



# The Montague Reporter

YEAR 12 – NO. 36

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

JUNE 26, 2014

LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

## Brazeau Says He'll Resign From Board

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

Rich Brazeau, recently re-elected chair of the Leverett selectboard, told his fellow board members on Tuesday evening, June 24, that he is going to resign from the board of selectmen in April.

A visibly upset Brazeau said he "was really stressed about things." "This is very difficult," he said, "but I need to look out for myself."

In explaining why he had decided to resign, he cited a letter that appeared in this newspaper from Nancy and Brian Emond criticizing his views on the cell phone tower setback issue. "That was the final straw," he said.

The letter from the Emonds in the June 5 issue accused Brazeau of being "outright disrespectful" of a selectboard-appointed committee charged with determining the best siting for cell towers.

After the letter appeared, the Emonds sent a correction to *The Reporter* printed on June 12 in which they retracted their remarks regarding Brazeau. The Emonds wrote: "In last week's *Montague Reporter*, we attributed comments regarding the cell tower committee bylaw in

see LEVERETT page A4

## The Last of the Salmon In The Sawmill River?



DANIEL MCCORMACK PHOTO

*The salmon appeared to be seriously injured.*

By JEFF SINGLETON

**MONTAGUE CENTER** – As the United States was playing Portugal to a draw in its World Cup soccer match on July 22, an adult salmon was discovered in the Sawmill River near Montague Center.

Ironically, this was the first spring in many years the river was not stocked as part of the Connecticut River Watershed Salmon Restoration program. The federal program is being phased out due to the low numbers of returning fish.

The salmon was discovered by David Lovelace, the former owner of the bookstore at the Montague Bookmill building on Turners Falls Road.

Lovelace, who ran the bookstore during the 1990s, said he could not recall seeing a returning fish of this size in the river. That view was repeated by a number of residents in Montague Center.

The salmon was over three feet

long, and appeared to be seriously injured. It was lying on its side at the edge of a deep pool just below the mill.

According to Ben Letcher, a researcher at the Conte Anadromous Fish Laboratory in Turners Falls, returning salmon often spend summers in cool pools before continuing upstream to spawn in the fall.

Letcher, who lives in Montague Center, was alerted to the presence of the salmon. He in turn notified Ken Sprinkle of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Sunderland, who examined the fish the next day.

Sprinkle observed that it was in a "poor state," with a number of wounds on its belly. He speculated that the animal might have been injured trying to get over the Holyoke dam, or swimming upstream over rocks.

Sprinkle said that the fish was probably stocked in 2010,

see SALMON page A4

## Paper Trail Reveals Gas Industry Lawyer Guided States' Strategy On Tariff To Fund Pipelines

By MIKE JACKSON

**NEW ENGLAND** – Documents obtained by the Conservation Law Foundation (CLF) under the Freedom of Information Act paint a picture of private industry interests shaping the New England States Committee on Electricity (NESCOE)'s strategy for bringing new natural gas pipelines to the region.

Though NESCOE apparently operates under the mandate of the executive branches of the six New England states, its executive director Heather Hunt stated in April that it would not cooperate with the CLF's FOIA requests, as it is "not subject" to public records law. The CLF says the state of Massachusetts has also not provided any requested documents.

On Tuesday, the CLF released a set of 44 emails and attached documents provided to them by the states of Maine and New Hampshire. These provide the public with a look inside what has at times been an opaque technical and policy discussion.

NESCOE has driven the states' positions on natural gas. One set of emails shows Hunt, a former Vice President of Regulatory Policy at

Southern Connecticut Gas, providing talking points in support of increased gas pipeline and hydroelectric transmission capacity to the respective heads of the state utilities departments, including Massachusetts DPU head Ann Berwick.

### A Private Call For A Public Mechanism

Another shows the genesis of NESCOE's proposal to clear up winter market bottlenecks in gas delivery to the region's electricity producers by placing a tax, or tariff, on electricity, and guaranteeing the proceeds to one or more pipeline companies, which have previously been unable to elicit firm commitments on the free market.

On September 13, 2013, Maine Public Utilities Commission (PUC) chairman Tom Welch received an eight-page white paper written by Anthony Buxton of the law firm Preti Flaherty, a longtime registered lobbyist and industry lawyer who represents Maine's Industrial Energy Consumer Group.

This paper argued that "[a] mechanism is needed to aggregate customer demand, so that an

see NESCOE page A5

## Two Arrested In Downtown Drug Bust

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

**TURNERS FALLS** – While many folks were in downtown Turners Falls last Thursday to enjoy RiverCulture's Third Thursday arts walk event, the Montague police, along with members of the state police and the Northwestern District Anti-Crime Task Force, were there to raid at least two apartments at 15 Fifth Street in search of drug dealers.

The raid, coordinated by Montague detectives John Demspey, who is also a member of the task force, and Sergeant Lee Laster began about 7 p.m.

██████████, who lived in the building, was arrested on charges of possession with intent to distribute heroin; conspiracy to violate the Controlled Substance Act; possession of cocaine, and possession of heroin.

Also arrested was

██████████. She was charged with possession of heroin and being knowingly present where heroin is.

A 4-year-old girl in ██████████'s apartment was also taken into protective custody by the Department of Children and Families.

DCF spokesperson Cayenne Isaksen confirmed that the child was currently under the protection of the agency

but could not give specific details.

According to Mary Carey, of the Northwestern District Attorney's Office, the raid yielded 19 bags of heroin, several unidentified pills, nineteen wax bags containing a brown powder, a plastic bag containing an off-white powder, and \$59 in cash.

In addition, she said, the police seized two ledger books that were alleged to have been used to keep records of drug transactions.

██████████ was originally held on \$10,000 bail and ██████████ on \$5,000 bail but at their arraignments on June 20 ██████████'s bail was set at \$500 bail and ██████████'s at \$100.

As of press time, ██████████ had not yet posted bail; ██████████ had and was released. Both are due back in court on July 1 for a pre-trial conference.

Montague police chief Charles Dodge said that the building was well known to the police and that the investigation had been going on for some time.

He described the residence, owned by Matthew



SAWYER-LAUCANNO PHOTO

*"They got 19 bags of heroin the other night. If they'd gone in the day before, there might have been 350," said police chief Charles Dodge.*

Robinson of Turners Falls, as a combination of very small apartments and single-occupancy-rooms.

Dodge said the bathrooms are shared by residents: "I don't think most people live there for very long."

Reflecting on the relatively small amount of heroin seized, Dodge said that "timing of a raid" was always a factor. "They got 19 bags of heroin the other night. If they'd gone in the day before, there might have been 350 bags there."

While Dodge said he could not specifically comment on the supply source, he said that most of the heroin in our area comes through either Springfield or Holyoke.

see BUST page A3

## Post Office Cutback Proposal Realigning Stars for Wendell?

By JONATHAN von RANSON

The Wendell Center Post Office and its postmaster, Charlie O'Dowd, are among the happy elements in a renaissance launched a couple of decades ago – from what was already, perhaps, a renaissance. Patti and the pub would be another example. Donna at the country store. Rosie and the library, a major reawakening in itself. Our great selectboard. Alex, Matt and the WRATS.

The music, pot and potluck scenes of the '70s and '80s epitomized the underlying renaissance. The Full Moon Coffeehouse, highly focused town meetings, Route 2 struggle, smiles and hugs, random political audacity. But "Charlie at the post office" – the two elements

are inseparable, like he is the post office, and it's terrific.

These are subjective observations, of course. More objective is that the post office's role in Wendell life and spirit – not to mention its mailing function – is in jeopardy. The U.S. Postal Service has "proposed" changes, but with an air of seeming, budget-driven inevitability.

A chilling demotion seems to have happened even before a public hearing on the matter scheduled for Tuesday, July 8 at 1 p.m. in the Wendell Town Hall.

This all despite the semi-regional role the thriving post office plays, particularly since Shutesbury and Wendell Depot recently lost their postmasters and began reduced hours, and Millers Falls lost its office entirely. Customers

come from all four directions, including New Salem, where there's only limited postal services at its store.

Profound organizational changes, O'Dowd said, explain what's going on. "The USPS is committed most to its hubs: Athol, Orange, Amherst, Turners."

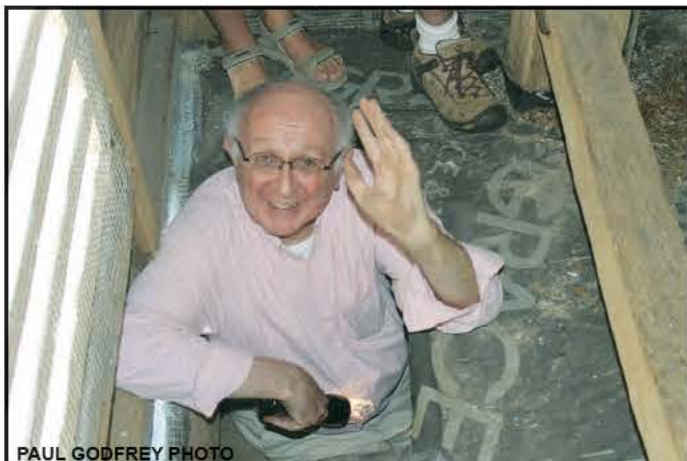
He said small-town offices like Wendell's are in the USPS's sights for replacement and consolidation. They're a burden as Congressional budget and policy decisions shrink the agency's wherewithal and – some think – force it on a downward spiral to privatization.

"The push now is for 'community post offices,'" he said, "reaching out to businesses like grocery stores, banks and so forth to become outlets of postal products. There's one at the new general store in Irving, where Country Kitchen used to be.

"That way, the post office doesn't own the building, doesn't pay utilities, there are no post office people there. Give them a contract, they do the work."

The climate in Congress is blowing winds of change into communities like Wendell. It means traveling farther and farther for services, and the loss of points of community contact.

see WENDELL page A6



PAUL GODFREY PHOTO

*O'Dowd climbs into the belfry of the Wendell Meeting House during a visit and bell-ringing last Old Home Day.*



# The Montague Reporter

*"The Voice of the Villages"*

**Editor in Chief**  
Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno

**Layout**  
Christopher Carmody

**Distribution Manager**  
Don Clegg

**Technical Administration**  
About Face Computing

Patricia Pruitt, Associate Editor  
Mike Jackson, Managing Editor  
Suzette Snow-Cobb, A&E Editor

**Editorial Assistants**  
Hugh Corr  
Gloria Kegeles

*Founded by*  
Arthur Evans   Harry Brandt   David Detmold  
August, 2002

## A Humanitarian Response Needed For A Humanitarian Crisis

The United States has a better than decent track record of responding to humanitarian crises. We've generally been among the first to send aid to countries afflicted with natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes and drought.

We've even pledged \$1.7 billion to help victims of the ongoing conflict in Syria. If tornadoes or hurricanes devastate American towns and cities, aid is nearly unlimited. All this is as it should be.

We seem, however, to be ignoring a major humanitarian crisis taking place in the Rio Grande valley.

The number of children, mostly from Central America, attempting to reach the U.S. has doubled each year since 2010. According to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), just this year alone between 60,000 and 80,000 children will seek safe haven on our soil. Immigrant rights agencies put the number even higher.

Older teenagers have often attempted to enter our border, and while they still do, children as young as four, with notes pinned to their t-shirts listing a name or phone number or address of a relative in the United States, are now turning up at the border.

A report issued by the South Texas Civil Rights Project states that more than 100 children are being detained daily. Among these are children as young as nine or ten years old carrying even younger children, some only a few months old.

How many have died en route, or how many are stranded in Mexican border towns, is not known. What is fact is that the numbers of those being detained are at record highs.

Border Patrol statistics state that 47,017 unaccompanied children under 18, traveling without a parent or guardian, were taken into custody just between October 1, 2013 and May 31, 2014.

Regardless of one's perspective on immigration, this situation is horrifying, and most definitely constitutes a humanitarian crisis.

To be sure, the causes of this migration are complex and need to be addressed, but the U.S. also has an obligation to ensure that those who have crossed the border, particularly children, are treated humanely. This is not the

case.

Many of these children have been abused while in the custody of US Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

So widespread are the cases of maltreatment that on June 11 the National Immigrant Justice Center, the ACLU Border Litigation Project, Americans for Immigrant Justice, Esperanza Immigrant Rights Project, and the Florence Immigrant and Refugee Rights Project filed a complaint with the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, as well as the DHS Office of Inspector General, on behalf of 116 children.

According to a report from the National Immigrant Justice Center, "Children detained by CBP across the country have reported scores of examples of verbal, sexual and physical abuse; prolonged detention in squalid conditions; and a severe lack of essential necessities such as beds, food, and water."

"The complaint describes Border Patrol agents denying necessary medical care to children as young as five-months-old, refusing to provide diapers for infants, confiscating and not returning legal documents and personal belongings, making racially-charged insults and death threats, and strip searching and shackling children in three-point restraints during transport.

"Reports of such abuse have been documented and reported for years, but no reforms have been implemented, nor have any actions been taken to hold agents accountable."

The complaint's full text can be read at [www.immigrantjustice.org](http://www.immigrantjustice.org).

The response in Washington and from border state governors has not been focused on the plight of these children but on bolstering border security, detention and deportation.

Texas Governor Rick Perry's solution to the problem, for instance, is to spend \$1.3 million a week for a "surge" by the Texas Department of Public Safety to round up undocumented kids.

DHS says it is rushing to build new detention centers, and is busy ordering electronic monitoring devices to slap on kids who may be temporarily released.

The Obama administration



## Letters to the Editors

### Hospital Article A Disservice

I worked as a nurse (now retired) for 48 years, the last 35 in the ER. I know well the potential ills of medical care and hospitalization. Writing about one's experience as Joe Parzych did is not only of little value to the general public, it is a grave disservice!

First off, most obvious in his failure to grasp what he may have intended (hopefully) to communicate by writing such a piece in a public forum is his use of words like "jab," "shoving," and "plunged." While that is what it may feel like, it serves no one, including himself, under these circumstances. (And that is what doctors do: poke and prod; they are not magicians.)

Secondly, at least some of his report cited the unfortunate side effects of therapy – for example, the abdominal injections to obviate the formation of blood clots. He portrayed

these as medical defects, errors, incompetence, or mistakes.

The general public lacks information in sorting out these facts, and therefore the logical deduction is conceived as another medical blunder, failure, or shortcoming, when in fact what he described simply "goes with the territory," the "nature of the beast."

I have no doubt that Mr. Parzych has very legitimate complaints. His rightful, respectful, and just response to his perceived experience would best be written, and then shared with those involved, every step of the way.

That is how things will begin to improve – surely not by misleading, misinforming and misdirecting the public.

Mary Kay Mattiace  
Turners Falls

### Best Wishes

Joe Parzych is the best! His writing always interests and informs, whether it's about a D9 Caterpillar or a stay in the hospital.

May he recover his strength and health very soon. He obviously has not lost his mental faculties!

Peter D'Errico  
Leverett

#### The Montague Reporter

seeks writers to cover local board meetings. Modest compensation and editorial guidance will be provided.

For more information, call (413)863-8666 or email [editor@montaguereporter.org](mailto:editor@montaguereporter.org)

has also seemingly turned a blind eye to the humanitarian crisis on the border. Instead of addressing the issue at home, Vice President Biden put the focus on repatriation. He announced this last weekend that the U.S. will give \$255 million to assist Central American countries for repatriation programs for deportees, improve prosecution of criminal street gang members, and expand youth programs to reduce gang recruitment.

A commentator in the Mexican newspaper *El Universal* noted that given the rampant corruption in these countries, it's unlikely much of this money will be spent on any of these programs, no matter how well intentioned they may be.

There is no simple explanation for the dramatic increase in children attempting to reach the U.S. Extreme poverty and, therefore, dire futures for young people are certainly factors.

In Guatemala conditions have

worsened considerably with the devastation of the coffee crop. Coffee picking and production employed many parents of these youngsters, and now, without work, their lives have become desperate.

The 2009 military coup in Honduras has also had a major destabilizing effect in that country, resulting in a worsening of crime and poverty.

Throughout the region transnational criminal gangs, many of them linked to the drug cartels in Mexico, have been terrorizing communities.

Another factor, according to what many Border Patrol agents were told, is that many decided to embark on the risky northbound journey after hearing that the U.S. was offering a special entry permit to minors.

Central Americans, including Guatemala's President Pérez Molina, fault the failure of American

immigration policy for driving children to join their parents in the United States regardless of the risk.

Last week, Pérez Molina issued a statement saying that, while he recognized that the American Congress has to act, he reiterated a request for a temporary worker program as a way for Guatemalans already living in the United States illegally to be able to stay.

Regardless of what is driving so many children northward, we are stunned at the failure of local, state and national leaders to respond humanely to what is clearly a humanitarian crisis.

A much better way to use our resources would be to ensure that these children are taken care of, provided sufficient food and water, and housed in safe and sanitary conditions.

A humanitarian crisis demands a humanitarian response.

