



The Montague Reporter

YEAR 13 – NO. 30

also serving Irving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

\$1

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

MAY 14, 2015

ANALYSIS

Historic Trees Felled Without Hearings

By JEFF SINGLETON

MONTAGUE – One would think the electric company Ever-source would tread lightly on small towns in western Massachusetts, particularly after the bad publicity surrounding last winter's huge electric rate increases.

One would also think that the local tree warden would hesitate to give the company the go-ahead to remove ten or so large and mostly healthy historic maple trees without informing other town officials, especially after the tree warden had received an increase in his stipend from town meeting less than two weeks before.

Thus, it came as something of a surprise when Roberta Potter, director of Montague's Council on Aging, asked about the removal of trees on Montague Street at Monday's selectboard meeting. Although Potter, who lives in the neighborhood, was clearly upset, the comment was almost as an afterthought during a discussion of financing trees for the new skate park at Unity Park.

"I was wondering about that, too," responded town administrator Frank Abbondanzio.

Local resident David Detmold, who had supported the stipend increase at town meeting while advocating that the town plant trees, also expressed his curiosity.



CHRIS SAWYER-LAUCANNO PHOTO

An Asplundh employee takes apart a Montague Street tree Wednesday morning.

A quick tour of Montague Street after the selectboard meeting revealed at least seven large piles of dismembered maple trunks and limbs, most looking very healthy. A man watering his lawn, which contained no tree remnants, stated that he did not know who was responsible for the removals but assumed it was "the town."

The mystery was partially solved by the following Wednesday. Brian SanSoucie, who lives at 28 Montague Street, reported that the electric company had approached residents "a couple of months ago" telling homeowners that ten trees on the street needed

to be cut down. The work had been contracted to Asplundh Tree Expert Company, and "brokered," in SanSoucie's words, by tree warden Mark Stevens. Stevens apparently promised residents that the town would grind the stumps.

One resident said the utility company had told residents that the trees were causing their electric bills to increase.

SanSoucie also stated that the trees in question had probably been planted by Lyman Klaiber, who served as Montague's tree warden from 1946 to 1972. As a result of his efforts, trees in the neighborhood

see TREES page A7

This River Belongs to All Of Us: Groups Converge for "River's Song" Events

By TIA FATTARUSO

TURNERS FALLS – With apple trees blooming outside, community members painted cardboard fish, large and small, at the Brick House. In the Great Hall at the Discovery Center, rubbish and debris found within the Connecticut River watershed have been turned into art in the "Trash to Treasures" exhibit. The river itself is filling up with migrating and resident fish as the fishway prepares to open.

These are all good signs for a day-long celebration of the Connecticut River in Turners Falls this Saturday, May 16. The River's Song is a collaborative event that will include art, history, education, parading and music to honor the river and

highlight its ecological and cultural impact.

The River's Song is inspired by the Nile Project, a traveling performance by artists and musicians from the eleven African countries the Nile river travels through, to bring awareness to the social, economic, political and environmental challenges that river faces.

In the Connecticut River watershed we are also experiencing mid-summer heat and dry spells in May, and drought is a struggle throughout this country and others, so the timing could not be better.

The UMass Fine Arts Center's Asian Arts and Culture program, which sponsored the Nile Project's stop there in April, was the driving force in organizing Saturday's full

day of free activities.

"Turners Falls is the perfect critical point, because of the damming, and because the water is always vibrant there," the UMass program's director, Ranjanaa Devi, said.

Devi's department was instrumental in visioning, organizing and finding funding for the event, which came from the school's Fine Arts Center residency fund, but it is a largely collaborative effort with Turners Falls RiverCulture and several other local groups and individuals.

"I'm excited that so many people are giving voice to the Connecticut," said Devi.

The day will begin with the **Fish Ladder opening** at 9 a.m., for folks to view migrating shad, amongst other fish, and drawing attention to one of the main reasons for this celebration: building awareness about the river.

"We're trying to educate people about the river. It's a beautiful resource," said Angela Mrozinski, outreach and events coordinator for the Connecticut River Watershed Council.

"This river belongs to all of us. It's a great thing that we should honor," she added.

As the advocacy and science based group behind the River's Song event, they will be offering **story time at the Great Falls Discovery Center** from 11 to 3, *The Fish in the Polka Dot Dress*, to explain some of the challenges the river faces, specifically river trash.

see RIVER'S SONG page A4



Kids make cardboard fish for the River Parade last Saturday at the Brick House.

Decision Time in Montague

By MIKE JACKSON

On Monday, May 18, voters in Gill and Montague will head to their polling stations for annual town elections. In Gill, there are no contested races on the ballot, but select-

board member John Ward may face write-in challengers, and the town's school committee member will be determined by write-in.

Montague, on the other hand, is looking at a three-way selectboard see ELECTIONS page A5



(L-R) Rich Kuklewicz, Jacobo Roque and Mark Fairbrother at an April 12 forum.

LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

Leverett Seeks Funding For New Recreational Area

By JULIE CUNNINGHAM

The Leverett selectboard met Tuesday, May 12 for its regular meeting. During the meeting, the board discussed plans to create a new recreational area in the field between the library and the school.

Dianne Crowe and Apple Ahearn were on hand to discuss possible funding options and preliminary plans for the proposed recreational area. Massachusetts will issue five grants of \$50,000 to small towns under 35,000 people for recreational use. The town would have to match the grant at 40%. The grant allows for a two-year project, with the first year devoted to design and the second year devoted to construction.

Crowe told the board she and

Ahearn and the rest of the recreation committee came up with the idea of building an outdoor recreational area with amenities like a band gazebo, an outdoor barbeque, and benches.

The board made the suggestion of a native plants garden, with the hope that school children could participate in the planting. The board noted concerns over the lack of a gathering place in Leverett, and approved plans to approach the Conway School of Landscape Design for design plans. Community Preservation funds could be used to fulfill the matching requirement or, if the grant falls through, to fund the project all together.

"If we don't get the grant, we can

see LEVERETT page A8

Powertown Softball Qualifies For Playoffs



DAVID HOITT PHOTO

Jordyn Fiske hammers the ball in the bottom of the 7th, driving Abby Loynd home for the winning run against Hampshire on Monday. On deck batter No. 11 Jessica Loynd watches the hit.

By MATT ROBINSON

The Turners Falls Softball Indians went 3 and 0 this week, scoring 20 runs while shutting out their opponents, including Hampshire, the only team they had lost to previously.

The three wins give Powertown a record of 11 and 1, qualifies them for the playoffs, and most certainly raises their standing in the Division as one of the best of the best soft-

ball teams in all divisions in western Massachusetts. It all began with Mohawk.

Turners Falls 7 – Mohawk 0

On Wednesday, May 6, the Turners Falls Softball Indians shut out the Mohawk Warriors, 7 to zip. Pitcher Mackenzie Phillips allowed 1 hit, gave 1 base on balls and 'K'ed 13.

see SOFTBALL page A5

The Montague Reporter

"The Voice of the Villages"

Editorial Group

Mike Jackson, Managing Editor
Patricia Pruitt, Associate Editor
Nina Rossi, Features Editor

Production Group

Christopher Carmody, Layout
Don Clegg, Distribution Manager
Alex Peterkin, Advertising Manager

Editorial Assistants

Hugh Corr
Gloria Kegeles

Technical Administration

About Face Computing

Founded by
Arthur Evans Harry Brandt David Detmold
August, 2002



NINA ROSSI ILLUSTRATION

Fast Track To Nowhere

In our lead editorial on February 5, “Another Pacific is Possible,” the *Montague Reporter* weighed in against Congress granting fast-track trade promotion authority to the executive branch. Since Congress asked and all.

We suggested that opponents to the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and other corporate-oriented trade pacts should reach out and make connections to their counterparts around the globe, rather than focus on building an isolationist alliance at home.

Three months later, Massachusetts senator Elizabeth Warren is leading a rebellion against trade promotion authority, and the president is feuding with her, calling her a “politician like everybody else.”

On Tuesday, a test vote for the fast-track bill failed to reach the 60 votes needed to pass it without filibuster, though by press time Wednesday the public is being told the fix is in for it to move forward the next day – thanks to some clever horse trading between the political parties, concerning which major

world crises they do and don’t agree to ignore this session.

We’re excited to see economic issues that affect the world’s majority almost discussed. Almost, but not quite, discussed. Actually, it’s a little depressing.

Although US presidents serve four-year terms and although the next scheduled election is a full year and a half away, all political talk in this country has been dragged into orbital rotation around that next winner-take-all episode of *Gladiators* of Cash.

Liz and Barack are on the same team so oh my god what does it mean that Barack said Liz is wrong? Most importantly what does this all mean for Hillary? Because Hillary secretly agrees with Liz in opposing the investor-state dispute settlement mechanism the pact would establish but Dick Morris went on AM radio saying Barack likes Liz better than Hillary and Dad said I could pick the music for the party but he’s letting Bernie Sanders pick it even though he *knows* it’s past his bedtime. Blah blah blah blah blah.

Last month, K Street resident and tuba player Kevin Smith posted on Facebook that he and a friend would be playing some Beatles covers in their set at a downtown Turners Falls restaurant. A half hour later, some vulture from BMI called the restaurant to try to shake them down for a venue license.

It’s a serious threat. BMI, ASCAP, SESAC and the like have had success in putting small venues out of business – sometimes they even argue that venues can’t prove performers don’t play covers. The show was cancelled.

By the way, the Beatles’ first recorded setlist from 1960 consisted of 27 covers (Chuck Berry, Little Richard, Joe Turner, Eddie Cochran, the Jodimars, Elvis) and one original.

Last week, Montague Soapbox Derby organizer Mik Muller was sent a letter by the All-American Soapbox Derby in Akron, Ohio warning him that if he continued to use the words “soapbox” and “derby” together they would sue him.

Mik, who is still seeking an ambitious volunteer or group to take over the race, which is on hiatus for unrelated reasons – contact him if you’re interested – is trying to figure out what to do about that.

And just a few days ago, the *Montague Reporter’s* internet service provider sent us a “second warning” that someone was using our connection to watch a copy-

righted Fox TV show. Any number of volunteers know our wireless password, so we started spreading the word to be more careful.

This morning we came in to find a “third warning” redirected the web browsers on all of our office terminals to a short video about the consequences of copyright infringement, requiring us to click on an “acknowledgement” button.

Should a community organization share its internet connection with the community?

Artists, musicians and even ad copywriters should be paid a living wage. That much is clear. We also need to somehow reward research and development, because a true free market seems incapable of doing so – if it takes patents to get pharmaceutical conglomerates to race for the cure, then sure, patents are better than diseases.

But as the intellectual property industry extends its surveillance apparatus into our daily lives, it’s worth asking when we’re going to draw the line.

If it’s not the right to terrify restaurant-goers with a tuba rendition of *I’ve Just Seen A Face*, maybe it’s the right to produce cheap anti-retroviral drugs in your AIDS-devastated country without having to spend half your GDP propping up real estate prices in Connecticut.

Which brings us back to the Trans-Pacific Partnership...

CORRECTION

Last week, Leverett town meeting appropriated \$96,803.56 from the Fund Balance reserved for community housing and \$63,193.47 from the Budgeted Reserve for a total of \$160,000 of community preservation support for the Homeownership Assistance Program.

The *Reporter* inadvertently added this total onto itself, incorrectly reporting it as \$320,000.

We regret the error and apologize to our readers for the confusion. We strive to get the numbers right but will set the record straight each time we err.

Letters to the Editors

A Vote for Kuklewicz

My first thoughts on Rich Kuklewicz: a person of kindness and good will, an individual who weighs his words so that they will be accurate and clear, direct but never harmful, positive, calm, and often amused.

My second thoughts on Rich Kuklewicz: a person who has given a great deal of his time and energy over the last 25 years or more to his hometown through his involvement as an electrical inspector, through his leading roles at the Franklin County Tech School in the finance committee and as chair of the board, and as a strong town meeting member for the town itself.

Rich Kuklewicz has proven his ability in knowing the issues, helping discussions stay focused, and creating solutions that will serve Montague well as it continues to resolve long-standing issues.

Please join me and vote for Rich Kuklewicz on Monday, May 18.

Patricia Allen
Montague

Fairbrother: Substance

The three-way race for the Montague’s open selectboard seat is a good thing for the town. It is great to see Jacobo Roque, a relatively new resident from Springfield, declare that he has “fallen in love with Montague.”

Rich Kuklewicz has done an outstanding job as Montague’s representative to the Franklin Regional Technical School, and he no doubt will do the same if elected to the Selectboard.

However, I will be voting for Mark Fairbrother, because of his record over the last six years.

For example, Mark has been a strong supporter of change and innovation in the regional transportation system, serving on the Franklin Regional Transit Board and then encouraging me to serve as an alternate representative.

Mark has also been a strong

supporter of the educational compact between the regional school district and member towns that ended years of rancorous debate over school funding.

From the outset Mark has been an opponent of the proposed natural gas pipeline, and of efforts by the pipeline company Kinder Morgan to survey town land. And yes, he played a key role in getting the town’s negotiations with the cable company Comcast back on track.

I could name numerous other examples of positive contributions Mark has made to addressing specific policy issues.

Yes, local politics often gets personal, but we need to consider substance as well as style.

Jeff Singleton
Montague Center

Kuklewicz: A Fresh Vision

On May 18, Montague voters will decide who will fill an open selectboard seat. We’re giving our vote to Rich Kuklewicz, a Montague native with plenty of experience: Town Meeting member for over 25 years, representative to the Franklin County Technical School district for 20 years and current chairman, member of the Turners Falls Fire District Prudential Committee, electrical inspector of wires for Montague, former planning board member, and former president of the Massachusetts Future Farmers of America.

