



LAKE PLEASANT MILLERS FALLS MONTAGUE CENTER MONTAGUE CITY TURNERS FALLS

The Montague Reporter

also serving Erving, Gill, Leverett and Wendell

\$1

YEAR 13 – NO. 5

EDITOR@MONTAGUEREPORTER.ORG

THE VOICE OF THE VILLAGES

NOVEMBER 6, 2014

Erving Voters Ask For Power To Recall Town Officials

By KATIE NOLAN

After about an hour of discussion, the November 3 Erving special town meeting voted 44 to 37 to petition the state legislature to adopt a special act establishing a procedure for Erving residents to recall elected town officials.

Three amendments were proposed to the article, but only one, increasing the number of days for the town clerk to certify recall petition signatures, was adopted.

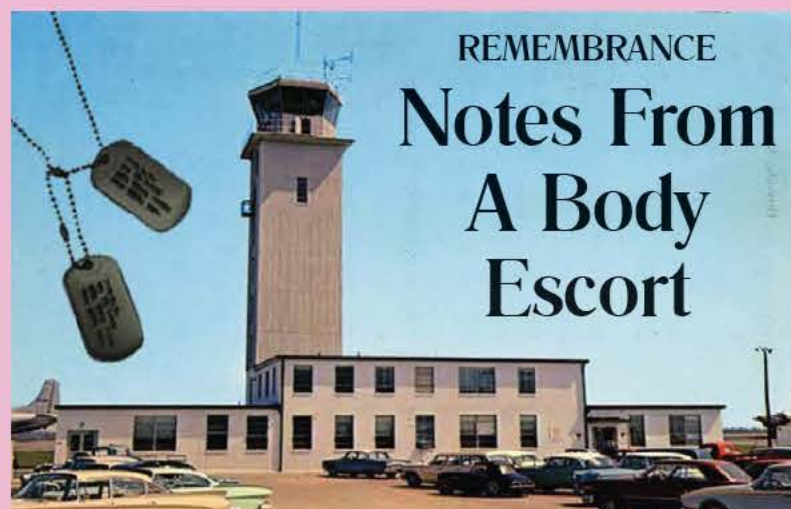
Moderator Richard Peabody began the meeting by comparing the recall process to a tool “that the town might want in our tool box, or maybe not.”

He asked that all discussion focus on the tool, and not on past events or personalities that may have inspired the citizen-petition town meeting article.

Former selectboard member Andrew Goodwin, who promoted the petitioned article, told the meeting that he had proposed the recall article while on the selectboard, but the other members at that time did not want to include it on a town meeting warrant.

Therefore, after he left the board, he developed the wording specifying

see **ERVING** page A4



Dover AFB, circa 1966.

By PETER REICH

Late in January, 1968, the North Vietnamese and the Viet Cong armies attacked 300 bases and cities in South Vietnam. When it ended in May, about 7,000 U.S. Soldiers – and tens of thousands of Vietnamese, civilian and military – had died, and President Lyndon Johnson decided to wind down the War.

The end of the draft followed soon after – too late for me. Greetings from General Hershey had arrived in the mail late in 1966, and on January 10, 1967, I was on a troop train with hundreds of other young lads tracking our way to Fort Jackson, South Carolina for Basic Training.

A few weeks later, I arrived at Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, facing another year and three quarters of my two-year, stateside tour as a soldier. By the time the Tet Offensive came around a year or so later,

Fort Wadsworth and many state-side bases emptied as GI's were sent on body escorts.

These are my notes from such a body escort.

March 8, 1968: A nasal-voiced Sergeant breaks into the silence of my Friday daydream: “Specialist Reich, you have been assigned to body escort. You will report this afternoon to the Memorial Hall Services Office for further instructions.”

After lunch I waded through forms in memorial services, finance, transportation. After dinner I climb on a bus for Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, where I will pick up the body.

On the bus questions crystallize: What was he like? What will his family be like? What will happen? Someone said a mother died of a heart attack at the services for her son killed in Vietnam.

see **ESCORT** page A8

Whipps Lee Ousts Andrews; Kulik Retains House Seat

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

FRANKLIN COUNTY – Republican Susannah Whipps Lee bested Democratic incumbent Denise Andrews by over nine percentage points in the 2nd Franklin District race for the Massachusetts House of Representatives. Voters gave Lee 7,342 votes, versus 6,096 for Andrews.

In the 1st Franklin District race, Democratic incumbent Steve Kulik easily retained his seat, defeating challenger Dylan Korpita by a 70 to 30 percent margin. Vote totals were 11,877 for Kulik, 5,018 for Korpita.

2nd Franklin District

Lee's support came largely from the North Quabbin towns, including her hometown of Athol and neighboring Orange, home to Andrews. The western part of the district was Andrews territory, but the larger towns in the district gave Whipps Lee a distinct advantage.

In Wendell, Andrews came out on top, garnering 331 votes to Lee's 71. Andrews also won Erving but by a narrower margin. There she received 280 votes to Lee's 221. Gill voters overwhelmingly supported Andrews with 418 votes for her against 195 for Lee.

The average for Andrews in Gill, Wendell and Erving was 68.8 percent, while Lee picked up 31.2 per-



Whipps Lee (top) and Kulik (below) will serve as Franklin County's representatives in the state house.

cent of the total vote.

Lee narrowly lost to Andrews in 2012. In the run up to this year's election she said that “2012 was a learning curve” and that this time she was “confident of victory.” “The political climate has changed since 2012,” she noted. The voters proved her right.

Lee also credited her campaign

see **RACES** page A3

Secretary of Education Visits Gill-Montague Schools

By ELLEN BLANCHETTE

Massachusetts Secretary of Education Matthew Malone visited the Gill-Montague Regional School District this Tuesday, November 4.

In what was a whirlwind tour and intense discussion while walking through the high school, Malone expressed real excitement about what he was seeing in the district.

His visit started at Gill Elementary, where he was impressed with the art project he saw on display and an outdoor math/science interdisciplinary project that offered good hands-on learning for the students.

Speaking about this later, Malone said, “The more hands-on learning, the better.”

A quick walk through Turners Falls High School and Great Falls Middle School was

guided by Superintendent Michael Sullivan, high school principal Osborne, Karl Dziura, president of the Gill-Montague Education Association and a few others they met along the way.

In response, Secretary Malone said, “I'm so impressed with all you're doing here. You have all the cool stuff.”

The tour took him through various classrooms where he got to see what this modern school has to offer.

In addition to the rooms full of technology, new computers, carts with iPads for classroom use, he was pleased to see classrooms devoted to art and music.

In the woodworking classroom he re-stated his view of hands-on learning, then stepped out to examine the sheds that students had

see **VISIT** page A7

Trouble at River Station

By MIKE JACKSON

TURNERS FALLS – The project to turn the former Chick's Garage at 151 Third Street into an arts incubator has apparently stalled, after a behind-the-scenes conflict over code compliance issues prompted the building's owner to announce on Monday that he would seek to sell it.

The structure, dubbed River Station, is currently home to Evoke, a working glass studio, with a painter and skateboard shop also renting space. Owner Rich Becker said his fourth tenant Nifty-Bits, which makes ornamental flowers and other sculptures from recycled glass, gave him notice last week that they are leaving, and that the slow pace of renovations has prevented him from attracting others.

“What I want is this wonderful building that's poised for great things to go forward. It's a gem of a building, and it's right at the park,” said Becker, who bought the facility in May 2013 for \$116,000 from the sculptor Tim DeChristopher, who had used it as a workshop.

Since that time, he has renovated the roof, floor, electrical and gas systems, and installed new windows, doors, gutters and masonry.



SAWYER-LAUCANNO PHOTO

151 Third Street

Safety or Obstruction?

Becker's difficulty appears to have hinged on a widening conflict with Montague building inspector David Jensen, centering on a disagreement over Becker's vision for the building's intended use and the need and timeline for safety upgrades.

“It is not my intention to change the use of the building,” he wrote in a September 25 email to Jensen. “I do hope to continue to create incubator space for different creative people and artists.”

In an October 6 reply, Jensen cited Becker's “stated intention of sub-dividing the space into craft or art studio space and related sales areas.” Having a retail component or hosting events, according to Jensen, would require a different degree of scrutiny.

“His concept was always a moving target,” said Jensen. “I entertained plan after plan. I was never given enough

information to evaluate the situation.”

On October 13, Becker contacted town administrator Frank Abbondanzio, Jensen's immediate supervisor, warning he was “rapidly losing enthusiasm” for the project and describing his interactions with Jensen as “non-productive” and “disturbingly contentious.”

Abbondanzio replied that he would be willing to meet with the two, but that appeals of the building inspector's decisions should be taken up with the Zoning Board of Appeals, rather than with him or the selectboard.

Becker replied that he felt it was an “employee behavior problem,” not an appeal.

“Maybe the plan turned out to be more costly than Rich would have originally hoped,” said Abbondanzio. “We're always supportive of creative ideas, but the devil's

see **TROUBLE** page A3



BLANCHETTE PHOTO

Massachusetts Education Secretary Matthew Malone stopped by the TFHS cafeteria to greet a few of the students during lunch. The students were very pleased to meet him and made him feel at home.

The Montague Reporter

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Honor Our Veterans

At the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1918 World War I, “the war to end all wars” came to an end with the signing of the armistice between the allied powers and Germany. It was one of the most horrific wars in history has ever known. Over 16 million lost their lives; 20 million were wounded.

Although Armistice Day was celebrated each year here and in European countries, it wasn’t until May 13, 1938 that the U.S. Congress made November 11 a federal holiday.

The original wording of the congressional act defined the holiday as “A day to be dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be thereafter celebrated and known as ‘Armistice Day’.”

That the day was dedicated to world peace had to be either a hopeful or ironic gesture, given that a second world war was already developing.

Although the day continued to be celebrated, the idea of Armistice Day being a day devoted to peace was largely absent. It clearly had become a holiday to commemorate the men and women in uniform who had signed up to fight yet other wars.

This reality became official on June 1, 1954, when Congress amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word “Armistice” and inserting in its place “Veterans.” The Second World War and Korea were still very fresh in the minds, hearts and bodies of Americans.

The substitution of the word “Armistice” to “Veterans,” while logical and in keeping with the Cold War mood of the country, also changed the focus, at least for many, from peace to war.

The new holiday was no longer dedicated to envisioning peace but to celebrating and honoring all warriors and all wars.

Unlike the original Armistice Day that proposed dedicating the country to a peaceful future, Veterans Day reinforced the notion that we were a nation perpetually at war, and that all that stood between us and certain destruction of our democracy was our soldiers.

We feel it is only right that we should set aside a day to honor our veterans. The nation owes them much.

Our draftees and enlistees have consistently given, again and again, well beyond what was even required of them. But we have to

wonder how best to honor their sacrifice.

Perhaps it is time to reinvent Veterans Day along the lines of what Armistice Day once was: a dedication to peace. One very real way to pay tribute to those in uniform is to send Americans into battle only when it is necessary for them to defend our freedom.

As always, we look forward to the celebration of this important day next Tuesday. We have always found the commemoration respectful and moving.

But the honoring of those who fought for us should continue long beyond November 11. And veterans are in need now, as perhaps never before.

Depending on the estimates, more than a half million veterans are homeless for at least parts of the year.

Nearly 20 percent of those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan have been diagnosed with some form of PTSD.

And suicide rates among veterans (and active service members) are at record highs.

We commend the work that our local Veteran Services are doing, but they can’t compensate for the larger problems that affect vets.

While employment of veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan has risen some, far too many are unable to find jobs.

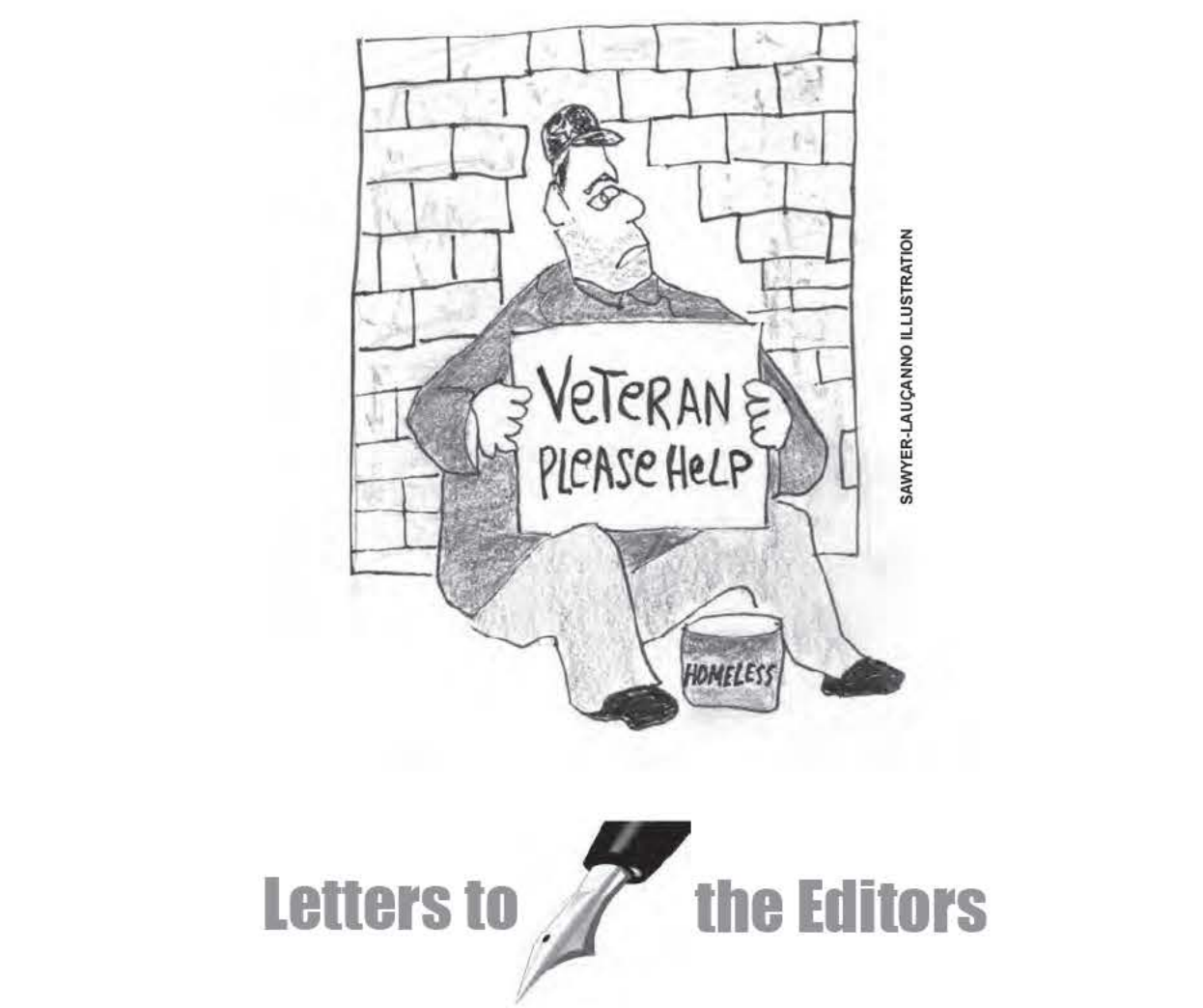
Despite passage of a new VA bill by Congress in the summer, the Department of Veterans Affairs is still plagued by a broken disabilities claim system.