Published weekly on Thursdays.  
Every other week in  
July and August.  
No paper last week of December.  
**PHONE (413) 863-8666**  
Please note new email addresses:  
[editor@montaguereporter.org](mailto:editor@montaguereporter.org)  
[ads@montaguereporter.org](mailto:ads@montaguereporter.org)  
[bills@montaguereporter.org](mailto:bills@montaguereporter.org)  
[circulation@montaguereporter.org](mailto:circulation@montaguereporter.org)  
[events@montaguereporter.org](mailto:events@montaguereporter.org)  
[info@montaguereporter.org](mailto:info@montaguereporter.org)  
[poetry@montaguereporter.org](mailto:poetry@montaguereporter.org)  
[subscriptions@montaguereporter.org](mailto:subscriptions@montaguereporter.org)  
Send address changes to:  
**The Montague Reporter**  
177 Avenue A  
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Advertising and copy deadline is  
Monday at NOON.

*This newspaper shall not be liable  
for errors in advertisements, but  
will print without charge that part  
of the advertisement in which an  
error occurred. The publishers reserve  
the right to refuse advertising  
for any reason and to alter copy or  
graphics to conform to standards of  
the newspaper, such as they are.*

Annual Subscription Rate:  
\$25/\$40/\$60, depending on address.  
Call us or contact  
[subscriptions@montaguereporter.org](mailto:subscriptions@montaguereporter.org)  
with any questions.

**WE WELCOME  
YOUR LETTERS!**

**Montague Reporter**

177 Ave. A, TF, MA 01376

[editor@montaguereporter.org](mailto:editor@montaguereporter.org)

**Sign Me Up!**

**\$20** { 10 months (37 issues) for our walking routes  
6 months (23 issues) for our driving routes  
4 months (15 issues) for mailed subscriptions

**The Montague Reporter**  
177 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_





## LOCAL BRIEFS

Compiled by DON CLEGG

**Have you ever wanted to box?** Well here's your chance. Estelle Bonaceto will show you how to get in shape and also have fun with basic boxing moves in the Community Room of the Greenfield Savings Bank, Turners Falls on Saturday, June 28 from 10 to 11 a.m.

Estelle has many years' experience as an ACE Certified Personal Trainer and Thai Boxing Instructor. Let Bonaceto show you how to keep

fit and healthy with a few simple moves. Wear loose-fitting clothes as this is an "interactive" event. Light refreshments will be provided. Please reserve your spot by calling 863-4316.

Please join the Erving Boy Scouts in a **flag retiring ceremony**, for the Eagle Scout project of Charles S. Zilinski. This event will take place at Veteran's Field on June 28, 2014 at 10 a.m. Rain Date: July 12.

On Saturday, June 28, the **Wendell Wildcat Blues Fest** kicks off

at 5 p.m. and will run to 11 p.m. at the Deja Brew Pavillion. The Fest features local favorite Wildcat O'Halloran and many, many more.

Kids, grab your parents, bug spray, and sunscreen, and then go exploring. All ages are welcome as you practice examining the natural world with field guides, binoculars, and a fun game of **Bike Path Bingo** and Canal-side nature walk for kids. Just how much you can see.

Presented by the Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A in Turners Falls, the event on Saturday, June 28 is from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Meet at the front entrance to the GFDC.

For more info call (413) 863-3221 or visit [www.greatfallsdiscoverycenter.org](http://www.greatfallsdiscoverycenter.org)

**Christopher Sawyer-Lauçanno**, the Editor-in-Chief of this newspaper, will be reading his poetry at All Small Caps at Deja Brew in Wendell at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 30.

Sawyer-Lauçanno is the author of more than a half-dozen books. His most recent book of poems is *Mus-sorrie-Montague Miscellany*. Reading with Chris is David Bartone, who teaches at UMass.

**Montague citizens against the proposed pipeline** will meet on Monday, June 30, at 7 p.m. in the Community Room at the Montague Safety Complex, 180 Turnpike Road, in Turners Falls.

All are welcome. Come and learn

more about the project and work with people who are trying to defeat it.

**The Common People Concerts** on Gill Town Common have started for the season and will continue each Wednesday until August 5 starting at 7 p.m. Rainy weather moves the concerts into the Congregational Church across from Town Hall/Common.

The July 1 concert features the Gillbilly Sing-Along, led by surprise guests. The name says it all.

Free jazz with The Odd Couple and Friends, outdoors on the Riverbank at the Charlemont Bridge on Friday, July 4, at 4 p.m. will be Mohawk Trail Concerts' celebratory gift to the community in an **Independence Day free family concert**.

Musicians include horn player, arranger and composer John Clark, bassoonist Michael Rabinowitz, guitarist Freddie Bryant, clarinetist Doug Yates, percussionist Abe Fogle and bassist Marty Jaffe. Folding chairs are suggested, or float up on a boat in the Deerfield River. Dance on the sand.

In case of rain, the event will be in the Federated Church on Route 2 in Charlemont. Questions please contact Denese, (413) 625-9511, [info@mohawktrailconcerts.org](mailto:info@mohawktrailconcerts.org)

Send your local briefs to [editor@montaguereporter.org](mailto:editor@montaguereporter.org).

## Erving: Special Town Meeting on June 30

Erving will be holding a special town meeting on Monday, June 30 at 7 p.m. at Erving Town Hall, 12 East Main Street, to consider 11 articles, all dealing with money.

Among the warrant articles are requests for town hall re-siding and roofing replacement, two generators

to replace those at two wastewater pump stations, an appropriation for the Pearl B. Care Historic Museum, and various items for the fire department.

The selectboard urges eligible Erving voters to attend and participate in the decision-making process.

## Gill's Curbside Collection is Rescheduled

Because the Fourth of July falls on a Friday, Gill's curbside collection of trash and recyclables is rescheduled to Saturday, July 5.

Regular Friday collection will resume on July 11.

As always, please have everything to the curb by 7:00 a.m.

## Another Letter

### Disappointed by Lack of Vision, Apology at Shea Theater

A few years ago, I went to the Anais Mitchell show at the Shea. I was inspired to see and hear something beautiful and unique, something that interested a wide range of the local community, and beyond – the show made news and attracted people region-wide – and something that worked perfectly, both visually and musically, at the theater.

Two weeks ago I told the *Reporter* that the Upper Valley Music Festival probably deserves a public apology, especially if we (Turners residents and music lovers) hope to get the festival to return to Turners next year. At the time, I thought it was still possible, if a long shot.

After reading last week's article ("*Shea Theater Faces Challenges...*"), I see that that isn't going to happen. Instead of an apology, the Festival's Tommy Byrnes got blame from Michael Glazier for booking its event with "the maid."

This was both bizarre – the board prez calling a board member a maid and, I guess, himself the concierge? – and, at least from what I'm told,

was simply inaccurate and unfair.

Either way, it made it clear how the Shea feels about mending fences with the UVMF.

Now that that festival is gone, and other people who book music in the Valley (including Green River Festival organizers) have also given up on the Shea, it seems the theater will stay what it's more or less been since I moved to Turners in 2005: a theater that represents one faction of this diverse community, people who enjoy or participate in community and children's theater, very well.

It's too bad. The Shea could be a vibrant, exciting hub in Turners, a mini version of the Colonial in Pittsfield or the Calvin in Northampton, putting on local plays but also actively seeking out and booking music, theater, dance, magic, comedy, and literary events, from regional, national and even international travelling artists.

I remain hopeful.

Jamie Berger  
Turners Falls

## BUST from pg A1

"Heroin is cheap there," he said. "Users from here will go down there to buy, then resell here for more than twice what they paid for the drug. They get their share for free, and make enough money to buy more. It's a really vicious circle."

He also that the drugs are being sold out of houses and also on street corners.

While he could not comment on how sophisticated this particular drug-selling operation appeared to be, he did note that heroin is "a problem of real significance" in Montague.

"It's a big problem in our community as it is in every community." He also commented that the Montague police are dedicating more and more resources to fight the problem. In this connection he said

that several investigations are currently ongoing: "We're not going to stop with this one."

Dodge also remarked that his force was not just interested in arresting users in order to put them in jail. He said a real mission was also to help people addicted to opiates. "To some degree it's about busting people to save them."

He said he and his department were very alarmed at the increase in deaths from overdose in the past year. "The heroin varies in strength and purity. And since users don't know the dosage, they end up taking more of an amount than they should. And when they do that, it's not all that difficult to O.D."

He said that his department is aware that many users got addicted to heroin while taking prescription

opiates. "A doctor prescribes a painkiller, a person takes it, then takes more and when the prescription runs out still wants the effect. As a result, they sometimes go looking for it on the street. And unfortunately, it's not all that hard to find." "They're not bad guys," he said. "They're caught up in their addiction."

As for dealers and supply, Dodge said that his department was keen on investigating this end of the drug chain.

He remarked, however, that the Northwestern District Anti-Crime Task Force was playing a major role in drug investigations and busts. "The anti-crime task force helps us handle this type of investigative work," said Dodge. "We're sharing resources with them since we don't have the resources to do this on our

own."

He also noted that the task force was the major force in investigation and apprehension of drug distribution rings. The task force was created last year with the help of a state grant. According to District Attorney David Sullivan, it is intended to help smaller communities that are cash-strapped and find it difficult to deal with crime issues like drugs.

Sheriff Christopher Donelan touted the importance of the task force in dealing with drug issues. "With many small police departments with limited resources we have virtually no narcotics investigations going on of substance. [The task force] gives all of Franklin County the opportunity to have plainclothes detectives focused solely on narcotics detection."



[www.MontagueMA.net](http://www.MontagueMA.net)  
local gossip, news & business listings

IN GOOD COMPANY  
SKILLED, INTENTIONAL  
COMPANIONSHIP FOR  
ELDERS AND OTHERS



SITA LANG 413-834-7569  
HOSPICE TRAINED  
CPR CERTIFIED



Practice, Study,  
Community

Free  
Everyone Welcome

[www.greenriverzen.org](http://www.greenriverzen.org)  
413-256-1594



Uniquities, Frivolities  
& Unnecessariums

125a Avenue A, Turners Falls  
413.834.8800 [ninasnook.com](http://ninasnook.com)

Weds & Th 4-6  
Fri & Sat 1-6  
And By Appointment



art . craft . design .

## DEMERS LANDSCAPING

Fencing - Patios - Walks +  
Walls Installed - Tree Work  
Loam - Compost - Mulch  
Stump Grinding - Excavating  
Septic Systems Installed  
ESTABLISHED 1970  
[demerslandscaping.com](http://demerslandscaping.com)  
863-3652

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK 12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

## B. RUBIN & SONS INC.



### COMPLETE AUTO REPAIRS

Shocks • Tires • Batteries • Starters  
Struts • Tune-ups • Brakes • Oil Change

194 MILLERS FALLS RD. • 413-863-2236  
10% SENIOR DISCOUNT FREE ESTIMATES

MASS INSPECTION STATION: NO. 13051

## TE Table & Chair Rentals

Tammy Young

1-413-221-3228 / 413-863-0293

[Tetablechairrentals.com](http://Tetablechairrentals.com)

11 Paradise Parkway  
Turners Falls Mass 01376

## Negus & Taylor, Inc. Monuments

People often come to see us because their parents and their grandparents did. We're proud to have that kind of loyalty, and we work hard to keep it.  
- Gary and Nancy Melen



MAIN OFFICE 773-9552  
10 Mill Street, Greenfield, MA

## Montague Mini Storage | Mike Fuller - owner



The Best Hiding  
Place in Town

48 Randall Road | 413-863-4680

## ED L

Dealer in used  
Home Furnishings

SMALL FURNITURE • COLLECTIBLES • DECORATIVES

374 Deerfield Street • Greenfield

featuring: Lamps Mirrors Chairs Baskets  
Cookery Figurines End Tables

I Make  
Lamps Lite!

Open 7 Days a Week

GOOD USED USABLES

## RIVERSIDE RADIATOR

General Auto Repair  
RADIATORS for CARS - TRUCKS  
and HEAVY EQUIPMENT  
Foreign and Domestic

Propane  
Filling  
Station

Route 2, Gill  
863-4049 1-800-439-4049  
8-5 Mon-Fri (closed Sat.)



## RECYCLE

**PAPER**  
Week of June 30  
in Montague



more info? call: 863-2054

**NANCY L. DOLE**  
**BOOKS & EPHEMERA**



20 State Street,  
Bucklandside  
Shelburne Falls  
413-625-9850  
ndole@crocker.com  
closed Mondays

Please shop  
locally! Support  
our advertisers.

And let them  
know you saw  
their ad in the  
*Reporter!*

**GREENFIELD**  
**FARMERS COOPERATIVE EXCHANGE**  
Locally Owned Since 1918  
269 High Street - Greenfield  
(413) 773-9639

**Local  
Farmer-Owned**

Products for the home,  
farm, pets, yard & garden

If you  
Feed it - Seed it - Weed it  
We GOT it!

www.greenfieldfarmerscoop.com

**WE HEAT  
FRANKLIN  
COUNTY**

- System 2000 (Energy Kinetics)
- Thermo Pride
- Weil-McLain
- Other Major Brands
- Expert Burner Service



**(413) 773-3622**

**SALMON** from page A1

spent two years in the Sawmill, and then perhaps two years in the North Atlantic before returning.

According to Letcher, "It's really impressive to me that a fish can be stocked in the Sawmill River and actually find its way back to our neighborhood, spending at least a year in the ocean and potentially traveling as far as the coast of Greenland."

But this could be the last salmon to return to the river, since the restoration program was effectively phased out several years ago.

Sprinkle stated that the small numbers of returning fish simply could not justify the program's cost. Only one salmon returns to the river for every 100,000 "fry" stocked. So far this year, only 36 salmon have been documented returning to the Connecticut River.

Atlantic salmon became virtually extinct in the region with dam and mill construction in the late eighteenth century.

An aggressive restoration program showed some initial success but populations have declined precipitously over the past decade.

Sprinkle stated that the reasons are not well understood, but stressed changing conditions in the North Atlantic.



**LEVERETT** from page A1

Leverett to the wrong person. We wish to make this correction. The comments were not made by the Chair of the Leverett selectboard, but rather, another selectman."

Brazeau continued, "I haven't gotten an apology, just a tiny retraction." He went on to say that he had actually drafted a letter in response but decided that "it wasn't worth descending to that level."

He said that at the moment he was "kind of a wreck" and needed to take some time off. But he felt it important to find people to take over many of his additional committee duties. Selectmen Peter D'Errico told Brazeau that the board would work out the transition. Both he and fellow board member Julie Shively volunteered to take over some of Brazeau's duties.

**Bridge and Highway Work**

Highway boss Will Stratford told the board that the Shutesbury bridge needs attention. At present one of the abutments is being eroded by water flowing from a culvert. He also noted that the culvert has the potential of flooding.

Stratford said that he recently attended a workshop of the Bay State Roads Program where he learned that the current flowing through the culvert during high water periods is creating a potential hazard. He has been asked to monitor the water rise during rains.

In response to a question from D'Errico about what the outcome of the monitoring would be, he said that if the water reaches a certain point marked on the abutment (about two feet above the usual water level), the road would have to be closed.

## State Fire Services Commission Accredits Montague Center Fire Chief John Greene

**MONTAGUE CENTER** – On May 20 The Massachusetts Fire Service Commission granted accreditation to Fire Chief Greene of the Montague Center Fire Department for demonstrating the required fire service experience, education, and certifications for accreditation.

Chief Greene received the certificate at the June meeting of the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts in Westport, Mass. on June 25.

This accreditation is granted through the Massachusetts Fire Service Commission, a gubernatorial appointed board that has established a process for uniform credentialing for fire chiefs.

Commenting on the accreditation requirements, State Fire Marshal Stephen Coan said, "The program was developed after extensive research outlining those skills important to today's fire chief."

"The process provides an equal opportunity for the volunteer, call or full-time fire chief to meet the criteria for achieving fire chief accreditation."



Chief Greene

Chief Greene said, "I am dedicated to providing the highest level of service to this community and have worked hard to continue my education and experience to bring a high level of professionalism to this position."

"I appreciate that this accomplishment recognizes my dedication

to be the best fire chief I can for this community."

Credentialed participants will be required to renew their credentials every three years.

The program is open to all members of the fire service in the Commonwealth serving as Chief or Chief Officer of Department.

On a more positive note, he said that the abutment could be repaired and that he would like to do that this summer. Before work can commence, however, the town will have to pull a DEP permit, file a notice of intent and an endangered species report.

The conservation commission will handle the permitting.

Stratford also told the board that patching and repaving would be ongoing this summer on several town-owned roads including Depot and Dudleyville roads.

**Generator**

The town received a bid of \$16,187 to replace the back-up generator in the safety complex. The current generator, according to Stratford, dates from the early 1960s and cannot be repaired. Town administrator Margie McGinnis said \$4,000 of the total could come from an emergency management planning grant. The board was in favor of having it replaced but as D'Errico noted, the cash, even with grant money, isn't available until town meeting appropriates it.

Stratford suggested that he could take the money out of his FY15 budget and then replace it once town meeting gives the approval, likely by November. McGinnis thought this might be possible. The board instructed Stratford to continue to pursue the matter and asked McGinnis to look into the possibility of other grants.

