Rock Dance Music. 8 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 3**

Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge, MA: *3 Day Extravaganza to Celebrate the 4th*. Events to include firing a new cannon, and New Citizen Ceremony.

The Brick House, Turners Falls: *Zzones, Jobs, and Home Body*. All ages / substance free space, 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Drew Paton's 1940's Hit Parade*, 7 p.m. *SHOKAZOBA* (afro-funk), 9:30 p.m.

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

**SATURDAY,**

**JULY 4**

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Special July 4th Holiday Bike Path Bingo!* Canal-side Rail Trail Nature Walk for Kids. 10:30 a.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Backyard Bash - music by Escape Route with "Smilin' Steve"*. Dance-able high energy classic rock. Outdoor party with 4th of July surprise. 9 p.m.

**SUNDAY, JULY 5**

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *River Rambles - Canal-side Rail Trail Nature and History Walks*. 10a.m.

Beacon Field, Greenfield: *Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks*.

Rain date 7/6. Music starts at 4 p.m. Fireworks begins 9:35 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Lexi Weege*. Jazzy blues. 8 p.m.

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

**MONDAY, JULY 6**

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Junior Rangers*. Young naturalists, ages 8-11, can earn their Junior Rangers Patch from the Mass. Parks. 2 p.m.

The People's Pint, Greenfield: *Karaoke with TNT Karaoke*, 9 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JULY 7**

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kidleidoscope*. This week is bobcats! See description of activity under ONGOING. 10.30 a.m.



Ron Chirico's still lifes can be seen at the Deerfield Arts Bank through July 30, with an opening reception Thursday, July 2 at 6 p.m. Chirico is also a writer with two books out presently: *Damn! A Cultural History of Swearing in Modern America*, and *Field Guide to Cocktails*, and will give a reading on July 9.



Ambient math rock band Jobs, formerly known as killer BOB, come to the Brick House in Turners Falls this Friday, July 3 at 8 p.m. Home Body, ZZONES and Bryan Gillig join them.

Loot, Turners Falls: *Save a Painting and Help a Dog*. Call for artists to pick up paintings at Loot and add a "creature" to the painting. Submissions due by 8/15, and paintings will be auctioned off on 9/19 at Loot. All proceeds will go to the Franklin County Dog Shelter in Montague.

**EVENTS**

**THURSDAY, JULY 2**

Coop Concert Series, Greenfield: *Jenny McAvoy, Kathy Sylvester, Boyz of the Landfill with Mike Pattavina*. At the Greenfield Energy Park. 6 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *The Falltown String Band*, 7 p.m.

Mocha Maya, Shelburne Falls: *The Collected Poets Series*.

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Thursday, 7/9 - 8 p.m. The Equalites

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(No quiz this month: back 1st Monday in August.)

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**THURSDAY, JULY 9**

Coop Concert Series, Greenfield: *Lexi Weege. Strawberry Afternoon*. 6 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Surly Temple and Friends*. Special Guest Hillary Chase. 8 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 10**

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Great Falls Coffeehouse: Falltown String Band*. 7 p.m.

Brick House, Turners Falls: *PWR RTLZ, Azfarat, and Rebel Base*. All ages, sub free space, 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Barrett Anderson*. Hypno-boogie blues. 9 p.m.

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**HISTORY** from pg B5

summer is a cooking series, most of which will be taught in English with a Spanish translator.

Sacred Heart / White Eagle Society will host their annual Polka Mass, Chicken Barbeque, and Dance on July 21, at the White Eagle Picnic Grounds in Greenfield.

Nearly 40 Montague residents, many of them Greenfield Road abutters, attended a public hearing regarding proposed reconstruction of that road.

Newly-elected selectman Michael Nelson, who lives on Greenfield Road, said that although he was going to lose a small amount of land, he was absolutely supportive of the project.

Two men, ages 19 and 22, were arrested and charged with eleven counts of breaking and entering into motor vehicles on Chestnut Lane early Sunday morning.