Rich offers a fresh vision for Montague. He wants to help Millers Falls and Turners Falls develop their downtowns, in part by streamlining the permitting process to help the villages draw both businesses and small manu-

facturers.

He supports the further development of the arts, as well as of Unity Park and the Skate Park in Turners. Rich will also work to get a new senior center built, and he’s thinking of ways to put empty town-owned buildings back on the tax rolls.

Just as important as Rich’s experience is his demeanor: He’s friendly, accessible, and respectful of everyone – just the sort of person who can restore to our town government a level of civility that’s been lacking in recent years.

We hope you’ll consider giving your vote to Rich on May 18. See you at the polls!

Steve Winters
Elizabeth Nash
Turners Falls

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
features@montaguereporter.org
ads@montaguereporter.org
bills@montaguereporter.org
circulation@montaguereporter.org
events@montaguereporter.org
poetry@montaguereporter.org
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 re-
serve 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
with any questions.

WE WELCOME YOUR LETTERS!

Montague Reporter

177 Ave. A, TF, MA 01376

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: _____



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

Compiled by DON CLEGG

Letter carriers from the Turners Falls post office collected more than **1,275 pounds of non-perishable food** during their annual food drive on Saturday, May 9. The items were brought to the Franklin Area Survival Center's food pantry to help re-stock depleting shelves.

The Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 Avenue A, Turners Falls is **now open 7 days a week** from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. These hours will

continue through the middle of October.

Come experience the sounds and sensations of **Classical Chamber Music** at the Turners Falls Branch of the Greenfield Savings Bank on Saturday, May 16 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Enjoy the elegance of the masters such as Beethoven, Schubert and Mozart.

Attend a free workshop at the Leverett Library, covering **online privacy and security**, with Neil

Brazeau this Saturday, May 16, from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

For more library events visit www.leverettlibrary.org.

Author **Alice Scheffey** will read from her new book "The Place: A Story About Dwelling" at .Leverett Crafts and Arts, 13 Montague Road, Leverett, on Saturday, May 16, starting at 4 p.m. Free to the public.

Scheffey studied English Literature at Cornell University, and Environmental Sciences at the University of Michigan. She worked in Boston at the *Atlantic Monthly* and taught at the Massachusetts Audubon Society. She is a naturalist, writer and poet.

Join World Eye Bookshop as they partner with the Greenfield Elks Lodge #1296 to facilitate a **community book fair** on Sunday, May 17, from 1 to 5 p.m.

The first 100 kids who walk through the door will receive a voucher for \$10 worth of free books. The Greenfield Lodge of Elks is located at 5 Church Street, Greenfield.

The Leverett Historical Society will be having their annual **plant sale fundraiser** on Saturday, May 23, from 9 a.m. to noon at the Leverett Town Hall.

Plant donations can be dropped off behind the Leverett Town Hall during the week prior to the sale. Master Gardener Dawn Marvin Ward will be on duty to help assist with plant choices and general garden questions.

For more information contact Dawn at 367-9562 or dmward@crocker.com.

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.

NOTES FROM THE GILL-MONTAGUE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

New Principals Meet The Committee

By ELLEN BLANCHETTE

The Gill-Montague Regional School District has hired Annie Leonard as their secondary level principal and Earl McGraw as the assistant principal. Together, they will act as administration for the newly configured middle school/high school beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.

In announcing his choice for these positions at the school committee meeting on April 28, Superintendent Michael Sullivan said, "I couldn't be happier with their selection. I think they bring great complementary strengths while both being highly student centered and relationship focused. I think they are going to fit the school and the community well."

He thanked the eighteen members of the two search committees for the long hours they spent reading applications, interviewing candidates and selecting finalists.

Leonard and McGraw were introduced to the school committee by Sullivan at the May 12 meeting, and received a warm welcome.

Cost of Off-Site Meetings

In April, Marty Espinola submitted a breakdown of the cost of holding off-site school committee meetings, which chair Joyce Phillips presented at the April 28 meeting. She pointed out that any school committee meeting not held at the Turners Falls High School television studio cannot be televised live and needs to be recorded for future broadcast.

According to Espinola's report, the pay required for the two tech support staff, who typically spend six hours each at the site, comes to \$277, and the cost of an audio specialist to properly mix the audio and align it with MCTV's broadcasting equipment is \$297, meaning the total cost for one



Annie Leonard and Earl McGraw, newly hired principal and assistant principal for the combined middle school/ high school at Gill-Montague.

off-site tech set-up is \$574.

Phillips presented this information to the members and asked that they consider what they are trying to accomplish by holding meetings at different locations.

Sandra Brown said she thought this was valuable to hold meetings in other schools in the district because it offered them an opportunity to see the schools and connect with the community.

Other members said they heard complaints when the meetings were not broadcast on TV at the regular time. Another concern was that these meetings were not well attended, defeating the intention of connecting with the public.

It was agreed this would be put on the agenda for further discussion.

Sheffield Boiler

There has been an ongoing process to provide an energy upgrade and boiler replacement for Sheffield Elementary School. Because the school building is owned by the town of Montague, the cost falls to them.

This means that although the school district is involved in the decisions regarding the repairs, it is up to the town to approve the funding.

There were two separate projects listed on the warrant for town meeting on May 2. The meeting unanimously voted to fund window replacement, at a cost of \$1,116,764, largely reimbursable by the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

But a request for \$145,000 to fund replacement of the boiler and two burners was voted down. The town's energy committee, unsure the boiler is appropriate for the building, had requested a change in the warrant to say "repair" instead of "replace," and to replace only one burner instead of two.

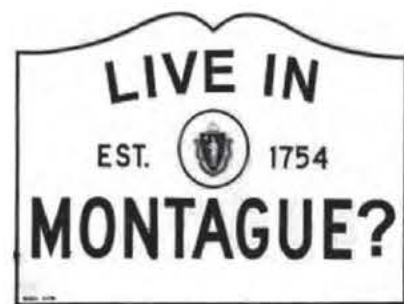
Negotiation on this matter came up against a deadline of the posting of the warrant and the fact that time for a school committee vote had passed. There had been hope it could be amended at town meeting, but this was not possible as it was a borrowing article.

The energy committee is requesting a study of the heating system at Sheffield at a cost of approximately \$20,000, which they hope can be supported by a grant. Then they are hoping that the actual repair or replacement of the boiler can be paid for by a Green Communities grant.

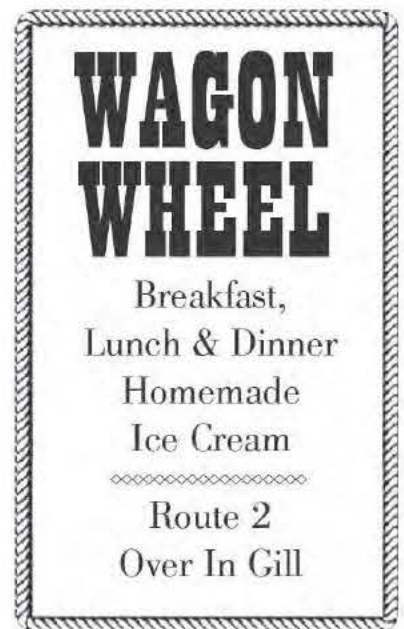
Joanne Blier, the district's director of business and operations, has been in contact with energy committee chair Christopher Mason, and Sullivan explained they are trying to coordinate a meeting time, which is difficult because both committees meet on Tuesdays. Meanwhile, he said the energy committee is moving forward in looking for an engineer to hire and to assist the town in applying for a grant to pay for the study.

The school committee will hold a reorganization meeting on Tuesday, May 19 at Turners Falls High School at 6:30 p.m., set aside for the work of selecting new officers after the results of the election on Monday, May 18.

The next regular school committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26 at Turners Falls High School at 6:30 p.m.



www.MontagueMA.net
local gossip, news & business listings



Breakfast,
Lunch & Dinner
Homemade
Ice Cream
Route 2
Over In Gill



Practice, Study,
Community

Free
Everyone Welcome

www.greenriverzen.org
(413) 695-8786



37 Third Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Open Seven Days
8am-1am

ESPRESSO
CRAFT BEER
SMALL PRODUCTION WINE
REGIONAL & INTENTIONAL FOOD

Kuklewicz: Careful Consideration

We were very pleased to hear that Rich Kuklewicz is running for Selectman. We've known Rich for 33 years and find him responsible, reliable, good natured, and level headed.

His dedication to this town is impressive – more than 25 years as a town meeting member, 20 on the Franklin County Technical School Committee, past planning board member and Town of Montague electrical inspector – just to name a few.

He takes careful consideration with all he does, and we will definitely be voting for him on May 18.

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Rau
Turners Falls



More Letters to the Editors

Fairbrother: In The Interest of the Town

To the citizens of the Town of Montague:

I have had the honor to be a selectman for six years, and in that time I have attended every regular meeting of the Selectboard, almost all meetings of the Board with the Finance Committee, and many other meetings and functions, both in the evening and during the work day representing the Board, sometimes on short notice.

Since first being elected to the Board I have dedicated myself to the Board and to the Town, to the job of understanding the

possibilities and limitations of town government in this modern world we live in, of supporting any and all plans and ideas that were in the interest of the Town.

To that end I have supported the Skate Park, the total revitalization of Unity Park, River Culture, re-development in Millers Falls and Montague Center, the development of a second industrial park, the Mohawk Ramblers, the Block Party, and PumpkinFest, among others.

Challenges do remain. We will work together to decide what to do with the Strathmore,

building and filling the new industrial park, deciding how to best use our limited resources among several developing Town projects, and keeping the schools properly funded.

These and more are things that we can and will do, working together to decide which way is best for the Town. I look forward to the challenge, and I ask for your vote and your support on Election Day, Monday, May 18, 2015. Thank you.

Mark Fairbrother
Montague

Great Falls Middle School Students of the Week

week ending 5/8/15:

Grade 6
Taryn Thayer

Grade 7
Brody Trott

Grade 8
Keltyn Socquet

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

CALL 863-8666

Open 7 Days
Mon-Thurs 11-5
Fri & Sat 11-6
Sun 12-5

JOHN DOE, JR.
USED RECORDS & BOOKS

We sell,
buy, trade
vinyl records,
books, cassettes,
videos, art
& ephemera.

269 Main St. Greenfield
413-775-0069

johndoejunior.com - find us on Facebook

Pipione's
SPORT SHOP

- Fishing supplies; Live bait
- Fishing & Hunting Licenses
- Paintball & CO₂ Refills
- Guns & Ammo

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

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 Monday - Thursday

Let ‘em know you saw their ad in the Reporter!

RECYCLE

PAPER

Week of May 18 in Montague



more info? call: 863-2054

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

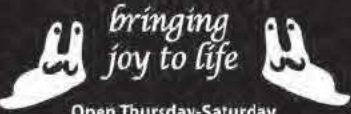
• Expert Burner Service



(413) 773-3622

Nina's Nook


Uniquities, Frivolities, Un-necessariums ~ Creative items ~ bringing joy to life



Open Thursday-Saturday 12-5 pm or by app't 125A Avenue A, Turners Falls 413.834.8800

www.ninasnook.com

NANCY L. DOLE BOOKS & EPHEMERA



BOOKS

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

RIVER’S SONG from page A1

“Unfortunately, trash is an ongoing problem,” Mrozinski said, part of why her organization has been hosting a Source to Sea river clean up for 19 years.

Some of the river’s trash, from rusty metal and maple sugaring lines to broken pottery and electronics, has been reused by local artists as part of a “Trash to Treasures” exhibit in the Great Hall of the Discovery Center, with an artists’ reception from 6 to 8:30 Saturday night.

In addition to storytelling, Jane Beatrice Wegscheider and Laura Iveson of the Art Garden will co-facilitate a kid’s art workshop to make “processional creatures” from 11 to 3 at the Discovery Center.

The Art Garden comes to town from their home in Shelburne Falls, as they did last Saturday to the Brick House, to provide supplies and guidance for making colorful cardboard fish that will swim through The River Parade scheduled to go down the bike path at 3 p.m.

The Art Garden is a non-profit community art-making place with a full studio. “It makes sense for us to be involved with a project drawing attention to the river,” Wegscheider said. “So much of what we try to do at the Art Garden is integrating art into community, which means addressing the issues of the community, whether ecological, environmental or otherwise.

“You can’t make art without including the landscape, environment, and other inhabitants.”

Wegscheider also tries to use repurposed materials, finding used ribbons or asking for and gathering sticks and saplings from people’s yards to hold aloft the parading, swimming fish.

To educate about and honor Shelburne’s waterway, the Deerfield River, Art Garden artists made ribbons with the Latin and common names of about 400 local fish that are threatened, endangered, or of special concern, such as with the alewife and blueback herring.

Saturday is also the day that The Nolumbeka Project will hold their annual reconciliation commemoration ceremony to remember the May 19, 1676 massacre of Native American peoples at Great Falls. At a tent in Unity Park, participants will help create a traditional memorial stone pile.

“Each stone comes with a prayer by the bringer of the stone, putting prayers out into the universe asking for peace and reconciliation,” said

the project’s president, Joe Graveline. The pile will be moved from the park to the site of the ancient village below Great Falls, to which he hopes stones will be added year after year, a practice in keeping with cultural traditions around the world.

According to Graveline, the Great Falls site was one of the largest continuously occupied tribal villages. The local Wissatinnewag, which translates to slippery hill or shining hill, played host to an annual cultural gathering where people came from as far as the Ohio Valley and parts of Canada and this country’s east coast to benefit from plentiful populations of fish.

The ceremony will be followed by Graveline’s Visioning Bear Drumming and poetry and spoken word from David Brule from his recently published *Looking for Judah: Adventures in Genealogy and Remembrance*, as well as from Christopher Sawyer-Laucanno and Patricia Pruitt.