**New Police Hire**

Chief Gary Billings requested that the board appoint Dave Clark as a part-time patrolman. He said Clark served as an officer in two Franklin county towns from 1991

until 2011 and would come to the department "certified in everything we need." The board unanimously approved the hire.

**Ticks and Derelict Buildings**

Faye Zipkowitz, board of health chair, came before the committee to discuss whether they wanted to participate in the statewide tick program that would allow one hundred residents to have ticks examined by the UMass lab. She said the cost would be \$300.

The selectboard discussed the matter for some time but ultimately decided not to participate. Shively felt that getting the word out about prevention would be more useful than having 100 ticks tested as Lyme disease carriers.

Zipkowitz also updated the selectmen on the status of several problematic buildings in town that have been an issue for years.

The septic system for buildings at 142-144 Montague Road, owned by David Biddle, is not operating properly. According to Zipkowitz this constitutes a major health hazard.

A similar situation is present next door at 146-148, which is also owned by Biddle. There the septic tank is overflowing and needs to be replaced. The owner was given until August 1 to correct the problems.

The collapsed 1 Dudleyville Road barn, owned by the Blinns, still poses a health problem. While the outside area has been cleaned up, the inside has not and continues to emit an odor.

Zipkowitz, however, admitted that she really couldn't say exactly what was going on there.

Finally, the situation with the Moores Corner mall is still unre-

solved. Despite the lack of an occupancy permit, the building is still apparently being used as a residence. The board of health has issued a vacate notice.

**Leverett Pond**

The Friends of Leverett Pond have been notified that they will have to do their own legal work in order to acquire ownership of the dam at the north end of the spring fed pond at the center of town.

**Appointments**

Betty and David Wilson were appointed to the council on aging for three-year terms. They will replace Tanya Cushman and Jim Perkins who have both resigned.

Joyce Stowell was appointed a regular member of the council. She had previously served as an alternate member.

**Firefighters**

And what would a Leverett selectboard meeting be without a firefighter discussion. This time the main focus was on the reappointment of firefighters 65 and older and whether special restrictions should apply.

Of particular concern was how the reappointment of deputy fire-chief Stewart Olson should be handled.

The creation of a policy was discussed in which a number of restrictions would be in force. A major provision proposed was that should a firefighter 65 and/or older circumvent policy and was injured, he/she would agree to hold the town harmless.

While a great deal of back and forth ensued, the matter was ultimately left unresolved.



**PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666**

**PARTRIDGE-ZSCHAU**

CONSULT US  
**PZ**

25 Millers Falls Road  
Turners Falls, MA 01376

(413) 863-4331  
www.pzinc.com

Service 7 days a week, visit [www.pzinc.com](http://www.pzinc.com)

**INSURANCE**

Overwhelmed by stuff? Try Franklin County's Most Convenient

**IN-TOWN SELF STORAGE**

UPPER END OF WELLS STREET, GREENFIELD

**413-883-7323**

Easy in-town location  
Secure 24-hour access

VARIETY OF  
SIZES  
THE BEST  
PRICES



OFFICE AT 50 CHAPMAN STREET, GREENFIELD, MA

Contractors, Flea Marketers, Tradeshow Vendors  
and Artists encouraged to inquire

**Rau's Auto**

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR

**(413) 367-2475**

531 Turners Falls Rd. Montague

24 hour emergency towing  
Best service licensed Mechanics



**Twisters**  
HOT DOGS • GRINDERS • ICE CREAM

52 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA 01376

413-863-5395

Marion Lacoy - Owner



**AJ'S  
CYCLE**

MOTO GUZZI

274 Rt. 2, Gill, MA 01376

- Parts
- Accessories
- & Apparel
- Helmets
- Books
- Models

ALLAN • DAVID  
Tel: (413) 863-9543  
Fax: (413) 863-4920

E-mail: [AJCYC@CROCKER.COM](mailto:AJCYC@CROCKER.COM)  
Web: [WWW.AJCYCLE.COM](http://WWW.AJCYCLE.COM)

**TRADITIONAL HEALTH FIRST**

John Delmolino

**Blue Ice® Fermented Cod Liver Oil**

Nutritional Highlights  
of Fermented CLO: EPA / DHA,  
Quinones, Vitamin A / D, Omega 3, 6, 7, 9.

413.210.4445 • [john@traditionalhealthfirst.com](mailto:john@traditionalhealthfirst.com)  
[www.traditionalhealthfirst.com](http://www.traditionalhealthfirst.com)



NESCOE from page A1

aggregating entity can contract for pipeline capacity [and] resell it to customers...”

Buxton’s paper specifically pointed to Kinder Morgan’s suggestion of a “pipeline roughly following Route 2 through Northern Massachusetts to Dracut,” along with a proposed expansion of Spectra’s Algonquin line. “Both projects,” the paper explained, “are highly useful; the challenge for New England is to cause them to be built.”

“Generally I like it,” Welch replied. In a paper trail fully visible in the released documents, Welch then edited the paper lightly, and removed Buxton’s name from the top.

On September 17, he sent it, along with an outline of a plan to create a regional network service tariff through ISO-NE, the region’s electrical grid operator, to Patrick Woodcock, director of the Governor’s Energy Office of that state, adding, “I admit I’m basing this on a piece Tony B. put together.”

Welch also ran this draft by Buxton, asking, “Would you mind if I used [it] in my efforts to make the case to my NE colleagues?”

“Emulation is the highest form of flattery,” Buxton replied to Welch. “Of course, the IECG and I are thrilled. In fact, we may ask to emulate your version.”

On September 19, Welch forwarded the materials to Daniel Esty and Katie Dykes, then Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner for Connecticut’s Department of Energy and Environmental Protection – without acknowledging Buxton’s authorship. He then apparently presented them at a September 25 meeting of New England state officials in Boston.

By November 19, with the goal of subsidizing added pipeline capacity a foregone conclusion, Hunt was circulating a document within NESCOE asking the states to vet the “related implementation and authority questions” for nine different configurations of a mechanism to do so, including Welch’s suggested model of a tariff through the ISO.

In December, Welch started reaching out to pipeline companies for their input in shaping the tariff proposal. He set up conference calls between public officials and Spectra Energy on January 2, 2014, Kinder Morgan on January 30, and Portland Natural Gas Transmission Company (PNGTS) on January 31.

According to an email sent to New Hampshire Public Utilities Commissioner Robert Scott, Welch “lead [sic] a discussion for the states” with representatives of Kind-

er Morgan. “The primary question” for the company, according to the document, “was whether a stream of revenues from a FERC-approved ISO electric tariff would provide sufficient security to move forward and build/contract for new pipeline capacity.”

By that time, the company’s land agents were knocking on doors from Pittsfield to Dracut, scouting out a pipeline route that would cross both the Connecticut and Millers rivers at Montague.

In March, a public document filed in Maine showed that Anthony Buxton of Preti Flaherty was working directly as counsel for Kinder Morgan’s subsidiary Tennessee Gas Pipeline.

#### Is NESCOE a Public Body?

On December 6, the region’s six state governors signed a letter “commit[ting] to continue to work together... *through NESCOE*” (emphasis added) over a laundry list of shared energy goals that included “development of new natural gas pipeline infrastructure.”

Consumers who have objected to the idea of a private entity proposing an electricity tariff to fund private development might be surprised to learn that exactly such a mechanism funds the organization.

NESCOE was founded in 2006 as a limited liability corporation of the nonprofit New England Governor’s Conference. The next year, the NEGC, the ISO-NE and the New England Power Pool applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to allow the ISO to add a tariff to fund the organization.

NESCOE became a 501(c)4 nonprofit organization in 2010 under new executive director Hunt, who has built the organization since then to its current complement of six staffers, whose salaries and benefits exceeded \$930,000 last year.

The governors have appointed Berwick, Welch, Scott, and Dykes, as well as Vermont Department of Public Service commissioner Chris Recchia and Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission chair Margaret Curran, to oversee the organization as its “managers.”

Tasked with relieving an apparent bottleneck of energy delivery that has caused brief wintertime spikes in the price power plants pay for natural gas, NESCOE finds itself in the public spotlight for the first time.

#### Behind Closed Doors

Critics of NESCOE’s favored proposals – simultaneous investments in gas pipeline infrastructure

and hydroelectric transmission – say the emails released Tuesday vindicate their complaints that its lack of transparency hides a too-cozy relationship with private-sector interests.

“The documents show a hostility toward working out the details in a public forum,” said CLF attorney Christophe Courchesne, “and a distressing level of close communication between state officials, pipeline companies, and the gas and electric utilities that stand to benefit the most.

“What the plan suggests is billions of dollars of infrastructure investment throughout the region – that’s a debate that needs to happen in public, with a wider variety of stakeholders.”

“The very foundations of the plan,” he continued, “are based on an incomplete and cursory analysis of the problems, and a complete lack of attention to lower-cost alternatives which would be better for electricity customers and the environment.”

One email released this week shows Hunt telling public officials that one of the scenarios for the region’s future energy use analyzed by consultants Black & Veatch, the “Clean Energy Future,” need not be released publicly. “The Clean Energy Future is as you might expect costly,” Hunt explained. “There is the potential for various interests to use/misuse the results.”

Another, dating to last August, shows NESCOE counsel Ben D’Antonio recommending that the states’ strategy in pursuing both gas pipelines and hydro transmission be kept “behind closed doors,” since the perception that either deal is within reach could reduce their bargaining position for the other.

“The court of public opinion,” he pointed out, “can be fickle and recalcitrant.”

“True,” agreed Welch.

#### More To Come?

The CLF says the documents – available for download at [www.clf.org](http://www.clf.org) – represent “a mere fraction” of those it filed for, and that it may pursue “legal action to force compliance” with their requests.

Katy Eiseman, director of Massachusetts Pipeline Awareness Network, a coalition of five regional groups of opponents to Kinder Morgan’s proposed pipeline, says her organization called on Wednesday for a legislative hearing on the process.

A call to the phone number provided on NESCOE’s website was answered by a recorded message saying that its voicemail box was full.



Montague Center Congregational Church

Strawberry Supper

Saturday, June 28 – 5:30 p.m.



Baked Stuffed Chicken Breast,  
Rice, Gravy, Salad & Hot Veggies,  
Homemade Breads, Strawberry  
Shortcake on Homemade Biscuits

Adults: \$10   Children: \$5  
Reservations: 863-2398  
Walk-ins welcome, call for takeout

#### NOTES FROM THE GILL-MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

### Sullivan Gets a Raise; Student Trip to Europe Planned

By PATRICIA PRUITT

There were five important announcements made in the course of the June 24 meeting of the GMRSD School Committee.

One came after a lengthy executive session concerning non-union personnel, which led to the school committee voting unanimously in open session to approve a 2% increase in Superintendent Sullivan’s salary for the coming fiscal year.

Next up was Kevin Cousineau, giving his final report on the pre-school program: monies earned, grants received, future training for new personnel, the QRIS Document Registration requirement which early childhood teachers, para-professionals, and administrators must update regularly, noting their training and certifications as they progress through the levels.

Cousineau will be moving from the early childhood through first grade programs at Hillcrest into the Sheffield second grade through fifth grade elementary program where he will serve as the assistant principal to Sharon Moberg, the new principal, beginning July 1.

Superintendent Sullivan announced the appointment of Wendy LaPointe as the new treasurer for the District.

Elementary teacher Sherry Wood made a request from the elementary teachers to drop the quarterly report card currently given students, in favor of a trimester report card.

She explained that the first report card under the quarterly system comes rather quickly at the moment when students are just settling in to the classes.

Another reason Wood cited was the increase in detailed information and assessment being required on report cards.

She said that, at this point, GMRSD is the only district still doing quarterly report cards. Many have gone to three, and others to just two.

The elementary teachers felt two were too few. The committee was favorably disposed, and voted to change to three report cards a year for grades pre-K through 5 in Montague, and K through 6 in Gill.

Nancy Weld brought a most exciting proposition for the committee’s consideration. She was looking for encouragement to continue pursuing the idea that both she and the Latin and French teacher Megan Bendictson thought students would find exciting and educational.

Weld proposed to escort a group of students on a nine-day tour of Europe, possibly visiting the cities of Paris, London and Rome.

Since this is still early in the planning, the exact number of places may be subject to change.

The proposed cost per student is \$3,300 with students having opportunities to raise the money where necessary. She emphasized that the trip would be open to any who were willing to work to earn the cost of the ticket.

The tentative date for the trip is April vacation in 2015.

Weld received an enthusiastic go-ahead for continuing to arrange a trip abroad for students, with the understanding she would report back with more details to seek final approval from the school committee.

I’m Linda Jablonski, registered nurse,  
and a big believer in Baystate Franklin.



At Baystate Franklin Medical Center, we provide exceptional care to our patients and their families.

So often when people talk about a hospital, they think about a building or institution. But it’s the people who make the hospital. When we care for our community, we are caring for each other.

To schedule a tour of The Birthplace or for a list of obstetricians and certified nurse midwives on staff at Baystate Franklin Medical Center, call 413-773-2454.

For more information about  
The Birthplace at Baystate Franklin,  
visit [baystatehealth.org/thebirthplace](http://baystatehealth.org/thebirthplace).



Baystate  
Franklin Medical Center

164 High Street, Greenfield, MA | [baystatehealth.org/bfmc](http://baystatehealth.org/bfmc)



## NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

## What is a “Betterment District?”

By JEFF SINGLETON

Last Monday night, a group of residents of the Chestnut Hill Road area of southeastern Montague finally got the opportunity to request that the Montague Selectboard endorse a “Betterment District” for their neighborhood. This would presumably allow them to finance and construct a broadband system linked to Leverett.

At first, the idea seemed to be strongly supported by the board.

Yet, by the end of the meeting, so many unanswered questions were raised that a vote to endorse the concept was put on hold until July 14.

Hopefully, by that time the issues will be resolved by Montague officials, including the issue of whether there is in fact anything called a “betterment district” in Massachusetts state law.

Rob Steinberg and Kevin Hart, both residents of the Chestnut Hill area, began the discussion by presenting an overview of their research. Hart stated that they had been looking at ways to bring high speed internet to the forested hill neighborhood for two years.

“There are no other options except to create some sort of betterment district just for the neighborhood,” he stated.

Such a district would allow residents to levy a tax or fee to finance broadband construct through a special bond. The neighborhood would be linked to the adjoining town of Leverett, which is currently constructing its own broadband system.

Hart stated that current betterment laws do not include broadband, because “when they were written there wasn’t any broadband.”

Residents therefore reached out to State Senator Stan Rosenberg and Representative Steve Kulik to “help us build out a betterment district.” Rosenberg and Kulik have filed legislation specifically targeted to this neighborhood.

Hart defined the proposed betterment district to include Richardson Road, East and West Chestnut Hill roads and Chestnut Hill Loop as well as Ripley Road.

There are 64 homes in the area, of which 40 homeowners have approved of the concept.

Most of the rest appear not to have been contacted yet because, according to Hart, organizers did not want to raise expectations too high.

Steinberg emphasized a “sense of urgency” about the issue, and the need for what he called “quick discovery”. Hart noted that crews were now constructing the Leverett system and will be done by the end of the year, so if a Montague decision were delayed “we would lose an economic advantage.”

The problem? According to Steinberg, “Everybody is in favor of it, but nobody knows exactly what to do.”

How is a betterment district created? Would all residents of the district be required to pay for service or could some opt out?

At this point, selectboard member Michael Nelson proposed a motion “to create a betterment district [in the neighborhood] for the purpose of joining the Leverett broadband project.”

Mark Fairbrother seconded the motion for discussion, stating that he was in favor of the idea, but that there were “a bunch of [unanswered] legal questions.”

With the motion on the floor, one member of the audience, Rob Skelton of the Chestnut Hill neighborhood, urged the board to “put the brakes on this... it is a bit of a can of worms.”

Skelton expressed concerns about the tax impact and the uncertainties of the Leverett project: “It could turn out to be the Big Dig of Western Massachusetts.”

Steinberg stressed the economic benefits of broadband, noting that it allowed employees in companies like his to work from home.

As the discussion continued, it became clear that there was uncertainty about the nature of a “betterment district” or in fact whether such a thing actually existed. In theory such a district allows residents to be taxed specifically for something that benefits them but not other town residents. Sewers and sidewalks were given as examples.

Yet Hart stated that he “couldn’t find a specific statute” that defines or even mentions such a district.

Some audience members felt that the concept was “not a new idea,” and that Montague had created such districts in the past.

Others said this was the first time Montague had ever created a betterment district.

Town planner Walter Ramsey stated that he felt the next step was to do more research on betterment districts.

At this point Michael Nelson withdrew his motion and proposed an alternative that directed the town administrator and town planner to research the issue and report back to the Selectboard on July 14. The motion passed unanimously.

“Back to square one,” summed up Selectboard Chair Chris Boutwell.

In other business, Treasurer Patty Dion brought forward two proposals to refinance a number of existing bonds by rolling them into future borrowing at lower interest rates. The proposals were approved unanimously by the board.

The selectboard meeting was preceded by two executive sessions, one of which discussed the status on the sale of the former Montague Center School building.