An internal VA audit released in June found that more than 120,000 veterans were left waiting or never got care, and that Veterans Affairs schedulers were pressured to use unofficial lists or engage in other inappropriate practices to make waiting times appear more favorable.

The extent of this scandal led to the FBI last June launching a criminal investigation into the falsifying of these practices. This very necessary investigation has not yet been completed.

In the home of the brave, the brave should not be homeless. In the land of the free, the free should be entitled to respect and help.

To truly honor those who were prepared to make the supreme sacrifice for their country we as a country and a community need to ensure that no veteran is left behind.



Letters to the Editors

Dismayed At Demanded Resignations

I was dismayed to say the least to read that the Cable Advisory Committee chairs were summarily dismissed and that two other members quit as well.

This particular group of volunteers has worked for several years with dedication and commitment to the citizens of Montague, especially the elderly. I was part of their efforts when the surveys were created, dissected, and compiled into a coherent analysis which could be used in negotiations with Comcast.

I was part of their efforts when the public hearings were conducted in accordance with the directions of our cable lawyer, Peter Epstein. None of this happened overnight. It took many days and hours to reach a solid analysis and provide appropriate frameworks for discussion.

Both Eileen and Garry were the leads on this, insisting that meetings continue and results be achieved. Bob and Lisa were instrumental in adding new perspectives, support and good humor at times that seemed frustrating and endless.

They not only worked with Comcast on the specific Cable TV contract; but they also pushed for internet access for Montague Center, the Industrial Park and Red Fire Farm -- all beyond the narrow scope of the committee, but integral to the success and well-being of our citizens and businesses in the cable-tv-internet world of the future.

Our standing committees and boards such as the finance committee, planning and zoning boards among others, have staff which have taken on the onus of preparing minutes for meetings.

Because they deal with this daily or weekly, they are well aware of and able to amass the documents needed to provide the public with access as quickly as possible. This is part of their professional careers.

Having said that, it does happen (see the current issue with the BoS) that minutes take back seat to other apparently more pressing issues. Small wonder then that our ad hoc and temporary committees have difficulty in meeting the same criteria.

The nuances of public policy and open meeting laws can trip all of us up at one time or another – most of us are human. These volunteers have their own separate careers, health and family issues. They don’t get paid – they have chosen to give of themselves and their valuable time to help our entire town.

This is true for the Cable Advisory Committee. I suspect when they agreed to serve, not one of them expected this committee to languish on for years.

These are bright, energetic, thoughtful people – if anyone could have found an easy solution with Comcast, they were the ones. Remember, none of our previous contracts were resolved easily, either.

To be publicly humiliated and summarily dismissed is intolerable. I don’t believe there was any legal authority which would allow Mark Fairbrother to unilaterally “fire” them. Nor is there ever any call to be so rude and rancorous to volunteers (or anyone else).

It was my honor and pleasure to work with this Cable Advisory Committee. On behalf of the community I deeply apologize for the manner in which Eileen Dowd, Garry Earle, Bob Mahler and Lisa Enser have been treated.

I hope that we have not lost them forever from our valuable volunteer force. We need them.

Patricia Allen
Montague

Call to Artists

RiverCulture is looking for artists and designers to decorate the windows between #106 and #112 Avenue A in downtown Turners Falls.

The theme of the window displays is “Winter.” Materials should not be affected by cold weather. Electricity is available and the use of lights is strongly encouraged.

Installation is between November 29 and December 5. The displays will remain in the windows through January.

If you are interested in creating a window display or working as part of a team, please contact Suzanne LoManto at (413) 835-1390 or by email at riverculture@gmail.com.

Climate Change Group Discusses “This Changes Everything”

The first fall meeting of the Wendell Climate Change Group will be next Friday, Nov. 7, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Wendell Free Library. The topic for discussion will be Naomi Klein’s new book *This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs the Climate*.

The presenters will be Anna Gyorgy, Wendell climate activist, and Ben Grosscup, climate activist, singer-songwriter, and NOFA and Peoples’ Music Network leader.

Following a video interview of Klein, Anna and Ben will read and comment on excerpts from Klein’s book and lead a discussion of her path-breaking interpretation of the interlocking crises we face.

If you haven’t seen the book, come learn about it and contribute your own views on capitalism and climate. As always, the meeting is free and open to all. Light refreshments will be served.

For more information, call (978) 544-0216.

Chris Queen
Wendell

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JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

LOCAL BRIEFS

Compiled by DON CLEGG

Join Lisa Enzer for “**Flourish at 50+**,” a movement presentation at Greenfield Savings Bank, Turners Falls, on Saturday, November 8, from 10 to 11 a.m. Enzer has been teaching yoga in Montague since 2005 and specializes in the simple pleasures of movement, and does not have a “no pain, no gain” philosophy.

Despite our first language being movement as infants, when we age the language of movement is often forgotten and the pains of physical discomfort set in. Flourish at 50+ is designed to help the mature body sustain, or regain the language of mobility, resilience, posture, muscle tone and helpful ways to sit. Wear comfortable clothing.

High School Cross Country Championships are being held at the Northfield Rec Area, 99 Miller Falls Road, on Saturday, November 8, with start times at 1:00 p.m., 1:35 p.m., 2:10 p.m., and 2:45 p.m.

Come watch the top teams from Western Massachusetts high schools compete for a place at the State Cross Country Championships.

This event includes the teams from Divisions I and II schools running on Northfield Mountain’s challenging 3.1 mile course. The organizers promise great spectator viewing along with a food concession.

The second in a series of workshops at Laughing Dog Farm in Gill will be held on Saturday, November 8 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. on “**Winter Gardening with Hoops**.”

Learn how you can keep food alive through the winter (even in chilly New England with zero added heat) by pairing “succession” plantings of delicious, cold-hardy varieties with simple, mechanical protection. Why stop harvesting after frost? Danny Botkin will show you how to begin.

Suggested donation is \$25. Class size is limited, so please RSVP to 863-8696 or dannybotkin@gmail.com. These are hands-on, basic-level classes packed with useful information as well as opportunities to observe and practice essential skills for growing, processing, consuming and sharing nutrient-dense, beautiful food, grown on marginal and otherwise under-utilized plots.

Our Lady of Peace Women’s Group will hold their annual **Dove of Peace Christmas Bazaar** on Saturday, November 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Our Lady of Peace Church, 90 Seventh Street in Turners Falls.

There will be homemade crafts, baked goods, homemade apple pies and meat pies, a multi-raffle table, attic treasures, a children’s room, Christmas items, gift baskets, and

much more.

Lunch will be available at the Christmas Cookie Café and one of Santa’s elves will be there to hear the children’s Christmas wishes.

The First Congregational Church, 43 Silver Street, Greenfield has their **Harvest and Craft Fair and Luncheon** on Saturday, November 8, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Raffles include White Elephant Raffles, themed-basket raffles and a turkey with All the Fixin’s. Proceeds will benefit the Franklin Area Survival Center food pantry in Turners Falls.

The Jurassic Roadshow returns to Greenfield Community College on Saturday, November 8, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. as part of the 18th Annual Great Gem, Mineral, Rock and Fossil Show and Sale.

Sponsored by the Pioneer Valley Institute, the show is “like having a natural museum come to Greenfield for the day.”

Send your local briefs to editor@montaguereporter.org.

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in the details... When public safety is involved, you don’t compromise.”

“Instead of feeling like there’s support or encouragement or guidance from town hall,” Becker said, he felt he encountered “obstruction.”

“He needed professional guidance,” said Jensen. “He’s never filed for a permit from us,” he continued, later qualifying this to say the town had granted permits for roof and gas work. “He’s been asked to replace the second egress, which he removed.”

The conflict came to a head in recent weeks, according to Becker, because one of his tenants, Playground Skateshop, posted it would be open for Saturday hours. He said Jensen took this as proof the space was open to the public as a retail operation before a second egress and emergency lights were installed.

“I don’t care if money is changing hands, like if you have someone come over and try to sell them an elephant statue,” explained Jensen. But regular public access to the space, he said, changes the requirements.

“Public events, sale of merchandise, and production of merchandise” are all taken into consideration,

Jensen said, pointing out that siting a glass blower next to a woodworker, for example, could create a hazard.

“I’ve sunk a ton of money into this building,” Becker said.

He added that he had not applied for a permit to upgrade the facility’s bathroom, despite having a plumber contracted, because Jensen told him in early September, when he approached him to ask him how to go about such an upgrade, that “he wouldn’t do a thing unless I filed for a change of use.”

“I honestly do not know what his bathroom issues are,” said Jensen. “If you’re having events you might need one.”

Temporary Skatepark Dead?

As the disagreements about egress, emergency lights, bathrooms, separations between the rental bays and other elements unfolded, another proposed project was stalling out behind the building.

Barry Scott of Playground Skateshop, who has been renting a bay inside River Station, has set up ramps in the property’s paved rear lot to host “pop-up” events for skaters eager to practice their sport before the nearby concrete park is built.

Scott and Becker had hoped to make this a temporary skatepark open to the public over the coming months, but were unable to finalize an arrangement with the town.

“There was nothing to discuss.... No one said, ‘Rich, you need to be at the meeting to sign it publicly,’” said Becker.

“We had an agreement that was ready to be signed,” said Abbondanzio. “We sent a lease back in late September.” The agreement, modeled after an earlier one the town had made with DeChristopher for the same lot, would in effect exchange a tax abatement for the assumption of any liabilities on behalf of the town.

Becker said he had received it, and worked with Parks and Recreation director Jon Dobosz to hash out details including a daily unlocking of the park’s gate. But a misunderstanding arose when he was told it would be signed by the selectboard

at their October 6 meeting.

“There was nothing to discuss,” said Becker. “It was fully discussed and vetted. No one said, ‘Rich, you need to be at the meeting to sign it publicly.’” Becker, who splits his time between Turners Falls and the eastern part of the state, is not normally in town on a Monday.

“This board wants to see people face to face,” said Abbondanzio. The town and Becker have been unable to schedule another opportunity for Becker to come before the board.

“For liability reasons I have been counseled to not permit skaters on the back lot,” Becker wrote on Monday. For now, the lot is locked, and with groundbreaking for a permanent, concrete park anticipated next summer, it may remain that way.

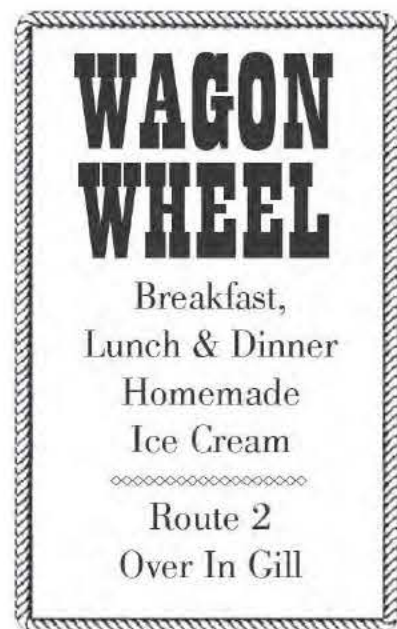
Next Steps

“We certainly don’t want to see him abandon his ideas,” Abbondanzio told the Reporter.

But Becker says he plans to wash his hands of the property. “I just don’t have the stamina,” he said, adding that he hopes other creative people with a similar vision for the building will approach him to discuss its future.




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staff for helping propel her to victory. But mostly she wanted to thank the voters who came out in her support.

In a statement she provided to the Reporter, she said: “Throughout this whole race, it’s not been about me, it’s been about our communities. It’s about a set of simple values that I hope will make the district better for everyone.”

The 2nd Franklin District comprises Athol, Erving, Gill, New Salem, Orange, Petersham, Phil-

lipston, Royalston, Templeton, Warwick, Wendell and a single precinct in Belchertown.

1st Franklin District

Voters in the 1st Franklin district resoundingly voted for Kulik, who was first elected to his House seat in a 1993 special election. Kulik was victorious in most of the district, including in Korpita’s hometown of Deerfield, though Korpita won majorities in Chester and Huntington, its two southernmost towns.

Montague voters gave Kulik

2,127 votes to Korpita’s 814. Kulik’s support in Leverett was even greater with the tally there 766 for Kulik and 142 for Korpita. Together the towns gave Kulik 78.3 percent of the vote.

Korpita, who billed himself as a fiscal conservative, campaigned on bringing greater accountability from state government and criticized Kulik for raising the state budget and voting for the automatic tax increase.