The Nolumbeka Project has been a transformation of the Friends of the Wissatinnewag, with the intention of educating the public about protecting indigenous and ceremonial sites in the region, a 16-mile radius of which has been federally designated as being a significant religious and spiritual landscape, according to Brule.

“Like most people born in [Turners Falls], I knew nothing about the massacre that gave our town its name,” said Brule. Eventually he began to dig into the paleo-Indian presence of the town and, as a teacher, found ways to communicate that information to others.

Brule and Graveline will also be leading an Historic Native American Sites Walking Tour, starting at the Discovery Center, from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

The evening will be rounded out with *The River’s Song Soundscape* with Tony Vacca at the Shea Theater at 4, and a *WaterDance Sound and Light Performance* with Phyllis Labanowski, Ricardo Frota and volunteers on the Iron Bridge below the dam at 8:45.

UMass’ Devi hopes the day will be as stunning and inspirational as the Nile Project was.

“I hope it helps people recognize how precious the water is and how fortunate we are to have the Connecticut right in our backyard,” she said.

For schedule and directions see turnersfallsriverculture.org, or fineartscenter.com.



Work To Be Done

By TIA FATTARUSO

GREENFIELD – So besides trash, what challenges does the Connecticut River still face these days?

Road salt, oil and automotive pollution, and fertilizer from yards and farms also pollute, but, “mix right into the river and we don’t notice as much,” said Angela Mrozinski, outreach coordinator for the Connecticut River Watershed Council.

“Fertilizer is especially tough. It encourages plants to grow, can be harmful to wildlife, and a nuisance to recreation,” she said.

Mrozinski pointed out that such nutrient pollution has a downriver effect, too, as the Connecticut River provides 70 percent of the fresh water entering Long Island Sound. The pollution-induced lack of oxygen in the Sound makes it difficult for fish to live.

“We work our way all the way upstream, to Vermont and New Hampshire, and ask ‘What can we do there?’” Mrozinski explained. A \$20 million grant from the federal government for reducing invisible pollutants is one part of the solution.

The Connecticut River Watershed Council is also working on restoration projects, such as one at the Chickley River in Hawley, which saw major flooding during Hurricane Irene. A common bandage for flooding is to dredge the river and put rock on the bank, but the rock destroys fish habitat and just floats away with repeated floods.

“We need to adapt communities to flooding and repair the riverbed,” said Mrozinski, by planting trees, shrubs and other vegetation to stabilize stream banks, prevent pollution, and to benefit wildlife as a whole by providing such necessities

Bridge Building Begins

By NINA ROSSI

WENDELL – The Millers Falls Arts Bridge project introduces the work of seven Chinese artists to the region, demonstrating their organizational aim of making a cultural bridge between New England and China, and joining the collaborative efforts of the year-long arts and environmental study of the Connecticut River basin called the River’s Song Project.

The River’s Song Project Celebration on Saturday is the culmination of this comprehensive project and includes a full day of activities in Turners Falls.

The seven artists answered a call put out to the Beijing arts community by Richard Widmer, founder and director of the Millers Falls Arts Bridge, to create responses to photographs of the Connecticut River watershed area. The call invited artists to submit proposals for works which “consider the river, communication convergence, and bridges.”

Other criteria specified that work would need to be light, portable, easy to assemble, and environmentally friendly.

With no budget to bring the artists themselves to this country, Widmer planned to bring the pieces here on the plane from Beijing, where he spends part of the year. The plan called for selected artworks to be installed temporarily in the 5 local sites, with documentation in photography and film.

The first of several days of installation and documentation began at Ruggles Pond in the Wendell State Forest this past Monday. Widmer was there with Kate Martineau, Arts Bridge program director, and her father David Dempsey, to assemble several pieces and document them on-site, with help from three Hallmark Institute of Photography students.

A large black watertight case was being prepared for a launch into the pond, carrying a megaphone on a tripod. The construction would represent the presence

of artist Li Binyuan, and was filled with poetry, changing the nature of the suitcase to become more of a soul-case, or even a rib cage. The megaphone was to play a recording of Binyuan’s voice as the suitcase floated across the pond.

Widmer explained that Binyuan is a very physical artist, often using his body in his conceptual installations, such as one where he took one hundred hammers and used them to smash and destroy each other one by one. This is the second voyage of the suitcase; it previously represented the presence of the artist in Tanzania.

Geng Xue’s “Water Fossils” preserve the marks of her fingers in the tiles of glazed and fired porcelain clay. These imprints represent a passage of time, mimicking the rhythms and ripples of a surface of water. Martineau and the student volunteers carried these tiles into a nearby stream and the shallows of Ruggles Pond to create documentation for Saturday’s event.

Another second sound installation consisting of carefully placed speakers at the pond was to be recorded on Monday evening as well.

Widmer, helping assemble the suitcase and overseeing proceedings, was very enthused about introducing Chinese artists’ conceptual art works into the local landscape. “There are so many artists with good ideas over there,” he explained, “and they are all very hopeful to share these ideas in new environments.”

The Arts Bridge hopes to eventually offer residencies to Chinese artists at their facility located in the former Saint John’s Church in Millers Falls, currently undergoing renovations to serve this new use. More information about the Arts Bridge is available at www.millersfallsartsbridge.org.

Video and photography of all of the conceptual art installations, along with some of the physical pieces of art, will be presented in the window galleries at 106 to 112 Avenue A in Turners Falls.



Dempsey (left) and Widmer (right) prepare Li Binyuan’s installation.

as habitat and shade.

With this more natural layout, fish are repopulating the Chickley River, she said.

There are also currently five dams and facilities on the Connecticut up for hydro re-licensing in 2018, including the Turners Falls dam and the Northfield pump station, an unusually high number to happen simultaneously.

“This is a unique opportunity to have a say in how these dams are operated,” Mrozinski said.

Bank erosion, especially at the

pump station where water is removed, stored, and released in large quantities, and river flow diversion from the river to the canal are matters of concern in Turners Falls. Fish, such as the endangered shortnose sturgeon, need enough water to spawn successfully, and to be able to pass through the dam.

“You want to see at least 10 percent of fish passing by. You don’t see many at the Turners Falls dam. It could be better, and it should be better,” said Mrozinski.

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



OPEN DAILY LUNCH and DINNER

24 Federal St., Greenfield 773-0333 / thepeoplespint.com

The Pint Says: TURN THE KEY!

When you idle your car's engine for more than 10-20 seconds, you're wasting fuel. Save on Gas - Save our Climate



413-256-6217

fine instruments bought and sold repaired and restored

Fretted Instrument Workshop

49 So. Pleasant St., Amherst, Mass. 01002

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

SOFTBALL from page A1

And this wasn't a mercy-rule, five inning affair. Mackenzie had to pitch a complete 7-inning game. However, it looked like it might be another double-digit rout for the Tribe when Blue scored 4 runs in the bottom of the first – one more Blue explosion called mercifully after the fifth inning.

But the Warriors defense tightened up, and Turners was unable to score again until the fifth inning, when 3 more runs crossed the plate. And credit Mohawk's defense with retiring the Tribe in the sixth inning with no more damage done.

Nicole John accounted for 4 of Powertown's runs. She was 2 for 3, cracking 2 triples. Gabby Arzuaga, Amber Caouette, Jenna Putala and Mackenzie Salls also contributed hits in the win.

Turners Falls 12 – Greenfield 0

On Friday, May 8, Powertown shut down the Greenwave in a 12 to nothing, mercy-rule win. Wonderful pitching, heads-up field play and aggressive base-running contributed to the quick demise of Green.

"I ain't lying to ya," Coach Gary Mullins called from the sideline: "Keep running."

His runner looked at him quizzically. After all, she had just hit a single. Why should she keep running? But his strategy wasn't lost on her for long. And when she had her chance, she ran.

It was the top of the third inning, and Blue was comfortably in the lead. Gary had his first two batters on base with no outs. Greenfield was facing a dilemma: Throw the ball to second to get the batter, or try to prevent the lead runner from taking third?

And it worked. Using his hit-and-run strategy, four additional runners rounded third in that inning, as the Tribe batted-the-order 'til Blue took the field, in the bottom of the third, with a 10-0 lead.

In the bottom of the first inning, Mackenzie Phillips whiffed the first two Green batters, let up a warning-track double, and then retired the side, 3 strikes later. In the second, she needed just 8 pitches to end the inning. Two quick strikeouts and a beautiful catch-on-the-run by Jenna Putala, and that's all she wrote.

Mackenzie 'K'ed the side in the third. In the fourth, she struck out the first batter, hit the second and struck out the third batter. The inning ended when the catcher threw the ball to first on a passed-ball strike out.

In the fifth inning, Peyton Emery took the mound. She got 2 Ks

on 8 pitches, walked a batter and nailed the door shut by striking out the last batter.

On the offensive side of the diamond, Mackenzie Salls and Jenna Putala each went four-for-four. Both ladies smacked two doubles in the game. Nicole John went three-for-three, slapping 3 singles and earning 3 RBIs.

Gabby Arzuaga had 2 hits, 2 RBIs and cracked a double. Haley Whipple also got a two-bagger. Jordyn Fiske, Jordan Meattey, and Mackenzie Phillips had hits for the Tribe. Nicole Thibeault also crossed the plate.

Turners Falls 1 – Hampshire 0

The Turners Falls Softball Indians avenged their only loss of the season by outlasting the Hampshire Red Raiders 1 to 0 on Monday, May 11.

"It's a curse," Someone said before the game. "Hampshire is a jinx," someone else told me.

They were referring to Hampshire's recent dominance over the Tribe from Turners Falls. And the game did seem jinxed right from the get-go, when the PA system wouldn't play the National Anthem. The huge crowd stood around, hats-over-their-hearts, looking at one another and at the AD Adam Graves, instead of the flag. Then Melissa Hersey, in her home-white uniform took to the mic and gave a wonderful rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner without accompaniment.

The game was as much a chess game as a softball game. Strategic timeouts were utilized by both coaches to ice his opponents, to calm his own players or to counter what the other coach was doing.

In the bottom of the sixth inning, the Hampshire coach called a timeout and huddled with his fielders. When play resumed, Coach Mullins calmly walked up to the ump and called his own timeout. He took his time, spoke to his batter, gave a wry smile and walked back to his post.

In the top of the seventh inning, Mullins called a timeout to confer with his defense. The Hampshire batter purposely walked halfway up the third base line, met the third base coach, and the two of them stood shoulder to shoulder with arms crossed, looking at the huddle on the mound.

The first Hampshire hit was a boomer. The very first Red batter banded the first pitch thrown by Mackenzie Phillips deep into center field. It was soaring to the warning track, but Haley Whipple was under it.

Mackenzie had to work for the next two outs. She got two strikes,

but the batter kept fouling off pitches and soon the count was full.

"Win the battle," both coaches were yelling to their girls. One was calling to the batter, the other the pitcher. But Mackenzie won the battle of strikes, and after throwing a rain of pitches, she struck out the next two batters and the Blue Tribe came up to the plate.

In the bottom of the first, Jenna Putala beat the throw to reach first, she advanced to second base on a fielder's choice out but was stranded at second. Mackenzie 'K'ed the side in the second inning but the Tribe also went 1-2-3 in their half of the second. And it went on and on and on.

Mackenzie Phillips managed to strike out 8 batters and Hampshire's Alexis Ferris got 7 Ks but most of the batters managed to put bat to ball. It seemed more of Hampshire's hits went into the air while more of Turners' hits were on the ground. But in this game, grounders beat flies.

Although the Raiders were hitting the ball deep, center fielder Haley Whipple was on her bicycle and ran down many a fly ball. When Turners was at bat, they were hitting the ball low and the Hampshire infielders were making most of the outs.

And then came the seventh inning. Hampshire's lead batter reached first on a shallow popup. But she was stranded after a Phillips' K, an infield fly and a ground ball out. When Powertown came up in the seventh, the crowd was preparing themselves for a long evening.

But the True Blue fans didn't have to wait for the anticipated extra innings. With one out, Gabby Arzuaga got a ground ball base hit. Abby Loynd came in as the courtesy runner at first. Mackenzie Phillips slapped a single, and suddenly the Tribe had two baserunners.

Then came the timeouts. But that didn't deter Jordyn Fiske. She hit a hard ground ball single over second base and into center field. Abby raced around third, to the wild windmill gestures of Coach Sully, and beat the throw at the plate. And the energy on the field went from cautious to jubilant.

We won't play Hampshire again – not this year. Come playoff time, they will play in a higher division against bigger schools. The playoffs are determined by population and as everyone knows, Turners Falls is a small school.

A small school which for whatever reason – time after time, game after game, year after year, class after class – plays well above and beyond all logical expectations.



ELECTIONS from pg A1

race, with two-term incumbent Mark Fairbrother, who ran without opposition in 2012, facing a two-front challenge from Millers Falls' Jacobo Roque and Turners Falls' Richard Kuklewicz.

There is a second competitive race in Montague, for library trustees – a board actively searching for a new downtown library location.

The library trustee ballot reflects some of the idiosyncracies of Montague's current political mechanics.

Three candidates are seeking two one-year seats, with two (David Harmon and Nancy Crowley) having solicited signatures and filed nomination papers at the clerk's office, and one (Amanda Traynor) appearing at the top of the ballot as a caucus nominee on the basis of a

write-in vote incurred at the Democratic Party caucus on April 8.

Fairbrother defeated Roque at that caucus by a 12-5 margin, out of 20 participants. The caucus was open to unenrolled voters, but only candidates registered as Democrats. Kuklewicz was ineligible to run, though Democratic Town Committee chair Jay DiPucchio has publicly endorsed his candidacy.

In recent years, Montague has a low record of voter turnout for local elections.

The state election in November 2014 garnered 3,048 ballots, or 52% of registered voters (and ranging from 38% in Precinct 5, downtown Turners Falls, to 63% in Precinct 1, Montague Center).