*Note: Montague Community Television would like to apologize for the lack of sound during the broadcast of the July 16 selectboard meeting. It is being rebroadcast this week, although the first ten minutes lack audio.*

## WENDELL from page A1

## Twenty-Four Years Ago...

O’Dowd arrived in town in January, 1990. The unsettling/resetting of Wendell by a wave of young people of largely 1960s convictions had been underway for 15 or 20 years. Tensions with the old-timers were slowly reaching a level of collegiality.

Rosie Heidkamp was about to meet her appointment with librarianship. Patti and Vic were only a year or two away from their arrival and transformation of the country store property.

The post office was being moved from Cheryl Richardson’s house on the north end of the common to newly-added space alongside the country store, then under Anne Zak’s ownership.

He came from his home in Hatfield – and his job in Springfield as a postal auditor – to “clean up” the troubled move.

He replaced a young employee from the greater Boston area who had difficulties with the assignment, and who I recall thinking at the time was experiencing culture shock. He experienced vehicle break-downs during his long wintertime commute.

O’Dowd expected the job might lead to an eventual postmastership. Rural post offices were actually being added. He would help consolidate the five ZIP codes then serving Wendell.

There had been complaints that the post offices of the area were a bit un-professional, too distracted by non-postal economic or political functions.

And sure enough, once on the job, “I took the women’s underpants down from the flagpole.” (It’s true. He soon installed a new flagpole, and once, when an assistant was in charge, the Earth Flag flew, briefly, above the Stars and Stripes).

**Upon taking the job, O’Dowd remembers, “I took the women’s underpants down from the flagpole.”**

“I got a street light to help people navigate the dirt parking lot, all rutted by heavy trucks.” He cleaned up the space inside, and put in handicap access. He kept an eye open for “latent demand,” and discovered he could attract customers if he “opened a little early, stayed open at noon, stayed a little late.”

Because of having more space than Millers Falls for the flats, he got the Diemand Farm chick “account.”

The post office truly became something of a rural hub. For his good work, O’Dowd was rewarded early on with a glassed-in entryway, the first of two additions, and many awards for outstanding service, including three Benjamin Awards, the post office’s highest honor.

Here it can be noted that the postmastership never happened. “I may have been arrogant in expecting it,” O’Dowd said. (His position is called Systems Compliance Ana-

lyst.)

This clearly is a disappointment, although, in important ways, “It was great for me,” he said. “I made lemonade out of lemons, got to know bright people who assembled here from great backgrounds.

“I became part of the recycling movement: brought the papers to ‘the dump,’ at the time, wrapped the newspapers in string, and put them in the newspaper house” – an innovation that won him recognition in the postal service.

Recalling another pleasure, O’Dowd spoke of enjoying the “preschoolers on their post office tour, to see what the postmaster does when he comes to the post office.”

With the youngsters, he’d “put the flag up the flagpole, open the belly of the collection box, they’d see the letters inside. Open the top and drop things in. We’d come inside and there would be a new book: The Jolly Postman. We’d read.

“In the lobby there’d be a rural box, with its flag raised, with a letter in it. They’d take it out of the box over to the two slots. The out-of-town one is up high, but they can reach the one for Wendell...”

“The magic was still behind the scenes. I’d pull out my keys and open the door, they’d see where the letter had fallen through the slot. They all had an opportunity to cancel envelopes with lots of stickers to cancel. I’d show the new alphabet series of stamps, A through H, ones that were printed before the price had been set...”

After seeing the workroom floor, “we’d go back out into the lobby, transform it into a snack area with Dunkin’ Munchkins and juice.”

## ... And Before

O’Dowd was a member of the the 1964 U.S. Olympic hockey team, a hint of his own renaissance-man character yet something he kids about.

“I was good at kicking out the puck, and catching it. But I was nearsighted. Most of us didn’t wear masks, and you couldn’t wear glasses.

“What got me onto the team was my ability to stare down shooters. They’d fake, in hopes to get me out of the post, but I couldn’t see them and I wasn’t going to be moved by that!”

He got an MBA, a Masters of Science in Urban and Regional Management, a BS in anthropology, and a BFA in art education.

He was recruited, while in school, by the Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission as consultant doing on-board surveys of passengers on existing bus lines. He helped put together the present PVRTA and Five Colleges bus operations.

He worked in West Springfield at the Mass. Developmental Disabilities Council, but had to leave the field after funding cuts.

In the armed services, he’d worked in the post office in the Office of the Inspector General, so he returned.

At Wendell, his job was “to consolidate three post offices: Cheryl’s, Anny’s [Anny Hartjens’ Wendell Depot post office], and the new space beside the store.”

Part-way through the job, the

post office announced it wanted a postmaster for Wendell. “Anny apparently didn’t want it,” O’Dowd said, “I would guess because she would lose much of her income – from her store and the lease she had [with the post office].”

Candidates were interviewed for the job, but the selectee never came to fill the position and O’Dowd stayed on. The amount of activity at the news of the change suggests that his contributions have been valued highly, that people feel his presence serves the community.

Here are a few thoughts and stories from his customers:

“Every time a person goes in there,” said Laurel Facey, “he has a kind word and a wry smile and a listening ear. He’s a treasure.”

A new friend of Joel and Wanita Sears sent them a postcard from Canada – their first names only, with “Wendell, MA” as the address. It got delivered.

**“His personal touch and sincere warmth for all patrons make our post office unique among post offices.”**  
Mary Thomas

“We had a roadside mailbox then, rarely went to the P.O., and didn’t really know Charlie. We did after that.” There was a similar delivery reportedly made to a couple’s dog, also by first name only.

Many a resident has gotten a call about a package, but last April, O’Dowd called Sharon Wachslar at 6 o’clock the night before she was scheduled to leave on vacation, “to let me know something I wanted to take with me had arrived.”

Wrote Lisa Hoag, “Charlie has provided so much more service for us than just postal services. When the Wendell tornado happened and the truck couldn’t get through, Charlie ran around and replaced the truck route to all the towns and locations on the truck route, in his car, to make sure the mail went out.”

Mary Thomas summarized the feelings: “Charlie has helped me innumerable times to make sure I get crucial medications on time for the aging dogs and cats in my care. He has called me the moment important packages arrive and has assured that I got them even if I arrived after closing time.

“Charlie does this sort of thing as a matter of course. His personal touch and sincere warmth for all Wendell Post Office patrons make our post office not only unique among post offices, but almost unheard of in today’s predominantly cold, impersonal, uncaring corporate world.

“As a result,” Thomas wrote, “the Wendell Post Office is an oasis of peace and caring even in Wendell’s peaceful and caring community. It exemplifies Wendell. The two are inseparable.

“If it ain’t broke don’t fix it, and the Wendell PO ain’t broke!”



## Real Food, Real People, Real Investment

Local, Organic Produce,  
Deli, eat in or take out,  
Bakery Specialties,  
Meat & Cheese, Natural Groceries,  
Supplements & Body Care Items,  
Monthly Specials

**FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CO-OPERATIVE**  
Green Fields Market  
McCusker's Market

**Green Fields Market**  
144 Main St., Greenfield  
Monday - Saturday 8 - 8  
Sunday 9 - 6  
(413) 773-9567  
www.franklincommunity.coop

**McCusker's Market**  
3 State Street, Shelburne Falls  
Open Daily  
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
(413) 625-9411

little tick  
**BIG PROBLEM**

**PREVENT Lyme Disease**

Bitten by a tick? Get it tested for Lyme at [www.tickreport.com](http://www.tickreport.com)

Testing free for residents of Cooperative Public Health Service towns: Buckland, Charlemont, Conway, Deerfield, Gill, Hawley, Heath, Leyden, Monroe and Shelburne

**Public Health** **frco**



NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

Board Discusses Post Office, Town Meeting Date, and Bike Racks

By JOSH HEINEMANN

The Wendell selectboard began its June 18 meeting with a discussion about a questionnaire that the United States Postal Service sent to Wendell residents, including selectboard members.

The questionnaire offers residents a choice of three bad options they are considering for the Wendell center post office: reduce hours at the center post office; eliminate that office altogether and have rural delivery service only; or move the post office, and offer a reduced postal service at a so far unnamed business.

The USPS will hold a hearing in town at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, July 8, a time that is open for some townspeople but far from all. The questionnaire has room for comments at the bottom. Selectboard chair Christine Heard said she uses that post office often for Swift River School at both ends of the day.

Selectboard member Dan Keller thought the best choice was to check the first option, and write comments.

Conservation Commission

Board members signed an appointment slip for Elizabeth Scotten Finn to the conservation commission, replacing Charles T. Smith who has been a member over 40 years.

Board members thought there should be some more recognition for Smith, but he already has been awarded citizen of the year and they are not sure what recognition he would appreciate.

Annual Town Meeting Date

The meeting's longest discussion was about the virtues and problems of holding the annual town meeting on a Saturday instead of on a weekday night, sometimes lasting into the next night, and even a third before the warrant has been finished.

Discussion was aimed at bringing ideas and observations out to be considered, and board members did not attempt to reach a definitive resolution. Consensus leaned toward holding the meeting on a Saturday earlier in the year than June 7.

Gretchen Smith, town clerk, and

Michael Idoine, who has retired from the finance committee but who still takes an active interest in town business, attended this part of the meeting.

Over a year ago, as finance committee chair, Idoine suggested moving the meeting from weekday nights to Saturday with the hope of attracting more young parents with children for whom babysitting could be provided.

That idea was approved in an article of the 2013 annual town meeting, and so the 2014 meeting was held on Saturday, June 7.

Smith, who had a good view of citizens at the meeting, said that 75 to 85 people came to this year's meeting, about the same number as come to an evening meeting. She thought that the number of younger parents with children was as low as it has been at the evening meetings.

This year's meeting had a lunch break after which Smith said attendance dropped to just over 30, a pattern which follows what happens on the second evening of the week night meetings. The town coordinator said that attendance at meetings varies more with the issues on the warrant than it does with the day and time of the meeting.

Heard had expressed frustration at sacrificing a rare June Saturday, and Keller suggested that the meeting could be scheduled earlier in the year.

Idoine said that Wendell slid into the late date because the fin com waited for firm aid figures from the state. But the state budget had not been signed into law even by the June 18 selectboard meeting.

Another issue with an earlier town meeting is getting town departments to work with the fin com and develop their budgets earlier in the year, which is always a scramble, whether for a June meeting or a March meeting. The time for alerting department heads about a possible earlier annual town meeting is now.

Idoine said that in the early 1970's, Wendell held its annual town meeting on a Saturday in March. A 1973 special town meeting vote moved the election to the first Monday in May and the meet-

ing to the following Saturday, and meetings were moved to weekday nights in 1983.

He said that this year's meeting was more relaxed than the evening meetings, with no one having to rush from a quick supper, and no one dozing, or worried about starting the next work day after a late night out. At this year's Saturday meeting, later articles were not hurried through just to avoid a second session.

Smith said she wants a week after the town election to get the results in order, and another week to get ready for the annual town meeting.

Heard said that the comments she got were adamant on both sides of the question. She said that child care and the refreshments for the 2014 meeting were not adequately publicized and addressing that might bring in more young parents.

With the town hall kitchen still in the works, food for this year's lunch break was a last-minute flurry that took advantage of the kitchen at Diemand farm.

Keller said that after the state has delivered its aid figures to towns Wendell could have a special town meeting that would patch gaps left by the annual town meeting, although following a DOR recommendation, the Wendell fin com has tried to get all the town's money issues settled at the annual town meeting.

Selectboard member Jeoffrey Pooser said the first issue is to find out from the fin com how early they can be ready for a meeting and the second issue is to get input from townspeople. Waiting for figures from the state is less critical.

Other Business

The succession committee that worked under time pressure and found a replacement for Everett Ricketts, Wendell's long time fire chief, who retired in February, stopped meeting but did not disband formally.

Keller said they just stopped meeting, but their work is not done, as Wendell's police chief, Ed Chase, is also close to retirement age.

Idoine said the money management committee and the town clerk

both have more rigorous requirements than will be met necessarily by a town election.

Aldrich said that Seaboard Solar sent Wendell a check for \$5,740 to cover the legal expense of creating the contract under which Wendell is hosting 8 megawatts of solar panels owned and operated by Seaboard Solar.

The annual town meeting did not have an item for funding Wendell's part in the Franklin County dog shelter. The bill dropped from \$700 last year to \$350 this year and board members agreed to take that money from the selectboard account and include it as a budget item at the next annual town meeting.

Aldrich said that the electrician contacted for some small scattered jobs in town did not show up on the date set, and that the Franklin County Technical School electrical shop can take those projects on in the fall.

In an effort to encourage bicycle use in town, the energy committee will get bike racks for the office building and the town hall, probably across the street on the corner of the town common.

Keller said he would look at the possible locations and speak with highway commission chair Harry Williston to see if the road crew can install them.

A town employee cost of living allowance (COLA) of 2.1%, as recommended by the fin com, was never approved. Keller so moved and board members agreed.

Upcycles has offered to remove old computer hardware from the library, find a new place for what can still be used, and recycle what has no further use.

Tri County Construction estimated a cost of \$700 to power-wash and seal the gazebo. Neal Bannon estimated \$6,000 to replace the roof with hard Vermont slate.

Town Custodian Larry Ramsdell reported that the men's room in the town hall is usually a mess and that the toilet needs to be replaced.

Keller said he would speak with members of Good Neighbors to see if they, as the most frequent users of the town hall, are responsible for the condition of the room, and that any toilet replacement should be a

low flush model.

Someone complained about an action by a member of the police department. Keller said he talked with all the people involved and has asked the officer for a written response giving his version of the story. With that in hand the selectboard will consider whether an executive session is warranted.

Aldrich had a citizen letter complaining of the unmowed condition of Wendell's cemeteries late into the season. Richard Mackey, cemetery commission chair, complained to the kitchen committee earlier in the year because the committee stored the equipment they had bought for the town hall kitchen in the cemetery commission's trailer, expecting it to be installed before spring as the Tech School worked on the kitchen.

That work was stopped by Boston-based unions that complained that Tech School would take legitimate work from union workers, and so the equipment remained in the trailer.

The trailer was bought by the cemetery commission and stored near the highway garage. After Mackey called a kitchen committee member, weeks passed before any of the kitchen volunteers was able to move the equipment elsewhere.

The Boston-based unions dropped their complaint, and tech school students can do the work in the fall. Equipment has been moved, and cemeteries are mowed.

Aldrich relayed a notice from the Franklin County solid waste management district that the Wendell Recycling and Transfer Station (WRATS) can now accept wood pellet bags for recycling.

The town office building has new heating oil tanks; the tanks themselves were free under guarantee and the town paid for installation.

Aldrich said that there is money in this year's budget that can be used to buy replacement tables for those that are missing from the town hall.

Voting for a town flag will take place at Old Home Day, and submissions will be accepted until then. So far, eight submissions have arrived from two people.

Wendell Girds to Fight Post Office Reduction

Two petitions, dozens of e-mails on the Townsfolk list, a protest demonstration and an organizational meeting erupted after the announcement of three choices of change, all deep cutbacks in postal service in Wendell, and the possible loss of Postmaster Charlie O'Dowd.

The messages about the choices for the reportedly profitable office could be summed up as a spontaneous "None of the above!"

A rally/protest was scheduled, but organizers agreed to cancel it until after the public hearing, scheduled for 1 p.m. on Tuesday, July 8 at the town hall.

An organizational meeting seeking to protect the office's present services and eight hours of coverage is in its planning stages. Time and date were not available as of press time.

Wendell Good Neighbors: New Schedule

Beginning July 6, shopping at Good Neighbors, the food pantry, will be divided into two shopping sessions. This is necessary due to the large number of families now participating in Good Neighbors.

Households with last names A-K and households with last names L-Z will have separate shopping times. What is needed to be remembered is "if it is your side pantry week your group shops at session 1."

A-K shops session 1 on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. L-Z shops session 1 on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. Session 1 will be held from 12:15-12:45. Doors open at 12:10. Session 2 for A-K on the 2nd and 4th Sundays and L-Z on the 1st and 3rd Sundays is 1:00-1:30. Doors will open at 1 PM. Shopping starts at 1:05.

A schedule and guidelines sheet is available at Good Neighbors. Thank you for your cooperation!

30% Of Area Ticks Test Positive For Lyme Disease

Residents of Cooperative Public Health Service (CPHS) towns have been bringing in their ticks for testing for Lyme and other tick-borne illnesses. Since April, CPHS towns have collectively sent in nearly 200 ticks.

Conway and Deerfield have sent in the most ticks to date, with 45 and 43 respectively. Gill has been a close third, with 30 ticks. About 30 percent of the ticks received have tested positive for Lyme disease.

Vendors Needed for Turners Falls Block Party

Vendors are wanted for this year's Block Party in Turners Falls on August 2. This year RiverCulture is teaming up with The Nolumbeka Project who will have their Native American Art, music and crafts.

We will be having live bands behind River Station, a downtown parade, crafters, artists, and food vendors. The Shea Theater will have a concert after the Block Party and we are also hoping to add a classic car show this year!