In the end, however, the former bond trader could not compete with

Kulik’s popularity in the district. Voters, apparently, were more than satisfied with the job Kulik has been doing for 21 years. Many pointed to his seniority in the legislature as a plus for the district.

The 19 towns in the district are Ashfield, Buckland, Chester, Chesterfield, Conway, Cummington, Deerfield, Goshen, Huntington, Leverett, Middlefield, Montague, Plainfield, Shelburne, Shutesbury, Sunderland, Whately, Williamsburg, and Worthington.

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Montague Center Congregational Church Fete Noel

Saturday, November 15
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

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NOTES FROM THE ERVING SELECTBOARD

Usher Mill Fate Postponed Until May

By KATIE NOLAN

The posted agenda for the November 3 selectboard meeting included the item “7:30 pm or following the STM – Joint meeting with Finance Committee and Usher Reuse Committee to discuss demolish the Usher building Warrant article for the 11-24-14 STM.” [sic]

By the end of their meeting, the selectboard had decided that no articles about the former Usher Plant will be placed on the warrant for the November 24 special town meeting, and that the reuse committee will present a full conceptual design for the site for approval by May’s annual town meeting, or sooner if possible.

Selectboard and finance committee members made it clear that the reuse committee must provide answers to questions about the future of the remaining Boiler Building and the availability of a drinking water supply at the property.

The board decided not to accept any of the bids to repair the Boiler Building smokestack, scheduled for opening November 5.

The draft November 24 special town meeting warrant being considered by the board at their last meeting on October 27 included an article requesting money for repair of the former Boiler Building smokestack at the Usher Plant.

However, at that meeting, Bembury provided the board with a request from a finance committee member that the town decide definitively about whether to demolish or restore the Boiler Building and/or the smokestack. The board decided to call a joint meeting of the board, fincom and Usher Plant reuse committee to discuss the request.

At the November 3 joint meeting, Usher Plant chair Jeanie Schermesser protested the board’s communication to the reuse committee. “I was out of state until an hour ago,” she said.

She reported that their notification was an October 29 email to her committee email address and that she had not been informed about the subject of the joint meeting.

Schermesser and Jeff Dubay were the only Usher Plant committee members who attended the meeting. Schermesser stressed that she and Dubay were present as citizens and not as committee members, because she had not had time to gather the committee to discuss the joint meeting.

“We respect your authority as selectboard, but we don’t feel there has been open and informed dialogue,” Schermesser said.

“Proposing to destroy the building is not responsible on your part or transparent,” Dubay said, “We’re very willing to sit down with the finance committee. We’d be very happy to meet with them in the near future. We would like to be informed so we can properly prepare.”

Selectboard chair William Bembury said that if the reuse committee was not prepared to talk that night, the selectboard “will arrange another time to have the discussion.” However, he said the town needed to know “where you’re going with this process and the guidelines for the process...people are clamoring: Tell us something.”

Dubay responded that the committee had published information about the committee’s efforts and

plans in the August “Around Town.” He called it “short-sighted” to put an article about demolishing the remaining Usher Plant building on the November 24 STM warrant.

“This building has the potential to bring in more than we’ll ever spend on it,” he said.

Schermesser reported on her committee’s timeline for the property: opening bids for restoring the chimney on November 5; scheduling meetings with the planning board, historical commission, recreation commission, and conservation commission for input on the site’s future; meeting with Franklin Regional Council of Governments on November 18 to discuss the conceptual design for the site; and applying for a Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant in the spring to develop a park and recreation area at the property.

Asked about the perception that the 2010 annual town meeting had voted to demolish the building, Schermesser said the discussion at that meeting did not specify demolition and led to the formation of the reuse committee.

Selectboard member Margaret Sullivan said that the discussion was “not in the legal minutes” of the town meeting. Schermesser called it “irresponsible to say that the town voted to demolish the building.”

Administrative coordinator Tom Sharp provided the original language of Article 12 of the May 2010 ATM, transferring \$500,000 from the stabilization account “for expenses related to demolition and cleanup at the Usher site.”

Fincom chair Jacob Smith said the reuse committee “keeps bringing small articles requesting money without a vision.”

At the August 2012 STM, the town transferred another \$50,000 from stabilization using the same language.

According to the *Montague Reporter* article on the STM, then-selectboard chair Andrew Goodwin said that the additional costs were for engineering, cleanup of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and a contingency fund.

The article also indicates that Dubay and reuse committee member Gary Burnett discussed saving the Boiler Building and its smokestack before the article passed unanimously.

Fincom member Daniel Hammock said that some people felt that town meeting had voted to “tear everything right down to the ground. But I don’t read it that way.” He continued, “It wasn’t that cut and dried...it’s a little more complex than that and needs a more thoughtful process.”

Bembury said that as the selectboard has been drafting the November 24 STM warrant, with money requested for chimney repairs, he has heard “numerous complaints from all over town about why are you putting that article back on?”

A transfer of \$60,000 from the Usher Plant demolition account to repair and renovate the Boiler Build-

ERVING from page A1

a recall procedure and circulated a citizen’s petition to place it on a town meeting warrant.

He explained that the procedure applies only to elected officials, it requires 100 voter signatures and a specified reason for the recall, and it cannot be initiated until six months after the official is elected.

In addition, a recalled official or an official who resigns during the recall process cannot be appointed to a town position for two years. Goodwin said a recall process is needed because, “Today we can’t recall from office an official who doesn’t act in the interest of the town.”

An amendment that would have increased the time in office before a recall could be initiated from six months to twelve months was defeated by majority vote.

Selectboard chair William Bembury said he saw the recall proposal as flawed and proposed an amendment listing the acceptable reasons for initiating a recall.

The amendment listed seven reasons: lack of fitness, absence from meetings, incompetence, neglect of duties, corruption, malfeasance, and violation of oath of office. The amendment also stated

that “discretionary performance of a lawful act or a prescribed duty” does not constitute a reason for recall.

Daniel Hammock spoke against this amendment. “If they’re not doing what they said they would do, you should be able to remove them,” and not limit the reasons to Bembury’s list.

Planning board chair William Morris observed that, from his experience working on zoning by-laws, “writing legislation is hard” and said “this legislation would allow recall for no cause.”

Both Bembury and Morris proposed sending the proposed recall legislation to a committee to work on the language in the proposed legislation and bring it back as an article at a later town meeting. The amendment listing specific reasons for recall failed by a vote of 44 to 33.

Town clerk Richard Newton proposed the successful amendment that increased the number of business days allowed for certifying petition signatures to seven. Newton said that the clerk position is part-time, and the original language allowing only two business days was too short.



ing smokestack had failed on a 17 to 16 vote at the September 15 STM.

Bembury said he had been considering putting two articles on the November 24 warrant: one for money to repair the smokestack based on the bids opened November 5 and one to demolish the smokestack. However, he said, he felt that putting both articles on the warrant would undermine the reuse committee’s work, so “I don’t plan to do that. But a conversation needs to happen, something more concrete.”

Fincom chair Jacob Smith told the reuse committee members that “it’s been a long time without a solid vision” and the reuse committee “keeps bringing small articles requesting money without a vision.” Smith said he had concerns about the cost of long-term upkeep of the Boiler Building chimney, and was not in favor of retaining it.

Water department supervisor Peter Sanders told the reuse committee members, “If you want to save the building, you have to decide what you’re going to do” about water supply.

He said that the property’s well has not been active for 23 years, and, due to its proximity to the railroad tracks, would not be eligible for the required Department of Environmental Protection public water supply identification (PWS ID) number.

Jacqueline Boyden said, “I’m concerned about pouring money into the building if we’re not going to be able to use it without a public water supply. The town wants a whole encompassing vision [for the site].” Schermesser said that FRCOG staff have said that the property could support a legal water supply under board of health regulations.

Sullivan commented, “Our well comes under DEP regulations, but you’re not willing to hear it.”

Town moderator Richard Peabody asked, “Is this our way forward – not to bring this up at the [November 24] special town meeting, risk the chimney falling down, while we answer the bigger questions like water?”

Bembury responded, “I’m hoping that’s our way forward, not to accept any [smokestack restoration] bids, but let the Usher Plant committee

bring it to annual town meeting.”

Boyden suggested that the reuse committee could come before a proposed February or March STM, when the planning board will be proposing a controversial groundwater protection bylaw.

Hammock asked, “Do we have consensus here on not voting at the November 24 meeting?”

Debra Smith commented, “Not voting at the special town meeting is wrong. I’m sick of hearing about the Usher Plant. The process has taken too long. Let the residents have their say.”

Smith added, “Residents are speaking time and time again and the committee circumvents the vote. I think putting it off is wrong. I’m not going to vote another penny until I hear the water is settled.”

Bembury said he felt the board should “give the Usher Plant committee the time needed to bring back a full conceptual plan to the annual town meeting.”

Selectboard member Arthur Johnson’s motion that the board instruct the reuse committee to present its development plan for annual town meeting approval was passed, and Johnson said, “And there are no re-dos after that.”

The board also decided not to accept any smokestack repair bids that were due on November 5.

The board reviewed the language on restrictions on the use of land abutting the former Usher Plant donated by Erving Industries, Inc. to the town. The reuse committee plans to develop a park and picnic area at the parcels.

The November 5, 2013 STM authorized the selectboard to accept the gift of seven parcels of land off Arch Street and one on Route 2 from Erving Industries, Inc. Schermesser said that restricting the land to public use, ownership by the town of Erving, and little or no commercial use were reported at the November 2013 STM.

Boyden suggested that the proposed restrictions might hinder development of the donated land. The board agreed to check with town counsel before finalizing the restriction language.

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NOTES FROM THE MONTAGUE SELECTBOARD

Two Cable Advisory Committee Resignations Not Accepted

By JEFF SINGLETON

The Montague Selectboard meeting of Monday, November 3 declined to accept the resignations of the dual chairs of the town's Cable Advisory Committee, Garry Earles and Eileen Dowd.

The vote was 2 to 1 to accept only two of four resignations tendered, those of Bob Mahler and Lisa Enzer. Mark Fairbrother, who has solicited the resignations of Earles and Dowd, voted in effect to accept them.

Fairbrother, who has served as the liaison from the Selectboard to the CAC, had demanded the resignations several weeks ago. He complained that the CAC chairs had not responded to a legitimate public records request, had not maintained minutes of meetings, and had made requests to the Selectboard in the name of the CAC when in fact the CAC had not met to approve the requests.

Fairbrother had urged the chairs to "go quietly" but his demand was made public in an article in last week's *Montague Reporter*.

Former Selectboard member Patricia Pruitt and Turners Falls resident Ann Jemas spoke on the topic during the designated public comment period at the beginning of Monday night's meeting.

Jemas said she agreed with Dowd that the resignation request, and particularly its "tone," made local residents less likely to volunteer for committees like the CAC.

Pruitt argued that Fairbrother did not have the right to speak for the Selectboard when the board had not yet met to discuss the problem.

"Did you read my letter?" asked Fairbrother.

"I do not feel I need to read your correspondence," replied Pruitt.

Fairbrother then noted that the email requesting the resignations stated that he was not speaking for the Selectboard. According to the email:

"If you don't think I have the authority to ask for your resignations by myself I'll be happy to get it onto the next available BoS agenda. You can go quietly or go publicly."

Kathy Lynch, spouse of MCTV station manager Dean Garvin, criticized the CAC for attempting to manage MCTV's operations rather than fulfilling its task of evaluating the station and making a recommendation to the selectboard. Lynch said she supported Fairbrother's actions.

But the board majority was not convinced, decided not to accept the resignations, and voted to invite Dowd and Earles to a future meeting if they so desired.

The board also unanimously voted to reduce the size of the

CAC to five, in order to achieve a quorum with three of the remaining members. CAC members John Reynolds, John MacNamara and Jason Burbank attended the Monday meeting, while Earles and Dowd did not.

Public Input Format Changed

The CAC discussion actually came in two parts, with most of the debate at the beginning of the meeting during the official "public comment" period and the board discussion and votes coming two hours later during the agenda time for the topic.

This led to more criticism of the current format which only allows public comment at the beginning of the meeting. Pruitt asked if the board had actually voted on the policy.

Mark Fairbrother noted several times that he had consistently opposed the new format.

Mike Nelson stated he had a problem with public comments on an issue that was then discussed two hours later by the board.

The board then voted to allow public comment after each agenda item and keep the initial public comment period for issues not on the agenda. The vote was 2-1.

Police Business

In other news, Police Chief Chip Dodge requested that the board approve the transfer of two part-time Montague reserve officers to Greenfield, which he said is "desperate" for officers, under the civil service system. The board approved the request.

The board also approved a request for a commitment to purchase a piece of land west of the police station for a regional animal shelter.

The current shelter, near the Judd Wire company, is eventually being replaced by a new industrial park, although Town Planner Walter Ramsey said that will probably not happen until the summer of 2016.

Board approval of Dodge's request allows the Sheriff's office, which runs the shelter, to begin applying for grants.

Dodge also complained about the numerous objects "cluttering" the street in front of Rodney Madison's store on 104 Avenue A.

This has been an ongoing issue over the past year and, according to Mark Fairbrother, Madison "does not have a permit to put anything on the sidewalk."

Fairbrother also stated Madison did not have insurance for the sidewalk display.

Mike Nelson suggested that Madison be invited to town hall to discuss the issue with the board. The board seemed amenable to

this, but did not take a vote.

Cable Hardware

Aaron Saunders, a representative of Comcast, the company that provides cable services to Montague, requested that the town allow the company to put fiber optic cable and wire in an existing conduit that serves the upper part of the industrial park.

Apparently internet service to this section of the park is very poor, with a significant negative impact on businesses in the area.

After some discussion of the impact of this on the broader license negotiations with Comcast, the board approved the request.

Other Business

The board also approved a request from the Montague Energy Committee to authorize an application for a technical assistance grant from the state Department of Energy Resources to assess options for efficiency and renewables at the Sheffield and Hillcrest schools.