But last spring's town election only attracted 393 voters.

The year before that, the annual town election, featuring a three-way race between Roque, then-incumbent and current board chair Christopher Boutwell, and Matt McMul-lin saw 504 ballots. (Roque won 11%.) One month later a special election for John Kerry's seat drew 1976 voters out, most of whom cast a vote for Mike Nelson over Jeanne Golrick for selectboard.

In 2012, popular write-in campaigns for two school committee seats may have been responsible for voter mobilization, with 959 ballots cast. But only 496 voters came out back in spring 2011.

This year's selectboard race has garnered attention, and the candidates met in three public discussions and debates, on April 12, April 19 and May 5. See montaguetelevision.org for



Catholic Charities
12 Riverbend Street
Athol, MA

Come join our growing team in our sister towns:
Greenfield, Shelburne, Northfield, Shutesbury,
Erving, Wendell, Petersham, and Royalston

Looking for Homemakers, HHA, CNA,
PC workers. Training is available.

Must have reliable car to travel from client to client.
Days, midday and evening shifts available.
Competitive wages, Health insurance,
Disability insurance, and 403B (retirement).

Please call 1 (800) 244-4563.

TOWN OF ERVING - HELP WANTED

Are you looking for A FULFILLING SUMMER JOB? Do you enjoy interacting with children? Then look no further, the Erving Summer Park Program is the place for you! We are currently seeking an **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR** and **FOUR COUNSELORS** to finish our 2015 summer team. Requirements for a Counselor: Must be at least 16 years of age, Energetic, Punctual, Responsible, Cooperative, Flexible, Creative and preferred experience with children. Assistant Director: In addition to all of the above, you must be Organized, a Leader and **MUST** have experience with Children.

Applications can be picked up and returned at the
Erving Town Hall, 12 E. Main Street, no later than June 3.
(No late applications will be accepted.)

ALL MONTAGUE
AND GILL VOTERS:

Please Write In
VALERIA "TIMMY" SMITH
to represent the town of Gill
on the Gill-Montague Regional School Committee

MONDAY, MAY 18

Paid for by Marje Levenson

**TOWN OF ERVING
IP FEASIBILITY STUDY COMMITTEE**

The Town of Erving is seeking individuals who are interested in serving on a Long Term Feasibility Study Committee. The Feasibility Study Committee would review the results of a market study that is currently being done by Tighe and Bond that is looking at alternative uses and development options for the IP Mill, including live & work artist studios, commercial, industrial, educational, governmental and institutional/non-profit uses, with a possible residential component if needed to make the project feasible. The Committee would be composed of five individuals with one member from the Erving Planning Board. The other four members must be residents from the Town of Erving. It would be helpful if you have a background or skillset in either the construction trades, marketing or engineering, etc.

If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact the Board of Selectmen's Office by phone at (413) 422-2800 or email at admin@erving-ma.org by June 15, 2015.

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



COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE
KUSTOM AUTOBODY
MA Reg #RS2066

48 Randall Road
Montague
Phone/413-863-3780

Mike Fuller, Owner

Montague Mini Storage | Mike Fuller - owner



*The Best Hiding
Place in Town*

48 Randall Road | 413-863-4680



FRED HOLMGREN
Piano Tuning & Repair
Serving central New England
for more than 35 years
978-544-5494
fredholmgren@gmail.com

NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

MassDOT Reviews Safety on French King Bridge

BY KATIE NOLAN

Richard Masse of Massachusetts Department of Transportation emailed police chief Chris Blair to let the town know that DOT was “reviewing deterrent system options” for the French King Bridge, and that “once we complete our internal review process, it will probably be time to reconvene the group to get some feedback on them.”

Officials from Erving, Gill, Northfield, the state police and DOT started meeting in September 2014 to consider safety measures for the bridge, which has been the site of multiple suicides. Installation of video cameras and safety netting were two of the safety options the group suggested.

Masse also wrote that DOT recently issued a permit to New England Environmental to attach a time-lapse camera to the bridge railings as part of a study of the Connecticut River.

Town Buildings

Interim senior center director Paula Betters and selectboard chair William Bembury agreed to work on writing a job description for the senior and community center maintenance worker position.

Betters asked about the availability of a lawn mower

and a snow blower for the maintenance person to use. According to Bembury, the highway department has sufficient mowers to supply one to the center, but a snow blower should be purchased.

Bembury suggested the Council on Aging’s state grant money could be used to pay for the snow blower, but Betters said she might need the grant money to help pay the electrical bill for the center. “It’s massive,” she said, estimating that the bill was averaging \$2,600 per month.

The selectboard decided that they would consider the center’s electrical costs in greater detail at their next meeting.

Betters and Bembury both had suggestions for use of the property at 34 Northfield Road that last week’s annual town meeting voted to purchase. Bembury said that a snow blower could be stored at a shed at the property.

Betters proposed establishing a community garden at the property, starting in spring 2016.

“Once we purchase the property, we can plot it out,” she said. She has contacted Seeds of Solidarity farm in Orange and Just Roots Farm in Greenfield for information about establishing a community garden, secured a grant from Home Depot, and organized a committee

to manage the garden.

Betters said the plan would be to open the garden to the whole community, not just to seniors.

Other Business

Stan Gradowski reported to the board that he had noticed broken tree limbs hanging in the treetops that appeared hazardous, one along Route 2 near Farley Flats and one on River Road. The board decided to ask highway foreman Glenn McCrory to check for hanging limbs.

The board signed the Franklin County Solid Waste Management District sustainability grant, which will give the town \$500 toward recycling. The board will send a reminder to department heads that the town has a policy favoring purchase of recycled products.

Cabot Risk, LLC, the town’s insurer for police and fire personnel injured while on duty, responding to a selectboard question, said that the animal control officer, who reports to the police chief, is not covered unless the ACO is also a police officer under state statutes. However, as a town employee, the ACO is covered under the workmen’s compensation program.

Debra Smith was appointed to a vacant seat on the planning board until May 2016.

NOTES FROM THE WENDELL SELECTBOARD

One More Meeting Left To Hash Out WiredWest Details

By JOSH HEINEMANN

For the third consecutive selectboard meeting Wendell’s broadband committee met with the selectboard May 6, this time with a draft for the proposed annual town meeting article that would authorize the town to borrow its share of the money needed for installing fiber optic connections to every house in town. The finance committee also came.

The broadband issue was the last item on the selectboard agenda before they went into executive session and closed the public meeting for negotiations with non-town personnel.

An original article was drafted by the Massachusetts Broadband Institute [MBI], and did not specify the scope or organization of the proposed broadband network. Wired West added words to that proposal which would make the broadband network regional, and its administration a cooperative among the municipal lighting plants of member towns.

Wired West also provided wording for a ballot question that would allow a debt exclusion for the cost of borrowing, and that voting must take place by September 30 if the article passes at an annual town meeting.

If the article passes at a special town meeting the debt exclusion vote must take place within 90 days.

Broadband committee member Robbie Leppzer said he did not think that Wendell could build its internet connection on its own, even with MBI money added to Wendell’s share.

Robbie Heller said the fiber optic cable will follow utility lines that are already in place, and Wendell gets fed electricity and land line telephone from four directions.

Those systems were built following roads and natural features, and not according to town lines and political divisions.

The draft did not have a specific dollar figure on it and selectboard member Geoffrey Pooser asked when that would be known. It must be on the warrant article and the warrant has to be posted by May 29, with one more selectboard meeting before then, May 20.

Heller said the MBI estimate for all the work in Wendell is \$1.6 million, including contingency money, and that estimate makes some conservative assumptions. MBI has money to pay for approximately 35% of it.

Heard Chair Again

The first order of selectboard business at this meeting was reorganization, following the May 4 election in which Geoffrey Pooser was re-elected to his seat on the selectboard. Selectboard chair Christine Heard asked selectboard member Dan Keller if he would like to become chair and he said “no,” and nominated her. She won in a voice vote.

Town coordinator Nancy Aldrich opened the meeting with the announcement that another circulator pump in the office building heating system failed, and Whittier plumbing found the problem and has a spare pump.

Franklin County Technical School scheduled a vote, June 23, for all its member towns to approve borrowing for three separate repairs and upgrades: windows and doors, the roof, and the driveway and track. The school will take responsibility for posting that vote. Wendell’s share of that cost will be close to \$3,000 a year.

Highway commission chair Harry Williston met the selectboard with a proposal to change the center intersection from a two-way stop to a four-way one. The roads involved are Montague, Wendell Depot, Morse Village, and Lockes Village roads.

Williston said that police chief Ed Chase is OK with the change. Each road approach to the intersection would have a sign to alert motorists to the stop ahead. He added that citizen Michael Idoine suggested that through traffic on Wendell Depot Road might be rerouted to Center Street on the east side of the north common, and be moved away from the library where people are present and children are using the playground.

Aldrich said that the Peter-sham selectboard sent a letter to State Senator Stan Rosenberg objecting to \$100,000 that was removed from funding for Mahar fiscal 2015 and

removing or repairing the dam. The school committee voted to repair the dam as a less costly alternative to removal, and borrowing for that will replace another loan so the cost to Wendell will be a wash.

The fin com suggested that facilities engineer Jim Slavas get an apprentice.

ATM Articles

Michael Idoine met the selectboard with suggestions for five warrant articles for the annual town meeting. Four of those articles would change some town elected positions to ones appointed by the selectboard: treasurer, tax collector, town clerk, and board of assessors. He said those positions require expertise and training, and elections do not necessarily reflect qualifications.

Heard said the selectboard policy is to accept citizen suggestions for the warrant.

The fifth article he suggested would create a committee to study citizen preference for the date and time of the annual town meeting. The 2014 town meeting was held on a Saturday in June, with a break for lunch, and afternoon attendance dropped off. For several years before that, meetings were held at 7 p.m. on weekdays, and attendance fell off if the meeting continued to a second evening.

Heard said that the selectboard decided to go back and forth from one year to the next for a time after the 2014 Saturday meeting. She also said it might be good to reverse the order of election and town meeting so that a more experienced board would face the annual town meeting. The fin com, town clerk and moderator should be consulted by the committee.

Keller suggested an informal hand vote at the annual town meeting, without a whole lot of discussion.

Idoine said he would be willing to be marginally involved with the study committee if it is formed.

Pooser mentioned another unfunded state mandate for his list. Wendell is required to provide an accessible electronic voting machine for its election, at a cost of \$700. The machine is there, but it was not used at all.

Brian Anderson, licensed acupuncturist and Chinese herbalist, is now seeing patients at offices in Orange and Amherst! For information about treatments or to schedule an appointment, call Brian at (413) 325-7719 or visit www.andersonacu.com.



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

May 19: Leverett Democratic Committee Caucus

The Leverett Democratic Town Committee will hold its caucus from 7 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19 at the Leverett Library, 75 Montague Road, Leverett.

Delegates and alternates to the 2015 Massachusetts state convention will be elected at this meeting. One male and one female delegate and alternates will be chosen.

There are also opportunities for youth, minorities and people with disabilities who are not elected as delegates or alternates to apply

to be “add-on” delegates.

The State convention will be held September 19 at the MassMutual Center in Springfield. The caucus is open to all and any Leverett resident who was a registered Democrat by January 31, 2015 is eligible to vote and run as a delegate.

For more information, please contact Barbara Tiner at (413) 548-7919 or at Barbara@wetlanded.com.

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

Savings and protection for the WHOLE FAMILY!

Very competitive Auto and Home rates, including group discounts for AAA & AARP!



413.863.4373

159 Avenue A | Turners Falls MA

www.ahrist.com

REAL PICKLES

Naturally Fermented & Raw



Available at
Upinngil and Food City!

www.realpickles.com
(413) 774-2600 Greenfield, MA

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

Renaissance Builders

Quality, Craftsmanship, Original Thought

www.renbuild.net
863-8316



[Pam Veith REAL ESTATE]

Barbara A. Edson-Greenwald

REALTOR, ABR, CRS, e-PRO, GRI, SRES, CBR

75 Main Street, Suite 105,
Northfield, MA 01360

www.PamVeithRealEstate.com



Office: (413) 498-0207 x2
Cell: (413) 834-4444
Home: (413) 863-9166
Home Fax: (413) 863-0218
bedson1@comcast.net



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

TREES from page A1

are referred to by some as “Klaiber trees.” There is a memorial plaque dedicated to Klaiber in front of Montague’s town hall on Avenue A.

But can the tree be torn down without a public hearing? There have certainly been plenty of tree hearings in Montague over the years.

According to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 87 section 3, “public shade trees cannot be cut down or removed by the tree warden or his deputy or other person without a public hearing.”

Public shade trees are defined under the law as “all trees within a public way or on the boundaries thereof including trees planted in accordance with the provisions of Section 7.”

What is Section 7? It reads in part:

Cities and towns may appropriate money for the purpose of acquiring and planting shade trees in public ways. The tree warden ... may plant shade tree acquired with private or public funds in a public way, or if he deems it expedient, upon adjoining land at a distance not exceeding 20 feet from the layout of such public

way ... providing that the written consent of the owner of such adjoining land shall first be obtained.

So it appears that the cutting of so-called shade trees might require a public hearing if they are within 20 feet of a public way.

However, according to Abbondanzio, “it’s not that simple,” because there is an exemption for utility companies. They may remove shade trees but only after submitting an “annual vegetation management plan” to the tree warden “not less than 90 days prior to the date the utility proposes to begin its maintenance work.” The law then requires the tree warden to approve or disapprove the plan within 60 days. (MGL 87 Section 14)

As of this writing, it was not clear whether Eversource had submitted such an advance plan, or whether it had been approved by Stevens.

Several attempts Wednesday to reach Stevens, by phone and in person at the highway department, were unsuccessful, and he had not responded to a voicemail as of press time.