The Block Party will be held on First Street and the surrounding area in Turners Falls from 2 – 8 p.m. The entire street will be closed. Vendors will be in the lot by River Station so a pop-up tent for shade or cover if it rains is suggested. There is ample FREE parking on Avenue A, numerous town parking lots and many side streets. The event is handicapped-accessible.

Selection of vendors will be based on quality of products, as well as limiting duplication of craft types/styles and food types. We will limit the number of similar vendors as much as possible. We will be limiting food vendors to five in total to make sure everyone is successful. It will be on a first come first serve basis. These limits will help to maximize the success of all participants and give the festival a nice variety for people to shop.

For further information vendors should contact Colleen Campbell at [cacampbell31@gmail.com](mailto:cacampbell31@gmail.com).

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

TABLETS!

Stop by your local, friendly computer store & check them out!

151 Avenue A  
Turners Falls, MA 01376

413.863.5447

[www.about-facecomputers.com](http://www.about-facecomputers.com)



**Dillon**  
CHEVROLET  
54 MAIN STREET  
GREENFIELD, MA 01301

**KIM SPAULDING**  
Business Manager  
(413) 773-3678  
FAX (413) 774-5746

2014



**Bryan G. Hobbs**  
Remodeling Contractor

Blown Cellulose Insulation • Airsealing • Energy Audits  
Replacement Doors & Windows • Roofing • Siding  
Home Repairs • Spray Foam Insulation

Call Now for a Free  
Energy Audit:  
(413) 775-9006

Bryan G. Hobbs  
346 Conway St., Greenfield  
[bryanhobbsremodeling@gmail.com](mailto:bryanhobbsremodeling@gmail.com)



## Attention Turns to a Road Linking Two Towns

By MIKE JACKSON

**GREENFIELD** — “It was meant for a horse and buggy, unfortunately,” says Sue Lacosse, who lives at the foot of Turners Falls Road in Greenfield.

“My idea,” she continues with a grin, “is that they should close it altogether, and have it just be our driveway. Who uses it, anyway?”

Turners Falls Road is a notoriously steep, windy, narrow and often dark lunge chute of a road that connects Route 2A in Greenfield with the White Bridge to Turners Falls.

As the shortest route between the two downtown areas, quite a few people use it. During a single ten-minute period on a balmy mid-afternoon in June, 49 vehicles were seen driving westbound, and another 60 eastbound — an average of a vehicle every 5.5 seconds.

For pedestrians and cyclists, the road is a notoriously risky route. There is no sidewalk, and the shoulder is under two feet wide at several points, with brush jutting across it.

Lacosse says that the postal service refuses to deliver to her house, and school buses will not come: “When my children were young kids, first and second grade, they told us they should walk up to the Stop & Shop to catch a bus!”

“My concern is the speed,” she continues, adding that car-on-car accidents are common at the foot of the hill, where the road turns sharply onto the bridge. “People walk up and down it constantly, people riding bikes, people pushing strollers.”

“I’ve been living here almost 20 years,” she says. “Nothing’s changed.”

But in an era in which transportation planners are taking pedestrian and cyclist safety seriously, Turners

Falls Road seems finally to be garnering attention.

Last fall, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) issued a “Healthy Transportation Policy Directive,” which specified that “All MassDOT funded and or designed projects shall seek to increase and encourage more pedestrian, bicycle and transit trips.”

The road is eligible for federal aid, but the Transportation Improvement Program, which distributes federal funds to state and local road projects, is already scheduled out five years in advance.

“We know it’s an issue, and we’re trying to figure out what to do about it,” said Sara Campbell, engineering superintendent for Greenfield’s Department of Public Works.

“It’s a matter of identifying it, and getting it in the budget... I don’t have any money to spend on it, but I do have staff time.

“We’ve done a survey, and we’ve started doing some preliminary mapping. If nothing else, maybe we can start to do some more signage for bicycles.”

Campbell did not have accident statistics on hand, but she said that the town, along with MassDOT and the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG), is planning on conducting a safety audit on the road in July.

“A consultant comes, and we sit down with the police department, the fire department, and really get to hear the concerns of different groups.”

But even if that audit identifies the stretch of road as a high priority for a redesign, such an undertaking would be much easier said than done. The road is narrow because it hugs the side of such a steep ridge, and as anyone who walks along

it can see, widening it for either a sidewalk or bicycle lane would require blasting into rock or building into air.

“A four-foot sidewalk would be the ultimate goal,” said Campbell, “but you’ve only got so much room to work with.

“It could be a half-million-dollar project.”

Greenfield assistant planner Maureen Pollock said her office has been studying the road, as has the city’s newly forming bicycle committee.

“The DPW has been trying to mow the westbound side, so people can walk on the grass, at least, instead of the shoulder,” she said. But, due to the terrain, “the machines that mow it are having difficulty.”

Noting that many of the pedestrians using the road are residents of Turners Falls, Pollock said she hoped Montague’s town hall would write in support of any future application for federal funding for the project.

At the other side of the White Bridge, 4,400 Turners Falls residents live in an area of less than two square miles. Many do not own a vehicle, and the county’s public transportation does not operate nights, weekends or holidays.

Historically, neither Greenfield nor Montague seems to have prioritized the connector.

Beth Giannini, senior transportation planner at the FRCOG, said her agency has been taking part in the conversation about Turners Falls Road.

“We’re very aware of the issue,” said Giannini. “We’re working on things from a planning perspective: we’ve done an assessment, and will be writing recommendations.”

The road will feature in a Streets Report the FRCOG plans to issue in



REPORTER PHOTO

Last Thursday, advocate Sandra Facto of Turners Falls led a group up and down the road, which many feel is dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists. Her sign read, “Sidewalk and Two Streetlights Are Needed Please”.

the early fall, she said.

A small walk led by Turners Falls’ Sandra Facto last Thursday to call attention to the road’s risks was noticed by both Greenfield’s Department of Public Works and its Department of Planning & Development.

“It’s tough to do half a project,” said Campbell, explaining that a narrow sidewalk could lead to its own problems: “What if someone coming all the way down the hill in a wheelchair ran into someone else coming all the way up? You’d really have to make it wide enough for

them to pass each other.”

Campbell said requests that the city’s attention turn to the road are best directed to the office of its mayor.

Sue Lacosse isn’t holding her breath in the meantime. “In the winter, it’s the snow,” she says, “and in the summer it’s overgrown. And the police don’t watch the road, because they say they have nowhere to park. I tell them they can park in my driveway!”

She shakes her head. “And that corner is just not made for modern traffic.”

Join us in September...

### SLOVAKIA HERITAGE TOUR

Explore the culture, history, & beautiful countryside of Poland & Slovakia.

Small-group tour / Vienna to Krakow



Judy Northup-Bennett, 978-544-5144  
connectionswork4u@hotmail.com  
www.slovakiaheritage.com

### Turners Falls Pizza House



Family Owned & Operated  
Serving Turners Falls area for 40 Years  
Dave Argy, Family & Staff  
PIZZA, GRINDERS,  
DINNERS, SALADS, BURGERS  
www.turnersfallspizza.com  
119 Avenue A, Turners Falls (413) 863-8000

**Mary Lou Emond**  
Certified Residential Specialist

**COHN & COMPANY**  
Real Estate Agency  
117 Main Street • PO Box 638  
Greenfield, MA 01302-0638  
413-773-1149 x142 • CELL: 413-772-9279  
EMAIL: MARYLOU@COHNANDCOMPANY.COM

Dennis L. Booska  
Dennis L. Booska, Jr.

Phone & Fax  
413-863-3690

**Booska's Flooring**

169 Avenue A, Turners Falls

Member  
The Flooring Network.

**Tile Lino Carpet**

Serving Home Grown  
Farm-inspired Food & Drink

**H & O**

44 Hope Street, Greenfield, MA 01301  
Ph 413 774 3150 | hopeandolive.com

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$12.00 PER WEEK  
(12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

## WE'VE GOT THE KEY to your mortgage



low rates plus  
**\$1200**  
toward closing costs!

Pre-qualifications & helpful guidance, too!  
**Get Started On-Line or In Person**

**BestLocalBank.com**

Ask for Stacey Pinardi, Melissa Hager, Missy Tetreault, Chris Eugin, Kate Sevoian, Karen Wasielewski, Kellie Nicholas, Ann Luippold, Maggie Smith or Stacy Richardson



Turners Falls - Sunderland  
Greenfield - Northfield - Shelburne Falls 413 772-0293



check out our mortgage page  
<<< scan



MEMBER FDIC MEMBER SIF

\*\*Available for new first mortgages for purchase or construction loans on 1-2 family owner-occupied homes only. No refinances. Bank will pay up to \$1,200 of closing costs on loans applicable at 6.5 between 5/1/2014 and 1/31/2014 and which close by 9/30/2014. No cash is paid to borrower. Minimum loan is \$100,000. Subject to normal credit approval, appraisal and verifications of income. Homeowners insurance and flood insurance (if applicable) required. See bank for details. Offer is subject to change or withdrawal without notice.



fast, local turn around



## Medieval Sights and Sounds: Exploring Another World at Mutton and Mead

By ELLEN BLANCHETTE

**MONTAGUE** – The clear warm day was perfect for The Mutton and Mead Medieval Festival in its fourth year in Montague. Held on the grounds of the Millers Falls Rod and Gun Club, the spacious area was full of actors, musicians, dancers, craft and food vendors, plus any number of strange creatures and unique entertainers. The good weather this weekend contributed to an excellent turnout.

Entering from the road the first thing encountered was a huge parking area jam-packed with cars.

Young men on ATV's led cars to other young men in orange jackets who directed drivers to ever fewer parking spots. If the walk in was too far, a golf cart was there to bring you into the main fair area where an endless stream of people were arriving.

A walk or ride in – past a series of signs marking landmark events from the present age to 1210 – brought you to the main center of the fair, a huge wide open space surrounded by hay bales where people could sit and watch the events such as jousts and fire eating. People sat, stood, ate and watched while children played.

Children were everywhere, dressed in costumes, wearing wings and bangles, fascinated with the many characters they encountered on the road. Everywhere people walked and gathered along paths past vendors



BLANCHETTE PHOTOS

Children found many magical things to entertain them at the festival. These girls, one with fairy wings, touched the hairy legs of a strange being they encountered on the road.



*Diabolis In Musica member David Iris demonstrates the medieval bagpipes to audience members as the band warms up before the show. Sioux Gerow plays drums behind him. The group plays the music of medieval Europe.*

offering food and many other attractions.

Materials appropriate for medieval times, befitting the Robin Hood theme of the day, were offered by vendors you will rarely see elsewhere. Unique handmade jewelry was offered by artisans.

Many people wore fancy clothing, not modern fancy, but fancy in the fashion of medieval times when joy was expressed in dress with jangles, beads, shiny multicolored fabrics that said party, enjoy, look at me. Fairy wings were very popular and worn by young girls and women, along with shiny silver dangles tied around the waist.

Actors roamed to spout the language of Shakespeare, performing scenes right there at the edge of the woods.

Women and men pushed baby carriages though the dirt paths just to expose their young charges to experiences beyond what they would encounter in normal life. Men dressed in leather battle costumes, musicians strolled and madrigals sang on small stages set up all around.

In a small glen off the main area, musicians and dancers were waiting to begin their performances.

see MEAD page B4

## Buying, Selling, & Trading at Grout's Corner

BY JOE KWIECINSKI

**MILLERS FALLS** – John Davis, the personable co-owner of Grout's Corner Buy, Sell & Trade at 27 East Main St. in Millers Falls, is a man on a mission.

"People are always trying to save money," said Davis, who co-owns the thrift store with his wife, Lori. Mrs. Davis is a well-known bartender next door at the Millers' Pub.

"It's nice to know that we can offer quality merchandise at negotiable prices," added John, "with the economy the way it is. It just feels good to provide the opportunity to

help customers take home high-grade, serviceable materials while saving money."

Davis' shop feels steeped in history; Millers Falls itself was founded in 1824 as Grout's Corner, an agricultural community that drew its name from its very first settler, Petersham-born farmer Martin Grout.

And now, almost two centuries later, the name "Grout's Corner" has returned in the form of a shop designed for buying, selling, trading, and consignment.

Neatly placed around the store is a wide variety of merchandise. With a bow to modern times, the store features DVDs, laptop computers, an electric scooter, televisions, stereo equipment, and small kitchen appliances.

You'll also find costume jewelry, collectibles, books, dishware, glassware, furniture clocks, pictures, paintings, hand and power tools, antiques, trinkets, and old long-playing records among countless other articles.

A native of Los Angeles, Davis is proud of his diverse array of inventory. "I believe," he said, "in carrying only quality items. I don't want to offer any junk."

see GROUT page B4



SAWYER-LAUCANNO PHOTO

John Davis started the store last year.



## Celebrate Supper From Hadley Loam

By PETE WACKERNAGEL

**FRANKLIN COUNTY** – It was last December and the phrase grabbed my attention right away. The website stated, referring to my future employer: "... some of the best vegetable soil in the world."

It was just a single sentence in the middle of their homepage, unsubstantiated and with mysteriously no follow-up details, but it drew me in. I was in the middle of a several-month job search, and reading that sentence made me think, "maybe this is the one."

Now I've been farming here since the cold beginnings of this year's growing season, and I frequently contemplate in theories and guesses the meaning of "the best vegetable soil in the world."

Some of the answers to this question were readily apparent. The first thing I noticed was the utter flatness of the land. Coming from Vermont, I don't think that I knew what flat

was until I first came to this farm. The farm appeared to me to be a sheet of graph paper: the fields were blueish lines, and we were bird's-eye-view straw hats that circled around and between them.

This flatness is advantageous for agriculture because it minimizes erosion. In hilly places, whenever it rains, topsoil is washed downhill where it accumulates in the flatter valleys, or worse, ends up in rivers or streams.

In Vermont, this process accounts for the prosperousness of valley farms, and the relative impoverishment of the hill farms. This can be witnessed on basically any drive, especially when you consider that most of the current forestland you see is on abandoned farms.

Here where I farm in Sunderland, the flatness keeps the soil always in place.

The soil type on our farm is Hadley Loam. Loam soils are produced by a perfect balance

see LOAM page B4



BILLY HATHORN PHOTO//CREATIVE COMMONS

## Turners' de Christopher Shows at Lincoln's deCordova

By CHRISTOPHER  
SAWYER-LAUCANNO

**LINCOLN, MA** – Turners Falls artist Tim de Christopher's large-scale installation, *The Fruit of our Labors*, will be on view at the deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum beginning Saturday, June 28.

De Christopher, who has lived in Turners Falls for the last decade, is well-known as an artist who works in the tradition of stone carving.

Many of his works are on a grand scale. This installation is a large-scale narrative that explores the labors of man over the course of a lifetime.

*The Fruit of our Labors* was first exhibited in a somewhat different incarnation in December 2010 at the Oxbow Gallery in Northampton.

The new iteration of this installation at the deCordova is a large, timber-framed structure containing carved stone sculptures and weathered found objects.

Evocative of an ancient Greek temple, the structure acts as a monument: its items



COURTESY DECORDOVA MUSEUM

De Christopher's installation, *The Fruit of our Labors*

metaphorically pay tribute to a life lived, representing ideas that are both deeply personal and universally experienced.

De Christopher calls the work "in part an autobiographical narrative... it is about our legacies as well as our experiences through life."

De Christopher said that the former curator of the museum Nick Capasso had originally asked him for a proposal for a sculpture in 1999 but at the time de Christopher felt he wasn't quite ready.

Then, in 2011, Capasso saw the installation at the Oxbow and told him he wanted to exhibit it at deCordova.

The original idea was that it would be placed outside on the sculpture terrace, but when de Christopher worked up the details, the installation was too large for the space.

"After some back and forth, Nick gave me the gallery space inside," said de Christopher.

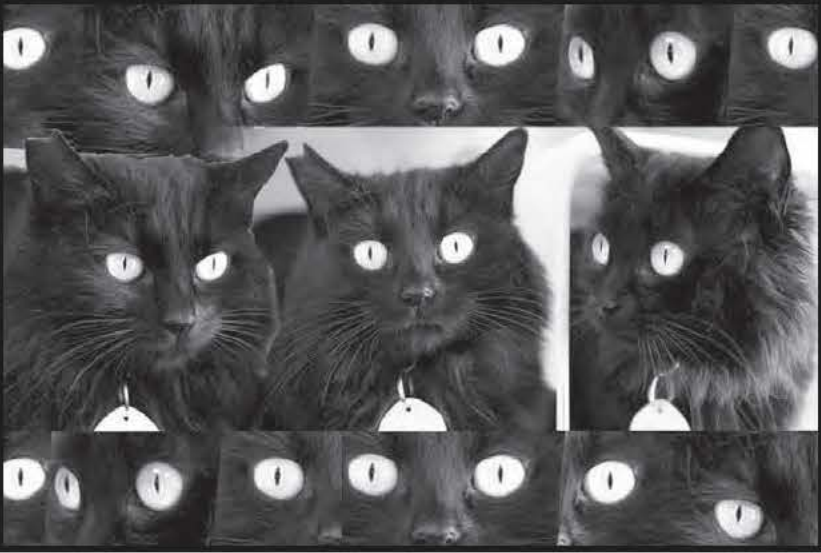
While the deCordova installation is quite similar to that exhibited in Northampton, de Christopher said there were also changes.