Turners Falls resident Christine Bates came before the board to urge town government to adopt a positive attitude toward skateboarders using the soon-to-be-constructed skate park.

Despite the fact that skateboarding is a \$4.8 billion industry with an estimated eleven million participants, she noted, the sport still has an "outsider" culture. "I am inviting collaboration," Bates concluded.

The board reviewed a thick pile of minutes of previous Executive Sessions that had not been approved for release but delayed a vote until the documents could be reviewed.

They also voted to send a request under the open meeting law on to town counsel for review, but omitted a proposed reference to the law itself, which they felt did not justify the need for such a public vote.

The board voted to withdraw from the existing veterans district, the Central Franklin County Veterans District, and become a member of the Upper Pioneer Valley Veterans Services District.

According to town administrator Frank Abbondanzio, this move could allow the town to maintain its current state reimbursement for veterans services. The new district includes the city of Greenfield.

Richard Colton, a professional historian who lives in Montague Center, was appointed to the committee overseeing the Turners Falls Battlefield Grant.

The board also granted the Parks and Recreation Department a permit for the annual "Sawmill River Run" which takes place near Montague Center on New Year's Day.



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Selectboard Endorses Bus Ridership Committee, OKs Route Change Discussion

By MIKE JACKSON

MONTAGUE – Mild-mannered reporter Jeff Singleton disappeared briefly into a phone booth Monday night and emerged as the town's alternate representative to the Franklin Regional Transit Authority (FRTA) advisory board, checking in with the selectboard about a slate of reforms.

Singleton sought the board's go-ahead to pitch a change to Montague's bus routes to the FRTA. He said he has a draft of a plan that would "make Route 23 viable" without increasing the town's assessment to the authority.

The route currently runs from Greenfield through Montague City, Turners Falls, Millers Falls, and Montague Center to UMass-Amherst, and then returns, twice a day. It costs \$3 a trip, double any other route, and suffers from low ridership.

Singleton said his plan would reduce the trips through Montague from 17 to 11 by reducing "redundancy," though he felt his plan still

had "some holes" and needed public and FRTA evaluation.

He said he hoped to have a proposal finalized by FRTA's annual meeting in May.

"You're our extension," said selectboard member Mark Fairbrother. The board voted unanimously to endorse a meeting between FRTA representatives and Singleton, town planner Walter Ramsey and administrator Frank Abbondanzio to explore the proposal.

The board also voted unanimously to endorse the formation of a committee within FRTA tasked with increasing ridership.

Singleton, who is trying to move calls for weekend bus service into a policy discussion, said he had come up with a rough estimate for the cost of a half-day of weekend service, based on 15% of a full weekday.

He said FRTA had not been forthcoming with an estimate and he wanted to offer one to further discussion.

No endorsement was requested or made on this topic.

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NOTES FROM THE LEVERETT SELECTBOARD

John Leverett Goes Traveling

By DAVID DETMOLD

Betsy Douglas is absconding with Sir John Leverett this month – for a couple of assignations with painting conservators.

Douglas, former chair of the Leverett Historical Commission, told the selectboard on October 28 that the large oil painting of the town’s namesake – who was governor of Massachusetts during King Philips War – hanging on the second floor of town hall is so tarnished that it is hard to make out the subject’s features.

Douglas said she would take the painting, which the town purchased in 1983 after Gordon Howard discovered the reproduction in an antique shop in Springfield, to painting conservators in Franklin and Williamsburg to get estimates for restorations.

Then, the historical commission plans to seek Community Preservation Act funding to restore the painting, which is a copy of the original 17th-century portrait by an unknown artist that hangs in the Peabody-Essex Museum in Salem, one of the less controversial hangings in that town.

The original gives hope that the restored painting will allow viewers a better look at Sir John Leverett, including his mustachioed face, his “tannish orange” (now black) “shammy jacket,” and the three eponymous leverets, or young hares, which are perched on the top right of the painting in the field of his coat of arms.

Douglas said she would take Sir John to the appointments “wrapped in a comforter” in the back of her car.

“We will be very careful with him,” she promised.

The selectboard has approved the hiring of the first woman to serve as a police officer in Leverett in quite some time. On the recommendation of chief Gary Billings, Tiffany Ramos, of Westfield, will be hired as a part time officer.

“It’s time to get some younger blood,” in the force, said Billings. “We’re all old white men there.” Ramos brings with her a background in law enforcement: “Her mom was a cop; her sister was a cop,” said Billings, and she has worked as a dispatcher for the Westfield police department.

Police Contract

The selectboard approved a new contract with the police union, raising the rate of outside details from \$40 an hour to \$42.

The town has received a settlement check for \$49,999 from the architectural firm that oversaw the recent window replacement and renovation work at the elementary school, following a process of me-

diation with the town.

Recycling & Culture

The selectboard will consider attending a meeting with Senator Stan Rosenberg to discuss a possible shift to single stream recycling at the Springfield Municipal Recycling Facility.

“We’re dead set against it,” said board chair Rich Brazeau, who characterized the move to single stream recycling – combining paper and cardboard with cans and bottles in one container, to be separated by hand at the recycling center – as a giant step backwards that will result in the town losing up to 40% of its revenue from recycling.

The Leverett Cultural Council has received \$4,300 in state funding this year to provide mini grants for cultural activities in town. The Council on Aging received state funding for \$2,889. And a \$4,435 grant to help reimburse the highway department for the purchase of a new generator has been received from MEMA.

Special Town Meeting Notes

The selectboard met following last week’s special town meeting at the elementary school.

The town meeting featured an update on the town’s municipal broadband project, which saw nearly 60% of households in town pre-subscribe at special rates through the end of October.

Selectboard member Peter d’Errico said the town is on track to “go live” with the last mile internet system by the end of the year. He said more financial assistance may still be in the pipeline for Leverett, and other underserved communities, from the Mass Broadband Initiative.

And he said Millenium, the company installing the fiber network, made repairs, at no charge to the town, to optical network terminals that were improperly installed at some homes.

Finally, Kip Fonsh gave an update at town meeting on progress of a plan for elementary school regionalization within the Amherst-Pelham Regional School District.

Fonsh said the goal of the regional agreement working group, made up of members from Shutesbury, Pelham, Amherst and Leverett, is to present a set of amendments to the regional agreement allowing for the district to expand to a four town Pre-K – 12 region.

Those amendments would be presented to the regional school committee by the end of this year, and, if approved there, then brought to town meetings in the spring of 2015.

Fonsh gave a brief recap of the history of the push for school regionalization at the state level, and predicted that with the recovery of the state’s economy, the push to regionalize school districts would once again emanate from Boston.

“We all want to see the elementary school sustain itself,” said Fonsh. “But times are tough and not getting better. Change is inevitable, and right now we are in control of that change. We’ll keep you posted.”

NOTES FROM THE LEVERETT SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Elementary School Sustainability Committee Calls For Broader Look at Town

By DAVID DETMOLD

Sarah Dolven, chair of the Leverett Elementary School sustainability committee, made up of representatives of the selectboard, school committee, finance committee, planning board, highway, police and fire departments, to examine a range of issues.

“There are a lot of pieces to how this town is going to sustain itself going forward,” said Dolven, including “sources of town revenue, the lack of affordable housing, the lack of public transportation, the need to balance land conservation with development, and the cost of educating pre-K–12 grade students.”

However, in the selectboard meeting that followed town meeting, selectboard members said they did not have any immediate plan to form such a supercommittee to examine townwide sustainability issues.

In the school committee meeting on November 3, when the committee turned to the agenda item on a five-year plan for reducing costs, chair Kip Fonsh observed, “What do we want to do about reducing costs over the next five years? It seems to me this is something that has not seen a lot of enthusiasm.”

Superintendent Bob Mahler replied, “The main costs of the school are staff. We can make projections and estimate costs, but without cuts to staff, you won’t see a whole lot of change.” He said budget growth at LES over the last few years has been “near zero.”

According to figures provided by Matt Galman, recently hired business manager at Union 28, the town budget for the school rose about 2% between FY’11 and FY’13 (from \$1,696,648 to \$1,731,999), then dropped 5.46% with the graduation of a double sixth grade class in FY’14, and rose 1.03% last year, to \$1,659,509.

The school committee is working to produce a “three-year financial plan focused on keeping costs as low as possible,” Dolven said. “We are recommending the other departments in town do the same.”

She continued, “As a town, we are really at a crossroads, and we really need to work together to sustain the town, for all ages. We recommend the school and the principal continue to look at other sources of revenues and seeking to share costs with other schools in the union or the region, wherever we wind up.”

Dolven said her presentation to town meeting represented the final report of the LES sustainability

committee, and called for the formation of a larger, facilitated townwide sustainability committee, made up of representatives of the selectboard, school committee, finance committee, planning board, highway, police and fire departments, to examine a range of issues.

“There are a lot of pieces to how this town is going to sustain itself going forward,” said Dolven, including “sources of town revenue, the lack of affordable housing, the lack of public transportation, the need to balance land conservation with development, and the cost of educating pre-K–12 grade students.”

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Heating Costs

One area of budgetary growth the school committee does plan to rein in sharply this year is the unexpected surge in heating bills that caused a \$20,000 overage in the school’s fuel charges, after building personnel overrode the computerized management system that is supposed to regulate the heat.

Unfamiliar with the system, the custodial staff last year failed to properly calibrate the controls, so the building was being heated as if occupied 24 hours a day, week in and week out, according to a consultant’s report that examined the problem.

At the October 6 school committee meeting, planning board member Richard Nathhorst, whose day job includes managing heating systems for 600 buildings at UMass, told the committee the breakdown in computerized management at LES occurred last year seems to have occurred when “the system programming was reset when an evening event was scheduled, and never re-

stored after that event.”

Additionally, Nathhorst said, “The building wasn’t properly humidified last year, leading to health issues as well as increased heating cost,” according to the minutes of that meeting.

Nathhorst advocated for a dedicated line item in the school budget for heating and ventilation system maintenance, and said remote monitoring of the heating system was now possible. The question of who, ultimately, will be in charge of that monitoring has not been definitely resolved.

On November 3, principal Margot Lacey said she was still wrestling with the fine points of the building’s heating system, especially the need to balance the heat throughout the school. “Heat is a work in progress,” she said. “I got quite concerned that some rooms were really cold.” She said new parts for the system were on order.

Mahler promised, “We’re going to keep things as efficient as possible: no more heating bills like last year.”

Enrollment and Assessment

In other news, Lacey said the school’s student population was holding steady at 134, up from 121 at this point in 2013. That figure includes 20 students who “choiced in” to the Leverett Elementary from neighboring towns; nine of those come from Montague. This year’s kindergarten class of 20 is made up entirely of students from Leverett.

Jenn Chylack told the school committee that the four-town regional agreement working group, unanimously agreed to maintain the alternative “five-year rolling average” assessment formula.

Under this method, the member towns pay into the regional school system based on a rolling average of enrollment of their upper school students as a percentage of the whole regional school population.

The system, which was designed for fairness based on each town paying the same per-pupil costs to educate their students, seemed to burden the town of Shutesbury with higher costs, in recent years, than that town would have paid under the state statutory method of assessment.

That standard method adds the relative wealth of towns into the formula for regional school assessment.

But Chylack said the Shutesbury reps joined in the unanimous agreement, after the group studied various alternatives.

Transition

A search committee is being formed to assist in the selection of a new superintendent at the elementary school union; Mahler’s tenure as the head of Union #28 will end on June 30 of the coming year.

Fonsh and Chylack will serve as representatives to the negotiations with the Leverett Education Association (LEA) as talks get underway for a new contract with the teachers.

After going over dates for the first meeting with LEA representative Karin Gravina, the school committee chair asked, “Is there anything else you need from us?”

Gravina replied, “A salary increase.”

Town of Leverett SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

Town of Leverett wishes to receive bids for the sale of miscellaneous surplus property, including the following items:
•Ladder rack for pick-up •Broom for rear of tractor •Vintage hand truck •Playground structures •Gasoline and diesel pumps •Plate compacter, Wacker •Truck tires and wheels
Condition “as is” with no guarantee expressed or implied. During daytime hours, the items may be viewed at the Public Safety Complex, 95 Montague Road, 413-548-9400. Items to be removed within one week of notice of award. Sealed bids with “Surplus Property Bid” printed clearly on the envelope will be accepted by the Selectboard at P.O. Box 300, Leverett, MA 01054 until November 14, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. when they will be opened and publicly read. Signed non-collusion form must accompany every bid. Sale to be awarded by the Selectboard to the highest bidder. The Town of Leverett reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

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NOTES FROM THE GILL SELECTBOARD

Gill Elementary Saves on Energy; National Grid Adds Power Lines

By CHRISTOPHER SAWYER-LAUCANNO

Energy savings at Gill Elementary topped the November 3 selectboard agenda but the board also discussed a variety of other topics including National Grid's request to upgrade power lines, a new mortgage rate for the Mariamante property and fire department purchases.

Collen Fisette of Siemens Industry led off the meeting with a Powerpoint presentation on how much Gill elementary has saved since new energy efficient upgrades were made to the school two years ago. Her report monitored energy saving between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014.

Fisette explained that Siemens had guaranteed energy savings of \$11,969 over the course of the year. The real savings were actually \$1703 in excess of that projected amount as the "the total realized annual savings" was actually \$13,672. Savings came from a new energy efficient boiler, thermostat controls, and efficient lighting.

Power Line Upgrade

Scott Fenton of National Grid appeared before the board with a team of engineers to request franchise rights to install two new electric power lines for their regional system. Fenton told the board that under the 1922 franchise right agreement with the town, National Grid was entitled to run nine lines across Gill.

Due to increased demand they needed to upgrade to 11 lines. He emphasized that no new towers would need to be built; two lines would simply be added to the existing network.

He did note that the lines cross four roads in Gill – West Gill, Mountain, Main and Pisgah Mountain Road – but that his crews would hire a police detail in case it was necessary to direct traffic.