Eversource spokesperson Priscella Ress said on Wednesday that

she was unfamiliar with the specifics of the Montague Street trees, and that the company’s senior arborist, Calvin Layton, was in the field and also could not be reached.

“We usually identify trees that are interfering with our lines, that could potentially cause an outage, and then we work with the tree warden,” she said. “We follow whatever the procedures are that are in place.”

Stevens, who is an elected official, is scheduled to appear before the selectboard on May 19.

Most of the Montague Street residents approached by Eversource appear to have either accepted the inevitability of the tree removal or supported it. One resident stated that she had contacted the town to remove a damaged tree, but had been told that budget restrictions prevented timely action.

Another stated that her husband had supported the tree cutting because the roots were damaging the family’s sewer connection. However, she stated that she “hated it.”

Mike Jackson contributed additional reporting.

**NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD****Downtown Intersection Under Scrutiny**

By JEFF SINGLETON

The selectboard meeting of Monday, May 11 began with a detailed presentation by Turners Falls resident Sandra Johnson about the intersection of Avenue A and Seventh Street.

Johnson, a/k/a Facto, a local activist and artist, argued that the intersection caused major difficulties for handicapped residents, including a steep incline to get to access the library side of the street and a poorly positioned catch basin on the opposite corner. This makes the intersection “the hardest point in this whole town.”

Facto brought two of her own oil paintings solutions to the problem. In the first, the crosswalk was moved from the corner approximately ten yards to the west beyond a so-called “junction box.” Facto has also extended the crosswalk into the Food City parking lot. The second picture was a close-up of the latter part of the crosswalk with brick instead of blacktop.

Ms. Facto, who gave the presentation from her wheelchair, also suggested that timing of the corner light be extended. Finally, she challenged the selectboard and DPW to cross the street in its current condition on wheelchairs or walkers.

Department of Public Works (DPW) chief Tom Bergeron acknowledged her concerns, but noted that her proposal might not conform to federal regulations. In particular, he suggested that the incline on the library side of the street in her schema might be too steep. He also

questioned the town’s ability to extend the crosswalk into the parking lot, which is privately owned.

Bergeron did say that he had extended the length of the light change from twenty to thirty seconds. The DPW has also smoothed access on the library side of Seventh Street with blacktop. Facto seemed pleased with these developments.

Speaking for the Trees

David Detmold came before the board, ostensibly to discuss trees to be planted as part of the upcoming skate park project at Unity Park. But this led to a broader discussion of tree-planting policies, and the revelation that large numbers of trees had been cut down on Montague Street recently without following proper guidelines.

Detmold stated that the town was planning to put the skate park project out to bid, at a cost to the town of up to \$170,000. Noting that this would lead to the planting of up to six new trees, he suggested that these be taken out of the bid to save money. Three of the trees could be donated to the project, and the other three could be funded by the town’s “memorial tree fund,” which he said had accumulated approximately \$4,000.

Detmold then noted the discussion at the recent town meeting, which had raised the salary of the local tree warden, but also raised concerns about the town’s failure to plant new trees when old ones had been cut down. He pointed to the very recent elimination of trees on Montague Street that may have been planted as part of a historic project

dating from the 1950s.

Roberta Potter noted the impact of tree cutting on her neighborhood, which is adjacent to Montague Street. Town administrator Frank Abbondanzio expressed similar concerns about the tree removals and the fact that they had occurred without the required public hearings.

The selectboard decided to invite tree warden Mark Stevens to appear before the board to discuss the tree cutting and tree planting issues in the next two weeks.

Sewage and Cable

Water pollution control facility superintendent Robert Trombley came before the board seeking approval of a draft consent order to be negotiated with the state. The order is a response to a state finding that partially treated sewage had been released into the Connecticut River and that the state had not been notified in a timely manner.


Trombley’s draft, which will be negotiated with the state, will place more emphasis on incentives for plant renovations, as opposed to punitive measures designed to punish the facility for the incident. This approach has been strongly supported by Abbondanzio and the selectboard, which approved the draft.

Abbondanzio presented the board with a proposal to reorganize the town’s broadband committee. As the committee has evolved, representation has deviated from the original town meeting motion that created it. Abbondanzio requested that the board appoint Kevin Hart to represent the industrial park; Lisa Enzer to

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

VOTE MONDAY

May 18, 2015



MARK FAIRBROTHER

FOR

MONTAGUE SELECTMAN

EXPERIENCE DEDICATION STRENGTH

MONTAGUE VOTERS

Join us

VOTE on MAY 18

RICH KUKLEWICZ

SELECTMAN



**John and Linda Carey
Ray Godin
Patricia Pruitt
Pat Allen
Sam Lovejoy
Chris Sawyer-Laucanno
Jay DiPucchio
Eileen Dowd
Jack Nelson**

Paid for by Rich Kuklewicz for Selectman

represent Chestnut Hill; Peter Vichi for Taylor Hill; and Robert Steinberg to be the legal representative. This would leave one unfilled slot to represent the town’s Cable Advisory Committee.

The board approved his proposal, but not before a strenuous objection from Charles Kelly. Kelly has sought to be appointed to the committee, most recently as the industrial park representative.

He stated that he was “trying to do my best for the town.... why am I being overlooked?” He complained that the committee lacked a representative of town cable subscribers.

However, Mr. Kelly’s entreaties were to no avail, as selectboard member Mark Fairbrother read the original town meeting motion creating the committee: the motion did not provide for a representative of cable subscribers.

Other Business

Mickey Longo, manager of the Turners Falls Airport, requested and received approval to place a sign in Peskeompskut Park advertising the airport’s annual open house. The event will include parachuting, plane rides for kids, experimental planes and a radio control aircraft event the second day.

The board initiated the process for the 2016 Community Development Block Grants; executed an agreement with the state for the safety improvements on Solar Avenue and Depot Street; and approved modifications of the town’s pending three liquor license requests proposed by the state.

The board also approved a change of manager for St. Kazimierz club, and three event requests from the Congregational Church in Montague Center.

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

DOLAN & DOLAN

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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

PERSONAL INJURY, WILLS & ESTATES, WORKER'S COMP

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

11 Paradise Parkway
Turners Falls Mass 01376

Free Mobile App
with Mobile Check Deposit!

GREENFIELD NORTHAMPTON
Cooperative Bank Cooperative Bank (Division of Greenfield)

Avenue A, Turners Falls | 413-512-5012



BestLocalBank.com



MEMBER FDIC
MEMBER SIF

DILLON CHEVROLET INC.

54 Main Street
P.O. Box 729
Greenfield, MA 01302



Avalanche • Colorado • Suburban • Tahoe • Equinox • Traverse • Vans



PAUL J. SOCQUET
SERVICE CONSULTANT

Bus. Phone (413) 773-3678
Fax (413) 774-5746

**EDWARDS TREE SERVICE**

Matthew Edwards
Certified Arborist

Tree Climbing Specialist • Pruning And Removals
Stump Grinding • Practicing Fine Arboriculture

Residential / Commercial / Municipal
60 Ft. Aerial Lift • Brush Chipping

Fully Insured With Workers Comp. Insurance and Liability

WWW.MATTEDWARDSTREE.COM

Wendell, MA

Serving Hampshire And Franklin Counties

413-325-7823 or 978-544-7452

LEVERETT from page A1

go to the CPC funds and do it anyway," suggested selectboard member Julie Shively.

To accommodate the plans, there may need to be some trees removed to create a flat area for the park. Crowe told the board the land closer to the library is flat, but there are some "junky" trees that can be removed to create a space. Crowe said there are also a few maple trees and large pines in that area.

Appointments

The board made new appointments to the emergency planning team, the veteran representative, and the new chair of the selectboard.

Peter d'Errico was appointed as selectboard chair. Incoming board member Tom Hankinson was appointed to the emergency planning team, and will have ICS training.

The appointment to the finance committee was postponed. Robert Schmidt was appointed to the Veterans Committee.

Solar Discount?

Leverett has been approached to buy into a solar project to receive a discount on the electric bill. No decision was made at this meeting regarding this opportunity. There was discussion about the benefits of the buy in, which would be a reduction in the cost of electricity.

McGinnis told the board she thought the town paid \$56,000 last year for the electricity bill, so there would be some benefit. The buy-in comes with a 20-year contract, which the board decided would require approval at the town meeting.

D'Errico raised concerns about the length of the contract and changing technology, asking whether, if new technology were to become available, the town would have the opportunity to take advantage of it — would Leverett be locked into solar energy?

Concerns were also raised regarding the permitting process and whether Leverett, should a commitment be made, would be buy-

ing into the project before anything was being produced.

The company offering the energy has not yet completed the permitting process, and due to this and the other concerns the board decided to wait on a commitment. More information is being sought.

Other Business

Town administrator Marjorie McGinnis explained that there was some confusion over the Cider Mill Road easement, which was resolved to her satisfaction. There was further explanation that, as a landholder, the town had the power to sign the easement agreement.

The board discussed questions regarding whether the Community Preservation fund could be put on hold. There is no process for putting the fund on a temporary hold. The surcharge can be suspended or reduced, and residents can be exempt from it if they qualify. Further questions were raised regarding whether the funds should be automatic or voted on at town meeting each year.

Improvements to the town web site were discussed. An RSS subscriber page would make notifications automatic, and subscribers could receive an automatically generated email when the Select Board agenda became available. The hope is that this improvement would increase accessibility to the website and provide quick and easy access to the agendas.

"We can make it simpler and simpler for people to get information," explained d'Errico.

The board noted that transfer station supervisor Orson Jones has sent in his resignation letter.

A copy of the agreement with the Williamsburg Art Conservation for the painting known as "Sir John" was signed, and Sir John was sent to Williamsburg, Virginia on May 11.

The next meeting of the selectboard will be May 26. Community participation is encouraged.



Asian Arts & Culture
@THE FAC
fineartscenter.com

The River's Song

Saturday, May 16, 11am-9pm

Celebrate the Connecticut River with a full day of FREE activities!

Turners Falls, MA

3pm The River Parade!

See Art in Avenue A Storefronts!
Make Art at Great Falls Discovery Center!
Create a Soundscape with Tony Vacca!
Learn about Native American Culture along the River and more!

And After Dark -
Don't miss the Water Dance Sound & Light performance!

For a full schedule and directions go to:
turnersfallsriverculture.org or fineartscenter.com

Photo Credits: Al Braden & Stephen Schmidt

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

Spotlight Our Stars!

The Franklin County CDC
Invites You to the 5th Annual Presentation of
The Haas Entrepreneur of the Year Award

May 21, 2015 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Shea Theater, Turners Falls
Reception to follow. Everyone welcome! Donation suggested.
Visit www.fccdc.org or call (413) 774-7204 ext 100

The Gill Tavern

Come For a Drink, Stay For a Meal

Open Wed - Sun at 5 PM
Sunday Brunch. 10am-2pm
www.thegilltavern.com
326 Main Road Gill, MA 413-863-9006

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

Turn your computer troubles around!

About-Face
Computer Solutions

Serenity Home Organizing

clear your space, clear your mind

Jill Bromberg
Montague, MA
serenityhomeorganizing.com
413.367.9959

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

TURN'S LAWN CARE

Landscape Design & Maintenance
Spring Clean Up & Routine Care
522-2563
www.TurnLawnCare.com

Peter Waters Painting Services

Interior/Exterior
Custom Residential
Fully Insured

Office: 978-544-6534
Cell: 413-461-5172
Wendell, MA
peterjwaters88@gmail.com

WORKER OWNED COMMITTED TO COMMUNITY
vision | integrity | expertise

SOLAR ENERGY FROM DESIGN TO COMPLETION

311 Wells Street, Suite B
Greenfield, MA 01301
413.772.8788
www.pvsquared.coop

(PV)²
Pioneer Valley PhotoVoltaics
a worker-owned cooperative
MA ELEC. LIC. #12764 and MA HIC #14077

Contact us for a free solar assessment!

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

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

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

Serving Home Grown Farm-inspired Food & Drink

H & O

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

Montague Dental Arts
Robert J. Koolkin, D.D.S., F.A.G.D.

300 Avenue A
Turners Falls, MA 01376

Phone: (413) 863-2288
www.drkoolkin.com

MoRe

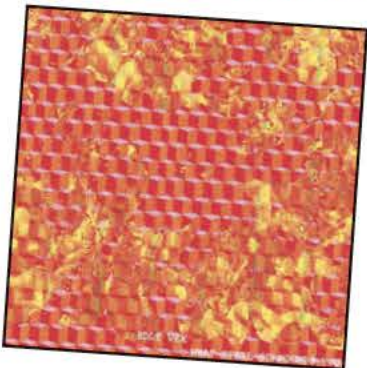
YEAR 13 – NO. 30

FEATURES@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

OF THE MONTAGUE REPORTER

MAY 14, 2015

RECORD REVIEW



*Holy Vex –
What Spell Surrounds You
(2015, Psychic Death)*

By PETER WACKERNAGEL

TURNERS FALLS – Holy Vex’s new album sounds like a non-linear version of the history of rock ’n’ roll as seen from A.D. 2050. Their record, *What Spell Surrounds You*, chops up garage rock with plenty of self-conscious Halloween spook-pop, slow and/or fast metal, and other oeuvres from the chronicle of rock music.

Their songs flicker rapidly between different modes like the surfing of an indecisive television viewer. It’s music that celebrates the end of boredom and questions the sanity of technologic dependency.

Holy Vex was created from the ashes of the mostly-forgotten jam band Shiny Thing. One band member quit and moved to Vermont to work at Mt. Snow. Another was not invited to practice again, and soon the band was reduced to Dylan Kingsolver on guitar and vocals and Al Goodwin on drums.