"When I dismantled the installation, I was in the process of selling my studio, and had a bunch of tag sales to

see SCULPTURE page B6



# Pet of the Week



## JYNX

My name’s Jynx! I’m a shy, sweet girl looking for a forever home!

I came here as a stray, with some kittens in tow! My babies are all grown up now and I’m ready to relax and take some time for myself.

If you have a house that you think could use a little warmth and charm, I’d be happy to supply some for the modest fee of a little bit of cuddling and love! Sound like a fair exchange?

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

# Senior Center Activities June 30 through July 4

**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.

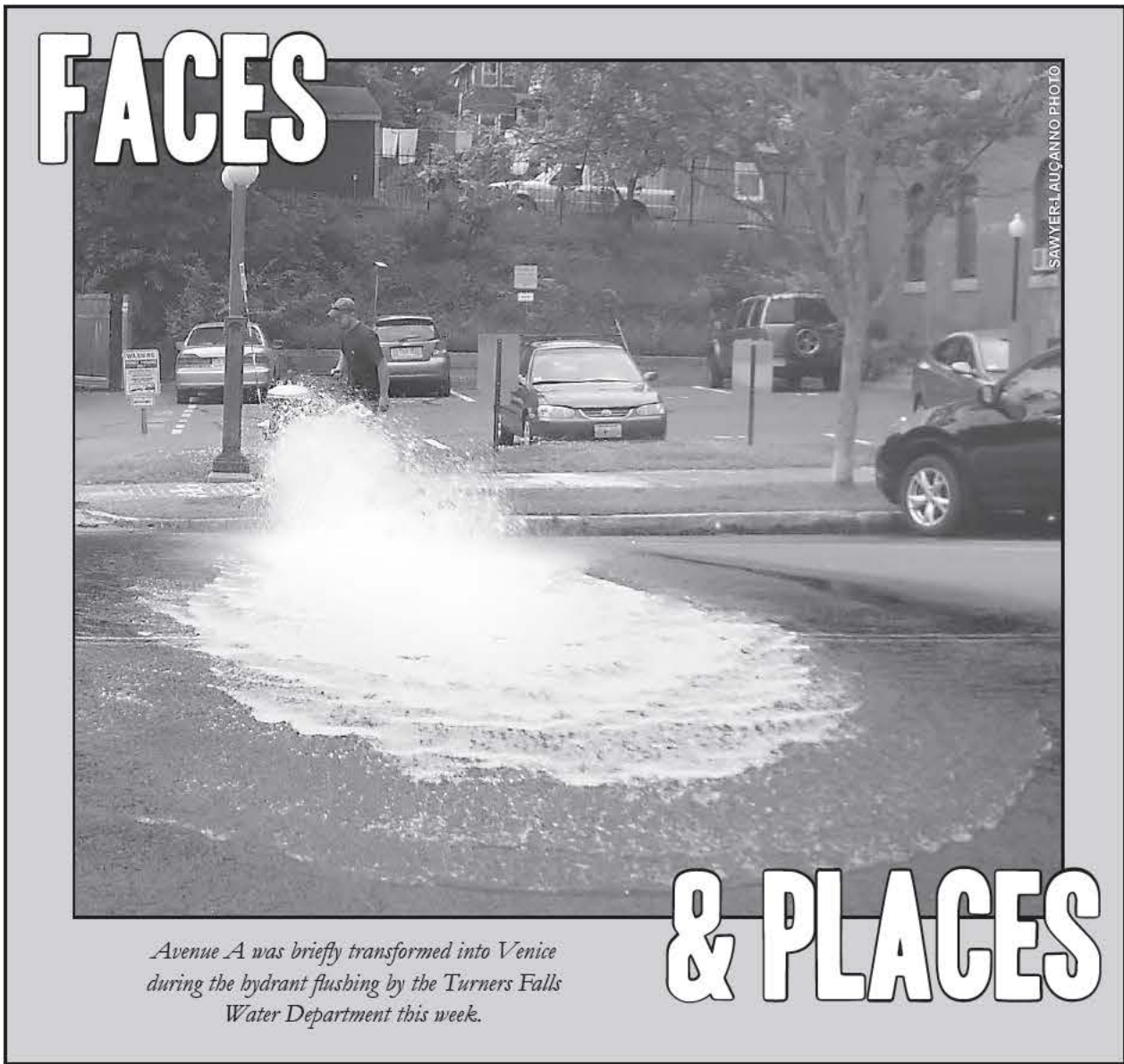
**Monday 6/30**  
10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise  
1 p.m. Knitting Circle  
**Tuesday 7/1**  
9:30 a.m. Chair Yoga (NEW TIME)  
Noon Lunch  
1 p.m. Americana in Song & Strawberries  
**Wednesday 7/2**  
10:10 a.m. Aerobics  
10:55 a.m. Chair Exercise  
Noon Lunch  
12:45 p.m. Bingo  
**Thursday 7/3**  
9 a.m. Tai Chi  
Noon Lunch  
1 p.m. Pitch & Five Crowns  
**Friday 7/4**  
Closed for Holiday

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

**ERVING**  
**Erving Senior Center**, 1 Care Drive, Ervingside, is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for activities and congregate meals.  
Lunch is at 11:30 a.m., with reservations required 24 hours in advance. Call Mealsite Manager Rebecca Meuse at (413) 423-3308, for meal information and reservations.  
For information, call Polly Kiely, Senior Center Director, at (413) 423-3649. Transportation can be provided for meals, shopping, or medical necessity.  
Call the Center to confirm activities, schedule a ride, or find out when is the next blood pressure clinic.

**Monday 6/30**  
9 a.m. Tai Chi  
10 a.m. Osteo Exercise  
12:30 a.m. Intermediate Quilting  
*Likely schedule based on recent weeks – call to confirm:*  
**Tuesday 7/1**  
8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics  
12:30 p.m. Painting  
**Wednesday 7/2**  
8:45 a.m. Line Dancing  
10 a.m. Chair Yoga  
Noon Bingo  
**Thursday 7/3**  
8:45 a.m. Aerobics  
10 a.m. Healthy Bones & Muscles  
**Friday 7/4** Closed for Holiday

**LEVERETT**  
For information, contact the Leverett COA at (413) 548-1022, ext. 5, or [coa@leverett.ma.us](mailto:coa@leverett.ma.us).  
Take-It-Easy Chair Yoga – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall. Drop-in \$5 (first class free). Senior Lunch – Fridays at noon. Call (413) 367-2694 by Wednesday for a reservation.



Avenue A was briefly transformed into Venice during the hydrant flushing by the Turners Falls Water Department this week.

# & PLACES

## THE HEALTHY GEEZER

# Testosterone, Twitching Eyes and Legionnaire’s Disease



By FRED CICETTI

*Q. I’m 68 and thinking of taking testosterone. Will it help me to feel younger?*

There is some controversy about whether testosterone therapy should be used in men who have naturally lower testosterone levels because of aging. It remains unclear whether restoring earlier testosterone levels benefits older men.

For example, studies found that healthy men who took testosterone medications got bigger muscles, but in most studies the men weren’t stronger. And, if you suffer from erectile dysfunction, taking testosterone may not relieve your condition.

The potential benefits of this therapy are: more muscle and strength, increased bone mineral density, thicker body hair and skin, elevated sexual desire, more energy, less irritability and depression, and improved mental capacity.

The potential risks are: growth of existing prostate cancer, benign growth of prostate that can wors

urinary problems, sleep apnea that makes you start and stop breathing as you sleep, reduced sperm production, fluid retention, baldness, skin reactions, enlarged breasts, testicle shrinkage, acne, and excess blood production that can increase your risk of heart disease.

*Q. I have a problem with twitching eyes. Is that a symptom of anything?*

Eye-twitching – also called eye spasms or blinking disorder – is known technically as *blepharospasm*. It usually is not a serious condition.

In most cases, the eyelid spasms stop on their own. The most common causes are fatigue, stress, prolonged staring, eye strain, and caffeine. The best remedies are more sleep, relaxation techniques, reduced caffeine, warm soaks, eye drops, and correcting vision deficiencies.

In most people, eye – twitching develops spontaneously. However, the symptoms of dry eye frequently precede it.

You should see an eye doctor if twitching continues for more than a week, completely closes your eyelid or affects other parts of your face. Other symptoms that require medical attention are a drooping upper eyelid, redness, swelling, or a discharge from your eye.

*Q. How do you get Legionnaires’ disease?*

Most people become infected with Legionnaires’ disease when they inhale microscopic water droplets containing legionella bacteria. If you choke or cough while drinking, you can get water in your lungs. If the water contains legionella, you may develop Legionnaires’ disease, which is a form of pneumonia.

Legionnaires’ disease primarily affects the lungs. However, it can cause infections in wounds and in other parts of the body, including the heart.

Those who are especially vulnerable to Legionnaires’ disease are older adults, smokers, heavy drinkers and people with weakened immune systems.

If not treated, Legionnaires’ disease can be fatal. Immediate treatment with antibiotics can usually cure Legionnaires’ disease.

The legionella bacteria usually are found in water; they grow best when the water is warm. So, legionella is often found in hot tubs, plumbing, water tanks, whirlpool spas on cruise ships and large air-conditioning systems.

Legionnaires’ disease is common in the United States. About 25,000 cases of the illness occur each year and cause more than 4,000 deaths. The fatality rate is similar to that of other forms of pneumonia, which is about 15 percent.

Questions? Send them to [fred@healthygeezer.org](mailto:fred@healthygeezer.org)

PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666

**Hampshire Hearing Services**  
*established 1984*  
**Glenn T Shinner, Au D**  
Hearing and Hearing Aid Technology Shaped by Clinical Knowledge Blended with Care & Patience To Optimize Social Interaction  
As an Audiology practice, it's who we are and what we do  
241 King Street, Suite 119 [Pot Pourri Plaza] Northampton • 413-586-9572  
**it's all about communication**

**Renaissance Excavating, Inc.**  
  
**COMPLETE SITE WORK**  
Septic & Drainage Systems | Sand, Gravel & Loam  
Main Road, Gill  
**Douglas Edson 413.863.4462**  
[renexc@gmail.com](mailto:renexc@gmail.com) cell 413.834.2201

**Hartnett Plumbing**  
Water Heaters, Drain Cleaning, Remodeling, Repairs  
"We give you a place to go"  
184 Jacksonville Road  
Colrain 413-624-0044  
**Serving all of Franklin County**  
Mass. License #13175

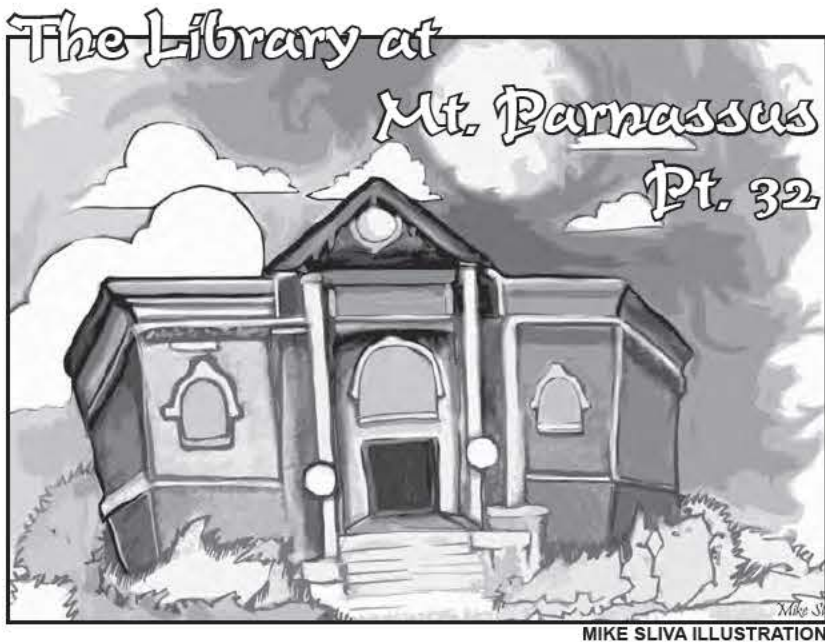
**HK**  
**Power Town Apartments**  
152 Avenue A  
P.O. Box 48  
Turners Falls, MA  
413-863-9433  
professionally managed by:  
**HallKeen Management, Inc.**  
rental office on the corner of Ave. A & 4th St.  
**Sharon Cottrell**  
Property Manager

**REAL PICKLES**  
*Naturally Fermented & Raw*  
  
Available at  
Old Depot Gardens,  
Uppinwil, and Food City!  
[www.realpickles.com](http://www.realpickles.com)  
(413)774-2600 Greenfield, MA

**mww**  
Montague WebWorks . com  
make the web work for your business  
**michael muller**  
owner  
413.320.5336  
28 Center Street  
montague, ma 01351  
[info@montaguetwebworks.com](mailto:info@montaguetwebworks.com)



At Creon's bike store, the players dream of a winning hand, as the wind blows through.



MIKE SLIVA ILLUSTRATION

By DAVID DETMOLD

It was Creon's job to feed the fire in the woodstove, and he did this casually, plucking cordwood from the pile and tossing the logs backwards over his shoulder into the oil drum stove, without looking.

He sat and contemplated his cards and stroked his beard, of which he seemed especially vain.

Creon left the lid on the woodstove more than half ajar. The flames licked up and tried to reach the steel rims and wheels hanging from the ceiling, which twisted in the updraft, banging against each other softly with the sound of distant bells.

The wind blew in through the open door and caused more ripples in the ranks of pendant wheels.

The whole room sounded like an ill tuned Glockenspiel. The mobile of spoked metal just above our heads remained nearly constantly in motion, wandering in concentric waves, making me feel queasy if I looked up from the card table for too long.

From his accustomed perch, Creon fed the fire. Through dint of long practice, he tossed the logs without a backward glance, and rarely missed his aim. But occasionally a piece of cordwood went wild. Some of the panes in the long bay window at the front of the store were cracked, and nearer the stove the glass was missing entirely.

Creon kept the woodbox filled with logs delivered by a primitive cog rail and a sort of logging flume he had rigged up on the mountain-side. He owned land up there, or said he did.

Locals helped him out, bucking up fallen trees, or felling standing dead wood – it was mostly red oak up on Mt Parnassus, with poplar, spruce and hemlock vying for space in the slanting sunlight.

The cog rail was powered by a noisy hydraulic engine he kept in the back of his store and fueled with ichor, a high octane blend that smelled like anise oil and tasted like nasal spray when we mixed it with our store bought alcohol.

"You bet!" said Jack, startling Christo from his daze.

Christo put down his cards and looked at each of us in turn.

"I had a different dream," he said smugly. "Last night. I dreamed the Earth stood still, and every leaf on every tree hung limp in the dead calm. The air was rank. The sun shone bright at noon.

"The rivers and lakes hissed like snakes and clouds of steam rose up to the heavens. Great lizards sat basking on the shore. Basilisks of fire, they expanded in the heat, ever brighter. Mountains smoked and oceans boiled and all the tongues of man were raised in clamor and then were still. A baby cried; then all was silent."

We waited, but there was nothing more.

"Ace bets," said Jack, looking pointedly at Creon.

"I bet your life for a kiss from Diana over at the White Horse. If she won't come through, I'll pop your fifth vertebra out with a chain link tool and carve it into a pretty little napkin ring for her place setting at breakfast."

Jack snorted. "You're a lout," he said.

"And you're a joker," said Creon. "Pass that bottle to me."

Creon did not keep a neat and tidy store.

He used to be kinder to his customers in the old days, before he lost his son to a swimming accident.

"Jack?" I said tentatively.

At an earlier poker game I had beaten Jack for the last hand. That same night I had had a vivid dream about one of Jack's more famous sketches, his interpretation of *Nixon Agonistes*, which made the cover of Ramparts.

But in my dream his caricature had come to life – larger than life – with a great bulbous Nixon looming right above me, his fetid wattles supported on long poles carried by Hmong villagers, fly spawn and maggots sifting out from beneath the dank folds of flesh, and the dark lagoons at the corners of his eyes swarming with eels.

I resolved never to beat Jack at cards again.

"I pass," said Jack.

"You can't pass," I hissed.

"Check, then."

"Your call," said Creon, staring at me.

*Continued next week.*

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

# Fireworks; Tree Work; Joyrides; Campfires; Flipping Out; Breaking Into The Creemee: It's Summerrrrr!

**Monday, 6/16**

1:38 a.m. Report that horses were loose on Wendell Road again. Officers and farm owner were able to corral them back into a pasture. Message left for animal control officer.

10:37 a.m. Report of assault in downtown Turners Falls; victim injured and unable to come to station. Statement taken; surveillance footage of area reviewed. Summons for arrest issued on charges of aggravated assault and battery; assault and battery with a dangerous weapon; unarmed robbery; and intimidating a witness.

11:02 a.m. Two 911 calls reporting motor vehicle accident on Montague City Road at Masonic Avenue. Medcare, TFFD, and WMECO en route. One party transported to hospital.