He said he did not anticipate any closing of the roads as most of the work would be done along the shoulders. The work would generally take four days on each of the four roads.

Chair Randy Crochier asked Fenton what would happen if the board voted no to the company's request. "Then we'd appeal to the DPU," said Fenton.

"So this is really just a formality," said Crochier.

"Yes," said Fenton.

Board member John Ward said he felt inclined to vote no out of principle. In the end he abstained; Crochier and Snedeker voted yes.

Mariamante Mortgage

Treasurer Veronica La Chance came before the board to request an approval of her negotiation of a new mortgage rate of 0.55 percent from Greenfield Cooperative Bank for the Mariamante property.

The board unanimously approved the new deal and signed the mortgage papers on the spot. Town clerk Lynda Hodsdon Mayo was on hand to seal and certify the documents.

Gill Elementary Well

The town has obtained the assistance of Rich Protasowicki, an engineer with Wright-Pierce to help them with a USDA predevelopment planning grant for the Gill well.

The grant amount of \$25,000 would be used to treat through an ultraviolet process any contaminants in the water.

NMH Map

Administrative assistant Ray Purington presented the board with a map of the NMH campus that is now marked with street names and numbers.

Until recently, the campus did not have demarcated roads nor a numbering system. The town clerk will also be able to verify town addresses for voter registration once the new system is in place.

Fire Department Purchases

Fire chief Gene Beaubien asked the board to approve two spending requests. The first was \$671 for a reconditioned 4-inch hose nozzle; the second was \$8,470 for new 4-inch hose. Beaubien explained that a recent test of the equipment had revealed the need for new hose, as well as a nozzle.

Crochier asked Beaubien why he didn't want to buy a new nozzle. Beaubien said that he preferred to use Task Force nozzles and that new ones were around \$1000. He said that the reconditioned nozzles came back "like new." Crochier said he would defer to the chief's expertise. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Flu Clinic

A flu vaccine clinic will be held on Wednesday, November 19 from 3:30 until 6:30 p.m. at Gill Elementary.

Wendell: Informational Forum On Public Safety Investments

On Wednesday, November 12 at 7:30 p.m. at Wendell Town Hall the Wendell selectboard and finance committee invite you to attend and participate in a discussion about future issues and expenditures regarding public safety investments in Wendell.

Among the issues to be discussed will be whether the town should sell the existing engine pumper and purchase a four wheel drive "Quick Attack" truck to replace it. (The estimated net expense is approximately \$250,000.)

In addition, attendees can learn about other new developments, upcoming expenses, issues and accomplishments of the fire, police and highway departments.

Information will also be provided about how the town is developing a schedule of annual equipment replacements for the police, fire and highway departments. Opinion and feedback to the fincom and selectboard are welcome.

GCC: International Judge Reflects on "The Genocide, The War Crimes, The Trials"

GREENFIELD – Judge Patricia Whalen will deliver this year's GCC Henry Steele Commager Lecture on Wednesday, November 12 at Noon in the Stinchfield Lecture Hall.

Using slides and war footage Judge Whalen will place particular emphasis on the siege of Sarajevo (1992-96). The history and work of the Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina will be examined. The genocide at Srebrenica will be discussed and related to war crimes trials and the law of genocide.

Judge Whalen has been a judge for more than 20 years, having presided over proceedings in the U.S. and serving for 5 years (2007-2012) as an international judge in the War Crimes Chamber of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In this capacity she served on both the First Instance and Appellate Court.

She is the founding member of the Afghan Judicial Education Program, facilitating cross-cultural judicial learning in both the U.S. and Afghanistan.

Whalen is also an official expert representative of the International Association of Women Judges at the Hague Conference on Private International Law.

Judge Whalen is currently a Special Advisor to the Court in Bosnia and Herzegovina focusing on judicial education in international law, judicial management systems, trial management, designing judicial education programs, hybrid legal systems, judicial trial skills particularly in regards to war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity and gender based violence.

The Commager Lecture is free and open to the public.

GCC: Transition Towns Film Festival

GREENFIELD – What does sustainability mean to groups and individuals around the Pioneer Valley?

Find out at the 2014 Pioneer Valley Transition Towns Film Festival on Friday, November 14 in the Cohn Dining Commons at Greenfield Community College from 7 to 9 p.m. Admission is free.

This year film submissions are from both Adult and 18 and under categories. The topics of the submitted films include sustainable transportation, living in community, sustainable food production, and more.

The top ten short films submitted will be shown. Internationally ac-

claimed documentarian Rawn Fulton will be the MC for this event, and prizes will be given out for the top short films in the competitive categories.

Join film producers from a number of towns after enjoying the screenings for a meet and greet session during which you can ask questions and provide feedback. Join us for a fun night out while building community and learning new things about the region that you call home.

For more information, go to www.transitionnorthfieldma.org/PVTFF or contact Scott MacPherson at GCTV, (413) 774-4288 or Scott@gctv.org.

VISIT from page A1

built.

He was excited to learn that the high school offers filmmaking and video production classes when he visited the television broadcast studio. "This is the fun stuff. Kids want to know this," he said.

As they stood in the lobby of the high school, Secretary Malone told Principal Osborn, Superintendent Sullivan, Mr. Dziura and others gathered there that he felt they were doing all the right things.

By investing in sports, the arts, science and math, bringing in community service and real world learning experiences, Malone said the district was providing students with

what they needed to prepare for the future.

He also suggested they consider expanding their reach by looking into providing even more high-tech learning by purchasing 3D printers for which there will be available new software.

Questioned about the cost, he said there will be new, less expensive printers available and suggested that the school Education Fund could consider using money raised for such purchases instead of for grants and scholarships.

With his assistant encouraging him to keep to his schedule, the secretary left with warm wishes and handshakes all around.

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week ending 10/31/14:

Grade 6
Derek Martin

Grade 7
Juliet Keefe
Jenna Jacobsen

Grade 8
Mireya Ortiz



Thank You! To everyone who believed in me, supported and voted for me and worked tirelessly with the campaign. I say "Thank you!" Your hard work, your tenacious spirit and a ways taking the "high road" makes our communities better and makes me very proud to know you! ONWARD!

Denise Andrews
State Representative

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ESCORT from page A1

We arrive at Dover AFB, are assigned pleasant rooms. My roommate lrips badly and as I fall asleep I think that I wouldn't want him to escort my remains...

March 9: Briefing 8 a.m. A Marine Captain and Army Major, Army NCOs, specialists and PFCs are at the briefing. A body is always accompanied by an escort of the same rank or higher. Someone said escorts are assigned by rank and race.

A bag-eyed sergeant describes the forms to be filled out, how to drape the flag over the casket. Reminders: clean nails, haircut, brass shined...courteous, dignified, solemn. I will pick up my remains at the morgue at 1 p.m.

The morgue is a low white building, out of the way at the far end of the busy runway. A forklift slides shiny caskets out of gleaming C-5As, rolls across the tarmac and through green double doors into the morgue. A few of us sit in the waiting room at other end of the morgue.

A couple of men from funeral homes wait with their hearses, impatient to get going. The white door, closed to all but authorized persons, swings open and shut, and as it swings I catch a glimpse of bare feet

sticking up, faces, and sheets. The faces do not have the look of sleep.

The door opens and shuts again, the white door swings back and forth revealing pale green feet on gurneys, toes pointed to the ceiling. Terrific fear overwhelms me. The swinging door separates real from unreal.

Behind the door are young faces — people like me, who hated KP as much as I, who laughed, who — and now they are right there, on the other side of a swinging door, bodies torn apart, lives ended, green feet.

A man who works "inside" comes out. He looks tired. I look at his hands.

I wait outside for my body. Some of the caskets being unloaded are marked "hold for FBI" — they will be identified by fingerprints or teeth, because that is all that is left. Finally my body is ready. His name is Roger. He is put in a truck with two others, and the two other escorts and I get in and we go to the Philadelphia Airport.

March 10: Up at 3:30 a.m. to catch an early plane to Newark and then to Albany. The coffin and shipping box weigh almost 500 pounds, and I watch them load awkwardly in darkness. A young airlines employee watched with me.

"I was going to be drafted, so I enlisted," he says. "I go on April 18." He enlisted for airborne training. "Maybe I'll come back like that," he says, nodding at Roger.

We arrive in Albany late. It is cold, planes are backed up, and I wait outside in the dark with Roger. Inside, in brightly-lit waiting rooms, people mill about, waiting for planes. Some are GI's with clean whitewall haircuts, fresh out of basic training, brass gleaming. They do not see the forklift pluck Roger out of the plane's belly.

At the freight office, a Sergeant Clark greets us. People from the funeral home take Roger. We drive to the funeral home and talk quickly...visiting hours Tuesday...services Wednesday...burial in Arlington National Cemetery.

Sergeant Clark takes me to meet Roger's wife, a young, pretty 20-year-old girl. When I describe the trip I say "we". She smiles, is kind. Sergeant Clark and I leave quickly. He tells me that they met last summer, were married four weeks before he left for Vietnam.

March 12: Visiting hours at the funeral home. No viewing.

The flag rests over the casket, sprays surround it, and on two small tables, his wife has arranged photo-

graphs of him: high school graduation, with friends, at the wedding, in uniform, and a couple Polaroid shots from Vietnam. He has a creased cheek from smiling, a handsome boy. His father, a Navy lifer himself, was less than 300 miles away from his son, at sea, when Roger died.

The room is hushed, people come quietly, look, sit for a while and leave. I overhear "went to school with him"... "was his science teacher in high school"... "we played ball together"... Four men from the VFW enter, mumble over the casket, leave.

March 13: The service is at 11 a.m. in a crimson chapel, and I sit in the front pew with the wife. A wobbly old woman plays wobbly melancholy melodies on an electric organ. A prematurely gray minister says all the right things about youth, ideals, love, living on, god's spirit, happiness; the organ picks up with "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," and we are ushered into a small crying room. The widow's sobs shake the petals of the rose she is holding.

In the afternoon Roger and I go to the airport to catch a plane to Washington. It is Sunday evening, and at the airport, many GI's are saying goodbye to their families. Roger's gray box is outside the

lobby waiting to be loaded. Do the people know what the gray box is? As the plane begins loading a young airborne officer clutches a child and the hand of his pregnant wife.

March 18: Arlington National Cemetery: as soon as you drive into Arlington you feel different. The trees without leaves now are like sharp etchings against the windy sky. Young soldiers with shaved heads and spit-shined boots stand at attention waiting for their processions. A horse stands skittishly with reversed boots in the stirrups. The widow signs the papers, the families get to cars.

We drive through the cemetery to a new area, where mud lies in piles, and fresh graves show clean mud. The chaplain waits with pallbearers and firing squad. A few small chairs accommodate the family and the wind is blowing so hard I can't tell what is causing my tears. A young tree leans over in the wind to hear the chaplain's words. Rifles explode into the wind. The widow receives the flag. Salute. It is over. Salute again.



Peter Reich is a resident of Leverett, and a patient subscriber of the Montague Reporter.

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YEAR 13 – NO. 5

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NOVEMBER 6, 2014

B1

Best Postmaster Award Goes to: Charlie O'Dowd

By JOSH HEINEMANN
and KATIE NOLAN

WENDELL – On Sunday night, Wendell citizens presented former postmaster Charlie O'Dowd with an award, a cup, not the Stanley Cup, but a trophy for “**The Best Postmaster in the Universe.**”

Wendell residents also held a party for twenty-five-year Postmaster Charlie O'Dowd who retired this fall as part of a misguided effort by the United States Postal Service to save money by reducing services.

The party was originally scheduled for October 19, but Charlie was working then at the Bondsville post office, and accepting a gift then would have been considered bribery. It was postponed to November 2 when he was fully retired.

Over 100 people came to town hall starting at 4:30. After eating



Charlie O'Dowd listens to accolades.

wonderful potluck dishes, people took turns at the open mike, singing songs created in his honor, cheering the former postmaster, and recounting stories while Charlie sat on the side in a seat of honor, sometimes laughing, sometimes thoughtful.

Ed Hines sang, “Charlie, I’ll Buy My Last Stamp from You” and Wanita Sears led “You Are My Sunshine, the USPS Can’t Take You Away.”

Shelley Hines and Karen Cope-land gave a spirited performance parodying a Michael Jackson song

“Man in the Mirror” using Cope-land’s lyrics: “We’re lookin’ at the man in the window/We’re wondering why things had to change/ No message could have been any clearer/Charlie came to our town to make a better place/ So take a look all around, because he made that ...change!”

Actors portrayed an imaginary, although not entirely out-of-the-ordinary, day at the Wendell post office, where Charlie was offering a large choice of stamps to one customer while helping another customer send a small elephant back in time to Enfield, MA in 1932.

Meanwhile, he helped a woman calling from Hawaii who needed the passport she had left at home shipped to her overnight and also listened to a drummer preview a new solo.

People told stories of Charlie’s gracious way of making each person feel special and important and the way he created community from his post office desk. Jonathan von Ranson and many others mentioned the “special discount” they received

see POSTMASTER page B4

TURNERS FINISHES REGULAR SEASON UNDEFEATED



The Panthers' defense is no match for Turners' Jalen Sanders.

By MATT ROBINSON

TURNERS FALLS – The Turners Falls Football Indians finished the regular season with a perfect 8 and 0 record by defeating Cathedral 37 to 12 on Halloween Friday. This marks the fifth straight game in which Powertown has scored at least 34 points. The W gives them momentum to take into the playoffs.

What didn’t help was a simple flip of a coin but the Tribe cannot think that far ahead. It’s playoff time and whether they’re ranked first or second, they need to win. If, that is, Turners Falls is to repeat as Western Mass D6 Champions.

In Friday’s game, Jack Darling, Quinn Doyle, Jalen Sanders, Alex Carlisle and Trent Bourbeau each carried the ball. Both Jalen and Trent notched more than 100 yards. Tionne Brown completed four passes, two of which were for touchdowns, one to Jalen Sanders and the other to Emmitt Turn. Defensively, thirteen different Indians were in on tackles.