With the band thus condensed, their project went in a completely new direction. Holy Vex creates a super ear-friendly minimal/maximal sound using layered guitar-looping and other effects. Kingsolver sings through a harmonica mic, which gives his vocals the tinny, desperately reverbed edge of an astronaut left behind in the Eagle Lander.

Holy Vex questions and destroys established songwriting and the idea of complete songs. I think of the complete song as a song written to have a beginning, middle, and end, usually a singular meaning expressed lyrically, and that often falls into canonical themes, the most common of which is probably love. Its wholeness is felt by the artist and is easily understood by the listener.

Holy Vex trashes this idea. Their songwriting process involves recording hour-long jam sessions, and then cutting together short fragments of it into song collages. Tying these semi-unrelated song fragments together is Kingsolver’s recognizable fuzzed-out garage style and their manic, adrenalized feel throughout.

The songs for the album were written in an isolated house in the woods of Conway that Kingsolver and Goodwin shared over the long winter of 2014. There were no neighbors and the pair played constantly. “When we were writing the songs, it came from inner necessity, inner fire,” Kingsolver explained about the essential nature of the songs.

One of the main themes on the album Kingsolver names is “modern overload.” This idea refers to our techno-centric, over-stimulated condition, and includes overtones of mental health issues.

In the song “Remote Control,” Kingsolver sings: “Remote Control. Don’t hang up the phone. Under control, they don’t wanna know. Hang up the phone, I don’t want to know. There’s nobody home, there’s nobody home.”

In celebration of their record’s release, Holy Vex will be playing June 4 at The Brick House in Turners Falls and June 5 at John Doe Jr. Records in Greenfield.

Happy 100th Birthday To our Subscriber George Fisette!

Born in Worcester, George was raised in Turners Falls and spent most of his life in Montague, graduating from TFHS in 1933. His wife Muzzy was born and raised in Turners Falls. In 2010 they moved to Kennebunk, ME. The couple celebrated their 74th wedding anniversary on April 14. On Sunday, May 17, George will celebrate his 100th birthday with family and friends, hosted by his son and daughter-in-law, Mike and Connie Fisette of Wells, ME.



Opbelia McKerchie hangs out at the Great Falls Farmers Market last Wednesday. Her dad, Billy, is co-farm manager at the Greenfield Community Farm/Just Roots, a vendor at the market.



MIKE FISETTE PHOTO



DAVID HOITT PHOTO

Taylor Howe is congratulated by NH Governor Maggie Hassan as Keene State College Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Walter R. Zakabi looks on. Taylor, TFHS Class of 2011, graduated from KSC Summa Cum Laude with BA and BS degrees. Taylor’s parents are Todd and Regina Howe of Turners Falls. Taylor’s sister Riley also attends KSC.

THE GARDENER’S COMPANION



*The Swift
Passage of
Spring*

By LESLIE BROWN

MONTAGUE CITY – After three days of temperatures around eighty, in typical New England Style, the height of spring rushes in.

The daffodils and the Apricot blossoms brown off.

Lovers of cool weather, they droop with the sudden heat. The apple blossoms open, the magnolia glows bright yellow. The maples leave the pink blushes of early spring and dance into full leaf. The asparagus reaches for the sky from a few inches to plucking height.

We traveled south to visit family in Rhode Island on Tuesday and return on Friday having traded in our shoes for open toed sandals and our Levis for shorts.

It’s as if we changed time zones while gone, absorbed in the closeness of family feeling and catching up on news. Meanwhile, the home front has become a foreign land.

The White throated sparrow has abandoned us for the deep woods of the north and the cool of the fir.

The Oriole has arrived without a welcoming committee, looking for a high fork on which to hang his nest. His clear, bright notes, a new song in the yard, challenges the warble of the Cardinal. In our own version of

the deep woods we hear the liquid notes of the thrushes.

The lawn has grown by inches and is full of the purple and whites of violets. The leaf crops need thinning and the strawberries thrust their leaves above the mulch.

In the sunroom the tomatoes have become huge and verge upon becoming leggy. We look to the weather forecast for the week ahead. The temperatures will remain warm, but with the likelihood of thunderstorms early in the week, we choose not to set out these vulnerable plants just yet although they cry for deep holes and staking.

Gardening lore in New England has always been to set out tomato plants after the full moon because these bright nights often bring one last frost. Well, we’ve had our full moon already and the temperatures are warm. The long range forecast indicates some cool days to come, but even those will be mid-sixties. As it is, the sunroom cools down to the fifties overnight, so these plants

see GARDENER page B4

At the Wendell Free Library Reflections: Photographs by Tom Wyatt

By RICHARD BALDWIN

Wendell Free Library is pleased to present “Reflections”, twelve digital photographs on aluminum panels by Tom Wyatt of Warwick, for its May-June Exhibition. The pieces range from a clearly recognizable photograph of lilies in a pond to dancing abstractions of swirling colors, shapes and lines.

Walking outside with camera in hand, Mr. Wyatt photographs details that capture his imagination, then with minimal manipulation, cropping and slight enhancement of color and contrast, presents these experiences to the public as gorgeous works.

Tom’s focus on surfaces, especially reflective ones, combined with the way he zooms in on details leaving out much information that would inform the viewer of the nature of the surface, result in novel visual experiences. This transforms the familiar to the strange. Many of the works here tease the viewer to puzzle over what he or she is seeing.

Space in these works is flat, the major exceptions being “Floating”, “Bumper” and “Springing To Life”



“Floating.” Photo by Tom Wyatt.

where the front plane is in focus against an out of focus ground. In all the works the demarcation between shapes is quite clear, the edges sharp, the contrast in values high, and the colors bright, intense. This results in a show where all the work is up front, right in the face of the viewer.

see WYATT page B4

LITTLE CAESARS

By MIKE JACKSON

TURNERS FALLS – Last Saturday evening I had the privilege to catch an installment of the Young Shakespeare Players’ short run of *Julius Caesar*; at the embattled Shea Theater. It was a good show, and it got me thinking.

Julius Caesar became head of his patrician household at 16, and the high priest of Jupiter at 17. I don’t really get what being high priest of Jupiter entailed but according to the historian Paterculus, the previous one, targeted by a purge, had only just opened his veins, imploring various things of the gods “as his blood drenched the altars,” when J.C. got the job.

Our young priest ended up playing quite a few other roles – soldier, prisoner, tribune, quaestor, pontifex maximus, imperator, consul – along his way to being appointed dictator for life of the Roman Empire at the age of 55. He was assassinated a month after that.

Plutarch included a biography of Caesar in his *Lives of the Noble Greeks and Romans*. Toward the end of Elizabeth’s reign in England, the last six chapters of Sir Thomas North’s translation of the Plutarch formed the basis for a play written by a guy in his mid-thirties, William Shakespeare.

He was writing exclusively for a company of actor-owners called the Lord Chamberlain’s Men, who were caught up in a legal dispute with their former landlords at a theater called The Theatre, and performing in exile at a smaller theater down the street while The Theatre stood, for two years, empty and silent.

In 1599, sick of landlords and legality, and apparent believers in direct action, the actors tore down The Theatre, shipped its beams across the Thames, rebuilt it somewhat larger, and renamed it The Globe. Records aren’t clear, but it is believed that Shakespeare’s *Tragedy of Julius Caesar* – nearly the twentieth play he wrote – may have been the first work staged at The Globe in ‘99.

Julius Caesar did quite a bit in his reign (enslaving a million Gauls; invading Britain; undermining the Republic; some complicated business involving Cleopatra; writing memoirs) but Shakespeare’s focus was on those final six chapters, and on the tragedy that unfolded among the conspirators in the assassination.

And so Caesar, or the kid who plays him, ends up with 135 lines, but his highly quotable buddy/ avenger Mark Antony gets 329, the ardent revolutionist Caius Cassius 525, and poor ponderous Marcus Brutus, the most noble-minded, doubt-wracked conspirator, a staggering 728.

For comparison, the entire combined lyrics for *Led Zeppelin I* through *IV* are 738 lines long. And Shakespeare tends to roll by at about a thousand lines per hour, which gave 13-year-old Max Shannon, the Brutus of the Saturday evening cast, nearly 45 minutes’ worth of dialogue – that, on top of all the looking grave and stomping around with swords required of the conspirators. He did well.

In fact, they all did well. The majority of the cast is homeschooled, and the majority is under 12. According to director Suzanne Rubinstein, there are no auditions, no aspiring participants are turned away, and so far, scholarships have been

see CAESARS page B3

Pet of the Week

Hey there, I'm DJ. I'm looking for a brand new place to call my own.

I was born outdoors, but I am loving it on the inside!

I'm great with other cats and while it may take me a little while to warm up to new people, once I do I'll show my goofy side.

I've been known to take younger cats under my wing and show them the ropes, and quite honestly I'm just a pretty awesome guy.

So stop on down, say hello and take me home!



“D.J.”

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

Senior Center Activities May 18 to 22

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 5/18

Closed for Town Election

Tuesday 5/19

10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga
Noon Lunch
1 p.m. Hats Off America Show

Wednesday 5/20

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

Thursday 5/21

9 a.m. Tai Chi
10:10 a.m. Tech Tutor
Noon Lunch
1 p.m. Pitch & Five Crowns

Friday 5/22

10:10 a.m. Aerobics
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise
1 p.m. Writing Group

LEVERETT

For information, contact the Leverett COA at (413) 548-1022, ext. 5, or coa@leverett.ma.us. Flexibility and Balance Chair Yoga – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at the Town Hall. Drop-in \$6 (first class free). Senior Lunch – Fridays at noon. Call (413) 367-2694 by

ERVING

Erving Senior Center, temporarily at 18 Pleasant Street, Erving, is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for activities and congregate meals.

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

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

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

Monday 5/18

9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Osteo Exercise
12:30 p.m. Movie & Popcorn

Tuesday 5/19

8:45 a.m. Chair Aerobics
10 a.m. Cardio Toning
11 a.m. Friends' Meeting
11:30 a.m. Sandwich Tuesday
12:30 p.m. Painting

Wednesday 5/20

8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
Noon Bingo & Snacks
Thursday 5/21
8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10 a.m. Healthy Bones, Muscles

Noon Pitch

Friday 5/22

9 a.m. Bowling
Out To Lunch

Wednesday for a reservation.

WENDELL

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

Gill: Electric Bicycle Workshop

The Gill Energy Commission will be offering a free “How to Electrify Your Bicycle” workshop presented by Peter Talmage on Saturday May 16, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Gill Elementary School at 48 Boyle Road.

Since transportation is a large part of everyone's budget, this workshop is for you. Riding that bicycle you have hanging in the shed or garage will: save you lots of money, take the place of a gym membership, get you outdoors, and reduce your carbon footprint – but wow, there sure are a lot of hills in

Franklin County!

This workshop will explain the different types of ways a bicycle can be converted to electric power as well as the costs and the sources of products. The workshop will include a demonstration of one regular bicycle being converted into an electric bicycle. At the end, participants will be able to ride the various types of electric bikes at the site.

Adding a battery pack kit does not take away from allowing for plenty of exercise, but instead gives the rider an assist on hills or as needed to safely maneuver in

traffic thus making it easier for you to commute to and from work and run errands with your green and renewable pedal power.

This workshop is a part of the Gill Energy Commission's 2015 workshop series, funded by a Green Communities Grant. To register or for more information, please contact Janet Masucci at 863-8694 or jmasucci@msn.com. For the full schedule please visit the Gill Energy Commission's Facebook page, and please “like” us to receive updates and good energy saving and reduction tips.

MONTAGUE COMMUNITY TELEVISION NEWS

MCTV to Capture the Magic of The River's Song Project Saturday, May 16

This Saturday Turners Falls will host The River's Song Project, the culmination of a year-long study designed to integrate the arts and the environment as the means to highlight the Connecticut River's diverse ecology.

MCTV Festivities get underway at the Turners Falls Fish Ladder near Unity Park at 9 a.m., with events throughout the day ending at 9 p.m.

There will be a wide variety of interactive opportunities for adults and children alike ranging from drumming and art making to artists talks and spoken word poetry.

A full schedule can be found at www.turnersfallsriverculture.org/rivers-song-celebration-516/

MCTV resident videographer Bret Leighton will be on hand along with other community members to capture the magic and energy on Saturday.

“I love capturing live events like this on film, particularly music performances,” says Bret. Bret has been working with MCTV for four years now, and welcomes other community members to connect with the station to join him in filming The River's Song Project this weekend.

To find out how you can pick up a camera and join Bret please call the station at (413) 863-9200, or stop by 34 Second Street in Turners between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. We'd love to work with you!

JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION



By FRED CICETTI

Q. I had a bird's nest in my chimney and our heating guy told me we were probably getting some carbon monoxide in the house. He said that this is bad for your health. How bad?

Carbon monoxide (chemical symbol CO) is a colorless and odorless gas that can kill you. CO is a byproduct of combustion. It comes out of car tailpipes, gas ovens, fireplaces and heating systems.

That bird's nest was blocking the evacuation of CO out of your chimney from your furnace and hot-water heater. The gas was backing up into your house.

Red blood cells absorb CO more readily than they pick up oxygen. If there is a lot of CO in the air, the body may replace oxygen in blood

with CO. This blocks oxygen from getting into the body, which can hurt you and eventually kill you.

People with chronic heart disease, anemia, or respiratory problems are more susceptible to the effects of CO. And many seniors fit into one or more of those categories.

The most common symptoms of CO poisoning are headache, dizziness, weakness, irregular breathing, nausea, vomiting, chest pain, and confusion. You should go outdoors and breathe some fresh air immediately if you suspect CO poisoning. If you stay in the house, you could become unconscious and die. Then get medical attention right away.

The proper operation and maintenance of all fuel-burning appliances is the most important way to reduce the risk of getting dangerous CO in your home. When appliances are kept in good working condition, they produce little CO. Also, having your chimney checked regularly is smart.