11:43 a.m. Caller reports that one of his company vehicles on Industrial Boulevard was vandalized/tampered with; someone appears to have loosened the bolts under the vehicle. Responding officer found that several incidents of vandalism had occurred. Report taken; advised of options.

12:05 p.m. Bicycle and two power tools reported stolen from yard on Montague Street. Report taken.

5:06 p.m. Caller from Ivy Street reports a fox in her backyard, just hanging out. Unsure if it is sick. Referred to an officer.

5:54 p.m. A male was arrested on an outstanding warrant.

**Tuesday, 6/17**

2:32 a.m. Nearby homeowner reports that alarm is sounding at Country Creemee. Responding officers advise that entry was made. Prints lifted. Report taken.

6:39 a.m. Caller reporting that someone is setting off fireworks near Seventh and L Streets in the early mornings on a regular basis. Request for officer to monitor area. Party later called back to advise that his downstairs neighbor was the one setting off fireworks; party states that this is reportedly some type of traditional thing to do in the neighbor's home country. Party requested that neighbor stop.

10:15 p.m. Complaint regarding two possibly intoxicated males leaving F.L. Roberts with open containers. Parties were loud and swearing in front

of caller's child. Report taken.

10:18 p.m. Numerous callers reporting rollover motor vehicle crash on Montague City Road with wires down. Road shut down. Lifelight requested. TFFD, WMECO, and State Police accident recon unit on scene. DPW and Water Department contacted. Paradise Parkway closed for the night due to amount and size of debris in road.

**Wednesday, 6/18**

8:41 a.m. FRTA reports that the window of one of their buses was damaged by falling debris at the Avenue A/Third Street bus stop; debris was from tree work being performed by a company that is contracted out by DPW. No passengers on bus at time of incident. DPW and officer will be following up.

10:51 a.m. Caller from Gunn Road reports that his neighbor's pit bull has come after his chickens again. One chicken injured. Caller has brought children and pets inside, but dog is still loose. Caller reports that this is an ongoing issue for which the animal control officer has responded before. Dog picked up by ACO and brought to kennel. Owner of dog, upon calling to inquire about its whereabouts, required to speak to ACO before retrieving dog.

12:23 p.m. Two reports of a bear sighting near Millers Falls Rod & Gun Club and Randall Road.

1:08 p.m. Caller reporting that a yellow lab was following her and her children on the bike path and acting aggressively towards her dog. Animal control officer responded; area search negative.

3:34 p.m. Caller stated that upon returning home from work today, he found his car, which was parked on Fifth Street, covered with wood chips, dust, and shavings from tree work done next to the car. Officer observed damage to vehicle. DPW stated that work was being done by an outside contractor and that this was the second complaint about them today.

6:56 p.m. Caller requesting an officer to help a turtle with a fish hook in its mouth in the parking lot at Seventh Street and Avenue A.

11:35 p.m. K9 unit assisted Greenfield PD in tracking a suspect.

**Thursday, 6/19**

5:54 a.m. At request of Sunderland PD, worked with DPW to divert traffic on Old Sunderland Road while Falls Road was closed due to a downed tree and electrical line hazard.

11:33 a.m. Fire alarm and simultaneous 911 call from Franklin County Technical School. TFFD advised that alarm was caused by a pull station being knocked off the wall.

2:13 p.m. Caller requesting welfare check on operator of an older model blue Ford pickup who was seen falling down several times before entering his vehicle and driving away from the Food City parking lot; subject appeared either to be drunk or to be having a medical problem. Area checked; unable to locate.

2:26 p.m. Caller from Erving reporting a group of kids jumping off the Dorsey Road footbridge into shallow water without adult supervision. Referred to Erving PD.

5:58 p.m. Accident at Scotty's Convenience Store; party's foot reportedly slipped from brake and hit gas, sending vehicle over the curb and into a railing. Party's dog, a black lab, jumped out the back window when this happened. Party called shortly thereafter to advise that the dog had been located.

6:28 p.m. [redacted] was arrested and charged with possession with intent to distribute a Class A drug; conspiracy to violate drug law; possession of a Class B drug; and possession of a Class A drug.

[redacted] was arrested and charged with possession of a Class A drug and knowingly being present where heroin is kept.

10:14 p.m. Party into station to report that he had just had \$1800 stolen from him. Suspects located and held by Greenfield PD; Montague officer en route.

**Friday, 6/20**

4:24 a.m. Caller just witnessed a white male steal a bicycle from his apartment complex on Griswold Street. Caller is following subject at a distance. Bike ditched at top of hill area. Officer and caller returned bicycle to home. Unable to locate suspect.

7:57 a.m. Caller reports that his black 1996 Chevy Tahoe is missing from his driveway on Montague City Road. Vehicle entered

as stolen; Greenfield PD and State Police advised.

12:52 p.m. Officer encountered party who was "flipping out" at Hillcrest Apartments. Party identified and has since calmed down; was upset over a money issue.

4:00 p.m. Caller concerned about male riding bicycle outside his house on Hillside Road while caller's daughter is outside riding her bike. Officer spoke to male party, who apologized if the child felt threatened and left the area.

7:30 p.m. Caller reports there is an item in the road that looks like a "homemade firecracker." Officer located empty fireworks casing from a spent firework and will dispose of it.

8:22 p.m. Caller complaining of a blue truck that travels at a high rate of speed past her house on Davis Street; advises that this is an ongoing issue. Vehicle operator located; verbal warning issued.

9:27 p.m. Report of a large group of about 20 young people gathered outside the Shea Theatre. Officers report no problem; large group was gathered for Chinese food.

9:32 p.m. Greenfield police advising of possible drunk driver headed to Turners Falls. Suspect located. Call received from female party who learned that her daughter might be in the company of the suspect and might be "smoking weed." Officer advised. Mother in to station to pick up daughter; involved parties spoken to.

11:16 p.m. Complaint regarding small gathering with stereo and contained campfire in alley between Fourth and Fifth Streets. Parties advised to keep noise down.

**Saturday, 6/21**

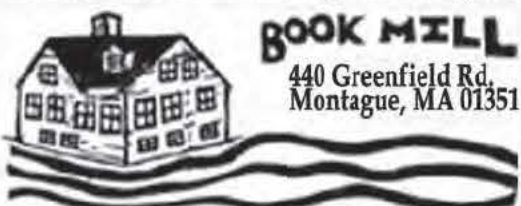
2:29 p.m. L Street resident reported finding a hypodermic needle in the area in front of her house. Unable to locate. Resident called back later with more specific information. Item located and disposed of properly.

8:11 p.m. Caller reports vehicle stuck in mud under high tension lines off Hillside Road. Vehicle confirmed to be the one reported stolen on Friday. Owner contacted. Heavy damage to vehicle, but it is still operable.

8:43 p.m. A summons for arrest was issued to a party who was using fireworks outside Simon's Stamps.

**PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK 12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666**

Summer hours: Mon-Wed 10-6, Thurs-Sun, 10-8



413-367-9206 www.montaguebookmill.com  
Books you don't need in a place you can't find.



SINCE 1970  
LICENSED, INSURED  
INTERIOR/EXTERIOR PAINTING, ALL PHASES  
POWER WASHING

BRIAN MCCUE, PRESIDENT  
240 GREENFIELD ROAD • MONTAGUE, MA 01351  
PHONE & FAX: 413-367-9896 • RENAISSANCEPAINTINGCOMPANY.COM

**Dudek Tax Service**

10 Masonic Ave  
Turners Falls  
MA 01376

**Frank J. Dudek**

**Kelly Berthiaume**

413.863.5394 - Office

413.775.3327 - Cell

frankd\_74@yahoo.com



**DOLAN & DOLAN**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

174 AVENUE A  
TURNERS FALLS MASSACHUSETTS  
01376  
413-863-3133

PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP

COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE  
**KUSTOM AUTOBODY**  
MA Reg #RS2066



48 Randall Road  
Montague  
Phone/413-863-3780

Mike Fuller, Owner

**NEEDFUL THINGS**  
SELLING QUALITY  
USED FURNITURE  
AND COLLECTIBLES



~ NEW ITEMS ARRIVE WEEKLY! ~

Open Monday-Saturday • 413-774-7430

199 Deerfield Street (Rtes. 5& 10), Greenfield



**GROUT** from page B1

"I'm also proud that our list of offerings is constantly changing. I have a lot of people who stop by to check for new arrivals.

"You can save a lot of money by shopping wisely. Some customers might have a wish list. For example, you might be looking for a Civil War chess set.

"If you're looking for something hard to find, we'll get it for you. For a lot of elderly folks who don't have Internet capability, I'm delighted to search for something difficult for them to get."

Grout's Corner opened in October of last year. "The price was right," said John, "for my wife and I to open up a second-hand store.

"I had a lot of inventory around

my house. I thought it was an opportunity to liquidate. Now I have more things than when we started, and I've even rented a storage space."

In addition, Davis, who recently turned 55 years old and appears years younger, is a professional musician. He's a keyboard player who's a veteran of the Las Vegas circuit.

Just a while back, he was asked to join the highly successful regional band Shakin' All Over, which has many devoted fans in the area, as its keyboardist.

Davis also is a karaoke D.J. He can be seen and heard every Friday night at Between The Uprights in Turners Falls.

Looking to the future, Davis

says he would like to create a small hardware section at Grout's Corner some day.

"I'd like to make things a little easier for customers," said Davis. "My plans are to carry nails, screws, tape (masking and duct), glue, and other helpful items. People will find it convenient to just drop in and pick up what they need."

Davis is holding a 25% off sale for the month of June, and is thinking of extending the values through July.

For more information about Grout's Corner in Millers Falls, please call John Davis at (413) 824-8421, or drop him a note at [groutscorner@gmail.com](mailto:groutscorner@gmail.com).

**LOOKING BACK****10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK**

*Here's the way it was on June 24, 2004: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.*

**Softball Team Wins State Championship 2-1**

On June 19 the Turners Falls High School Girls Softball team beat defending champions Cardinal Spellman High of Brockton to bring home the first state trophy for a Franklin County softball team, ever.

It was a close game, and much credit for the win was due to a strong showing by pitcher Julie Girard. She went six and two thirds innings, struck out six, walked one, and gave up 5 hits.

"I was trying to keep my composure," said Girard after the game. "I was trying not to vomit." She succeeded on both counts, striking out the final two batters as Turners Girls Softball finally tasted state championship victory.

**Environmental Assessment At the Old Rod Shop**

At the Selectboard meeting on June 21, town planner Robin Sherman shared news that the EPA appropriated a sum of \$100,000 for the environmental assessment of the old Rod Shop factory in Montague City.

The environmental review is the first step in a process Sherman and the town hope will pave the way for the building to be sold to a private investor for redevelopment of the property.

**GMRS D Turns Down Coca-Cola Scoreboard**

On June 22, the Gill Montague Regional School District voted 5-4 to turn down an offer from Coca Cola to provide a new scoreboard for the Turners Falls High School athletic fields – an \$11,500 item – in exchange for a contract to exclusively sell Coca-Cola brand beverages in the school complex.

Vending machines had already been in the schools for more than 20 years, and provided some money for equipment and supplies for the students.

Opponents argued against the contract from several angles including Coca-Cola's global trade and labor practices, the issues around accepting corporate money, and the negative health effects connected to drinking sodas.

Members of the school committee who voted against the contract voiced support for a new scoreboard, but decided not to fund it with "Coke money."

**MEAD** from page B1

As people gathered, sitting on hay bales arranged in a semi-circle around the small stage, the musicians warmed up and dancers slipped in and out of small tents on the side.

The band, Diabolis in Musica, made up of musicians playing several types of drums and bagpipes, prepared to provide the music for the Caravan Dancers, a lively group of women performing dances choreographed by Pacita Prasarn.

Musician David Irish took the time to demonstrate the bagpipe he was playing, an ancient instrument that preceded the modern bagpipe. Its three long pipes, he explained, all have different tones. His haunting sounds were perfect for the dancers.

The first dance performed was a full-skirted version of a belly dance where the dancers circled together and moved quickly around the stage with joyous energy.

A second dance was more intricate, with dancers dressed in black hooded capes, moving towards and



BLANCHETTE PHOTO

*Caravan Dancers entertain festival-goers on Sunday. Behind them, left to right, on drums, musicians Levi Ali and Sioux Gerow of Diabolis in Musica.*

away from each other in a dramatic fashion, with hints of color peeping out as one or another dancer pulled down her hood and revealed a bright skirt under the black.

The show ended with the dancers inviting audience members to join them in dance. Children and adults were happy to do so and a good time was had by all.

Mutton and Mead offers this annual festival and contributes a portion of it's proceeds to support The Food Bank and The Montague Common Hall. They invite members of the community to become involved.

You can learn more at their website, [www.muttonand-mead.org](http://www.muttonand-mead.org).

**LOAM** from page B1

of sand, silt, and a smaller amount of clay. They are the only soil type that is not vastly dominated by one of these components.

Loam soils have more nutrients, moisture, and humus than sandy soils. They have better drainage and infiltration than silty soils. And they are way easy to till compared to clay.

Basically, loam is considered ideal for agricultural uses.

But why is the soil under our feet Hadley Loam anyway? Why is the best soil for growing vegetables right here in the Valley?

The answer to these questions is Lake Hitchcock. Lake Hitchcock was formed 15,000 years ago at the end of the last ice age during the retreat of the Laurentide Ice Sheet. During this ice age, a glacier that initially formed in the Laurentian Mountains north of Montreal grew in size and crept southward, reaching its furthest point at Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket.

These islands were formed by debris such as soil, rocks, and sand being pushed off the edge of the gla-

cier, which acted like an enormous icy conveyor belt. But that's a topic for another day.

When the warming climate caused the glacier to return to the north, a ridiculous amount of melted glacier water, trapped behind a dam of sediment at Rocky Hill, CT, caused the formation of Lake Hitchcock. The entire region some now call the Pioneer Valley was under this lake.

Our soil here was formed by processes occurring in this lake. The weight and movement of the glacier had ground rocks into a fine dust that were carried into the lake by melt-water streams.

During the summer, large-particle silt and sand settled to the bottom of the lake. In the winter, due to the calmness of the water underneath the frozen top, fine-grained clay managed to drift to the lake floor.

Year after year this layering process continued, building, in relatively short geologic time, our Hadley Loam.

I'm really happy to be growing vegetables here in Sunderland, down at the bottom of Lake Hitch-

cock, because I know that what we are producing, what I am eating, are some of the best, most nutrient-dense vegetables on earth.

Vegetables that are grown in our well-managed five-foot deep Hadley Loam topsoil are charged with the nutrients and minerals that we need for wellness and vibrancy.

According to the Nutrient Dense Project, beets that they grew in soil managed for fertility had 193% the protein, 151% the zinc, and 931% the calcium of USDA averages for beets, and I would guess that vegetables from my farm would show similar results.

Even though people fled most parts of New England for over a hundred years in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries for better soil to the west, here in the dry bed of Lake Hitchcock the Pioneer Valley has a unique, and nationally important, agricultural resource.

I feel great pride eating food grown in our Hadley Loam. To me, it's a kind of patriotism that feels real and grounded, a 4<sup>th</sup> of July to celebrate every supper.

**MONTAGUE CRYPTOJAM!**

**DS JEB ONRC QCCL WEIRDLY POCWC  
UBGGICW XDPOEBP CANDIDLY BW,  
TNL JEB ICP BW FLEX?**

CRACK THE CODE? SEND YOUR ANSWER TO:  
[INFO@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG](mailto:INFO@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG)

**APRIL AND MAY  
CRYPTOJAM ANSWERSSSS!**

**APRIL 10:** An object in possession seldom retains the same charm that it had in pursuit. - Pliny the Younger

**APRIL 17:** Champagne is just gingerale that knows somebody. - Hawkeye from MASH

**APRIL 24:** "Experience is a private, and very largely speechless, affair." - James Baldwin

**MAY 1:** Any kid will run any errand for you, if you ask at bedtime. - Red Skelton

**MAY 8:** In the old days, men had the rack. Now they have the press. - Oscar Wilde

**MAY 15:** Nature is as wasteful of promising young men as she is of fish spawn. -Richard Hughes

**MAY 22:** General knowledges are those knowledge(s) that idiots possess. -William Blake [WE LEFT OFF A LETTER!]

**KEEP DOING CRYPTOJAMMMM!**

**PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666**

**Renaissance Builders**

*Quality, Craftsmanship, Original Thought*

[www.renbuild.net](http://www.renbuild.net)  
863-8316

**SKIP'S ROADSIDE DINER**

**POLISH, ITALIAN & AMERICAN FARE**  
Open 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM Daily · Closed Sundays

*Boston Globe States:*

**Best Polish Food this side of Krakow!**

24 French King Hwy @ Gill Bridge  
(413) 863-9991

**COUTURE BROS**

*Since 1910*

**Professional Painting & Decorating Contractor**

Commercial • Residential • Industrial

**"SERVING WESTERN MASS FOR OVER 100 YEARS"**

[www.couturebros.com](http://www.couturebros.com)  
400 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA • 413-863-4346

**Pipione's**

*SPORT SHOP*

- **Fishing supplies; Live bait**
- **Fishing & Hunting Licenses**
- **Paintball & CO<sub>2</sub> Refills**
- **Guns & Ammo**

Open 7 am 7 days a week  
101 Ave A, Turners 414.863.4246

**Simply Computing**

Onsite Software Support on PCs and Macs from Windows to Office to QuickBooks

Debbe Dugan  
863-5030



SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION  
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL  
DOORS & OPENERS

*Devine Overhead Doors*

*Gerry Devine*

106 West Street  
Hadley, MA. 01035

Hampshire: 586-3161  
Franklin: 773-9497



## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT



JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION

## ONGOING:

## EVERY SUNDAY

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

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

## EVERY TUESDAY

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Kiddleidoscope Tuesday*. Hands-on environmental experience for young children. Story, interactive game and craft with rotating topics. Ages 3-6 with a parent or guardian. 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.