**July 3, 2014**



On Monday evening, residents of Wendell and New Salem packed the hearing room at the Wendell town offices to strategize about saving the town center Wendell Post Office.

This citizen action is in response to a letter and survey the USPS mailed to town residents, asking whether they preferred the post office closed or the hours cut.

Montague residents will join others from towns across Massachusetts to march against a proposed natural gas pipeline on July 13. The proposed pipeline would carry natural gas, mostly produced in Appalachia by hydraulic fracturing or "fracking," through Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts.

After eight confirmed suicides from or at the French King Bridge in the last five years, and reports of up to nine more "possible jumpers" in the same time span, Gill selectboard chair Randy Crochier said he believes it is time to take action to prevent more loss of life.

"I'm just tired of people using that bridge to jump off of," said Crochier on Monday.

Dr. Scott Key of the C.S. Lewis Study Center in Northfield will speak on "Values of a Christian Higher Education" on Wednesday at Our Lady of Czestochowa Church in Turners Falls.

On June 23 a company with the name Ruserious, LLC, a partnership between John McNamara and Erin MacLean, owners of the downtown shop Loot, and long-time Montague resident Steven Vogel, bought the three-story building at 102 Avenue A, on the corner of Third Street.

MacLean said that their plans for the building are "evolving and organic," but that the first floor will again be occupied by a retail business, and that the top two floors will be rehabbed for residential use.

Ann Fisk of Montague Center came before the selectboard to request a more consistent policy regarding the use of the village's common. She noted that in some cases a permit is required while in other instances, such as the annual May Day festival, none was issued.

Fisk stated that the town should either "dispense with the process," or require a permit of everyone. The board seemed favorable to the latter option, but took no vote.

**July 2, 2015**

The Turners Falls fire department responded to an apartment fire at Bridge Street in Millers Falls on Tuesday. The building was saved, but one resident will need to stay elsewhere.

Erving's administrative coordinator Tom Sharp announced at the June 29 special town meeting that he is retiring as of July 10. Sharp has worked for the town for 12 years.

Sharp told the meeting he was "ready to close this chapter of [his] life." He said that he was leaving behind a town with an active selectboard, a great town hall staff, a strong volunteer committee network, and able police and fire chiefs.

The special town meeting approved an article expressing opposition to Kinder Morgan's Northeast Direct pipeline, opposing any pipeline in Erving carrying natural gas obtained through fracturing, and instructing the selectboard to obtain voter approval before making future decisions concerning the proposed pipeline or compressor station.

After the article passed by majority voice vote, the crowd erupted in delighted shouts and clapping.

This Friday, July 3 at 10 a.m., Dr. Ganisher Abbasov invites the public to a Grand Opening for America Agro AGD, his new business at the former Stewart's Nursery, 135 Millers Falls Road in Turners Falls.

Dr. Abbasov will be selling ready-made hydroponic gardening systems, perfect for your apartment or balcony (just add water) or to be placed directly upon the earth. These will be available for \$15 to \$25 and feature tomatoes, basil, peppers, petunias, or gladiolas, all bearing fruit or flowers.

He has grown a copious quantity of basil with the technique, which he also offers at a cost of \$2 for 2 1/2 ounces.

At 10:30 a.m. on the Fourth of July, the



Great Falls Discovery Center will host a Holiday Bike Path Bingo nature walk for kids and their parents. Bring bug spray and sunscreen!

From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the Fourth, the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association will host re-enactors from the Stone Soul Peter Brace Brigade and the Mass. 54th Colored Troops of Springfield, who will camp on the lawn of Deerfield's Memorial Hall Museum. The theme is the Civil War and the progress for African Americans that followed it.

Rifle, cooking, dance, song and drum demonstrations will be followed by a free concert at 3 p.m. by the Westmoreland, NH Town Band. Activities are free to the public.

On Sunday, July 12, there will be an artist's reception given at Leverett Crafts and Arts for Lisa Winter, whose sculptures and paintings are exhibited through the month of July. The free event will run from 4 to 6 p.m. Refreshments will be served.



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