Signs that might indicate improper appliance operation include:

- Decreasing hot water supply
- Furnace unable to heat house or runs constantly

Tuesday: Album Cover Show To Benefit Camp

Ryan Richards and special guests will perform Neutral Milk Hotel's album *In an Aeroplane Over the Sea* in its entirety to benefit Camp Thunderbird South Dakota, a non-profit organization that provides summer camp experience for children on the Lakota reservations. Ryan works as a Camp Thunderbird counselor.

Donations will be accepted during the performance.

Tuesday, May 26 at 7 p.m. at Madison on the Avenue, 104 Avenue A, Turners Falls.

For more information, visit www.campthunderbirds.org

THE HEALTHY GEEZER

Bird Flue Can Kill

- Sooting, especially on appliances
- Unfamiliar or burning odor
- Increased condensation inside windows

Here are some no-nos: leaving a car running in a garage even with the door open, operating a gas generator in the house, burning charcoal indoors, using a gas oven or dryer to heat the house, and putting foil on the bottom of a gas oven because it interferes with combustion.

And here's one that may surprise you. Do you have a car with a tailgate? If you drive with a tailgate open, you must open windows to make sure air is moving through your car. If only the tailgate is open, CO from the exhaust will be pulled into the car.

Next to preventing the production of CO, the best defense against this lethal gas is a CO alarm. CO gas distributes evenly and quickly throughout the house. A CO detector should be installed outside bedrooms to alert sleeping residents.

If you would like to ask a question, write to fred@healthygeezers.com.

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

CopyCat

PRINT SHOP

We Specialize In Impossible Deadlines!

bioycles

unlimited

322 High Street, Greenfield, MA 01301
(413) 772-2700
E-mail: bikebob@crocker.com
Web Page: <http://www.bikes-unlimited.com>

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

GREENFIELD@COPYCATPRINTSHOP.COM
413-774-3500

Please visit our website for printing tips and online services:
copycatprintshop.com

UP TO THE MINUTE TECHNOLOGY
OLD-FASHIONED PERSONAL SERVICE

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

Rau's Auto

COMPLETE AUTO REPAIR

(413) 367-2475

531 Turners Falls Rd. Montague

24 hour emergency towing
Best service licensed Mechanics

When an individual's ambition

It is now much easier to find your way to the topic you want. The books are organized into categories so whether you are looking for a cookbook, a novel by a popular author, history, biography or a coffee table book to complete your décor

We're thinking too small. Doing well shouldn't have to be at another's expense, and governance should be our way of enabling, not prohibiting, each other's best dreams and ambitions. Sometimes it's just time to tear down the theater, carry it away beam by beam, and build a new one – with enough room in it for what we can accomplish, together, if we really want to.

10:24 p.m. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct; possession of a Class C drug; and possessing an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle.

SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
DOORS & OPENERS

Devine Overhead Doors

Gerry Devine

106 West Street
Hadley, MA. 01035

Hampshire: 586-3161
Franklin: 773-9497

GARDENER from page B1

have been hardening up and should be able to withstand the ups and downs in the garden.

We'll need to take our chances and put out tomatoes in the next few days. We'll plant them deeply for added stem strength and root development. If we don't get rain, we'll keep them moist but not wet. A little drying out is safer than too much water because tomatoes will just keep on taking in what falls from the sky and this leads to greater susceptibility to wilts and fruit damage.

Meanwhile we have been watering greens, garlic plants and the recent planting of peas. These cool weather crops have dried too much in the heat and need regular watering. This is a great time to seed another bed of salad greens for a second crop before the steady heat of summer.

My beautiful magnolia was a retirement gift from my administrative colleagues at school and I was fortunate enough to have a landscaping student plant it in. The arborist reassured me that although this tree can grow anywhere from 15 to 30 feet tall, it can also be pruned for a shorter, bushier look. Once the lovely yellow

flowers have wilted, we can prune the tops of the branches. Incidentally, this spring pruning will increase next year's blossoming as well as containing upward growth. Do not however prune back fruit-producing flowering shrubs now or you will have no crop!

The blueberry bushes are blooming and we hope to see strawberry flowers soon. The roses have had a tough winter. We have cut back the dead stems to the green growth and emerging leaves. Once they set buds we can feed them with a dose of Epsom salts around the base of the plant. Just a tablespoon or two scratched into the soil will give the plant magnesium for growth, nutrient uptake and pest deterrent.

This is beautiful, winsome springtime when many things bloom spectacularly for a few brief days. Each day there are new treats in the yard for the senses. Enjoy the fragrant lilacs, the lily of the valley, and the flowering fruits. This is a bittersweet season, poignant, fragrant and short-lived. Make sure to spend some time outside noting each change. Summer's heat with its own pleasures will be upon us soon enough.

Happy gardening!



WYATT from page B1

The overall feeling is of bright and high pitched images – very upbeat, very energetic, and quite appropriate to spring.

There are also touches of humor in this show, noticeably in the self-portrait in the framed artist's statement and in "Fender Bender," where two circles that suggest eyes contain tiny reflected images of the photographer.

In "It's All In Your Imagination," a photograph of text reflections on a tractor trailer chrome surface, the image suggests humorous ghosts staring at the viewer.

In "After The Rain," a straight photo of a storm drain cover in Greenfield, the image bathed in the red of a stop light transforms the object into a kind of sinister high drama.

Tom writes in his Artist's Statement: "I've always been fascinated by optical mysteries. Reflections enable multiple visual planes to exist simultaneously. Visible puzzles in my photographs challenge what's immediately identified and taken for granted. I love the concept of finding

illusionary abstractions around us in unexpected, ordinary locations – like parking lots or street puddles. Surrealism viewable to the naked human eye!"

Mr. Wyatt uses a Canon digital camera and does minimal retouching in Photoshop. The presentation of the pieces here is beautiful. Tom writes that these Metal Photo Prints "...are created by heat-infusing digital images into high gloss aluminum panels. The process results in luminous, archival photographs with a scratch-resistant finish."

Tom "... grew up traveling the world with his family, exploring cultural sites and art museums. His critical eye and aesthetic interest grew over the years while teaching, building a home, raising a family and working in retail sales.

"Tom jumped at the chance to dive headlong into photography in 1995 and completed the intensive program at the Hallmark Institute of Photography. Then he started and ran a business as a commercial photographer for the next several years."

The artist has shown extensively in Massachusetts, and has been represented in galleries here and in Connecticut. At present he has work at both the Sawmill River Arts Gallery in Montague Center and at the Salmon Falls Gallery in Shelburne Falls.

His work is in a number of collections, including MGM Grand at Foxwoods Resort & Casino in Connecticut, and Baystate Franklin Medical Center in Greenfield. He is a founding member of the Pioneer Valley Photographic Artists, and the coordinator of the annual shows of the Warwick Arts Council.

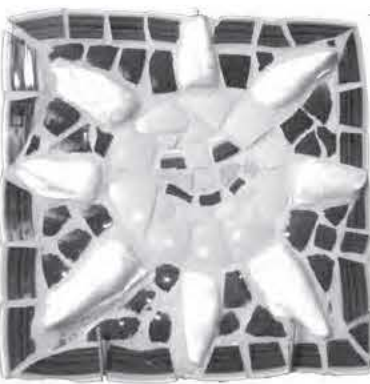
Tom will give a talk about his work at the beginning of his reception, which will take place Wednesday, May 20 from 6 to 8 p.m. The exhibition will be up through June 30. All prints are for sale as well as a book of his work, which is at the Gallery. To see more of his art visit www.tomwyattphoto.com.

Library hours are Tuesdays noon to 6 p.m., Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Thursdays 3 to 7 p.m., and Saturdays 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Mosaics Workshop at the Turners Falls Women's Resource Center

The Turners Falls Women's Resource Center (TFWRC) program of Montague Catholic Social Ministries (MCSM) is happy to announce that Edite Cunha will offer a second Introduction to Mosaic Workshop on Friday, May 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Women's Resource Center, 41 Third Street in Turners Falls. Mosaic is an ancient decorative art made with colored small pieces of glass, stone, minerals, and fragments of pottery or other material. In this introductory workshop, participants will learn the basics of this beautiful art form while creating a decorative tile. The workshop will cover design, technique, materials, tools, process, and a bit of history as well. Materials and



tools will be provided, but participants may want to bring some bits of broken pottery, sea glass, shells, or other tokens that are special to them, to make their mosaic really personal. Those who participated in last spring's workshop may work on a three-dimensional piece. Due to space limitations, the workshop is limited to 8 participants. Sign up early by calling TFWRC Programs Coordinator, Christine Diani, at (413) 863-4804, ext. 1003 or email christine@mcsmcommunity.org.

Edite Cunha is a writer, artist, educator and founder of the Smashing China Mosaic Studio. This workshop is supported in part by a grant from Massachusetts Cultural Council, through Montague Local Cultural Council.

LOOKING BACK: 10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was May 12, 2005: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

Town Meeting Gets Down to Business

A special town meeting convened at 8:30 a.m. to vote on 11 articles, among them three articles dealing with the more than \$800,000 returned to the town by the Gill-Montague Regional School District when it wound up '04 with close to \$2 million in Excess & Deficiency funds, of which it is legally permitted to retain only an amount equivalent to 5% of its operating budget.

Town meeting members voted to create a Special Purpose Education Stabilization Fund, funded with \$518,000 of the total returned to the town by the school district. This fund is to be used for capital expenditures, rather than operating expenses, ensuring that the money does not become part of the town's regular budget for education.

Members also voted to transfer \$300,000 of the funds returned by the school district to the general town stabilization fund to make up for money taken from that to make up a school budget shortfall several years ago.

Town meeting also voted on other funding issues including salaries of elected and appointed individuals; the operation of the Millers Falls Wastewater Treatment Plant; authorization for town officials to apply for and accept grants; approval of a recycling contract; reauthorization of dog licensing and hazardous materials expenses; a Household Hazardous Waste Program; local transportation projects; \$30,000 for a new police cruiser; computer hardware; an evaluation of sidewalks and roads; improvements to libraries and schools; and fencing at Unity Park; and the town's share of Franklin

County Technical School's yearly operation costs.

Town meeting members voted to create an Agricultural Commission, with five members who will work for the preservation of agriculture in Montague.

Forming a "Safe Homes" Network at GMRSD

Rachel Stoler, director of the Community Coalition for Teens (CCT), inherited the vision of CCT's former director, Angel Russik, of bringing the Safe Homes Project, a national program for families and caregivers of middle and high school aged youth, to this area.

The Safe Homes Network Resource Guide lists families within the district who have pledged to supervise youth activities, and to not allow alcohol or other illegal substances to be served or used in their homes or on their property. Parents and caregivers use the guide to find other parents in the network to reach out to when dealing with perceived teen safety issues – smoking, drugs, impulsive behavior leading to vandalism, violence, early or unsafe sex, and other risky behavior.

The program started in the spring of 2004, after an interest assessment the previous winter. Stole followed up with a meeting of interested parents that June, which only one parent attended.

Over the summer, the group met again. By December of 2004, participation was already about 40% of the Mohawk Trail Regional High School families. A group of students at Mohawk was approached for input into a guide for families in the area.

Stoler said the program has also come up against some resistance. There are parents who have felt uncomfortable with the name of the program, with the implication that if they don't sign the pledge, theirs is not a "safe home."

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE ERVING POLICE LOG

String of Motor Vehicle Break-Ins

Monday, 4/20

5:45 a.m. Assisted with medical emergency on North Street.

6:45 a.m. Suspicious male subject around bowling alley investigated.

8 a.m. Assisted animal control officer with loose dog on Route 2. Taken to kennel.

9:30 a.m. Truck with load of trash investigated.

Tuesday, 4/21

1:42 p.m. Report of tractor trailer hitting low clearance sign on Bridge Street. Reported to highway department as "damaged beyond repair".

Thursday, 4/23

8:40 p.m. Assisted with medical emergency at Weatherhead's Storage.

9:35 p.m. Dog complaint on River Street. Owner spoken with.

Saturday, 4/25

8:42 p.m. Report of vehicle striking building and another vehicle.

Monday, 4/20

was arrested for leaving the scene of an accident, operating under the influence, and operating to endanger.

Sunday, 4/26

3:15 p.m. Report of juveniles starting fires at Millers River. Fire extinguished and advised not to reignite.

Monday, 4/27

3:25 p.m. Report of illegal dumping at West Main Street residence.

Tuesday, 4/28

4:20 p.m. Assisted with medical emergency on Pratt Street.

Wednesday, 4/29

10 a.m. Assisted with medical emergency on High Street.

Thursday, 4/30

10:10 a.m. Suspicious individual going door to door on River Street. Advised to stop.

10:15 a.m. Criminal application issued to

for larceny from the Box Car Restaurant.

Friday, 5/1

3 p.m. Assisted with medical emergency on Mountain Road.

6:45 p.m. Assisted with medical emergency on Northfield Road.

Saturday, 5/2

3:40 p.m. Report of underage drinking on North Street and Swamp Road. Found three individuals fishing, not drinking.

Sunday, 5/3

7:25 a.m. Report of breaking and entering into motor vehicle on Old State Road.

9:25 a.m. Report of breaking and entering into second motor vehicle on Old State Road.

10 a.m. Report of breaking and entering into motor vehicle on Northfield Road.

10:40 a.m. Report of

breaking and entering into second motor vehicle on Northfield Road.

Monday, 5/4

1 p.m. Assisted with medical emergency on High Street.

8:40 p.m. Motor vehicle struck deer on Route 2 in Old State Road area.

Tuesday, 5/5

6:49 p.m. Assisted Northfield Police with crash on Millers Falls Road.

Thursday, 5/7

5:25 p.m. Fire at French King Highway, report of porch on fire, EFD extinguished.