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

## EVERY WEDNESDAY

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

Great Falls Farmer's Market, Turners Falls, 2 to 6 p.m.

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

## EVERY THURSDAY

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

## EVERY FRIDAY

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

## ART SHOWS:

Porter-Phelps-Huntington House Museum, Hadley: *Field Notes 4: Transect* an exhibition of drawings, paintings, collages and sculptures created by architects Sigrid Miller Pollin and Stephen Schreiber, and landscape architect Jane Thurber. On display through Oct 15.

Leverett Library: *Marked Oddities* on paper paintings by Jake Blais, for the month of June.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Candace Silver's photography*. On display through July 16

## EVENTS:

## FRIDAY, JUNE 27

McCusker's Market, Shelburne Falls: Artist's reception. Meet painter *Peter Ruhf* whose work is on display, 5 to 7 p.m.

Mohawk Trail Concerts, Federated Church, Charlemont presents: *Chamber Music Festival*, trios for flute, gamba and harpsichord by C.P.E. Bach, Rameau and Pousseur, as well as Lewis Spratlan's horn Quartet honoring victims of the 2012 Newtown CT tragedy. Open rehearsal, free, 7 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *The Black Feathers*, Americana folk rock, benefit concert for the Shelburne Falls Military Band, \$, 8 p.m.

Montague Bookmill, Montague Center: *Bulldog with Drunk Men*

of *Power CD Release*, \$, 8 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Nobody's Fat*, Techno Jazz Trio, 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Girl Cat Adams-Aaron Cappucci*, rock-blues-singer songwriter, 9:30 p.m.

## SATURDAY, JUNE 28

Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Bike Path Bingo! Canal-side Nature Walk for Kids*, 10:30 a.m.

JCPA Black Box, 110 Industrial Blvd, Turners Falls: *Ja'Duke Shows presents The LaClaires* in concert, \$, 4 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Wildcat Wendell Bluesfest*, benefit Friends of Wendell. Lineup of area blues stars, includes *Wally "Sweet Daddy" Greaney, Emily Duff of the Raft, Charlie Scott of the Reprobates, Dave Boatwright* and *Dangerboy Howarth*,



*Zydeco Connection at the Energy Park, Greenfield on Sunday, June 29th COOP Concerts, 6 p.m.*

and a dual Harp Girl attack of *Cait Squires* and *Sarah "Wildkiten" O'Halloran*, \$, 5 p.m.

Mohawk Trail Concerts, Federated Church, Charlemont: 2014 *Chamber Music Festival*, see 6/27 listing, \$, 7:30 p.m.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: *The Alpha Incident* film showing as part of the Science Fiction/Fantasy and Horror/Monster movie series, 7:30 p.m.

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Ashley Jordan, Country/Americana*, \$, 7:30 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *The Chickenyard* Americana roots rock, 8 p.m.

Route 63 Roadhouse, Millers Falls: *AfterGlo*, current & classic rock, \$, 9:30 p.m.

## SUNDAY, JUNE 29

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Nicol Wander, Puppetry - The Princess and the Pea*. \$, 4 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Mark Nomad*, solo/acoustic, 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *TNT*

*Karaoke*, 9 p.m.

Energy Park, Greenfield: *Russell Kaback* - funky island beats, soulful grooves, rootsy reggae and heartfelt folk. Also *Zydeco Connection* - high energy dance band, a mix of zydeco, two-steps, waltzes & boogie woogie, 6 p.m.

## MONDAY, JUNE 30

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Burrie's Open Mic/Mike/Mic*, 8 p.m. with sign-ups at 7:30 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Patrick Fitzsimmons* singer/songwriter, 8 p.m.

## THURSDAY, JULY 3

Energy Park, Greenfield: COOP Concerts with *Austin & Elliott* - striking harmonies, thought provoking lyrics, *Daniel Hales*, and *the frost heaves*. - eclectic blend of alternative/indie, Americana, folk and *Rich Briere and Friends* - creative musical melodies and harmonies, 6 p.m.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *The Collected Poets Series* poetry reading featuring *Neil Shepard & Sarah Sousa*, 7 p.m.

1794 Meetinghouse, New Salem: *Tumbling Bones*, Traditional American Music, \$, 7:30 p.m.

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

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Alice Brightsky* indie folk pop, 8 p.m.

Silverthorne Theater Company: *"Black Comedy"*, a farce by Peter Shaffer, performed at Rhodes Art Center, Northfield Mount Hermon School, Gill, \$, 8 p.m.

Arts Block, Greenfield: *Randy Smith and His Band of Merry Men*, with *Jandee Lee Porter Band, Holly May Brown*, and *Charlie Farren*, \$, 8 p.m.

## FRIDAY, JULY 4

On the Riverbank at the Charlemont Bridge, Mohawk Trail Concerts: *Jazz with The Odd Couple and Friends*, an Independence Day, free, outdoor, family concert. Musicians include horn player, arranger and composer *John Clark*, bassoonist *Michael Rabinowitz*, guitarist *Freddie Bryant*, clarinetist *Doug*

Yates, percussionist *Abe Fogle* and bassist *Marty Jaffe*. Folding chairs suggested, or float up on a boat in the Deerfield River. In case of rain, held in the Federated Church, Charlemont, 4 p.m.

Silverthorne Theater Company: *"Black Comedy"*, a farce by Peter Shaffer, performed at Rhodes Art Center, Northfield Mt. Hermon School, Gill, \$, 8 p.m.

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



**The Brick House**  
COMMUNITY RESOURCE  
CENTER

24 3rd Street, Turners Falls

Teen Drop-In Center  
Tues.-Sat., 2:30-6:00 p.m.

For information:

www.brickhousecommunity.org  
(413) 863-9576



**Draft Beer** **Great Food**  
**Fine Wine**

Friday, 6/27 9 p.m.  
*Nobody's Fat, Techno Jazz Trio*  
Saturday, 6/28 5 p.m.  
*Wildcat Blues Festival*  
Sunday, 6/29 8 p.m.  
*Mark Nomad, solo acoustic*

**978-544-BREW**

**57A Lockes Village Road**  
Next to the Wendell Country Store  
www.DejaBrewPub.com



**THURS. 6/26 8pm FREE**  
**Scott Lawson Pomeroy**  
**FEAR NO 80s**

**FRI. 6/27 9:30 FREE**  
**Aaron Cappucci & friends**

**SAT. 6/28 9:30**  
**tba or no show (call us)**

**SUN. 6/29 Free**  
**6pm "Music to eat By" (DJ)**  
**9pm TNT KARAOKE**

**78 THIRD STREET**  
**TURNERS FALLS, MA**  
**RENDEZVOUSTFMA.COM**  
**TEL: 413-863-2866**

**THE LADY KILLIGREW:**  
*Awesome Beer*  
*Amazing Food*

*Amazing, Awesome Employees!*  
440 Greenfield Rd, Montague MA  
7 Days / 8am - 11pm (at least)  
(413) 367-9666

**PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$9.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666**

### Doug's Auto Body

Doug Smith - Owner



MA Reg. #RS2190

Ph. (413) 863-2785 39 Center Road  
Fax: (413) 863-0120 Gill, MA 01354  
**FREE ESTIMATES** **FREE LOANER CARS**  
**REPAIRS ON FOREIGN & DOMESTIC CARS AND TRUCKS**

**413-256-6217**  
*fine instruments*  
*bought and sold*  
*repaired and restored*

**Fretted Instrument Workshop**  
**49 So. Pleasant St., Amherst, Mass. 01002**

**BASICALLY BICYCLES**  
*Come try the ultimate in performance and comfort.*

*Recumbents • Trikes • Electric Bikes*

88 Third Street, Turners Falls, MA 01376  
(413) 863-3556 • www.basicallybicycles.com  
David Carr • dave@basicallybicycles.com

### FOUR WINDS SCHOOL

The strengths of the one-room school meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

**nurturing each student's strengths and curiosity, challenging every student every day, helping students develop the determination and the basic skills they need to follow their own inspiration**

413 863-8055 www.fourwinds school.info

**Brian R. San Soucie**  
**Locksmith - CRL**  
*Serving the Area for over 25 years* *Certified • Bonded • Insured*

**We Install all Types of Locks & Entry Devices for Businesses and Homes**

• Dead Bolts  
• Household Lock Sets  
• We Master Key & Re-Key  
• Safe Combinations Changed

28 Montague Street  
Turners Falls, MA 01376  
**863-2471**  
**Fax 863-8022**

**THE HARP**  
**IRISH PUB**

**GREAT SEAFOOD & GOOD TIMES**  
**Irish Seisun Music**  
*Thursday 4 to 7*  
*Friday 9 to 1*

163 Sunderland Rd. • Amherst  
(413) 548-6900

**[Pam Veith REAL ESTATE]**  
**Barbara A. Edson-Greenwald**  
REALTOR, ABR, CRS, e-PRO, GRI, SRES, CBR

Office: (413) 498-0207 x2  
Cell: (413) 834-4444  
Home: (413) 863-9166  
Home Fax: (413) 863-0216  
bedson1@comcast.net

75 Main Street, Suite 105,  
Northfield, MA 01360

www.PamVeithRealEstate.com

**TNT PRODUCTIONS**  
**DJ & KARAOKE SPECIALISTS**  
*"We Know Entertainment"*

**www.tntprodj.net**  
**413-522-6035**

**CRUISE & TRAVEL COMPANY**

**30 Montague St.**  
**TURNERS FALLS**

**413-863-3143 | 888-763-3143**  
**www.cruiseandtravelcompany.com**



**SCULPTURE** from B1 also get rid of lots of things, including some of the items I'd used in the Oxbow installation.

"When this opportunity came about, I ended up having to buy similar items off of eBay! I managed to get most things I needed, but I paid a whole lot more for them than I had originally."

He did say, however, that there are some new additions to this version, mainly carved limestone bees and beehives.

De Christopher, who became a mason in 2009, noted that freemasonry is an aspect of the installation: "Beehives and bees are Masonic symbols," he said, "and I wanted to incorporate them into the work."

Along with the bees, a plethora of objects adorn the sculpture, most of them everyday objects resituated in this new context.

Among the items are a watering can, a horseshoe, a bell, a ladle, stones, slate roofing tiles and a variety of tools including a scythe, a saw, wrenches, a pitchfork, ham-

mers, chains, hooks, brooms, pulleys, an awl, a plumb bob and even a millstone.

In addition, de Christopher incorporated old, worn, books as well as a variety of weights suspended by ropes.

The cumulative effect is startling, dynamic and enigmatic. Woe and wonder abound.

For the installation at the museum, de Christopher had to completely rebuild the earlier piece, then reinstall the work in the gallery.

"It's been a bit grueling," he said. "But also fun."

Since selling his studio, the former Chick's Garage (now River Station), de Christopher has been working out of another building he owns: the old German Lodge, located in the alley off Second Street in Turners Falls.

*The Fruit of Our Labors* is on display at the museum from Saturday, June 28 through Sunday, November 2, 2014.

On opening day, June 28, at 2 p.m., de Christopher will be on site at the deCordova to discuss his work.



# MONTAGUE REPORTER



Mark Koyama of Greenfield Road in Turners Falls reads the Montague Reporter in the Piazza del Popolo (People's Square) in Rome.

# ON THE ROAD

**PLACE YOUR BUSINESS CARD HERE FOR ONLY \$12.00 PER WEEK (12 WEEK MINIMUM). CALL 863-8666**

**Your Local STIHL Dealer**  
413-367-2481

**Sirum Equipment Co., Inc.**

Sales, Parts & Service  
310 Federal Street (Route 63)  
Montague

Weekdays: 8 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**LOOT**  
found + made

Hours: Wed 11-5, Thurs-Sat 11-6, Sun 11-5

413-863-9500 • loottheshop.com  
62 Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA 01376

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
UPTON-MASSAMONT REALTORS

**Donald J Mailloux**  
GRI  
Recognized Top Producer

(413) 665-3771 x104 Office  
(413) 665-3772 Fax  
(413) 834-1524 Cell  
(413) 423-3810 Home  
don@cbumr.com E-mail

4 Elm Street, South Deerfield, MA 01373  
www.cbupton-massamont.com

**YOU ASKED FOR IT, YOU GOT IT:**

**HONN**

78 3RD STREET  
TURNERS FALLS  
(413) 863-2866

THE RENDEZVOUS IS OPEN DAILY 11:30 A.M. - 1 A.M.  
FOR EVENTS CHECK OUT WWW.RENDEZVOUSTFMA.COM

**For the Tastiest Strawberries & More - Visit the Stand!**

Try Our Farmstand Membership: 10% discount & PYO patch!

Old Depot Gardens, 504 Turners Falls Road, Montague  
Open 7 days, 1/4 mile from the Bookmill [www.redfirefarm.com](http://www.redfirefarm.com)

**GREAT FALLS HARVEST**  
fresh • local • creative

**THREE-COURSE THURSDAYS \* \$25**

**SUNDAY BRUNCH**  
10:30 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

Open Thursday through Saturday: 5 - 9pm  
Sunday 10:30 - 2pm Dinner 5 - 8pm

**863-0023**  
50 Third Street  
Downtown Turners Falls

**Your REPLACEMENT for Vermont Yankee**

**SOLAR STORE**  
GREENFIELD

413 772 3122  
Advice, Design & Installation  
[www.SolarStoreofGreenfield.com](http://www.SolarStoreofGreenfield.com)

**TURN IT UP!**

**MUSIC & MOVIES**

BOOKMILL | MONTAGUE CENTER | 367.0309

**magpie**

- Pizzas
- Entrees
- Salads
- Full Bar & Patio

[magpiepizza.com](http://magpiepizza.com)  
21 Bank Row, Gld.  
413-475-3370

**woodfired pizzeria**

**Geri Johnson, Realtor**  
ABR, CRB, CRS, GRI, SRES  
413-863-9736 • [Gerijohnson@Realtor.com](mailto:Gerijohnson@Realtor.com)

**Don't settle for less**  
Choose a **CRS (Certified Residential Specialist)**  
Only 4% of all REALTORS hold this prestigious designation. The CRS is my badge of expertise and your shield of assurance. Put your trust in the best to get the job done. Whether buying, selling or retraining, always choose **GERI JOHNSON, CRS** 30 years of experience.

**Gerijohnson & Associates REALTORS**  
66 French King Hwy., Gill  
(413) 863-9736 • [WWW.GJAR.COM](http://WWW.GJAR.COM)

**SHANAHAN CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY CO. INC.**  
SCSC "Rock solid service with level advice"

**Complete Masonry Supply**  
Offering a complete line of pavers, wall stone, retaining wall block and more. **Idéal**

298 Avenue A., Turners Falls 413-863-4322  
and at our new location 529 S. Main St, Brattleboro or 802-579-1800  
[www.shanahansupply.com](http://www.shanahansupply.com)

**Peter Waters Painting Services**

Interior/Exterior  
Custom Residential  
Fully Insured

Office: 978-544-6534  
Cell: 413-461-5172  
Wendell, MA  
[peterjwaters88@gmail.com](mailto:peterjwaters88@gmail.com)

**Serenity Home Organizing**  
decluttering, downsizing, deep cleaning

**Jill Bromberg**  
Montague, MA  
413-367-9959

clear your space, clear your mind

**TURN'S LAWN CARE**  
Landscape Design & Maintenance

**Spring Clean Up & Routine Care**  
522-2563  
[www.TurnLawnCare.com](http://www.TurnLawnCare.com)

**New England Landscaping & Wall Construction**

WALKS  
PATIOS  
PRUNING  
TRIMMING

SITE  
EXCAVATION  
WORK

RODNEY DEMERS  
TURNERS FALLS, MA  
773-7910

**The Gill Tavern**  
Come For a Drink, Stay For a Meal

Open Wed - Sun at 5 PM  
Sunday Brunch, 10am-2pm  
413-863-9006

[www.thegilltavern.com](http://www.thegilltavern.com)  
326 Main Road Gill, MA

**Diemand Farm** Mormon Hollow Road, Wendell

Native Lumber & Fresh Compost Available!  
Fresh Meat Birds Available Every Other Week!

Call for More Info: (978) 544-3806

Farm Store Hours:  
Mon. - Sat.: 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Sundays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

"Come See What's Cooking!"