Analysis

By virtue of a coin toss, Turners Falls is currently ranked #2 in the Western Massachusetts D6 brackets. Turners will host Mohawk on Friday, November 7.

Franklin Tech will travel to McCann Tech. If both Turners and McCann win, Turners will travel to North Adams. However, if Franklin and Turners both win, the Western Mass Championship game will be played in Turners Falls.

Glossary

I’ve used colorful terminology to paint a picture for those who couldn’t see the game or for those who want to relive the action. Because each term has its own history, I wanted to give a quick explanation.

Blue: Along with white, it’s the home color of the Turners Falls Indians. It’s a descriptive way to say that the ball is in Turners’ territory. It is also a way to describe the squad

see FOOTBALL page B6



The Wendell crowd is entertained during the event for “The Best Postmaster Ever.”

BOOK REVIEW

Evolving Resistance

By LEE WICKS

MONTAGUE – *Unnatural Selection: How we are Changing Life Gene by Gene* published by Island Press, is Emily Monosson’s most recent book (she has published three).

It reads like a love story and a horror story, as she chronicles how advances in science and technology have been virtually loved to death, and then overused until they no longer work.

Starting with antibiotics, she fuses a primer on DNA and basic genetics with an explanation about how a number of diseases have become resistant to the antibiotics that once wiped them out.

Although drug companies have made huge profits marketing drugs and farmers have increased profits by feeding vast quantities of antibiotics to cattle, she is careful not to point a finger at a single villain.

In some instances it’s just our own humanity that has gotten us into trouble. Her description of how pediatricians once prescribed “the pink stuff” for ear infections will resonate with anyone who raised a child a decade ago.

I remember begging the

doctor for those little bottles that brought relief. Yet, she writes, “We beat life back with our drugs, pesticides and pollutants, but life responds. It evolves.”

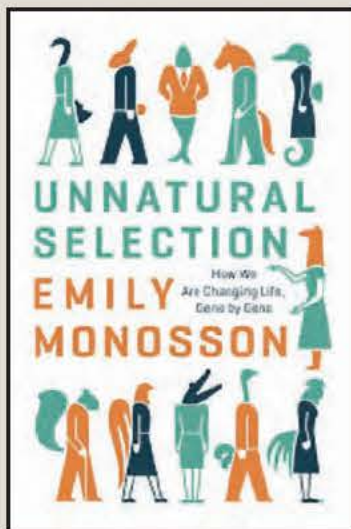
The resulting antibiotic resistance from the “pink stuff” and plenty of other drugs, according to Monosson, is an impending public health disaster.

Unnatural Selection begins with a public health nurse discussing resistant staph infections. When this nurse was finishing her education in the eighties, MRSA (methicillin resistant staph) was rare. She has witnessed the rise and spread of a once easily treatable infection that is now potentially fatal.

“Of roughly 75,000 Americans who become infected with MRSA, an estimated 9,700 will die,” Monosson writes.

The bacteria Monosson describes are quick-change artists, and they multiply rapidly, making changes with each generation until suddenly, “a lethal strain of bacteria gains the ability to chew up and spit out the last effective antibiotic.”

Monosson, who lives in Montague, is an environmental toxicologist, writer,



consultant, and an adjunct professor at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. There is tension in this book between dense technical explanations and more casual storytelling.

The intricacies of bacterial reproduction DNA, mutation and the role of auxiliary genes carried on so-called plasmids presented a challenge for me, but one worth taking on, because the history of science she presents in each chapter, the experts she quotes, and the stories she tells create a deeper understanding of current dangers.

In addition to bacteria that no longer respond to antibiotics, there are cancer cells that no longer respond to once-effective chemotherapy drugs, bed bugs immune to pesticides, and herbicides that no longer kill the hearty weeds that have developed resistance.

see EVOLVING page B4



By LESLIE BROWN

MONTAGUE CITY – Lulled by a few unseasonably warm late October days, we’ve been slow to finish putting the garden to bed for the winter season. Still, bit by bit, it’s getting done. The vegetable garden is spread with leaves and composted manure. These will break down and provide food and compost for the next growing season. The strawberries are weeded and spread with leaves and manure as well.

Noting the usual chill Halloween weekend to come, I sit in the sun by the raised beds, separating the plump garlic cloves from the head. The soil has been weeded and spread with composted manure.

I dig in the manure to a depth of about six inches and give myself over to the pleasure of planting one more time. Using my trusty cultivator, I’ve trenched the rows and sprinkled bone meal. I press each clove firmly into two inches of soil and then cover each furrow with rich soil and manure.

I think back over the more than thirty years of gardening done in this space. When we

THE GARDENER'S COMPANION

Almost November

first bought the house, the side yard was nothing but weeds and brushy growth.

Now years of tilling, composting and feeding have produced a hearty soil which, given tending and good weather, yields the double pleasure of working the soil and harvesting good, local produce.

Both my late husband Woody and I loved gardening and fell to it with a will. It really was his baby at first with large portions set aside for his favorite crops: tomatoes, corn, melons, and onions.

I put my energy into leaf crops, peas and beans. After his lungs began to fail, I took over the major work although he loved sitting out at the edge of the plot, trimming the edges of the lawn painstakingly with a pair of kitchen scissors.

Over time that garden space became a labor of love which I worked assiduously, keeping everything the way he liked it. As his health declined, the ordinary world spun out of control. Looking back, I realize that managing the garden, chasing every weed, drowning the Japanese beetles, harvesting and preserving all gave me a sense of control over something and

extended the pleasures of having a garden for him.

I’m much less fussy now for several reasons. I don’t love the garden any less, it’s just that there are many other things I love as well and only so many things can fit into a day. Not to mention that a decade later I don’t have the same energy level. Then too, there’s relief in letting some things go and good therapy for a type A person as well.

The garden which was a vocation and a diversion has become a meditation, work with the hands freeing the mind to empty or wander freely.

So now to November with its frequent gray skies, chilly air and shortening dark days. One garden job remains. Soon I’ll cut back the fading asparagus ferns and weed the bed once more. I’ll spread the bed with manure and lime for sweetening. Then the garden will be done and we can turn our energies towards filling the cordwood carts down cellar again.

There’s something very fulfilling about outdoor projects. First, the garden planted with cool weather crops and fed; then the ordering of the winter supply of wood for the stove. Next, it’s time no doubt to do a little weeding and mulching interspersed with stacking the cord wood around the walls of the garage.

Soon it’s time to plant for the midseason. The strawberry bed is ready for tending see GARDENER page B4

FACES

PHOTO COURTESY ED GREGORY



& PLACES

On April 16, 2014 Ed Gregory had the opportunity to be included in a segment of Anthony Bourdain's "Parts Unknown" series.

Ed spent about three hours with him and his film crew from CNN. His role was to provide Anthony with historical information pertaining to Turners Falls.

Ed said he enjoyed an interesting experience with Bourdain.

The segment will air on CNN this Sunday, November 9. Check your local listing to find out what time the show will air.

Pet of the Week



MILO

Meet Milo!
He came to Dakin when his caretaker passed away. He has lived with other cats and was described by the family member who brought him to us as friendly, talkative and affectionate.

He has one very endearing quality: He is a collector of things! He has the habit of gathering up all his toys and putting them in his bowls. How about that? A cat that cleans up after himself. A very sweet and loving boy, he

will make a great addition to any family. You can bring the smile back to his face!

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

Senior Center Activities November 10 through 14

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 11/10

9 a.m. Foot Clinic by Appt.
10:10 a.m. Aerobics
10:50 a.m. Chair Exercise
1 p.m. Knitting Circle

Tuesday: 11/11

10:30 a.m. Chair Yoga
Noon Lunch
12:45 p.m. COA Meeting
1 p.m. Painting Class

Wednesday 11/12

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

Thursday: 11/13

9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Coffee & Conversation
Noon Lunch
1 p.m. Pitch
1 p.m. Five Crowns

Friday: 11/14

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

WENDELL

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

Call the Center for a ride.

ERVING

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

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

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

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

Monday 11/10

9 a.m. Tai Chi
10 a.m. Osteo Exercise
12 noon Movie

Tuesday 11/11

Closed Veterans' Day

Wednesday 11/12

8:45 a.m. Line Dancing
10 a.m. Chair Yoga
Noon Bingo

Thursday 11/13

8:45 a.m. Aerobics
10 a.m. Healthy Bones
Noon Cards

Friday 11/14

9 a.m. Bowling
11:30 a.m. Out-to-Lunch

LEVERETT

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

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

WENDELL FREE LIBRARY NEWS

Sci-Fi Film at Wendell Library on November 22

"Serenity" will be screened at the Wendell Free Library on Saturday, November 22 at 7:30 p.m.

In the future, a spaceship called Serenity is harboring a passenger with a deadly secret. Six rebels on the run. An assassin in pursuit.

When the renegade crew of Serenity agrees to hide a fugitive on their ship, they find themselves in an awesome action-packed battle between the relentless military might of a totalitarian regime who will destroy anything – or anyone – to get the girl back and the bloodthirsty creatures who roam the uncharted

areas of space. But the greatest danger of all may be on their ship.

There will be a short (1/2-hour) film before the movie: Episode 11 of The Phantom Empire: A Queen in Chains.

This is the next in the monthly series of Science Fiction/Fantasy and Horror/Monster movies at the Wendell Free Library. Free Admission. For more information about the Wendell Free Library visit its web page at www.wendellfreelibrary.org or call (978) 544-3559.

THE HEALTHY GEEZER

Puncturing Myths

that is believed to flow throughout the body.

Qi is said to regulate a person's physical, spiritual, emotional and mental balance. Advocates of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), say qi is affected by yin (negative energy) and yang (positive energy).

When the flow of qi is disrupted and yin and yang are unbalanced, the condition leads to pain and disease, according to TCM. Treatments that are integral to this ancient system are herbal and nutritional therapy, restorative physical exercises, meditation, acupuncture and remedial massage.

To correct the flow of qi, acupuncture uses superfine metal needles inserted into the skin at more than 2,000 "acupoints" along pathways known as "meridians."

It is believed that there are 12 main meridians and 8 secondary meridians. The points can also be stimulated with heated herbs, magnets, mild electrical current, manual pressure, low-frequency lasers, or even bee stings.

Most acupuncture patients feel little or no pain as the needles are inserted. Some people are energized by treatment, while others feel relaxed. Improper needle placement, movement of the patient, or a defect in the needle can cause soreness and pain during treatment.

Relatively few complications

from acupuncture have been reported to the FDA. However, inadequate sterilization of needles and improper administration have led to complications.

When done improperly, acupuncture can cause serious problems such as infections and punctured organs. Western scientists don't know how acupuncture works.

However, studies show that stimulating acupoints causes multiple biologic responses. For example, this stimulation can prompt the release of the body's natural pain-killing endorphins.

If you are interested in acupuncture, ask your doctor about it. Healthcare practitioners can be a resource for referrals to acupuncturists.

More medical doctors, including neurologists, anesthesiologists, and specialists in physical medicine, are becoming trained in acupuncture. About 10,000 acupuncturists practice in the United States. Most are state-regulated. More than 4,000 doctors have completed a recognized acupuncture training program.

Look for an acupuncture practitioner who is licensed and credentialed. And, check with your insurer before you start treatment to see whether acupuncture will be covered for your condition.

Questions? Send them to fred@healthygeezers.org.



JESSICA LARKIN ILLUSTRATION

By FRED CICETTI

Q. I have arthritis in my knee. I'm thinking about trying acupuncture, but my friends think I'm nuts. What do you think?

Several recent studies show osteoarthritis symptoms can be relieved with acupuncture. One Scandinavian study reported that 25 percent of patients canceled their plans for knee surgery after acupuncture.

About 15 million Americans have tried this needle therapy. The World Health Organization recommends it for more than 40 conditions as diverse as asthma, and nausea from chemotherapy. The Food and Drug Administration regulates acupuncture needles.

So, no, I don't think you're nuts.

By the 3rd century B.C., the Chinese had documented a medical system that is based on qi (pronounced "chee"), a concept of vital energy

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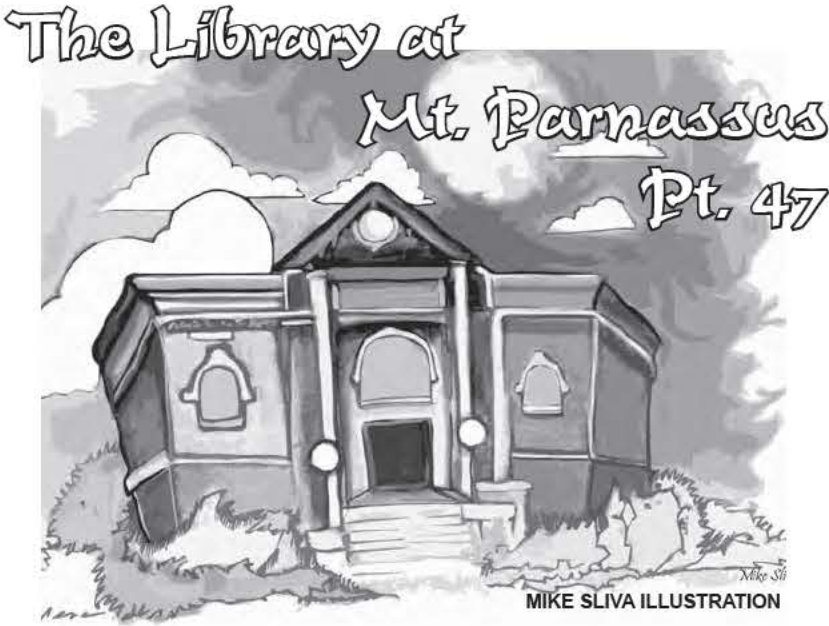
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At the Golden Mean.