Friday, 5/8

5:45 p.m. Dumpster on fire at Laurel Lake, EFD extinguished.

Sunday, 5/10

4:15 p.m. Car crash on Route 2. No injuries, report taken.

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

Renaissance Excavating, Inc.

COMPLETE
SITE WORK

Septic & Drainage Systems | Sand, Gravel & Loam

Main Road, Gill

Douglas Edson 413.863.4462

renexc@gmail.com cell 413.834.2201

Charon Art
Visionary Tattoo

Open Wed-Sat 11-7
413-676-9146
www.CharonArt.com
107 Ave. A, Turners Falls MA

Connecting people to themselves through tattoos

Since 1910

Professional Painting &
Decorating Contractor

Commercial • Residential • Industrial

"SERVING WESTERN MASS FOR OVER 100 YEARS"

www.couturebros.com
400 Avenue A Turners Falls, MA • 413-863-4346

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



JACK COUGHLIN ILLUSTRATION

ONGOING:

EVERY SUNDAY

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

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

EVERY MONDAY

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

EVERY TUESDAY

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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

EVERY THURSDAY

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

The Pioneer Tavern (Formerly The Rt.63 Roadhouse), Millers Falls: *TNT Karaoke*, 8:30 p.m.

EVERY FRIDAY

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

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

EXHIBITS:

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Trash to Treasure*. Artwork created with trash from the Connecticut River watershed by regional artists. Through 5/27. Details at www.turnersfallsriverculture.org

ganized by Slate Roof Press. Winners make a three-year commitment to the press. Submit no more than 28 pages of poetry. Deadline: May 15. See www.slateroofpress.com.

Sawmill River Arts, Montague Center. Seeking artists for cooperative gallery featuring fine arts and crafts. For more information see www.sawmillriver-arts.com.

Wendell Free Library invites artists to submit applications for two-dimensional work to exhibit in the Herrick Meeting Room gallery. Applications accepted at any time. See www.wendell-mass.us



The Ephemeral String Band will be performing at the Montague Bookmill on Saturday, May 16, 8 p.m. The Ephemeral Stringband draws from several branches of traditional American music including Oldtime Stringband music, early country and bluegrass, and Shape Note sacred hymns.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls, Bruce Kahn: *Dreams, Fantasies and Fetishes* Wildly unpredictable Kahn is back for a second showing of his unreal photo compositions. May 5-June 7. Reception on 5/16.

Deerfield Arts Bank, Deerfield: *Black and White and Read All Over*, group exhibit 4/16-5/17.

Barnes Gallery, Leverett Crafts & Arts: *Will Sieruta, Mixed Media Paintings*, through 5/31.

Shelburne Arts Cooperative, Shelburne Falls: *Merry Merry May*. Group show featuring 50 members of cooperative. Runs through 6/1.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:

Drummers Desired for Riversong May 16, Turners Falls. Drummers arrive by 3:00 p.m. on the afternoon of the event. Please bring a drum. Contact Ricardo (ricardofrota3@gmail.com) to RSVP.

Seeking Cool Cats for a special feline feature at Nina's Nook in Turners Falls June 2015! Seeking feline themed arts and crafts consignors. Contact Nina Rossi, naban@verizon.net (413) 834-8800. www.ninasnook.com

Poetry Chapbook Contest or-

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS:

Turner's Falls Women's Resource Center, Turners Falls: *Mosaic Workshop* with Edite Cunha. Explore creating ancient decorative art. Event is on 5/29 from 10-2 p.m. but space limit to 8 participants; so sign up early. 413-863-4804.

EVENTS:

THURSDAY, MAY 14

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Surly Temple & Friends*. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 15

Montague Bookmill, Montague: *Jim Armenti with opener Lisa Marie Ellingsen*. \$ 8 p.m.

Artsblock, Greenfield: *Comedy Nite*. \$ 8 p.m.

Mocha Maya, Shelburne Falls: *Holly May*. Country pop. 8 p.m.

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Steve Koziol & Friends - The Original Cowards*. 9: 30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

River's Song Project Celebration, Turners Falls: Throughout the day; first event 11 a.m. For details see article in front section of paper.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls:

Bruce Kahn: *Dreams, Fantasies and Fetishes*. Artist reception. 5 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Tony Vacca*. 7 p.m.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: *Short Circuit*, Robot movie. 7:30 p.m.

Mocha Maya, Shelburne Falls: *Alan Williams*. 8 p.m.

Arts Block, Greenfield: *Mandolin Orchestra*. Features work "Barton's Cove" by Michael Nix. 8 p.m. \$

Montague Bookmill, Montague: *Ephemeral StringBand/Yes Deer*. 8 p.m. \$

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Grave Diggers Union*. Bluegrass. 9 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Rockit Queer w/ DJ Just Joan*. 9:30 p.m. \$

SUNDAY, MAY 17

Montague Music Fest, Montague Center: *Good Music Makes Good Neighbors*. Various musicians at variety of locations in town, starting at 1 p.m. Donation. See details at <https://www.facebook.com/MontagueMusicFest>

Mocha Maya, Shelburne Falls: *Dan Kennedy*. Instrumental New Age. 2:30 p.m.

Leverett Crafts and Arts, Leverett: *Danse Cafe*. Dance instruction and live music. 3 p.m. \$

GCC, Greenfield: *Recital Chorus Annual Spring Concert*. 7:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Moonlight & Morning Star*. 8 p.m.

John Doe Jr., Greenfield: *Chain and the Gang, Sore Eros, Death Savings Flag, Bong Wish, and Group Vision*. All ages, bring donations for bands. 8 p.m.

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

TUESDAY, MAY 19

Brick House, Turners Falls: *Daniel Bachman, Ignatz, and Goodarzi/Gelineau/Lee*. All ages, substance free, 8 p.m., \$

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: *Reflections*, photographs by Tom Wyatt. Artist reception, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 21

Mocha Maya, Shelburne Falls: *Lissa Kiernan*. Poetry reading. 7 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Half Shaved Jazz*. 7:30 p.m.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Tommy Filiault Trio*. Original Guitar Music. 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 22

GCTV Studio, Greenfield: *Four Voices*. Poetry reading. Trish

Crapo, Susie Patlove, Carol Potter, Paula Saywood. 6 p.m.

Mocha Maya, Shelburne Falls: *Lines West*. Songwriting duo. 8 p.m.

Brick House, Turners Falls: *Chris Weisman, Gracie Jackson, and Luke Csehak*. All ages, substance free, 8 p.m., \$

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Josh Levangie & The Pistoleros*. 9 p.m.

The Brick House
COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

The Brick House Teen Center is seeking donations of one or two pizzas per month, to be enjoyed during Teen Center Programs & Events. If interested in donating, please call 863-9559. THANKS!

www.brickhousecommunity.org
413-863-9576

Deja Brew
Cafe & Pub

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

Friday 5/15
Wildcat O'Halloran Band 9 p.m.
Saturday 5/16
Grave Diggers Union 9 p.m.
Sunday 5/17
Moonlight & Morning Star 8 p.m.
Thursday 5/21
Tommy Filiault Trio 8 p.m.

978-544-BREW
57A Lockes Village Road
Next to the Wendell Country Store
www.DejaBrewPub.com

The Rendezvous
MON: BINGO!

FRI 5/15 9:30 FREE
Seattle Lawns
(Steve K. & pals play Nirvana tunes)
The Original Cowards

SAT 5/16 9:30 \$3
ROCKIT QUEER w.
DJ JUST JOAN

SUN 5/17 9pm FREE
TNT KARAOKE

78 THIRD STREET
TURNERS FALLS, MA
RENDZVOUSTFMA.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

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

28 Montague Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376

863-2471
Fax 863-8022

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

PARTRIDGE-ZSCHAU

CONSULT US

25 Millers Falls Road
Turners Falls, MA 01376

(413) 863-4331
www.pzinc.com

Service 7 days a week, visit www.pzinc.com

INSURANCE

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

Doug's Auto Body
Doug Smith - Owner

PRECISION REPAIRS

MA Reg. #RS2190

Ph. (413) 863-2785
Fax: (413) 863-0120
FREE ESTIMATES

39 Center Road
Gill, MA 01354
FREE LOANER CARS
REPAIRS ON FOREIGN & DOMESTIC CARS AND TRUCKS

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 • 888-763-3443
www.cruiseandtravelcompany.com

Wendell's Jonathan and Susan von Ranson are currently making a big circuit around the country. Here they are at Big Sur State Park in California.

As Jonathan describes it, they'll hit the "Fla. panhandle, L.A. area, possibility Vancouver Island & Alberta in Canada, then back home. By the time we return we'll have visited nearly all our children, most siblings, cousins by the dozen (well, three or so) some friends and any number of state and national parks.

"The beauty of the West is never overstated! I'm still stunned by the size of the redwoods in a grove half a mile from our campsite in this photo."

If you're headed out for the season, don't forget to bring a couple copies of the Reporter along — one for camping emergencies, and one left over to take a picture with. Send the results to editor@montaguereporter.org.

MONTAGUE REPORTER



ON
THE
ROAD

Just Roots 2015 CSA Share!

Feed your family farm-fresh produce grown at the Greenfield Community Farm and support other families in doing the same.

20 WEEKS OF FRESH, HEALTHY, LOCAL PRODUCE!



Convenient pick up locations in Greenfield and Turners Falls. Community workshops included. Space is limited: sign up today!

More info: justroots.org or (413) 325-8969

Beyond Plastic

GREENFIELD — Plastics are everywhere! The Greenfield Rights of Nature will be showing the award-winning and humorous movie, *Bag It*, on Monday, May 18 at 6 p.m. at the Greenfield Public Library, downstairs, back door.

In the movie *Bag It*, we find out what plastics are, where they end up, and some of their effects on health, marine life and the environment.

The movie follows Jeb Berrier as he navigates our plastic world.

When Jeb's journey takes a personal twist, we see how our crazy-for-plastic world has finally caught up with us and what we can do about it right now.

Discussion will follow the film. "We hope the discussion will help us to find new ways of dealing with the plastics in our everyday lives," said Emily Greene of the film committee.

For more information, go to greenfieldrightsofnature.info.

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

Tomato Plants
heirlooms, red slicers, cherries & More!
Old Depot Gardens,
504 Turners Falls Road,
Montague
1/4 mile up the road from
the Bookmill
www.redfirefarm.com

Plus Late Blight Resistant Varieties!

RED FIRE FARM
Organic Produce, Plants & Flowers
7 days, 9am-8pm
Samples & Garden Party 5/23

USDA ORGANIC

TURN IT UP!

MUSIC & MOVIES

BOOKMILL | MONTAGUE CENTER | 367.0309

GREENFIELD GUTTER

CHUCK REUM (413) 774-3780
SEAMLESS GUTTERS
LEAF PROTECTION

COHN & COMPANY
REAL ESTATE AGENCY
117 Main Street • PO Box 638
Greenfield MA 01302-0638

Direct: 413-223-1362
Cell: 413-772-9279
Fax: 413-773-1143
marylou@cohnandcompany.com
www.cohnandcompany.com

MaryLou Emond
CRS, GRI, CBR, SRES

New England Landscaping & Wall Construction

WALKS
PATIOS
PRUNING
TRIMMING

SITE EXCAVATION WORK

RODNEY DEMERS
TURNERS FALLS, MA
773-7910

magpie

- Pizzas
- Entrees
- Salads
- Full Bar & Patio

magpiepizza.com
21 Bank Row, Gld.
413-475-3570

woodfired pizzeria

GREAT FALLS HARVEST
fresh • local • creative

CALL TO VOTE FOR POSITIVE CHANGE IN MONTAGUE ON MAY 18

Open Thursday through Saturday 5 - 9pm
Sunday 10:30 - 2pm Dinner 5 - 8pm

863-0023

50 Third Street
Downtown Turners Falls

IN GOOD COMPANY
A SKILLED ELDER COMPANION SERVICE

Offering focused attention, engaging activities, outings, and respite for caregivers.

sitalang@ingoodcompanynow.com
www.ingoodcompanynow.com
413-834-7569

Sita Lang
Hospice trained
CPR certified

DIEMAND FARM STORE

SOUPS, POT PIES, FROZEN TURKEY, BEEF, PORK, LAMB AND CHICKEN, AND HEARTY ENTREES
READY TO HEAT & EAT!

CALL FOR MORE INFO: (978) 544-3806

WENDELL FARM STORE HOURS:
MON. - SAT: 7 A.M. TO 5 P.M.
CLOSED SUNDAYS UNTIL MAY

"COME SEE WHAT'S COOKING!"

Geri Johnson, Realtor
ABR, CRB, CRS, GRI, SRES
413-863-9736 • 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 referring, always choose GERI JOHNSON, CRS 30 years of experience.

Gerijohnson & Associates REALTORS
66 French King Hwy., Gill
(413) 863-9736 • WWW.GJAR.COM

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.

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

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

Jeffrey Collura, D.M.D.
Cosmetic Dentistry

7 Burnham Street
Turners Falls, MA 01376
Telephone (413) 774-6553
TurnersFallsDental.com

Office Hours By Appointment

CEREC: SINGLE-VISIT DENTISTRY

GREENFIELD SOLAR STORE

Replace Fossil & Nuclear Fuels
One house or Business at a time

John Ward 413-772-3122
Claire Chang 2 Fiske Ave, Greenfield, MA
[Claire@ or John@solarstoreofgreenfield.com](mailto:Claire@orJohn@solarstoreofgreenfield.com)

FARMER'S MARKET SATURDAYS

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. By the Gazebo in Wendell

Farm Products & Crafts
Eggs,
Maple Syrup, etc.

SHANAHAN CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY CO. INC.
"Rock solid service with level advice"

Complete Masonry Supply
Offering a complete line of pavers, wall stone, retaining wall block and more.

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