By DAVID DETMOLD

As we approached the Golden Mean, we saw Iona’s brother, Phillip, standing outside the brightly lit bar window carrying on an animated conversation with his sister, who stood inside on the other side of the glass.

Phillip was a solemn man with short cropped hair who walked with his back very straight and his head held high. In his jacket pocket, he carried a small notebook and a ball point pen, which he used to communicate with most other humans by means of rapid notes written in bold, firm capitals.

But with his sister he carried on conversations with both hands, putting his whole body into the dialogue. He lit up, he was like another person when he talked with her.

Zero frowned on these expressive communications in his bar, however, and Phillip seldom stayed long when Iona was working, which struck me as sad.

It turned out Cadmus could read sign language. After Phillip waved goodbye and walked away, he translated, for my benefit, the small part of the conversation he had overseen.

“He was telling his sister not to be home too late, their mother worries.”

“Hey, that reminds me,” I said, patting him on the back as we opened the door to a rush of hot air. “Melantha gave me a message to give to you.”

“Let me guess. Ulysses is out of cracked corn again.”

“No, it wasn’t about Ulysses. It was about you. She said to tell you, ‘Hope in long abeyance crowned.’ I think that was it. It had to do with her Tarot deck – the Six of Wands. Has she been reading your cards?”

“I should be so lucky,” said Cadmus. “Still... that’s a good sign.”

“Yeah? What’s it mean, Bo?”

He looked more resigned than irritated. “It means hope springs eternal, damn it all.”

We took our seats at the bar. Cadmus leaned over and confided, “Melantha gave me a bleaker oracle last week. It went like this:

*Where the moon cow settles down
There sow the seed of discontent
And reap the south wind pestilent
Dishonored all thy deeds redound
Thy house, thy family, all they found
Tomorrow thou shalt wake to find
Nor kith, nor kin, nor kine are thine.*

“That doesn’t quite rhyme,” I said.

“No,” said Cadmus absently. “It don’t.”

“And so?”

He shrugged. “It means Melantha is completely bats. I’ve never had a hankering to know the future. The past is bad enough.”

Iona came around to take our orders, looking as lovely as false spring. I was glad to see they had a T-bone steak on the list of dinner specials.

After dinner, we sat at the bar and drank Scotch whiskey, while Cadmus told me tales of sowing wild dragon’s teeth in his youth.

He had traveled through Anatolia, driving black cattle amid the ruins. He said he never lost the urge to wander. Even in his later years, he usually left whatever job he was working before the winter closed in so he could ride whichever way his brass-shod Cappadocian would carry him.

“The North Wind and I are ancient enemies,” he said, fingering the buttons of his coat. “He always tried to turn me back.”

But Cadmus spoke fondly of Zephyr and Notus, stretching out his arms to the dark corners of the bar. Despite Melantha’s cryptic verse, he considered these winds to be allies in his all encompassing search.

It is strange how people with normal hearing fall to talking with their hands in crowded bars. They build elaborate narratives and emphasize each point with gestures of their hands and fingers.

They use their hands to communicate in tandem, and perhaps with superior eloquence to their spoken words. It is so difficult to hear in a room full of people laughing and clinking glasses and trying to drown each other out.

“Where did you learn sign language?” I asked Cadmus, spelling out the words ‘sign language’ as best I could remember.

He rubbed his fingers against the bristles of his cheek. “Oh, I dunno. I knew a little deaf girl once, met her in a coffee shop down in Ithaca. She taught me plenty.” He fed a bit of gristle from his plate to Sixto, who had been pushing his head up against Cadmus’s shoulder for the last few minutes, demanding tribute for his importunance.

“I really sat my ass in butter when I met that girl,” Cadmus said wistfully, as Sixto wolfed the treat, trying with one side of his chops and then the other to reduce it to a level of digestibility.

I thought about Cadmus, young and in love, in a faraway Ithaca of long ago.

The world may indeed be flat, I guessed, and the horizon limitless, especially if you avoid the higher mountains, and the deeper valleys.

Continued next week.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTAGUE POLICE LOG

Suspect Nabbed in Rare Plant Heist; Egg Donated; Pothole Dodger Warned

Monday, 10/27

7:27 a.m. Report that a car backed out of a driveway and struck a bus on Bridge Street. No injuries. Citation issued for failure to use care in backing.

10:25 a.m. Report of attempted breaking and entering into a storage shed on West Street. Advised of options.

10:32 a.m. Caller states that plumbers working in her house said that they were going to contact an inspector regarding alleged code violations. Caller does not believe that there are code violations and believes that the plumbers are harassing her. Advised of options.

1:26 p.m. Caller reports that a silver Subaru lost its muffler when crossing over the bump on the Canal Street bridge. Mass Highway advised; dispatch and Chief Dodge had previously reported this hazard.

1:34 p.m. Caller reports that her dog was bitten by another dog Saturday morning at Unity Park. The owner of the other dog gave the caller her first name and phone number and offered to cover the vet bills but has not been returning calls. Referred to animal control officer.

3:14 p.m. After allegedly stealing several rare plants from Black Jungle Terrarium Supply, [redacted]

[redacted] was arrested and charged with failing to stop for police; possession of a Class E drug; and shoplifting by asportation, third offense.

3:25 p.m. Complaint that there are skateboarders on the basketball court at Unity Park. Parties had cleared out prior to officer’s arrival.

4:28 p.m. [redacted] was arrested on a straight warrant.

11:45 p.m. Caller from Fifteenth Street reports that there is a large light coming from the woods behind her house. Caller is unsure what the source is, but it is unusual. Determined to be brush fire; TFFD notified.

11:57 p.m. Assisted Greenfield PD with apprehending a suspect in a home invasion. Party detained on G Street; custody transferred to GPD.

Tuesday, 10/28

11:25 a.m. Caller from Avenue A reports that someone just threw an egg at her door. No action required at this time; will call back if there are any further issues or if she learns who threw the egg.

11:47 a.m. Report of two females causing a disturbance by the ATM at Greenfield Cooperative

Bank on Avenue A. Peace restored.

11:54 a.m. Report of a silver truck parked sideways in the road on Seventh Street blocking part or all of one travel lane. Vehicle out of gas. Operator located; officers assisted her with moving the vehicle into a parking space.

2:13 p.m. Caller reports that she just saw a party wipe his nose and suspects that he did that because he just snorted cocaine. Caller requests that an officer bring the party to rehab. Copy of call left for officer.

3:34 p.m. Complaint regarding a skateboarder on the basketball court at Unity Park. Responding officer did not see any one skateboarding but did move a rollerblader along.

4:07 p.m. Report that a party who is from out of town is lost in the woods between Wendell and Montague. Father located party, whose GPS led him to a trail where his vehicle became stuck. Officer en route to speak to them.

5:14 p.m. Report of a cat that was struck at Unity Street and Montague Street and was in the roadway, still alive. Responding officer advised that animal is now deceased. Left message for DPW to pick up tomorrow.

7:30 p.m. Caller from Avenue A reports that her apartment and the one below her are being flooded as a result of a burst water pipe. TFFD notified and en route; attempted to contact landlord.

9:37 p.m. Caller reports that there is a male stumbling in the roadway on Unity Street; unknown if he is injured. Officer located male and provided courtesy transport to Wendell. Party was not welcome at his home as long as he was intoxicated. Party taken into protective custody. Two laptops discovered among party’s possessions, one marked as belonging to “Gill Montague Regional School District.” Computer seized. Party later released.

Thursday, 10/30

7:48 a.m. Multiple reports of a two-vehicle accident at Millers Falls and

Turners Falls roads. One vehicle occupant suffered an ankle injury. Medical transport refused. One operator cited for failure to use care in starting.

11:30 a.m. Caller seeking advice on how to address an issue with her eight year old daughter, who has been stealing things from school. Referred to an officer.

1:25 p.m. Report of subject drinking from an open container of whiskey behind a Fourth Street apartment building. Unable to locate.

2:16 p.m. Report of several blue 55 gallon drums tipped over in road on Industrial Boulevard. Area search negative.

4:28 p.m. Caller reports skateboarders coming down hill on First Street/Unity Street; concerned for their safety. Officer spoke to a party in a vehicle with a skateboard; party was advised of complaint and will be moving on.

6:44 p.m. Report of erratic driver on Montague City Road. Officer located vehicle and spoke to operator, who stated that he had just “gotten new rims” and was trying to “dodge potholes.” Officer explained that while this was understandable, his driving was not acceptable; driver warned of consequences of this action in the future.

6:54 p.m. Intoxicated male removed from F.L. Roberts and escorted to his residence.

Friday, 10/31

10:43 a.m. Caller reports that a vehicle almost struck her in the crosswalk on Avenue A. Advised of options.

1:15 p.m. Report of two people skateboarding on Unity Street. Unable to locate.

5:30 p.m. Rag Shag Parade, Food City to Discovery Center.

6:51 p.m. Unwanted person at TFHS football game. Party will watch game from outside the fence.

7:01 p.m. Report of missing stop sign at Seventh and L streets near Elks Club. Officer advises that stop sign is there, but is back a little and partially blocked by a parked van.

7:18 p.m. Report of dead rabbit in middle of Turners Falls Road. Respond-

ing officer confirms that rabbit is, in fact, dead; doesn’t seem to be a traffic hazard; no need to call in DPW.

Saturday, 11/1

12:40 a.m. Caller reports that his wallet and cell phone were taken from his jacket that was at a table in the Rendezvous. Officers later retrieved phone from a Greenfield address; still attempting to recover other stolen item.

11:45 a.m. Caller requests assistance contacting the DPW regarding a sewer backup at her residence. DPW advised.

11:52 a.m. Party making delivery at Hillcrest Elementary School discovered an open rear door, no one around. Officers found a total of four unsecured doors. Building secured.

1:03 p.m. Officer discovered that a door to the blue building next to Town Hall was open. DPW advised and will check on building as soon as they are done with the sewer call.

Sunday, 11/2

3:19 a.m. Loud music complaint on Central Street. Officer spoke with involved party and warned him that he would be charged next time.

6:18 a.m. Report of two parked vehicles obstructing access in alley between Third and Fourth streets. Unable to locate vehicle owners; written warnings left on vehicles.

11:22 a.m. Report that a woman on Avenue A just threw one of her crutches at a passing car. Responding officer found no active problems; party was in possession of both of her canes.

5:07 p.m. Report of two open windows at a vacant Sherman Drive residence. Referred to an officer.

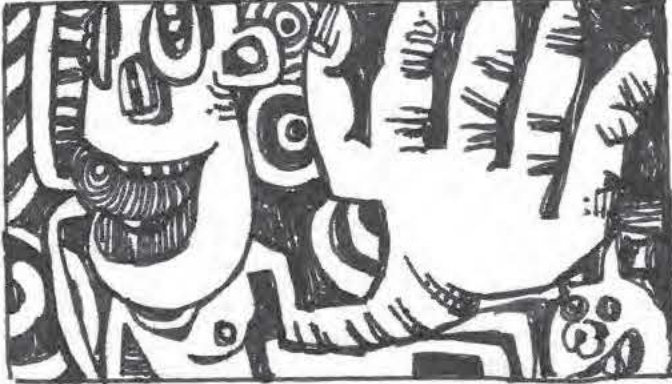
5:32 p.m. Complaint of fireworks coming from the Coolidge Avenue area.

9:08 p.m. Complaint of loud music and yelling coming from a backyard party on Coolidge Avenue. Caller states that party started earlier with fireworks and has now turned into loud music and an outside fire of some kind. Music was highly audible upon officers’ arrival; parties advised of complaint.

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE GILL POLICE LOG

Fox in the Pig Pen; Security Drills

Monday, 10/13
7:50 a.m. Amherst PD requested assistance for investigation of Gill resident.
1:35 p.m. West Gill Road resident assisted with safety concern in neighborhood.

Tuesday, 10/14
2:15 p.m. Assisted party with motor vehicle off roadway on Barney Hale Road.
3:15 p.m. Very large flock of turkeys reported as road hazard on Main Road.

Wednesday, 10/15
2:50 p.m. Alarm sounding at Route 2 business. System error reported.
7:35 p.m. Suspicious person reported walking in dark clothing on the side of Route 2. Could not locate.

Thursday, 10/16
11 a.m. Assisted Main Road business with security drill protocol.
6:25 p.m. Utility pole on fire on West Gill Road. Power outage in town.

Friday, 10/17
5 p.m. Investigation of campers on river bank. All set.
9:50 p.m. ATV complaint on River Road. Under investigation.

Saturday, 10/18
12:55 p.m. Past motor vehicle accident reported at the Wagon Wheel.
6:35 p.m. Assisted Montague PD with motor vehicle accident on Turners Falls-Gill Bridge. Same closed.
9:10 p.m. Assisted Bernardston PD with large fire and party.

Tuesday, 10/21
4:10 a.m. Suspicious motor vehicle on River Road. Checked OK.
3:25 p.m. Missing calf reported on Center Road. Not located.
4:05 p.m. Fox reported in a pig pen on Main Road. Gone on arrival.

Wednesday, 10/22
7:15 a.m. Assisted Boyle Road resident with firearms issue.
9:30 p.m. Assisted Bernardston PD with school lockdown drill.
2:20 p.m. Illegal dumping on Pisgah Mountain Road. Under investigation.
9:40 p.m. Located bike at French King Bridge; secured same.

Thursday, 10/23
7:55 a.m. Disabled motor vehicle on Route 2. Assisted same with tow.

Friday, 10/24
7:30 a.m. Trees reported on wires on Barney Hale Road. WMECO to remove same.
11:55 a.m. Subject reported blowing leaves onto Route 2 near the boat ramp.
6 p.m. Lost hunting dog reported in fields off River Road.

Saturday, 10/25
10:55 a.m. Dog found on River Road. Not the dog reported lost.
8:40 p.m. Investigated suspicious motor vehicle at French King Highway home.
9:50 p.m. Investigated large crowd at Barton Cove Road.

GARDENER from page B1

as the crop begins to form. As the heat rises, the hot weather plants can be set in. And so on through the cycle until it's harvest time.

If we're lucky, we've covered the blueberries in time and need only lift the netting to pick accompanied by the chorus of frustrated Blue Jays.

Now as the garden season ends, we look back on the successes and challenges, the crops we found tasty and those we wouldn't give space to again.

Now in this chilly first weekend of November, we heap the fire high in the stove and pick up a good book. Soon it will be time to set

out the bird feeder, to drain the lawn mower and clean the gardening tools for another year.

We don't regret the swing of the seasons any more than we rue the changing of the tides. We feel fortunate to live in this beautiful valley along the river, framed by the mountains.

Each season brings its own special delights, even this one which is so usually heralded by heavy gray skies and cold wind. December will come soon with its bright sun and first early snows: its own special beauty.

Enjoy the changing season thinking of the garden to come!



O'DOWD from page B1

getting stamps, as Charlie's best customers. Everyone was Charlie's best customer. Many recalled the multiple choices of stamps designs he offered, even to someone buying one stamp for one letter.

They talked about how going in to another post office was ok, but flat. A visit to buy stamps at Wendell Post Office might include an hour conversation with Charlie and other customers who came in.

Day old chicks arrived at the post office and no one answered the telephone when Charlie called so he brought them to the barn and left them off where they belonged.

A package of bees arrived and Charlie called to tell the new beekeeper, "You have a noisy package here."

He had a North Pole mailbox for Christmas, and somehow pulled strings so that children who wrote letters to Santa got letters in return. Letters addressed to: first name only, Wendell, were delivered, even to pets.

A fourteen-year-old came in for a passport photograph, and he took multiple pictures of her while other customers came in and offered suggestions until she was happy with one picture.

When a resident brought in a 15-

year-old gray cat needing a home, Charlie adopted it.

People spoke of his life outside and before he came to the Wendell Post Office, how he was a conscientious objector yet was sent to Vietnam, where he was injured, how he worked and got accessible transportation first around Franklin County and then around the state, how he was a goalie on the US Olympic hockey team.

As well as the "Best Postmaster in the Universe" cup, Charlie received a golden mailbox, full of letters from his grateful former customers.



LOOKING BACK
10 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Here's the way it was on November 4, 2004: News from the Montague Reporter's archive.

Shady Glen
Changes Hands

Last Sunday in Turners Falls, family photos came down off the wall as John and Linda Carey prepared to turn over the keys to the Shady Glen diner to new owners Elizabeth and George Zantoulidis the next day.

Elizabeth insists, "we're going to keep things just the way they are."

Seated at the counter with their five-year-old son Dimitri in her lap, and with John Carey leaning over her shoulder to explain his system for menu planning, including the details of how to sell out a fresh fish by the close of Friday dinner, Elizabeth said, "He's got 40 years of advice and experience to share. We are just learning. He's got a winning formula here."

A few days earlier, while Montague prepared for trick-or-treating, John Carey paused in the middle of his cleaning routine to

talk about his feelings on selling the business. "I'm really not happy about letting it go," said Carey, sitting down for a cup of coffee.

But while he may have sold the business, John isn't through working at the Shady Glen. "I'll be here as long as they're comfortable having me around. I feel as though I have an obligation to my employees. I feel as though I have an obligation to my customers. I want them to keep coming in and I'll do everything I can to make them happy."

Gill: Safety Equipment
Needs Replacing

Fire Chief Gene Beaubien told the Gill selectboard to "get out their checkbook," on November 1, as he presented an estimate for repair to the 'Jaws of Life.'

"There's a big crack in one of the steel blades of the cutters," he said, of the hydraulic emergency equipment used to extricate victims from motor vehicle accidents.

The cost of the blade replacement for a refurbished pair with a lifetime warranty is \$3250. The original cutters, not on warranty,

were condemned during a recent inspection, along with two sets of 16 foot quarter-inch hose so old the safety inspector "won't even test them now." Those hoses need to be replaced at a cost of \$969.

The board told Beaubien to spend the money from his own budget, and they would seek to reimburse him.

Erving: Housing Corporation Contracts for Mitzcovitz Land

The Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Corporation (FCRHRC) has entered into a contract to purchase 8.2 acres along Route 2 in Erving, the selectboard learned at its November 1 meeting.

The land, adjacent to Lillians Way, is owned by developer Ken Mitzcovitz, and sits over a Zone II aquifer recharge area.

According to town administrator Tom Sharp, the FCRHRC intends to build four to six units of single-family affordable housing for first time homebuyers, and four to six housing units for the elderly at the site.

EVOLVING from page B1

At the end of the chapter on bacteria I vowed to wash my hands more often.

Halfway into the chapter entitled "Resurgence: Bedbugs Bite Back," I started itching and the need to inspect every crevasse in our wide planked wood floors grew as my desire to travel diminished. Yes, we thought we had them beat.

DDT was a miracle, but it did not last, and now, writes Monosson, "They are back with a vengeance.... and their life history combined with evolved pesticide resistance makes extermination notoriously difficult."

Everyone is susceptible. Extermination can cost several thousands of dollars, and a household could get reinfected. Public transportation, hotels, dorm rooms, rentals, used furniture all are possible

sources of infestation. Monosson explains that, "the resurgence is the expected outcome of ever-increasing world travel, demographics and evolution."

As she does in each section, Monosson tells the reader how we got where we are. In each case these stories read like mysteries as research scientists tackled problems that were plaguing society.

Eradicating disease, feeding the hungry and killing pests are, and were, worthy goals. Scientists applied years of painstaking effort to the task. The consequences of overuse were not foreseen.

Last year my grandchildren caught head lice. My daughter searched the Internet for advice on her smart phone and ended up coating her children's hair with olive oil and wrapping their heads in plastic — that is when she wasn't comb-



Emily Monosson

ing the nits out with a fine-toothed comb.

If science had offered an easier solution, she would have grabbed it, but the shampoos that once worked are no longer effective.

If you read this book, you might wonder, as I did, what we are doing now that will reveal its dangerous side in fifty years. What about the billions of electronic messages, photos and movies passing through our bodies?

What about nano-technology? What about the products I squirt on the dogs to prevent fleas and ticks? Monosson's book stimulates questions such as this.

I found it valuable to get past the shouting headlines that assault us all, these days. This book does not contain any of those now-familiar lists, such as *Ten Things you Should Never Use, Eat, Buy or Do*. It does provide a great deal of information that can inform our choices.

It might inspire someone to wait and see, rest and drink fluids before asking for an antibiotic. It certainly makes a strong case in favor of vac-

cines.

Factory farmed meat and its abundance of antibiotics may seem less appealing after reading this. And gardeners will want to read labels carefully before buying a pesticide or herbicide.

Read along with Monosson's previous book, *Evolution in a Toxic World*, in which she traces the development of life's defense systems from more than three billion years ago to today, *Unnatural Selection* will round out a self-education project to learn more about genetics, evolution and selection.

The book is available from Island Press, at Amazon.com and at local bookstores. Amherst Books in Amherst will host a book party on December 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. Come and ask questions or simply offer congratulations.



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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, with Angela. Children are invited to come in their pajamas. 6:30-7:00 p.m.

EVERY TUESDAY

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

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

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

EVERY WEDNESDAY

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

EVERY THURSDAY

Carnegie Library, Turners Falls: *Music and Movement with Tom Carroll & Laurie Davidson*. Children and their caregivers invited. 10 a.m. Moves to Millers Falls Library in September.

EVERY FRIDAY

Between the Uprights, Turners

Falls: *Karaoke with Dirty Johnny*. 9 p.m. to midnight. Free.

ART SHOWS & MUSEUMS:

Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: *Winter Hours* now through May. Friday & Saturday: 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Rubblebucket presented by Signature Sounds at the Shea Theater, Turners Falls. Saturday, November 8, 9 p.m. Doors open at 8:30 p.m.

Nina's Nook, Turners Falls: *Face Nook*. Small self-portraits on canvas created by current and former students in the art department at Greenfield Community College on display through December 6. All proceeds from these sales will be donated to the Art Department. Most canvases are 6x6 inches.

UMass Fine Arts Center, Amherst: Elizabeth Keithlines: *Only The Strong Survive*, full-scale woven wire animal sculptures on display in the Hampden Gallery. *The Meek Shall Inherit*, curated by Bernard Leibov and Elizabeth Keithline with multimedia works by Megan Evans, TaeHee Kim, Poger Peet, Randy Pumbo, Deborah Simon and Meredith Stern. Also *Dawn Howkinson Siebel: Animalia: The Endangered*, oil portraits of endangered species. Open reception for all on November 9, 2 to 4 p.m.

Smith College, Lyman Conservatory, Northampton: *Fall Chrysanthemum Show*. Dragons, a popular mythological figure in many Asian cultures, is the theme. Exhibit hours: daily, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. through 11/16.

CALL FOR ART:

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

EVENTS:

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Roosters*, classic rock, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: Panel Discussion: *This Changes Everything* by Naomi Klein, led by Climate Change Group,

Wendell Library, \$, 7:30 p.m.

Arts Block, Greenfield: *The Happier Valley Comedy Show* with *Scripted/Unscripted* featuring a cavalcade of improvisers and stage actors from the Pioneer Valley. \$, 8 p.m.

Shea Theater, Turners Falls: *Rubblebucket*. Presented by Signature Sounds, \$, 9 p.m.

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Then God is Seven*, a night of Pixies covers to benefit Diggity Service Dogs, 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Greenfield Community College, Main Campus: GCC Chorus presents the full performance of *Fall Cornucopia* with songs including madrigals, rounds, folk song arrangements, and music by Steffani, Mozart, and 21st century women composers. Music in English, Hebrew, Spanish, and Latin will be sung, with soloists from the chorus, Marilyn Berthelette, Accompanist, and Margery Heins, Director, 4 p.m. Sloan Theater.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *Eric Love*, 60's & 70's Gold, 8:30 p.m.

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

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Nora's Stellar Open Microphone Cabaret*, 8 p.m. with 7:30 p.m. sign-up.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Greenfield Community College, Main Campus: *Gallery Talk* with collage artist Carole Keller, whose exhibit *The Welcome Obstacle* is currently on display in the South Gallery, discusses her work. Noon.

Augusta Savage Gallery, UMass Fine Arts Center, Amherst: *Power/Play: Liane Brandon & Holly Fisher*, a joint exhibition of film and photos. Artists' Talk with Liane Brandon, 7 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Shout Lulu*, Southern string band, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

UMass Fine Arts Center, Amherst: *Jeremy Denk*, piano, \$, 7:30 p.m. Bowker Auditorium.

Deja Brew, Wendell: *The Surly Temple*, Jim Henry, Guy DeVito, & Doug Plavin, 8 p.m.

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *Scott Lawson Pomeroy: Fear No 80s*, 8 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Great Falls Discovery Center,

Turners Falls: Coffee House presents *Bork-Tinen-Kahn Trio*. Contemporary acoustic/electric music, \$, 7 p.m.

Wendell Free Library, Wendell: *Native Americans in Wendell*, talk and discussion with Jean Forward, 7 p.m.

Pothole Pictures, Shelburne Falls: *Do The Right Thing*. Spike Lee's urban fable, 1989, R, \$, 7:30 p.m. with music before the movie at 7 p.m. with Ken Swiatek, folk.

Mocha Maya's, Shelburne Falls: *Ian Fitzgerald and special guest Molly Pinto-Madigan*, 8 p.m.

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

Rendezvous, Turners Falls: *The WeakEnd, Sleeping Terms*, indie, etc., 9:30 p.m.



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FOOTBALL from page B1
itself or the fans. For example: "the Boys in Blue" and "the True Blue Faithful."

Cardiac Kids: A borrowed term. Turners Falls has scored consistently with less than two minutes on the clock. Several times, with only seconds left. Also, Coach Chris Lapointe tends to go-for-it on fourth down. This keeps the True Blue fans on the edge of their seats.

Crash and Dash, Smash and Crash: Ways to describe runs. If the runner is hit by one or more tacklers and gets a lot of second-effort yardage, I call it "Crash and Dash." If

the runner is hit early and breaks the tackle, then crashes into the next tackler, it's Smash and Crash.

Defense-by-Committee: The Turners Falls Defense is a group effort.

Ground and Pound: AUFC term. I use it as a way to describe an offensive series in which Turners is running the ball behind hard blocking.

Hit and Run: Don't do it. It's a crime.

Offensive Eleven: Anonymous term used to emphasize that each player is involved in every play.

Powertown: This has been Turners' nickname since I can remember. Recently, it's been a metaphor for the powerful Turners Falls Football Indians.

Swarm of Indians: I heard this at the Mahar game. It's a wonderful way to describe the gang tackles instituted by the Blue D.

Tribe: I use Tribe like Hillary Clinton uses Village. It's inclusive of everyone: the cheerleaders, the band, the student body, the parents, teachers, fans and alumni.

Turners Falls Football Indians: I got this from "The New York Football Giants." It flows nicely.

So what's next for the Tribe in Blue? Can they repeat as Western Mass Champions? Will they go further? Can Powertown Four-peat on Turkey Day?

Well, I guess we'll have to wait and see and enjoy the ride along the way.



Trent Bourbeau carries the ball during Turners' 37-12 victory over Cathedral High School.

Turners Falls Volleyball Team In Action Against Mt. Greylock

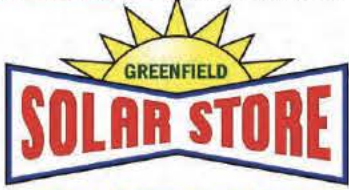
Hailey Whipple appears to levitate as she jumps to return the ball during the West Division 3 Quarter Final against Mt. Greylock Regional HS.



DAVID HOITT PHOTOS

Tess Hunter (#7) and Mackenzie Salls (#9) in action for Turners Falls in the West Division 3 Volleyball Quarter Final. Mt. Greylock won the quarterfinal matchup by winning the 5th game 16-14.

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